

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1911

Canada's Population.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a summary of the figures of Canada's last decennial census, taken this year. The census figures show the population of the Dominion to be 7,081,869, an increase in the ten years from the census of 1901 of 1,710,554. While this is a substantial and gratifying increase in the population of our country, it falls very far short of what Liberal newspapers had been predicting prior to the proclamation of the census figures. Nor does it give Canada the number of people the immigration returns would warrant. Our Liberal friends constantly reiterated, through their press, that the census figures for 1911, when published, would show a population of over 8,000,000. This, they kept telling us, would follow as a result of the progressive immigration policy and the other superior tactics of the Laurier Government. How now can they explain the disappointment of the actual figures? It is not to be wondered at that the census figures were withheld till after the election.

There are discrepancies in the figures presented that would seem to require considerable explanation. The returns of the agricultural department, for the ten years ending on June 30th last, show that 1,800,000 immigrants had entered Canada, or 90,446 more than the increase in population, according to the official figures. But we will be told that many of those who come to Canada, as well as natives of the country went to the United States. There is some truth in that, to be sure; but statistics from the United States show that only 250,000 people went from Canada and became residents of the neighboring Republic. If the natural increase of the population of the country is taken into account, it must be admitted that the extra million of people, we were so frequently assured Canada contained, have not been satisfactorily accounted for. The immigration figures are wrong; or the census figures are wrong.

The greatest disappointment of the census returns attaches to the Maritime Provinces. Nova Scotia's increase is less than 3,000, and this increase is altogether urban, while the rural population has decreased. In New Brunswick the increase was over 20,000, the greater part of it being in the country districts. Prince Edward Island's population, according to the census figures, decreased 9,337, mostly in the country. The figures show a decrease of 882 in the population of Charlottetown. It is difficult to understand how these figures can be correct. Charlottetown is extending its boundaries; a great many new homes have been built within the last ten years, and there are no vacant houses. We would like to see the figures regarding Charlottetown's population put to the test.

The census figures for the Maritime Provinces are most disappointing, and to none more so than to our Liberal friends, who had for years been boasting of what great things the Laurier Government were doing for these parts. The Halifax Chronicle refers to the matter as the "Tragedy of the Census." Quite so; this is the tragedy that has resulted under Liberal Government at Ottawa, Halifax, Charlottetown, and for the most part in New Brunswick. It is just like everything the Liberals have anything to do with; puffed up by wind and frothy declamation, but on exposure falling flat, stale and unprofitable.

By Elections At Last

The Local Government has at last, through pressure of circumstances, mustered courage sufficient to bring on by-elections on November 15th to fill the vacancies in the Fort Augustus and Belfast districts. By this move the evil day is removed a little further into the future. A general Provincial election means the destruction of the rump Government, bequeathed as a legacy to Mr. Palmer, and the holding of the by-elections, instead of an immediate dissolution, will simply enable the office-holders and beneficiaries of the Government to draw their stipends for a few weeks longer.

On what plea can Mr. Palmer and his rump Government appeal to the electors for a continuance in office? The people are well aware that the Liberal Government in office in this Province for the last twenty years, have managed to hold power through false promises and broken pledges. The people know this Liberal administration has been an administration of debt, deficit and deception; an administration of incapacity and political corruption.

What will Mr. Palmer and his associates have to say about the increase of the Provincial debt? What excuse will they have to give for the increase of \$749,356.82 in this debt since the Liberals took office, in the face of the solemn promise, then made, to make revenue and expenditure meet? When the Liberals took over the reins of Government our Provincial debt was \$128,000. This was condemned in unmeasured terms by the Liberals, then in opposition, and the promise was given that the advent of the Liberals to power would be characterized by the meeting of revenue and expenditure. Instead of that we now have a debt, according to the Government's own showing, of \$877,356.82, and 749,356.82 of this debt was piled up by the Liberals who promised to equalize revenue and expenditure. How will they explain it?

In anticipation of the annual increase to our subsidy of \$70,000, in consequence of the general readjustment of 1907, and after the readjustment, the Liberals made the boast that the era of deficits would at last be at an end; but the very contrary has happened. For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 1910, the Government had a deficit of \$28,154.33. It would appear that those Liberals would have a deficit every year, no matter what happened. During every year of their official life they have had deficits ranging, from \$12,000 to \$100,000. All this in face of the solemn declaration that the era of deficits was to end with their advent to power. How will Mr. Palmer and his friends be able to explain this away?

