

## 4.—National Wealth and Income.

## 1.—National Wealth.

There are several methods of computing national wealth, i.e., the aggregate value of the property within the nation, apart from undeveloped natural resources. Perhaps the most familiar of these methods is that of working back to capital values through income tax returns, but this can be applied only in countries where incomes are thoroughly appraised. A second method is that of estimation from probate returns, the value of the estates of deceased persons being regarded as representative. A third is that of a complete census, based upon a canvass of the individual. In the accompanying tables a fourth method, namely, the so-called "inventory" method, is employed; it consists in totalling the amounts known from various sources to be invested in agriculture, manufactures, dwellings, etc.

It must be understood that statistics of this character are suggestive and indicative rather than strictly accurate. The concept of wealth is distinctly intangible, and there are numerous elements of uncertainty in a calculation of this nature. The present survey, which includes the provincial distribution of Canadian wealth, places the estimated aggregate of the tangible wealth of the Dominion, exclusive of undeveloped natural resources, at \$25,673,174,000 in 1925, as compared with \$22,195,302,000 in 1921. (Tables 33 and 33A.)

**Aggregate and per capita Wealth of the Provinces, 1925.**—As regards the provincial distribution of wealth, Ontario ranked first, with estimated aggregate wealth amounting to \$9,000,727,000, or 35.1 p.c. of the total, and Quebec second, with estimated wealth of \$6,288,284,000, or 24.5 p.c. of the whole. Saskatchewan was third, with estimated wealth of \$2,870,314,000, or 11.2 p.c. of the total for the Dominion.

While Ontario led in absolute wealth in 1925, the western provinces came first in per capita wealth; Saskatchewan held first rank with a per capita wealth of \$3,544, British Columbia second with \$3,539, and Alberta third with \$3,459. These figures may be compared with \$2,901 and \$2,495, the per capita wealth of Ontario and Quebec respectively. Further details are furnished in Tables 33A to 35.

## 33.—Provincial Distribution of the National Wealth of Canada, with percentage and per capita Analyses, 1921.

Provinces.	Estimated Wealth.	Percentage Distribu- tion of Wealth.	Population.	Percentage Distribu- tion of Population.	Wealth per Capita.
	\$	p.c.	No.	p.c.	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	119,912,090	0.5	88,615	1.01	1,353
Nova Scotia.....	752,697,986	3.4	523,837	5.96	1,437
New Brunswick.....	597,596,369	2.7	387,876	4.41	1,541
Quebec.....	5,541,819,967	25.0	2,361,199	26.87	2,347
Ontario.....	7,353,397,816	33.1	2,933,662	33.38	2,507
Manitoba.....	1,650,495,868	7.4	610,118	6.94	2,705
Saskatchewan.....	2,845,642,985	12.8	757,510	8.62	3,757
Alberta.....	1,950,973,479	8.8	588,434	6.70	3,317
British Columbia.....	1,365,896,120	6.2	524,582	5.97	2,604
Yukon.....	16,969,792	0.1	4,157	0.14	4,058
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>22,195,302,443</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,788,483<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,525</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes 7,988 persons in the Northwest Territories and 485 persons engaged in the Royal Canadian Navy.