

“THE CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1911.”

(Illustrated by Lantern Slides).

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At the outset of this paper I should like first to thank the President and Council of the Statistical Society for the privilege they have accorded me by inviting me to appear before you this evening, and secondly to apologise for the meagre attempt to crowd into the short space of one hour even a very brief summary of the recent Census of Ireland. When we remember that there were issued from the Census Office 34 separate County and County Borough publications, each having 41 tables and ranging in size from that of County Carlow, which contains 71 pages of the ordinary blue book size, to that of the City and County of Cork, containing 383 pages, together with four Provincial Summaries, and the General Report running into 600 pages, and that every page is full of useful and interesting statistical information, we can realise how futile a paper, extending over even several hours, would be in dealing with a fractional part of the published material. I can only, therefore, bring under your notice this evening a few leading features which, in my opinion, are of most interest to the general community. As the complete English and Scotch Reports are not yet published I am unable to make any comparison with either, and I must therefore content myself at present with comparing the results of the 1911 Census with those of the different Censuses extending back 70 years (1841), and embracing seven successive intercensal periods.

On the 15th March, 1911, I had the honour of reading a paper before this Society entitled “The Development of the Irish Census and its National Importance.” In that paper I made the following statement, viz.:—that “all the preliminary arrangements as regards the printing of the several forms and their distribution to the Superintendents of Enumeration have been completed.”

Before the end of March, 1911, the Enumerators had left in each house, for each family therein, a Form (called Form “A.”), with instructions that this Form was

to be filled up by the head of the family on the night of Sunday, 2nd April, 1911. The collection by the Enumerators of the Forms, duly filled up, commenced on the morning of the 3rd April. After their collection they were arranged and summarised by Townlands, and in the Urban Districts by streets. In due course these summaries were forwarded by the Superintendents of Enumeration to the Census Office, where they in turn were put together for larger areas. From these a Preliminary Report, containing 23 pages, was drawn up and presented to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant on the 18th May, 1911, *i.e.*, a little over six weeks from Census night. This Report contained Tables giving information as to the following subjects:—

- No. I. —The Number of Inhabitants in each County and Province in 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911.
- No. II. —The Religious Professions of the Inhabitants of each County and Province in 1911.
- No. III. —The Number of Families in each County and Province in 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911.
- No. IV. —The Number of Inhabited Houses in each County and Province in 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911.
- No. V. —The Number of Inhabited Houses and Religious Professions of the Population in the Parliamentary Divisions in 1911.
- No. VI. —The Number of Inhabited Houses, and the Population of Dublin City and the Urban Districts of Rathmines and Rathgar, Pembroke, Blackrock and Kingstown in 1901 and 1911.
- No. VII. —The Number of Inhabited Houses and the Population in 1901 and 1911, of Provincial Towns having, in 1901, a Population exceeding 10,000.
- No. VIII.—The Number of Houses and Families, and the Population within the Dublin Metropolitan Police District in 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911.

On examining these Tables we find the Counties were the basis on which the first four tables were compiled, and these dealt with Population, Religious Profession, Number of Families and Inhabited Houses.

In Table V. we have the Parliamentary Divisions, dealing with inhabited houses, religion, and population, and Table VI., Dublin and the surrounding Urban Districts, for houses and population. Table VII. comprises all towns

in Ireland with a population exceeding 10,000 in the year 1901, for houses and population, and finally in Table VIII. details of the Dublin Metropolitan Police District are shown as regards houses, families, and population therein.

While this Report was being prepared from the Summaries sent forward by the Superintendents of Enumeration, the other Census Enumeration Forms (24 in number) having been completed locally, were being received, labelled, and temporarily deposited in the crypts of Charlemont House. Roughly speaking, the Forms received totalled 2,000,000. Immediately on the completion of the Preliminary Report the work of the Census proper commenced, and to deal with all this mass of material a temporary staff of 175 persons had been engaged, who were called in to take up duty as the requirements of the Office demanded.

