

Budget Reports in the new format will be produced in trial runs by the Government Computer Centre in 1969. We are working with the staff of the Computer Centre and the C.T.O. in developing the necessary systems to handle the flow of information.

3. Preparation for Delegating Authority

The Department can delegate spending authority in many areas simply by making the policy decision and developing the necessary financial reporting techniques. There are, however, two important types of expenditure where we have to build an infrastructure of administrative policies and guidelines before we can give full delegation to responsibility centres.

The area of locally-engaged staff is an interdepartmental consideration and officials of our Personnel Branch are serving on a committee set up to revise the regulations both to make possible the delegation of authority recommended by the Woods Gordon report and to bring about a number of other long overdue improvements. It is hoped that the revisions will be completed in time for implementation in April 1970.

The Materiel Management Division has projects under way with the help of consultants from the O.&M. Unit in areas such as repair and upkeep, inventory control, and acquisition of furniture and equipment. Some of this work may be completed by April 1969, while some of it may take up to three years.

In the first half of 1969 we are placing the principal emphasis on Training activities. Within that period, most managers in the Department will have participated in a seminar on financial manage-