The most important publication of the General Statistics Branch of the Bureau is the Canada Year Book, which is a compendium of official data on the physiography, history, institutions, population, production, industry, trade, transportation, finance, labour, administration, and general social and economic conditions and life of the Dominion—the whole conceived from a wide point of view and presenting the more salient statistics of the country against a background of interpretative matter designed to bring out their significance. It will be appreciated that a work of this character is dependent upon the completion of the basic organization of statistics; it has been necessary, therefore, to develop the Year Book gradually, as improved statistics became available.

In the present volume the new features to which special attention may be directed include the following:—a new map of the southern portion of the Dominion, showing railways and ocean trade routes; census statistics showing the citizenship of the foreign-born population and the mother-tongue and language spoken; an enlarged and improved treatment of vital statistics; a sketch of the history of the Canadian lumber trade; new trade statistics showing by articles the trade of Canada with twenty-seven leading countries other than the United States and the United Kingdom; an outline of the organization of Provincial Departments and Bureaus of Labour; a special article on the co-operative movement in Canada; wages statistics based on the census of industry; an explanation of the Bureau's new index number of security prices; statistics of Dominion finance and the Bureau's latest co-ordinated statistics of provincial and municipal finance; a new table showing the age-sex-grade distribution of pupils in elementary and secondary grades in eight provinces; an article on the Dominion Council of Health; permanent rates of war pensions; new statistics relative to the Dominion civil service.

Throughout the volume the latest available information is included in each section, tables generally including figures for the fiscal year 1924-25 and the letter-press supplying supplementary figures extending in some cases to the end of the calendar year 1925.

The present edition of the Year Book has been edited by Mr. S. A. Cudmore, B.A. (Tor.), M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R. Econ. Soc. Grateful acknowledgments are hereby tendered to the numerous officials of the Dominion and Provincial Governments who have assisted in the collection of information, especially to the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior for the maps included in the volume. In the compilation, the Editor has been assisted by Messrs. Joseph Wilkins and Paul Sykes, the latter having rendered specially valuable service in connection with the Public Health and Benevolence section, the survey of provincial legislation and the reorganization of the index. Most of the diagrams in the volume were drawn by Mr. R. E. Watts.

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