

POPULATION OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.

The Census and Statistics Act, 1905, provided for the taking of a census of population and agriculture in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1906 and in every tenth year thereafter, thus instituting, in connection with the general decennial census for all Canada, a quinquennial census of population and agriculture for the three Prairie Provinces. The quinquennial census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta was therefore taken as for June 1, 1916, and the complete results were published in a Report dated January 12, 1918. A summary of the principal data was published in the Year Book for 1918, pages 105-112.

Total Population of Prairie Provinces.—The male and female population of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (a) by provinces; (b) by the electoral districts constituted by the Representation Act, 1914 (4-5 Geo. V, c. 51); and (c) by cities, towns and villages, as compared with the population by sex for 1911 and by totals for 1901 and 1906, was published in the Year Book of 1916-17 (pp. 95-105). The total population of the three Prairie Provinces in 1916 was returned as 1,698,220, compared with 1,328,725 in 1911, 808,863 in 1906 and 419,512 in 1901. Thus the population in the three provinces has increased by 1,278,708, or 305 p.c., since the beginning of the century; by 889,357, or 110 p.c., during the last ten years; and by 369,495, or 28 p.c. during the five years ended 1916. Table 12 shows the population of the Prairie Provinces for 1901, 1906, 1911 and 1916, the population being distinguished by sex for 1911 and 1916.

12.—Population of the Prairie Provinces, 1901, 1906, 1911 and 1916.

Provinces.	1901.	1906.	1911			1916.		
	Total.	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.
Manitoba.....	255,211	365,688	253,056	208,574	461,630	294,609	259,251	553,860
Saskatchewan...	91,279	257,763	291,730	200,702	492,432	363,787	284,048	647,835
Alberta.....	73,022	185,412	223,989	150,674	374,663	277,256	219,269	496,525
Total.....	419,512	898,863	768,775	559,950	1,328,725	935,652	762,568	1,698,220

Population by Sex.—Table 13 gives the population by sex from 1870 for Manitoba and from 1901 for Saskatchewan and Alberta, with absolute and relative comparisons. For the three provinces as a whole, males increased by 103·6 p.c. and females by 79·8 p.c. from 1901 to 1906. At the end of the next five years (1911) the ratio of increase for both sexes was nearly equal, being 64·88 p.c. for males and 63·44 p.c. for females, whereas in the last Census (1916) females showed, for the three provinces as a whole, an increase of 202,618, as against 166,877 for males, being a gain in five years of 36·19 p.c. for the former, as compared with 21·71 p.c. for the latter. The records of 1916 show that this feature of population increase was common to each of the three provinces. The increase per cent in