

The City cannot tell which nationality is increasing most rapidly, as records on this matter have been kept only for the year 1912.

Judging from all other sources of information, however, the non-English-speaking section of the community seems to be increasing most rapidly, the present number of the latter being 4,527.

The illiteracy in the City is chiefly confined to the Southern European Immigrant section, as the Finns, Norwegians and Swedes show a strong desire to learn English and take advantage of every opportunity offered.

English remains the language mostly used in business and social life, but the Finn Colony is of such importance that several of the merchants have secured Finn helpers in their stores, thus introducing both languages.

The most congested section of the City is sub-division 2-1 of ward 2. In 800 acres in the central portion of the City, it is estimated by the City Officials that there are 12,000 of the City's 16,000 people. In the residential area, it is estimated there are about 30 people to an acre; and in the more congested districts, 40; the total average being about 10.

The City's extent is so wide-spread and there are so many vacant lots that this small average appears. There are, however, many houses in this section where there are over-crowding conditions. This is admitted by the police, the physicians, and all who are acquainted with the conditions. The immigrants are often out of work in the winter; rents are high and they want to save money. They therefore congregate in large numbers in a few houses.

In the main, the immigrants live in separate sections of the City; the Finns have a Colony roughly bounded by Bay Street, Albert, John and Court in the central portion of the City. There is also an Italian Colony between Pearl and Bay Street along Secord Street; a Colony of Ruthenians and a few Italians are located on the Fort William road in the vicinity of Ontario Street and First Avenue.

They have separate churches for the different nationalities:—A Finnish Church, a Swedish Lutheran, an Italian Roman Catholic, and a Norwegian National Church, which is just being established.

The immigrants to a certain extent form a City within the City. They are not reached by the English Canadian papers to any appreciable extent, and very few of them speak English. There is some little instruction in English given by the Y.M.C.A., and by the City in the Finnish Labor Temple. Several of the immigrants have their own churches, and these to a considerable degree prevent their Canadianization. There is no work from the library of any importance, which would instruct them in Canadian citizenship. There are different national societies among them, and the Finns have their own socialist society, and these serve to perpetuate old world conditions in a New Ontario city. The Industrial associations do not serve to Canadianize to any marked degree because the immigrants work in groups and even in industry maintain a life of their own.

There are few men who come to the City daily for business purposes. There is no extensive agricultural community adjacent to the City and it is so widely extended that the territory which would otherwise be suburban is included.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION.

This City enjoys special legislation in the 1907 Statutes of Ontario.

It has neither a commission form of government nor a Board of Control, but has a City Council of 8 Aldermen and a Mayor, elected annually.

There are Boards of Education, Health, Park's Management, and a Police Commission.

The Council has a standing committee on license, police and relief.