

POLICE FIGURES WILL SHOW TORONTO POPULATION 405,000

Neither Federal Nor Assessors' Census Does City Justice, Says Health Department Statistician, and Death Rate Is Given Too High.

(By R. L. Mills, M.A., Statistician Toronto Health Department.) What is the population of Toronto tonight? The police census will show the number of persons who sleep in Toronto on the night of Jan. 20, 1912.

These figures will be more correct than those of either the assessors' or the Dominion census for the reason that the people do not mistrust the police and they do the other census takers. They seek to ascertain only the total number of people in Toronto. They ask no inquisitive or impertinent questions about private affairs, and the people know that the returns will not be used against them for taxation or similar purposes.

The reason why a police census is necessary is that the other census figures do not do Toronto justice. The various census figures in the past have been as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Police Census, Dom. Ass's Census. Rows include 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911.

We certainly do not want it to appear that Toronto is a little "purty" of 374,000 population, when it actually has

over 400,000 population. It is poor advertising. From the point of view of the health department, it is even worse. It certainly is an injury to Toronto to make it appear more unhealthy than it really is, but this is the result of incorrect population figures being used as a basis of calculation.

Deaths in Toronto per thousand population—1901. Official figure, using estimate based on Dominion census as basis, 20.4. Figure obtained by using assessment population as basis, 16.5. Correct figure obtained by using police population as basis, 15.5.

For these reasons the people of Toronto are demanding an annual police census to be taken at the same time each year, so that the figures from year to year may be comparable. The cost of a police census is very small, compared with the Dominion census of Toronto. The Dominion census of Toronto cost over \$40,000, while the last police census cost the city only \$167.

What population will the police census show for 1912? This is the interesting question at present. We estimate the probable result at over 400,000.

The First Guide of The Desert

By Maurice Prax.

Every time when the train from Algiers arrived at El-Kantara, Mabrouk ben Bessaoud began his activity. He rushed up to every first class compartment and by chance he discovered a single traveler. He put this singular question to him: "Why don't you stop here?"

"I am going to Biskra," he replied. "I am going to Biskra," Mabrouk sighed and shrugged his shoulders. "Oh Biskra! Of course it is beautiful there, but not here as beautiful as here at El-Kantara. Here it is just like a painting, a real picture. I tell you. Come on. Give me your grip-quick."

Occasionally a tourist let himself be persuaded and confided himself to Mabrouk, who immediately began to enumerate his qualifications. "Take my card, I am Mabrouk ben Bessaoud, the first guide on the desert. You need not fear anything as long as you are with me. I have a permit to carry arms. I am not like the Arabs."

He talked of his brethren the Arabs as a wonderful expression of contempt and disgust. He put this singular question to the tourist: "Do you know where the gazelles are? They are in the mountains here. They are very beautiful like Aures for gazelles. Then it would be necessary to explore the unknown parts of the desert."

Mabrouk was ready to form a caravan at a moment's notice. "The tourist generally asked if Mabrouk had been far into the desert. "Far? As far and farther than any French soldier."

In reality Mabrouk had never seen the desert, but he had a very good idea of what it looked like for there are plenty of places around El-Kantara, which are fair samples of the desert. Neither had he ever gone gazelle hunting, and had never had the slightest desire to do so for he felt that he would get dizzy if he ever tried to climb a mountain.

It was only because he felt sure of a refusal that he dared suggest such a thing. He must hurry into the desert, he must hurry into the desert, he must hurry into the desert.

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and smacked his lips with delight. It now was pitch dark. "You are quite sure you are not afraid, madame?" he stammered with his mouth full.

"Not the least bit." "It was different with him. A man may be the first guide of the desert and a coward just the same."

He drank to his courage. Undoubtedly he drank too much for suddenly when he wanted to get up, he discovered that he had no legs. Everything was spinning round. He cried: "Madame! You don't know? I am drunk! You must not be angry with me. It was your champagne that did it."

Mabrouk's companion had lit an electric torch and was holding a map. Her guide's confession made her laugh. "Well, Mabrouk," she said, "you will have to get sober in a hurry. We are going to start right away. I want to get to Biskra early."

