



**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS**

**FOR THE**

**Year ended**  
**March 31, 1958**

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.  
Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery  
Ottawa, 1958

*Price 10 cents*

CANADA  
PATENTS  
1958



**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS**

**FOR THE**

**Year ended**  
**March 31, 1958**

**Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.**  
**Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery**  
**Ottawa, 1958**

*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, C.H.,  
Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.*

SIR,—I have the honour to lay before Your Excellency the report of the Commissioner of Patents for the financial year ended March 31, 1958 (during part of which the previous administration was in office).

Respectfully submitted,

ELLEN L. FAIRCLOUGH,  
*Secretary of State of Canada.*



*(Extract from the  
Report of the Secretary of State of Canada  
for the year ended March 31, 1958)*

## **PATENT AND COPYRIGHT OFFICE**

Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1958.

### **INTRODUCTION**

This report is made pursuant to the requirement of section 27 of the Patent Act, (Chapter 203, R.S.C. 1952 as amended by Chapter 19, and Chapter 40, section 15, 2-3 Eliz. II, 1953-54). The tables included herein contain information concerning the transactions of the Office, patent, copyright, industrial design, and timber mark fees, total receipts and expenditures, trend of invention, residence of inventors for applications filed and residence of inventors for patents granted. Examination and disposal of a patent application by the Office in accordance with the Act and Regulations entail a search for novelty, consideration of inventive subject matter, a decision as to patentability and also verification of compliance with procedural requirements. The statute provides for the grant of a seventeen year exclusive right to the inventor (or his successor in title) in return for his disclosing and making available to the public the product of his inventive genius and labours. It also contains provisions to safeguard the public interest against possible abuses of patent rights.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

The general business of the Office again shows an increase compared with that of the previous year. The transactions relating to patents, designs, timber marks and copyrights amounted to 156,972.

Applications for patents totalled 22,257, an increase of 495, or 2.27 per cent. Of the total number of applications filed, 16,262 claimed priority of filing date under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. This is an increase of 871 or about 5.66 per cent.

Allowances of applications totalled 17,717, an increase of 1,317 or 8 per cent over last year. There were 33,256 reports on patentability, an increase of 7,118 or 27.23 per cent more than last year. The allowances and reports, being the total number of applications acted on by the Examiners, amounted to 50,973 or 8,435 more than last year and represent also an all time record for the Office. During the year, 3,838 applications became abandoned through rejection for non-patentability or failure of the applicant to continue prosecution.

There were 16,261 patents issued. This is an increase of 748 or 4.82 per cent over last year. This is also an all time high.

The number of deeds entered in the register of assignments was 19,744, an increase of 620.

Copies of specifications, drawings and other patent documents to the number of 12,479 were made.

Copyright applications numbered 5,128 and there were 5,052 registrations made. Industrial design applications amounted to 741 and 665 designs were registered; 169 design registrations were renewed.

The following tables show, respectively, the transactions of the Patent Branch and of the Copyright and Industrial Design Branch for the last ten year period.

TABLE I  
TRANSACTIONS OF THE PATENT BRANCH FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58

Year	Caveat applications	Caveats issued	Applications for patents	Applications restored under section 75	Applications reinstated under section 32	Applications reported	Applications allowed	Applications forfeited	Patents issued	Patents reissued	Assignments recorded	Petitions under sec. 67 and 41	Copies	Patents printed
1948-49.....	331	326	12,751	55	63	12,306	9,348	481	7,941	18	13,325	3	6,240	508
1949-50.....	404	356	13,172	46	38	12,542	8,908	715	8,507	6	12,811	2	4,583	7,814
1950-51.....	325	391	14,324	50	43	14,130	9,462	576	8,450	11	11,437	3	5,460	12,576
1951-52.....	253	253	15,448	36	34	13,128	10,123	614	9,505	11	11,621	1	6,038	10,385
1952-53.....	258	243	16,405	51	49	12,696	10,325	609	9,683	17	12,525	1	6,282	9,974
1953-54.....	300	288	18,565	57	45	14,524	10,016	526	9,405	9	13,127	0	7,824	10,646
1954-55.....	373	337	19,448	69	56	19,250	11,819	516	10,274	8	20,062	1	7,840	11,585
1955-56.....	298	289	21,048	71	64	22,942	14,505	583	11,840	22	17,783	2	9,620	11,347
1956-57.....	338	245	21,762	86	108	26,138	16,400	727	15,494	19	19,124	2	10,803	15,900
1957-58.....	289	242	22,257	113	92	33,256	17,717	663	16,246	15	19,744	4	12,479	19,392

