

of a definite downward trend, there is nevertheless evident a rather extraordinary reduction in the death rate in the short period of five years, the 1925 death rate being 9.7 as against 12.4 in 1920. In Quebec, where the same methods of registration have been employed for many years, the mortality has shown a decline in recent years from 17.89 per 1,000 in 1910 to 13.0 per 1,000 in 1924, largely on account of the reduction in infantile mortality.

### 1.—General Mortality.

Total deaths and death rates in recent years are given in Table 19 for the registration area of Canada, by provinces. The decline in the absolute number of deaths from 77,722 in 1920 to 70,182 in 1923 and 66,419 (provisional figure) in 1925, and the drop in the death rate from 12.4 in 1920 to 9.7 (provisional figure) in 1925, are notable phenomena. Quebec figures are added from provincial sources.

19.—Deaths and Death Rates, by Provinces, 1921-1925.

Provinces.	Total Deaths.					Crude death rate per 1,000 population.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925. <sup>1</sup>	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925. <sup>1</sup>
P.E. Island.....	1,209	1,113	1,150	956	997	13.6	12.6	13.1	10.9	11.5
Nova Scotia.....	6,420	6,679	6,868	6,583	6,045	12.3	12.6	13.0	12.3	11.3
New Brunswick.....	5,410	5,158	5,013	4,923	4,955	14.2	13.2	12.7	12.3	12.3
Ontario.....	34,551	34,034	35,636	35,078	33,960	11.8	11.4	11.8	10.8	10.9
Manitoba.....	5,388	5,754	5,330	5,023	5,245	8.8	9.2	8.4	7.8	8.0
Saskatchewan.....	5,596	6,119	6,182	5,772	5,621	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.1	6.7
Alberta.....	4,940	5,264	5,006	4,558	4,693	8.4	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.2
British Columbia.....	4,205	4,907	4,997	5,004	4,903	8.0	9.1	9.2	9.0	8.7
<b>Canada (Registration Area).....</b>	<b>67,722</b>	<b>69,028</b>	<b>70,182</b>	<b>66,197</b>	<b>66,419</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.7</b>
Quebec.....	33,433	33,459	35,148	32,356	-	14.1	13.3	13.6	13.0	-
<b>Canada (exclusive of Territories).....</b>	<b>191,153</b>	<b>192,487</b>	<b>195,330</b>	<b>185,553</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>1</sup> 1925 figures are subject to revision.

**Age Distribution of Decedents.**—The number of those dying in the registration area in 1922, 1923 and 1924 is given by single years up to 5 years and in 5-year groups up to 80 years in Table 20, while the percentage of the total number of deaths which occurred in each age-group in each of these years is given in Table 21. It is noteworthy that the deaths at the lower ages are yearly constituting a decreasing proportion of the total. In 1921, 22.03 p.c. of all deaths were those of infants under 1 year, in 1922, 20.70 p.c., in 1923, 19.73 p.c., in 1924, 18.72 p.c., and in 1925 (provisional figure), 18.30 p.c. Similarly, deaths under 5 years of age fell from 28.29 p.c. of the total in 1921 to 26.51 p.c. in 1922, 25.37 p.c. in 1923 and 24.30 p.c. in 1924.

One rather curious result of this is that the median age at death in the registration area (*i.e.*, the age at death of the person who had as many die older than he as died younger than he) advanced from 42.46 years in 1921 to 48.79 years in 1923 and 49.81 years in 1924.