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SCIENCE

The National Research Council during 1952 relinquished the responsibility for atomic energy research and development, transferring this subject to the newly formed Crown Company, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. This arrangement was made because the construction of a new reactor at Chalk River will lead to work of greater industrial significance. Production and marketing problems will become relatively more important.

In 1953 an Act was passed which changed the name of the Department of Resources and Development to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. The change of name indicates the intention of giving greater emphasis to the administration and development of the North and of Eskimo affairs. A function of the new Department will be to "foster, through scientific investigation and technology, knowledge of the Canadian North and of the means of dealing with conditions related to its further development".

As a result of a change in the Fisheries Research Board Act during 1953, the Board now has a full-time Chairman. In the past, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were elected by the Board and approved by the Minister of Fisheries. They devoted what time they could spare from their normal activities to the work of the Board and were given a modest honorarium. Under the new Act, the Chairman is appointed by Order in Council. This Act also arranges for increasing the Board membership from fifteen to nineteen as a maximum, although the number is not fixed. It is obligatory, however, that the majority of Board members be scientists.