TABLE II  
TRANSACTIONS OF THE COPYRIGHT AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN BRANCH FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58

Year	COPYRIGHT					INDUSTRIAL DESIGN				TIMBER MARKS			Reports on applications re Copyrights Designs and Timber Marks	Certified copies of Copyrights Designs and Timber Marks
	Applications received	Copyrights registered	Assignments recorded	Applications for licences to reproduce or use	Licences granted	Applications received	Designs registered	Registrations renewed	Assignments recorded	Applications received	Marks registered	Assignments recorded		
1948-49.....	4,145	4,219	243	8	9	630	795	77	95	31	20	0	1,071	230
1949-50.....	4,585	4,488	327	4	5	720	653	72	98	12	7	1	1,167	242
1950-51.. .	4,787	4,700	419		1	649	628	115	91	10	4	2	887	287
1951-52.....	4,666	4,676	437	0	0	502	480	152	59	14	10	1	843	264
1952-53.....	5,078	4,976	400	1	1	536	431	199	117	1	1	6	872	213
1953-54.....	4,957	5,060	464	0	0	595	560	206	84	3	2	0	732	305
1954-55.....	5,261	5,193	492	0	0	519	286	201	121	12	10	4	818	287
1955-56.....	5,199	5,151	636	1	0	595	586	194	95	7	6	0	949	268
1956-57.....	5,156	5,099	630	0	0	624	601	157	165	12	9	1	890	354
1957-58.....	5,128	5,052	587	0	0	741	665	169	145	2	3	3	836	428

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

A statement of the receipts and expenditures for the ten-year period ended 31st March, 1958, appears below.

TABLE III  
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58

Year	Receipts		Expenditure				Surplus	Deficit				
			Salaries	Patent printing*	Other expenditures	Total						
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.				
1948-49.....	643,234	55	306,670	69	60,016	14	45,086	03	411,772	86	231,461	69
1949-50.....	656,097	40	352,867	80	234,105	68	37,275	56	624,249	04	31,848	36
1950-51.....	680,918	88	386,463	29	498,745	49	40,009	83	925,218	61	244,299	73
1951-52.....	747,624	06	421,890	54	368,431	54	36,710	97	827,033	05	79,408	99
1952-53.....	777,395	74	471,204	24	401,624	00	38,460	14	911,288	38	133,892	64
1953-54.....	869,055	08	539,170	57	390,093	19	34,937	15	964,200	91	95,145	83
1954-55.....	1,107,602	88	673,738	47	384,564	86	46,704	81	1,105,008	14	2,594	74
1955-56.....	1,256,558	20	756,529	78	564,362	82	48,761	78	1,378,654	38	122,096	18
1956-57.....	1,426,765	54	904,968	90	749,251	83	52,336	87	1,706,557	60	279,792	06
1957-58.....	1,460,203	84	1,088,373	34	848,195	87	53,455	09	1,990,024	30	529,820	46

NOTE—

\*The figures for the years 1948-49 indicate the cost of the Patent Office Record only; the figures for the years 1949-50 to 1957-58 include the cost of printing patents as well.

TABLE IV  
PATENT BRANCH FEES FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58

Year	Filing	Excess Claims	Completion	Supplementary disclosure	Amendment after Allowance	Final	Reissue	Restoration of Applications	Reinstatement of Applications	Sections 41, 47, 67
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1948-49...	318,856 82	12,541 50	972 00	165 00	1,240 00	208,980 75	80 00	1,325 00	1,445 00	40 00
1949-50...	329,248 50	11,768 00	4,602 00	510 50	1,180 00	211,309 29	560 00	910 00	950 00	24 00
1950-51...	357,966 87	12,851 00	4,456 45	595 00	1,215 00	211,189 40	458 00	980 00	940 00	115 00
1951-52...	386,066 12	14,283 17	4,815 00	970 00	1,035 00	240,754 77	600 00	720 00	680 00	110 09
1952-53...	409,776 23	13,737 24	5,493 85	1,185 00	1,354 00	240,174 64	680 00	1,240 00	940 00	85 00
1953-54...	463,959 81	15,267 00	6,573 75	1,525 00	1,235 04	254,690 95	400 00	1,327 08	1,000 00	60 00
1954-55...	583,056 81	17,797 13	10,681 50	2,959 00	2,285 00	294,282 46	1,050 00	1,915 00	1,330 81	70 00
1955-56...	631,420 80	17,917 50	12,096 00	2,758 00	2,505 00	371,398 19	900 00	2,150 00	1,895 00	40 00
1956-57...	652,686 02	19,407 49	13,184 00	4,165 00	3,623 00	476,870 54	1,100 00	2,795 00	2,475 00	15 00
1957-58...	667,749 72	21,802 13	13,324 04	5,015 00	3,470 00	495,463 01	1,089 00	3,456 25	2,480 00	210 00

TABLE V  
PATENT BRANCH FEES FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58—Concluded

Year	Assignments	Copies and Printed Patents	Caveat	Patent Record	Patent Agents	Search under Section 11	Premium and exchange	Sundries, Representative, Disclaimers, Postponement	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1948-49.....	50,143 00	14,442 38	3,505 50	6,397 15	2,180 00	1,517 00	9 98	1,609 52	625,450 60
1949-50.....	38,314 06	20,874 74	3,957 25	5,803 58	3,588 95	1,756 80	1,191 28	123 58	636,772 23
1950-51.....	38,832 12	15,375 73	3,020 00	5,901 66	3,805 00	1,870 00	1,369 62	129 10	661,069 95
1951-52.....	42,054 21	20,669 19	2,595 00	5,841 84	3,787 88	2,358 00	683 04	218 22	728,241 44
1952-53.....	43,944 08	23,391 79	2,698 80	6,415 50	2,692 91	2,500 00	21 98	383 64	756,714 56
1953-54.....	57,733 94	27,742 44	3,002 07	6,614 83	2,850 00	3,535 01	15 96	340 37	847,873 25
1954-55.....	101,110 92	43,017 20	3,645 30	14,704 29	2,598 94	5,290 00	17 09	487 07	1,086,278 52
1955-56.....	108,489 32	54,726 53	3,170 22	15,482 09	2,709 00	5,645 00	40 15	1,570 94	1,234,810 74
1956-57.....	116,893 96	86,463 06	2,445 00	13,784 70	2,699 01	5,970 00	10 35	652 31	1,405,239 44
1957-58.....	119,732 65	87,835 65	2,615 95	3,531 17	2,746 64	6,980 00	23 08	694 00	1,438,218 29

TABLE VI  
COPYRIGHT AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN BRANCH FEES FROM 1948-49 TO 1957-58

Year	Copy-right	Industrial Design			Timber Mark	Assign-ment	Copies	Licence	Pre-mium and Ex-change	Sun-dries	Total
		Filing	Renewal	Supple-ment-ary Renewal							
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1948-49....	12,780 00	3,048 00	810 00	70 00	56 00	598 00	292 10	102 00	7 60	20 25	17,783 95
1949-50....	13,666 01	3,567 00	945 00	5 00	24 00	544 00	306 00	40 00	209 66	18 50	19,325 17
1950-51....	14,333 72	3,210 49	865 00	5 00	19 00	719 00	404 05	10 00	282 37	30	19,848 93
1951-52....	14,047 14	2,447 00	1,595 00	45 00	28 00	614 95	428 21	.....	153 07	24 25	19,382 62
1952-53....	15,200 64	2,679 00	1,815 15	15 00	2 00	646 93	289 38	.....	16 08	7 00	20,681 18
1953-54....	15,234 74	2,915 00	2,072 00	15 00	6 50	660 95	258 48	.....	16 94	2 22	21,181 83
1954-55....	15,702 59	2,423 00	1,987 06	5 00	22 00	882 56	287 15	.....	13 65	1 35	21,324 36
1955-56....	15,553 44	2,901 14	1,995 00	10 00	14 00	920 97	325 95	10 00	14 26	2 70	21,747 46
1956-57....	15,453 92	3,206 68	1,638 00	20 00	24 50	968 03	300 94	0 00	7 77	8 88	21,628 72
1957-58....	15,408 79	3,512 00	1,735 00	5 00	3 50	931 68	359 13	.....	10 16	20 29	21,985 55

The fees from all sources amounted to \$1,460,203.84, an increase of \$33,438.30 from the preceding year.

Receipts from the Patent Branch totalled \$1,438,218.29. This is \$32,978.85 more than last year. There were increases mainly in filing, final, assignments, claims, caveats and searches under section 11 fees.

Copyright Branch receipts were \$21,985.55, an increase of \$356.83.

The total expenditure was \$1,990,024.30, an increase of \$283,466.70. There were increases in salaries due to the general revision authorized by the Government and the normal statutory increases. The cost of printing the Patent Office Record and the patents was also higher due to a greater number of patents issued and printed and the rising cost of labour and material.

### PATENT GRANTS

There were 16,261 patents granted. Of the total 16,223 were issued for the full term of seventeen years and 15 were reissued under section 50 of the Act for the unexpired term of seventeen years for which the original patents were granted. Under section 28A, 23 patents were issued.

Patents issued to assignees of the whole interest totalled 13,287, jointly to inventors and assignees of part interest 144, to inventors 2,797 and to legal representatives 33.

The number of patents issued to companies was 13,133, to individuals 3,087 and to companies and individuals jointly 41.

Patents where invention was claimed to have been made by two or more inventors totalled 4,710 and by one inventor 11,551.

Of the total, 76 patents were issued to female inventors, to male and female inventors jointly 57, and to male inventors 16,128.

There were 1,488 patents granted to Canadian citizens or companies and 14,773 to applicants of foreign origin.

There were 12 patents issued subject to the Public Servants Inventions Act.

### FORFEITURES, RESTORATIONS AND REINSTATEMENTS

Due to failure to pay the final fee within the period required by section 75, a total of 663 allowed applications became forfeited. Upon payment of restoration and final fees 113 forfeited applications were restored. Of the applications that had lapsed through failure to complete the formal papers or prosecute within the time provided by section 32, reinstatements were allowed in respect of 92.

## TREND OF INVENTION

The table which follows shows the subject matter of invention and the percentage of the total number of applications classified during the last two years.

TABLE VII

SUBJECT MATTER OF INVENTION	Per cent of Total	
	1956-57	1957-58
Chemical Section		
Chemicals (Organic).....	12.52	12.98
Metallurgy and Inorganic Chemistry.....	8.12	8.41
Applied Chemistry.....	5.46	5.12
Plastics.....	8.57	7.87
Sectional Total.....	34.67	34.38
Electrical Section		
Electric, General.....	7.66	7.59
Wired Transmission.....	3.61	3.37
Radiant Energy.....	5.42	5.11
Sectional Total.....	16.69	16.07
Mechanical Section		
Transportation.....	6.79	6.69
Physical Science, Fine Arts.....	4.82	5.00
Computers, Games and Toys.....	1.92	1.95
Metal and Wood Working.....	4.38	4.17
Heat and Power.....	6.67	7.00
Textile and Paper.....	3.81	4.07
Sectional Total.....	28.39	28.88
Civil Mechanical Section		
Household, Office, Medical.....	5.65	5.88
Building and Receptacles.....	5.74	5.81
Agriculture and Earth Working.....	3.14	3.16
Material Treatment, Handling and Controlling.....	5.71	5.82
Sectional Total.....	20.24	20.67
Grand Total.....	100.00	100.00

