ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BUREAU OF PROVINCIAL INFORMATION, 1907.

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Victoria, B. C., February 28th, 1908.

Captain the Honourable R. G. Tatlow,
Minister of Finance and Agriculture,
Victoria, B. C.

Sir—I have the honour to present my report as Secretary of the Bureau of Provincial Information for the year ending December 31st, 1907.

The following bulletins, pamphlets, etc., were compiled and published under your instructions during the year :—

Bulletin No. 10, Land and Agriculture	20,000
" 23, Handbook of British Columbia	10,000
" 17, Game of British Columbia	3,000
" 22, New British Columbia	10,000
Supplementary Bulletin No. 1, Bush Lands	2,000
Supplement to Bulletin No. 21	2,000
" " 22	5,000
Sketch map of British Columbia	15,000
Circulars to Farmers	5,000
Returns (Help Wanted)	5,000

A special edition of 10,000 copies of Bulletin No. 23, and a like number of sketch maps of British Columbia, were printed in London for the use of the Agent-General's Office. The Agent-General was also supplied during the year with the following :—

Bulletin No. 10, 20,800 ; Bulletin No. 17, 1,000 ; Bulletin No. 21, 980 ; Bulletin No. 23, 2,600 ; Potential Riches of British Columbia, 2,060 ; Land Act, 225 ; Registry, Mining, Assessment, Education, Real Property and Water Clauses Acts, 25 each ; Report of the Minister of Mines, 1,000 ; Report of Commissioner of Fisheries, 100 ; Vancouver Board of Trade Report, 580 ; Victoria Board of Trade Report, 680, and 1,250 miscellaneous pamphlets, newspapers, etc.

Besides the bulletins above mentioned, a large number of Departmental reports, Acts of the Legislature, agricultural pamphlets, mining bulletins, sectional maps, and other miscellaneous publications, including Boards of Trade reports, pamphlets descriptive of different districts of the Province, published by Boards of Trade, tourist associations, irrigation and land companies, were distributed, as well as copies of special editions of newspapers describing the natural wealth and industrial opportunities of British Columbia. A small sketch map of the Province was enclosed in every copy of Bulletin No. 10, and a map of the Northern Interior accompanied Bulletin No. 22.

There was a large increase in the general work of the Bureau during 1907, not only in correspondence, but also in the number of visitors seeking information with regard to agricultural and fruit lands, timber, mineral and fisheries resources, business investments and many other subjects.

Investigation of labour conditions added considerably to the year's work, calling for the preparation and distribution of circular letters and schedules which were mailed to employers of farm hands and domestic help throughout the Province.

The impetus given immigration through the advertising work of the Bureau, supplemented by the efforts of the Salvation Army, and the fruit exhibits in Great Britain, added a large amount of work, and there are indications of a still further increase during 1908.

A large proportion of the detail work of the Bureau has fallen upon the Assistant Secretary. The demands upon him have been met with zeal and careful attention, and I desire to bear testimony to the value of his services to the Department.

The number of letters received and answered during the year was 16,920, as compared with 9,280 in 1906.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. PALMER,

Secretary.

VICTORIA, B. C.:
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1908.