

Prominent Topics.

Indian Vital Statistics.

According to the report of the Department of Indian Affairs for the year ending March 31, 1911, the Indian population of Canada is 108,261, of whom 4,600 are Esquimaux. The Indian population by provinces is: Alberta, 8,088; British Columbia, 24,581; Manitoba, 6,104; Nova Scotia, 2,026; New Brunswick, 1,802; Prince Edward Island, 292; Ontario, 22,496; Quebec, 11,462; Saskatchewan, 9,439; Northwest Territory, 12,625; Ungava, 1,246; Yukon, 3,500; Eskimos, 4,600.

The births exceeded the deaths by 346. The chief cause of death is tuberculosis. Indian labour earned \$1,500,000 in wages. There are 324 Indian schools with an attendance of 5,607 boys and 5,583 girls.

Death of Sir John Carling.

We regret to have to record the death of Sir John Carling, formerly Postmaster General and Minister of Agriculture in Sir John Macdonald's Government and a member of the Senate since 1896. Sir John, who was in his 84th year, had an active business and political career. He was a member of the old Canadian Legislature from 1857 until Confederation. After that he was elected for London, Ont., to the House of Commons. He was first appointed to the Senate in 1891, but resigned to sit again in the Lower House. In business he was best known as the president of the Carling Brewing & Malting Company. He was a director of three Ontario railway companies and held in turn many public offices. Thanks to a genial disposition he enjoyed great popularity.

Newfoundland's Trade.

Newfoundland's trade statistics for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, show that its total trade is increasing and its trade with Canada only slightly, the United States business improving somewhat faster than that with Canada. The figures for the trade with Great Britain, Canada, the United States and elsewhere respectively are as follows:

	1910-11	1909-10.
Imports	\$13,383,910	\$12,799,696
Exports	11,975,747	11,824,997
Total trade	\$25,359,657	\$24,624,693
Imports from Britain	\$3,092,429	\$2,940,401
Exports to Britain	2,345,342	1,824,235
Total trade with Britain	\$5,437,771	\$4,764,636
Imports from Canada	\$4,607,720	\$4,559,759
Exports to Canada	1,745,389	1,454,314
Total trade with Canada	\$6,353,109	\$6,014,073
Imports from America	\$4,943,874	\$4,571,192
Exports to America	1,249,550	1,163,313
Total trade with America	\$6,193,424	\$5,734,505
Imports from elsewhere	739,887	728,344
Exports to elsewhere	6,635,450	7,383,135
Total trade with elsewhere	\$7,375,333	\$8,111,479

Uncle Sam's Beer.

The United States now leads the world in the aggregate consumption of beer, although the Englishman still leads in the per capita consumption. In the consumption of distilled spirits the United States has to occupy second place, the lead being taken by Russia. Other countries ahead of the United States in the per capita consumption of beer, are Denmark, Hungary, the United Kingdom, Germany and Belgium, and the per capita consumption of distilled spirits in the United States is less than that of Denmark, Hungary, Austria, France, the Netherlands, or Sweden. Of wines, the quantity consumed in the United States is below that of Portugal, Spain, Germany, Italy or France; and the per capita consumption is less than that of France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Austria or Hungary.

The quantity of malt liquors consumed in the United States in 1910 was 1,851,000,000 gallons, against 1,704,000,000 in Germany and 1,397,000,000 in the United Kingdom, that of Austria being 493,000,000, Belgium 412,000,000, France 376,000,000 and Russia 231,000,000.

Spirits consumed in the United States amounted to 133,333,000 gallons, against a little less than 100,000,000 gallons in the United Kingdom.

The quantity of beer per capita consumed in the United States was, in 1910, 20.09 gallons, against 31.44 gallons in the United Kingdom and 26.47 gallons in Germany. In the consumption of wines France leads the world, with 1,541,000,000 gallons, or 39.36 gallons per capita in 1909. Italy in that year consumed 31.17 gallons per capita; Portugal, 27.39 gallons; Switzerland, 14.55 gallons, and the United States, in 1910, only 0.66 of a gallon per capita. Comparatively little beer is consumed in Italy, Roumania, Servia and Russia, less than two gallons per capita annually.

The Sterling Bank is erecting a new building at the corner of Portage Avenue and Smith Street, Winnipeg. The structure is nine stories in height above the street level, the cornice line being 118 feet from the sidewalk. It is strictly fireproof throughout, the type of construction being steel frame with hollow tile fireproofing. The exterior of the building presents a handsome appearance, architectural terra cotta, in imitation of grey limestone, being used for the lower two stories, with terra cotta and pressed brick above.

The contractors, Carter, Halls, Aldinger Company, are now completing a story of pressed brick every 10½ hours' work, which constitutes a record in Winnipeg.

When interviewed Monday, the architects, James Chisholm & Son, stated:—It is expected that the office portion of the building will be ready by April 1, and that the bank will move into its new home about May 1.