

The City of Winnipeg has practically abolished Separate Schools, and made provision for the children who attended them in the Public Schools. A certain proportion of Roman Catholic teachers will be employed, as previously provided for, but no distinctive garb is to be worn by them. There is a vague rumor that the change meets the views of the Ottawa Premier, but whether he has been consulted by the local Premier, who has been to the Federal Capital, was not even known when this rumor was started. The Separate School question no one has yet been able wholly to settle. The present arrangement is opposed by many advocates of Separate Schools; and while such schools exist, they create opposition from the majority of the population of the province.

THE CANADIAN CENSUS.

The result of the census of Canada is disappointing to those who expected to find a large increase of the population in the Dominion. The rate of increase is less than it was in the previous decade. We must congratulate the province of Quebec on its virility, while Ontario lags behind. The respective birth-rates in the two provinces goes far to account for the different results; it will no longer be possible to put down Ontario deficiencies to defects of birth registration; another cause must be sought. It is well to remember how many of her sons and daughters Ontario has sent to Manitoba and the North-West these five or ten years past. As a result of whatever causes, we are falling relatively behind Quebec, at the rate of 30,000 in the decade. It has been stated that Ontario will, under the constitution, lose a proportion of its parliamentary representation, because of Quebec's relative increase, which means a loss of political significance and power. But as against this apprehension may be placed the resolution No. 1, of Parliament, which formed the basis of the Confederation Act. This reads: "No reduction shall be made in the number of members returned by any section unless its population shall have decreased relatively to the population of the whole union, to the extent of 5 per centum." The principle of representation, to which she appealed, for the application of which she clamored for years, now tells against her. She must abide by the rule which she was herself the means of enforcing, and she can find no remedy in retracing her steps. Ontario has become somewhat too much malthusian, in the German sense, when they act as interpreters only. Everywhere, with the single exception of Kingston, the urban population shows an increase. If the students were not counted in that city, the theory is that they were counted elsewhere. Besides students, we must assume, were everywhere dealt with on the same rule. The greatest danger of mistakes lay in the possibility of counting members of families who have left the country; and it will be very difficult to show whether, or to what extent, this has been done.

Quebec will make no gain of numerical strength in the House of Commons, the number of 65 being for her the standard. Manitoba and British Columbia will between them gain that number. The other losses will be felt in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The North-West Territories will gain

two seats. As compared with all the other provinces, Quebec retains the same relative proportion of representation. It was wisely provided by the Fathers of Confederation, that Quebec should have an unalterable pivot number, round which the other changes in the relative representation in the other provinces should revolve, so that, in theory, she neither gains nor loses, but maintains the proportion originally assigned to her. The other provinces, taken separately, gain or lose, according to their relative increase or decrease of population.

It is not too much to say that the results of the census of 1901, as far as population is concerned, are generally disappointing. It was the general expectation that the Dominion would show six million, or at least five and a half, of inhabitants. But the bulletin No. 1, of the census returns, issued last Friday, shows the total population of Canada to be 5,338,883, as against 4,833,239 in 1891, an increase of 505,644, in the decade. This bulletin gives the census by families or households, occupied dwellings and population as taken on the last day of March, 1901, and compared with the census of 5th April, 1891. The number of families this year is 1,043,294; in 1891, the number was 921,643. The number of dwellings has increased from 877,586 to 1,006,625.

By numbers and percentages, the population of the principal city municipalities is given as follows:

	1891.	1901	Inc.	Per cent.
Montreal..	220,181	266,826	46,645	21.18
Toronto	181,220	207,971	26,751	14.7
Quebec	64,090	68,834	5,744	9.1
Ottawa	44,154	59,902	15,748	35.6
Hamilton	48,980	52,550	3,570	7.3
Winnipeg	25,639	42,336	16,697	64.9
Halifax	38,495	40,788	2,292	5.9
St. John	39,179	40,711	1,532	3.9
London	31,977	37,983	5,906	19.0
Victoria	16,841	20,821	3,980	26.6
Kingston	19,263	18,043	*1,220	6.3
Vancouver	13,709	26,196	12,387	91.1
Brantford	12,753	16,631	3,878	30.4
Hull	11,264	13,988	2,724	15.3
Charlottetown	11,373	12,080	607	6.1
Valleyfield	5,515	11,055	5,540	100.4
Sherbrooke	10,097	11,765	1,668	16.5
Sydney	2,427	9,908	7,481	308.2
Moncton	5,165	9,026	3,861	74.7

*Decrease.

This is a most disappointing showing for Montreal, which city and her suburbs, everyone who knows her believes to possess 300,000 inhabitants, if not more. There may be an explanation later. Toronto people are disappointed, too, for her municipal census makes out that she has about 220,000 people, instead of 207,000. Ottawa and London, Hamilton and Brantford, have no cause of complaint, all of them showing a good rate of increase. Winnipeg, and Vancouver have done well. The increase of Moncton is remarkable, especially when contrasted with the lesser growth of Halifax and St. John. Calgary shows a good increase, from 3,876 to 4,684, and Brandon a better, rising from 3,778 to 5,738.

The increase of the various provinces is indicated in the following table, both actual figures and percentages being given: