

powers and the establishment of separate diplomatic representation in a number of foreign countries have characterized this phase in the growth of the Dominion of Canada. More explicit recognition of the implications of the principles of equality of status was accorded in the Statute of Westminster of 1931, which provided for the removal of the remaining limitations on the legislative autonomy of the Dominions.

PART I.—CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

A brief historical and descriptive account of the evolution of the general government of Canada is given at pp. 89-100 of the Canada Year Book, 1922-23.

PART II.—PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A brief account of the government of each of the provinces of Canada and of its municipal institutions and judicial organization is published at pp. 101-115 of the 1922-23 edition of the Year Book. The 1938 edition of the Year Book includes at pp. 92-93 an article entitled "The Government of Canada's Arctic Territory".

PART III.—LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES

Section 1.—The Dominion Parliament and Ministry

The Dominion Parliament is composed of the King (represented by the Governor General), the Senate and the House of Commons. As a result of the working out of the democratic principle, the part played by the King's Representative and the Upper Chamber of Parliament in the country's legislation has been, in Canada as in the United Kingdom, a steadily decreasing one, the chief responsibilities involved in legislation being assumed by the House of Commons.

In Subsections 3 and 4, pp. 27-35, a brief résumé of the history of parliamentary representation will be found. Attention is drawn to the growth in the number of members of both the Senate and the House of Commons since Confederation and to the greatly increased unit of representation in the Lower House.

Subsection 1.—The Governor General of Canada

The Governor General is appointed by the King as his representative in Canada, usually for a term of five years, with a salary fixed at £10,000 sterling per annum, which is a charge against the consolidated revenue of the country. The Governor General is bound by the terms of his commission and can exercise only such authority as is expressly entrusted to him. He acts under the advice of his Ministry, which is responsible to Parliament, and, as the acting head of the Executive, summons, prorogues and dissolves Parliament, and assents to or reserves bills. In the discharge of these and other executive duties, he acts entirely by and with the advice of his Ministry (the Governor General in Council). The royal prerogative of mercy in capital cases, formerly exercised on the Governor General's own judgment and responsibility, is now exercised pursuant to the advice of the Ministry. The practice whereby the Governor General served as the medium of communication between the Canadian and the British Governments has been given up; since July 1, 1927, direct communication between His Majesty's Government in Canada and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom has been instituted.