VITAL STATISTICS OF YUKON AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, 1924-32.

Year.	Yukon.			The Northwest Territories.		
	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1924	31	5	38	95	39	47
1925	22	17	63	57	35	32
1926	27	12	68	75	3	51
1927	29	19	33	126	20	133
1928	30	13	46	222	30	367
1929	35	10	54	133	29	168
1930	45	17	69	232	36	206
1931	40	24	66	141	36	106
1932	44	26	62	195	33	122

Two important considerations should be borne in mind by the students who use either the tables which follow or the detailed reports issued by the Bureau of Statistics for comparative purposes. First, in spite of the improvements of the past decade, registration generally, and the registration of births in particular, is not universally carried out. The great extent of the country and the isolation of many of its inhabitants partly account for this unsatisfactory situation. Secondly, the very considerable differences in the age and sex distribution of the population in different provinces make comparisons of crude birth rates and crude death rates as among the provinces unfair and misleading. All rates in this chapter have been recalculated on the basis of the revised estimates of population given on p. 164.

The natural increase of the population of Canada is first dealt with, followed by detailed tables of births, marriages and deaths in the order named.

Section 1.—Natural Increase.

Summary statistics of the births, marriages, deaths and natural increase per 1,000 of population are given for the years 1921 to 1933, by provinces, in Table 1.

The province of Quebec is regarded as having one of the highest rates of natural increase per 1,000 population of any civilized area. The rate was 17·1 in 1931 and, while it has been appreciably reduced in line with common experience almost everywhere, it stood at 15·2 in 1933. Saskatchewan, Alberta and New Brunswick follow Quebec in the order given. In the case of the two western provinces the high rates of natural increase are due to their relatively younger populations and lower crude death rates, but in the case of New Brunswick the condition of an abnormally high birth rate combined with a high death rate exists. In fact, the death rate in New Brunswick is higher than that of any other province. The high rates for these provinces brought the averages for Canada up to 13·3 in 1926, 13·4 in 1927, 13·0 in 1928, 12·2 in 1929, 13·2 in 1930, 13·1 in 1931, 12·6 in 1932 and 11·3 in 1933. The rate of natural increase in 1932 was 8·2 per 1,000 in Australia, 9·1 in New Zealand, 3·3 in England and Wales, 5·1 in Scotland and 4·4 in the Irish Free State, so that Canada compares quite favourably with other British countries.

The rates of natural increase per 1,000 of mean population for other countries in the latest years are as follows, the figures being for 1932, except where stated in parentheses: Denmark, 7·0; Japan, 15·2; Netherlands, 13·0; Norway, 5·4; Finland, 6·1; Italy, 9·1; Switzerland, 4·6; Sweden, 2·9; Spain, 10·1 (1931); France, 1·5; Belgium, 4·5; United States (registration area), 6·5; Union of South Africa (whites), 14·2.

During recent years the rate of natural increase of the population of Canada has shown a tendency to decline. In 1921 the rate was 17·8, declining to 13·3 in 1926 and 12·2 in 1929. After 1929 there was a temporary improvement but, as