

POPULATION OF COUNTIES

21 In Ontario Show Increases And 27 Have Smaller Population

A despatch from Ottawa, says: An analysis of the census figures shows that 21 counties have increased their population to the following extent:—

Algoma, 30,234; Carlton, 4,005; Elgin, 730; Essex, 8,802; Haldimand, 333; Halton, 2,670; Lincoln, 4,913; Muskoka, 262; Nipissing, 45,832; Ontario, 598; Parry Sound, 1,604; Peel, 622; Peterborough, 4,659; Russell, 4,252; Simcoe, 2,747; Thunder Bay and Rainy River, 32,244; Waterloo, 10,011; Welland, 10,757; Wentworth, 7,816; York, including parts of the city of Toronto, 51,857.

There are 27 counties which show decreases, as follows:—

Brant, 988; Bruce, 8,895; Dufferin, 3,296; Dundas, 1,591; Durham, 1,155; Frontenac, 2,862; Glengarry, 852; Grenville, 3,476; Grey, 3,745; Hastings, 3,463; Huron, 8,806; Kent, 1,176; Lambton, 5,308; Lanark, 2,850; Leeds, 1,050; Lennox and Addington, 2,965; Middlesex,

3,961; Norfolk, 2,037; Northumberland, 652; Oxford, 1,042; Perth, 708; Prescott, 67; Prince Edward, 694; Renfrew, 863; Stormont, 2,263; Victoria, 2,003; Wellington, 1,154.

GROWTH OF PROVINCES.

The following shows the percentage increase of the various provinces, as revealed in the census figures:

	Per cent.
Canada	33.92
Alberta	412.35
British Columbia	88.38
Manitoba	78.62
New Brunswick	6.27
Nova Scotia	7.13
Ontario	15.54
Quebec	21.62
Saskatchewan	434.52

The following divisions show percentage decreases:

	Per cent.
Prince Edward Island	10.16
North-west Territory	21.85
Yukon Territory	171.60

FEVER-INVESTED PUPILS.

Montreal Private School Dismisses 300 of Them.

A despatch from Montreal says: As they were anxious to get home for the Christmas holidays 300 pupils of a private school in this city, which was under quarantine for scarlet fever, were on Thursday allowed to leave the institution in direct defiance of the orders of Dr. J. E. Laberge of the Contagious Diseases Department at the City Hall. Dr. Laberge was notified of the fact on Friday morning. He at once sent a notification to the authorities of the school that they would be held legally responsible for damages resulting from their rash action, that is, that they will have to pay the doctors' bills of the people who get scarlet fever infection from the pupils of the school, and will be responsible for deaths that result. They can be sued for damages by the parents of children who catch the disease from a pupil of the school and die from the result. Both Dr. Laberge and Dr. Lachapelle, the Controller in charge of the Health Department, refused to divulge the name of the school.

LOCKOUT DECLARED.

160,000 Cotton Mill Operatives Out of Employment.

A despatch from Manchester, England, says: The Cotton Mill Employers' Association has declared a lockout, which became effective Dec. 27. This action has thrown out 160,000 operatives, and the mills will be closed until a final settlement of the non-union workers question has been effected.

POLICEMEN WERE HURT.

Serious Riots by Striking Carters at Dundee.

A despatch from Dundee, Scotland, says: Four policemen were badly injured as a result of Friday night's rioting by the striking carters. The strikers stoned several residences and destroyed scores of wagons. Several men who refused to strike were beaten.

Miss Josie E. Gibson was killed and Miss Lena Irving seriously injured in leaping from a railway bridge at Cainsville, on Friday, to avoid a passing engine.

COLLISION ON C. P. R.

Freight Crashed Into Standing Train West of Pembroke.

A despatch from North Bay says: A serious freight wreck occurred on Thursday night at 7 o'clock on the Canadian Pacific Railway thirty miles west of Pembroke. Two freight trains, which left North Bay about noon on Thursday, east-bound, came together in a rear-end collision near Bass Lake. The leading train had stopped for some purpose at the foot of the grade, and in the early evening darkness and by some evident mistake in back-flapping, the second train thundered down grade and crashed into the standing train, wrecking the caboose and demolishing ten cars and the locomotive. Engineer William Packer, of North Bay, was badly injured, and Fireman McKay, of Chalk River, is reported to be so seriously injured that he may die.

THREE MEN KILLED.

Powder Works at Departure Bay, Vancouver, Blown Up.

