

Approval was also given to New Zealand's participation in the British Commonwealth of Nations Scientific Offices, London. This organization is somewhat similar to that in which we are already participating in Washington and which was found to be so extremely valuable during the war period. In both London and Washington the New Zealand Scientific Liaison Office is accommodated alongside the Scientific Liaison Offices of the other dominions and the United Kingdom. The Scientific Liaison Officers, although independent and directly responsible to their own Governments, co-operate to the fullest extent.

SCIENTIFIC MAN-POWER COMMITTEE

This Committee was set up in February, 1947, by the Honourable Minister for Scientific and Industrial Research with the following order of reference:—

“To consider the policy which should govern the use and development of our scientific man-power and resources during the next ten years and to submit a programme on broad lines so as to facilitate forward planning in those fields which are dependent on the use of scientific man-power.”

During the year a considerable amount of material relevant to an adequate appraisal of the scientific man-power position has been collected by statistical analysis, questionnaires, and personal submissions requested by the Committee from scientists.

A brief questionnaire sought to clarify the definition of “qualified scientist” which would be most applicable to the survey. Two reports to the Committee have been prepared by the Research Division of the Department of Labour and Employment.

These two reports cover in detail the “University Training of Scientists” and “The Employment of Scientists in New Zealand.” The former shows numbers of graduates and numbers specializing in the various scientific subjects over the last twenty years. The second report, based on a questionnaire circulated within industry and Government Departments, covers the present employment position and anticipated future requirements.

These reports are basic data which will be drawn upon by the Committee, together with other material yet to be collected, in formulating its final report and recommendations.

The Committee is giving attention also to the general question of training and emolument of scientists and other problems related to the future healthy development of scientific work in New Zealand.

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