

CANNED GOODS

RELIABLE PACKERS

Best Brands

3 cans Corn	25c
3 cans Peas	25c
3 cans Tomatoes	25c
3 cans Golden Pumpkin	25c
3 cans Blue Berries	25c
3 cans Apples	25c
3 cans Tomato Catsup	25c
1 can Yellow Peaches	25c

J. A. Wilson

Queen St. CHATHAM Phone 75

It's like Eating at Home

To take a Meal at Somerville's Restaurant Menu and Service the best Appetizing Oysters and Lunches.

Wm. Somerville

PHONE 56. Next Standard Bank.

Spare Ribs Tenderloins

Hocks, Frankfurts and Pork Sausage

FRESH DAILY AT

J. P. Taylor

Park Street East. Telephone 187

When U=need=A

Package of Laundry done in the very best possible manner and at a low price.

Parisian Steam Laundry Co.

TELEPHONE 20.

Painting and Paper Hanging

Paper hung at 8c per roll and for painting, per yard 10c, two coats.

J. B. Martin

Forest St. East.

ROBES, BLANKETS

Sleigh Bells, Skates Mitts, Gloves

While they last at special cut prices. Also a general line of staples, such as Glass, Paints, Oils, Nails, Screws, Bolts, Builders' Hardware, Forks, Shovels, Fence Wire, Implements of all kinds.

See our Sewing Machines. Repairing done.

King, Cunningham & Drew

King Street. Chatham

What

Gibson

GOING TO DO ABOUT IT

Studio

King St.

ONTARIO'S STATISTICS

Issued From Provincial Government Departments.

POPULATION AND ASSESSMENT.

Includedness of the Various Municipalities—Statistical Tables, Compiled from Returns Embracing Thirteen Years—Some Startling Facts and Figures.

The Provincial Department of Agriculture has just issued Part V of that useful publication, the annual report of the Bureau of Industries, for 1898, comprising the municipal statistics of the Province as gathered from the returns sent in by the local officials. From this document can be learned the condition as to population, assessed valuation and indebtedness of every municipality. Statistical tables compiled from returns embracing 13 years show the progress of the country in these respects. The total number of municipalities in the Province in 1898 was 498 organized townships, 100 towns, 136 villages, 13 cities and 38 counties.

During the period 1886-98 the total population increased from 1,828,495 to 2,001,350, while the aggregate assessed value rose from \$694,380,659 to \$809,184,833. Taxation for all purposes increased from \$9,009,659 to \$12,232,966, or from \$4.93 to \$6.10 per head of the population. The most noteworthy conclusion to which an analysis of these figures points is that the growth in resources and population indicated has been wholly confined to the towns and cities, the purely rural districts having been stationary in these respects. The township population was 1,148,856 in 1886. It suffered considerable diminution from emigration to the Northwest and the tendency to migrate to the large centres and the increase of late years has been very slight. It was 1,110,894 in 1898. The cities had an aggregate number of 319,634 inhabitants in 1886 and 440,889 in 1898. They added ten thousand to their numbers in the latter year, as compared with a small decrease in the towns and villages. The increase in the 13-year period was from 360,005 to 419,567.

The assessed valuation of the townships amounted to \$452,097,645 in 1886 and the figures for 1898 were \$488,810,000, having been practically stationary for some years. City assessments have increased from \$154,204,921 in 1886 to \$236,077,376 in 1898, and towns and villages from \$88,078,093 to \$124,297,397. The statistics concerning municipal debts include the year 1897, later returns not being available. During 12 years the total municipal debt has increased from \$29,924,863 to \$53,577,475. This augmentation, however, is solely due to urban municipalities. The aggregate of the township debt has been slightly decreased and county debts have been reduced one-half, or from \$3,505,744 to \$1,808,107. City debts on the contrary have doubled, the aggregate value being \$37,440,277 in 1898, as compared with \$18,469,893 in 1886. Town and village liabilities have grown in equal proportion. It is worthy of notice, however, that, taking the aggregate amount of all municipal debt, the increase has been much less in the earlier portion of the 12-year period under consideration, as of late years the increase has been much less rapid.

This year a table is published giving the financial conditions of the leading American cities which is instructive for purposes of comparison. It will surprise many, no doubt, to observe that the debts of cities like Chicago, Buffalo and Cleveland are much smaller in proportion to their population than those of Toronto and some other Canadian cities. One factor in the case which should not be overlooked is that the water-works, which are a valuable asset in Canadian cities, are often in private hands in the States or managed like the parks by townships, so that any liabilities incurred in connection with them would not appear in a statement of the general debt. But, even after making ample deductions on this score it is a little startling to find Canadian city liabilities so formidable as compared with those of much larger communities.

PROVINCIAL INSANE ASYLUM.

Recommendation of Changes to Meet the Increase in the Number of Applicants.

