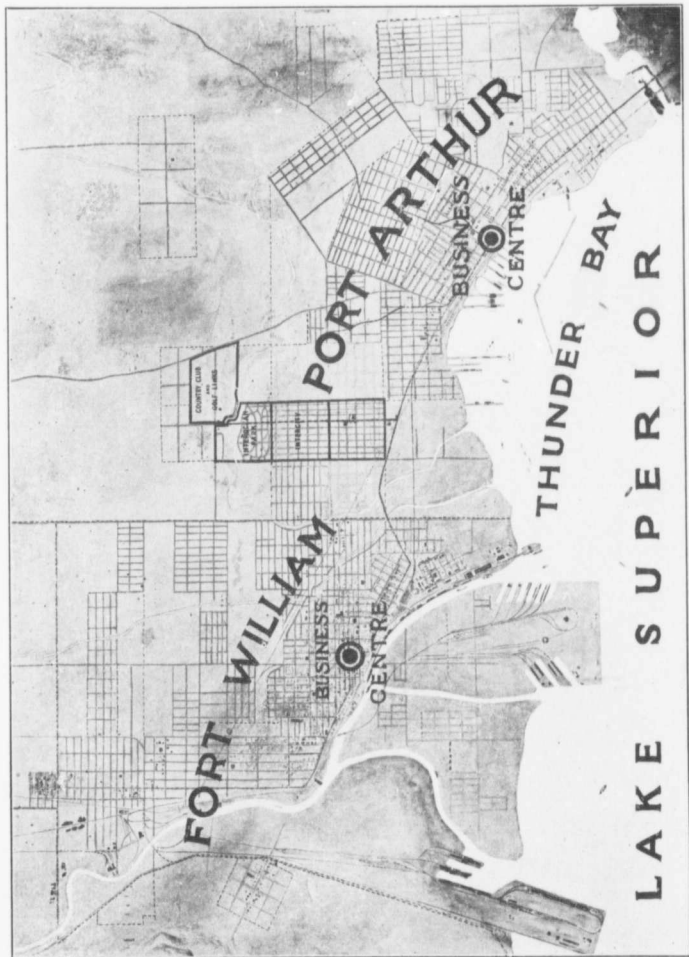


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R E P O R T
OF A
PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL
S O C I A L S U R V E Y
OF
P O R T A R T H U R

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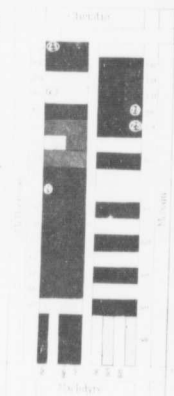
A SURVEY OF A BLOCK // FORT WILLIAM

141 BETHNAGANS ■■
 26 SLOVAKS ■■
 15 POLISH ■■
 19 RUSSIANS ■■
 11 AUSTRIANS ■■
 6 HUNGARIANS ■■
 0 ITALIANS ■■
 236 FOREIGN ■■

(200 ROOMS
 131 BEDS)

100 ROOMS
 131 BEDS

POOL ROOM (20)
 STORE (20)



REPORT

OF A

PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL SOCIAL
SURVEY

OF

PORT ARTHUR

MARCH, 1913

DIRECTED BY

THE DEPARTMENT OF TEMPERANCE
AND MORAL REFORM OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH

AND

THE BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICE
AND EVANGELISM OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

It should be distinctly understood that this work is merely a preliminary look over the field with a view to learning the lines of investigation which would likely prove most profitable in an intensive social survey to be undertaken later. The field work, which occupied the last two weeks of March, 1913, was done by Mr. Bryce M. Stewart, who also compiled this report.

Port Arthur

THE FIELD.

The City is roughly five miles by four miles, having an area of 10,275 acres.

It was settled about 1868, the early settlers being trappers, prospectors, and others who came with the opening of the Dawson Route. Many engaged in fishing and lumbering.

Seven or eight roads connect the City with the surrounding rural community, and electric car railways are soon to be established.

The City is growing so rapidly, that change everywhere is apparent.

The increase in population from 1901 to 1911 was 249 per cent.

Perhaps the growth of the Finn Colony and the "Little Italy" District has brought the greatest change, although this is probably equalled by the new immigrant section—mainly immigrant and Italian—on the western limit of the City.

Then too, the high ground on the North is rapidly becoming a fine residential section, and the erection of new schools, churches and public buildings, has given the City quite a different appearance from that of 5 years ago.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

The City Works System is owned by Municipality, and cost \$448,954. Indeed all the Public Service System are municipally owned. The Electric Light Plant cost \$78,440. The Telephone System cost \$143,353. The Power plant cost \$303,663, and the Street Railway cost \$447,466.

In 1911, 223 buildings were erected at a cost of \$1,066,056, and the amount expended on sanitation was \$12,855.

POPULATION.

The total number of inhabitants is 15,654.

The nationalities and religions as given by the Assessment Commissioner are as follows:—

NATIONALITIES.		RELIGIONS.	
Austrians	398	Anglicans	2,515
Bulgarians	15	Baptists	762
Chinese	73	Christian Science	120
Danes	5	Christian Brethren	14
English-speaking	10,651	Church of Christ	13
Fins	1,798	Greek Catholics	132
Galicians	315	Jewish	107
Germans	30	Lutherans	2,696
Greeks	132	Methodists	2,496
Hungarians	10	Presbyterians	2,510
Italians	720	Protestants	332
Jews	107	Roman Catholics	3,926
Poles	137	Salvationists	28
Norwegians	280	Universalists	3
Russians	79		
Swedes	428		

The City cannot tell which nationality is increasing most rapidly, as records on this matter have been kept only for the year 1912.

Judging from all other sources of information, however, the non-English-speaking section of the community seems to be increasing most rapidly, the present number of the latter being 4,527.

The illiteracy in the City is chiefly confined to the Southern European Immigrant section, as the Finns, Norwegians and Swedes show a strong desire to learn English and take advantage of every opportunity offered.

English remains the language mostly used in business and social life, but the Finn Colony is of such importance that several of the merchants have secured Finn helpers in their stores, thus introducing both languages.

The most congested section of the City is sub-division 2-1 of ward 2. In 800 acres in the central portion of the City, it is estimated by the City Officials that there are 12,000 of the City's 16,000 people. In the residential area, it is estimated there are about 30 people to an acre; and in the more congested districts, 40; the total average being about 10.

The City's extent is so wide-spread and there are so many vacant lots that this small average appears. There are, however, many houses in this section where there are over-crowding conditions. This is admitted by the police, the physicians, and all who are acquainted with the conditions. The immigrants are often out of work in the winter; rents are high and they want to save money. They therefore congregate in large numbers in a few houses.

In the main, the immigrants live in separate sections of the City; the Finns have a Colony roughly bounded by Bay Street, Albert, John and Court in the central portion of the City. There is also an Italian Colony between Pearl and Bay Street along Secord Street; a Colony of Ruthenians and a few Italians are located on the Fort William road in the vicinity of Ontario Street and First Avenue.

They have separate churches for the different nationalities:—A Finnish Church, a Swedish Lutheran, an Italian Roman Catholic, and a Norwegian National Church, which is just being established.

The immigrants to a certain extent form a City within the City. They are not reached by the English Canadian papers to any appreciable extent, and very few of them speak English. There is some little instruction in English given by the Y.M.C.A., and by the City in the Finnish Labor Temple. Several of the immigrants have their own churches, and these to a considerable degree prevent their Canadianization. There is no work from the library of any importance, which would instruct them in Canadian citizenship. There are different national societies among them, and the Finns have their own socialist society, and these serve to perpetuate old world conditions in a New Ontario city. The Industrial associations do not serve to Canadianize to any marked degree because the immigrants work in groups and even in industry maintain a life of their own.

There are few men who come to the City daily for business purposes. There is no extensive agricultural community adjacent to the City and it is so widely extended that the territory which would otherwise be suburban is included.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION.

This City enjoys special legislation in the 1907 Statutes of Ontario.

It has neither a commission form of government nor a Board of Control, but has a City Council of 8 Aldermen and a Mayor, elected annually.

There are Boards of Education, Health, Park's Management, and a Police Commission.

The Council has a standing committee on license, police and relief.

