

## PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

issued are circulars establishing standards under Section 26 of the Adulteration of Food Act and Bulletins issued in connection with the inspection of samples collected under the provisions of this Act.

**Indian Affairs.**—Annual Report, Indian Act, 1906, with Amendments to date. Schedule of Indian Reserves 1913. Indian Treaties and Surrenders, Vols. I, II, III.

**Commission of Conservation.**—Annual Reports 1910-1913. Reports on Agriculture, Fisheries, Game and Fur-bearing Animals, Forests, Minerals, Public Health, Waters and Water-powers. Monthly Bulletin, entitled "Conservation." For complete list see Catalogue of Publications, revised to December 1, 1913.

**Other Departments.**—In addition to the publications above enumerated Annual Reports are issued by the Departments of External Affairs, Public Works and the Auditor General.

## XI.—PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

**Parliamentary Legislation, 1912-13.**—The second session of the twelfth Parliament of Canada opened on November 21, 1912, and closed on June 6, 1913. The measures passed comprise 57 public general and 152 private and local Acts. Of the public general Acts those relating to the provision of funds for agricultural instruction, banks and banking, a treaty with Japan and the West Indian trade agreement were of chief importance. The Naval Aid<sup>1</sup> and Highways Improvement Bills failed of enactment owing to action of the Senate.

**Agricultural Instruction Act.**—This Act (chapter 5), which was assented to on June 6, 1913, repealed chapter 3 of the Statutes of 1912 and provided for the appropriation of a sum of \$10,000,000 during the next ten years for the purpose of aiding and advancing the farming industry by instruction in agriculture, including the work carried on by the veterinary colleges. The sum available under the Act for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1915, is \$800,000, for 1916 \$900,000, for 1917 \$1,000,000, and for 1918 to 1923 \$1,100,000 annually.

**Bank Acts.**—The Bank Act (chapter 9) which came into force on July 1, 1913, repeals previous Bank Acts and renews the charters of the 24 Canadian Banks named in Schedule A of the Act for a further period of ten years expiring on July 1, 1923. Legislative provisions for their future control and regulation are laid down in 160 sections, the following being the principal changes thus effected in the law of banking. In the establishment of new banks, additional safeguards have been introduced with a view to the protection of the subscribers between the period of the incorporation of the bank and the issue of the certificate of the Treasury Board. No expenditure may be made by the provisional directors, or by the board of directors, unless of a very trifling and necessary character, until the application is made to the Treasury Board, and the certificate of the Treasury Board may not issue until the Board is satisfied that the expenses of incorporation and organization are reasonable and that all the requirements of the Act have been complied with. The Act makes it obligatory upon the banks to have an annual shareholders' audit. The Bankers' Association are required to select by ballot not less than 40 qualified auditors any one of whom,

<sup>1</sup> For notes on the Naval Policy of Canada, see Year Book of 1912, pp. 455-456.