

Section 15.—Blind and Deaf-Mutes.

In recent censuses, questions have been inserted to secure particulars concerning the blind and the deaf-mutes in Canada, the instructions to enumerators in the 1921 census being as follows:—

"Blind.—Include as Blind any person who cannot see well enough to read even with the aid of glasses. The test in the case of infants and generally for persons under 14 must be whether they can distinguish forms and objects: the same test should be applied to older persons who are illiterate. Do not include any person who is blind in one eye only."

"Deaf-mutes.—Include as Deaf-mutes (1) any child under 8 years of age who is totally deaf and (2) any older person who has been totally deaf from childhood. In general make a record only of persons who cannot hear nor talk."

The results for the 1921 census, showing a total of 4,396 blind, 5,334 deaf-mutes and 42 blind-deaf-mutes, are given by provinces and sex in tables on page 149 of the 1927-28 Year Book, together with comparative figures of the censuses of 1891, 1901 and 1911. The wounds received in the Great War doubtless account in large measure for the increase in the number of blind from 3,238 in 1911 to 4,396 in 1921.

Statistics showing ages, conjugal conditions, racial origins, birthplaces, literacy, occupations, etc., of the blind and of the deaf-mutes in 1921 will be found at pp. 747-768 of Volume II of the Census of 1921.

Section 16.—Quinquennial Census of the Prairie Provinces.

Under the Census and Statistics Act of 1905 and the Statistics Act of 1918, a census of the population and agriculture of the three Prairie Provinces was to be taken in 1906 and every tenth year thereafter, in addition to the decennial census of the whole Dominion. A census of the Prairie Provinces was, therefore, taken as of date June 1, 1926, and a summary of the results is presented in Tables 54 and 55.

The detailed results of this census have been compiled and published separately for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta; copies of these reports are obtainable from the Dominion Statistician.

The total population of the Prairie Provinces at the date of the census was 2,067,378 as compared with 1,956,082 in 1921, being an increase of 111,296 or 5.69 p.c. The rural population increased during the quinquennial period from 1,252,604 to 1,313,681 and the urban population from 703,478 to 753,697. In considering the results of the census, it should be remembered that during the greater part of the quinquennial period, agriculture, the basic industry of the Prairie Provinces, was in a very depressed condition from which it has fortunately recovered.

54.—Summary of the Population of the Prairie Provinces, as shown by the Quinquennial Census of 1926, with comparative figures for 1921, 1916, 1911 and 1906.

Provinces.	Population in Census Years.					Increase 1926 over 1921.
	1926.	1921.	1916.	1911.	1906.	
Prairie Provinces—						
Manitoba.....	639,056	610,118	558,860	461,304	365,638	+ 23,938
Saskatchewan.....	820,738	757,510	647,835	492,432	237,763	+ 63,228
Alberta.....	607,584	588,454	496,442	374,295	185,195	+ 19,130
Total.....	2,067,378	1,956,082	1,693,137	1,328,121	868,616	+ 111,296
Total Rural.....	1,313,681	1,252,604	1,094,820	861,228	562,614	+ 61,077
Total Urban.....	753,697	703,478	603,317	466,893	246,032	+ 50,219