

Report of a Preliminary and General Social Survey of Ft. Wm
March 1913, Dept of Temperance & Moral Reform,
Methodist & Presbyt. Churches

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Fort William

A RETROSPECT.

Fort William was founded in 1669 when Du Lhut, the French Explorer, erected a hut at the mouth of the Kaministiquia River.

Forty-eight years after, Lieutenant Robertal De Lanone, built a fort where his countryman had rested.

In 1771 Verandrye passed through the settlement and in 1782 the North-west Fur-trading Company established headquarters there. Furs from the West were brought in by travellers, who sailed down the lakes in canoes on the hazardous journey to Montreal. The same thing goes on to-day on a larger scale. Instead of the travellers, the freight trains of three trans-continental railways and the freight boats of many steamship lines, carry the goods eastward, and instead of the small trading-post, there is a City of nearly 25,000.

In 1805 the City was named Fort William, in honor of the Honourable William MacGillivray.

The Hudson's Bay Company and the North-west Fur-trading Company joined hands in 1821, and the Town gained new importance through the resulting increase of traffic.

The Hudson's Bay Fort was erected at the foot of McTavish Street in 1835, the employees of the Company being principally Scotch and French, who lived within the Stockade.

The Indian Mission was established in 1846, and the mails to Fort Garry began in 1855.

After 1863 a few settlers came, and they established themselves along the river front engaging in farming, mining and trapping.

In 1868 the Dawson Route began, bringing new life to the settlement, and in 1870 it was further enlivened when the Red River Expedition, under General Wolseley, passed through.

The first sod of the C. P. R. was turned by the late Adam Oliver in 1875.

In 1880 there were perhaps 2,000 white people, all told, principally Presbyterians and Anglicans, although the Presbyterians and the Methodists had the only organized churches. The Roman Catholics had a mission in the settlement from very early times, but did not have a priest situated among the people until the early nineties.

The C.P.R. built their roundhouse at Westfort in 1877, near where the Western Elevator now stands.

Westfort included the Town Plot and the Blackwood addition, the centre of the village being the corner of Ann and Brown Streets.

They also had lumber mills and a brick plant, but it was really a Canadian Pacific Railway Village, composed mainly of Canadian citizens.

In 1884 the first wheat that ever came down to Fort William for shipment, was loaded at a

point near where the new C.P.R. Bridge crosses the Kaministiquia River, and was wheeled by hand from the car to the vessel. In the same year the first of the elevators "A" was erected and is still in commission. Further storage facilities were soon provided.

In 1886, the Canadian Pacific Railway opened up and the first trans-continental train passed through Fort William.

The Canadian Northern Railway came through in 1891 bringing a few foreign navvies.

In 1892 the C.P.R. moved to Eastfort, bringing their workmen and many of the houses with them. They settled principally in the Hudson Bay Plot on Pruden, Finlayson and Heron Streets, though a few come up on Brodie Street. The foreigners settled on McTavish and McIntyre Streets, and rapidly increased in numbers. This was the beginning of the Coal Dock Section, which constitutes such a problem for the City to-day.

In 1902 the Board of Trade was organized, and has since done much for the material advancement of the City. The greater part of the employment was provided by the Railways, the Elevators, the Shipping and Coal Yards, till 1906, when the Canada Iron Corporation opened in Westfort. Their workmen, mainly non-English-speaking people, then began building in the Wayland and Blackwood additions. A number of them settled in the immediate neighborhood of the foundry, erecting small shacks, where there was great overcrowding, and most insanitary conditions. Only a remnant of a few shacks now remains of this settlement. They now occupy the block adjoining the Canadian Car and Foundry Company's property.

CHARACTER OF FORT WILLIAM'S DEVELOPMENT.

Fort William has a distinct advantage over every western City, with perhaps two exceptions, in that it combines the greatest number of advantageous conditions, both natural and artificial.

As a result of these conditions the Dominion Government and the Railway Companies have spent vast sums developing and are continuing to develop harbor and terminal facilities while the manufacturers, recognizing the advantages offered, are locating great iron and other industries. So rapidly is this taking place that land values are rising and hundreds of houses of every kind are being built. This reacts on the supply men who are overworked trying to get materials, and this crowds the transportation companies, manufacturers and others, and so the whole place seems to be gaining momentum very rapidly.

Naturally the manufacturers want the water frontage, and all along the banks of the river are to be seen industries of one kind and another. From the mouths of the river westward, and all over the two Islands land is being occupied or developed for industries. This means that the residential property is being kept back from the water and the Vickers Addition, Hedley and Hyde Parks and Kingsway forms one big first-class residential area with Syndicate Avenue and Kingsway to carry the traffic, and Isabella Street to connect these.

Many of the finest houses in the City are in this area, which is very rapidly filling. Here, prices which four years ago ranged from fifteen to twenty dollars per foot are now thirty to sixty dollars per foot.

Carrick Park, Fairview, Wiley Addition and Victoria Park which lie to the north-east of the best residential section, form a very fine area which is already more built up than the finest mentioned district but of a less costly class of building. The main business street of the City-Victoria Avenue runs through this area, being fed by Syndicate Avenue.

Prices on Victoria Avenue have risen rapidly within the last two years. One piece 204 feet

frontage, sold two years ago at six hundred dollars per front foot sold again last year at sixteen hundred per front foot. This is one of the finest properties in the business section.

Residential lots in Carrick Park are valued now at thirty to fifty dollars per front foot, and Wiley Addition, twenty to forty dollars per front foot.

In the West End of the City, near the big car works, lots may be had at from five hundred down to two hundred in proportion to the distance from the big works. These are specially suited to the workingman.

The tendency in Fort William is to grow westward, but this is practically the only way it can grow, because the river and mountain are south, Lake Superior is to the east, and Port Arthur is north. Hence Victoria Avenue, Isabella Street, Walsh and such streets will probably develop the most rapidly.

Fort William prices do not boom, there has been one short excited period, but there is a regular steady growth of certain sections and periodic increases of prices.

There are many large blocks of acreage undivided in the City, in fact Fort William has over fourteen hundred acres, exclusive of the Islands, unsubdivided at the present writing, a record hard to equal in western Canada to-day. This leaves plenty of room for the City to grow within itself.

