

CANADIAN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND FINANCE

INTRODUCTION

The average person is generally so impressed with the importance of his own work that he is apt to overlook the relation which it bears to what is being done by others; and hence does not realize how unprofitable his work would be if the wheels of all other Industry, Commerce, and Finance stood still.

This volume is intended to give some idea of the relations which the individual effort and group of efforts bear to the whole. Out of the more or less detailed description which is given in this volume of the Practices and Principles that maintain in each of the three great divisions of human activity, it is hoped that some advantage may arise. Individual efforts are often hampered by reason of a wrong conception or at least by the absence of the right one. If, therefore, these pages succeed in giving some such useful information and convey some idea of the opportunities that lie before the average Canadian as a result of the resources of his country and of the facilities which her institutions offer for education, trade and commerce, some good will have been accomplished.

In the matter of natural resources, both as regards richness and extent, few countries have been more lavishly endowed by nature than has Canada. Her lands are fertile and extensive, her mineral deposits numerous and exceedingly rich, her waters abound with all kinds of the most marketable fish, and her forests are comparatively inexhaustible. Among the wheat growing countries that have not yet begun the extensive use of artificial fertilizer, none is capable of the acreage production of Canada, unless it is Southern Siberia. The average production of wheat per acre in Australia, Argentine Republic, India and Southern Russia is from 9 to 11 bushels. In Canada the average production per acre is over 20 bushels for fall wheat, and over 14 for spring wheat.

As regards markets, Canada is more favorably situated than any other of the newer countries. The greatest market of the world for all kinds of products is Europe. Here there are some 200 millions of highly civilized people whose requirements are large and whose domestic resources are limited. According to Lloyd's Calendar, it requires from 36 to 42 days for mail to pass from the principal ports of New Zealand to London; from 26 to 33 days from the principal ports of Australia; from 17 to 22 days from the