For the extraction and tabulation of the different items of information required by the Census Act, 1910, the office work was divided into five sections:—

1. Houses and House Accommodation.
2. Ages and Education of the People.
3. Religious Professions.
4. Occupations.
5. Vital Statistics.

Almost all the information required for these sections was extracted direct from the Family Form (Form "A.") mentioned above.

It is a somewhat difficult matter to digest the enormous mass of figures contained in the numerous Census publications within the limits of this lecture; and to obviate the tediousness of long statements of figures I have on this occasion prepared the slides in the form of what is known as curve and pillar diagrams, using as few tables as possible. Some figures, however, must necessarily be introduced into the text.

The population of Ireland on the 2nd April, 1911, was ascertained to be 4,390,219, viz.:—2,192,048 males, and 2,198,171 females, showing a decrease from the former Census of 68,556 persons, or 1.5 per cent. This has been the smallest decrease recorded since the Census of 1841.

I will now put on the screen three slides:—(a) a diagram showing the decrease for each intercensal period, (b) a diagram representing the decrease in pillar form, and (c) a further pillar diagram giving the decrease per cent. at each of the Census Periods. From these three slides and the table it will be observed that the greatest decrease was between the years 1841 and 1851, next between 1851 and

1861, the third greatest decrease was between 1881 and 1891. The smallest decrease, until the 1901 Census, was between 1871 and 1881, viz.:—4.4 per cent., which is three times as great as that shown at last Census—1.5.

This slide is also a pillar diagram, showing by Provinces the decrease for the eight Censuses. This shows Munster as having the greatest decrease; a steady decrease for Connaught; Ulster and Leinster come out better—Leinster at the last Census showing an increase.

The next slide shows the decline of the rural population and the rise of the civic population; by civic population is meant the inhabitants of towns with a population of 2,000 and upwards.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.

The number of acres to each person in 1911 was 4.6; in 1901, 4.5; 1891, 4.3; and in 1881, 3.9; showing an increase of 0.7 or nearly three-quarters of an acre to each person within the last 30 years.

Excluding uncultivated tracts the arable acreage per person was 3.9 in 1911; 3.4 in 1901; 3.2 in 1891; and 2.9 in 1881; showing an increase of one acre of arable land to each person within the same period (30 years).

As regards the density of the Population in the County Boroughs the following results are interesting. The six County Boroughs arranged according to the order of the density of their populations were, Dublin, Cork, Belfast, Waterford, Limerick, and Londonderry. The average number of persons to an acre in Dublin was 38.53, in Belfast 25.91, the least average number being 15.81 in Londonderry. It is also interesting to note that the density per house is much greater in Dublin than in Belfast, there being an average of 8.2 persons to each house in Dublin and only 5.0 persons to each house in Belfast.

EMIGRATION.

[This slide (Annual Rates per 1,000 of population, 1892-1911, for Marriages, Births, Deaths and Emigration) is taken from my 48th Annual Report, by the kind permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.]

The normal increase of population in a country would be (taken for granted there was no emigration or immigration) the excess of the births over the deaths. In Ireland, however, we have to take into consideration the great amount of emigration, and this drain on our country has continued since the year 1845. Had there been no emigration from Ireland our normal annual increase would have amounted to about 26,000. Emigration, however, drains the country of more than that number; about

30,000 annually during the past five years emigrated, and in one year only, viz., the year 1908, was the balance on the right side. In that year the number of births exceeded the number of deaths and of emigrants by 1,853. The table on the screen gives the actual figures for a period of five years, 1907-1911, and another table shows that the actual number of emigrants from 1851 amounts to over 4,000,000 persons.

The next diagram on the screen shows, in pillar form, the number of emigrants to the nearest 1,000 who, during the last six Censuses, went from our shores. It will be seen that by far the greatest number left between the years 1851-1861, the next largest between 1861-1871, then between 1881-1891, and 1871-1881, while the last two decades show the smallest number. The recent inter-Censal period shows a considerable decrease on that ended 1901. Looking again closely at this diagram one will observe that during the first four decennial periods the number of males and females who emigrated was about equal, whereas, during the two last decennial periods the number of females has slightly exceeded that of males. The actual excess or decrease will be observed in the table.

