

and detailed planning and investigation. In the meantime the best use must be made of the knowledge at our disposal.

The general policy is to foster our primary industries as well as those processing industries dependent on raw material available in the Dominion. Encouragement should also be given to industries employing a substantial labour force, and which produce or finally process articles used within New Zealand. Land utilization, development of timber resources, including possible wood-pulp and paper industries, development of electric-power resources, organization of transport are examples of other important problems which need planning on a national scale. Manufacturing industries at present under investigation include the iron and steel, rubber tyre, flax, rayon, axminster carpet, and sugar-beet industries.

A general policy of decentralization of industry is also favoured, thus discouraging concentration of population in the cities. The tourist traffic is another sphere where planning will be necessary.

Regional Planning

The problems will differ from region to region—e.g., in the re-employment of servicemen and war workers. Some regions may need land drained or forests planted. Others might be suitable for the establishment of new industries. Others might need public works. Almost all will have jobs to be done to houses, buildings, and land.

Some of this will be short-term work, such as "deferred maintenance" of land and buildings. Some will affect the long-term development of the region's resources—e.g., land-development. But, before it can be organized and commenced, surveys of the natural resources of the region will be necessary. In this category are the soil and the forests. The artificial resources include the towns, the transport, the power. Most important of all are the human resources—the people, their will and ability to work. Surveys of all these factors are essential for long-term and co-ordinated planning,

and it will be part of the work of Regional Committees, now being set up, to supply them.

These committees will plan the development of their regions. The Organization for National Development will co-ordinate the plans. Much of this survey and planning work will fall to the lot of local bodies and other local institutions assisted by the local officers of the Government departments and by technical committees. Completed long-range plans will in due course be translated into actual highways, industries, &c.

Works Programme

Already a survey of local-body and departmental building and works programmes has been taken and now requires sifting as to priority and conformity with probable developments in the particular areas. The intention is to have everything ready for the appropriate time in the post-war period.

The Organization for National Development is not another Department conflicting with the functions of existing departments. "It acts rather as a clearing-house for post-war planning affecting private interests, local authorities, and State Departments, setting up committees on subjects that are broader than the scope of any particular department and stimulating post-war thinking in all departments and all sections of the community without seeking to do what can be done as well elsewhere."

There are now eight National Planning Committees (Agriculture, Industrial, Transport, Tourist, Trade and Shipping, Immigration, Personnel, and Power and Fuel; the Ministry of Works also acts as a Planning Committee) representing various Government departments and outside interests. Twenty-four Regional Planning Councils are being set up composed of representatives of local organizations. The work of Regional and National Committees is co-ordinated by a central Secretariat, which submits final schemes and proposals to the Executive Committee. This Committee makes recommendations to the Government and supervises the general progress of post-war planning.