

may play in the adjustment of Canadian industry and trade to meet changing conditions, I should like first to direct your attention to the organizational aspect. Society has evolved various instruments of action in the effort to realize its aspirations. Parliaments, legislatures, councils, committees, boards, commissions, conferences were all intended for this purpose. In some countries the validity of certain of these organizations has been called in question, and they have been neglected or discarded. In nearly all countries, however, there is one instrument of action which during the last two decades has moved steadily from the periphery of public notice to the very centre: that is the instrument for mobilizing the scientific resources of a society for the solution of its problems. It is that kind of instrument that the National Research Council of Canada was intended to be, but I doubt that either its availability or its suitability for such a purpose is well understood throughout the country, and for that reason I am glad of the opportunity to set it before you tonight. A review at this time is the more appropriate since this spring saw the tenth anniversary of the passing of the new Research Council Act, under which we are now carrying on.

The Committee of the Privy Council on Scientific and Industrial Research, which has the duty of appointing the National Research Council and controlling its activities, was first constituted by Order-in-Council on June 1, 1916. It consists of the Ministers of Trade and Commerce (Chairman), Agriculture, Finance, Labour, Mines, National Defence, Pensions and National Health. Obviously this constitution was intend-