

with the construction of dam reservoirs for irrigation projects, afforestation, land reclamation and aviation, and advice to Paraguay in the field of agrometeorology to assist that country to combat the effects of frost on coffee crops.

Membership in WMO increased to 118 in 1962 with the admission of Burundi, Colombia, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Tanganyika and Kuwait. The Organization now comprises 103 states and 15 dependent territories.

Canada acted as host to two important WMO meetings during the year. The Working Group on Codes of the Commission of Synoptic Meteorology met in Toronto from January 9 to 19, with representatives from all WMO regions in attendance. The third session of the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology was held in Toronto from July 9 to 29 and was attended by delegates from 32 countries.

### ***International Telecommunication Union***

The purposes of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) are: To maintain and extend international co-operation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds; to promote development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to increasing their usefulness to the public; and to harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of those common ends.

During the year 1962, the membership of the Union increased from 111 to 117, while the number of associate members declined to three. Canada participated in the seventeenth session of the Administrative Council of the ITU, which dealt with the day-to-day management of the ITU during 1962, including approval of the budget, and which prepared the first report of the ITU in response to United Nations Resolution 1721 (XVII) on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

Rapid scientific developments in space radio and the growth of public interest in space gave new impetus in 1962 to the work of the International Telecommunication Union. Preparatory work began on plans for an Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference of the ITU to allocate radio frequencies for space telecommunications based on the recommendations of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR).

The CCIR is responsible for advising ITU on technical and operating questions relating to radio communications. To this end, the various study groups of the CCIR held interim meetings in preparation for the tenth plenary Assembly, to be convened in Geneva early in 1963. Special mention should be made of the work of Study Group IV on Space Communications and Radio Astronomy. This Study Group, which was formed in 1959, met for the first time in Washington in March 1962 and initiated work on the technical problems associated with providing for the regulation of space telecommunications.