

WORLD'S CONSUMPTION OF BEER,

COBALT MINES AND WATER POWERS.

Wine and Spirits—United States Takes the Lead—
Canada's Figures.

More beer is consumed in the United States than in any other country of the world, and more distilled spirits than in any other country except Russia. The quantity per capita consumed in the United States is not, however, in the case of beer, as great as in Belgium, United Kingdom, Germany, or Denmark, while our per capita consumption of distilled spirits is less than that of Denmark, Hungary, Austria, France, Netherlands, or Sweden. Of wines the quantity consumed in the United States is below that of Portugal, Spain, Germany, Italy, or France, and the per capita consumption is less than that of France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Austria or Hungary.

Malt Liquors Consumed.

The quantity of malt liquors consumed in the United States in 1910 was 1,851 million gallons, against 1,704 million in Germany and 1,397 million in the United Kingdom, that of Austria being 493 million, Belgium 412 million, France 376 million, and Russia 231 million gallons. Of spirits the quantity consumed in the United States was 133½ million proof gallons, against 232½ million in Russia, the per capita being in each case 1.45 gallons, against a little less than 1 gallon in the United Kingdom. The quantity of beer per capita consumed in the United States was, in 1910, 20.09 gallons, against 31.44 gallons in the United Kingdom and 26.47 gallons in Germany. In the consumption of wines France leads the world, 1,541 million gallons, or 39.36 gallons per capita in 1909. Italy in that year consumed 31.17 gallons per capita, Portugal 27.39 gallons, Switzerland 14.55 gallons, and the United States, in 1910, only 0.66 gallons per capita. Comparatively little beer is consumed in Italy, Roumania, Servia and Russia; less than 2 gallons per capita annually, as against 20 gallons in the United States, 26½ gallons in Germany, and 31½ gallons in the United Kingdom. The principal countries in which wine consumption averaged less than one gallon per capita in the latest available year include Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, and the United States.

Per Capita Figures.

The following table, compiled from official sources by the United States Bureau of Statistics, Department of Commerce and Labor, shows in millions of gallons the consumption of malt liquors, wines, and distilled spirits, respectively, in the principal countries of the world for which statistics of this character are published and the per capita consumption in each instance, the figures being for the latest year for which statistics are available.

Countries.	Malt Liquors.		Wines.		Distilled Spirits.	
	Million gallons.	Gallons per capita.	Million gallons.	Gallons per capita.	Million gallons.	Gallons per capita.
United States, 1910.....	1,851.3	20.09	60.5	0.66	133.5	1.45
United Kingdom, 1909.....	1,397.3	31.44	15.2	0.31	40.1	0.96
Germany, 1909-10.....	1,703.5	26.47	74.6	1.16	94.2	1.48
France, 1909.....	375.0	9.51	1,541.4	39.36	70.9	1.81
Austria, 1908-9.....	492.9	17.17	178.6	6.34	54.7	1.81
Belgium, 1909.....	411.7	55.2	9.1	1.21	10.7	1.42
Russia, 1908.....	231.4	1.46	No data	No data	232.7	1.45
Spain, 1909.....	No data	No data	345.9	18.23	No data	No data
Sweden, 1908-9.....	72.3	13.31	No data	No data	8.6	1.57
Switzerland, 1909.....	64.6	18.00	52.2	14.55	3.6	0.99
Denmark, 1909.....	61.7	22.98	No data	No data	8.0	2.97
Italy, 1909.....	17.4	0.51	1,012.0	31.17	26.1	0.76
Bulgaria, 1909.....	3.2	0.75	34.9	8.19	0.6	0.13
Hungary, 1908-9.....	55.7	2.90	98.6	4.76	43.7	2.11
Netherlands, 1909.....	No data	No data	2.3	0.40	10.8	1.84
Norway, 1909.....	11.8	5.02	No data	No data	2.0	0.87
Portugal, 1909.....	No data	No data	146.3	27.39	No data	No data
Roumania, 1909.....	4.9	0.72	33.7	5.02	6.7	0.96
Servia, 1909.....	2.9	1.02	10.5	3.70	No data	No data
Australia, 1909.....	56.9	13.20	5.6	1.30	4.6	1.07
Canada, 1909-10.....	47.4	6.36	0.9	0.12	7.3	0.97
Cape of Good Hope.....	3.3	1.32	3.5	1.44	1.2	0.53
Transvaal, 1909.....	3.9	2.88	0.5	0.38	0.8	0.67

Canada's Figures.

