

off then for a standard of electricity as the commercial world is now for a standard of value. The provision of international electrical standards paved the way for the enormous development of electrical services. Standards of many kinds are becoming more and more indispensable to modern progress.

Things which the Council has already been called upon to standardize, approve or test include: weights and measures; electrical meters and instruments of many kinds, aircraft engines and parts; aircraft instruments; lamps of all kinds and optical instruments; photographic plates, cameras, photographic shutters; ores, metals, castings, alloys and welds; radium preparations; x-ray equipment; textiles, paints, leathers, rubber, asbestos, fuels, matches, oil-burners, ventilators, gauges, watches and chronometers, radio equipment; and so on almost ad infinitum. One of the latest commodities for which the Council has been requested to prepare standards is wooden shingles. There is scarcely any limit to which this part of the Council's work might be expanded in the interests of safety, comfort and profit to the community at large. A special laboratory is being developed for dealing with things in the manufacture or use of which the public should be protected against fire hazards.

#### 8. Services to Other Government Departments

More and more, various departments of the federal government are turning to us for aid with technical problems. Some of the projects I have already mentioned came up in this way. For example, the investigations of