THE FIELD.

The area of the City is 9,865 acres. The settlement really began about 1863; railway construction followed in 1874. It was incorporated as a Town in 1892, and as a City in 1907.

The early settlers were mainly Scotch people. The McKellars, Baurins and McVicar, as the Scotch names of the streets in the Hudson Bay Plot testify.

The first settlers were engaged in the fur-trade, in fishing, and later came saw-mills, brick yards, and a stove foundry.

To-day the chief industries are those represented by the Canada Iron Corporation, the Canada Iron and Foundry Co., The Seaman-Kent Mfg. Co., The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., The Copp Stove Foundry, besides the elevator business, the Coal, Grain, and General Freight-handling business, and the works in connection with a thriving lake port and railway centre.

Communication with the surrounding country is gained by several suburban roads, and better communication is being promoted by the construction of the Mount McKay and Kakabeka Falls Railway.

One finds change in the character of every section of the City, but the most extensive changes are to be found in the Westfort and coal dock's districts. The coal dock section has become the foreign quarter, and is rapidly developing into a slum. The part of the City adjoining the coal docks, across the tracks, is also being invaded by the foreign element. Formerly this was entirely occupied by English-speaking tradesmen, but now it houses a great many Finns, and other foreign peoples. The Finns have a labor hall in this district. The Westfort section is developing into an Industrial section. Many new industries, such as the National Tube Works, The Canada Car and Foundry Co., employing a large number of non-Anglo-Saxons, have settled in the vicinity, which is not provided with sewers, or other health precautions. It will require much attention from the Municipal authorities to prevent the development of a problem, which will take years to solve. The whole water front is becoming industrialized, through the increase of trackage and wharfage, the erection of elevators and manufacturing plants.

POPULATION OF FORT WILLIAM, 1891-1912.

1891	1,980	1897	3,316	1903	5,718
1892	2,007	1898	3,527	1904	6,491
1893	2,088	1899	4,298	1905	7,532
1894	2,016	1900	4,093	1906	10,034
1895	2,075	1901	4,795		
1896	2,652	1902	5,641		

	Ward 1, COAL DOCKS & FOREIGN DIST.	Ward 2.	Ward 3.	Ward 4.	Totals.
1907	5,210	5,221	1,197	2,354	13,982
1908	6,144	5,689	1,341	2,599	15,773
1909	7,173	5,982	1,462	3,387	18,004
1910	7,660	6,693	1,678	3,827	19,858
1911	7,912	6,741	1,766	4,225	20,644
1912	8,383	7,669	1,998	4,757	22,807

The greatest density is to be found in Ward 1, which includes the coal docks, and the foreign district, to the North-west across the tracks. The present population of Ward 1 is 8,384, considerably more than one-third of the population. In this section the Ruthenians are probably in the majority. We reach this conclusion as the result of the house-to-house canvass of two blocks in the coal docks, and one in Westfort, in each of which the Ruthenians were found to be largely in the majority, the Italians being second in numbers, with a few Slovaks and Bulgarians. There has been no deterioration of values, but in some sections, where the foreigners having encroached, there has really been a deterioration, since they have taken from the general appearance and desirability of these portions of the City.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

WATER.

The source of supply is Loch Lomond, a lake five miles to the south-west of the city. The watershed, of which Loch Lomond serves as a basin, is almost pure granite, which accounts for its softness and purity.

Loch Lomond is 333 feet above the city level, thus a gravity pressure of 85 to 115 pounds to the square inch is obtained. The water is conveyed to the city by an 18-inch pipe line, part of which is tunnelled through Mount McKay. The Provincial Board of Health in their report on Loch Lomond water, says "Free from harmful bacteria and chemical pollution."

The entire system is owned and operated by the City of Fort William and installed at a cost of \$816,931.00.

GAS.

As yet, the city is without gas. It is a live topic at the present time. The City Council has appointed a special committee to go into this matter fully. It is recognized by the citizens that we

require gas and require it badly; thus, we may assume that the city will have a gas supply within a year or eighteen months. The question as to whether it will be municipally or privately owned has not yet been decided.

ELECTRICITY.

Hydro-electric power is generated from Kakabeka Falls, seventeen miles west on the Kaministiquia River. It is privately owned by the Kaministiquia Power Co. The rates charged are \$25.00 per H.P. per annum for 24-hour service.

This rate was originally made by the Power Company to the city of Fort William and was given as a sort of bonus to have the Hydro-electric Power developed. There is a clause in the agreement between the Power Company and the City that when an amount of 20,000 H.P. is used, the rates will be reduced to \$20.00 per H.P. per annum for 24-hour service. As the amount used is now getting very close to 20,000, the rates will consequently be reduced at no distant date. The company make their own rate to manufacturers. About 35,000 H.P. has already been developed. The Kaministiquia Power Company hold the record of America for efficiency and steady service.

The total mileage of streets within the limits of the city is approximately 350 miles; five of which are paved, eight gravelled, and 110 graded.

Electricity is used exclusively in street lighting.

The city has some two miles of cluster globe lights on both sides of the street, presenting a very pretty appearance, besides giving several times the light of ordinary lights. A portion of the city is lit by single arc lights in the centre of the street and the balance of the lighting is by means of arc lights on Street corners.

Practically all the business and residential portions of the city are served with public utilities, which are water, sewers, telephone, electric light and street railway.

STREET RAILWAY.

The Street Railway is a public utility in Fort William. Schedules are arranged to suit the conveniences of the working people who form the greater portion of the population. Extra cars are run between the hours of 6 and 9 a.m. and 5 and 8 p.m., to accommodate this service. Owing to the rapidly increasing population of the city the management are experiencing difficulty in securing equipment to keep pace with the growth and development. The inconveniences which have heretofore been experienced are being overcome and with additional equipment and trackage bid fair to give good service for the future.

The Telephone System cost \$174,000, and the Street Railway cost \$372,500.

In 1911, 700 buildings were erected. The total cost being \$2,700,000. The amount expended on sanitation was \$193,977, which amount included \$147,720 expended on sewers and connections.

POPULATION.

The total number of inhabitants is 22,807. The Canadians predominate, numbering 8,568, according to the assessment commissioner. The English, Scotch and Irish number 6,388; the Americans 517, leaving 7,304 as the number of all other nationalities, about one-third of the total population. We have no doubt, however, that there is a far greater proportion of non-Anglo-Saxons, and the numbers of such, found in the blocks investigated, would bear this out. The illiteracy of the City is in the main confined to this latter section of the population, and little is being done for their education except in the work of the public schools for the children. English still remains the language spoken in public and social life, though

the large number of Ruthenians is apt to change this soon, since they are becoming an ever more important element in the City's life. The most congested blocks are to be found in the Westfort and Coal Docks Sections, many of which have 300 to 350 people. While this may not seem a great number, so many are crowded in the houses that there is a very serious congestion. The causes of this congestion are mainly the scarcity of houses and the high rents asked. Then, too, there is so much seasonal work in Fort William, that large numbers of men are out of employment during the winter months, when navigation is closed, and construction work on the railroads has been suspended. There being no other place for these men, they crowd into the houses. The dwellings in the Coal Docks and Westfort sections are quite inferior to those of other portions of the City. Many live in one-storey frame dwellings, some in shacks, not a few of which are on the lanes. As for sanitation the conditions are much inferior to those of other portions of the City, there being practically no sewer connections, and little or no garbage removal. The immigrants have their own churches to a considerable degree. The Orthodox Greek Church, the St. Peter's Roman Catholic, and the Italian Roman Catholic Church, in the coal docks sections are attended almost entirely by this non-Anglican element. The social, political and industrial forces of the community are having little force in the Canadianization of these peoples in as far as the adults are concerned at least. The children learn English in the schools, but the older members of the immigrant community have little connection with the libraries and opportunities for instruction in English are few. They attend their own churches, and therefore have no opportunity of becoming Canadianized through these institutions. They have their own societies and their own social gatherings. The English papers scarcely reach them at all, such reading as they do generally being in their own native papers. In the industries, they work in their own national groups to a very great extent, this being true of the foundries and all the railroad construction work, so that there they come into little contact with Canadian life.

The population in the surrounding district is small and there are few who live outside the City's limits, who come in daily for public purposes, though the percentage of suburban residents is likely to increase with the growth of the City's population. As yet, however, there is a considerable portion of the City's area not built up and there is a large number of vacant lots.

NATIONALITIES.

	1910.	1911.	1912.
Canadians	6,974	7,707	8,568
English	3,802	3,501	3,822
Scotch	1,504	1,455	1,604
Italians	863	1,265	1,390
Poles	532	968	1,050
Finlanders	651	901	985
Irish	878	878	962
Hungarian	209	703	776
Austrians	536	519	571
Americans	368	448	547
Galicians	705	437	480
French	791	310	341
Swedes	407	251	303
Hebrews	158	245	269
Norwegians	140	199	218
Chinese	85	144	147
Assyrians	159	116	127
Germans	207	115	126
Russians	161	109	119

Welsh	11	80	87
Ruthenians	40	58	63
Persians	42	45	49
Negroes	25	45	48
Greeks	38	42	46
Bohemians	8	26	29
Danes	30	22	23
Japs	...	14	14
Dutch	11	13	13
Manx	4	3	3
Roumanians	73	25	27

RELIGIONS.

Roman Catholic	6,421	6,213	6,812
Presbyterian	3,779	4,180	4,721
Church of England	3,355	3,591	3,935
Methodists	2,429	2,494	2,755
Lutherans	2,057	1,419	1,551
Protestants	858	1,121	1,235
Baptists	519	558	613
Jew's Church	252	343	377
Orthodox Greek		174	191
Christian Science		30	35
Salvation Army	12	24	29
Congregational	34	12	16
Quakers		4	4
Greek Catholic	142	481	553
Total	19,858	20,644	22,807

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION.

Fort William does not enjoy a separate charter, but comes under the general charter for all Cities of its class in the Province. It has neither a commission form of government nor a Board of Control, but has a City Council of twelve members and a Mayor elected for one year. The Council has committees on finance, public works, public utilities, fire, water and light, licenses, police and relief, a property committee, and inter-City's committee and a railway committee. There is a City Board of Health of 6 members under which the work of the Medical Health Officer is performed and there is a City Park Committee of six members.

Fort William is actively engaged in an effort to induce industries to locate within its bounds, and for this purpose an Industrial Bureau has been organized. It consists of the Mayor and representatives from the City Council and the Board of Trade. There is an industrial commissioner in charge of this department. There is also a Public Library Committee, of which the Mayor is an ex-officio member.

Very few of the departments publish annual reports, and information concerning their work has to come directly from the City Hall. In 1912, the total assessment was \$23,328,613.50. The total value of assessable property was \$24,362,267.50, but \$1,752,940 was exempt. The total value of land was \$18,099,980. The tax rate in 1912 was 26 mills and the assessment was made on about 75 or 80 per cent. of the market value of the property.

ASSESSMENT ON

	Land.	Buildings.	Business Assm't & Tax. Income.	Total.
1907	\$3,293,478 00	2,418,010	\$614,782 00	\$6,326,270 00
1908	4,335,252 00	3,085,930	890,245 00	8,311,427 00
1909	6,840,707 00	5,498,105	1,030,665 00	13,369,477 00
1910	9,424,622 00	7,129,650	1,562,145 00	18,116,417 00
1911	11,374,873 00	8,317,349	1,940,633 00	21,632,855 00
1912	12,629,264 00	8,955,424	1,743,925 00	23,328,613 50

It is stated that the assessment on land is somewhat higher than that on buildings. The total amount of all revenue in 1910, according to the City Treasurer's statement is \$497,825.35. The total expenditure was \$4,456,662.66. The City is borrowing to pay current expenses but has not yet reached the borrowing limit. In the making of the budget the estimates for the year are prepared by the different departments, who submit them to the finance committee of the City Council, before being placed before the Council. As a rule, there is little public discussion of the items of the budget.

SOCIAL INFLUENCES.

The City has 2,255 telephones, and of these 579 are in business houses, and 1,676 in private homes. There are few telephones in the surrounding community; perhaps 12 close at hand, which have free call from either of the two cities.

To give expression to the popular will, the people gather mainly in the Auditorium of the City Hall. The Finns use their own hall for this purpose, the school-houses and churches being seldom called into service in this manner.

As to dominating political, social and economic movements, one might mention the rapid industrial development of the City, and the effort being made to encourage manufactories to locate within its bounds.

The chief interest on the social side lies in the rapid increase of the non-Anglo-Saxon population. In a few more years they will constitute 50 per cent. of the City's population, and according as they are Canadianized and lifted to a Canadian standard of living, will they make or mar its life.

Among the younger citizens there is a feeling that before many years the two Cities will be united. One prominent business man stated that the unsettled differences existing between the older citizens of the two communities, was all that prevented their union now. There is bound to be a greater attention to the district about the two cities, but at present little is being done in the way of its development. With the growth of population will come the need of an agricultural community, and already their interest is beginning to centre in this question.

There may be said to be three distinct grades of society: The more well-to-do, living in the better residential quarters, who have made a competence from real-estate investments; the Artisan class, consisting mainly of English-speaking people, who have come to provide the skilled labour for the City's numerous industries, and the ever-increasing horde of unskilled workers; Ruthenians, Russians, Italians, and many others who do the railway construction work and the rough labour and freight-handling about the factories and docks.

The greatest church growth at present is among the non-Anglo-Saxon population; an Italian Roman Catholic Church, and an Orthodox Greek Church, having recently been erected. The Methodists have opened an institution in the Coal Dock Section, where instruction in English and

Domestic Science is given. The Baptists have also opened a Ruthenian Baptist Church and the Presbyterians are now endeavoring to organize a Ruthenian work.

The great need of the City's church life is the social message and the provision of social service agencies, especially among the Immigrant peoples, who are bound to constitute such a large proportion of the population.

The church influence has been chiefly confined to the English-speaking peoples, although the Roman Catholic Church is gaining ground rapidly among the new-comers.

A visit to the Catholic Churches in the Coal Dock Section on a Sunday morning reveals the fact that these churches are bringing the men to their doors; they constituted the vast majority of the congregation.

A consideration of the social clubs for men or boys in the city would involve an inquiry into the number of social clubs among the immigrant peoples and this could not be done without an expenditure of time and effort impossible in this survey. The Y.M.C.A. and C.Y.M.A. have a membership of over 800; the annual fee for boys averages \$5.00, and for men, \$15.00. The total membership in the C.Y.M.A. is over 150, with an annual fee of \$5.00 for men and \$2.00 for boys. These Associations have their own buildings for their meetings and activities. The "Kaministiquia" is perhaps the only social club in the city where liquor is openly a feature of the entertainment provided, this organization having a club license. Liquor is freely used in the social gatherings of the immigrant people but little other entertainment is available for them. The liquor dealers carry their wares to the immigrant people and liquor is peddled from house to house in the Coal Docks and West Fort William sections. The people who have more wholesome entertainment to provide do not usually force it upon the new-comers. The Y.M.C.A. has a wide range of activities covering athletics, literary, musical and social features. The C.Y.M.A. has a gymnasium and a debating programme and similar activities, only on a much smaller scale. The work of both these organizations is almost entirely confined to the English-speaking people although the Y.M.C.A. has night classes in the Coal Dock Section two nights a week for the instruction of the immigrant in speaking English. The general tendencies of these two organizations are towards the conservation and upbuilding of the young Canadian manhood of the community and the people of the city have made no investments which pay them a higher dividend. One regrets that similar opportunities are not available for the young new-comers who stand in such great need of them.

There are no clubs in Fort William for young women and girls which can be truly classed as social clubs. The most influential clubs in the city are the Women's Canadian Club, with a membership of 250, the Daughters of the Empire with a membership of 150, and the Women's Institute with a membership of 100. There is a movement on foot at present which will probably result in the establishment of a hostelry for women and girls and the desirable social features will likely be attached to it.

POLITICAL LIFE.

The voting strength of the City is as follows:—3,927 for Municipal By-law. This includes only the property owners, and among these there are many who have more than one vote; 51,714 votes for Aldermen, and here, too, many can vote more than once, through owning property in different wards. 41,762 votes may be cast in the Mayoralty Contest, and here there are no repeats.

Heretofore, the Brotherhoods of the Churches have taken little active part in the political life of the City. Socialism has played its part; labor has been organized as well, but the Church forces have suffered through lack of organization.

Recently an amalgamation movement has been promoted, and what has been called the "Consolidated Church Clubs," has been organized. This organization tries to enlist as members the men of the churches. The men of each church elect three delegates who, with the pastor, constitute the

representation to the executive council of the consolidated church clubs. The Executive meets every month. The whole aim of the organization is the promotion of the City's welfare and righteousness. If the church men rally to this organization the success of the cause of right in future political contests is assured.

There have been no conspicuous cases of graft or malfeasance in the Municipal Government. If one were to mention the most glaring weakness in the municipal life of Fort William to-day, it would be the lack of attention on the part of the proper authorities to the health and standards of living, of the people whom it has induced to locate within its bounds. The whole attention is upon the securing of industries with no regard for the housing of the people, who come to man them. Instead of preparing the City for a large population first and then bringing in the industries, the process is vice versa. Surveys are made in hazardous fashion, as best suits the real estate interests, with little thought for city planning, when there should be a careful study of the City's future. Its factory section should be located, the plots for workingmen's homes mapped out and a sewerage service installed before houses are allowed to be built. Under the present programme the people are brought in with no regard for health or sanitary conditions, and a problem is at once created for the health authorities, which keeps the small over-worked staff busy in an effort to solve what might easily have been prevented, to say nothing of the disease and deaths brought on the City by such a policy.

RECREATIONAL LIFE.

1.—*Pool-Rooms.*

On March 10th, all the pool-rooms of the City were visited at 9 p.m. A list of 19 pool-rooms had been supplied, taken from the record of licensed pool-rooms at the City Hall, but 5 more not mentioned in this list, were found, making a total of 24 pool-rooms. One, however, was not used at the time, leaving 23 actually in operation, of these 3 were in Westfort. At the time of this visit 255 persons were found in the pool-rooms of the City, those of Westfort being found the most objectionable. These rooms were under inspection for 2½ hours in the evening, in which period there were 30 persons at the Alexandria, 50 at the Queen's; 33 at the Fredrica, and 23 at the Western. In the Fredrica, the investigators found both drinking and gambling. The Ruthenian pool-room at Westfort polled 28 persons at 9 p.m.

