

INTRODUCTION.

The Year-Book for 1902 consists of two parts, 1st, the 'Record,' and 2nd, the 'Abstract.'

Every effort has been made to secure accuracy and to introduce new features as the development of the country supplies additional material.

The estimate of the population in the middle of each year is based upon the assumption that the rate of increase which prevailed in the intercensal period immediately preceding has since been maintained. Since the census of 1901 afforded the needed data to make corrections, the estimates of the Decade 1891-1901 have been revised, just as the estimates for the several years of the decennial period 1881-1891 were revised after the taking of the Census of 1891. The per capita calculations have been revised in accordance with the usual custom.

The Chapter on Minerals has been inserted after Post Office Statistics, instead of in its proper place, delay in receiving the statistics making the change unavoidable.

Owing to the early publication of the Blue Books of the several Departments of the Federal Government and the kindly co-operation of the Provincial Governments, the Year-Book for 1902 is published about the same date as last year's issue, which was two months in advance of previous issues.

I have pleasure in recording the good work done by Messrs. J. Wilkins and J. Skead in connection with the compilation.

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