

Wards in Montreal

The table below shows the existing 31 wards in Montreal, and the way in which it is proposed to group them into 15 wards. It will be noticed how the population varies. In the olders ones, residences have given way to business blocks whose sole occupant, from a legal point of view, is the caretaker and his family. In some of the newly annexed ones, the area is largely fields, subdivided into lots, but with few buildings on them:

No. 1—	
West.....	1,659
St. Ann.....	5,183
	<u>6,842</u>
No. 2—	
St. Lawrence.....	5,481
St. Louis.....	6,477
	<u>11,958</u>
No. 3—	
St. Andrew.....	3,634
St. Cunegonde.....	2,553
	<u>6,187</u>
No. 4—	
St. George.....	3,452
St. Joseph.....	4,441
	<u>7,893</u>
No. 5—	
St. Gabriel.....	4,464
St. Paul.....	910
	<u>5,374</u>
No. 6—	
East.....	786
Centre.....	1,242
St. James.....	3,375
	<u>5,403</u>
No. 7—	
St. Henry.....	6,975
	<u>6,975</u>
No. 8—	
Notre Dame de Grace.....	2,944
Mount Royal.....	792
Cote des Neiges.....	208
Emard.....	1,773
	<u>5,177</u>
No. 9—	
Laurier.....	10,498
	<u>10,498</u>
No. 10—	
Ahuntsic.....	1,029
Bordeaux.....	982
Part of St. Denis, (approx).....	6,000
	<u>8,011</u>
No. 11—	
Part of St. Denis (approx).....	6,800
Delorimier.....	3,705
	<u>10,505</u>
No. 12—	
St. Jean Baptiste.....	5,406
Duvernay.....	3,512
	<u>8,918</u>
No. 13—	
Lafontaine.....	5,794
Part of Papineau (approx).....	3,000
	<u>8,794</u>

No. 14—

Remaining portion of Papineau (approx).	5,730
St. Mary.....	5,565
	<u>11,295</u>

No. 15—

Longue Pointe.....	1,861
Rosemount.....	432
Hochelaga.....	5,889
	<u>8,182</u>

Washington, D.C. Government

Washington is a city which is most emphatically not ruled by "the mob." Its executive jurisdiction is in the hands of three Commissioners appointed by the President, and legislative jurisdiction is exercised by Congress. No "wave of popular passion" can affect this government, and if such independence tends to make government better, then Washington ought to be the best governed city in the world—outside of Russia or Turkey. But what are the facts? A congressional sub-committee of which Henry George, Jr., is chairman, has been conducting an investigation, and developments show that conditions could not be worse even under a system of universal suffrage in connection with the Initiative, Referendum and Recall. The documentary account of hearings before the Congressional Committee, together with its report, may be had from Congressmen. While mainly dry reading, as such documents usually are, there is still much within it that is interesting as well as enlightening.

One example of discrimination mentioned in the report is especially noteworthy. John R. McLean, proprietor of the Cincinnati Enquirer and of the Washington Post, is owner of considerable property on the same square as the Shoreham Hotel. Mr. McLean wanted to add the hotel property to his holdings and made an offer for it which was not accepted. But on account of this offer the assessment of the Shoreham property was increased 50 per cent. But this increase was not put on the land but on the building, which is 25 years old. Why? Because had it been put on the land it would have necessitated a similar increase on Mr. McLean's property, and for some mysterious reason the assessor felt tender toward Mr. McLean. It furthermore appears that Mr. McLean has a home on 76 acres of ground assessed at \$3,500 an acre, while other property in the same neighborhood has been sold at prices ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000 an acre. Mr. McLean's residence and other improvements are assessed at \$25,000, when that sum, according to the testifying expert, Herbert Browne, "will not pay for the stone wall which runs in front of his property." At the same time 40,000 small homes in the District are assessed at their true value. Is there any occasion for wonder that John R. McLean likes this system and in his two papers fights incessantly against attempts to change it?

Another incident well illustrates the effect of a system that levies taxes on labor and its products. A resident of Washington had his porch painted. His assessment was promptly increased \$500 on account of this improvement. Such incidents are, of course, not confined to Washington. They have much to do with discouraging industry. The tendency in progressive cities is to get away from such methods. The people of the District should have authority to rule themselves and to raise their local revenue in the way they think best. But if Congress insists on keeping them in their present helpless condition, it should at least put an end to this inexcusable and disgraceful tax system. "The Public."