

In 1881 the "centre" of population east and west was in the county of Prescott, Ontario, not far from Caledonia village. In 1891 it had moved west to the vicinity of Ottawa, where it remained in 1901. In 1911 the county of Victoria, Ontario, contained the centre, and it was in Parry Sound district, Ontario, in 1921.

The populations of the several provinces and electoral districts of Canada, as these districts existed in 1921, were given on pp. 87-91 of the 1925 Year Book, while the 1921 populations of the electoral districts as constituted after the redistribution of 1924 will be found at pp. 76-80 of this volume, together with the names of their representatives in the sixteenth Parliament. Populations for smaller areas (sub-districts, etc.) are given in the great table extending from p. 11 to p. 218 of Vol. I of the Census of 1921.

Density of Population.—The density of population in 1921 (*i.e.*, the number of persons per square mile of the land area as in that year), is shown by provinces and for the country as a whole in Table 5. Generally speaking, the density of population decreases as one travels westward, but the enormous area of the province of Quebec (which, as calculated at that time, included the Labrador coast area, subsequently awarded to Newfoundland) reduced the density of its population to the low figure of 3.42. As among the nine provinces, the density of population is greatest in Prince Edward Island and least in British Columbia.

5.—Density of Population in Canada, by Provinces and Territories, 1911 and 1921.

Provinces.	1911.	1921.	Provinces.	1911.	1921.
Prince Edward Island.....	42.91	40.56	Saskatchewan.....	2.02	3.12
Nova Scotia.....	23.37	24.86	Alberta.....	1.48	2.33
New Brunswick.....	12.61	13.90	British Columbia.....	1.11	1.48
Quebec.....	2.90	3.42	Yukon Territory.....	0.04	0.02
Ontario.....	6.91	8.02	Northwest Territories.....	0.005	0.006
Manitoba.....	1.99	2.63	Canada.....	1.97	2.41

Elements of Growth.—The former lack of comprehensive and comparable vital statistics for the whole of Canada, together with the lack of statistics of emigration, makes it difficult to determine how far the growth of population since the commencement of the twentieth century is due to natural increase and how far to immigration. The following estimate (Table 6) may, however, be of interest. During the last decade, in addition to some 60,000 Canadians who died overseas and nearly 20,000 who took their discharge in the United Kingdom, there were also great numbers of residents of Canada—most of them recent immigrants—who left Canada to join the forces of the Mother Country and her allies in the Great War and did not return. The estimated figure given for emigration in the decade 1911-1921 may therefore be regarded as of a distinctly abnormal character.