

**Canada's Growth in
the Twentieth
Century.**

"Some Illustrations of the Growth of Canada in the Twentieth Century," was the title of a valuable paper read at the recent Toronto convention of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, by Mr. Archibald Blue, chief officer of the Dominion Census. Mr. Blue succeeded interestingly in leaving with his hearers somewhat more specific ideas than are ordinarily conveyed by speakers upon the material progress of the Dominion.

Referring first to the matter of foreign trade he said that exclusive of coin and bullion, goods not the product of Canada, and exports estimated short, it had grown from \$336,018,000 in the last fiscal year of the nineteenth century to \$518,800,000 in the sixth year of the twentieth. In the chartered banks alone the increase of deposits from \$48,763,000 in 1870 to \$305,140,000 in 1900 and to \$605,968,000 in 1906 showed the very large extent to which the banks had been assisted above their own capital in maintaining the business of the country.

**Increase in
Manufactures.**

Interesting reference was made to the census of manufactures taken last year, and to institute a comparison between 1900 and 1905 Mr. Blue took up especially the statistics of works employing five persons and over. The capital employed in these works in 1905 was \$834,000,000, an increase of \$387,000,000; the number of employes was 383,920, an increase of 44,747; the amount of salaries and wages was \$162,175,000, an increase of \$48,926,000; and the value of products was \$706,446,000, an increase of \$225,393,000. In the first five years of this century capital had increased in the ratio of 100 to 187, and value of products in the ratio of 100 to 147, which Mr. Blue considered as indicating that in some industries and works, production had not reached a full measure of development.

As showing the growth in industrial efficiency, which implied improved methods and machinery and harder work, he pointed out that in every group of our industries the average of production had increased substantially in the five years. In 1900 it was for all industries \$1,559, and in 1905 it was \$1,990 per wage worker; or compared on the basis of all employes on salaries and wages, it was \$1,476 in 1900, and \$1,803 in 1905.

**Provinces
and Cities.**

Regarding provincial progress Mr. Blue's figures showed that capital and production increased largely in the five years for every Province of the Dominion except Prince Edward Island, but the most notable figures were shown for Ontario

and Quebec. In Ontario the greatest increase of production was in flour and grist mill products, which was over \$14,000,000, and in Quebec it was in car works and repairs, which was over \$7,000,000. Seven of thirteen principal industries in Ontario and three of nine in Quebec had values of \$10,000,000 and over. In fourteen cities and towns with increases in the values of product of \$2,000,000 and over, Montreal stood first with a production of \$99,746,000, and an increase of \$28,647,000, and Toronto second with a production of \$85,714,000 and an increase of \$27,300,000. Adding to these two cities the value of products for works employing less than five hands in 1905, Montreal's total was \$100,426,000 and Toronto's was \$86,838,000.

**Growth in other
Respects.**

In addressing a gathering of manufacturers Mr. Blue, as was natural, devoted his remarks chiefly to those phases of the country's development in which his hearers were most directly interested. As supplementing his admirable summary of twentieth century growth, there is given on page 1297 a record of the progress of Canada in many important particulars, covering not only the present century but going back a score of years into the nineteenth—the table being compiled from statistics of the Department of Trade and Commerce. It will be noted that the figures for 1907 are in general given to March 31 (owing to the recent change in reckoning the Dominion fiscal year) instead of to June 30, as in the case of most of the items in the other years.



**Insurance
Cartoons.**

Political cartoons doubtless have their use, aside from any addition they may make to the "gaiety of nations."

But those who are most earnestly concerned with the securing of careful and conservative life insurance legislation may be pardoned for doubting the wisdom of the wholesale newspaper caricaturing to which the Royal Commission is being treated throughout the Dominion. If the enthusiasts who supply town and village editors with illustrated "copy" of this sort were to turn their attention to giving pithy statements of facts regarding matters under consideration, the effect might be of more practical value to the insurance cause—which, in the last analysis, must be the public cause as well. Ridicule is occasionally an effective weapon in a good fight—but relied on too constantly is apt to hurt the wielder even more than the object of attack. Granted that many of these cartoons hit at faulty conditions—as they do—and that some of them are clever, still it would seem time to cry, hold, enough!