

We might challenge without response any country in the world to show a more rapid increase in wealth, in proportion to population than has taken place in Canada where the deposits since Confederation, 1867, have risen from \$11.30 per head to \$96.00 per head. In the same period the government of this country has expended \$361,902,835 of public money on railways and canals, as per following statement:

	Capital Account.	From Consolidated Fund.
	\$	\$
Railways.....	136,990,338	121,870,317
Canals.....	83,519,104	18,965,442
Common	112,444	557,634
	\$220,509,442	\$141,393,393
Consol'd Fund	141,393,393
Total.....	\$361,902,835

The amount from "Consolidated Fund" was taken from the current year's revenue, that from Capital Amount went to increase the debt, which, however, is now \$112,444,000 less than the amount spent by the country on railways and canals.

At Confederation the Northwest was only producing enough food for Indians and a few half breeds, it was not in Canada. In 1902 the yield in Manitoba was as follows:—

Wheat, bushels.	Oats, bushels.	Barley, bushels.	Roots, bushels.	Other crops.
53,077,267	34,478,160	11,848,422	6,689,000	648,694

Canada's food growing capacity was increased far beyond anticipations by the acquisition of the Great Northwest, for proof of which let the following suffice. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr. McKellar, estimates the good agricultural land in that region not occupied as follows:—

Manitoba, acres.	Assinibolia, acres.	Saskatchewan, acres.	Alberta, acres.	Total, acres.
23,000,000	19,000,000	17,000,000	16,000,000	75,000,000

The Deputy Minister estimates the production in Manitoba in the next 10 years, if the increase continues as in recent years, to be 350,000,000 bushels of wheat, 200,000,000 bushels of oats and 50,000,000 bushels of barley. To reach this vast production it will only be necessary to crop 20,000,000 acres out of the 75,000,000 now waiting to be put in cultivation. The splendid wheat lands in the Northwest are capable of producing over one million bushels more than the entire wheat production of the whole world! Already Manitoba and the Northwest Territories are enlarging their productions faster than transportation facilities can be given for carrying crops and cattle to market. The new line projected through the northern part of that region has a good prospect of developing these vast resources and profiting by the traffic created.

To give an adequate description of the growth of a number of cities founded since Confederation would require a book. A few items only can be

given here. Vancouver in 1886 had only 50 inhabitants, it is now a great ocean port. Its foreign trade in 1903 amounted to \$9,529,064. Winnipeg has an extraordinary record. In 1870 the population was 215, to-day the population is close upon 77,000,000 and enlarging daily. In 1874 the total assessment was \$2,676,018, and population, 1869; in 1903 the total assessment was \$36,231,920. In 1894 the bank clearings at Winnipeg were \$50,540,648; in 1903 the amount was \$246,108,006. There are now 13 chartered banks in Winnipeg representing a paid-up capital of \$50,000,000. Since Confederation Montreal has increased its population threefold and the value of taxable property has quadrupled. Toronto has had a parallel growth, while all along the line from Lake Superior to British Columbia numerous towns have sprung up where business is progressing rapidly, and branch banks have been established in a continuous chain from Ontario to the Pacific coast. At the present time there is, as there has been for three years, a stream of immigration of settlers and capital into Canada from the United States. In 1903 there were 45,980 settlers from the western states. Mr. J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, has said that, "within 50 years Canada will have a population of fifty millions."

Reference to the development of the iron trade must be very brief. This is almost wholly a new industry since Confederation. There has been about 45 millions of dollars invested in iron and steel works, and iron mines in Canada. The plants in operation are capable of supplying all the iron and steel consumed in the Dominion. The furnaces and steel plants are at Sydney, N.S., Hamilton, Trenton, Collingwood, Ont., Radnor, Que., Londonderry and Bridgeville, N.S., Sault St. Marie.

The pulp industry is also new since Confederation and promises to be a rich contributor to Canada's wealth. The product of wood pulp last year is estimated at \$4,500,000.

Between 1891 and 1901, census years, the value of the industrial products of Canada rose from \$363,156,797 to \$481,053,375, about 33 per cent. increase.

More evidences of the Dominion's expansion could be given and signs of its coming greatness shown. There is more than enough in the foregoing to excite the liveliest interest in the record of Canada since Confederation, to justify the deepest sense of national pride, and to regard the unity, which is evidenced by the title "Dominion of Canada" as having been a source of its present vitality and strength.

A BOGUS INSURANCE COMMISSIONER is reported to have "held up" an English insurance company by pretending to examine their books in London, England. After playing this game for a while, he sent in a bill for \$750.00, which the directors paid rather than run the risk of their license being suspended in the State this fakir claimed to represent without the least authority.