The annual report of Mr. R. Christie, Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities, dealing with the insane asylums of the Province, has just been published, and contains several recommendations for changes in the system rendered necessary by the increased number of applicants for whom accommodation cannot be found in existing institutions. The average number of inmates for 1899—the year being reckoned to the end of September—was 1,411, as compared with 1,268 in 1898, and statistics covering the last ten years show that the yearly average number has increased by 1,274 during that period. The Inspector does not regard this as evidence that insanity is becoming more common, pointing out that owing to the increased scope of medical science many cases of subtle brain disease now receive treatment which formerly were not considered to fall within the sphere of the alienist. As increased accommodation must be obtained the Inspector strongly urges that a separate building be provided for this class. Formerly none but the maniacal and violently excited were considered fit for asylum treatment, but as a scientific and practical character, a knowledge of the subtler forms of brain diseases is being developed, and many of this afflicted class are receiving treatment as insane. To this enlarged scope in judging of in-

sanity a considerable percentage of the increase must be attributed.

Premising that increased room must now be had for the augmented number of patients, the report strongly recommends an extended means of classification for the insane. There are 77 criminal lunatics in the Provincial asylums who have been found guilty of crimes, but released by the courts as insane. There are also over 400 patients who have pronounced homicidal tendencies and need special attention, and some 500 epileptics who could be much better cared for if confined in a separate asylum. Provision has to some extent been made for the separation of the criminal insane by setting apart a building at Hamilton, known as the East House, for the occupation of such as have been found guilty of serious crimes. The homicidal insane who have not been charged with crimes are, however, equally dangerous, and should be placed under similar restrictions. It is urged that a separate institution for these classes would relieve the asylums from much of the rigid and exacting discipline and the arbitrary restraints which now have to be imposed, and that special structural arrangements, conducive to security, are requisite in dealing with the criminal and violent class. Were the separation effected the cost of maintenance would be lessened. The removal of the epileptics would also tend to lighten considerably the pressure on asylum accommodation. As a class they require different treatment from the ordinary lunatics, as many of them are afflicted mentally with a degree of insanity to warrant their continued residence among the insane, and are fit for useful employment, such as could be supplied, if an institution for their accommodation were established with land attached.

The number of inmates at the close of the year was distributed among the different institutions, as follows: Toronto 716; London 996; Kingston 580; Hamilton 1,021; Mimico 601 and Brockville 513. There were 657 in the Asylum for Idiots which, together with the insane prisoners in the penitentiary and jails and the inmates of the Homewood Retreat, Guelph, bring the total for insane and idiotic persons cared for in the public institutions to 5,210. The average per capita rate of maintenance for each inmate was \$125.05 per annum and the total expenditure of the year was \$652,974, as against \$621,737 for the year previous. The revenue from the institutions amounted to \$74,364, as compared with \$72,042 for 1898.

It Saves the Boys.

The argument I have found in Maine for prohibition was by an editor of a paper in Portland, that was for political reasons buildily opposed to it. I had a conversation with him that ran something like this:

"Where were you born?"

"In a little village about sixty miles from Bangor."

"Do you remember the condition of things in your village prior to prohibition?"

"Distinctly. There was a vast amount of drunkenness and consequent disorder and poverty."

"What was the effect of prohibition?"

"It shut up all the rum shops, and practically banished liquor from the village. It became one of the most quiet and prosperous places on the globe."

"How long did you live in the village after prohibition?"

"Seven years, or until I was twenty-one years of age."

"Then I went to Bangor?"

"Do you drink now?"

"I have never tasted a drop of liquor in my life."

"Why not?"

"Up to the age of twenty-one I never saw it, and after that I did not care to take on the habit."

"That is all there is in it. If the boys of the country are not exposed to the infernalism, the men are very sure not to be. This man and his schoolmates were saved from ruin by the fact that they could not get it until they were old enough to know better. Few men are drunkards who know not the poison till after they are twenty-one. It is the youth the whiskey and beer men want."

Kathie Christie, Toronto to Lady Smith.

London Golden Penny prints a portrait of Kathie Christie, who made her way through the Boer lines to Lady Smith. Says G. P.:

In the early days of the siege, Kathie, who was most anxious about her son imprisoned at Ladysmith, from which no news had arrived for three weeks, volunteered to attempt the dangerous journey. A despatch was secured in the hen at the bottom of the trench. He was stopped a number of times by the enemy, and at one kraal was kept a prisoner for twelve hours. While the Boers were holding a prayer meeting he escaped, and succeeded in slipping through to Ladysmith.

Found on the Street.

London, Feb. 26th.

Messrs. Kruger, Cronie & Co., South Africa.

Gentlemen,—Our Mr. Roberts will have the honor of waiting upon you on the 27th with the latest sample of lyddite, cordite, etc., in all our newest spring patterns. Our other traveler, Mr. Kitchener, will be with you shortly with samples of our fall goods. Thanking you for past favors and hoping for a continuance of the same, we are gentlemen, yours very truly,

John Bull & Sons.

Corduroy in Upholstering.

