

- E. H. Finlayson, director of forestry, Forest Service, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario.  
 T. A. McElhanney, superintendent, Forest Products Laboratories, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario.  
 Dr. J. M. Swaine, director of research, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.

*University Representatives:*

- J. M. Gibson, professor of forestry, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N. B.  
 A. Bédard, directeur, L'Ecole d'Arpentage et de Génie Forestier, Université Laval, Quebec, P. Q.  
 Dr. C. D. Howe, dean of the faculty of forestry, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario.  
 F. M. Knapp, professor of forestry, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B. C.

There are in addition nine provincial and eleven industrial representatives. The joint secretaries of the committee are: D. Roy Cameron, associate director of forestry, Forest Service, Ottawa, Ontario, and S. J. Cook, division of research information, National Research Council, Ottawa.

### THE FEDERAL WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

THE report of a special sub-committee of the Water Resources Committee of the National Resources Committee was recently transmitted to President Roosevelt.

The sub-committee, which included representatives of the chief federal agencies concerned with drainage policy and projects, was composed of the following specialists: W. B. Bell, Bureau of Biological Survey; Lt. Col. Glen E. Edgerton, Corps of Engineers; Perry Fellows, Works Progress Administration; Elmer Higgins, Bureau of Fisheries; S. H. McCrory, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering; S. A. Rohwer, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine; P. I. Taylor, Bureau of Reclamation; L. L. Williams, U. S. Public Health Service; and Abel Wolman, chairman of the Water Resources Committee, as chairman. G. F. White of the staff served as secretary.

In his letter transmitting the report to the National Resources Committee, Mr. Wolman summarized the major conclusions and recommendations as follows:

The Sub-Committee finds that (1) conflicts of Federal activity in drainage work, resulting in unnecessary waste and delay, have occurred; (2) the number of such conflicts may be expected to increase as a result of recent extensions of Federal authority over drainage work, and (3) all but a few of the conflicts might have been prevented had there been opportunity for reconciliation of policies during the planning of the various programs. It recommends, therefore, an administrative mechanism for promoting balanced consideration of proposed Federal projects, and for reducing friction and delay in their exe-

cution. The same findings and recommendations apply to projects for impounding water.

The recommended mechanism requires (1) authority for the National Resources Committee to serve as a clearing house of information and opinion concerning proposed Federal drainage and water-storage programs, and (2) provision by the National Resources Committee of personnel to staff the suggested Sub-Committee which would review programs. In short, the Sub-Committee has found a clear-cut deficiency in national water planning, and has proposed a simple, inexpensive method intended to remedy it.

The Water Resources Committee endorses the report unanimously, and urges that the Advisory Committee approve the report and take prompt action to effectuate the recommendations.

On receiving the report, which included a comprehensive discussion of the problem, President Roosevelt issued the following memorandum designed to prevent duplication, delay and conflict in drainage and water storage projects and to eliminate dubious proposals at their inception:

From investigations made by the National Resources Committee, it appears that unnecessary waste and delay in the execution of land drainage and water storage projects result from the failure of Federal agencies to secure review of projects from all relevant points of view while the work is being planned, and that certain projects which are ill-advised from public health, wild life conservation, or other standpoints, may be undertaken because such review is not made.

Please instruct appropriate officials of your agency to submit a statement of impending programs involving land drainage or water storage to the National Resources Committee at regular intervals in order that other agencies having an interest in the work may be informed by the committee of the programs well in advance of their initiation.

### APPOINTMENT OF DR. JAMES T. JARDINE AS DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DR. JAMES T. JARDINE has been appointed director of research for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Jardine has served as chief of the Office of Experiment Stations since 1931 and will continue in this capacity. His additional assignment becomes effective immediately.

As chief of the Office of Experiment Stations and director of research, Dr. Jardine will be responsible for three major activities. He will continue in charge of the Office of Experiment Stations, which administers Federal grants to the states and territories for agricultural experiment stations, and coordinates this work with similar research of the department. As director of research, he will cooperate with the bureaus in planning and coordinating their research work. As