"Start now?" cried Mabrouk. "Look at me. I can't stand up straight. You must let me sleep, madame. I am drunk."

"Sleep my friend," she said. "Sleep calmly. I have found the way on the map and you can start right away. You may go to-morrow. I want to surprise my husband."

Then Mabrouk ben Bessaoud, first guide of the desert, had to get up. "Oh, I beg you, madame, don't leave me here all alone. I am afraid! I am afraid!"

And the little Parisienne, who did not keep watch over her guide until dawn.

EHE END.

FIRE RECORD. New York—Interior of Church of Nativity damaged. Cleveland, Mass.—Academy of Music, loss \$70,000. Cal.—House & Jennings' buildings; loss \$150,000.

BETTER THAN SPANKING. Spanking does not cure children of bad habits. There is a constitutional cause for it. Mrs. M. Sumner, Box 585, Windsor, Ont., will home treatise with full instructions. Send no money, but write her to-day. Your children are being spoiled. Don't blame the child, the chances are it can't help it. This treatment also cures nervous aged people troubled with urine difficulties by day or night.

After Harvester Company. WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Attorney-General Wickham to-day assured Congress that the Harvester Company government would take action against the International Harvester Company, congressional investigation of which is under consideration by the committee.

Fuel Famine Out West. WINNIPEG, Jan. 20.—Delegates from different points in Saskatchewan assert that the fuel famine is so serious that the farmers are threatening to loot passing locomotives.

Ottawa Valley Lumber Has Serious Shortage

Supply, 100,000,000 Feet Less Than Last Year—Main Reasons Are Low Water and Labor Shortage.

OTTAWA, Jan. 20.—The Ottawa Valley lumber cut was about 100,000,000 feet short of 1910 total, stated a prominent lumber man to-day. "The production during 1911 hardly exceeds 450,000,000 feet," he went on, "while the previous year had 550,000,000 feet to its credit."

The main reason for the shortage was the low water of the Ottawa River. This necessitated the shutting down of some mills earlier than usual. The output of that of current logging, as the water power gradually diminished.

The shortage of labor, however, must also be credited with a share in the diminished production. The larger firms, such as Booth's, had serious trouble at the heart of the season in keeping their full complement of employees at even increased wages.

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Earl of Carlisle Dead. LONDON, Jan. 20.—George James Howard, ninth Earl of Carlisle, died to-day. He was born on August 12, 1845, and succeeded to the title in 1888. He represented East Cumberland in parliament as a Liberal during 1879-80 and 1881-82.

CRACKED FINGERS. During cold, dry wintry weather, when east winds prevail, cracked fingers are a source of annoyance to many. The skin on the ends of the fingers, or more commonly the thumb, becomes rough and then cracks, sometimes forming a hard crust. These cracks are difficult to heal, and the best way is to prevent their appearance by applying a few drops of glycerine to the fingers, and washing them in the cold weather. When the skin of the fingers or thumbs is much hardened it should be rubbed with pumice stone, as this will render it less liable to crack. When the trouble has already made its appearance, glycerine, lanoline, or ordinary mutton fat should be well rubbed in, and a finger stall should be constantly worn. The hands should not be washed oftener than necessary, and always well dried after the washing.

A man is generally at his heaviest in his fortieth year.

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PORTO RICO'S COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS.

The notable progress, commercial and industrial, made by Porto Rico in the fiscal year 1910 not only continued but increased during the financial twelve-month ended June 30, 1911. The total value of the external trade for the year increased over \$10,000,000 and reached an aggregate of \$17,705,394.

Porto Rico purchased from the markets of the mainland merchandise to the value of \$4,752,853. Prosperity in Porto Rico is mainly dependent upon agriculture, and in this field largely upon sugar, tobacco, coffee and fruits. The production of all of these except coffee was notably increased during the year. Even coffee, which has never fully recovered from the effects of the hurricane of 1909 and the low price prevailing since, received a strong impulse, and the quantity produced was less than in some of the years past.

The production of fruit for export was increased during the last year about one-third, the total shipments reaching in value over \$2,000,000, a matter worth note since this is practically a new industry in Porto Rico, dating as a fact of commercial importance from 1905.

