

STORY OF CANADA'S GROWTH.

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Our foreign trade, exclusive of coin and bullion, goods not the produce of Canada, and exports estimated short, has 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. Thirty years ago, at the end of a period of six years, it showed a gain of \$39,391,000, and at the end of our last period of six years the gain is \$182,748,000. Our chartered banks, which in 1870 had assets of \$103,200,000 and in 1876 of \$183,500,000, had in 1900 assets of \$459,700,000 and in 1906 of \$878,500,000, being a gain in the former period of \$80,300,000 and in the latter of \$418,800,000. In 1870 the total cash on deposit in the banks was \$48,763,000, and \$72,853,000 in 1876; and after thirty years the amount was \$305,140,000 in 1900 and \$605,968,000 in 1906. In the first period of six years the gain was \$24,090,000, and in the last it was \$300,828,000.

There was at the credit of depositors in chartered and savings banks in 1906 a sum of \$667,880,000, whereof the large amount of \$309,590,000 has been an accumulation of this century. 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 shows the very large extent to which the banks have been assisted above their own capital in maintaining the business of the country. Our steam railways in operation in the Dominion, which had a length of 2,617 miles in 1870 and of 5,218 miles in 1876, had 17,657 miles in 1900 and 21,353 miles in 1906. The increase of train mileage in the six years of the twentieth century is 20,000,000; of passengers carried, 10,867,000; of freight, 22,200,000 tons; of gross earnings, \$55,000,000 and of net earnings, \$15,367,000, as against an increase of 34,544,000 train mileage, of 11,577,000 passengers, of 29,433,000 freight tons, of \$50,874,000 gross earnings, and of \$19,271,000 net earnings in the last twenty-four years ending with 1900.

Electric railways for the six years of this century show an increase of 116,720,000 passengers carried and of \$2,137,000 net earnings, being for each in a period of five years an increase of 100 per cent. The paid-up capital of steam railways in 1876 was \$290,757,000, in 1900 it was \$908,000,000, and in 1906 it was \$1,396,000,000. Trade, transportation, and banking have been the most active and potent of all agencies in the development of our country. Without international trade we should exist as a hermit nation; without railways the opening up of our great interior between ocean and ocean could not be achieved; and without banks there would be little business beyond a simple exchange between neighbor and neighbor. The figures given show how Canada is advancing on the highways of the nations.

Statistics of Our Western Country.

Illustrations or another sort showing our growth are found in the records of the census of our North-West Provinces, taken a year ago. Manitoba became a Province of the Confederation in 1870, and Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1905. In 1881, when the first census of those three areas was taken, they had a population of 105,681; in 1891 they had 219,305; and in 1901 they had 419,512. In 1906, five years later, the population was 808,863, an increase of 93 per cent. There were 2,370 townships with inhabitants in 1901 and 4,365 in 1906, and the cities, towns and incorporated villages grew in the same period from 84 to 185.

The number of occupied farms increased from 67,773 in 1901 to 122,398 in 1906. Live stock shows increases in the five years of 342,590 horses, of 59,790 milch cows, of 802,183 other horned cattle, of 121,915 sheep and lambs, and of 238,673 swine. Comparing the areas of all field crops in 1905 and 1906, there were in the three Provinces 6,338,000 acres in the former and 8,408,000 in the latter year, being an increase of 2,070,000 acres, or nearly 33 per cent. in one year. Last year's area was more than three times the area of all crops in 1900, yet it was only 28 per cent. of the land occupied as farms, and only 7 per cent. of the surveyed land in the Provinces.

A census of manufactures taken last year for the year 1905 supplies illustrations of the growth of the Dominion in the twentieth century which may be to the Convention more interesting and appropriate than any one of the others. A comparison of works employing five hands and over in 1905 with those of 1900 cannot be accurately made for numbers, partly because in the interval many works have been merged under one management, such as butter and cheese factories and canning works; partly because in large establishments carrying on several kinds of industries one return has been made in 1906, where in 1901 separate returns were made for each kind; and partly also because owners of shops in receipt of stated salaries or allowances from the business who were counted in 1901 have not been so counted in 1906.

