

The Unit of Representation.—While the number of members of the House of Commons has been growing fairly steadily since Confederation, the unit of representation—one-sixty-fifth of the population of Quebec within its 1911 boundaries—has also been increased after each census in consequence of the growth of the population of Quebec. The units of representation, as determined by the decennial censuses taken since Confederation, are as follows: 1871, 18,331 persons; 1881, 20,908; 1891, 22,901; 1901, 25,368; 1911, 30,819; 1921, 36,283; 1931, 44,186, being one-sixty-fifth of the population of Quebec exclusive of Ungava.

The 1931 Redistribution Problem.—The population of Quebec in 1931, exclusive of the population (2,177) of the territory added to Quebec by the Boundaries Extension Act of 1912, was 2,872,078, which, divided by 65, gives a unit of representation of 44,186. The quotient obtained by dividing the population of each province as shown at the date of the census by 44,186 indicates (except where subsection 4 of section 51 of the British North America Act and the Amending Act of 1915 apply) the number of members to which each province is entitled. These numbers as determined by the census of 1931 and the two preceding censuses are shown in Table 8.

8.—Representation of the Provinces and Territories of Canada in the House of Commons, as Determined by the Censuses of 1931, 1921 and 1911.

Province.	Census 1931.			Census 1921.			Census 1911.		
	Popula- tion.	Quotient based on Unit. (44,186)	Repre- sen- ta- tion.	Popula- tion.	Quotient based on Unit. (36,283)	Repre- sen- ta- tion.	Popula- tion.	Quotient based on Unit. (30,819)	Repre- sen- ta- tion.
P. E. I.....	88,038	1.99	4	88,615	2.44	4	93,728	3.04	4
N. S.....	512,846	11.61	12	523,837	14.44	14	492,338	15.98	16
N. B.....	408,219	9.24	10	387,879	10.69	11	351,889	11.42	11
Ont.....	3,431,683	77.66	82	2,933,662	80.86	82	2,527,292	82.00	82
Man.....	700,189	15.85	17	610,118	16.82	17	461,394	14.97	15
Sask.....	921,785	20.86	21	757,610	20.88	21	492,432	15.98	16
Alta.....	731,805	16.56	17	588,454	16.22	16	374,295	12.41	12
B. C.....	694,263	15.71	16	524,582	14.46	14	392,480	12.74	13
Quebec (with- out New Quebec)....	2,872,078	65.00	65	2,358,412	65.00	65	2,003,232	65.00	65
Totals..	19,360,656	-	244	8,773,666	-	244	7,169,030	-	234
Quebec (New Quebec)....	2,177 ¹	-	-	2,253 ¹	-	-	2,544 ¹	-	-
Yukon.....	4,230	-	1	4,157	-	1	8,512	-	1
N. W. T.....	9,723	-	-	7,988	-	-	6,597	-	-
R. C. Navy...	-	-	-	485	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	19,376,786	-	245	8,787,949	-	245	7,206,643	-	235

¹ Represents the population in the area added to Quebec by the Quebec Boundaries Extension Act, 1912, the population of which by sec. 2, ss. "A" of said Act, is to be excluded from the population of the province in ascertaining the unit of representation.

The application of the provisions of subsection 4 of section 51 of the British North America Act (quoted on p. 79) to Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia,