

PREFACE

From the earliest years of the Dominion's history, the Canada Year Book has been the official statistical record of the development of the country—its resources, institutions and social and economic conditions.

Conceived from the broadest point of view, it presents a co-ordinated picture of the progress that has been made, against a background of interpretative matter designed to give proper perspective to the different chapters.

On grounds of war-time economy, the 1943 edition of the Year Book was not published and the present volume has therefore had to be planned to cover developments over a two-year period, perhaps more important from the standpoint of the changes in our internal economy than any other like period in the Dominion's history. The problem of including all necessary new material and at the same time keeping the volume down to convenient limits has not been an easy one to solve and, wherever possible, space has had to be saved by reference to earlier editions for standard material. A carefully planned series of special articles deals, in each issue, with subjects of current importance and a list of those articles that have appeared in former issues of the Year Book is presented at the front of this volume at pp. vii to xii. The feature articles contained in this edition cover a variety of topics among which are: Canada's Present Status in the British Commonwealth of Nations, at pp. 41-47; Meteorology Related to the Science of Aviation, at pp. 24-29; The Development of Marshlands in Relation to Fur Production and the Rehabilitation of Fur Bearers, at pp. 267-269; and The Canadian Government's Reindeer Experiment, at pp. 17-23.

The War has now cut deeply into the national economic structure and the statistics of almost every chapter of this edition of the Year Book reflect the extent to which war production and war-time controls have played their parts in maintaining output and supporting the price structure against growing pressures from all sides. Public Finance is the backbone of the war effort and this chapter has been recast to adequately cover the developments taking place. The all-important subject of National Income receives new and extended treatment in Part I, at pp. 796-804; Part II deals with the subject of Dominion, Provincial and Municipal Finance; a new field is covered in Part III, where outstanding developments in taxation are discussed. It is unfortunate that due to the reorganization of income-tax statistics made necessary by the profound changes in the basis and manner of payment of this tax over the past two years, this important and, because of its broad incidence, universally interesting subject cannot be covered as completely as in former years, but the National Revenue Department has the revisions well in hand, and as soon as comparable figures are available they will appear in the Year Book again. An entirely new Section to this Part (pp. 861-872) deals with the incidence of Succession Duties on typical estates. Since the Dominion has entered this field, the application of the duties to individual estates has become very complicated and of wider interest. It is believed that the detailed tables, compiled to show combined Dominion and Provincial duties on sample estates, will be found informative and useful to many readers.

While the subject of finance in relation to the war effort is basic, and has received due attention, special material has been introduced into many other chapters to co-ordinate and explain the effects of the present world conflict on the subjects treated. The following are typical: The War and Canadian Agriculture is covered at pp. 195-201; The Influence of the War on the Pulp and Paper Industry, at pp. 264-265; The Effects of the War on the Canadian Fisheries, at pp. 277-279; The