

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1920

VITAL STATISTICS OF NOVA SCOTIA

Last Year 867 Died of Tuberculosis — Death Rate is 17.9 a Thousand — Influenza Record.

(Halifax Chronicle.)
Statistical reports, as a rule, do not appeal to the general public, but the re-

port on the vital statistics of Nova Scotia for the past financial year, compiled and prepared by the deputy registrar-general, A. J. Campbell, touches the lives of the people so closely that it is worthy of general study. In that respect it is one of the most important reports issued by the government. Dealing first with the population, the report points out that during the progress of the war no deduction was made in the estimate of population by reason of enlistments for service overseas. Accordingly, although during 1919 the repatriation of our soldiers was practically completed, the population estimate was not thereby increased. So far as the total population of the province is concerned the registrar has added our natural increase to the population figures arrived at for the previous year. This gives us a population of 514,484, consisting of 261,795 males and 252,689 fe-



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males, which shows that men outnumber women in Nova Scotia by 9,106.
The report shows that 12,508 births were recorded during the year. The birth rate of the province per 1,000 of population is 24.8. Among the towns, Sydney Mines had the highest birth rate, 38.9, and Annapolis Royal the lowest, with 9.6. The births in the towns numbered 8,898, as compared with 6,615 in the country districts.
Three thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight marriages were solemnized during the year; 2,894 of these were performed by license, and 691 after the proclamation of banns. The marriage rate of the province per 1,000 of population is 7.0.
Nine thousand two hundred deaths occurred during the fiscal year. The death rate of Nova Scotia is 17.9 per 1,000 of population. Among the towns the highest rate was in Digby, 31.6, and the lowest in Parrsboro, 6.7. 1,409 persons died under one year, an increase of 117 as compared with the preceding year. Five persons, one man and four women, were over 100 years of age.
Deaths among religious bodies were as follows: Roman Catholics, 3,240; Presbyterian, 1,644; Church of England, 1,450; Baptist, 1,308; Methodist, 860; Congregationalist, 40; Lutheran, 182. Other denominations 185, while 221 deaths were registered without this information.
The report states that 867 persons died from tuberculosis in its various forms during the past year—412 males and 455 females. This is an increase of seven as compared with the preceding year. Of these persons 778 died of tuberculosis of the lungs—369 males and 409 females. This is an increase of 175 as compared with the previous year. The period cov-



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ered by this report includes the months of October, November and December of 1918. Those were the months in which the influenza epidemic reached its height in Nova Scotia. During those months the victims of influenza in this province numbered 1,295. While in October of 1918 the number of deaths from this disease was 471, in January of 1919 the number of fatal cases had fallen to 156. The total number of deaths from influenza was 1,769, consisting of 947 males and 822 females. Of these persons 188 were under one year. The largest number of deaths, however, 815, occurred between the ages of twenty and thirty-nine years.
These figures are in themselves a lesson to the public, and should be a powerful aid to the campaign for the conservation of public health, which ought to be the chief concern of the state.

GASOLINE GOING UP.

(Bangor Commercial.)
There is another little advance in the wholesale price of gasoline, making a lift of 22 per cent. during the present year. The advance may be a necessary one or it may be predicated upon the fact that there is about a 25 per cent. annual increase in the consumption of gasoline, leading the magnates of the trade to the belief that a little profiteering is possible without shrinking the demand.
We do not know which suggestion is the correct one, but if the experts of the United States Geological Survey are correct in their estimates, the oil fields of this country are rapidly becoming exhausted. It is also suggested that at present about two-thirds of the supply of the world is being drawn from the United States causing the supply in this country to continually diminish while some other countries are husbanding their product and building for the future.
This condition has led to the suggestion that the United States should take steps to bring about the internationalization of oil fields or else keep its own product for domestic consumption, which seems to be a reasonable proposition.

A NEW PAPER.

Montreal, May 13—A new French morning paper, Le Matin, will make its appearance in this city on May 31, Dr. Gaston Mallet, who will be its proprietor, announced today. Dr. Mallet is the founder of L'Aurore, a French weekly with which he is severing all connections. He says that the new daily will be independent of political parties and will reflect only his personal views, with an attempt to bring about a better understanding between labor and capital.

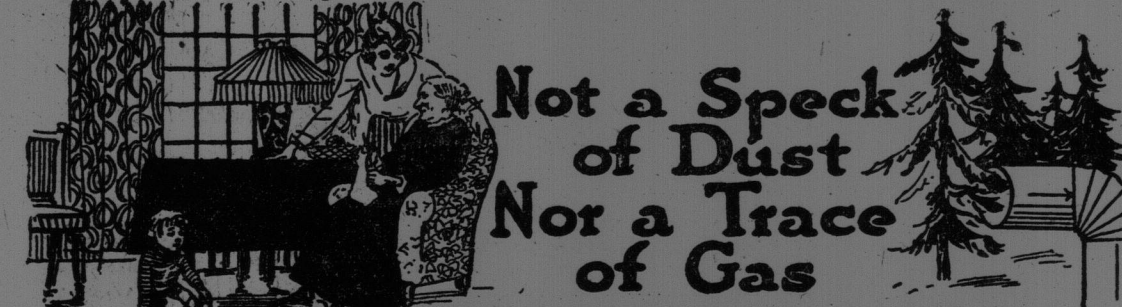
MANY THEORIES ON THE MURDER OF COLOSIMO

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
Chicago, May 13.—From a bewildering number of theories as to his motive for the murder of "Big Jim" Colosimo in his cafe on Tuesday afternoon, the detectives working on the case were searching tonight for Frank Razzano, said by the police to be a sworn enemy of the acknowledged leader of the "underworld."
Arthur Rockhill, of New York, staying at a hotel several blocks from the Colosimo restaurant, gave the information which led to the search for Razzano.

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Rockhill said he was approached by an Italian with a revolver in his hand who said: "I got that dagger; the dirty big stiff." Another Italian came running up and warned Rockhill to "keep his mouth shut," told the man with the weapon to put it in his pocket and then hurried him away. This took place near the hotel at about the hour the restaurant keeper was shot.
"Bill is lazy, isn't he?"
He just seems to have the impression that work is patented and he'd get in trouble if he used it."



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