

CHAPTER XXVII.—SOURCES OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MISCELLANEOUS DATA

CONSPECTUS

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NOTE.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

PART I.—SOURCES OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION

Section 1.—Federal Government Information Services

The chief source of statistical information on all phases of the economy of Canada is the Dominion Bureau of Statistics where the ten-year and five-year censuses of Canada are planned and statistical information of all kinds—federal and provincial—is centralized. Information that is not mainly statistical may be secured from the individual Department concerned with the particular subject as indicated in the Directory at pp. 1183-1213. Certain government bodies and national agencies, because of the nature of their work and the appeal it has to broad sections of the population, are organized primarily as information or publicity agencies. Among these are: the Information Division, Department of External Affairs, which deals with questions about external affairs originating in Canada and with general requests originating abroad for information on Canada and Canadian affairs; the Trade Publicity Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce; the Information Services Division, Department of National Health and Welfare; the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; and the National Film Board. (See Index.) The Departments of Agriculture, Northern Affairs and National Resources, and Mines and Technical Surveys, and such agencies as the National Gallery of Canada, the National Museum of Canada, the National Library, and the National Research Council, while not thus classed, are interested in the dissemination of information to a greater extent than most of the remaining government departments, though several of the latter have publicity branches or public relations divisions.

Government departments, with few exceptions, issue their own lists of reports and publications. Departments are required by statute to publish annual reports, which are tabled each year in the House of Commons by their respective Ministers. However, for the purpose of this Section, only the services of the six information agencies mentioned above are described.

Section 2 has been prepared for the purpose of presenting to the reader a directory of all sources of information, federal and provincial, thereby directing him to the proper channels from which he may draw published material relating to any particular subject.