

and that he has wasted his liquor and drowned out his own fire by over boiling of his pot. We leave the subject for the present, again quoting from Shakespeare:

'Tis not the many oaths that make the truth,  
But the plain single vow that is vowed true.

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### THE VITAL STATISTICS OF ONTARIO.

The report upon births, marriages and deaths for the Province of Ontario for the year 1912 is just to hand. It contains much useful information. The births numbered 57,235, the marriages were 25,807, and the deaths totalled 34,341.

As compared with 1910 there were 1,364 more births, 1,771 more marriages, and 802 more deaths.

The province showed an increase in population of 283,653 over that of 1910. Out of the 47 county municipalities in 27 there was a decrease in population. All the city municipalities, except Ottawa, showed an increase.

There were born 29,607 males and 27,628 females. There were 2,463 still-births. This gives 107 males to 100 females. The birth rate per 1,000 was 22.6. The birth rate in the cities was 25.8 per 1,000. There were 622 pairs of twins and 6 triplets. In the twins there were 632 boys and 612 girls. In the case of triplets there were 7 boys and 11 girls.

The marriage ratio was 10.2 per 1,000 of the population. In one district the ratio was as high as 21.1. The returns show a tendency to an increase in mixed marriages.

Th deaths, 34,341 in all, gives an average of 14.4 per 1,000 of the population. This gives an average expectancy of a little over 69 years in a stationary population. This is too high, and goes to show that there is a steady inflow into the province of young people, among whom few deaths are occurring.

The causes of death are worthy of attention. Organic heart diseases, 2,433; tuberculosis, 2,353; cancer, 1,602; pneumonia, 1,568; infantile diarrhoea, 1,367; cerebral haemorrhage, 1,015; diseases of the arteries, 985; Bright's disease, 814; typhoid fever, 637; paralysis, 538. These are the major causes. It is interesting to note that tuberculosis fell from 148 per 1,000 in 1910 to 93 in 1911. In 1881 this disease caused 10 per cent. of all the deaths; in 1891, 11 per cent.; in 1901, 11 per cent., and in 1911, only 6.85 per cent. The infant mortality is still high, as 6,421, or 11.72 per cent., died under one years of age. Of the mortality among children under 5 years no less than 77.97 per