TABLE VIII  
RESIDENCE OF INVENTORS FOR APPLICATIONS FILED

	1956-57	1957-58		1956-57	1957-58
Canada—			Europe—		
Alberta.....	103	103	Austria.....	70	68
British Columbia.....	127	104	Belgium.....	79	71
Manitoba.....	57	30	Czechoslovakia.....	26	39
New Brunswick.....	18	4	Denmark.....	41	61
Newfoundland.....	3	1	Eire.....	4	4
Nova Scotia.....	11	11	Finland.....	17	17
Ontario.....	520	561	France.....	520	653
Prince Edward Island.....	0	1	Germany.....	1,069	1,298
Quebec.....	305	313	Greece.....	4	2
Saskatchewan.....	22	25	Hungary.....	8	13
Yukon and N.W.T.....	1	1	Iceland.....	0	1
Total.....	1,167	1,154	Italy.....	160	219
United Kingdom—			Liechtenstein (Principality of).....	1	1
England.....	1,825	2,242	Luxemburg.....	0	1
Northern Ireland.....	1	2	Netherlands.....	363	346
Scotland.....	45	56	Norway.....	50	43
Wales.....	9	15	Poland.....	1	2
Total.....	1,880	2,315	Portugal.....	4	3
Commonwealth Countries—			Spain.....	16	9
Australia.....	42	70	Sweden.....	261	298
India.....	2	2	Switzerland.....	459	465
New Zealand.....	8	17	Total.....	3,153	3,614
Pakistan.....	0	5	Africa—		
South Africa (Union of).....	33	25	East Africa, Kenya, Tanganyika.....	1	0
Southern Rhodesia.....	4	2	Morocco and Tangier.....	1	7
Total.....	89	121	Northern Rhodesia.....	5	0
America—			Sudan.....	1	0
Argentina.....	10	10	Total.....	8	7
Brazil.....	8	1	Asia—		
Chile.....	0	1	Hong Kong.....	1	2
Mexico.....	11	21	Israel.....	11	4
Peru.....	0	1	Indonesian Republic.....	0	2
Puerto Rico.....	0	1	Japan.....	43	63
United States of America.....	15,379	14,934	Lebanon.....	1	2
Venezuela.....	1	4	Singapore.....	0	1
Total.....	15,409	14,973	Tahiti.....	0	1
			Total.....	56	75

TABLE IX  
RESIDENCE OF INVENTORS FOR PATENTS GRANTED

	1956-57	1957-58		1956-57	1957-58
<b>Canada—</b>			<b>Europe—</b>		
Alberta.....	51	43	Austria.....	32	38
British Columbia.....	84	83	Belgium.....	52	49
Manitoba.....	39	38	Czechoslovakia.....	7	8
New Brunswick.....	9	4	Denmark.....	33	47
Newfoundland.....	0	2	Eire.....	1	0
Nova Scotia.....	11	8	Finland.....	8	10
Ontario.....	325	343	France.....	289	322
Prince Edward Island.....	0	0	Germany.....	473	566
Quebec.....	221	229	Greece.....	0	1
Saskatchewan.....	20	21	Hungary.....	4	4
Yukon and N.W.T.....	1	1	Italy.....	60	97
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>772</b>	Liechtenstein (Principality of).....	0	2
<b>United Kingdom—</b>			Luxemburg.....	1	3
England.....	1,543	1,475	Monaco.....	1	0
Northern Ireland.....	2	4	Netherlands.....	367	334
Scotland.....	65	62	Norway.....	28	35
Wales.....	20	17	Spain.....	4	5
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>1,558</b>	Sweden.....	215	240
<b>Commonwealth Countries—</b>			Switzerland.....	305	372
Australia.....	39	39	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,880</b>	<b>2,133</b>
India.....	0	2	<b>Africa—</b>		
New Zealand.....	6	6	Egypt.....	1	0
Pakistan.....	0	0	Morocco.....	1	4
South Africa (Union of).....	10	19	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Southern Rhodesia.....	0	0	<b>Asia—</b>		
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>66</b>	Indo-China.....	1	0
<b>America—</b>			Indonesia.....	1	1
Argentina.....	14	6	Israel.....	2	1
Brazil.....	4	5	Japan.....	13	10
British West Indies.....	2	0	Lebanon.....	1	0
Chile.....	1	1	Philippines.....	0	1
Colombia.....	0	1	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>
Cuba.....	1	1	<b>The above figures converted into percentages give the following pro</b>		
Dominican Republic.....	0	1	<b>for patents granted:</b>		
Ecuador.....	0	1	PER CENT		
Mexico.....	11	3	Canada.....	4.74	
Netherlands West Indies.....	1	0	United Kingdom.....	9.58	
Puerto Rico.....	0	1	Other Commonwealth Countries.....	0.40	
United States of America.....	11,131	11,695	United States.....	71.98	
Uruguay.....	1	0	Others.....	13.30	
Venezuela.....	1	0	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>100.00</b>	
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>11,167</b>	<b>11,715</b>			