Some of the members of the Board of Education are elected and some appointed.
 The members of the Park's Board are nominated by the Council.
 The Mayor is Chairman of the Council, and a member of all standing committees.
 The departments of the Council do not publish separate annual reports.
 The total assessment of the City for 1912 is \$26,285,452.
 The total assessment value of land is \$13,728,202.
 The tax rate in 1912 was 23 mills.

According to statute, the same rate of tax used to be levied on land, improvement, business and income, but this has been modified by representations from the Court of Revision, and the feeling in the West is in favor of placing the greater share of the tax on land. As a result land in Port Arthur is assessed about 70 per cent. of its value, and buildings 40 per cent.

The total amount of revenue for the 11 months ending November, 30th, 1912, was \$2,117,995.38, and the total expenditures for the same period, \$2,378,299.66.

The City is in the habit of borrowing to pay current expenses, until the first instalment of the taxes is collected in July. The City is also borrowing for public works and other improvements, but has not yet reached the borrowing limit.

In making up the budget the estimates for the coming year are brought in by each Committee, reviewed by the Finance Committee; approved by the Council and the rate struck.

There is little or no public discussions of its items.

The system of accounting is as follows:—There is a City Treasurer, who has an assistant; also a City Auditor, who is a chartered accountant.

The heads of each department check the accounts before they go to the Committee.

SOCIAL INFLUENCES.

The City has 2,370 telephones, and of these 596 are in public houses and 1,774 in private homes. In homes outside the City's limits, within an area of 25 miles, there are perhaps 55 phones.

In winter the chief amusements are skating and snow-shoeing, while in summer, football, baseball, boating, tennis, and golfing are followed by different classes of the community.

To give expression to the popular will, the people meet in the Orpheum Theatre, the Labor Temple and the Finnish Labor Hall; the schoolhouses and churches being seldom used for this purpose.

As to political, social and economic movements, the rapid industrial development should be mentioned.

The water front is becoming an array of docks, elevators and industrial plants, while the railway trackage is being greatly increased.

The steady encroachment of the immigrant people is not so marked here as in Fort William, as was to be expected, but there is already a decidedly Finnish cast to the life of the city.

The great interest of the community seems to be its industrial development and the opening up of the district round about. The social side falls to the background. Immigrants are encouraged to come, but little thought is taken for their housing and living conditions.

Like Fort William, the population readily falls into 3 classes: The wealthy class of early settlers, who have grown up with the City, and the business and professional men; the Artisans or skilled labor class; the non-English-speaking immigrant population, among whom the Finns constitute the aristocracy, and are the link connecting the immigrant with the Artisan class.

As to the church, it may be said that it is among the moderately well-to-do that the churches have their chief influence. The foundation for a fine new Presbyterian Church has been recently laid. In the main the message thus far has been confined to the individual religious life, but there is a wide scope for influencing the social, political and economic development of this new City. The church must be a conscience to the community upon its social problems, and must lead it into a neighborliness and brotherly kindness towards the immigrant of whatever nationality, towards the number of homeless men working in its industrial plants and in the lumber and construction camps in the district.

On March 9th, 1913, a census was taken of the church attendance covering all the churches: Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Christian Science and others. There were present 1,395 men, 1,427 women and 1,350 children.

The total number of lodges and fraternal organizations is 20; the membership of each averages 35, the men being vastly in majority, say 90 per cent.

POLITICAL LIFE.

The voting list has 309 names, but some are duplicated, and some have gone away from the City. From 2,500 to 3,000 is the maximum, which could possibly be polled. As organizations, the brotherhoods of the churches have little influence in the City's Political Life. They have undertaken no concerted action. Such influence as they have is only as individuals. Christian citizenship is a prominent feature of the discussions at their meetings, but there has been no systematic effort to introduce it into the City's life. Thus far, there have been no charges of graft or malfeasance in the City's history. Many of the citizens feel that the great weakness in the Municipal life, lies in the fact that there can be no locating of responsibility, because there is no continuity of service on the part of the committees, in charge of the municipal work. Not a few prominent citizens have stated themselves, as in favor of a commission form of government.

RECREATIONAL LIFE.

DANCE-HALLS.

There are 4 places in the City used for public dancing, but none of these are directly in connection with bar-rooms, and perhaps half of them are supervised by responsible persons.

The Nationalities of the owners are as follows:—1 Canadian, 1 Finn, 1 Swede, 1 Italian.

The average number present is perhaps 50, although it runs from 20 to 100, the majority of the attendants being between 20 and 25 years, although some more middle-aged persons attend.

Supper is served usually but liquors are not provided. In the case of the Finns and Italians, liquor often constitutes an important part of the supper, and the men sometimes frequent the bar-rooms between dances.

The admission fee varies from 50c. to \$2.00 for the men. The women are admitted free.

There is no law regulating the hour of closing, but they usually close about midnight.

On the whole the standard of conduct observed in the dance-halls has been fairly good, and those of the authorities most intimately in touch with the situation say that the dance-halls of the City at present afford recreation for the younger members of the community, and are without bad influences.

SKATING RINKS.

The City has two skating rinks, and a "Fair Ground" Building, which is often used for entertainment purposes.

POOL-ROOMS.

Port Arthur has 13 pool-rooms. On one of the evenings of the Survey, they were visited at 9 o'clock and 167 men were found.

PORT ARTHUR AS AN INDUSTRIAL CENTRE.

Just now attention is being paid very largely to Port Arthur from an industrial viewpoint, and large plants have already located at this city. The best industry at the head of the lakes—the Western Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company—is situated at Port Arthur, and with nearly one thousand men employed at its works, is a hive of industry. Here new boats are being built all the time; here freighters that in the summer ply the Great Lakes are in the winter repaired from stem to stern. At the present time there is being built the flagship for the Northern Navigation Company, the largest passenger boat on the Canadian lakes, which will be put into service during 1913. There is also being built for the President, Mr. James Whalen, a large ice breaker which will be employed in keeping the bay open during the winter months to allow of grain-carrying vessels moving easily in the harbor during the freeze-up period. During the past year two large freighters, the Hamiltonian and Calgarian, have been built at this plant and have been as successfully launched. All the boiler shops, foundries, paint shops, machine shops, and other buildings necessary to such a modern and up-to-date plant, as the Western Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company has, are to be found at Port Arthur, owned and operated by this Company.

Then there is the Pigeon River Lumber Company, an active lumber business which has a capacity of 50 million feet of lumber each year, and which has built up one of the largest industries of its kind in Canada, employing hundreds of men in its yards and planing mills, and men by the thousand in its tie camps and lumber operations in the bush during the winter months.

One of the newest industries is the Port Arthur Wagon Works, in which is invested \$350,000, and which turns out 50 farm wagons a day, and gives employment to 200 men. The first train-load of wagons was shipped from this plant August, 1912. The Hon. D. C. Cameron, of Winnipeg is the President.

The Atikokan Blast Furnaces and Coke Ovens are prominent in Port Arthur's industrial activities as being yet another industry at Port Arthur which promises great things in the future. Port Arthur is known as "The City of Iron." The furnace was erected in 1906 with a capacity of 200 tons per day. The iron ore is brought from the Atikokan Mines, 126 miles west of the City. There is estimated to be three million tons of Iron Ore within a radius of 150 miles from Port Arthur.

At this city is situated the largest elevator in the world, built some years ago by the Canadian Northern Railway, and with a capacity of seven million bushels. To this enormous storage is being added this year—and it is now nearing completion—an additional storage unit of 2,500,000 bushels, so that at this plant alone there can be handled 9½ million bushels of the 1913 crop at one and the same time. It is also now under contemplation whether another unit or units will not shortly be added, consisting of four million bushels additional capacity, making a total capacity of 11½ million bushels. In addition to this mammoth plant, there is also under construction the new government elevator of 3,250,000 bushels, and situated at Port Arthur is the National Elevator. The Thunder Bay Elevator and Horn's Elevator.

As the terminal of the Canadian Northern Railway Port Arthur can claim to be a railway centre, for two thousand men, with a yearly pay-roll of \$3,000,000, are required to handle transportation at the head of the Lakes, and the terminal facilities are being practically doubled.

ORGANIZED LABOR.

