

Quebec, we shall do in Ontario, in the West, and in the Maritime Provinces.

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The last census shows us that the entire population of the Maritime Provinces is remaining almost stationary, so that these Provinces in 1901 lost several seats in the House of Commons. The immigrants from Europe do not stop there, but pass immediately to the West, and like Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have to deplore the departure of a great number of their sons either to the United States, or to other parts of the country. But a remarkable and consoling fact is that if the total figure of the population is not increasing, or hardly increasing, that of the French-Canadian population is growing very rapidly. According to the most exact data, the Maritime Provinces were peopled in 1908 by 940,000 inhabitants. Of this number 140,000 were of French origin, which means that the proportion between the French and English race is still more in our favour there than in Ontario.

In 1901, New Brunswick had a population, one-fifth of which was good Acadian. The census of 1911 will certainly show that this proportion will have increased to one-fourth of the total population. Thus, out of an approximate total of 360,000 inhabitants (the figure was 350,000 in 1908), there will be 90,000 loyal English subjects of French origin. The Acadians have one of their number in the provincial cabinet and the Legislature contains among its members several representatives of French blood. Out of ten Senators, one is an Acadian, out of thirteen representatives in the House of Commons, three are Acadians. The influence of our race in this Province is going on increasing, thanks to their phenomenal birth-rate. It is 42 per 1,000 inhabitants, while it is only 22 per 1,000 among the English-speaking population. So it is easy to see that, since

New Brunswick is receiving almost no immigration, and since the birth-rate of the French-Canadians is double that of the English, the day is not far distant when the two races will be in number equal. From that time forth, no one can doubt that the French will of necessity overcome before long the opposition of their rivals, and New Brunswick will be conquered peacefully, just as the Eastern Townships have been.

In Nova Scotia, our progress, although less noticeable, is not less real. The influence of the Province of Quebec is less felt there, and as the groups of French-Canadians are less numerous their cohesion is more difficult to bring about. That, however, does not prevent our counting about 50,000 French-speaking inhabitants out of a total population of 480,000 inhabitants, or almost a ninth of the whole. Out of ten senators for this Province, one is an Acadian, and several representatives in the Legislature are also of French origin.

The most curious phenomenon is perhaps that which is occurring in Prince Edward Island. In 1901, the population of this Province had suffered a decrease of 5,719 inhabitants since 1891, while the French population had increased by 4,000 in the same time. This meant a gain of 10,000 in ten years, or a gain of about one-tenth of the whole population. Let that continue (and we have no reason to suppose that this movement will not continue), and you can judge whether in a century the French race will not predominate in this Province. Acadia, that is to say the Maritime Provinces, will be as French then as the Province of Quebec is to-day.

Let us stop for an instant to consider the future map of Canada. From Cape Breton to Lake Superior, the whole country will have become a land almost exclusively French. It will be only in the South of Ontario and certain parts of Nova Scotia, that