2.—*Moving Picture Shows.*

The seating capacity of the two moving picture theatres of the City is said to be 1,050; the Corona, 750, and the Palace, 300. It was found, however, on the evening they were visited that the Corona had an audience of 970, and the Palace of 362. In the latter the majority were non-English-speaking, the estimate being as follows:—English-speaking, 145; Foreign, 217. Of the foreigners, it was estimated there were 138 men, 37 women, 14 boys and 28 girls; and of the English-speaking, 118 were men, 11 women, 8 boys and 8 girls. In the Corona the percentage of foreigners was much smaller, but as the audience was considerably larger, such definite figures could not be obtained.

3.—*Dance-Halls.*

There are really no dance-halls, properly so called, in the City, since the two places mainly used are not licensed for this purpose from the City Hall and are of a semi-private nature. They are in the hands of a Canadian and a Pole. When visited, one hall had 30 men and 20 women, while the other had 50 men and 30 women. The average age of those present was about 25. In the Polish dance-hall dances are held weekly. They are a sort of community-family affair, and the fee is 5c. per number. They have no regular hour for closing. Concerning these two, little objec-

tion can be made as they are merely amusement places providing entertainment in lieu of something better, which the community has failed to provide. There are two skating rinks in the city, which provide an alternative, but, because of the severity of the winter season, much of the amusement must be indoors, a fact which the community has not yet thoroughly realized.

Since this, information has come to hand that a dance-hall of a more objectionable character is located in Westfort on Gore Street, opposite the Fredrica Hotel.

INDUSTRIAL LIFE.

The chief industrial plants located in Fort William are:

Men employed.

The Canada Iron Corporation	200
The Copp Stove Co.	100
The Seaman-Kent Manufacturing Co.	250
The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. (daily capacity, 15,000 barrels)	50
The Fort William Coallette Co.	20
The Fort William Broom Company	10
The Kakabeka Falls Brewing Co.	10
The Alsip Brick and Tile Co.	20
* The Pigeon River Lumber Co.	20
The Piper Brick Co.	10
The Fort William Brass Foundry	10
The Algoma Steam Laundry	70
The Terminal Elevators	250
* The Canadian Pacific Railway (approximately)	3,000
* The Grand Trunk Pacific Railway (approximately)	1,000
* The Canadian Northern Railway	200
Various other industries	200

A total of approximately 5,420

A few women are employed in the Steam Laundry as sorters, ironers, etc. A few women are also employed in the offices of the Industrial Concerns as Stenographers, Clerks, Accountants, etc.

Outside of the office and messenger boys there are practically no children under the age of 16 employed in Fort William.

NEW INDUSTRIES.

The following industries are now erecting plants in Fort William and will be in operation within 12 months.

	Cost of plant.	No. men employed.
The Canadian Car and Foundry Co., Ltd.....	\$1,500,000 00	1,600
The Fort William Starch Works, Ltd.	500,000 00	200
The National Tube Co., Ltd.	400,000 00	150
The McKellar Bedding Co., Ltd.	100,000 00	60
The Great West Wire Fence Co., Ltd.....	100,000 00	60
The Superior Brick and Tile Co., Ltd.	200,000 00	100
The Mt. McKay Pressed Brick Co., Ltd.	100,000 00	50
The Maritime Nail Co., Ltd.	700,000 00	250
The Canadian Steel Foundries, Ltd.	250,000 00	250
Total cost of plants	\$3,850,000 00	
Total number of employees		2,720

There have been no industries of any importance abandoned during the past few years.

The industries established in this city are chiefly connected with local people, outside capital, however, is the most important factor in nearly all the manufacturing industries.

The most noteworthy employment the past few years has been the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway terminals, the large terminal elevators, the enormous coal docks, steel bridges, enlargements and improvement to the Canadian Pacific Railway terminals, construction of additional street railway and general building.

LABOUR.

Labour is imported from Eastern Canadian points and from European countries, particularly during the season of navigation.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS.

The business associations in this city are the Board of Trade, the Industrial Bureau, Lake Shippers' Clearance Association, the Real Estate Association, the Grain Exchange (in formation), the Grain Commission.

ORGANIZED LABOUR.

The total number of trades unionists in the City is about 2,000; the Railway Employees, Carpenters, Bricklayers, and Stone Masons being the best organized. Some trades, such as the Masons, Bricklayers, Machinists and Boilermakers, limit the number of apprentices, but there seems little to be learned as to whether this limitation has worked a hardship upon the boys desirous of learning the trade.

The labor men feel that the general sentiment of the City with reference to organized labour is favorable.

There are 22 distinct local organizations in the central labor body.

The meetings of the central bodies are open to the public.

It is asserted that the liquor interests have little influence in the labour organizations, and that none of the local unions hold their meetings in halls connected with bar-rooms. Three, it is said, meet on Sunday, none in churches or schoolhouses.

To show the difference between the union and non-union scale of wages in the said industries, the following are given: Railway Machinists, 45½c. per hour; unorganized, 35c. per hour; Boilermakers, 41½c. per hour; unorganized 30 to 40c. per hour; Iron-workers, 45 to 50c. per hour; unorganized, 35c.

The Trades and Labor Council has a committee on Conciliation and Arbitration, which has offered itself in different disputes with little success.

There is not an open conflict between the labor organizations and the Employer's Association.

The principal strike in recent years has been that of Carpenters, for higher wages, which affected about 400 men. The result was a rise in wages from 30 and 35 to 45c. per hour, although the men feel that they lost much through the strike, and the rise in the cost of living since.

The ministerial association sends a fraternal delegate to the meetings of the central labor union.

THE IMMIGRANT PROBLEM.

TWO BLOCKS IN THE COAL DOCKS.

Block 1.—In the block enclosed by McPherson, McIntyre, McBain and Christie Streets, there are 42 lots, but of these 7 were vacant. On 35 lots there were 41 buildings, of which 4 were empty dwellings, and 2 were stores, leaving 35 dwellings occupied. In the 35 occupied dwellings one gave space to a meat shop, another to a bake-shop and another to a pool-room.

In the block, 238 persons were living: Ruthenians, 141; Slovacks, 36; Russians, 19; Poles, 19;

Austrians, 11; Italians, 6; Bokowinians, 6. There were 158 men, 29 women, 28 girls, and 23 boys. Of the men, 28 had their wives with them and one had his sister as housekeeper. 40 men were "batching" or "shacking," and 89 lodged with 16 of the families.

In the 35 occupied dwellings there were 88 rooms. If we set aside one room in each house as kitchen laundry and dining-room, we have 53 sleeping rooms. That is 4 or 5 persons slept in each of these remaining rooms. There were 131 beds in the block.

There were no bath-tubs in any of the houses. Twelve householders definitely stated that the city had never removed garbage from their premises, and the majority of the others complained that garbage was but seldom removed. Refuse and sink water were everywhere in evidence. 23 of the houses had water taps. There were no toilets, 23 dry closets were the only conveniences of the kind. Three horses were stabled in the block, and many of the people kept fowl, which farther added to its insanitariness.

Of the 35 householders, 18 were Roman Catholics, 9 Greek Catholics; 7 adhered to the Orthodox Greek Church, and one professed to favor no church. Six were naturalized Canadians, having been in Canada from four to twenty years. Eight houses had a native newspaper, and one paper in English was found. From the information to hand it appears that 23 families owned their homes, and 12 were paying rent.

Block 2.—A survey was made of the block enclosed by McTavish, McIntyre, McLoughlin and Christie Streets. There were 36 lots in the block, but four were vacant. Forty buildings have been erected as houses and stores. Three buildings were used for store purposes only, and in the remaining 37, space was given to two bake-shops and five stores.

292 persons lived in this section: 200 men, 28 women, 25 girls, 39 boys. There were 27 married couples and one widow. 24 men lived in small groups in houses or shacks, and 149 lodged with 22 of the householders. The nationalities of the people were as follows: Italians, 111; Ruthenians, 58; Poles, 17; Slovacks, 31; Austrians, 8; Bokowinians, 24; Greeks, 31; Roumanians, 5, and Syrians, 7.

Of the 37 dwellings in the block, 3 were vacant, leaving 34 which contained 142 rooms and 219 beds. In some of the houses the over-crowding was much worse than in others. One house of 5 rooms sheltered 18 Bokowinians; another of 9 very small rooms housed 17 Greeks. Seventeen Italians were found in a house of six rooms, and 13 Italians in a house of 3 rooms. These figures are likely under the mark, as the people are unwilling to tell the number where there is most serious over-crowding. For instance, an Italian family said there were 10 persons in the house, but we found 14 beds, and another with 17 Italians had 21 beds.

Twenty-two of the houses had water taps, but two of these were frozen. There were 3 baths, 8 toilets, and 22 dry closets. Besides fowl, 2 horses and 2 cows were stabled in the block, and the removal of garbage was very inadequate. The religions of the 34 householders were as follows:—28 Roman Catholics, 4 Greek Catholics, 1 Protestant, 1 Hebrew. About two-thirds owned their homes and the others were paying rent of from eight to fifteen dollars per month. Three stated that they subscribed to a newspaper printed in English, and nine received a paper in their native language. To the question: "Do you study English?" given in every house, the reply was always in the negative. Several of the most progressive men of the immigrant community of Fort William have homes or stores in this block. Ten were naturalized Canadians.

LIQUOR PROBLEM.

The City has 13 bars, 3 store licenses and 1 club license. The sale of liquor in Fort William comes under the clause of the Ontario Liquor License Act, by which the hotel license in a Town or City, having a population of more than 10,000 and not more than 30,000, shall be \$500.00, and for a shop license, \$500.00, and for a club license, \$50.00.

By the amendment of March 24th, 1911, the license duties payable for Tavern licenses other than beer and wine licenses were increased by an additional sum equal to 5 per cent. of the amount by which the gross daily bar receipts exceeds the sum of \$60.00 in the case of cities having a population over 100,000 and \$50.00 in other cases. For every transfer of a Tavern or shop license, there is a fee of one-third of the fee payable for the license transfer, and for each wholesale license in cities with a population of less than 150,000, the fee is \$250.00. The Act demands that hotel-keepers must be reputable citizens. If after the granting of the licenses there have been three several convictions within a period of two years for offences against the Act, the Board of License Commissioners is required within one month of the date of the last conviction to cancel and revoke the Licenses. On complaint of habitual violation of the Act by any License holder, the Minister may investigate and if the complaint seems verified, he may cancel the license or citizens may petition the License Commissioner, and show cause why the License should be revoked. The Act forbids that bars be located within a distance of 300 feet from a school or church and while it does not forbid the sale of liquor to women, it forbids the admission of minors to the bar. The bar-rooms are permitted to be open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on week-days, except Saturdays, when they close at 7 p.m., and are opened at 8 a.m. on Monday.

The law has been fairly well observed in Fort William, although several of the hotel-keepers have been before the courts on the Inspector's complaint. A visit to the bars shows the presence of a large number of very young men, some of whom are probably minors. In the bar of the St. Louis Hotel, for instance, news-boys of 8 and 9 years, pass in and out frequently, selling papers to the line of men at the bar. There has been an active temperance propaganda in Fort William, and in January, 1911, a local option vote was taken. The total number of persons voting numbered 2,469, 980 voting for local option and 1,429 against, giving the License forces a majority of 449. In this election 60 spoiled ballots were thrown out. The number of ratepayers qualified to vote was 3,688, and the Temperance forces ought to be able to add largely to their numbers, through work among those who did not turn out to the polls. The law forbids bar-maids. There are scarcely any of the bar-rooms that serve free lunches, and very few of them have small tables, where men may play games and spend a social evening, but a few perform this social duty, checkers being provided.

