

A Prairie Regional Laboratory, constructed on the campus of the University of Saskatchewan, has been in operation since June 1948. A Maritime Regional Laboratory, built on Dalhousie University campus at Halifax, N.S., was opened in June 1952. The co-operation of a large oil company has made it possible for the Division of Building Research to establish a Permafrost Research Station at Norman Wells, N.W.T. This is one of the most northerly building research establishments in the world.

The National Research Council consists of the President, two Vice-Presidents (Scientific), one Vice-President (Administration) and 17 other members, each of the latter group being appointed for a term of three years and chosen to represent industry, labour or research in one of the basic natural sciences. Many of the members are drawn from the science departments of Canadian universities.

The Council's scientific and engineering activities are organized in nine Divisions and two regional laboratories, each with its own Director. Five laboratory Divisions are concerned with fundamental and applied studies in the natural sciences: applied biology, pure and applied chemistry, and pure and applied physics. Three others are devoted chiefly to engineering work—building research, radio and electrical engineering, and mechanical engineering which includes aeronautics and hydraulics. The Division of Medical Research has no laboratories of its own but awards grants-in-aid and fellowships tenable chiefly in the medical schools of Canadian universities.

In addition to its basic research functions, the Council operates an Information Service with a field staff of technical officers who assist the smaller industries across Canada by bringing their operating problems to the attention of the Council. Through a trained research staff, using the extensive library facilities available to the Council, it is usually possible to provide the required information at very short notice.

The Council aids industry in two other important ways. A free and constant flow of personnel and information is maintained between the Council laboratories and industrial laboratories, the aim being to have Canadian industry use the Council's laboratories just as the units of a large company use their own laboratories as sources of scientific information and assistance. The Council also undertakes for any firm, under contract, research problems that cannot be solved by private consulting and testing laboratories and, in return, obtains assistance from many companies. The Council has long standing and intimate contacts of this co-operative kind with many Canadian industries in various fields.

Associate committees were established by the National Research Council early in its history and have been continued to date. Throughout the years hundreds of specialists have accepted invitations from the Council to serve on committees and have brought their knowledge and experience to bear on the solution of research problems put before them. Members of committees give their time and effort to these special studies without charge, and their assistance is a source of great strength to the Council.

Assisted research grants have been made by the Council since its inception in 1916. These awards are given to heads of university science departments to purchase needed equipment and to employ junior helpers, usually students. Aid of this kind has been of considerable assistance in enabling the universities to put into operation the excellent graduate schools that now exist in Canada. In 1954-55 more than \$2,500,000 was provided out of Council funds for basic research at Canadian universities.

Scholarships and grants in aid of research are awarded annually by the National Research Council. Scholarships awarded in science and engineering include Bursaries, Studentships and Fellowships which have values of \$800, \$1,100 and \$1,400 respectively for the academic year, to which a summer supplement of \$800 may be added. In addition Special Scholarships valued at \$1,900 a year and Postdoctorate Overseas Fellowships at \$2,500 are offered. The Council also awards two classes of Graduate Medical Research Fellowships, which have values of \$1,800 to \$3,500 for awards involving graduate training and up to \$5,000 for senior awards in advanced research. Graduate Dental Research Fellowships of similar value are also made. About 270 of these different awards were made for 1954-55, totalling in value over \$380,000.