The following table shows the annual consumption per capita of the undermentioned articles paying excise and custom duties. The figures, in this case, are from the Canadian records:

	Spirits, gals.	Beer, gals.	Wine, gals.	Tobacco, lbs.	Petro'm gals.
1869	1.124	2.290	.115	1.755	.575
1879	1.131	2.209	.104	1.954	
1889	.776	3.263	.097	1.153	
1899	.661	3.995	.086	2.174	
1909	.806	5.348	.085	2.910	
1910	.815	5.276	.097	2.940	
1911	.859	5.434	.104	3.011	

The mines at Cobalt are now enjoying the advantages of water-power developed on the Montreal and Metabitchewan Rivers, and transmitted both as compressed air and electricity. The power plants are situated at Ragged Chute and Hound Chute on the Montreal River, and at the foot of Bass Lake, near the mouth of the Metabitchewan. At the first named place the Cobalt Hydraulic Power Company has installed an air-compressing plant on a large scale, and pipes the compressed air to Cobalt. The development here is 4,000 or 5,000 horse power. At Hound Chute the Cobalt Power Company has an electrical equipment capable of delivering about 3,000 horse power. The British Canadian Power Company, formerly Mines Power, Limited, has the plant at Bass Lake, its capacity being about 8,000 horse power. This is transmitted to Cobalt in the form of electricity, part of it being then utilized in the compression of air for the operation of drills, etc., in the mines.

The advent of hydraulic power has been a decided advantage to the camp, reports the Ontario Bureau of Mines, inasmuch as the power is delivered at a cost of little more than one-third of that produced by the consumption of coal, but it has not been without its drawbacks. Interruptions were not unknown at first, but these were quickly eliminated by greater attention to the equipment. There was also some objection to the use of the compressed air from Ragged Chute by reason of its deficiency in oxygen and consequent inability to support the burning of candles, thus alarming the miners, who suspected bad air. Acetylene lights, however, got rid of this difficulty, and no ill effects were produced upon the workmen by the smaller percentage of oxygen. The chief trouble is more fundamental. The cold northern winters, with their infrequent thaws, have the effect of rendering the general drainage system very torpid, and the run-off of water is reduced to a minimum in the months of January, February and March. If the proverbial "January thaw" comes to the relief, the situation is mitigated, but if this fails to arrive or is inadequate to replenish the reservoirs, the water runs through the turbines much faster than it is replaced, and a scarcity of water and reduction in power necessarily follow. The winter of 1910-11 was unusually steady, and in February it began to be apparent that the water-powers on the Montreal and Metabitchewan were likely to be seriously affected. March saw no improvement, and as the return of spring, which the previous year was unusually early, was in 1911 unusually late, the shortage of water and power continued well into April. Such of the mines as had retained their steam plants were obliged to put them again into commission, but in a number of cases steam power was unavailable, and the general effect upon the camp was to cause a decided drop in production. It is possible that the output of silver for 1911 will reflect this partial stoppage of the mines. The remedy is to more nearly equalize the flow of these rivers, which can only be done by a system of dams at the outlets of

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the lakes and river expansions, thus permitting storage of the freshet waters for use in the low-water periods of summer and winter.

The Hupp Motor Car Company and the White Machine Works of Eauclair, Wis., manufacturing sawmill machinery, will establish plants at Windsor, Ont.

Owing to increased business, the Dominion Life Assurance Company have found it necessary to move their branch office to larger and more commodious offices in the Kent Building, Toronto.