Organized labor has a Trades and Labor Council chartered from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. This Council meets regularly twice a month and watches over the welfare of its workers. It is part owner of the Labor Paper, in conjunction with the independent labor party and other organizations. The total number of trades unionists in the city varies from 1,200 to 2,000 according to the time of year. The bricklayers, masons, graintrimmers, types and structural iron workers, locomotive engineers, railway firemen, trainmen, and conductors are the best organized. The general sentiment of the city with reference to Organized Labor, is not in the main sympathetic, although the labor party has had a varied history, and has made enemies as well as friends in the district. The central labor body consists of from ten to twenty local organizations. The average for the year being fifteen. The meetings of this body are open to all trades unionists and members of the Ministerial Association. Only delegates can vote, three delegates coming from each union or association. Its meetings are always open to the press. The organizations representing the liquor interests are not influential in the central labor body, and none of the local unions hold their meetings in halls in connection with bar-rooms. Some of the locals meet on Sunday, perhaps one in twenty, but these are principally railway men. The churches and school-houses are not used as meeting-places by labor unions. The local labor authorities state that the difference between the union and non-union scale of wages in the same industries is about 7 per cent. They state that the organized Carpenters receive 45 and 50 cents an hour, while the unorganized men receive 40 and 45. They admit that in press of work and shortage of men all fare alike. They contend that the main advantages accruing to organized labor are not in the wages but in the better treatment received. In proof of this it is stated that the labor conditions pertaining to lumber, tie and railway camps in the district are deplorable. Efforts are being made to organize these workers. Thus far there has been no committee on conciliation and arbitration appointed by any organization, though it is stated that *The Wage Earner*, the local labor paper, owned and controlled by the Trades and Labor Councils of the twin cities will soon advocate the organization of a Board of Conciliation and Arbitration. There is no open warfare between the Labor Organizations and Employers' Associations at present, although it seems generally agreed that considerable friction exists. The most important strikes in recent years have been that of the freight handlers in 1909, when the Military were called out, four or five men sent to prison and two special constables shot. In this case wages were raised, about 750 men being affected. In 1912, there was a strike of the coal handlers. The situation in this strike was also serious for a time, two policemen were severely handled, and two strikers shot, although both recovered. Two of the strikers were sentenced to two years in prison. The result was that the company gave seventeen concessions, when before the strike only three had been asked. In this case between 250 and 300 men were affected. The labor men felt keenly the heavy sentence meted out to two of their number, and assert that it was a case of vindictive justice. They state that the strike brought the wrongs of the men forcibly before the public, and that all benefited greatly except the two who got prison sentences.

The Trades and Labor Councils of both cities treat the Ministerial Association as a union and invite their affiliation with the right to speak and vote at all Council meetings. The Ministers, however, have never availed themselves of this privilege in Port Arthur except by paying the fee and appointing delegates who seldom attend the meetings. The labor men express disappointment at this. They say they do not want the fee of \$3 a year, but that they would like the presence of the Ministers, as many of the social and industrial problems discussed at the Labor Councils meetings, such as Labor exploitation in camps, graft in employment, want of inspection in workshops, military service in strikes, the increase of armaments, etc., should interest them and they would be able then to appreciate the working men's point of view.

GROWTH OF SOCIALISM IN LAST TEN YEARS IN PORT ARTHUR.

Ten years ago there existed a small band of men who were enthusiastically socialistic. A paper was started to advocate their views but lived only a few weeks.

As the Finnish population concentrated in the south end of the City the Socialist element being strong amongst them, a Socialist local of the Socialist party of Canada was formed.

The Finn Socialists also started a working class newspaper which they published twice a week and which has a large circulation outside of the City and is influential in spreading socialistic sentiment among the Finns, Swedes and Norwegians of Canada and some parts of the United States.

In 1906 the Finnish Socialists formed a company for the erection of a Labor Temple which resulted in 1907 in the erection of their splendid premises on Bay Street.

In 1907 the English Socialist local was formed and obtained a charter from the Socialist Party of Canada.

In 1908 the Socialists nominated a candidate for the Provincial election which was contested by J. J. Carrick and George Mooring. A few hundred Socialist votes were recorded at this election.

In October of the same year a Federal election was held and the Socialists, both English and Europeans united in nominating a candidate, which nomination was endorsed by the Trades and Labor Councils of both Fort William and Port Arthur.

The election after a very short campaign of only two weeks, with an unknown candidate outside of Port Arthur, resulted in a Socialist vote of 702.

The Socialist locals were asked by the Dominion Executive of the Socialist Party of Canada to apologize for working with the Trade Unionists. This led to the extinction of the English-speaking Socialist local. The Finns held on to their charter, but advocated through their paper, and by special pamphlet the working together of all working class organizations towards Socialism.

In October, 1911, the Labor men, who were without a political organization since the Socialist local had died, formed the Independent Labor Party of New Ontario and in December 1911, in conjunction with the Trades and Labor Councils of Fort William and Port Arthur, started a weekly labor paper, *The Wage Earner*, and placed candidates in the field both in Fort William and Port Arthur for the Provincial election. Although in Port Arthur the same candidate was running who stood for the Federal election, 1908, owing to class considerations, the Finnish and English-speaking Socialists refused to vote. The same attitude was taken by the Socialists in the Fort William division, but in spite of this split nearly six hundred votes were recorded in Port Arthur and nearly seven hundred in Fort William for the Independent Labor Party candidates.

Just after this election, December 30, 1911, a Socialist convention was held in Port Arthur and the Finns joined the Social-Democratic Party.

During 1912 the friction between the labor men and the Socialists was increased by outside men coming in, who knew nothing of local conditions. Prejudice grew among the Labor men in Port Arthur, because of the Finn Socialist strength, but the Labor party left the Socialists a free field in the Municipal campaign for Aldermanic seats, 1912.

On an old register the votes recorded by the Socialists were over 200, the English-speaking Socialist receiving the highest vote. On a municipal election for Aldermen, owing to the property qualification, many working men are debarred from voting, who would vote in a Federal or Provincial election, therefore the vote cast was considered highly satisfactory and proves that if the Socialists and Labor men unite their ranks their future strength at the polls will be considerable.

Since the Municipal campaign the Finnish Socialists have sent a memorandum for the con-

sideration of the labor men in Port Arthur, and the result will be, no doubt, for that unity that all desire.

In general there is a sympathetic view of Socialism in Port Arthur, what might be called Socialist sentiment. The Socialist cause, however, in this City, has been held back because a great number of Socialists are free-thinkers. This is the history of Socialism everywhere. Christians seem prejudiced against a political party for this reason, although by a strange obliquity of vision they do not see that the proportion of free thinkers in the other political parties may be as great, while it is beyond a question that in purity of purpose and method, and scientific reasoning the Socialist position is far beyond any other political organization, and should appeal especially to the Christian as it would give him an environment wherein it would be more possible for men, women and little children to "serve the Lord with gladness."

The signs of the times are optimistic to the Socialists in Port Arthur and they believe the day not far distant when the whole Labor movement will be with them. The Independent Labor Party will do all they can towards this solidarity of the working classes.

This year the Labor press of Canada has been Federated and a central Dominion magazine weekly will be published in conjunction with the local Labor weekly in the summer. It should also be pointed out that the Finnish Socialist paper is now issued daily and its influence among the Finns and other kindred nationalities is greater than ever and is the cause, very largely, of so many Finns locating in Port Arthur, and as they are a very progressive people they make good citizens.

THE IMMIGRANT PROBLEM.

A Block Census of the Block Bounded by Fort William Road, First Avenue, Ontario Street and Second Avenue.

In the Western portion of the City is an Immigrant District, peopled with Italians and Ruthenians mainly. The Colony is settled in a low swampy ground, unprovided with sewer service and water. There is a water tap on the corner of Fort William Road and 2nd Street, from which most of the people get their water supply, but there are times when this has been frozen for weeks, and the people have had to go all the way to the round-house, or use such surface water as could be obtained. Many of them dug holes and used the water which collected there. There is one well near, and another closer to the City, but these two are frequently frozen in the extreme weather. Four houses on First Avenue were burned on December, 1912, and no water was available. The citizens are anxious for relief in this matter and have made frequent requests. They feel that they are paying high taxes but are willing to pay more if water may be had.

The ground about their houses is so low that, with the Spring floods, the yards are covered with water. This condition, the lack of drinking water and of sewers, makes the district a menace to the health of the whole community.

