

Lower Canada was approximately 163,000, whilst the newly constituted province of Upper Canada, under Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, numbered perhaps 15,000, and the addition of the maritime colonies brought the total to well over 200,000. A decade later Canada began the nineteenth century with a population of probably not less than 250,000 or 260,000. Subsequent censuses gave the populations of the different colonies as follows: Upper Canada (1824) 150,066, (1840) 432,159; Lower Canada (1822) 427,465, (1844) 697,084; New Brunswick (1824) 74,176, (1840) 156,162; Nova Scotia (1817) 81,351, (1838) 202,575; Prince Edward Island (1822) 24,600, (1841) 47,042.*

The policy of irregular census-taking was supposed to have been ended after the union of Upper and Lower Canada by an Act, passed on Sept. 18, 1841, which provided for a census in the year 1842 and every fifth year thereafter, but under this Act only the census of Upper Canada was taken and the following year on Dec. 9, the Act was amended, the reason being stated as follows: "Whereas the Census of the inhabitants of Lower Canada, for the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-two as required by an Act of this Legislature, . . . hath not been duly taken . . . and whereas it is of the greatest importance that such Census should be taken . . . Be it therefore enacted" The Census of 1844 of Lower Canada was taken under this Act.

Another Act was passed and given Royal Assent on July 28, 1847, creating a "Board of Registration and Statistics" with instructions "to collect statistics and adopt measures for disseminating or publishing the same" and providing for a census to be taken in the year 1848, to be repeated in 1850 and every fifth year thereafter. This Act resulted in the Census of Upper Canada of 1848.

Finally an Act was passed on Aug. 30, 1851, providing for a census to be taken in January, 1852, then in the year 1861 and thereafter every tenth year, and that better provision should be made for taking the census. The first census thereunder was taken in January, 1852, and, as similar censuses were taken by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, we have a regular measure of population growth in Canada over the past 80 years. The 'fifties saw a very rapid development, especially in Ontario, whilst the 'sixties showed only less substantial gains. In the years following Confederation there was a spurt, the increase between 1871 and 1881 (which included several lean years towards the end) being 635,553, or 17.23 p.c. In neither of the last two decades of the nineteenth century, however, was this record equalled either absolutely or relatively, the gains in each being under 550,000, or 12 p.c. With the end of the century the population of Canada had reached approximately five and a third millions, or twenty times that of 1800. It has increased by five millions in the past thirty years.

Expansion in the Twentieth Century.—It is within the present century that the most spectacular expansion of the population of Canada has taken place. The outstanding feature was, of course, the opening to settlement of the "last best West". The unorganized territories of British North America had been ceded to the Dominion soon after Confederation, and the West had been tapped and traversed by the Canadian Pacific Railway in the 'eighties and 'nineties. But though western population was doubled in each of these decades, it was only with the launching of a large-scale immigration movement after 1900 that western settlement and production became a first-rate economic factor. Simultaneously an almost equally striking development occurred in the industrial centres of Eastern

*A résumé of the results of all the censuses taken in Canada between 1666 and 1931 has been published in bulletin form and will be included in Vol. I, Census of 1931.