The next slide is interesting, and at the same time gives cause for reflection. It shows the ages at which our people emigrate. From the period between 1861-1870 and 1901-1910, the proportion per cent. of those between the ages of 15 and 35 has steadily increased. Conversely we find that the number under 15 and over 35 has decreased. Thus there is a gradually increasing drain on our country at that period in the life of our people which is most economic and valuable to the State. This fact we must look upon as serious, and if Ireland is to retain its position and increase in health and prosperity, the strong and healthy young people must remain at home.

A moment ago I referred to the fact that the number of women emigrants was relatively increasing, and the diagram I now exhibit shows the number of females living compared with 1,000 males at each of the eight Censuses. In 1841, to every 1,000 males there were 1,028 females; that number had increased in 1851 to 1,046; in 1861 it stood at 1,044; in 1871 it went up to 1,050; in 1881 it dropped to 1,043; in 1891 it further dropped to 1,029, in 1901 to 1,027, and in 1911 to 1,003; this being the smallest difference in the relative numbers of each sex since Census statistics were first published.

The next slide will illustrate this, because in the upline we get the number of deaths of females, plus the number of female emigrants, this shows a remarkable increase

from the period 1864-1901, and a small decline from 1901-1911. The transverse line shows the number of births of females to every 1,000 males.

The next slide, a pillar diagram, shows by Counties and Provinces the proportion per cent. of the average population represented by the total number of emigrants of either sex who left Irish Ports during the last 60 years. In another pillar diagram thrown on the screen, Munster was shown to have the highest emigration return, this is fully borne out by the County rate, shown by this slide, as the four Counties having the highest rates are in Munster, viz.:—Kerry, Clare, Cork, and Tipperary. Leinster is lowest; County Dublin being at the bottom of the list, next lowest being County Wicklow, then follow the Counties of Kildare, Louth, and Wexford.

The next slide is a Table showing the number of Births, Deaths, and Emigrants for the past five years; the excess of Births over Deaths during that period is 133,000, but the number of Emigrants in the same period is 154,000, leaving a balance for the five years of 20,000, or an average decrease of about 4,000 per annum. It therefore follows that had we no emigration, the increase in our population would be, as I said before, about 26,000 per annum.

HOUSES.

HOUSES BY CLASSES —The number of inhabited houses in Ireland on the night of the Census in 1911, was 861,879, being an actual increase of 3,721 over the total returned in 1901. This represents an increase of 0.43 per cent., whereas for each preceding decennial period decreases of 1.4, 4.8, 4.9, 3.4, and 4.9 per cent., respectively, were shown. During the same decades the population decreased at the respective rates of 1.5, 5.2, 9.1, 4.4, 6.7, and 11.5 per cent. The average number of persons to each house is now 5.0, compared with 5.2 in 1901, while there were 5.4 persons to a house in 1891, 5.6 in 1881 and 1871, 5.8 in 1861, and 6.3 persons to a house in 1851, or a decrease of 1.3 persons per house during the last 60 years.

In 1911, as on previous occasions, the houses were classified in four divisions—1st, according to extent, as shown by the number of rooms; 2nd, according to quality, as shown by the number of windows in front, and 3rd, according to solidity and durability, as shown by the material of the walls and roof. If numbers be adopted to express the position of every house in a scale of each of these elements, and if the numbers thus obtained for every house be added together, a new series of numbers will be produced, giving the position of each house in a scale compounded of all the elements, *i.e.*, its actual state.

A reference to Form B. 1 will show the principle upon which this has been done. I may say in passing that the Commissioners have left a strong recommendation to those who will be responsible for the next Census that certain modifications be carried out as regards this matter.

In the lowest of the four classes are comprised houses built of mud or perishable material, having only one room and window; in the third, a better description of house, varying from one to four rooms and windows; in the second, a still better class of house, having from five to nine rooms and windows; and in the first class, all houses of a better description than the preceding.

