

**Subsection 2.—The Ministry**

Canada's system of government is based upon that of the British, by which a Cabinet or Ministry (composed of members of the House of Commons or the Senate), is responsible to Parliament. The Cabinet is actually a committee of the King's Privy Council for Canada. Without enlarging upon the features of the system, it may be sufficient to note that the Cabinet is responsible to the House of Commons and, following established precedent, resigns office when it becomes evident that it no longer holds the confidence of the people's representatives. Members of the Cabinet are chosen by the Prime Minister; each generally assumes charge of one of the various Departments of Government, although a Minister may hold more than one portfolio at the same time, or may be without portfolio.

**2.—Prime Ministers Since Confederation**

NOTE.—A complete list of the members of Dominion Ministries from Confederation to 1913 appears in the 1912 Year Book, pp. 422-429. Later Ministries will be found in the corresponding tables of subsequent editions of the Year Book.

Ministry	Prime Minister	Length of Administration
1	Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.....	July 1, 1867 - Nov. 6, 1873
2	Hon. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE.....	Nov. 7, 1873 - Oct. 16, 1878
3	Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.....	Oct. 17, 1878 - June 6, 1891
4	Hon. Sir JOHN J. C. ABBOTT.....	June 16, 1891 - Dec. 5, 1892
5	Hon. Sir JOHN S. D. THOMPSON.....	Dec. 5, 1892 - Dec. 12, 1894
6	Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.....	Dec. 21, 1894 - Apr. 27, 1896
7	Right Hon. Sir CHARLES TUPPER.....	May 1, 1896 - July 8, 1896
8	Right Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER.....	July 11, 1896 - Oct. 6, 1911
9	Right Hon. Sir ROBERT L. BORDEN.....	Oct. 10, 1911 - Oct. 12, 1917 (Conservative Administration)
10	Right Hon. Sir ROBERT L. BORDEN.....	Oct. 12, 1917 - July 10, 1920 (Unionist Administration)
11	Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN.....	July 10, 1920 - Dec. 29, 1921 (Unionist—"National Liberal and Conservative Party")
12	Right Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....	Dec. 29, 1921 - June 28, 1926
13	Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN.....	June 29, 1926 - Sept. 24, 1926
14	Right Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....	Sept. 25, 1926 - Aug. 6, 1930
15	Right Hon. RICHARD BEDFORD BENNETT.....	Aug. 7, 1930 - Oct. 23, 1935
16	Right Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....	Oct. 23, 1935 - —

**3.—Members of the Sixteenth Dominion Ministry as at Jan. 1, 1947**

(According to precedence of the Ministers)

Office	Occupant	Date of Appointment <sup>1</sup>
Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council	Right Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G.....	Oct. 23, 1935 (Oct. 23, 1935)
Minister of Veterans Affairs.....	Rt. Hon. IAN ALISTAIR MACKENZIE, K.C.....	Sept. 19, 1939 (Oct. 13, 1944)
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.....	Rt. Hon. JAMES LORIMER ILSLEY, K.C.....	Oct. 23, 1935 (July 8, 1940 Dec. 10, 1946)
Minister of Reconstruction and Supply.....	Rt. Hon. CLARENCE DECATUR HOWE.....	Oct. 23, 1935 (Apr. 9, 1940 Oct. 13, 1944)
Minister of Agriculture.....	Rt. Hon. JAMES GARFIELD GARDINER.....	Oct. 28, 1935 (Jan. 23, 1939)
Minister of Trade and Commerce.....	Hon. JAMES ANGUS MACKINNON.....	(May 10, 1940)
Secretary of State of Canada.....	Hon. COLIN WILLIAM GEORGE GIBSON, M.C., K.C., V.D.....	(July 8, 1940 Dec. 12, 1946)

<sup>1</sup>For footnote, see end of table, p. 60,