

PREFACE

The Canada Year Book had its beginning in the first year of the Dominion when the semi-official "Year Book and Almanac of British North America"—being (to quote its sub-title) "an Annual Register of political, vital and trade statistics, customs tariffs, excise and stamp duties, and all public events of interest in Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and West Indies"—was founded. After the reorganization of statistics that followed the report of the Royal Commission on Statistics of 1912, and the establishment of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1918, the recasting of the Year Book and its general improvement were made primary objects of policy.

With the rapid broadening out of the economic structure of the Dominion, difficulty has been experienced in keeping the size of the Year Book down to convenient limits and the present demands for conservation in all possible directions have served to emphasize this difficulty. On the other hand, the rapid and fundamental changes that the national economy is undergoing as a result of the War must find a place in the Year Book if this publication is to carry out its main purpose and record, in proper perspective, the economic changes of the important and turbulent period of history through which the Dominion is now passing.

The total number of pages shows some reduction this year, although necessary material on the economic effects of the War has had to be expanded considerably. To provide for this the standard textual analysis has been cut, wherever this was possible without impairing the essential balance between chapters.

In the 1940 and 1941 editions the influences of the War were dealt with in a special Introduction: they could not then be reflected in the chapter material, since statistical tables did not, at best, cover more than the first few months of war. Now that the main statistics cover a full calendar year or more of the war period, the incidence on each phase of the economy is traced as a part of the treatment and the Introduction is restricted to the co-ordination of the war-time changes and the bringing of the picture up to the time of going to press.

The chapters most directly concerned are: Manufactures, where at pp. 354-361 an extended review of the rapid changes that are being brought about in the industrial field is given; External Trade, where important sections on the war-time control of external trade and the influence of the War on world trade are presented at pp. 434-439 and at p. 446; Prices, where at pp. 724-725 a special treatment of the war-time prices control system that has been a distinctly Canadian contribution in the economic field, not only for war-time but probably for the post-war period also, is explained; Agriculture, where the effects of the War are treated at pp. 183-188; Forestry, where the influences of the War on the demand for forest products are dealt with at pp. 249-252; Mines and Minerals, where, at pp. 279-282, the Government control of non-ferrous metals and fuels since the beginning of the War is discussed; Power, where a short summary is given of the war-time control of power at p. 321; Transportation, where a review of the war-time control of Transportation appears at pp. 579-581; Immigration, which deals with the subjects of British guest children and refugee immigration, at pp. 164-166. The important chapters on Labour, Public Finance, Currency and Banking, and Internal Trade have also been directly related to the war effort and the special War Chronology begun in the 1940 Year Book is brought up to date.

The drastic changes that the War has already brought about in the 'way of life' of the average Canadian are reflected in even a cursory comparison of the present edition with that of 1939, and the above references are indicative only of the