A despatch from Vancouver, B. C., says: The powder works at Departure Bay, Vancouver Island, blew up on Friday. J. Defreiss, Wm. Doe and J. Wilcox were killed, and several injured.

FINED \$2,500 EACH.

Members of Australian Coal Pool Brought to Book.

A despatch from Sydney says: All members of the coal pool have been fined \$2,500 each for a breach of the anti-trust law. Injunctions restraining the continuation of the monopoly have been granted by the courts.

EPIDEMIC IN LUMBER CAMP.

Disease Believed to be Spinal Meningitis.

A despatch from St. John, N.B., says: A special despatch from Chatham says there is an epidemic of spinal meningitis feared in that section. In one of the lumber camps in the vicinity there were three deaths, and two other cases have been reported. The nature of the disease has not yet been definitely determined, but spinal meningitis is suspected. The Provincial Board of Health are taking action.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES OF AMERICA.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Produce at Home and Abroad.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—Flour—Winter wheat, 90 per cent. patents, \$3.45 to \$3.50, seaboard. Manitoba flours: First patents, \$5.50; second patents, \$5, and strong bakers', \$4.40, on track, Toronto.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern is quoted at \$1.09, Bay ports; No. 2 Northern, \$1.06, and No. 3 at \$1.02, Bay ports. Ontario Wheat—No. 2 white, red and mixed, 88 to 89c, outside.

Peas—Good shipping peas, \$1.10, outside.

Oats—Car lots of No. 2 Ontario, outside, at 43 1/2c to 44c, and of No. 3 at 42 to 42 1/2c; on track, Toronto, 46 to 46 1/2c; No. 2 Western Canada Oats, 47c, and feed, 45c, Bay ports.

Corn—No. 3 American yellow, 68 1/2c, Toronto freight.

Rye—93 to 94c, outside, for No. 2.

Buckwheat—61 to 62c, outside.

Bran—Manitoba bran, \$23.50, in bags, Toronto freights. Shorts, \$25.00.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Winter stock, \$3 to \$4.50 per barrel.

Beans—Small lots of hand-picked, \$2.30 to \$2.35 per bushel.

Honey—Extracted, in tins, 11 to 12c per lb. Combs, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Baled Hay—No. 1 at \$16 to \$17, on track, and No. 2 at \$14 to \$14.50.

Baled Straw—\$7.50 to \$8, on track, Toronto.

Potatoes—Car lots, in bags, \$1.30, and Delawares at \$1.35. Out of store, \$1.45 to \$1.50.

Poultry—Wholesale prices of dressed poultry: Chickens, 12 to 12 1/2c per lb; fowl, 8 to 10c; ducks, 12 to 13c; geese, 12 to 12 1/2c; turkeys, 19 to 20c. Live poultry, about 2c lower than the above.

BUTTER AND EGGS.

Butter—Dairy, choice, in wrappers, 27 to 29c; store lots, 23 to 25c; and inferior, tubs, 17 to 18c. Creamery quoted at 31 to 32c for rolls, and 29 to 30c for solids, per lb.

Eggs—Strictly new-laid, 45c, delivered here, and fresh at 27 to 29c per dozen, in case lots.

Cheese—Large, 15 1/2c, and twins at 15 3/4c per lb.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Bacon—Long clear, 11 1/2 to 11 3/4c per lb. in case lots. Pork, short cut, \$22.50; do., mess, \$19.50 to \$20. Hams—Medium to light, 16 to 16 1/2c; heavy, 14 to 14 1/2c; rolls, 10 3/4 to 11c; breakfast bacon, 16 to 17c; backs, 19 to 20c.

