

ment; trade between Latin America and the United States and Europe; and the economic integration of Central American countries. Work is going forward on the preparation of the *Economic Survey of Latin America* for 1951-52.

ECLA's reports show that during 1951 there was an increase in co-operation with the Specialized Agencies and with the Economic Commission for Europe. Arrangements have been made for close liaison with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

Canada is not a member of ECLA. Canada is, however, interested in the economic progress of the area and in the development of the work of the Commission, and follows its activities with close attention.

III

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

Co-ordination

As the scope and variety of the work performed by the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies have increased, it has become a matter of concern to these United Nations bodies and to member states that there should be a minimum of overlapping, duplication and consequent waste. Canadian representatives at meetings of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the various Agencies have called for the closest co-operation between the different organizations in order to achieve the maximum results from available resources. One specific measure of co-ordination which has been urged is the adoption, wherever possible, of uniform financial and administrative practices, and considerable progress has been made in this direction. Joint systems of audit and pensions have been established, for example, and the most important Agencies now have comparable systems of salaries and allowances. The adoption of permanent staff regulations by the United Nations makes it probable that the personnel policies of the Agencies, which have been modelled on United Nations policies, will become even more uniform.

The many and detailed debates which have taken place on co-ordination have revealed one danger: that over-ambitious and over-elaborate schemes of co-ordination would be adopted and that the machinery of co-ordination would become so cumbrous that it would defeat its own simple objective.

There is certainly room for further progress in co-ordinating United Nations activities, but it is the Canadian view that the machinery which has evolved up to the present is generally satisfactory, and that further improvement in co-ordination could take place within this established framework. The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (the Secretary-General, the Heads of the Specialized Agencies and of the various United Nations programmes) meets regularly to discuss matters of general concern. The Assem-