The popularity of corduroy as an upholstery fabric is well founded. It is durable in texture, and although its color fades it fades beautifully and usually is thereby improved.

Still another good quality of the material is its adaptability to its surroundings. Like a sealskin sacque which may be acceptably worn to market or for a round of visits, corduroy is most appropriate for library or sitting room, and not at all out of place with the finer furnishings of the drawing room.

WORTH REPEATING.

Oriental physicians have practiced vaccination for over 1,000 years.

The largest locomotive works in the world are in Philadelphia.

Over 60 different languages are spoken in the Philippine Islands.

Queen Victoria has not worn her crown more than 20 times during her whole reign.

Vienna policemen are required to understand telegraphy and to be able to swim and row a boat.

Rain has never been known to fall in that part of Egypt between the two lower falls of the Nile.

A pair of herrings, if left undisturbed 20 years, would yield an amount of fish as large as the globe.

A sign of politeness in Tibet on meeting a person is to hold up the clasped hands and stick out the tongue.

The wool on the back of a sheep is the shepherd's barometer. The colder the wool the finer will be the weather.

A schoolgirl in Wabash, Ind., is suffering from paralysis of the muscles of the mouth, caused by too persistent chewing gum.

Russia is a country extremely rich in horses, the number of which has been estimated at 20,000,000, of which at least 1,000,000 are saddle-horses fit for the purposes of war.

A Lynn, Mass., man, in answer to the question of the registrars of voters as to what his business was, said he was a "wealth producer" but would not explain how he produced it.

The Duke of Devonshire possesses a book for which his father refused an offer of \$100,000. It is Claude Lorraine's "Book of Truths," the rarest book in Europe, and a bedroom in the family.

In Bavaria each family on Easter Sunday brings to the church ward-fire a walnut branch, which, after being partially burned, is carried home to be laid on the hearth during tempests, as a protection against lightning.

The richest milk is that which comes near the close of milking. A test disclosed that the first half pint of milk at a milking contained only 1.07 per cent. of cream, while the last half pint contained 10.36 per cent.

Wood tar is still made as it was 400 years B. C. A bark is chosen and a hole dug, into which the wood is placed covered with turf. A fire is lighted underneath, and the tar slowly drips into the barrels to receive it.

A firm of fish dealers in Mobile, Ala., is experimenting with a railroad tank car, in which it successfully will transport Spanish mackerel, pompano, gulf bluefish and other Southern fishes alive to Northern cities.

When a burglar wants to break into a Peruvian house he takes a sponge and bucket of water and moistens the walls, which are covered with only a thin coating of mud, and easily dissolved upon the application of moisture.

In the ambulance and patrol department of a Chicago police station, two hennings with one caulk have established themselves as the companions of the officers. Their favorite perch are on the wheels of the ambulance or patrol wagon.

One of the oldest cannon in existence has just been fished out of the bottom of the river Thames near Twickenham. This archaic cannon is 28 inches in length and about 4½ inches in diameter, being made of brass and strengthened with hoops of the same metal welded together.

Among the numerous things considered sacred in India is the banyan-tree, one of the fig genus, remarkable for its vast rooting branches. The horizontal branches, sending down shoots which take root when they reach the ground and enlarge into trunks, which in their turn send out branches.

Five hundred L'Esperance girls have petitioned to be allowed to form the sole guard of honor of the German emperor during the hunting season this year. These girls are of a race that became famous under the Jagellons. Their offer was provisionally accepted.

The leasing of Covent Garden in London by the opera syndicate until 1948 includes everything except one box and two stalls. These the Duke of Bedford, owner of the property, reserved for his own use at any performance in the next forty-nine years without the payment of an entrance fee.

One of the latest German inventions is beer lozenges. These are made of the powder obtained by evaporating lager beer, and contain all the ingredients of this popular beverage. The only useful thing to turn them into a sparkling ale is to dissolve them in water in which some carbonic acid gas has been added.

It is probable that time was first divided into the year by the observation of the movement of the sun, that among the other heavenly bodies; that the revolution of the moon about the earth decided the length of the month, and the rising and setting of the sun marked the duration of the day.

It is said on good authority that when the mills in Manchester, N. H., shut down the last time they had on hand about 64,000,000 yards of cloth, or enough to stretch a band a yard wide around the world, with sufficient left over to form a magnificent driveway wide enough for three spans to drive abreast from New York to Tokyo.

The smallest coin now current in Europe, and the one having the least value, is the Greek lepton. The lepton is, according to the decimal money system, current in all countries belonging to the Latin union. Some idea of this valueless little disc of copper may be gathered from the fact that the value of the one-hundredth part of a drachma. The Greek drachma usually passes for the value of 20 cents.

A curious incident of the bee world is reported from Hampshire, Eng. A cottager took two large bars of honey and a square section of the hive and still another good quality of the material is its adaptability to its surroundings. Like a sealskin sacque which may be acceptably worn to market or for a round of visits, corduroy is most appropriate for library or sitting room, and not at all out of place with the finer furnishings of the drawing room.

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