Lard—Tierces, 11 3/4c; tubs, 12c; pails, 12 1/4c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—Oats—Canadian Western No. 2, 47 1/2c; do., No. 3, 46c; do., extra No. 1 feed, 46 1/2c; do., No. 2 local white, 46c; No. 3 do., 45 1/2c; No. 4 do., 44 1/2c. Barley—Man. feed, 64c; malting, 96c to \$1.00. Buckwheat, No. 2, 65 to 66c. Flour—Manitoba Spring patents, firsts, \$5.60; do., seconds, \$5.10; do., strong bakers', \$4.90; Winter patents, choice, \$4.75 to \$5; straight rollers, \$4.25 to \$4.40; do., in bags, \$1.95 to \$2.05. Rolled oats—Barrels, \$5; do., bags, 90 lbs., \$2.37 1/2. Bran, \$23. Shorts, \$25. Middlings, \$27 to \$28. Moultrie, \$29 to \$34. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$15 to \$15.50. Cheese—Finest westerns, 14 1/4 to 14 5/8c; do., finest easterns, 14 to 14 1/2c; Butter—Choice creamery, 30 1/2 to 31 1/2c. do., seconds, 29 to 30c. Eggs—Fresh, 60 to 65c; do., selected, 30 to 35c; do., No. 1 stock, 26 to 27c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, \$1.25 to \$1.27 1/2.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, Dec. 26.—Wheat—December, \$1.02 7/8; May, \$1.06 7/8; July, \$1.07 3/4; No. 1 hard, \$1.05 7/8; No. 1 Northern, \$1.05 to \$1.05 3/8; No. 2 Northern, \$1.03 to \$1.05 3/8; No. 3 wheat, \$1.01 to \$1.01 3/8. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 57 to 58c. Oats—No. 3 white, 45 to 45 1/2c. Rye—No. 2, 87 1/2 to 88 1/2c. Bran—\$23 to \$23.50. Flour—First patents, \$5 to \$5.30; second patents, \$4.60 to \$4.90; first clears, \$3.50 to \$3.85; second clears, \$2.40 to \$2.50.

Buffalo, Dec. 26.—Spring wheat—No. 1 Northern, carloads, store \$1.12 1/4; Winter, No. 2 red, \$1.00; No. 3 red, 97c; No. 2 white, 99c. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 66 1/2c; No. 4 yellow, 64 1/2c, all on track, through billed. Oats—No. 2 white, 52c; No. 3 white, 51 1/2c; No. 4 white, 50 1/2c. Barley—Malting, \$1.18 to \$1.25.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Montreal, Dec. 26.—Butchers' cattle, choice, \$6.25 to \$6.35; do., medium, \$4 to \$5.50; do., common, \$3.50 to \$3.75; canners, \$1.50 to \$3.25; butchers' cattle, choice cows, \$5.25 to \$5.50; do., medium, \$4.50 to \$5; do., bulls, \$4.50 to \$5.50; milkers, choice, each, \$75; do., common and medium, each, \$50 to \$60; springers, \$30 to \$40. Sheep—Ewes, \$4 to \$4.25; bucks and culls, \$3.50 to \$2.75; lambs, \$5.75 to \$6.25. Hogs—F.o.b., \$7 to \$7.25. Calves—\$3 to \$12.

GRAIN BLOCKADE IN WEST

Farmers Said to be Unable to Meet Their Current Obligations.

A despatch from Winnipeg, says: Voicing the demand of western Canada for relief from the burden of unjust railway rates, the Winnipeg Board of Trade declares the necessity of Parliament affirming by an act on the Dominion statute books the principle that the rates shall be no greater in the prairie provinces than in Ontario and Quebec, unless it is proved that the costs of operation are greater in the west. The board expressed its relief that the costs of operation in the west are "no greater, if as great."

Searching investigation is demanded, with counsel "free from all railway corporation control," to be engaged by the Dominion Government to act with the board and other western interests. This formal action was taken at a representative meeting of the board and is the first gun of a determined campaign, for which Winnipeg business men have been quietly preparing for months.

The Railway Commission of Canada has been formally requested to take cognizance of and to take such action as may be necessary in connection with the car shortage in the western provinces, which during the past two months has reached proportions resulting in a practical paralysis of business in some districts, and has meant a severe

loss to farmers and business men. This action has been taken by the Board of Trade after the receipt of an exhaustive report from the special committee appointed some weeks ago to make inquiries and submit a report to the board. A letter has been forwarded to Chairman Mabee, in which the Board of Trade makes the flat charge that the railways have failed to fulfill their duties as common carriers, and the farmers of the west have been unable to market their grain, with the result that they are face to face with obligations they are unable to meet through no fault of their own. The congestion of grain, it is also charged, has resulted in the deterioration of the grade in transport. The board also submits that the railways have not made and are not preparing to make improvements sufficient to cope with the steadily increasing volume of traffic in the west.

Reports from many points in Saskatchewan still indicate an acute condition of affairs. The Outlook of Saskatchewan reports that the situation is unbearable, as the elevators are overflowing and the farmers' waggons are lined up in the streets and dozens of farmers with grain to market and bills to meet are in despair. Several points contiguous to Saskatoon report similar conditions.

SINGLE TAX IN ALBERTA.

Premier Introduces Bill to Provide Municipal Constitution.