There are 27 houses in the block and 26 families, one of the houses being vacant. There are 8 vacant lots in the block. The 26 houses contain 91 rooms, housing 165 people, of whom 86 were men, 26 women, 24 boys and 27 girls. The nationalities were as follows:—83 Italians, 79 Ruthenians and 3 Poles. Of the 88 men in the block 63 were boarders.

Some idea as to the over-crowding can be gained from the fact that the 91 rooms, which includes kitchen and dining-rooms, as well as bed-rooms, contain 108 beds. In some houses the over-crowding was more marked than others: for instance: one house of 6 rooms had 11 beds; another of 6 rooms had 13; another of 2 had 9; that is, 3 houses of 14 rooms had 33 beds.

A knowledge of the living conditions can be gained from the fact that only 4 of the 26 houses had water taps, and 23 heads of houses stated that they had no garbage removal. Moreover 2

horses, 1 cow, and considerably over 100 hens were found in the block. In nearly every case the houses were poorly ventilated, and the door-yards were strewn with rubbish.

21 men own their houses; 4 rented; and one could not be ascertained. The 4 rented houses brought \$8, \$10, \$15, and \$18.

In fifteen of the houses, the occupants were Roman Catholics, and in 11 they were adherents of the Greek Catholic Church. There were 3 stores in the block.

A reflection on the seasonal character of work in the District is found in the fact that 20 of the men, whom the investigators met in the block were out of work. Only 3 of the houses had a newspaper in English, and only 7 had papers in the language of the occupants.

N.B.—The information on each of these houses may be had by application to the Survey Committee.

LIQUOR PROBLEM.

The City has fifteen bars, two shop licenses and one club license. The sale of liquor in Port Arthur comes under the clause of the Ontario Liquor License Act by which the hotel license in a town or city having a population of more than 10,000 and not more than 30,000 shall be \$500.00, and for the shop license of \$500.00, and club license is \$50.00.

By the amendment of March 24th, 1911, the license duties payable for Tavern licenses other than beer and wine licenses were increased by an additional sum equal to 5 per cent. of the amount by which the gross daily bar receipts exceeds the sum of \$60.00, in the case of cities having a population over 100,000, and \$50.00 in other cases. For every transfer of a tavern or shop license there is a fee of one-third of the fee payable for the license transfer and for each wholesale license in cities with a population of less than 150,000 the fee is \$250.00. The Act demands that hotel keepers must be reputable citizens. If, after the granting of the licenses, there have been three several convictions within a period of two years for offences against the Act the Board of License Commissioners is required within one month of the date of the last conviction to cancel and revoke the Licenses. On complaint of habitual violation of the Act by any License holder, the Minister may investigate, and if the complaint seems verified, he may cancel the License or citizens may petition the License Commissioners and show cause why the license should be revoked. The Act forbids that bars be located within a distance of 300 feet from a school or church and while it does not forbid the sale of liquor to women, it forbids the admission of minors to the bar. The bar-rooms are permitted to be open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on week days, except Saturdays, when they close at 7 p.m., and are opened at 8 a.m. on Monday.

The law has been well observed in Port Arthur except, perhaps, in the case of the sale of liquor to minors. The census of the bars show the presence of considerable numbers of very young men and while it would be impossible to prove they were minors, yet the suspicions of the investigators were aroused.

There has been an active temperance propaganda in Port Arthur, and in January, 1911, a local option vote was taken. The total number of persons voting numbered 1,458. Of these 687 voted for local option and 771 against it, giving a majority to the license forces of 84. The temperance campaign was not thoroughly organized, the forces now admit, but active effort should tell a different story when the next contest takes place in 1914. The law forbids bar-maids. There are scarcely any of the bar-rooms that serve free lunches, but some of them serve as social centres to some degree, eight having pool rooms attached and one having a bowling alley. All of the bars are connected with hotels. Their influence in the political life of the City is not very strong, and the present time is strategic for the temperance forces. The foreign population is easily manipulated in the voting by liquor dealers and this population is steadily growing. A victory might be

won now by a strong effort which, at a later date, when the immigrants have become much more numerous would be quite impossible.

None of the liquor sellers in the City have been elected or appointed to public office. Their nationalities are as follows: 2 Finns, 2 Swedes, 1 Frenchman, 1 German, and 9 Canadians. Six are Roman Catholics, five Anglicans, three Lutherans, and one Hebrew. To a considerable degree the bar-rooms are patronized by people of the same nationality as the proprietor. The Liquor sellers have contributed to the Salvation Army, the Sailors' Institute and the Churches. It is not known that any of them have served as bankers in the way of cashing cheques, or banking money for the immigration population.

The Labor organizations have their own meeting place and so are in no way dependent upon the liquor men for the use of the hotels as meeting places. The Y.M.C.A. and Sailors' Institute, four picture shows, the Finnish Hall and the churches constitute the opposition to the bar-rooms. Their importance can largely be determined from the census.

On the nineteenth of March, 1913, between 9 and 10 p.m., all the bar-rooms of the City were visited. The number of customers present, also the number of intoxicated men was taken, and the results were as follows:—

The Western Hotel, seven men.

The Prince Arthur, none.

The Union, nine, two of whom were intoxicated.

The Ontario, nineteen, four of whom seemed very young.

Algoma, nine, and one very young.

Marriaga, twenty-four, one intoxicated, and three very young.

Ottawa, fourteen, one intoxicated, and one very young.

Windsor, seventeen, three of whom might have been minors.

Kimberley, thirty, one intoxicated, and one possibly a minor.

White House, twenty; two intoxicated, and one possibly a minor.

Vendome, seven; one intoxicated.

C. N. R. Hotel, fifty; fourteen intoxicated, and two possibly minors.

This makes a total of 224; 29 being intoxicated and 17 possibly minors.

CRIMES AND ARRESTS.

During 1912, 2,668 persons were summoned and arrested. There were 2,602 men, 40 women and 8 boys. There is but one police station in the City, and the County Jail is also located at Port Arthur. This institution has an average of about 40 inmates, and at the time of the Survey there were six women. There has been considerable overcrowding in the Jail, but since the Farm Colony has been established, this has been greatly relieved. Every week a detachment of the prisoners is sent to the farm. The quarters for the female prisoners are quite inadequate, and it is also to be regretted that the building is lacking in fire-proof arrangements. The Police force consists of a chief, two sergeants and ten constables. An effort was recently made to secure the appointment of a woman for the Police force, but the effort was unsuccessful.

The Police Court has jurisdiction over cases of intoxication, disorderly conduct and non-support, and vagrancy, and the statistics show that cases of intoxication figure most prominently in the Police records, there being 1,170 cases scheduled as "drunk and incapable," 522 cases as "drunk and disorderly," making a total of 1,692 out of the 2,668 cases all together. As yet Adult probation is not instituted. The Magistrate deals with cases of intoxication in the usual way of imposing a fine on the prisoners. A summons is used everywhere possible, so the police say, but it remains, the arrests greatly predominate. The prisoners are not detained at the Police Station for any length of time since court is held every week day morning at 10 a.m. While the Jails permit proper separation of the sexes there is no provision for the separation of new from hardened

offenders. There are no correctional institutions in the City. There is no regular appointed prison doctor always in attendance, although a doctor is called in when required. No work is provided at the Police Station for the prisoners since they are detained there but one day.

It is to be regretted that none of the City's organizations endeavor to get in touch with the prisoners before they are discharged, and there is no effort to help them upon discharge in the way of procuring employment.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Assaults	74
Assaulting Constables	2
Allowing Gambling in Pool Room	1
Assault and Robbery	5
Attempt to Murder	2
Breach of Theatre Act	1
Breach of Liquor License Act	4
Breach of Health By-law	6
Breach of Early Closing By-law	7
Breach of Dog By-law	129
Breach of Pool Room By-law	2
Breach of Lord's Day Act	1
Breach of Marine Act	3
Breach of Pound By-law	1
Gross Immorality	1
Burglary	13
Carrying Concealed Weapons	13
Cruelty to Animals	1
Causing Breach of the Peace	2
Disorderly Character	1
Disorderly Conduct	58
Damage to Property	3
Discharging Firearms in City	4
Drunk while in charge of auto	1
Drunk and Disorderly	522
Drunk and Incapable	1,170
Escaping from County Jail	1
Reckless Driving	7
Forgery	1
Frequenting Disorderly House	17
Frequenting Rooms kept for Immoral Purposes	2
Frequenting Opium Joint	4
Frequenting Gambling Joint	12
Fast Auto Driving	31
Giving Liquor to Indians	5
Gambling in Pool Room	5
Giving False Fire Alarm	1
Insanity	22
Immoral and Disorderly House	4
Insulting Language	13

Indecent Assault	1
Keeping Liquor for Sale	1
Keeping Gambling Room	1
Keeping Disorderly House	5
Keeping Rooms for Immoral Purposes	2
Larceny	119
Obtaining Money on False Pretence	3
Obstructing Sidewalk	2
Perjury	3
Menacing with Revolver	1
Riding Bicycle on Sidewalk	25
Receiving Stolen Goods	4
Refusing to Pay for Meals	2
Running Auto without Lights	2
Selling Cigarettes to Minor	1
Stabbing and Wounding	1
Stealing Ride on Train	58
Selling Goods without License	1
Selling Liquor Without License	16
Shooting and Wounding	1
Trespasses	195
Threatening to Stab	4
Vagrancy	76
Wage Claims	11
Damage to Property	2
Total Number of Cases	2,668
Cases in for night shelter	415
Total amount of fines paid	\$9,450 00
Total amount of Licenses collected	\$5,366 00
Committed to Jail during year	395

THE SOCIAL EVIL.

Until recent years, prostitution was openly tolerated in the Twin Cities, or at least a policy was followed, which, in essence amounted to toleration. Of late, pressure has been brought to bear and the authorities have become more strict in their attitude, and the application of the criminal code has been more as was intended. At present, there is a most hopeful outlook due to revelations which came out last December, when in the restricted district between the two cities, one of the inmates was found to have committed suicide by taking poison. At the coroner's inquest, the whole matter was very thoroughly investigated, and the system under which the district was operated came to light.

Previously there had been the usual type of bawdy houses of several inmates, but by the new policy which was adopted when the law was more strictly enforced, the woman promoter of the whole business, with the funds she had amassed, leased or sold a house to one woman, taking a mortgage on the property. By this system, the woman in the house became a property owner. She was the only person there, and evidence of guilt was procured with great difficulty, and it was more difficult to deal with a property owner.

Such a situation existed then for some time. The district lies just between the two cities in the vicinity of the new mattress factory, being some ten houses. The woman who came to the sad end above referred to, lived in the second house across the second river on Vickers Street. According to the evidence, the girl had been there only about six weeks. It has been alleged one of the principal promoters of the business is a woman named Matthews on Northern Avenue, beside the bridge between the two cities. She holds considerable property, and some of the property in the district above mentioned belongs to her.

In Port Arthur, closer to the centre of the city there have been a few houses of this character, but during the last few months the police have entered upon a policy for eradicating this evil and at the time of the survey they asserted that only one such house existed, and that, at the end of Sixth Avenue. They further stated that the woman there would likely be allowed to remain only a short time. In Fort William the police have also taken steps to clean up the city in this respect and since the survey, word has come to hand that all the inmates of the restricted district have been ordered to leave.

In Port Arthur, one woman is now serving a six months' sentence in the jail of Port Arthur. She had been notified that she must leave the city but hoped to avoid the authorities by a marriage with one of her acquaintances. After the marriage took place, she returned to the city openly and was arrested and brought into Court and sentenced. This case has constituted a warning to like offenders.

While these measures will account for much in the uplift of the two cities, it is to be hoped that more earnest efforts will be made to do away with this evil entirely. It is found in Fort William, that the social evil exists in houses of a different character. These are chiefly in the West Fort. There, the matter is a family affair and is known to parents or guardians. Such presents a more difficult problem to deal with but it is hoped that the authorities will keep these places under surveillance until the necessary evidence is gained, and then see that the criminal code is applied.

EDUCATION.

Port Arthur has one Collegiate Institute, six public schools in use at present and one to be opened in September, and one kindergarten. The total enrolment in Public Schools in 1912 was 1,560. This year it is 1,748. The average number of pupils per teacher in the Public School is forty-one, and there are no pupils on half time at present. It is estimated that only 35 per cent. of those attending the Public School pass the High School entrance examination. The first form of the Public School, because of the recent and rapid growth of the town, is 780, or 45 per cent. of the total enrolment. In 1912, thirty-eight candidates from the Public School passed the High School Entrance Examination and five were successful from the Roman Catholic Separate School. Manual Training is taught to all the pupils of the Collegiate and the Fourth Form pupils of the Public School; the same is true of Domestic Science, but no course in Agriculture is offered in any of the Schools in the City. As yet there has been no effort to adjust the Public School to the needs of those who live in the vicinity of the Town. There is no provision for the Tuberculous or Sub-normal. The children who cannot speak English, readily acquire a knowledge of the language in the kindergarten and the primary classes.

It is unfortunate that there is not regular medical inspection of each pupil, although a medical health officer visits each school weekly. Efforts are being made to improve the School system by the building of new and improved schools and to secure better ventilation.

There is a movement on foot to secure a Technical School.

Truancy is understood in the City, as the absence from school of children under fourteen years of age without a legitimate and reasonable excuse. Extra care is taken to insure the at-

tendance of the pupils. The Truant Officer visits each school two or three times a week and the names of the absentees are given him.

The average pupil attends school about 175 days out of the 196 to 200 of the school year. A plan for the wider use of school plant might commend itself to the School Board, as none of the Schools are used outside of school hours, except the Collegiate, where a few night classes are held. The Superintendent of the Public Schools has a City Registry of all the pupils and an individual card system for each pupil which has proved a valuable factor in his work. None of the churches conduct educational classes, but at the Y.M.C.A. and the Finnish Hall, foreigners are being instructed in English. There are no regular lecture courses in the City, but the Canadian Club secures speakers from time to time. Accurate statistics on the nationalities of the pupils are not available, but the School Officials estimate that from thirty to thirty-five per cent. are of non-English origin. The foreign population is almost entirely in the Public School, there being scarcely any in the Collegiate Institute. The Italian children attend the Separate School and the Public Schools have the Finnish, Norwegian, Greek and Austrian children. There is a large percentage of American children and not a few from the British Isles.

LIBRARIES.

The present Public Library building is quite inadequate to the City's needs, but new space has been secured, although not in a separate library building. The Library is opened every week day from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. It has no auditorium for Lectures or for general public use. It is understood that this is the only library opened to the general public, but this Library is, however, entirely free. There are 6,222 volumes on the shelves and at the time of the Survey, 2,324 persons were drawing books. There are no special features in the Library, although a portion is set apart for the children's use. There is no children's librarian, no educational exhibit and no moving picture equipment. There is no organization in the Province which sends the Library sets of books for reference during any specified time. The Schools of the City have permanent reference Libraries and all the Sunday Schools maintain circulating libraries.

The effectiveness of the Library would be greatly increased if it could minister to the foreign population, and if clubs of leaders, among boys and girls could be organized.

HEALTH.

The block census shows that there are most insanitary conditions in that portion of the city which should have the attention of the proper authorities. It is understood that the city has an extensive sewerage project which will mean much in the future in the health of the people and the quarter covered by the block census would thereby be much improved. The overcrowding in some of the houses examined ought also to have the attention of the Health Officer. The city has a non-spitting ordinance which forbids expectoration in the streets, in the street cars and all public buildings, but as usual with this ordinance it is far from being observed or enforced. The city has an abundant supply of pure water, about 2,104,996 gallons being consumed daily.

Smallpox, Chickenpox, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Typhoid Fever, Mumps, Tuberculosis, Erysipelas, Cholera and Cerebro Spinal-Meningitis must be reported to the Board of Health. It is required that all cases of Tuberculosis be reported and the house fumigated after the removal of the patients, but the fact that there is a greater number of deaths from the disease than the number reported, is evidence that the order is not being observed.

