

services."

The operative paragraph, which provides authority for the duties and functions of the new Canadian Information Service is content to stipulate: "The Service shall provide means and facilities for distributing abroad information concerning Canada and for coordinating and assisting the public information services of the government."

Although the Order in Council by itself revealed only the bare bones of government policy as expediency and public interest, a statement made in the House on October 2, 1945, by the Honourable J. L. Ilsley as Acting Prime Minister, puts some flesh on this frame of government purposes and policy. In tabling the Order in Council and noting that it established the Canadian Information Service, he remarked:

"The need for such a service has been generally recognized. Canada has a vital interest in international peace and prosperity, and an important part to play in the attainment of these objectives. It is essential, therefore, that our people and country be known and understood abroad.

Those with whom we trade must know our country and its possibilities; those with whom we are associated for the maintenance of world security must know with whom they are cooperating and what may be expected of our cooperation. In short, both trade and diplomacy, to be carried out successfully, need a background of understanding based on factual information objectively presented."