

Research Council which will consist of the present NRC granting function separated from the NRC laboratories, and the Medical Research Council which will retain its present functions.

87. The Canada Council will, if this legislation is approved, be concerned entirely with the arts. The establishment of a separate granting agency for the social sciences and humanities will give the added emphasis that is seen to be needed in these fields - emphasis that was specifically recommended by the Senate Committee.

88. With one exception, all studies of the Granting Councils have recommended the separation of the granting and laboratory functions of the NRC (the Science Council agreed that separation would take place eventually as a matter of course, but did not recommend that such a step be taken at the time of writing, 1969). The main argument in favour of separation has been that the management of both functions would be enhanced. The Senate Committee felt it particularly important that the management of the laboratories be free of the granting responsibility in order to be able to devote more time and attention to the laboratory function. These and other factors were considered when the Government decided that the functions should be separated. The future of the laboratories will be discussed in the next section in relation to government performance of S&T activities.

89. Suggestions were made by the Senate that the NRC support for the biological sciences be transferred to the MRC to create the proposed life sciences foundation. This proposal did not, however, receive unanimous support in the scientific community, and it was recognized that the presence of biology within the support programs of the NRC would be advantageous to the encouragement of interdisciplinary science.

90. The granting operations of both the NRC and the MRC are highly regarded in the science community and the government does