The number of inhabited houses of the first class rose, during the decade, from 75,000 to 84,000, an increase of 12 per cent. The second and third class houses taken together number about the same in the present, as in the former Census. The fourth class fell, during the same period, from 9,800 to 5,000, showing a decrease of almost 50 per cent, the number in 1901 being less than half the number returned in 1891, while compared with the dwellings of this class enumerated in 1861 there are less than 6 per cent. now in existence.

The slide shows the number of houses to the nearest 10,000 in each of the four classes in the year 1841, also the position for each Census period up to 1911, in the "rural" areas (Ireland, exclusive of towns of 2,000 inhabitants and upwards). The result, on examination, will be found to be most gratifying; we see that the first class has slightly increased; the second class has made a considerable increase, going up from 20 to almost 40. On the other hand, we find that the third class has decreased from 50 to 17, and the fourth class from 47 to 1. Even compared with ten years ago an improvement has taken place; as the first class has gone up from below four to over four; the second from 35 to 39; the third class decreased from 23 to 17, and the fourth has also decreased.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION—The accommodation afforded by the different classes of houses has been arranged under four headings, viz.:—

First Class accommodation, consisting of 1st class houses occupied by one family.

Second Class accommodation, consisting of 2nd class houses occupied by one family, or of 1st class houses occupied by two or three families.

Third Class accommodation, comprising 3rd class houses with one family each, or 2nd class houses with two or three families, or 1st class houses occupied by four or five families.

Fourth Class accommodation includes all 4th class houses, 3rd class houses with more than one family, 2nd class houses with four or more families, and 1st class houses inhabited by six or more families.

If we separate the "civic" and "rural" areas as regards house accommodation, we find, in 1911, in the rural areas an average of 1.03 families to each house of the 1st class as compared with 1.05 in 1901; the average number for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th classes corresponds with that of 1901, which was 1.01 for 2nd class and 1.00 for the 3rd and 4th classes.

In the civic areas the average number of families to each house in the 1st class had fallen during the decade from 1.65 to 1.59; in the 2nd class from 1.13 to 1.10; whereas the 3rd and 4th classes were practically the same at each Census.

This slide illustrates the percentage of families occupying 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Class Accommodation to the total number of families in rural areas. This also shows progress; as the percentage in the 1st class accommodation has steadily increased from 1841-1911; the 2nd class shows a remarkable increase from 1901-1911 from 55 to 64; and from 1864-1911 about 49 per cent. of an increase. The percentage of the 3rd class increased between 1841-1861, but after that steadily decreased, falling from 52 in 1861 to 28 in 1911, or 24 per cent.; the 4th class fell about 44 per cent. from 1841-1911.

The next slide shows the percentage of families occupying 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Classes of Accommodation in the "civic" areas (towns of 2,000 inhabitants and upwards); also the comparison of the same for the City of Dublin for each of the four Censuses from 1881-1911. The 1st class shows a slow and steady rise from 10 to 12; the 2nd and 3rd combined from 74 to almost 79, and the 4th a fall from 16 to 9. Dublin also shows a fall in the 4th class from 43 to 33, and a rise in the 2nd and 3rd classes from 49 to almost 60. The 1st class is scarcely altered.

The next diagram illustrates the number of persons to each inhabited house, as well as the number of persons to a family at each of the eight Censuses from 1841 to 1911. In 1841 the number of persons to a house was 6.2, and in 1851 it went up to 6.3; from that until 1901 there has been a steady decrease to 5.0.

For the same period the number of persons to a family has decreased from 5.5 in 1841 to 4.7 in 1911.

The principal points noticeable in this brief survey of

the figures relating to houses and house accommodation are:—

That the average number of persons to each inhabited house is now less than at any previous Census;

That the actual number of inhabited houses has increased during the last decade;

That during the decennial period there has been a further substantial increase in the better class houses, accompanied by a corresponding reduction in houses of the inferior grades.

TENEMENTS.

