

which formed the immediate basis for the move upon the West. At the back, of course, was the heavy inflow of British and other capital—a total of two and a half billions of dollars within a dozen years—which went to finance the large constructive undertakings (chiefly railway and municipal) which characterized the movement, and which represented at bottom the traditional policy of England in search of cheap and abundant food for her workshop population. The years 1901 to 1911, in brief, form the *decas mirabilis* of Canadian expansion. The immigration movement just mentioned, which had previously run well under 50,000 per annum, rose rapidly to over five times that volume, eventually passing 400,000 in a single year. In the ten years 1901 to 1911 it totalled over 1,800,000, and though at least a third of these were lost (partly in the return to Europe of labour temporarily attracted by the railway and other developments in progress, and partly in the never-ceasing and natural “drag” of the United States upon a virile and less wealthy people), it formed the chief factor in the gain of 34 p.c. which the total population of Canada registered in that decade, and which was larger than the relative growth of any other country during the same period. The movement was continued and even intensified in the first three years of the second decade of the century, after which a recession set in to which the outbreak of war gave a new and wholly unexpected turn. Nevertheless the decade which closed with the census of 1921 again showed over 1,800,000 immigrant arrivals in Canada, and though the proportionate loss of these was very heavy (probably as much as two-thirds), Canada’s relative gain for the decade was again among the largest in the world.

The Census of 1921.—According to the final results of the 1921 census, the total population of the Dominion on June 1, 1921, was 8,788,483, as compared with 7,206,643 on June 1, 1911, an increase of 1,581,840 or 21·95 p.c. in the decade, as compared with 34·17 p.c. during the decade from 1901 to 1911. Reduced as is the rate of increase during the last ten years, it is higher than the rate of increase in any other of the principal countries of the British Empire except Australia, where the rate was only slightly greater, and considerably higher than that of the United States.

The countries which comprise the British Empire, as also the United States, have on the whole suffered much less in actual loss of life from the war and its consequences than have the continental countries of Europe. None of them has actually declined in population during the period, as many continental European countries have done. Their percentage increases, however, have in almost all cases been lower than in the previous decade. Thus the population of England and Wales increased between 1911 and 1921 only from 36,070,492 to 37,885,242, or 4·93 p.c., as compared with an increase of 10·89 p.c. in the previous decade; Scotland, again, increased only from 4,760,904 to 4,882,288, or 2·5 p.c., as compared with 6·5 p.c. between 1901 and 1911.

Of the overseas Dominions, New Zealand increased from 1,008,468 to 1,218,270, or 20·8 p.c., as compared with 30·5 p.c., while the white population of South Africa increased from 1,276,242 to 1,522,442, or 19·3 p.c. On the other hand, the Commonwealth of Australia, the only Dominion to grow more rapidly in the second decade of the twentieth century than in the first, increased from 4,455,005 in 1911 to 5,436,794 in 1921, or 22·04 p.c., as compared with 18·05 p.c. The population of the continental United States increased between 1910 and 1920 from 91,972,266 to 105,710,620, an increase of 14·9 p.c., as compared with 21 p.c. in the preceding decade.