None of the bars have bowling alleys adjoining but four have pool-rooms. All the bars have hotels in connection. The Local Option defeat by a considerable majority, testifies to the strong political influence of the hotel-men. The foreign population provides a fruitful field for their efforts. They peddle beer from house to house in the Westfort and Coal Dock sections, an act which would not be permitted in any other part of the City. Fifty empty kegs were counted within the space of two blocks on a Monday morning in March. The immigrant people say that the beer is left in front of their houses, even when it is not ordered, and that credit is readily given. The large number of men out of work, who crowd into the small houses in these sections of the City in the winter months, who have no other amusement, and no social centre but the bar-room, contribute a large amount to the hotel-men's revenue.

None of the liquor men of the City have been elected or appointed to public office. Their nationalities are as follows:—3 Canadians, 3 Swedes, 5 Irish, 1 American, and 1 Irish-American. The store licenses are held by a Canadian, Frenchman, and the Hudson Bay Company. Seven of the bar licenses are held by Roman Catholics, and 6 by Protestants. Two of the men holding store licenses are Roman Catholics. The majority do not patronize any particular bar to any great extent, unless it be those nearest their own sections of the City. The liquor sellers do not act as bankers to the immigrant population to any marked degree, since no member of the Ruthenian or Italian section of the community holds a license. At times, hotel-keepers act as

bankers for lumber jacks and men coming into the city for a few day's dissipation. Not a few contribute to charitable institutions and act as good neighbors to people in distress. The Labor Unions have their own places of meeting, and so are not dependent on hotel-keepers for meeting-places. The Y.M.C.A., the moving picture shows, the C.Y.M.A., and the churches constitute the opposition to the bar-rooms. The need of further recreation and educational facilities for the immigrant population is apparent.

On the 11th of March, 1913, a visit was paid to all the bar-rooms in the City, between 9 and 10 p.m. The number of customers present is given below:—

Alexandria Hotel, Westfort	8
Frederica, Westfort	1
Queen's, Westfort	20
Victoria	16
Leland	22
St. Louis	37
Avenue	26
West	21
Empire	13
Pacific	21
Queen's	10
Manitoba	12
Ogden	22
Total	229

On the evening of March 11th, 1913, between eight and ten-thirty, 22 men visited the Alexandria, 30 entered the Frederica, and 40 the Queen's, all of Westfort.

Some opinion as to the burden and expense the bar-rooms are to Fort William and the menace they are to the health and morality of the community can be formed from the following statement given to the Board of Trustees of the McKellar General Hospital at the quarterly meeting on January 7th, 1913.

The officers and staff of the hospital are having great difficulty with the ever-increasing numbers of temporarily insane patients; most of these patients are received from the hotels, and as they require medical attention, the hospital is invariably chosen in preference to police cells. This class of patients is a constant menace to the safety of our nursing staff, sane patients, and themselves. Our accommodation for such patients is very limited, and the male staff insufficient to constantly guard them. The police inform us they cannot assist, consequently we are compelled to hire temporary attendants, at high wages, for very unsatisfactory attention.

If the hospital is already thus burdened by the bars of the City, its trustees will not welcome the introduction of any more hotels. Liquor men are hoping there will be more in the City soon. "Hotel and Travel" for March, 1913, says: "According to statements by hotelmen of Fort William, Ontario, that city can well support at least two more hotels. Every one is now filled up and in the spring the influx will have either to obtain accommodation in private houses or live in Port Arthur hotels and transact their business there. 'It would pay moneyed men to build a \$3 to \$10-a-day, and a \$1.50 to \$2-a-day hotel here,' stated one man."

cording to the evidence, the girl had been there only about six weeks. It has been alleged one of the principal promoters of the business is a woman named Matthews on Northern Avenue beside the bridge between the two cities. She holds considerable property, and some of the property in the district above mentioned belongs to her.

In Port Arthur, closer to the centre of the city, there have been a few houses of this character, but during the last few months the police have entered upon a policy for eradicating this evil, and at the time of the survey they asserted that only one such house existed and that at the end of Sixth Avenue. They further stated that the woman there would likely be allowed to remain only a short time. In Fort William the police have also taken steps to clean up the city in this respect, and since the survey word has come to hand all the inmates of the restricted district have been ordered to leave.

In Port Arthur one woman is now serving a six-months' sentence in the jail. She had been notified that she must leave the city but hoped to avoid the authorities by a marriage with one of her acquaintances. After the marriage took place she returned to the city openly and was arrested, brought into Court and sentenced. This case has constituted a warning to like offenders.

While these measures will account for much in the uplift of the two cities, it is to be hoped that more earnest efforts will be made to do away with this evil entirely. It is found in Fort William that the social evil exists in houses of a different character. These are chiefly in West Fort. There, the matter is a family affair and is known to parents or guardians. Such presents a more difficult problem to deal with but it is hoped that the authorities will keep these places under surveillance until the necessary evidence is gained, and then see that the criminal code is applied.

EDUCATION.

There are 5 kindergartens, 7 public schools and 1 collegiate institute.

The total enrolment in the public schools in 1911 was 1,968. In 1912 it was 2,183.

The average number of pupils per teacher in the public schools is 43.

Fifty-five candidates passed the high school examination in 1912.

There were 324 children in the kindergarten; 621 in the primer and 254 in the first book in 1912.

Thus far Manual Training and Domestic Science have had no place on the curriculum, but both will be introduced in September, 1913, in the public schools. Agriculture has not yet been considered.

There is no provision for the tuberculous in the schools, but a class for the sub-normal has been formed.

There is no medical inspection.

The average pupil attends school 176 days in the year, there being 199 school days.

Two of the schools are used outside school hours. In the Central, there are night classes twice a week, and there is a Hebrew class taught by a Rabbi every night from 4.30 to 7; in the Ogden Street School there are night classes 8 times per month.

There are no regular courses of lectures given in the Town. The Canadian Club, however, endeavours to bring such speakers as it can from time to time.

The percentage of truancy is asserted by the School Officials to be very small, being in one school three out of 297. The Ogden Street School says 2 per cent. and the Francis Street School, 3 per cent. The Drew Street School reports only 3 cases since September, 1912.

