

vince at the expense of the other provinces, it was from the inception of the Federation deemed expedient to adopt the *de jure* system,—that is, the legal population and not the actual is enumerated, by the legal population being understood the number of people whose ordinary domicile is in the locality ; the actual population being the number of persons actually present on the census night in the domicile where they are enumerated.

Further reasons for the adoption of the *de jure* system are that in the month of April large numbers of the people of Canada are in the lumber camps getting out the cut of timber and logs, and could not be reached at all excepting through their families. In the same way fishermen are absent plying their vocation.

In the United States the *de jure* system has been adhered to from the first census and the same reasons as those urged in Canada are operative to produce persistency in the *de jure* system.

Of course there are difficulties and disadvantages in connection with the *de jure* system requiring the adoption of many safeguards. The system adopted in Canada is unique ; in the Empire of which Canada forms a part no other section adopting this plan. But so also is the system of government unique, no other part of the Empire having the federative principle as the basis of political structure.

Care has to be taken first to include all who have a domicile in Canada, even though, like seamen, and children being educated abroad, they are not in the country at the time of the census.

In the same way foreigners are excluded, inasmuch as they have no domicile in the country, not belonging to any family. The greatest difficulty is in the prevention of duplication, as for instance in the case of all the classes coming under the legal designation of servants. These may have their homes in one part of the province or in one province and may be engaged in their occupation in another part of the same province or in another province. Great care was taken in the census of 1891 to avoid this source of error.

The method followed in obtaining the staff and preparing them for their work may be briefly described.

229. In the absence of a permanent staff available for census purposes, an organization had to be improvised. It consisted of (1) a staff of 14 census officers. These gentlemen, selected by the government as men well acquainted with the divisions over which they were to have supervision, were called to Ottawa for instructions. They were supplied with specimen schedules and with manuals and set to work taking the census of each other or of imaginary individuals whose cases were specially prepared so as to bring out all the different points the experience of the permanent staff had brought to their notice in previous censuses. When the Census Chief Officers had become conversant with all the puzzles that were likely to be encountered they were sent to their several divisions—four each to Ontario and Quebec, and one to each of the other provinces.

2. In their respective divisions they found ready for them the second body of officers, the Census Commissioners, of whom there were 241. The commissioners were appointed by the government, the chief recommendation, besides their general intelligence, being the knowledge of the census districts over which they were placed.