

P R E F A C E .

Since the Publication of the last edition of Thom's Official Directory, many changes have taken place affecting all sections of the book. These have been carefully incorporated to the latest possible date, and the Publishers desire to return their best thanks to the numerous distinguished persons and official authorities who assisted them in the revision of the present edition for 1931.

The Commercial Section comprises over 400 pages of classified Lists of Manufacturers, Merchants, Traders and Members of the Learned Professions in all the Cities and Towns of the Irish Free State. The lists have been thoroughly revised to date and provide a comprehensive and authoritative medium of reference which will give the business communities valuable assistance in the conduct and development of their affairs (see page 2125).

The Classified List of Manufacturers of Irish Goods (see page 2475) has been revised, and provides a comprehensive guide to actual producers of Irish-made goods.

The extensive building of new houses and the rapid development of outlying districts of the city of Dublin, which started a few years ago continues, and has resulted in the addition of some thirty pages to the street list, representing about 7,500 new names. This section, including the valuation of the houses, has been thoroughly revised and the alphabetical list has been corrected up to the time of going to press. •

The Section dealing with the County Borough of Dublin contains all information likely to be useful about the Public Life of the City and the various Institutions situated in it.

Full information is given concerning each County in both Saorstát Éireann and in Northern Ireland, including Members of Parliament, County Councillors, Boards of Public Health and County Homes and Hospitals, Urban and Rural Councils; Judges, District Justices, Peace Commissioners, Deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace and all County Officials.

Motorists and others will find reliable information at page 919 regarding the state of the main roads throughout Ireland. This information has been supplied by the Automobile Association. At page 920c the list of the Bus Companies operating from Dublin with routes and destinations has been carefully revised, and will be a useful guide for the travelling public.

The aim of the Compilers generally has been to make their work indispensable to all classes of the community as a library or office companion, by combining, in one volume, a ready book for reference on almost all subjects of public interest. Throughout the entire work great care has been taken to ensure accuracy, but the Publishers cannot hold themselves responsible for errors or omissions.

The collection, arrangement, and condensation of such a mass of materials, as are enumerated in the subjoined summary of principal contents, into one volume consisting of multitudinous facts and details—of an ever-changing character—involve no small amount of labour and correspondence, the extensive use of Parliamentary reports, papers, and other public documents besides many other sources of authentic information. The Publishers will at all times be happy to receive any suggestions which may tend towards making their Work still more useful and convenient to the Public, and would thank those who wish to have corrections made, to notify same *before the 25th October*.

The following is a summary of the principal contents of the work :—

THE CALENDAR FOR 1931.—Containing daily Memoranda of circumstances occurring at different periods of the year, necessary to be known by the Barrister, Solicitor, Student, Man of Business, Agriculturist, Sportsman, &c. Time of High Water at the Ports of Dublin, Belfast, Galway, Londonderry, and Cobh (Queenstown).