Some knowledge of the importance of the Immigrant population in the City life, may be gained from the following statements: In the Central School there are 6 Chinamen, and a few Jews of several nationalities. In the Drew Street School the nationalities are given as follows: Scotch, 21;

English, 55; Irish, 4; Canadians, 60; Norwegians, 3; Swedes, 1; Americans, 3; Jews, 3; Finns, 2; Total, 152.

In the Francis Street School there are 296 pupils of the following nationalities: Canadians, 164; English, 74; Americans, 29; Swedes, 7; Greeks, 1; Irish, 3; Scotch, 12; Norwegians, 5; South African, 1.

In the Franklin School, there are 297 pupils of the following nationalities: Canadians, 175; English, 81; Scotch, 15; Americans, 17; Dutch, 2; Austrians, 1; Norwegians, 4; and Irish, 2.

In the Isabella, the pupils are all of English-speaking parents: Canadians, 111; Scotch, 21; English, 18; Americans, 8; Irish, 4.

In the Ogden Street School, situated in the Finn Colony and on the border of the Coal Dock District, the children of immigrant parents are vastly in the majority. Unfortunately the exact figures could not be obtained. We here give the different nationalities of pupils in order of importance: Finns, English, Scotch, Irish, Jews (Russian, German, Polish, Austrian and English), Canadians, Americans, Swedes, Norwegians, Greeks, Austrians, Italians. Of the 48 pupils in the Wayland School, 22 are Poles; 19 are English; 4 Italians; 2 Norwegians, and 1 Scotch.

These figures do not give correct ideas of the importance of the immigrant population in the schools since St. Peter's Roman Catholic School in the Coal Docks District receives the great majority of the Italians and Poles of that section, as well as many of the children of Ruthenian parents who belong to the Greek Catholic and Orthodox Greek Catholic Churches.

LIBRARIES.

The City has a splendid new public library, which has been in use less than a year. It is opened daily; 81 hours in the week in all.

There is an Auditorium in the building, which is being constantly used for lectures and other gatherings.

Some idea of the extent of the work can be gained from the fact that 146 magazines are subscribed for regularly.

The total number of persons drawing books from the library at the time of the survey was as follows:—men, 1,200; women, 1,000; girls under 18, 400; boys under 18, 600.

The library has such facilities as a Children's librarian, a Children's Reading Room, and suggested lists of books and papers.

In the fine large basement a smoking-room has been provided where the daily papers are also kept on file. This has proved a valuable social effort since it attracts many of the homeless men of the City for whom there is no other entertainment but the bar or pool-rooms.

The schools of the City have permanent reference libraries. The number of volumes average about 300 per school and all the Sunday-schools also maintain circulating libraries.

The library management is impressed with the necessity and desirability of providing wholesome literature for the immigrant people and an effort is being made to co-operate with other leaders for this purpose. Lists of books in different languages are being prepared and placed at the disposal of these people. An important feature of the work is the organization of boys and girls in reading clubs, thus giving the librarian opportunity to cultivate in them a taste for the better books.

The City is about to build a branch library costing about \$20,000 in the Westfort Section and there is no doubt that it will prove a valuable factor in the Canadianizing of the immigrants of that locality.

The Library is under the direction of the Public Library Committee, consisting of the Mayor, the Librarian, Miss M. J. L. Black; the Chairman, Mr. W. J. Hamilton; J. A. Underhill, Secretary; C. W. Jarvis, Frank O. Hogan, B. B. Grant, John Whitehurst, W. Cornell and W. W. Southon.

- (16) Direct the erection of municipal lodging house for labors and transients.
 (17) Provision of numerous lavatories.
 (18) The establishment by philanthropic people, of social centres, where the poor may meet for companionship, recreation and instruction.
 (19) A municipal poor farm in the suburbs, for the care of the dependents, and the training of inefficient.

HOSPITAL SERVICE.

There are two Hospitals in the City: McKellar General and the Isolation Hospital. On the day of enquiry, in March, there were 75 inmates in the McKellar Hospital and one in the Isolation Hospital. The General has a Superintendent, three graduate nurses and 23 pupil nurses, while the Isolation Hospital has one permanent nurse, assisted by the Board of Health visiting nurse. Some wards and beds have been furnished by individuals and by organizations, but from these there is no revenue apart from the upkeep of the furniture. The City pays the hospitals \$1.00 per day for resident indigent patients, and the annual bill for such patients averages about \$3,000. There is no endowment for the hospitals, nor have the churches, as yet, instituted a Hospital Sunday when the collection should be donated to these institutions. About the only relationship between the organizations of the churches and the hospitals is in the way of sick visiting and the donation of flowers. There are no free dispensaries in the City. Such agencies could perform an important duty in the assistance of the immigrant population, especially in the matter of instruction to mothers in the care of infants. At present, the nurse under the Board of Health is the only such agency. There is no special provision for tuberculosis cases; no special clinics nor sanatoria for incipient and advanced cases; no fresh air schools or day camps. The McKellar Hospital bears the burden of this work, except for the number of advanced cases sent to the Provincial Sanatorium. There is no provision in the City for convalescents and incurables. There is no visiting nurses' association. Such work as is done is left to the nurse of the Board of Health. There are no other agencies having visiting nurses on their staff, nor is there adequate provision for the deaf, blind, epileptic, feeble-minded or insane. The blind and deaf are sent to the Provincial Institution at Belleville; the epileptic to the Institution at Woodstock; the feeble-minded to Guelph or Orillia, and the insane to Toronto or Kingston. The City is in need of a graded institution for the care of the feeble-minded. It needs a House of Refuge for the aged and infirm, and a hospital instead of a jail for the insane. There is no special clinic or hospital pavilion for the examination and early treatment of mental and nervous disease, nor does any agency undertake the after-care of patients discharged from hospitals. The Relief Officer is constantly receiving such patients who are unable to undertake heavy work, and are, therefore a burden on the City, unless some light employment can be found.

CHILD WELFARE.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Children made wards.....		7			1	1	2		3			6	20
Children placed in homes.....	1	5	2		1		2		3		1	5	20
Returned to us			1				1	1				2	5
Received from another Society to place							1						
Sent to Provincial Superintendent			1				2			2			5
To place (At end of month).....	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	1		3	21
Sent to Industrial School:													
By P. S.													
By Magistrate			1			1	1			2	3		8