

The most important publication of the General Statistics Branch of the Bureau is the Canada Year Book, which is a compendium of official data on the physiography, history, institutions, population, production, industry, trade, transportation, finance, labour, administration, and general social and economic conditions and life of the Dominion—the whole conceived from a broad point of view and presenting the more salient statistics of the country against a background of interpretative matter designed to bring out their significance. It will be appreciated that a work of this character is dependent upon the completion of the basic organization of statistics; it has been necessary, therefore, to develop the Year Book gradually, as improved statistics became available.

The present volume has been thoroughly revised throughout. Among the special features incorporated are the following:—A historical account of the Geological Survey of Canada; census statistics of blind and deaf-mutes, also of the occupations of the people; a considerable extension of the manufactures section, giving in particular the statistics of the leading industries of each of the provinces; the addition of considerable preliminary matter to the sub-section on external trade, also trade statistics showing by commodities our trade with 33 leading countries other than Great Britain and the United States; additional material on prices, including the Bureau's new index number of retail prices, rents and costs of services, together with index numbers of street car fares and telephone charges, and of the prices of natural and manufactured gas and of electricity; short descriptions of the Topographical and Geodetic Surveys and of the Dominion Observatories. In the Appendix will be found a list of the members of the new House of Commons of the Sixteenth Parliament, and a summary of the results of the 1926 census of the Prairie Provinces.

Throughout the volume the latest available information is included in each section, tables generally including figures for the fiscal year 1925-26 and the letter-press supplying supplementary figures extending in some cases to the end of the calendar year 1926.

The present volume has been edited by Mr. S. A. Cudmore, B.A. (Tor.), M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F. R. Econ. Soc., who has been assisted as in past years by Mr. Joseph Wilkins, while Messrs. Paul Sykes, R. F. Clarke and W. H. Lanceley have also co-operated in the work and Mr. R. E. Watts drew many of the diagrams. Grateful acknowledgments are hereby tendered to the numerous officials of the Dominion and Provincial Governments who have assisted in the collection of information, especially to the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior for the maps included in the volume. While the greatest care has been taken in the preparation of the volume, there are doubtless imperfections, and with a view to the improvement of future editions, the Editor will be glad to hear of any errors which may have escaped his notice, and to receive any suggestions with regard to omissions or to method of treatment.

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