

Contrast this with conditions during the past ten years: It is true the great boom continued during 1911 into 1912. But there was a real and final check in 1912-13 when both capital and labour ceased to flow in upon us. For the first time in a great many years we saw Cost of Living and Unemployment Commissions. Then came the War. Though economically it poured wine into our veins at first, it was all bought at the price of the re-action which set in soon after the Armistice, and which is still overshadowing us. I shall present a measure of this re-action later on.

But let us consider more specifically how our expectations as to the Census ought to have been governed. Our natural increase was about 1,150,000. But first we have to deduct the 56,634 young Canadians directly sacrificed in the War. (Incidentally, if we add the 40,000 deaths due to the Spanish influenza, and consider the effect on births through postponements of marriage, separations, etc., I think it is safe to say that the War cost us 125,000 actual and potential Canadian lives.) Again, the United States Census of 1920 shows that about 150,000 Canadian-born persons must have gone to the United States to live during the decade. This reduces our increase of native born to 950,000. Turning to immigration, we brought in about 1,800,000 people - about the same as in the preceding decade. Now we have no emigration statistics in Canada. We know, however, for the past decade that the United States lost 56% of its immigration. As we were earlier in the War and were in a more unsettled condition generally, we doubtless lost more heavily. The great bulk of the immigration of the decade came in the earlier boom years and was scarcely settled when the war began. I think it extremely likely that we lost 60% or 65% and have not retained more than 600,000 of our immigration of the past decade.

I conclude therefore that the war is directly to blame that we did not reach the 9,000,000 mark. But for anything over that figure it seems to me we were asking too much of