There being 499 births in the city in 1912, and taking the population as 16,000, the birth-

rate would be 31 per cent. There will be slight error in these figures, however, because the Doctors do not report all births, and they hold that they cannot be expected to do so until a fee is given them for their services. Mid-wives are not licensed to practise. The city's water supply is taken from Thunder Bay and the system is owned by the Municipality; the plant cost \$448,954.00. The Provincial laboratory has given no unfavorable reports on the samples analyzed. The city removes the garbage through its scavenging department, but here again the block census shows that in some quarters at least, there is a very serious neglect. Garbage is removed not regularly, but on the request of householders and at their expense. By-laws regulate the meat and food inspection and a Sanitary Inspector collects samples of foods for the M.H.O. The street cleaning is in the hands of the municipality and the streets are kept clean, at least in the business and better residential parts of the city. Dry sweeping is allowed, but the streets are also flushed. There has been no well-organized, aggressive campaign on health education, although lectures are given to the school children. There are no other organizations in the city which do this work in regard to Tuberculosis and the care of infants.

The city has no pure milk depots, and the number of complaints and cases in the police court, not to mention the health of the people, might warrant measures for the establishment of such a depot.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Number of Deaths during 1908-1911 and Causes.

	1908	1909	1910	1911
General Diseases	64	56	61	53
Diseases of Nervous System	12	9	10	14
Diseases of Circulatory System	9	10	13	10
Diseases of Respiratory System	23	5	20	22
Diseases of Digestive System	53	48	49	30
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	4	7	2	4
Diseases of the Puerperal State	3	6	5	7
Diseases of Early Infancy	13	40	20	26
Diseases of Old Age	2	2	6	7
Violence and other External Causes	28	12	21	19
Ill-defined Diseases	7	3	3	5
Still-Births	26	12	15	15
Diseases of Skin and Malformations			8	3
Total	244	210	233	215

Number of Deaths of Children Four Years and Under, 1908-1911, and Causes.

	1908	1909	1910	1911
General Diseases.....	15	5	8	4
Diseases of Nervous System	5	3	3	6
Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1	1	.....
Diseases of Respiratory System	11	3	10	10
Diseases of Digestive System	46	38	45	26
Diseases of Genito-Urinal System .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diseases the Puerperal State .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diseases Early Infancy	13	40	20	26
Diseases Old Age.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Violence and other External Causes	3	.....	1	.....
Ill-defined diseases	3	.....	1	3
Still-Births	26	12	15	15
Diseases of Skin and Malformation .....	.....	3	6	2
Total.....	123	105	110	92

Number of Deaths of Children Under One Year of Age, 1908-1911 and Causes.

	1908	1909	1910	1911
General Diseases	5	1	2	.....
Diseases of Nervous System.....	4	2	3	3
Diseases of Circulatory System.....	1	1	1	.....
Diseases of Respiratory System	7	.....	9	4
Diseases of Digestive System.....	37	37	43	23
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diseases the Puerperal State.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diseases Early Infancy	13	40	20	26
Diseases Old Age.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Violence and other External Causes.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ill-defined Diseases.....	2	.....	1	1
Still-Births	26	12	15	15
Diseases of Skin and Malformations .....	.....	3	6	2
Total	95	96	100	74

Intestinal Diseases of Children Two Years and Under.

	1908	1909	1910	1911
Intestinal Diseases of Children 2 years and under	46	41	48	29
Total.....	46	41	48	29

Tuberculosis—All Forms.

	1908	1909	1910	1911
Tuberculosis—all forms	13	17	14	19
Total.....	13	17	14	19

HOUSING AND HEALTH.

At times conditions exist which might easily develop into slum life, becoming a possible feature of life. In the summer time, when industrial and labor activities bring in a larger number of foreigners than usually reside here, there is a considerable amount of overcrowding in certain sections of the City. (Port Arthur *Daily News*, March 16th, 1912). The article gives the following suggestions on "How to Avoid Slum Conditions."

- (1) A clause in the Municipal Building By-law, that every dwelling must be fronting on a 60 foot street, and that only one dwelling shall be erected on each 20 x 100 foot lot.
- (2) A philanthropic or municipal association to help workingmen to build and own their own homes, by advancing money at low interest.
- (3) The prompt removal of garbage and rubbish and daily "keep clean" campaign.
- (4) The prohibition of men and boys from taking wood, or clothing, etc., from the City Nuisance Grounds.
- (5) The banishment of rag, bottle and junk yards from residential districts.
- (6) The closing up of all cesspools and outdoor closets in the thickly settled parts of the City, and the substitution of modern plumbing.
- (7) A bath in every home—not public baths.
- (8) The appointment of women as well as men for health inspection and school attendance officers.
- (9) Widows with children to be assisted by the Municipality, where necessary to train their children in good citizenship.
- (10) Regular medical and dental inspection of children. Special attendance for those unable to pay. A trained nurse to be attached to each large school.
- (11) Closer inspection of the milk supply, and pure milk to be furnished at cost, to poor families.
- (12) Simpler instruction, and more manual training in the schools provided for the poorer classes of children.
- (13) Numerous play-grounds with someone to encourage and assist the children.
- (14) A school regulation, that every boy, between the age of 14 and 16 must learn a trade.

- (15) The providing of a number of boarding-house homes for working girls, equipped with baths, laundry and reception parlor.
- (16) Direct the erection of municipal lodging house for labors and transients.
- (17) Provision of numerous lavatories.
- (18) The establishment by philanthropic people, of social centres, where the poor may meet for companionship, recreation and instruction.
- (19) A municipal poor farm in the suburbs, for the care of the dependents, and the training of inefficient.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT OF ONTARIO.

SECTION VII, SCHEDULE B.

If the Board is satisfied upon examination, that a cellar, room, tenement or building, within its jurisdiction, occupied as a dwelling-place, has become by reason of the number of occupants, want of cleanliness, the existence therein of a contagious or infectious disease, or other cause unfit for such purpose as that, it has become a nuisance or in any way, dangerous to the health of the occupants, or of the public. They must issue a notice in writing to such occupants, or any of them requiring the said premises, to be put in a proper sanitary condition, or if they see fit requiring the occupants to quit the premises, within such time as the Board may deem reasonable. If the person so notified, or any of them neglect or refuse to comply with the terms of the notice, every person so offending, shall be liable to the penalties imposed by Section XVIII., or the law of the Board may cause the premises to be properly cleaned, at the expense of the owners or occupants, and may remove the occupants forcibly and close up the premises of the same, which shall not again be occupied, as a dwelling-place, until the place be put into proper sanitary conditions. The penalty is a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$50 and costs, and imprisonment for 14 days if fine is not paid.

Section LXV.—It shall be the duty of every local Board of Health to cause to be made from time to time, inspections of its district in order to prevent the accumulation, within the district, of any dirt, filth or other things, which may endanger the public's health, and with a view to ascertain what nuisances exist calling for abatement, under the powers of this Act, and to enforce the provisions of this Act, in order to abate any such nuisances. (Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1887, C. 205 and S. 56.)

HOSPITAL SERVICE.

There are three hospitals in the City: St. Joseph's Hospital, Railway, Marine and General Hospital, Isolation Hospital.

On the 18th of March, there were 60 patients in St. Joseph's, 30 in the Railway, Marine and General Hospital, and 4 in the Isolation Hospital.

There are 14 nurses and 4 Sisters who nurse in St. Joseph's Hospital; 12 nurses in the Railway, Marine and General Hospital, and the Isolation Hospital has 2 nurses.

There is a ward with 9 free beds in St. Joseph's Hospital, but we are informed that the General Hospital has no free beds.

Both the St. Joseph's and Railway, Marine and General Hospital receives \$125.00 per month from the City. In 1912 the Ontario Government granted to St. Joseph's Hospital \$2,327.46. The Ontario Government's grant to the Railway, Marine and General Hospital was \$1,950. In 1912 the City paid St. Joseph's Hospital \$2,770.30 for charity patients and the General Hospital \$3,203.81. This with the patients' fees make up their support. To maintain the Isolation Hospital costs the City about \$400 per month.

It was the intention here to state the amount of contributions on Hospital Sunday given in the last ten years by all the city churches, but a Hospital Sunday has not yet been instituted in

this City. A movement is on foot at present to that end. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is to make a collection shortly. St. Joseph's Hospital derives some support from bazaars and other schemes promoted by the ladies of its constituency.

There is little or no relation between the organizations in the churches and the Hospitals unless it be between St. Andrews R.C. Church, and St. Joseph's Hospital. In the case of the Railway, Marine and General Hospital, probably the organizations closest to the Hospital are the W.C.T.U. and the King's Daughters.

