

**JOINT POLAR RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL  
GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY AND SCOTT POLAR  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

In November 1946 the Royal Geographical Society, in conjunction with the Polar Institute, established a Joint Polar Research Committee to facilitate scientific co-operation in exploration and research with similar committees or institutes abroad. The present composition of this Committee is as follows: Lord Wakehurst (Chairman); Mr Augustine Courtauld; the Reverend W. L. S. Fleming, Director, Scott Polar Research Institute; Mr A. R. Glen; Mr L. P. Kirwan, Director and Secretary, Royal Geographical Society; Dr N. A. Mackintosh, Director of Research, *Discovery* Investigations, Colonial Office; Dr B. B. Roberts, Scott Polar Research Institute; Air-Commodore G. I. L. Saye, Director of Navigation, Air Ministry; Mr J. M. Wordie, Hon. Sec., Royal Geographical Society and Chairman, Scott Polar Research Institute; the Scientific Liaison Officer to the High Commissioner for Australia; the Scientific Liaison Officer to the High Commissioner for New Zealand; the Scientific Liaison Officer to the High Commissioner for South Africa.

The work of this committee has so far been directed exclusively to Antarctic affairs, with a view to effecting closer co-ordination between the various expeditions now in the field or being planned. In particular the Committee has been actively discussing the proposed British-Norwegian-Swedish Expedition to Queen Maud Land (see p. 80).

**CANADIAN RESEARCH IN GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS**

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The National Research Council of Canada has re-organised its Associate Committee on Geodesy and Geophysics (formed in 1945) and has given it authority to gather information on, and to direct and co-ordinate research in the field of "geodesy and geophysics, including meteorology, hydrology, oceanography, seismology, vulcanology, magnetism, terrestrial electricity, tectonophysics, gravity, and any other subjects necessary to an integrated study of earth physics and geophysical prospecting". The chairman of the Committee is Professor J. T. Wilson, professor of geophysics, University of Toronto.

The Committee is being provided with funds for the award of grants in aid of specific research projects to persons competent to direct work in this field and who have the required laboratory facilities at their disposal. Much of the work that interests the Committee is carried out as part of their normal duties by several Government departments and is paid for by those departments.

The integration and stimulation of geophysical work in Canada are desirable for several reasons: (i) geophysical methods of mineral and oil prospecting have assumed great importance; (ii) the Pre-Cambrian shield is the biggest and richest area of basement rocks in the world, and its study will throw light on