

Treaties.—In the older eastern provinces, the history of the Indians has been one of slow development with that of the community. In western Ontario and the Prairie Provinces the situation has been different. There the rapid spread of civilization made it necessary to take prompt and effective measures to protect the moral claims of the Indians, which are recognized by the Government. Accordingly, treaties were entered into with the Indians, whereby the latter ceded to the Crown their aboriginal title and interest in the country. In consideration of such cession the Crown agreed to set aside adequate reserves, make cash grants, provide per capita annuities, give assistance in agriculture, stock raising, hunting, trapping, etc., as particular circumstances might require, provide education for the Indian children, and otherwise safeguard the Indians' interests. These treaties have been made from time to time as occasion arose and as new territories were opened up. No treaty has been made with the Indians of British Columbia, but their welfare has received no less attention from the Government on that account.

Government Expenditure.—On Mar. 31, 1931, the capital of the Indian Trust Fund, which a year earlier had amounted to \$13,856,521, had decreased to \$13,764,581. The amounts expended from the Consolidated Revenue Fund were as follows: voted by Parliament for the purposes of the Department, \$4,644,076; annuities by statute, \$222,143.

Statistics.—Statistical tables of population, school attendance, income and agricultural activities of the Indians in Canada follow. In Table 7 the populations for 1871-1931 are compiled from reports of the various censuses since Confederation, while the statistics and other information in the remaining tables are taken from the latest Annual Report of the Department of Indian Affairs. The Department of Indian Affairs takes a quinquennial census of Indians under its control, i.e., those who are wards of the Department, whereas census figures include all persons of Indian origin. For 1929 the Department reported that such Indians increased in number from 104,894 in 1924 to 108,012, or by nearly 3 p.c. in the quinquennium. The figures of the decennial census include some thousands of persons of Indian race who are living off the reserves as ordinary citizens of Canada.

7.—Indian Population of Canada at the Decennial Censuses of 1871-1931.

Province or Territory.	1871. ¹	1881. ¹	1891. ²	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.
Prince Edward Island.....	323	281	314	258	248	235	233
Nova Scotia.....	1,866	2,125	2,076	1,629	1,915	2,048	2,191
New Brunswick.....	1,403	1,401	1,521	1,465	1,541	1,331	1,635
Quebec.....	6,988	7,515	13,361	10,142	9,993	11,506	12,312
Ontario.....	12,978	15,325	17,915	24,674	23,044	26,436	30,363
British Columbia.....	23,000	25,661	34,202	28,949	20,134	22,377	24,599
Manitoba.....				16,277	7,876	13,869	15,417
Saskatchewan.....				26,304	11,718	12,914	15,263
Alberta.....	56,000	56,239	51,249	3,322	11,630	14,557	15,258
Yukon Territory.....				3,322	1,489	1,390	1,543
Northwest Territories.....				14,921	15,904	3,873 ⁴	4,046
Totals.....	102,358	108,547	120,638	127,941³	105,492	110,596	122,320

¹Census figures in the organized provinces and estimates for the rest of Canada.

²Racial origin not taken in 1891; the figures have been taken from the report of the Department of Indian Affairs of that year.

³Includes 34,481 "half breeds"

⁴The smaller Indian population of the Northwest Territories in 1921 is to be ascribed to the extension of the boundaries of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba in 1912. This also accounts for the increase in the 1921 Indian population of these provinces.