

Diseases of early infancy.—These have declined parallel with the drop in total infant mortality. They numbered 5,419 in 1926 as compared with 6,090 in 1921.

Violent Deaths.—Violent deaths in the former registration area of Canada accounted for 4,459 out of the grand total of 70,067 deaths reported in 1926 (provisional figures), or precisely the same number as given in the final figures for 1925. When this figure of 4,459 is compared with 4,205 in 1924, 4,371 in 1923, 4,134 in 1922 and 4,097 in 1921, it is evident that violent deaths are showing a tendency to increase. The rates per million persons resident in the registration area were 639 in 1921, 635 in 1922, 664 in 1923, 631 in 1924, 662 in 1925 and 654 (unrevised figure) in 1926. Of the 4,459 violent deaths in 1925, 3,311 were those of males and 1,148 those of females. This difference, together with the difference in the rate of infant mortality, practically accounts for the higher general death rate among males.

The general term "violent deaths" includes many causes of death, some of which are showing a tendency toward increased mortality, while others show a decline. Some of the more significant of these causes of death may be briefly studied.

Suicides.—Suicides, most often caused by firearms or strangulation, accounted for 431 deaths in 1921, 487 in 1922, 538 in 1923, 535 in 1924, 586 in 1925 and 599 (provisional figure) in 1926, in the former registration area, an increase in five years of 39 p.c., being out of all proportion to the increase in population. The number of male deaths from suicide in 1925 was 466, as compared with 120 deaths of females. The figures for the registration area of England and Wales record but slight changes in the number of suicides in the period 1914 to 1924.

Drownings.—Accidental drownings numbered 678 in 1921, 618 in 1922, 654 in 1923, 632 in 1924 and 690 in 1925, or at the rate per 100,000 population of 10.6, 9.4, 9.9, 9.4 and 10.0 respectively. Such a rate is high in comparison with rates in other countries, but is no doubt to be accounted for by the large extent of the lakes and rivers of the Dominion and their use for transportation and recreation.

Automobile accidents.—These are among the growing causes of death in the former registration area, the figures for the years 1921 to 1925 being in order as follows: 197, 237, 355, 340, 425. These include deaths due to the collision of automobiles with other vehicles, such as horse-drawn vehicles, street cars and trains. In the registration area of the United States the number of deaths due to automobile accidents increased from 7,525 to 17,571 between 1918 and 1925, the latter figures being at the rate of 17.0 per 100,000 of population.

Other violent deaths.—Violent deaths other than those already referred to, maintain a very steady course from year to year. The numbers for the five years 1921 to 1925 are in order as follows: 2,791, 2,792, 2,824, 2,698, 2,758.

Vital Statistics of Yukon and Northwest Territories.—The vital statistics of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories have been collected and compiled for 1924 and 1925. They have not been included with those of the registration area, because of the difficulty of securing complete and accurate information in these isolated areas and on account of the very small numbers affected. In the Yukon Territory the births reported numbered 31 in 1924 and 22 in 1925, marriages 5 in 1924 and 17 in 1925, deaths 38 in 1924 and 63 in 1925. In the Northwest Territories, births reported were 94 in 1924 and 57 in 1925, marriages 37 in 1924 and 35 in 1925, deaths 47 in 1924 and 32 in 1925.