

AREA AND POPULATION.

District of Patricia.—The new district of Ontario has been named Patricia. It is bounded on the west and northwest by Manitoba, on the south and southeast by the English and Albany rivers, and on the east and north by James and Hudson bays. Pursuant to an Order in Council, dated February 20, 1912, and subject to the future enactment by the Dominion Parliament of the necessary legislation, Ontario will also possess a strip of territory five miles wide lying between the district of Patricia and the Nelson river and to be located within fifty miles of the Hudson Bay coast, as well as an area half a mile wide and five miles in length to be located along the south shore of the Nelson river. The latter area is to be contiguous to the five mile strip, and together these areas will afford ten miles of water front for harbour facilities and railway terminals. The land is to be selected and designated by the Ontario Government within five years from the date of the Order in Council.

Increase of Population.—According to the corrected returns of the fifth Census, the total population on June 1, 1911, was 7,206,643, representing an increase of 1,835,328 since the previous Census of April 1, 1901. For the period covered, the rate of increase, viz., 34.17 per cent., is the largest in the world, and is due to the heavy tide of immigration which set in with the beginning of the present century. The countries next in order, in respect of the percentage rates of increase during the same decade, are: New Zealand 30.5, the United States 21, Germany 15.2, Holland 14.8, Switzerland 13.2, Denmark 12.6, Belgium 10.9, Austria 9.3, United Kingdom 9.1, Hungary 8.5, Sweden 7.5, Italy and Norway 6.8 and France 1.6. Ontario and Quebec continue to be the most largely populated of the nine provinces, the former having 2,523,274 and the latter 2,003,232 inhabitants. None of the other provinces has yet reached half a million; but Saskatchewan has the third largest population with 492,432. All the provinces show an increase since 1901, excepting Prince Edward Island, where the population has decreased by 9,531, or 9.23 per cent. The Yukon and Northwest Territories, with relatively sparse populations, show decreases as compared with 1901. The greatest relative increase is in the western provinces, especially in Saskatchewan and Alberta. The population of Saskatchewan, 492,432, as compared with 91,279 in 1901, shows an increase of 401,153, or over 439 per cent. Alberta has grown from 73,022 in 1901 to 374,663 in 1911, an increase of 301,641, or 413 per cent. Manitoba, 455,614, shows an increase of 200,403 from 255,211, or 78.5 per cent., and British Columbia one of 213,823, or over 119 per cent., the population having grown from 178,657 in 1901 to 392,480 in 1911.

Average Density.—The average density of the population works out to 1.93 per square mile, calculated upon the total of 3,729,665 square miles, as shown in Table 1. This figure may be compared with the density per square mile of other new countries, as, for instance, the United States 30.69, the Argentine Republic 5.99, the Commonwealth of Australia 1.53, the Dominion of New Zealand 9.63, and Newfoundland 1.47. Prince Edward Island has a density of 42.91, Nova Scotia of 22.98, New Brunswick of 12.61, Ontario of 9.67, Manitoba of 6.18 and Quebec of 5.69. The other three provinces, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, are each below 2 per square mile.