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 broad 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.

Among the new features incorporated in the present edition of the Year Book are the following:—A special article on the Climate of Canada, contributed by Sir Frederic Stupart, Director of the Meteorological Service of Canada (p. 41); a summary of the results of the census of the Prairie Provinces, taken in 1926; improved statistics of immigration, including the languages, nationalities and birthplaces of immigrants (pp. 193-5); preliminary results of the census of manufactures for 1926 (p. 419) as well as detailed analyses of these statistics for 1925; an extended discussion of Canadian trade (op. 473-91); a summary of the first authoritative statement on the tourist trade of Canada (p. 609); material on the traffic and the financial position of the Canadian National Railways; a special article on Canadian legislation respecting Combinations in Restraint of Trade, by the Registrar of the Combines Investigation Act (p. 765); an important study of the wages statistics collected at the Census of 1921 (p. 774); the results of a new study of the national wealth of Canada as in 1925 (p. 850). The appendix contains figures of immigration and of trade for the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1928. The volume is illustrated by many more maps and diagrams than in previous years.

Throughout the volume the latest available information is included in each section, tables generally including figures for the fiscal year 1926-27 and the letter-press supplying supplementary figures extending in some cases to the end of the calendar year 1927.

The present volume has been edited by Mr. S. A. Cudmore, B.A. (Tor.), M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F. R. Econ. Soc., who has been assisted as in past years by Mr. Joseph Wilkins, while Messrs. R. F. Clarke and W. H. Lanceley have also co-operated in the work and Mr. R. E. Watts drew many of the diagrams. 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. While the greatest care has been taken in the preparation of the volume, there are doubtless imperfections, and with a view to the improvement of future editions, the Editor will be glad to hear of any errors which may have escaped his notice, and to receive any suggestions with regard to omissions or to method of treatment.

R. H. COATS, Dominion Statistician.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, May 1, 1928.