It has been of very little use for the Liberal Government of this Province to get an increase of subsidy, as the debt has kept on increasing in proportion, and most of the increased revenue has been absorbed in meeting the annual interest on the Provincial debt. When the Provincial Liberal Government assumed office, the annual interest charge amounted to \$2,697.44; the last year for which we have the accounts, the interest was \$36,642.62. This is considerably more than half of the increase in the annual subsidy, and \$33,945.18 more than the Conservatives paid in their last year of office. All this in the face of the solemn declaration that we were to have a clean sheet, and that revenue and expenditure would meet. What answer will Mr. Palmer and his friends

be able to give to these statements?

While the Liberal Provincial Government were creating these annual deficits, rolling up the large pile of debt and bleeding the people with an immense interest charge, they were at the same time extracting large amounts in all manner of taxes. For the year ending Sept. 30, 1910, the taxes collected amounted to upwards of \$80,000, and during their years of office about \$1,000,000 have been taken from the people's pockets in taxes of various kinds. And this in face of the declaration that the day of taxation was far off. How are Mr. Palmer and his friends going to explain this away?

The fiscal year closed on Sept. 30th, and we should now be in possession of the Government's financial statement for the last year; but no information is given to the public on this head. We do not know how much we have gone in debt during the past year, and yet the people are asked to give their support on the 15th of November to candidates supporting the Government that thus ignores their rights to information regarding the public affairs of the Province. Does Mr. Palmer think the electors of Fort Augustus and Belfast, thus ignored and denied legitimate information regarding our public affairs, will rally to his support?

Driven to Desperation.

During the Dominion election campaign the Patriot exerted itself in a most remarkable manner to deceive and mislead the public regarding the prices of agricultural products in the United States. But it never went so far in the matter of deception and misrepresentation as in its issue of Monday, the 23rd inst. No doubt it realizes that there is greater need now than ever during the Federal campaign of drawing a red herring across the trail and diverting public attention from the questions actually before the people. By-elections are on for the Provincial Legislature, and the organ must resort to any and every possible subterfuge to withhold attention from the political incapacity and rottenness that characterize the Liberal rump administration. Imbued with this notion, the valiant Patriot sets out to deceive and to draw away public attention in this fashion: It tells its readers that an American gentleman, who has been spending the summer on the Island, showed a letter from a farmer friend near New Haven, Connecticut, dated October 15th, setting forth some of the prices, as follows: Oats \$1.65, a bag of 80 lbs.; hay \$30.00 a ton; butter 40 cents per lb.; eggs 42 cents a dozen; potatoes from \$1.10 to \$1.35 a bushel. To quote these as wholesale prices for farm products is simply a falsehood, a delusion and a snare. If these were the ruling prices in the Connecticut markets, they would be published in the newspapers, and it would not be necessary to have recourse to private letters to find them out. It is not impossible that, under certain circumstances, a farmer living near a city, bringing in a quantity of either of the products named, and peddling round from door to door, selling in small lots, might realize some such prices as those stated; but these would be retail prices. If they were wholesale prices, published to the world and obtainable in the open market where all could compete, does anyone doubt that products of these classes would not be presented at an extraordinary rate? If potatoes from this Province could be sold there for \$1.10 to \$1.35 a bushel, would there be a

bushel of potatoes in the whole Province that would not be hustled off to Connecticut? Suppose they cost 40 cents a bushel here, which is the top price, 25 cents duty and 15 cents freight would bring them up to 80 cents; still the shipper would have from 30 to 50 cents profit. Would not that be better than any gold mine ever heard of? Eggs shipped from here at present local prices would net the shipper about 15 cents a dozen profit. Would not that be splendid business? The same proportion would hold good regarding the other products enumerated. If such a market existed for the agricultural products of this Province, every vessel and every steamer that could be chartered would be on its way to this island laden with Prince Edward Island agricultural produce. The contention of the Patriot is so preposterous that it bears its refutation on its face, and the party putting it forth must be reduced to the direst straits.

Investigation around Parliament Hill have resulted in the discovery that there is a Department of External Affairs. It is not found that it ever did anything.—Vancouver News Advertiser.

The probe of official investigation is to be let into the Public Works Department. Hon. Mr. Pugsley perhaps anticipated this when he remarked a fortnight ago that he was not particularly anxious to sit in the next Parliament.—Hamilton Herald.

