

CHANCES FOR WOMEN

Suffragists who are working for electoral rights for all women might reasonably turn their attention to a more equitable distribution of the female population. In England and Wales alone there is a surplus supply of women of over a million. In the Western Provinces of Canada the supply is far below the demand. Look at these figures:

	Males	Females
Manitoba	250,956	295,558
Saskatchewan	291,730	290,702
Alberta	243,989	159,674
British Columbia	251,619	140,861
Deficit of females	1,017,394	697,795

Leaving Japs, Chinese, Hindus and other "aliens" out of consideration, there is easily a demand for 300,000 women in the West. Why not transfer that many girls from England to Western Canada?

The best interests of the Empire, of Canada, and of the British race demand that something shall be done to meet this situation. England is suffering from an over-supply; Canada is suffering from an under-supply. There are economic and moral advantages to be gained by the readjustment.

There is nothing in the fear that the English women who go to Western Canada would be called upon to face hardships. The day of severe isolation in the West has passed. To-day the town and village life is as attractive as in Eastern Canada. Even the farm life is now devoid of those defects which made residence there difficult and unpleasant.

This is an important piece of work for the women's societies in England and the Dominion, and they should tackle it seriously. The press will help, but it is the women's associations to which the two countries must look for real assistance and effective performance.—Canadian Courier.

CENSUS CROP ESTIMATE

Ottawa, Sept. 15.—A total wheat production of over 206,000,000 bushels as compared with 215,851,000 last year, is predicted in the last crop bulletin issued by the census and statistics board dealing with crop and live stock conditions up to the end of August.

The average condition of spring wheat is 84.57 per cent. of standard or full crop, which is represented by 100, rye is 84.14, barley 87.29, oats 88.15, mixed grains 86.57 and flax 87.84. These figures are higher than those of a month ago by about 16 per cent. for wheat, rye and flax, 4 or 5 per cent. for barley, mixed grains and buckwheat, and 7 per cent. for oats. On the whole they compare not unfavorably with the figures at the corresponding date of last year, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat and mixed grains being, in fact, higher, while spring wheat is about two points lower. Corn, for husking, is 69.66, and for fodder, 76, as compared with 70.37, and roots and pasture show an excellent condition, the figures ranging from 86.64 for sugar beets to 92.10 for potatoes and 91.79 for pasture.

Estimate of Damage

It is calculated that of the areas sown in Canada 3 per cent. spring wheat, 2.3 per cent. oats, 2.1 per cent. of barley, and 3.8 flax, will, from various causes, such as hail, flood, pests, etc., be entirely unproductive, and the following pre-

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liminary estimates of yield are, therefore, based upon the areas to be harvested. Of spring wheat the average yield per acre for Canada is provisionally placed at 21.08 bushels which upon a harvested area of 8,977,400 acres makes the total yield of spring wheat to be 189,256,000 bushels. This quantity, added to the estimate of 16,773,300 bushels of fall wheat as published last month, gives the wheat total as 206,029,300 bushels compared with the final estimates for 1911 of 215,851,000 bushels.

COMMIT SUICIDE AT EMPEROR'S FUNERAL

Tokio, Sept. 13.—General Count Marcsuka Nogi, supreme military councillor of the empire, and his wife, the Countess Nogi, committed suicide tonight in accordance with the ancient Japanese custom as their final tribute to their departed emperor and friend, Mutsuhito. The general cut his throat with a short sword, and the countess committed hara-hiri. Following the Samuri custom the couple had carefully prepared their plans for killing themselves, and timed themselves so that they would be coincident with the departure forever from Tokio of the dead emperor.

TO ORGANIZE CIVIL SERVICE

Ottawa, Sept. 13.—The cabled statement that Sir George Murray has consented to give the Canadian government the benefit of his advice in the organization of the civil service has created much interest here. The Prime Minister, on being spoken to with reference to the statement, replied that it was well-founded. It is understood that during his visit to Great Britain Hon. Mr. Borden devoted some attention to procuring the aid of an expert administrator of high standing and authority in placing the Canadian service on a more satisfactory basis.

Sir George Herbert Murray, P.C., G.C.B., I.S.O., is a man of the highest standing. He was private secretary to Mr. Gladstone and Lord Rosebery while these two statesmen were Prime Ministers. In 1897, he became chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue. In 1899 he was made secretary of the post office and in 1903 he was moved to the Treasury as permanent secretary, or what in Canada would be termed deputy minister. The permanent secretary of the treasury is the dean of the British civil service. Sir George Murray thus has been in the four departments, in three of them in executive positions of great authority. His reputation in England is that of being an exceedingly able administrator.

It is understood that Sir George Mur-

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ray's work will be to consider the organization of the whole service and recommend a general plan of co-ordinating the various branches. The service

has suffered for years from its exceedingly haphazard organization with constant overlapping and other features which cause constant friction.