

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.

Subsequently the Year Book experienced many metamorphoses under the able editorship of such men as Dr. George Johnson and Dr. Archibald Blue, whose names are outstanding in the field of early statistical work in the Dominion, and, 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, by E. H. Godfrey, and by S. A. Cudmore now Assistant Dominion Statistician.

The editorial task of keeping the contents of each edition of the Year Book within convenient limits is becoming more difficult each year. It is no longer possible to cover the entire field of information in a single edition. The plan adopted, therefore, has been to save space by making reference in the text and in the classified list at pp. vii-x to special articles and significant historical or descriptive matter in earlier editions that have not been subject to wide change and are therefore not repeated. To this extent the Year Book must now be regarded as a series of publications rather than as a single volume.

This edition of the Year Book gives a picture of Canada once again at war and in this instance engaged in a conflict that threatens to tax the Dominion's strength, financial and economic, to the utmost. The period covered by the 1940 Year Book spans ten months of war effort and the effects of the vast changes incidental to that effort are shown in several directions. In the Introduction a co-ordinated résumé of all that has been accomplished is presented, followed by a review of economic conditions; these throw into clear perspective the changes in Canada's economy that the War has been instrumental in provoking. In Chapter IX—Forestry—there appears at pp. 251-258 an article on Canadian Forest Resources: Their Relation to the War of 1914-18 and to the Present Effort; and at pp. 298-309, Chapter XII—Mines and Minerals—a special treatment entitled The Development of Canada's Mineral Resources in Relation to the Present War Effort is given. These features, along with the Special War Chronology at pp. 36-40 (carried down to July 8, 1940, in Appendix I) and in conjunction with the revisions of the general chapter material, reflect the economic and other adjustments that are now under way. All parts of the volume have been carefully revised: the latest information appearing to the date when each section was sent to press is included.

The following are among the more important additional new features incorporated in the present edition: Chapter XIII, formerly devoted to a treatment of water-power development, has been recast and broadened to cover all power, however generated, and its utilization. This has involved careful study and co-ordination of material from other chapters of the Year Book as well as from outside sources, more especially in relation to power equipment. The result is more in line with the purpose of the Year Book, viz., to bring together all related information from official sources in a way most convenient and accessible to the reader. The chapter is introduced by a special article on Water-Power Resources, more comprehensive than any on this subject that has appeared heretofore in the Year Book. Considerable editing and rearrangement has been undertaken in Chapter VIII—Agriculture—where special features appear on: Agricultural Marketing Legislation