

**26.—Literacy among the Population 5 Years of Age and over, by Provinces, 1901, 1911 and 1921—concluded.**

Provinces and Territories.	Population		Can read and write.	Can read only.	Cannot read nor write.	Per cent 5 years and over.			
	Total.	5 years of age and over.				Can read and write.	Can read only.	Cannot read nor write.	
	No.	No.				No.	No.	No.	p.c.
Ontario—	1901	2,182,947	1,958,635	1,758,427	28,830	171,378	89.78	1.47	8.75
	1911	2,527,292	2,264,419	2,108,485	7,302	148,632	93.11	.32	6.57
	1921	2,933,662	2,632,085	2,447,588	15,207	169,290	92.99	.58	6.43
Manitoba—	1901	255,211	219,290	184,293	3,083	31,912	84.04	1.41	14.55
	1911	461,394	398,078	340,870	1,231	55,977	85.63	.31	14.06
	1921	610,118	532,306	464,369	4,011	63,926	87.24	.75	12.01
Saskatchewan—	1901	91,279	78,185	49,941	797	27,447	63.88	1.02	35.10
	1911	492,432	421,432	362,768	926	57,738	86.08	.22	13.70
	1921	757,510	644,335	566,038	4,609	73,688	87.85	.71	11.44
Alberta—	1901	73,022	62,554	42,731	707	19,116	68.31	1.13	30.56
	1911	374,295	325,916	283,513	1,198	41,205	86.99	.37	12.64
	1921	588,454	509,896	453,572	3,259	53,065	88.95	.64	10.41
British Columbia—	1901	178,657	163,336	121,782	973	40,581	74.56	.60	24.84
	1911	362,480	356,603	314,183	1,013	41,407	88.11	.28	11.61
	1921	524,582	474,787	427,374	2,552	44,861	90.01	.54	9.45
Yukon—	1901	27,219	26,864	17,374	54	9,436	64.67	.20	35.13
	1911	8,512	8,006	6,843	76	1,087	85.47	.95	13.58
	1921	4,157	3,890	2,732	8	1,140	70.41	.21	29.38
Northwest Territories—	1901	20,129	18,699	3,233	174	15,292	17.29	.93	81.78
	1911	6,507	5,672	857	7	4,808	15.11	.12	84.77
	1921	7,988	7,471	749	6	6,716	10.03	.08	89.89
Canada—	1901	5,371,315	4,728,631	3,918,915	129,584	680,132	82.88	2.74	14.38
	1911	7,206,643	6,319,160	5,622,844	32,863	663,453	88.98	.52	10.50
	1921	8,788,483	7,730,833	6,957,412	58,254	715,167	90.00	.75	9.25

**Literacy of Population over 10 years of age by Age Groups and Birth-places.**—The proportion of the population 10 years of age and over totally illiterate—that is, unable to read and write in any language—was 5.10 p.c. in 1921, as shown in Table 38 on p. 126 of the 1929 Year Book. This population included Indians, exclusive of whom the percentage was 4.49. If we include Indians the percentage of illiteracy among persons 10 to 14 years was 2.0; among persons 15 to 20 years it was 2.7; among those 21 to 34 years it was 3.9; among those 35 to 64 years it was 6.5; and for those 65 years and over it was 13.1. Further, 55,112 or about one-sixth of all illiterates of specified ages were 65 years and over, while two-thirds were 35 years and over, although the population over 35 years formed only about 40 p.c. of the population of stated ages. The important point, however, is that illiteracy was reduced by about one-third in the case of each successive younger group below 65.

The above rate of progress shown in the case of the younger groups ought to mean that the practical extinction of illiteracy in Canada is in sight. How far the situation is in hand may be seen from the fact that the percentage of illiterates first quoted (5.10) did not by any means represent the general level of the Canadian population. The high percentage of illiteracy—and by “high” is meant anything above the average 5.10—was confined to certain areas containing only 30 p.c. of the Canadian population. Fifty p.c. of the illiterate persons in Canada resided in areas containing only 18 p.c. of the population, while 11 p.c. of the illiterates were residents of areas containing only 1 p.c. of the population.