Reviewing more particularly the tenements of less than five rooms we find that at the last Census the total number of such in Ireland were occupied by 635,000 families, or about 70 per cent. of the total number in the country. Of these 6 per cent. were occupiers of one room; 21 per cent. occupiers of 2 rooms, 25 per cent. of 3 rooms, and 17 per cent. of 4 rooms. This compares favourably with the 1901 Census, in which it was found that 682,000 or 75 per cent. of the total number of families occupied less than 5 rooms; of these 9 occupied one room, 27 per cent. two rooms, 25 per cent. three rooms, and 15 per cent. four rooms. Confining ourselves to tenements of one room in both rural and urban districts, we find that there has been a decrease, during the decade, from 79,000 to 58,000, equivalent to over 26 per cent. Reviewing the six County Boroughs it is seen that in 1901, 79 per cent. of the total tenements of all kinds in Dublin County Borough were tenements of less than five rooms; this had fallen to 75 per cent. in 1911. In Belfast during the same period the percentage had fallen from 45 to 33. In Cork, from 69 to 68. In Limerick, from 75 to 72. In Waterford, from 68 to 65. In Londonderry, from 61 to 54. During the decade the actual numbers of one-room tenements in the several cities, etc., diminished by 615 in Dublin, 249 in Belfast, 109 in Cork, 161 in Limerick, 15 in Waterford, while Londonderry showed an increase of 25.

The next slide shows for each of the years 1901 and 1911 the percentage of Occupiers (or Heads of Families) in occupation of less than 5 rooms and of 5 rooms and upwards to the total number of Families in Ireland. This shows a wholesome decrease in the percentage of one room and two rooms, a slight increase in three rooms, more of an increase in four rooms, and a still greater increase in five rooms and upwards.

The next diagram illustrates the Percentage of Persons living in One-Room Tenements, according to the Censuses of 1901 and 1911, for each of the County Boroughs, and also for the remainder of Ireland. Dublin easily heads

the list, Limerick comes next, then we get Cork, Londonderry, Waterford, and Belfast is the lowest by a long way. There is an improvement in all, not so well marked for the County Boroughs, but a better result for the whole of Ireland. It may here be observed that the total population of the six County Boroughs is 875,184, or 20 per cent. of the whole population of the country.

The next slide illustrates the City of Dublin. There is a fall in the percentage of one-room tenements, though not at all so great as we would like, also a fall in two-room tenements, a slight increase in three rooms, a further increase in four rooms, and a still further increase in five rooms and upwards.

AGES.

With regard to the ages of the people, the statement now to be thrown on the screen shows the relative numbers of the population in 1901 and 1911 reduced to a basis of 100,000 in the three age periods, (1) under 20 years, (2) 20 to 55 years, and (3) 55 years and upwards. It will be observed that there was a small decline in the numbers for 1911 in the first two periods, corresponding to the decline in the total population, while there was an increase in those of 55 years of age and upwards. This latter result cannot be regarded as surprising having regard to the numerous cases of extreme longevity recorded in the public press from time to time in this country.

This diagram shows the percentage of the male and female population of those under 15, between 15 and 35, 35 and 55, 55 and 70, and over 70. The first two age-periods show a decrease, that over 70 a large increase, that between 55 and 70 little change, and that between 35 and 55 a slight increase.

EDUCATION.

It has been truly said that the prosperity of a country increases in the same proportion as education advances; that is to say, if education advances the country must prosper, and if the country is prospering education must be advancing. The result of our last Census shows that education is steadily progressing.

In analysing the attendance at the different classes of schools it is found that while there is an increase in the attendance at schools classed as "Primary," there is a more marked increase in the attendance at "Superior" schools.

After the 1901 Census it was conceded that five years was too young an age at which to consider whether children were illiterate, or not, hence nine years was selected instead of five, but, in order to keep up a comparison with former Censuses, the number of those between 5 and 9 who

could neither read nor write was separately ascertained. The number of illiterates over 5 years of age for 1911 was 471,209, being a percentage of 11.9; and that above the standard age (9) was 331,317. This last number is the number of illiterates in Ireland according to the recent Census, and is equal to 9.2 per cent. of the population nine years and over.