The above figures converted into percentages give the following pro for patents granted:

	PER CENT
Canada.....	4.74
United Kingdom.....	9.58
Other Commonwealth Countries.....	0.40
United States.....	71.98
Others.....	13.30
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## REGISTER OF PATENT AGENTS

Under the provisions of section 15 of the Patent Act and the Rules under the Patent Act, the names of 79 patent agents were added to the Register. By reason of failure to comply with rule 144, the names of 48 patent agents were removed from the Register. A qualifying examination under rule 143 was held at Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Sarnia and Vancouver, on October 21st and 22nd, 1957. Fourteen candidates tried the examination and six were successful. At the close of the year the names of 1,130 patent attorneys and patent agents appeared on the Register.

## PATENT OFFICE RECORD

Pursuant to section 27 of the Patent Act, which requires the publication of a list of all patents granted, the official journal of the Office, The Canadian Patent Office Record, was published on Tuesday in each week. Publication was made in each issue of the principal drawings and claims of patents granted on the date of publication, notices and other actions under the Patent Act, lists of copyrights registered, assignments of copyrights and abridgements of industrial designs registered during the week.

The Office continues to exchange the "Record" for the official journals, indexes and reports on patents and designs from patent offices in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Egypt, France, Great Britain, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Union of South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America.

The "Record" was also exchanged for 19 scientific periodicals and trade journals for the use of the Office.

## PATENT PRINTING

The Department of Public Printing and Stationery printed 19,392 patents during the year for the Office. This figure includes 89 reprints and 1,849 patents of the issue of 1948.

## PATENT OFFICE LIBRARY

During the year 2,057 volumes were added to the Library. Copies of current patent issues were received regularly from Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. In addition patent journals, indexes and reports were received from the countries named in the paragraph entitled Patent Office Record above.

The Patent Office Library now contains copies of patents of the following countries from the dates given to the present date, namely:—Great Britain from the year 1617, the United States of America from 1845, France from 1902, Italy from 1925, Australia from 1926, the Netherlands from 1947, Sweden from 1947, Switzerland from 1949, Austria from 1949, Belgium from 1950 and Japan from 1950. The Library also contains printed copies of Canadian patents from 1949 and plant patents of the United States of America from No. 1 of August 1, 1931 to No. 1,693 of March 25, 1958.

All the United States patents from 1934 to date are segregated according to the classification in force at the time of issue of the individual patents.

The Patent Office Library contains 27,148 volumes in all.

### STAFF

The number of established positions was increased during the year from 264 to 295 as provided for in the estimates for 1957-58.

The average number of positions occupied was 247.

During the year 17 patent examiners were appointed. Eleven examiners resigned their positions and one retired on pension. The average number of examiners' positions filled was 86.

The shortage of Engineers was again felt during the year; however the prospects for the coming year appear to be brighter.

### NEW OFFICES

During the month of March 1958, the Patent Office was moved into its new premises in Number 8 Temporary Building on Carling Avenue. For the present time the printed patents, some of the foreign patents and other files are still stored in other buildings pending the allocation of additional space in our building.

The move has given us the opportunity of reorganizing our flow of work, of organizing better library and searching facilities and generally improving our services to the public.

### MICROFILMING

In order to protect valuable files and in an effort to cope with the ever increasing bulk of permanent records, a program of microfilming was started during the year. At the present time, old patent specifications are being micro-filmed; the assignment records and patent exemplifications will also be done.

### NEWFOUNDLAND PATENTS

Five applications for the grant of letters patent under the laws of Newfoundland (pursuant to the provisions of subsection (3) of section 20 of the Terms of Union of Newfoundland with Canada) remained pending at the end of the year, notice of objection to the grant of such letters patent having been filed against each application.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. T. MICHEL,

*Commissioner of Patents.*