

The Fisheries Research Board and the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys will completely co-ordinate their oceanographic activities on the east coast, the physical oceanographers of the Fisheries Research Board being housed in the Institute, while the biological research aspect of the Board's activities will remain at St. Andrews, New Brunswick.

A multi-million dollar ship-building programme will provide the fleet of vessels. The first of these, the \$7 million C.G.S. HUDSON, is expected to be commissioned in 1961.

On the west coast, Canadian oceanographic investigations are carried out by the Pacific Oceanographic Group of the Fisheries Research Board which will maintain close liaison with the Committee.

In the Arctic, Canada has already started on a broad programme of research on the hundreds of miles of continental shelf comprising the rim of the Basin. One phase of the study deals with the oceanography of the Arctic Ocean and the main channels between the islands. The project, known as the Polar Continental Shelf Project, is also being handled by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

The original Joint Committee on Oceanography came into formal existence in April 1946 to continue the co-operative work on the oceans carried out within the federal government during the war years. Its reorganization to national status as the Canadian Committee on Oceanography is indicative of the marked broadening of Canadian interests in oceanography both at home and abroad.

CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Three officers of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation will represent Canada at the Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference in New Delhi, India, Jan. 22 to Feb. 11, 1960, CBC President Alphonse Ouimet has announced.

The delegates, who will leave Montreal by air Jan. 16, are Charles Jennings, Ottawa, general manager, regional broadcasting; R.G. Knowles, Toronto, national supervisor, farm and fisheries broadcasts; Roy D. Cahoon, Winnipeg, regional engineer for the CBC's Prairie region.

All-India Radio is the host organization of the Conference.

Delegates to the Conference will discuss problems of broadcasting operation, programme exchange, copyright and technical work, and will formulate joint projects.

Mr. Jennings, who heads the Canadian Delegation, also attended the Commonwealth Broadcast Conference in London in 1952 and in Sydney, Australia, in 1956. The conferences of the national broadcasting systems of the Commonwealth countries are held every four years.

This year, for the first time, Malaya and Ghana will be represented at the conference.

UNIVERSITY GROUPS

In the files of the National Conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges in Ottawa there is a typewritten document headed 'First Conference of Canadian Universities', which begins: "This Conference was held in McGill University, Montreal, on June 6, 1911, to discuss the questions suggested for consideration by the Congress of Universities to be held in London in 1912 as well as for the consideration of any other questions of general interest. There were present representatives from seventeen Canadian Universities."

Dr. R.D. Roberts, the Secretary of the Congress, was present by invitation and in his report of the discussion he wrote: "The raising of these subjects was interesting, as showing that the Conference was found to be immediately useful quite apart from the Congress of next year. It seems likely that one general result of that Congress--whatever effects its deliberations may have--will be that local conferences of representatives of Universities in different parts of the Empire will become a permanent institution."

Dr. Roberts ranks high as a prophet, for the National Conference of Canadian Universities, which was born in that meeting, still shows signs, under a slightly different name, of permanence and growth.

EARLY YEARS

Until the Second World War the Conference was a valuable and pleasant annual gathering of senior university men who discussed their common problems and got to know one another. Beyond this the Conference had almost no responsibilities and any decisions it might reach were not in any way binding upon member institutions. This is not to say, however, that its opinions had no influence.

The *Proceedings* show that from the start the Conference strove to represent the Canadian universities as a whole and not only the executive heads. The *Proceedings* of 1915, the second meeting, for example, says; "It was agreed that each University be represented by the President, or his nominee, and not more than two of the Staff," and in the constitution of 1945 and all subsequent constitutions, the section on 'Representation' contains the phrase "preferable members of the teaching staff" no less than four times.

During the Second World War it was essential to integrate the universities into the country's war effort and the Government needed some central body with which it might discuss problems and reach decisions that would apply to all universities. This body was clearly the Conference, which thus, somewhat against its own inclinations, was forced to assume new responsibilities.

After the war the Conference played an important part in persuading the Massey Commission to recommend to the Government the