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These inquiries were referred first to the Council's Division of Research Information, where a search was made of published documents to see what information might already be available on the subject. This search showing that further investigation was desirable, and the problem being evidently a very large one, the President of the Council called a conference in the fall of that year, to which representatives of the federal and provincial departments of agriculture, the universities, the railways, the large chemical companies, and other individuals interested in the weed problem of the prairie provinces, were invited. Full discussion on that occasion led to a unanimous recommendation to the Council that it should appoint an Associate Committee on Weed Control to plan a programme covering not only chemical herbicides but the whole field of weed investigations, and to co-ordinate the activities of the institutions concerned in the carrying out of these investigations. The Committee was duly appointed, and became forthwith a corporate organization with a corporate purpose, holding funds voted to it by the Council for promoting and assisting its work, and rapidly developing a surprising amount of corporate spirit in the carrying out of its programme, the various parts of which were assumed by its component institutions according to their equipment and facilities.

This example illustrates how the Council can function at any time, stepping lightly across provincial, departmental and institutional boundaries, to set up appropriate machinery for dealing in a comprehensive way with any

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