ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Publications of the Government of Ontario 1867-1900, by Olga B. Bishop. Toronto: Queen's Printer for Ontario, 1976. xi, 409 p., paper, \$7.50.

A retired professor of library science and author of *Publications of the Government of the Province of Canada 1841-1867*, Dr. Bishop provides the last link in the bibliography of Ontario Government publications from 1867 to the present time. The study investigates the type of document and the authority for publication of the documents issued by the Government of Ontario from July 1, 1867, to December 31, 1900, as well as presenting a bibliography of the documents. The Ontario Government in its early years had little in terms of bibliographic documentation when Dr. Bishop initiated this diligent process of accumulating titles. The table of contents shows the organization of this vast material under the following headings: Lieutenant-Governor, Legislature, Executive, and Administration of Justice.

The powers, authorities and functions of the Lieutenant-Governor and an elected Legislative Assembly, and the roles of the several executive branches of government, are described and recorded here. The documents are listed under three major types: statutes, serials and special publications. Each item gives the author, title, authority for publishing, imprint, collation, a series note where applicable, and location symbol where the document can be seen. The Legislative Assembly frequently requested the Lieutenant-Governor to make information available to it in the form of a report or return. Many of these reports were printed as sessional papers and represent the majority of the publications in this period. They are all identified in this study except those published as serials.

The index, a single alphabet of personal and corporate names, titles, and subjects, makes for a ready and precise access to the bibliography. Appendices, listing legislatures, journals with their appendices, and sessional papers giving dates of sessions, volume numbers and number of parts in each volume, provide additional assistance. The most outstanding feature of the bibliography is the history of the development of each branch of government. The information was obtained from reports listed in the bibliography or from acts passed by the Parliament of Great Britain, the Parliament of the Province of Canada, and the Legislature of Ontario, and cited as footnotes in the study. The book has a good format, the typeset is excellent, and the spacing makes for an easily-usable volume, except one misses headings or subheadings at the top of each page to orient oneself.

The usefulness of the bibliography is immense to researchers in the field of Ontario Government publications. Above all, the industry and scholarship required to produce this work demands our admiration.

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