A despatch from Edmonton, says: Premier Sifton has introduced a bill in the Alberta Legislature which stipulates that within seven years the single tax principle shall be observed by all established municipalities, and that it shall be observed from the outset by municipalities hereafter established in Alberta. The bill, in its entirety, will provide a model constitution for municipalities now in existence and that will be created in the future in this Province. It contains 377 sections, and it is the aim of the Government to include in these every consideration that enters into the administration of a municipality.

TRAGEDY AT RIVERS.

Innocent Bystander Shot by Toronto Strike-breaker.

A despatch from Winnipeg, says: Alfred Thomas, a Toronto strike-breaker in the G.T.R. shops at Rivers, Man., on Wednesday shot and fatally wounded Arthur Elsford and seriously injured John Gibbons, strikers, in a melee in a hotel. Some of the strikers got into an argument, and Thomas was struck on the back of the head with a club. He pulled his revolver and fired until it was empty. Thomas had been working at Rivers for about two months, having gone there from Toronto to help break the strike. Police Magistrate Bates took an ante-mortem state-

ment from Elsford, who was porter in the hotel and an innocent bystander.

SHOT BANK MESSENGER.

Sensational Daylight Murder in Paris Street.

A despatch from Paris, France, says: The latest sensational murder here occurred on Thursday morning in broad daylight in the heart of one of the crowded thoroughfares of the city. A bank messenger, who carried a satchel containing \$60,000, was stopped by four bandits. They invited the messenger to turn the satchel over to them, and when he refused and offered resistance they shot him dead. The thieves then seized the satchel and jumped into awaiting automobiles. The murder and robbery were witnessed by thousands of amazed and frightened citizens.

ATTACKED BY COW.

Farmer's Daughter was Probably Fatally Injured.

A despatch from Kingston, says: Attacked by a cow, in a stable on her father's farm, Mary Sills, aged 14, daughter of Geo. Sills, McLean Post-office, Hinchinbrooke, was brought to the General Hospital on Wednesday suffering from internal injuries and her recovery is at present time doubtful.

The Ogilvie Company are looking for a site for a new flour mill west of Winnipeg.

TRIP INTO UNGAVA WILDS

Gold-Seekers Will Attempt To Cross Territory Untrodten By Whites.

A despatch from Ottawa, says: News was received in Ottawa, from Frank W. Porter, one of the members of the Ungava gold expedition which left Dane, in the Nipissing mining district, on the overland trail about a month ago. The letter was posted at the last Hudson Bay post from which mail could be sent on the route of the gold-seekers. The party have with them provisions sufficient to last a few months, and expect to augment their supplies with what wild game they may be able to kill on the trail. The party is made up of eight experienced prospectors and explorers, several of whom have had experience in the Klondike, and who went into that country over the old Edmonton and White Pass trails. The party is headed by Will Donaldson of Cobalt, also a Klondike miner, and former manager of the City of Cobalt and Wyand mines at Cobalt.

Among old bushmen the trip is looked upon as an extremely hazardous one. The party will go over and into territory unexplored and supposedly untrodten by white

men. This particular territory is almost totally uninhabited, except by a few roving tribes of Eskimos who give the white man a wide berth.

The letter was brought to the nearest postoffice by a party of Indian fur traders, and was written on December 2. All were well, the letter stated, and the party was to leave the post that afternoon to continue its way into the wilderness. With the Indians at the post the coming of the party was a big event. The members of the expedition are each equipped with furlined suits, with Capuchin coats, sealskin boots and leggings, etc., and are fully prepared for the hardships they will have to endure.

It transpires that the party, which is headed for the northeastern shores of Hudson Bay, is making the desperate trip to head off two American boats, which it is reported are out-fitting at Boston and New York to proceed to the placer grounds said to have been located by the Roy brothers, French-Canadian trappers, three years ago. One of the Roys is a member of the Donaldson party.

CONSERVE PUBLIC HEALTH

Provincial Government Will Divide Ontario Into Districts.

A despatch from Toronto says: In order to take steps to provide better sanitary conditions throughout the province, as well as to prevent the pollution of waters and streams, the Provincial Government, it is understood, will so amend the Public Health Act at the next session of the Legislature as to provide for the appointment of seven Medical Health officers for the province, who will be assigned to different territory

and put in complete charge of all sanitation and public health matters in their respective districts. These men will be paid good salaries, and the municipalities will be called upon to contribute. They all will be under the chief health officer for the province, Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, it is understood. The Health Act at present is under revision, and several other important changes may be made when the bill is considered by the Legislature.