There is no organization supporting free beds in any of the City hospitals, nor do they contribute in any other way toward their support. It has been thought wise to give here a description of the free dispensaries in the City, the special diseases treated, the number of patients and social service work attached, but there are no free dispensaries in this City. There is no special provision in the city for Tuberculosis cases. Patients are either housed in tents outside of the hospitals or sent to the Sanitorium at Weston, Ont. There are no special clinics or sanitoria for incipient and advanced cases. There are no fresh-air schools or day camps. There is no provision for convalescents and incurables.

There is a nurses' association, but there are no visiting nurses in connection with it, and there are no other agencies having visiting nurses on the staff.

There is no provision in the city for the deaf, blind, feeble-minded, epileptic and insane. The deaf and blind are sent to the Provincial Institution at Belleville, the epileptic are sent to the Institution at Woodstock, and the feeble-minded go to Guelph or Orillia, and the insane to Toronto or Kingston.

There is no special clinic and hospital pavilion for the examination and early treatment of mental and nervous diseases.

There is no agency which undertakes the after-care of patients discharged as recovered from the hospital, unless it be the City relief officer who attempts to get work for all applicants.

CARE OF THE AGED.

Port Arthur has no alms-house, but cares for those who have become incapacitated on account of old age, by placing them in the Old Men's and Old Women's Homes at Toronto. Port Arthur pays for their maintenance there.

CARE OF CHILDREN.

There are no institutional agencies for the care of children in the City, but the Children's Aid Society of Thunder Bay District, through its representative in Fort William, does much in finding foster homes for needy children.

The report covering the work of the Societies in the District is given below:—

The City has no other agencies for children, such as day nurseries or correctional schools. Juvenile offenders are sent to the correctional schools of the Province: The Victoria Industrial for Protestant boys at Mimico; the St. John's School for Roman Catholic boys at East Toronto (under the Christian Brothers); the Alexandria School for Protestant girls, Toronto; the St. Mary's School for Roman Catholic girls, Toronto.

The chief difficulty at Mimico is that all classes of boys are received, old offenders and new, and the mentally deficient.

The inspector of the Provincial department of neglected and dependent children places out all boys from the St. John School and visits them; the Superintendent of the Mimico School places his own boys direct, and also visits them.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY—THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Children made wards		7			1	1	2		3			6	20
Children placed in homes	1	5	2		1		2		3		1	5	20
Returned to us			1				1	1				2	5
Received from another Society to place							1						1
Sent to Provincial Superintendent			1				2		3	2			5
To place (at end of month).....	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	1		3	
Sent to Industrial School—			1										
By P.S.						1	1			2	3		8
By Magistrate.....													

The above is a statement of the work of the Children's Aid Society of Thunder Bay District for the year 1912, and is brought up to date December 20, 1912.

On January 1, 1912, we had two children on hand for placing; one of these was placed in January and the other in February, there were three on hand on March 1, two of whom were placed during the month; the one left with us then remained unplaced until July when a home was secured for him on a market garden, but he was returned to us within two weeks. In October he was taken to the Provincial Shelter.

In July, two children were made Wards of the Provincial Superintendent, they appear in columns, Made Wards, and sent to P.S., at the time of committal they were in Toronto.

Classification.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Cases	10	9	3	10	4	10	4	10	11	5	9	6	91
Causes.													
In police court			1	1		2	1	3	1	2	1		12
For theft							1	1	1				6
Mischief								2					3
Late hours		2	1	2	2	1	2						12
Cigarettes	1												3
Damage to property									2				2
Neglect	4	2	2	3	2	2		1	4			2	22
Dependent		1	2	2					2				5
Destitute		1		1						1			4
Schooling		3		1		2			3	2			13
Assistance to parent			1		1	4	1	4	2	2	3	4	22
Complaint against parent					1	2	3	4	8	2	4	2	26
Assisting older children											3	1	4
Special oversight given to ward	1			2	1	1	3	1	1	1			11
Interference with ward	1												2
Moving pictures	2												6
Criminal offence		2		1		2							4
Immoral home				1	1								1
House of ill-fame				1									1
Stage				1						2			2
Feeble minded													
Children involved	14	18	5	12	10	11	12	28	15	9	11	14	159

In cases and Children Involved no case is reported more than once.

In Causes the numbers of times dealt with is given.

Corrected to December 20, 1912.

CHILD WELFARE IN THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.

The main factors in the development of child life are Parents, Home, Companions, School and Church; each of these having a place in the equipment of a child for the battle of life.

With the records we have regarding the prevalence of Physical Degeneracy, Mental Deficiency, and Moral Perversion as causes, direct or contributory, of youthful delinquency we must recognize the importance of safeguarding the Springs of Life. Our business with the parent then first is to prevent the marriage and reproduction of the physically and mentally unfit; until we have adequately dealt with this problem we will have the delinquent, youthful and adult, to provide for. The strongest human influence brought to bear on child development is that of the home, it is only as the home becomes non-efficient that the influences of the street are paramount in character building. Standards of living as expressed in the home are determining factors in character-development of the children growing up in the home. And with the realization of this comes the sense of responsibility, as individuals and as a community, for conditions as they exist to-day in our District, and elsewhere in our Country Conditions of overcrowding, where a family or in many cases more than one family live in one room, where in addition to the family of the proprietor there are from ten to twenty boarders living in a six-roomed house, under such conditions it is impossible for these living as they are forced to do without privacy, or even the decencies of life to become Canadians in the best meaning of the word.

The expression given to social life, the wear and tear upon the nervous system of individuals by enforced close contact with others, the loss of the quality of delicacy, are perhaps more than we realize entering into the production of petty crime. In addition to this there are questions involving the health and physical well-being of those occupying such houses, one can hardly call them homes.

When we are considering the influences brought to bear upon the development of the child by companions, we are in contact with the problem not of individuals alone but the community. Children are essentially social in their instincts which in the case of the boy manifests itself in the "gang," and the influences of this social life upon the individual is that of the total of the homes represented acting upon that individual. Side by side with the efforts that are being made to safeguard child-life and to secure to every child a reasonable share of happiness and a fair prospect for the future, there are existent conditions which in a large measure duplicate and multiply the problems attendant upon such work. To remove children from an environment of indifference, ignorance and vice in order that they may have the opportunity, otherwise denied them, of becoming helpful members of Society and self-respecting citizens, and at the same time to allow conditions to exist which directly and indirectly contribute to children becoming neglected and delinquent is to nullify our work. Children are removed because of immoral conditions in the home, because of drunkenness or other vice on the part of the parents, or because the home is an unfit place by reason of neglect or depravity for such child; and yet our indifference regarding the needs of men is so great that we allow a number of families, two or more, to occupy and live in one room, and that a number of families, or a family and several boarders are crowded together in one house with no separate conveniences, no privacy, no home life possible, is quite a recognized thing, and we pass by on the other side with the remark "Foreigners." When we realize the meaning of the facts that can be proven from records, that the average of convictions of those born in America of foreign parents is three times that of the native-born American; that the second generation of those coming to us from other countries is twice as criminal as his father, and three times as criminal as the native born we will not rest until a solution has been reached in regard to the living conditions amongst the "Foreigner."

The relation of the School to the Child should be more than merely the presenting of the

opportunity for an education. Regular attendance must be insisted on and enforced. Backward pupils from whatever cause should have special consideration. For a short time a special class was conducted in Fort William for sub-normal pupils with good results, but unfortunately has been discontinued. Backward children are potential if not actual delinquents and fall easily into the hands of those who prey upon human life.

As, with due regard to the influences of heredity and environment, the final appeal is to the moral fibre of the individual, we should not neglect so great a factor in child-welfare as that of religious training; nor can we place too much emphasis upon the need of vital religion in the life of every individual in the community.

Many of our social problems would be solved if to love God and to love our neighbor were the rule of living.

As the embodiment of Public Option in regard to the problems affecting child-life in the District stands the Children's Protection Act by Order-in-Council, every phase of child-life, every influence for good or ill that bears directly or indirectly upon children, is properly within our sphere of action. With offices in Fort William and an Inspector giving full time to this work, we have the means of recording and investigating every complaint sent in. In addition to financial and sympathetic co-operation, which are necessary, we ask that those knowing of cases requiring investigation would immediately and fully report to the office of the Society, Fort William.