Consequently in hundreds of cases in the census of the latter year such shops are put into a class of four employees

and under. But it may be added that in the twenty-seven classes of industries showing a decrease in the number of works there is an increase of \$40,000,000 in the value of products. Taking all works—those employing five hands and over and those employing less than five—the number for 1905 was 15,796. The capital employed in those works, including land, buildings, plant and working capital, was \$846,585,000, the number of employees on salaries and wages was 392,530, whose total earnings were \$165,000,000, and the total value of products was \$718,352,000.

But to make a fair comparison of 1900 and 1905, the statistics of works employing five persons and over will be used here. The capital employed in these works in 1905 was \$834,000,000, an increase of \$387,000,000; the number of employees 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 five years of this century capital has increased in the ratio of 100 to 187 and value of products in the ratio of 100 to 147, which indicates that in some industries and works production has not reached a full measure of development. The average ratio of capital to production for all industries in 1900 was 100 to 108, and in 1905 it was 100 to 85. The cause of this change is revealed in the returns of some of the recently organized works.

Investment of Capital.

The capital invested in electric light and power plants, for example, increased during the five years by \$68,500,000, and its ratio to production was 100 to 9.44. So, also, with smelting works like those in Nova Scotia, Ontario, and British Columbia, whose capital has been increased by \$76,000,000, the ratio to production is 100 to 32.50. But industries which show in the aggregate an increase of \$49,000,000 in salaries and wages and of \$225,000,000 in production in the fifth year of the twentieth century are setting a good pace for the century. The large increases have been made in food products, timber and lumber and their re-manufactures, metals and metal products other than steel, iron and steel products, textiles, cars, carriages, wagons, etc., and paper and printing, ranging in these several groups from \$12,000,000 to \$47,000,000 of increase.

Comparing the principal manufacturing establishments by values of products, there were 479 works in 1905 with products of \$200,000 to under \$500,000 each, against 323 in 1900 of the same class; there were 139 in 1905 with products of \$500,000 to under \$1,000,000 each, against 68 in 1900 of this class; and there were 81 in 1905 with products of \$1,000,000 and over, against 39 in 1900 of this class. And as showing growth in industrial efficiency, which implies improved methods and machinery and harder work, it can be said that in every group of our industries the average of production has 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 employees on salaries and wages, it was \$1,476 in 1900 and \$1,803 in 1905.

As regards the cost for management and labor, the average salary of managers, officers, clerks, etc., was \$833 for males and \$317 for females in 1900, and \$925 for males and \$362 for females in 1905. For wage-earners employed in the works the average in 1900 was \$334 for males and \$176 for females, and in 1905 it was \$417 for males and \$219 for females. But for both sexes the average cost of salary per employee was \$771 in 1900 and \$849 in 1905, an increase of \$78; while the cost of wages was \$286 in 1900 and \$379 in 1905, an increase of \$93 per employee. Capital and products show large increases in the five years for every Province of the Dominion except Prince Edward Island, but the large figures are shown for Ontario and Quebec.

Great Increase in Production.

In Ontario the greatest increase of production is in flour and grist mill products, which is over \$14,000,000, and in Quebec it is in car works and repairs, which is over \$7,000,000. Seven of thirteen principal industries in Ontario and three of nine in Quebec have 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 stands 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 \$27,000,000. Hamilton is third, with a production of \$24,625,000 and an increase of \$7,500,000. But Winnipeg, with a production of \$18,983,000, shows an increase of \$10,367,000, and Peterborough with \$11,566,000 shows an increase of \$7,777,000, and as regards increase each of them exceeds Hamilton at the end of the five years.

Vancouver and Sault Ste. Marie also exceed London in the same comparison. In the fourteen cities and towns the increase in the value of manufactures in the five years is \$112,419,000, or 58 per cent. Montreal's increase is 40 per cent. and Toronto's is 47 per cent. Adding to these two cities the value of products for works employing less than five hands in 1905, Montreal's total is \$100,426,000 and Toronto's is \$86,838,000.