The slide I now show indicates the proportion per cent. of illiterates in Ireland among the population 5 years of age and upwards, from 1841 to 1911, and shows a steady decline from 53 per cent. in 1841 to 12 per cent. in 1911. As you are aware neither in England nor Scotland is there an "Educational" Census taken, so that there is no means of comparison in this respect between the three countries.

The next slide shows the percentage of the population between the ages of 5 and 16 attending school in 1841 to 1911, and children of the same age not attending school in the same period. The percentages are most gratifying, as the non-attendance has steadily decreased from 80 per cent. in 1841 to 33 per cent. in 1911, while the attendance increased from 20 per cent. to 67 per cent. during the same period. Even during the last decade there was an improvement in these two classes, those who attended school going up 7 per cent. and the number not attending decreasing by the same percentage, and this notwithstanding a decreasing population.

Another slide shows the percentage of scholars in attendance at school for the years ended 31st March, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911, viz., under 20 days, between 20 days and 60 days, between 60 days and 100 days, between 100 days and 200 days, and lastly, over 200 days. The greatest number of attendances that a child could put in at school, omitting the usual, as well as the public, holidays, is about 220. The attendance at these different periods is most satisfactory; the numbers of those who only attended for a small portion of the year, viz., under 20, 60, and 100 days have decreased; while between 100 and 200 days the attendance has steadily risen from 33 per cent. to 57 per cent. during the last 50 years, and during the last 10 years it has gone up from 52 per cent. to 57 per cent.

The next diagram which I will present to you shows in a marked manner the number and proportion per cent. for each sex of those in attendance at school who were learning Irish, for the past four Censuses. Taking the males and females, we find that there is very little difference in 1891 compared with 1881, and that in 1901 the number of males attending

school who were learning Irish had gone up to 7.0 per cent., whereas the females had only reached 3.5 per cent.; at the last Census, however, the percentage had gone up to just a little over 24.0 per cent. for males, and a little under 24.0 per cent. in the case of females. This means that, in numbers, it has gone up from 1,029 in 1881 to 86,820 in 1911, for males, and again for females from 276 to 79,955, during the same period. The lessons to be learned from this diagram are, I need hardly say, most satisfactory.

The next diagram shows, by ages and sexes, the number of Irish speakers in every 100 of the male and female population, respectively, at the ages specified. This shows the greatest proportion both in males and females, for 1901 and 1911, of speakers of Irish, as belonging to the ages of 60 years and upwards. The next greatest is for males, between 30 and 60 in 1901, and for the same age periods for females in the same Census, whereas for males in the last Census (1911), the second greatest number came between the ages of 10 and 18, and the same applies to the females.

Emigration, of course, steps in and takes a big proportion of the Irish-speaking people, over the age of 18, out of the country. Examining for each Province, and then Ireland as a whole, the number and proportion per cent. of the Irish-speaking population, as returned at each of the four Censuses from 1881 to 1911, we find that, for all Ireland, there has been a decline; for Munster and Connaught a marked decline; in Ulster a slight increase, and in Leinster a considerable increase.

The next two slides deal with the sexes, ages, and conjugal conditions of our population. The age periods selected are, under 15, 15-35, 35-55, 55-70, and over 70, and both sexes are given separately. From this we see 30 per cent. of our male and 29 per cent. of our female population are under 15 years of age; about 33 per cent. of both sexes are between 15 and 35. Going back fifty years we find that the incidence of the two age periods has considerably altered as seen by the slide. Between 35 and 55 the male population represents 21.6 per cent. of the population, and 9.5 for the next age period, while over 70 they represent 6.1 per cent. The female population for the same period represents, respectively, 20.9 per cent., 10.1 per cent., and 7.3 per cent. It therefore appears we have more women over 70 than men.

It must be borne in mind that in dealing with these subjects emigration alters the normal condition of affairs.

OCCUPATIONS.

