

Of course the preceding statements are not to be taken to mean that every year will show a decline in the death rate as compared with the preceding year. There will always be years of specially high mortality, for instance 1918, when the death rate in Ontario, the most populous of the provinces of Canada, was 15.3 per 1,000 as against 12.0 in 1917 and 11.9 in 1919. (This was owing to the great influenza-pneumonia epidemic of that year.) Over a period, however, these idiosyncrasies of individual years are reduced to negligibility, and it remains true that from decade to decade there is, generally speaking and under normal conditions, a decline in the crude death rate of the countries of the white man's world.

As for Canada, while the period elapsed since the introduction of complete and comprehensive vital statistics in 1920 has been too short to establish a definite downward trend, the rate of 12.4 per 1,000 for that year in the eight provinces then included in the registration area was substantially higher than in any subsequent year. When the year 1920 is eliminated from the series there is little evidence of continued trend. Since 1925 Quebec, which has a higher death rate than any other province, has been included in the registration area and its influence is reflected in the totals for Canada shown in Table 20. A decided improvement is shown in the deaths and death rate of Quebec for 1930.

Subsection 1.—General Mortality.

Total deaths and crude death rates in recent years are given in Table 20 for Canada, by provinces.

20.—Deaths and Death Rates, by Provinces, 1926-30, with Averages 1921-25 and 1926-30.

A.—TOTAL DEATHS.

Year.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada.*
Average 1921-25.....	1,085	6,519	5,093	1	34,252	5,348	5,859	4,953	4,812	1
Average 1926-30.....	969	6,362	5,019	36,645	36,650	5,507	6,256	5,530	5,986	108,924
1926.....	898	6,366	5,002	37,251	35,909	5,325	6,060	5,159	5,474	107,454
1927.....	913	6,378	4,902	36,175	34,775	5,309	6,031	5,059	5,750	105,292
1928.....	952	6,202	4,972	36,632	37,123	5,396	6,166	5,699	5,910	109,057
1929.....	1,122	6,660	5,230	37,221	38,123	5,808	6,715	6,239	6,397	113,515
1930.....	961	6,206	4,991	35,945	37,313	5,685	6,309	5,496	6,400	109,306

B.—CRUDE DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

Average 1921-25.....	12.5	12.6	13.1	1	11.3	8.6	7.5	8.3	8.7	1
Average 1926-30.....	11.0	12.4	12.5	13.5	11.2	8.3	7.3	8.4	9.3	11.1
1926.....	10.3	12.4	12.6	14.3	11.3	8.3	7.4	8.5	9.0	11.4
1927.....	10.5	12.4	12.3	13.6	10.8	8.2	7.2	8.0	9.2	10.9
1928.....	10.8	12.0	12.4	13.5	11.3	8.1	7.2	8.7	9.2	11.1
1929.....	12.8	12.9	12.9	13.4	11.4	8.6	7.6	9.1	9.7	11.3
1930.....	10.9	12.1	12.3	12.7	11.0	8.3	7.0	7.8	9.5	10.7

*Quebec not included in present registration area prior to 1926.

?Exclusive of the Territories.