

# INSANITY IN IMMIGRANTS.\*

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The charge having been made in some quarters that there was an unduly large number of immigrants being admitted to Canada, who became subsequently or were at the time of admission insane, it became a duty to endeavour to determine, as far as statistics were possible, what the exact situation was.

For comparison, it was necessary that estimations of populations be made as regards age periods, sex, nationality, &c., according to the last census. The population by age periods in the three countries was:—

	England, Wales. 1901.	Canada. 1901.	United States. 1900.
Under 15.. . . . .	32.4	34.0	34.4
15-24.. . . . .	19.5	20.0	19.6
25-34.. . . . .	16.1	14.5	15.9
35-44.. . . . .	12.2	9.1	12.1
45-54.. . . . .	8.9	11.5	8.4
55-64.. . . . .	6.0	8.2	5.3
65.. . . . .	4.6	5.6	4.0
		43.6%	47.6%
		25.3%	17.7%

The notable differences at different age periods in Canada, especially as compared with either England or the United States, point to the fact that if a small population, as a Canadian Province or Eastern State, lost during a ten-year period a notable number of its young population, or on the other hand had added to it an abnormal number, it must be apparent that the proportion of persons normally present in any age period would be notably altered. The first is the explanation of the excessive number of persons in the three later age periods in 1901 in Canada, which had for twenty years been losing to the United States a notable number of young men and women; while as will be seen in the figures for the three new Western Provinces, made up of a young population, the difference in the age periods in the 1906 census by an enormous immigration of nearly 100 per cent over 1901, makes the variation from the normal even more marked. Thus:—

Age Period.	Canada. 1901.	Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta. 1901.	Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta. 1906.
0-15.. . . . .	34.0	38.4	34.3
15-24.. . . . .	20.0	19.2	34.3
25-34.. . . . .	14.5	15.9	19.0
35-44.. . . . .	9.1	12.1	12.0
45-54.. . . . .	11.5	7.0	7.3
55-64.. . . . .	8.2	3.7	3.7
Over 65.. . . . .	5.6	2.3	2.0
		47.2%	52.2%
		25.3%	13.1%

The causes of these differences are at once apparent if we note the number of children in an immigrant population. Taking the years 1905-6-7-8, it is found that of the 187,519 American immigrants to Western Canada there were of men 106,040,