Dr. J. W. Daniel, who retires from Parliament to make room for J. D. Hazen, is one of the ablest of the Maritime members of that body. His retirement from the Commons to enter the Senate later on will be a distinct loss to Canada so far as his activities are concerned, but even in the somewhat somnolent Senate he ought to, and doubtless will, prove of great service to the country. Winnipeg Telegram.

Mr. Borden's Cabinet is not so much a Conservative as a National one. It was evidently chosen after the fullest and weightiest consideration had been given to the popular verdict and what it meant. If we are not greatly mistaken the new Administration will rank among the greatest, if it does not prove to be the greatest, that has ever gone into power in Canada.—Victoria Colonist.

From Canada's Capital.

Ottawa, Oct. 18.—That the annexation of the Bahamas to Dominion would result in appreciable benefits to both countries, was the gist of an interview with Sir William Grey Wilson, K. C. M. G., governor of the Bahamas, who arrived in the city today and saw Premier Borden presumably in regard to the annexation problem.

"I am not in a position to state the exact progress of the negotiations in this connection," said Sir William, "but I undoubtedly think that great benefits would accrue to both countries in the event of the agreement being ratified. Our House of Assembly authorized the government to seek annexation and its resolution to that end had been acknowledged by the Canadian government, but never answered. The big problem before us now in regard to trade is that the United States tariff is prohibitive in regard to our staple lines of produce, our communications are also inadequate and practically everything has to pass through American hands. Canada would not only be helping a lame dog over a stile but would also be reaping the more material advantage which the great development of trade would bring. It would be a great advantage also from an Imperial point of view. I will not deny, however, that there is a section of the population who do not look with favor on any proposal to change the present status quo."

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—A cabinet council was held this afternoon. At this it was decided that Dr. Sproule shall receive the nomination of the government for the

Speakership of the House of Commons. Dr. Sproule is particularly familiar with parliamentary practice and procedure and is exceedingly popular on both sides of the chamber.

It is possible, though not altogether settled that P. E. Blondin will be made Deputy Speaker. The indications are that a clean sweep will be made of the National Transcontinental Railway Commission, of the Canadian Commissioners on the International Waterways Commission and of the Intercolonial Railway Commission. It is safe to say that the appointment of new men will show the Borden cabinet to be more anxious to find competent and eminent men than its predecessor was. Their will be no further performances like the placing of a discredited politician in charge of the construction of a huge railway. The sweep will place the government in the position of having to find men to fill a considerable number of highly important and responsible posts.

It is becoming known that the new Minister of Public Works, Mr. Monk, is finding his department in a perfect state of chaos. Apart from the thoroughly suspicious cases like the attempted letting of contracts and the improvident sale of Victoria Island, the business of the department has been left by Mr. Pugsley in a terrible muddle. While no application has been made yet to council, it is likely that one or two experts will be retained to make an investigation into the way in which the business of the department has been conducted.

Ottawa, Oct. 21.—The Borden government has made a beginning with its large appointments. At noon today the premier announced that it has been decided to replace S. N. Parent as Chairman of the National Transcontinental Railway Commission with T. E. Leonard of St. Catharines, Ont.

Mr. Parent was a lawyer-politician out of a job. Under his estimates of the line have been enormously exceeded and there has been a series of over-classification scandals. R. E. Leonard is an engineer, a practical railway man, and a wealthy man who takes the post from the ablest of the Maritime members of that body. His retirement from the Commons to enter the Senate later on will be a distinct loss to Canada so far as his activities are concerned, but even in the somewhat somnolent Senate he ought to, and doubtless will, prove of great service to the country. Winnipeg Telegram.

Other important appointments announced today were: Speaker of the Senate, Senator Landry; Senator from Nova Scotia, A. C. Bell of Pictou; Senator from Manitoba, J. A. C. Lariviere.

Ottawa was decided upon as the place for holding the next annual convention of the Canadian Forestry Association, a meeting of the directors on Friday, 7 and 8, 1912, which coincides with the annual meeting of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, and it is proposed that the two associations shall hold a joint banquet on the evening of Friday, 7.

Another important appointment which may be expected shortly is that of the chairmanship of the Canadian section of the International Waterways Commission. In the matter of formality this is an unusual appointment, it being an international affair and announcement must wait on the dispatches of the business at Westminster.

