

and was based on the report of a Commission on Statistics, appointed in 1912, which recommended (1) a series of specific reforms and enlargements in Canadian statistics, and (2) a policy of statistical co-ordination for Canada, under central direction. In 1915, following the recommendations in this Report, the office of Dominion Statistician was created but it was not until 1918 that the recommendations of the Commission were embodied in legislation.

The chief aims of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics are:—

- (1) to furnish factual data for administration and government;
- (2) to assist in developing Canada as a well-informed nation by standing ready to help business men and individuals to plan their enterprises and their lives.

It is in regard to the second of these aims that this review is concerned.

*Inquiries.*—Hundreds of individual requests for information are received in the Bureau each day, routed through the appropriate divisions and answered as expeditiously as possible. Since the field of effort, from the statistical side, deals with all phases of the national economy, there is scarcely a subject upon which the Bureau is not able to give some information. Nevertheless, inquiries of a statistical nature only should be directed to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

*Publications.*—The Dominion Bureau of Statistics is the largest publishing Department of the Federal Government: the subjects of its reports cover all aspects of the national economy. The appropriation for the Bureau, passed by Parliament each year, provides limited funds for the printing and processing of reports and bulletins. Reports printed from type are set up by the King's Printer, but all processed reports and bulletins are completely printed and published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The policy with regard to the distribution of publications is based on sales to the public at actual cost of paper and press-work only; compilation, editing and other overhead costs are not included. The object is to extend the service to the public as widely as possible and so spread the compilation and overhead, which are the big items in total costs. A special subscription rate of \$30 per annum entitles the subscriber to receive a copy of each publication, including News Bulletins, as issued. Statistical information not of general interest is published as Reference Papers or Memoranda and an additional subscription rate of \$10 is made for each category: this entitles the subscriber to receive all issues in each class. A discount of 25 p.c. is allowed on the excess over \$5 of single purchases totalling between \$5 and \$20: on single purchases of between \$20 and \$50 the discount is 50 p.c. of the excess over \$20.

A complete list of Bureau publications is available from the Dominion Statistician, on request. Orders for reports should be sent to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, and should give the correct title or titles of the publication or series of reports in which the applicant is interested and include the necessary remittance in the form of a cheque or money-order made payable to the Receiver General of Canada, Ottawa.

*Information Division, Department of External Affairs.*—The task of this agency is to make Canada better known abroad and to encourage interest in and understanding of international affairs within Canada.