Ireland being essentially an agricultural country, it is not surprising to find the greater number of its inhabitants

returned as engaged in purely agricultural pursuits. For the purposes of tabulation there are over 400 separate occupational headings given in the Census List. Examining the occupations for all Ireland according to sexes, we find that the number returning themselves as following specified occupations has declined during the last 20 years from 93 per cent. to 90 per cent. amongst the males; and that the non-productive class has risen from 7 per cent. to 10 per cent. Considering the incidence of emigration and other economic factors, I hold that 1911 compares favourably with 20 years ago. There seems to be a greater proportion of decrease of those returning themselves as following some specific occupation among the female sex, as within the last 10 years those who have returned themselves thus, have fallen from 34 per cent. to 27 per cent.; while the non-productive class has risen from 66 per cent. to 73 per cent. Of course, the effect of emigration (as I pointed out in a former part of my paper), inasmuch as more females are emigrating than males within the last few years, must also be taken into consideration.

The slide which I now show gives for Ireland the rate per 10,000 of the population represented by the number of persons relieved under the Poor Law System for the years 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911. It will be seen that in 1881 there were 120,000 returned as being in receipt of Poor Law Relief, whereas in 1911 that number had fallen to 77,000, a decrease of nearly 43,000, or 36 per cent., in 30 years. The diagram also shows the proportion between the inmates of workhouses and those on outdoor relief. The percentage of those in Workhouses has fallen from 10.8 in 1881 to 8.7 in 1911, and for those on outdoor relief from 12.4 to 8.9 in the same period. You will observe that in the intervening years the proportion of those who were on outdoor relief had increased in 1891 and 1901, whereas there was a marked decrease in 1911. This, no doubt, is in a great measure due to the Old Age Pensions, which everyone agrees have been such a boon to many respectable people who were not anxious to be considered as coming under the Poor Law.

I will now rapidly show four slides. The first one illustrates that after all Ireland is not a bad country to live in. It shows the percentage of the population born and living in Ireland for the past 70 years. This shows a slight decline, which, however, is made up by the increase of those born in and coming from Great Britain and from abroad.

The next slide shows the rate per 10,000 of the population represented by the number of blind in Ireland from 1851 to 1911. Comparing 1911 with 1851 we must admit

there is a marked improvement. The same observation, although not in so marked a degree, applies to the deaf and dumb, specially as compared with the year 1851.

The last slide of this series shows in a pillar form what the Inspectors of Lunacy are constantly drawing attention to in their Annual Reports, viz., the steady and alarming increase of lunacy. It is seen from this slide that for the past 50 years the rate has gone up per 10,000 of the population from 24.3 to 64.8. It is only right to say that this feature is not confined to Ireland. The same is found in Great Britain and other countries.

The Census (Ireland) Act, 1910, for the first time required an account to be taken "of the duration of marriage, and the number of children born of the marriage, and the number of such children living." The principal reason for the introduction of this new enquiry was the remarkable decline of the birth rate both in Great Britain and on the Continent. As may be seen from this slide, the information obtained has been tabulated according to the following areas, viz., the six County Boroughs, the Dublin Registration Area, the Belfast County Borough, and the whole of Ireland. As the corresponding statistics for England and Wales, and Scotland, are not yet available it is not possible to institute a comparison with those countries, but it may be observed that the average number of children born alive to a family in the whole of Ireland, viz., 4.09, is greater than that for any of the urban areas. Similarly the average number of children, for the whole of Ireland, living, is greater than that for any of the urban areas. The average number of children to a family who have died is smaller for the whole of Ireland than for the urban areas. These facts show, as might be expected, that in the rural portions of the country larger families, on the whole, are to be found, and that a greater proportion of their members survive.

SUMMARY.

The principal points brought out in this brief survey of the Census of Ireland, 1911, are:—

- As regards Population, a decline which is the smallest on record.
- „ „ Emigration, a decrease in the number of emigrants.
- „ „ Houses, an actual increase in number.
- „ „ House Accommodation, a general improvement.
- „ „ Poverty, a decrease.

In addition, the death-rate during the 10 years shows a decrease.