As far as possible our work is done quietly and confidentially, but our action in any given case may be ascertained by those interested applying to the Secretary.

FRANK BLAIN,
Inspector.

PLAYGROUNDS—PORT ARTHUR'S NEED.

"The thing that most needs to be understood about play is that it is not a luxury, but a necessity. It is not simply something that a child likes to have; it is something he must have if he is ever to grow up. It is more than an essential part of his education; it is an essential part of the law of his growth, of the process by which he becomes a man at all. . . .

"The 'boy problem,' as we call it, is really a grown-up problem. The boy is all right. He breaks our laws, but he does so in obedience to a law that is older than ours, a law that has never failed to get its way or else to impose a penalty—and to collect it. . . .

"When 'the children' were left out in the planning of our cities, when we closed nature's path against the growing child, we made it mathematically certain that he should seek some other path or cease to grow at all. If opportunity for play is denied, and by just so far as it is denied, stunting and perversion are the absolutely inevitable results."—*Joseph Lee.*

The following speech was delivered by Mr. I. L. Matthews recently at the Y.M.C.A. So true and important are the utterances and so urgently is action needed in the direction indicated that the full text is reproduced and commended to all thinking men and women.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very glad to have the opportunity to take some share in the spread of the gospel of playgrounds. One of the greatest problems of the twentieth century is the conservation which means the utilization of the leisure time of the people of our country; for only in this way shall we get an educated people, and only through an educated people can we hope to receive economic justice and responsible political freedom and the conservation of the resources of the whole earth.

It is altogether unfortunate that any child of our country should be permitted to toil in our factories, in our shops and in our tenements when that child should be out playing; whose school has no playground and whose only outside consists of the public streets bounded by the gutters of these streets and too often associated with gutter snipes in his sports and play. So long as

these conditions continue the masses will continue to hate the classes of our country and the time has come when every child should have restored to him his birthright and his childhood. This is not only justice and common sense but sane government.

Now there are three great constructive and social factors in every city and in each community. They are recreation, education and work. I mean by work—industrial conditions. These three great factors are equally credited with all the health, the happiness, and the prosperity of any community, and they are alike equally responsible for all the sickness, sufferings and sins of the community. Consequently recreation takes its stand, and place along side of education and is the foundation of all education and all culture.

Now I do not want to deal in generalities or indulge in pious platitudes in connection with this all-important subject of playground. We have the parks of our cities supervised by parks commissioners, the creation of our municipal government and restricted by the legislation of the Province of Ontario. These parks are primarily resting places for the toiler where he may spend his restful hours after his work is over.

The Parks Commissioners are securing lands in different parts of our city. They will try to make these places attractive to the people of the community, and we have only to bring this matter before any council and show them a way to do this matter and it shall be done. Anything that ought to be done CAN and WILL be done. The taxpayers of our city are roused to their individual responsibility in seeing that their boys and girls have proper recreation.

Our parks should be prepared, proportioned, managed and planned by specialists. It is not sufficient that an ordinary citizen be called upon to supervise our parks. I believe that specialists ought to observe the results of the parks and also to take care of the debris of our parks. While our parks are places of rest, they are also intended for our boys and girls to play and frolic in. It is just as natural for our boys and girls to play and frolic as it is a kitten to play and frolic, and we must be in line with their interests. For our children not to indulge in these sports is a violation to their physical constitution, as recreation has become an appetite and in turn an ordinance of the child's being. In any future scheme of salvation every legitimate consideration will have to be given the animal impulses as well as the moral and spiritual ones.

Personally my early education was evidently neglected. I was taught to look upon a dancing hall and card playing as fitting us in the next world for the hottest place in Hades. Now things are changing. We find in some of the American cities they are supervising the dancing hall of to-day, and why? In order to prevent the Grizzly Bear, etc. The dancing hall of to-day is charged with the destruction of thousands of our girls.

Further our parks boards will receive the strength and support of every well-thinking citizen of our community, providing the one-half mill on the dollar is not sufficient. We have also our school boards. They are planning recreation grounds. We have had several skating rinks brought about largely through our physical instructor. They have been a source of healthful amusement during this winter. We have several in this city and it is very pleasing to see the boys and girls frequent there on afternoons and holidays. There is not any use in our establishing playgrounds unless they are properly supervised. Everything depends on supervision.

Oftentimes the rink has not been in good condition. There has not been any one there to see if the rink was shared evenly. Sometimes the girls are just as worthy to it as the boys.

If we are going to take young men away from saloons and dancing halls we must give them something to take the place of this. Give them some places that are inviting. The churches are doing a great deal in connection with this. In the United States they have playground commissioners appointed by municipalities under municipal control.

The time has come in the city of Port Arthur when some grounds should be selected where we might have a swimming pool in one lot, a playground in another lot, and so on. The taxpayers

are willing to contribute. This, in my opinion, is the solution of the difficulty we are facing at the present time. I am glad that I am able to say a few words in connection with this. We are here to listen to the National Secretary, and in closing would emphasize the fact that whatever course the Y.M.C.A. takes, the money will be forthcoming at any time.

MUNICIPAL RELIEF.

The Municipal Relief is conducted through the license police and relief committee of the City Council.

There is no Relief Officer, but the Chief of Police investigates all cases asking for relief and makes his report to the Chairman of the Relief Committee.

There is no Municipal lodging-house, but the police station is used as a lodging-place.

An effort is made to get work for the homeless men who apply, and confirmed vagrants are sent to the Farm Colony.

The records are very inadequate, so that it is impossible to give any accurate idea of the amount or relief work being done.

The amount expended in relief work in 1912, was \$1,748.15.

PRIVATE RELIEF.

The Private Relief of the City is conducted through the Relief Society. This Society has no paid workers, but enlists what volunteer help it can. It receives some financial aid from the City Council, but gives out little money, preferring to furnish the needy with food and clothing.

From the reports available on the work of 1912, we are informed that the society received \$200 from the City Council and received donations of \$200 from the citizens for its Christmas Cheer Campaign besides donations of clothing.

The money was expended on groceries, food, and to aid the sick. Fifty-eight families were supplied with meat and groceries, and 55 boxes of clothing and toys were supplied, which work ministered to 146 children.

The City has no associated charities, and there is no doubt that clergymen and other citizens are being burdened with constant calls for help.

A CHARITY PROGRAM FOR THE TWIN CITIES.

The chief difficulty in the relief work of Port Arthur and Fort William to date, has been the lack of co-operation between the charity forces of the two cities. In the period of the survey men were known to seek relief from the authorities in one city and having received what assistance they could they proceeded to the authorities of the other city to solicit help there. The fault to be found in this state of affairs is not so much the cost to public funds, although that is bad enough, but in the fact that it encourages a number of professional paupers. We feel sure that the relief problem will never be satisfactorily settled until there is one organization for the two cities, or at least two organizations in close co-operation.

It would appear advisable that the two municipalities should be divided into charity districts, that in each district there should be a committee to deal with all applications for relief, arising in its territory. All applications should be made at one central office, where the case would be immediately investigated, and the necessary aid given to support the applicant until the next meeting of the charity committee of his district. At this meeting the case would be carefully considered and a constructive policy formulated, so that the applicant is under its exclusive supervision and would be unable to draw assistance from several sources. By this plan records of all

cases are kept at one central bureau. Applications for relief to private citizens or to any other agency are immediately referred to the bureau so that over-lapping is entirely eliminated and cases are dealt with constructively.

Some such plan must be worked out in the twin cities. There are many families and homeless men who suffer sharp distress in the winter season chiefly through unemployment. Railway construction work has been abandoned, freight handling affords less employment through the closing of navigation, and before the rush comes in the spring many need help. At present through the lack of co-operation they are able to draw from many agencies and private citizens and thus are encouraged in professional pauperism in this season. Through the plan above described there can be no duplications. All must go through one office and are helped only temporarily until the committee for the district to which the case belongs can devise a programme for it. This prevents the system of doles from many sources. If the case requires a considerable expenditure to rehabilitate it, such is given and the family made independent once more. While the present system persists, many will take advantage of it and will be found year after year calling for relief.