

following ten years. As a result of the May Report on Economy, the annual sum made available to the Commission was cut down by 50 per cent for the next five years. This cut has been met in two ways: first by reducing the provision of forest workers' holdings to the number absolutely necessary for the working of the forests, and, secondly, by stereotyping the annual planting programme at 20,000 acres or thereby, which will substantially reduce expenditure on acquisition of land. An expanding programme necessitates land acquisition on a large scale. Under a stabilised programme, acquisition can be limited to the replacement of the area actually planted. The reduction in area annually required works out at about 40,000 acres. These changes mean that the machine will take longer to arrive at its goal, but that it will not be thrown out of gear. No labour is to be paid off, and elasticity has been achieved partly by the distribution of the planting work all over the country and partly by the fact that the programme has been an expanding one.

National Research Laboratories, Canada

ON Aug. 10, the new National Research Laboratories of the National Research Council of Canada were officially opened in Ottawa by the Governor-General, the Earl of Bessborough. Among other speakers at the official opening were the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, and Dr. H. M. Tory, the president of the National Research Council and the National Research Laboratories. A description of the building and the proposed organisation of departments and staff was given in NATURE of Jan. 4, 1930. The building is severely classic in style and closely follows the design of the architect's model reproduced in our article. It comprises four stories and basement, and encloses two large interior courtyards, which give ample light to all laboratory rooms overlooking them. Under each courtyard is an arched exhibition hall. There are three main divisions of research, namely, physics and engineering, biology and agriculture, and chemistry. There is also a division of research information which will be responsible for the publication of the *Canadian Journal of Research*, annual reports, technical reports, and bulletins. In the south-west wing is a series of industrial exhibits. Many delegates to the Imperial Economic Conference were present at the opening ceremony, and the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin presented a number of portraits of eminent men of science which were given by Surgeon-Capt. Hanson.

National Research Council of Canada

THE Report of the National Research Council of Canada for the year 1930-31 states that although industry has been under a cloud, during the year the demand for scientific assistance addressed to the Council has increased greatly. There are now 29 research committees associated with the Council in the solution of scientific and technical problems which arise in industry, and the annual expenditure is a little more than 550,000 dollars. Five fellowships of 1200 dollars, 22 studentships of 1000, and 35 bursaries of 800 dollars a year have been awarded, and 35 researches

conducted in Canadian universities have been assisted during the year. From the summaries of the activities of the associated committees and of the reports on assisted researches, it is evident that Canada is building up a corps of research workers whose influence on the future of her industries is likely to be most important.

New Mount Everest Expedition

A NEW attempt to reach the summit of Mount Everest will be made in 1933. The announcement of the expedition, which appeared in the *Times* of Sept. 3, is made by Admiral Sir William Goodenough and Brigadier-General C. G. Bruce on behalf of the Royal Geographical Society and the Alpine Club respectively. The last expedition was in 1924, when Mr. G. L. Mallory and Mr. A. C. Irvine lost their lives within some two hundred feet of the summit, if they did not actually reach the top. On the same expedition, Col. E. F. Norton and Dr. T. H. Somervell climbed to 28,200 feet. The previous attempts were in 1922, when a height of 27,300 feet was reached, and in 1921, when the expedition was a reconnaissance of the routes. Since 1924 the difficulty in renewing the work has been due to the unwillingness of Tibet to grant permission. Now, however, the Dalai Lama has given consent to a British expedition and arrangements are in active progress. The leader of the expedition will be Mr. H. Ruttledge, late of the Indian Civil Service, who has had considerable experience of mountain climbing in the Himalayas. The office of the expedition will be at the house of the Royal Geographical Society, South Kensington, S.W.7, and the secretary is Mr. J. M. Scott, who was a member of the British Air Route Expedition to Greenland.

New Archæological Periodical

THE new archæological publication *Préhistoire*, of which the first number has just been issued, has been planned on lines differing from those of any archæological periodical now running. Its contents will consist entirely of original memoirs, and it will include neither reviews of books nor current news; while in scope it will cover the archæology and art of the pre- and protohistoric periods, that is to say, from the earliest times up to the foundation of the great empires of antiquity. The articles will be descriptive—these dealing with the latest discoveries—statements of new theory, or syntheses taking a broad survey of facts. A special feature will be the illustrations, which in the case of each communication will be adequate to the requirements of the subject, and, in any event, more ample than could be given in the general run of archæological periodicals. It is hoped that the ampler space and fuller illustration which will be available, will make it possible to include in *Préhistoire* studies of which the publication has been impossible up to now owing to their requirements in these respects. The new journal is edited by M. Raymond Lantier with an international editorial committee, which includes, among others, Comte Bégouen, the Abbé Breuil, Mr. Miles Burkitt, Prof. Bosch Gimpera, Prof. H. Obermaier, and Dr. O. Menghin. The first issue contains contributions by