

subclasses were completely revised; 1,911 new subclasses were established and 756 old subclasses were abolished in the partial revision of existing classes.

A search room and library are maintained by the patent office where the public may obtain information on Canadian and foreign patents. Printed copies of Canadian patents issued from January 1, 1948 are available at \$1 each. During 1975-76 and 1976-77, the patent office handled an average of 675 requests daily for reference material and published weekly the *Patent Office Record* which contains a list of patents issued during the week covered, information about patent office services and information of concern to the patent profession.

Foreign patents may also be seen at the patent office library. British patents and their abridged specifications from 1617 to date and United States patents from 1845 to date are available, as well as many patents, indexes, journals and reports from Australia, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. A list of the foreign patents available is published in the *Patent Office Record*.

**Copyright, industrial design and timber marks.** Copyright protection is governed by the Copyright Act (RSC 1970, c.C-30) in force since 1924. Protection is automatic without any formality, although a system of voluntary registration is provided. Copyright exists in Canada in every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work and in contrivances by means of which sounds may be mechanically reproduced. The term for which the copyright exists is, except as otherwise expressly provided by this act, the life of the author and a period of 50 years after death.

The Industrial Design Act provides a maximum 10-year period of protection for shape, pattern, ornamentation and configuration applied to an article of manufacture, provided that the design is registered within one year of publication in Canada. Protection is granted if an examination does not reveal any other design already registered to be identical with or closely resembling the proposed design. The name of the proprietor, the letters Rd. (Registered) and the year of registration must appear upon the article to which the design applies.

People or companies floating timber on the inland waters of Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick must, based on the Timber Marking Act, select a mark or marks and apply for their registration within one month after starting in this business.

**Trade marks.** The trade marks office, a branch of the intellectual property bureau, administers the Trade Marks Act (RSC 1970, c.T-10) which covers all legislation concerning the registration and use of trade marks and supersedes from July 1, 1954 former legislation enacted under the Unfair Competition Act, the Union Label Act and the Shop Cards Registration Act. Correspondence relating to an application for registration of a trade mark should be addressed to the Registrar of Trade Marks, Ottawa.

Applications are advertised in the *Trade Marks Journal*, a weekly publication that also gives particulars of every registration of a trade mark. The required fee payable on application for registration of a trade mark is \$35 and for advertisement of an application, \$25.

## 17.4.2 Trade standards

### 17.4.2.1 Standards Council of Canada

This council, with headquarters in Ottawa, is the national co-ordinating agency through which organizations concerned with voluntary standardization may co-operate in recognizing, establishing and improving standards in Canada. It enables these organizations to play a larger and more effective role in formulating and promoting the use of standards to meet the needs of the economy through a national standards system. Sponsored by the council, the system includes organizations involved in standards-writing, testing and certification. It encourages the development of national standards of Canada to meet both national and international responsibilities.