In tobacco and sugar the two leading industries of the island, notable increases during the year are recorded. About 25 per cent. of the tobacco crop is shipped to the leaf, while the remainder is sold in manufactured form. The growth of this industry may be judged from the fact that 25,000,000 cigars were manufactured in 1911, or \$1,000,000 more than were made in the preceding year.

The tobacco industry produces some 15 per cent. of the total insular receipts from external trade. Sugar production was increased by an increase of 15 per cent. for the year, and the external sales reached nearly \$5,000,000 and constituted

60 per cent. of the total receipts from external trade. The average under cultivation has been largely extended throughout the island and increasing attention is given to scientific study of agriculture and to improved methods of production.

The assessed value of property in Porto Rico, which was less than \$90,000,000 in 1905 and was reported in 1910 as \$12,988,149, was increased during the past year 32 per cent. and is now \$162,259,112. At the close of the year but five-sixths of the entire island were assessed. The bonded indebtedness of the island, \$4,879,614, represents only three per cent. of the assessed value of the property, or a per capita indebtedness of \$8.91, against an estimated per capita wealth of nearly \$23.

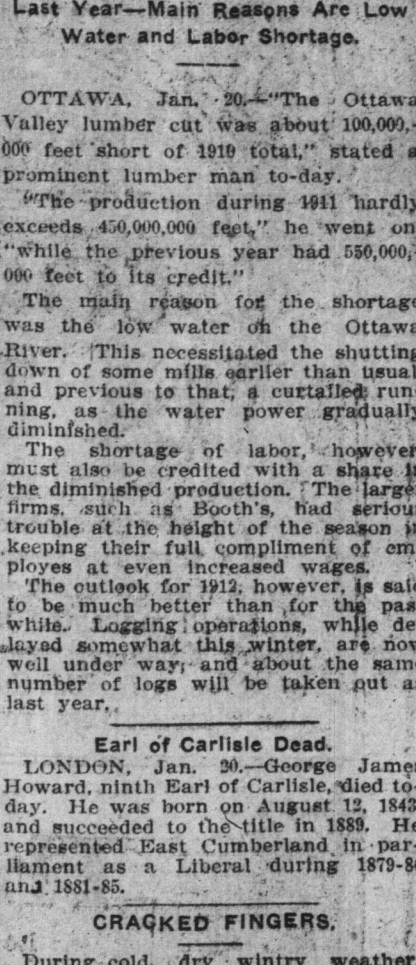
Domestic banks, banking institutions during the year were increased 18 per cent. Deposits in these institutions have risen over 100 per cent. during the last four years. Twenty-seven new domestic corporations with paid-in capital of more than \$200,000 were organized, and 24 foreign corporations representing capital to the amount of \$69,000 were authorized to transact business during the past year.

Public construction, in which marked progress has been made since the American occupation, continued during the year, the on a necessarily somewhat reduced scale. It is expected that the irrigation work in progress on the south side of the island, from which some 35,000 acres of land are to be benefited, will be definitely advanced for a partial use of the system during 1912 and be fully completed a year later. The growth of educational work is shown by an increase of 20 per cent. in the enrollment of pupils during the year, the total being 45,225.

Dove at Peace Sermon. New York Herald: It was only a Christmas morning coincidence, perhaps; so, at least, the sceptic, the scoffor and the materialist will say. But it was a coincidence that brought well-deigned delight of either a poet or a prophet of peace when a dove, fluttering in thru the sunshine of a winter window in the facade of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, circled above the heads of the vast congregation yesterday and then alighted on a pillar in the north choir of the great structure just as Bishop Greer was holding his auditors in rapt silence while he pictured the coming of the apothecosis of Christmas.

"Christmas is coming," he said. "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." As the bishop paused the solemn hush was broken by a flutter of wings away up amid the arches. Here and there a worshiper glanced aloft. A white dove, after pausing lightly a moment on the sill of an opening in the southern wall, took wing directly across the transept and then circled uncertainly as she sought a place to alight. For an instant, as the bright fillet thru a shaft of bright sunlight, she seemed almost luminous. Then she slanted downward and perched lightly on the sculptured capital of a column on the northern side of the choir, when she remained.

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