The situation is that there are no Canadian commissioners at present, the names of Mr. George Gibbons and his colleagues having expired, the new treaty having arranged for a new tribunal. Had the Laurier government been returned to power, Sir George Gibbons would have been nominated by Canada for the appointment. It may be surmised that the Borden government will see otherwise. It may be conjectured that the new government will show the same regard for efficiency as it has exhibited in the matter of the Transcontinental Commission.

Ottawa, Oct. 22.—Premier Borden left on Saturday for a well earned holiday. His destination is known to a few persons, friends only, this precaution being taken to avoid the countless personal calls and letters with which the prime minister has been deluged since September 21.

On his return to Ottawa Mr. Borden will visit Halifax, the consultations for the bye-election taking place on the 27th inst. There is no sign whatever of any opposition to the new premier in this constituency. The Liberals are making an effort to secure the entrance into the House of George P. Grabau, and they wish to avoid a contest if possible. The threat is being made that unless this arrangement is carried out some of the cabinet ministers may be opposed in the coming by-elections. The government is not inclined to be bullied and is likely to call the bluff. No constituency is likely to reject a cabinet minister, and if, as seems possible, Mr. Grabau declines to accept the candidacy in South Westport, Mr. Low, the present member stepping out, will meet with opposition. South Westport was none too safe for the Liberals at the last election with Laurier in power, and a contest would likely put a question to Mr. Grabau's federal ambitions. Hon. Mr. Borden will, in company with Hon. J. D. Hazen, the new minister of marine and fisheries, pay a visit to the harbor of Montreal before long, and expect the work accomplished and now under way.

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|----------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------|-------|------|
| Read Down | | | | Read Up | | | |
| P.M. | P.M. | A.M. | | A.M. | P.M. | P.M. | |
| 8 30 | 4 00 | 7 45 | Lv Charlottetown | Ar 11 40 | 9 50 | 3 00 | |
| 8 52 | 5 04 | 8 38 | Hunter River | 10 35 | 8 55 | 1 44 | |
| 7 40 | 5 41 | 9 06 | Emerald Junction | 10 04 | 8 26 | 1 00 | |
| 8 13 | 6 13 | 9 30 | Kensington | 9 33 | 8 02 | 12 22 | |
| 8 40 | 6 40 | 9 50 | Ar Summerside | Lv 9 00 | 7 40 | 11 50 | A.M. |
| 7 50 | 12 00 | Lv | Ar 8 45 | 4 55 | | | |
| 8 48 | 1 23 | Port Hill | 7 46 | 3 26 | | | |
| 9 37 | 2 40 | O'Leary | 6 57 | 2 10 | | | |
| 10 50 | 4 35 | Ar Tignish | Lv 5 45 | 12 15 | | | |
| P.M. | P.M. | | A.M. | P.M. | | | |
| 3 20 | 6 45 | Lv Charlottetown | Ar 9 30 | 5 20 | | | |
| 4 30 | 8 15 | M. Stewart | 8 30 | 3 45 | | | |
| 4 56 | 8 52 | Morell | 8 04 | 3 00 | | | |
| 5 17 | 9 20 | S. Peter's | 7 44 | 2 32 | | | |
| 6 20 | 10 50 | Ar Souris | 6 45 | 1 10 | | | |
| 6 19 | 9 28 | Lv Cardigan | 7 31 | 2 28 | | | |
| 6 40 | 9 54 | Montague | 7 09 | 2 00 | | | |
| 6 15 | 10 35 | Ar Georgetown | Lv 6 35 | 1 15 | | | |
| Mon | Tues | | Tues | Mon | | | |
| Wed | Thurs | | Thurs | Wed | | | |
| Fri | Sat | | Sat | Fri | | | |
| P.M. | A.M. | | A.M. | P.M. | | | |
| 3 10 | 3 10 | Lv Charlottetown | Ar 8 25 | 9 35 | | | |
| 4 26 | 4 03 | Vernon | 8 33 | 8 25 | | | |
| 7 00 | 5 55 | Ar Murray Harbor | Lv 6 40 | 6 00 | | | |
| P.M. | | | A.M. | | | | |
| 8 30 | Lv Emerald Junction | | Ar 7 30 | | | | |
| 9 20 | Ar Cape Traverse | | Lv 6 40 | | | | |

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