

## FOREWORD

**I**N compiling the miscellaneous array of facts embodied in the pen sketches arranged within the covers of this book, the principal object striven for has been to seek out, set down and thereby rescue from forgetfulness and the danger of extinction, a grist of information pertaining to local railway life in Canada and to men identified with international railway affairs.

The data is necessarily incomplete, owing to the embarrassment of available material clamoring for place and because the railways' numerous departments harbor scores of brilliant officials and a host of yet undecorated aides, but the biographies, particularly, have revived some interesting early history which was the parent and foundation of present-day conditions.

The concentrated effort and predominant characteristics which eventually won prominence for the gentlemen herein featured may be an incentive and safeguard to young men and the journal is deferentially submitted for perusal to all readers who appreciate how paramount among vital essentials to progress and comfort are the railroads, but it is especially dedicated to those cosmopolitans whose duties are so closely interwoven with the daily transport of people and their natural and manufactured products.

In no other fields of endeavor does the spirit of genuine *cameraderie* and the bonds of unconventional fraternity exist more generally than among railway men in all branches—among allies and competitors alike—and it is hoped the work will prove to this irregular army of "thoroughbreds" a book of reference, a reminder later on of former devotees of the magnetic game and also perpetuate those splendid standards, enjoyable gatherings and ever changing activities of their day.

For the courtesy of reprinting privileges, where my earlier articles are concerned, I am indebted to "Busy Man's Magazine, "Canadian Century," "McLean's Magazine," "Canada Monthly," etc., etc., and gratefully acknowledge the voluntary kindness of friends who unlocked the storehouses of memory or cheerfully furnished desired photographs and engravings.

The indulgence of the reader is requested should he observe a discrepancy affecting the title, employer or location of any individual, resulting from change or promotion between the time of preparation and publication of these papers.

J. M. C.