

Scotland, again, the average rate was 22.1 in the '60's, 21.8 in the '70's, 18.6 in the '90's, 13.9 in 1921-25, 13.6 in 1926-30, and 13.5 in 1932.

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, owing to the influenza-pneumonia epidemic, as against 12.0 in 1917 and 11.9 in 1919. Over a period, however, these idiosyncrasies of individual years are reduced to negligibility, and it remains true that from decade to decade there is, under normal conditions, a decline in the crude death rates 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. From 1926 Quebec, which has a higher death rate than the average, 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 the years 1932 and 1933. This has been in evidence ever since 1926, but now, for the first time, Quebec shows a lower rate than any of the provinces to the east of her.

Subsection 1.—General Mortality.

Total deaths and crude death rates in recent years are given in Table 20 for Canada, by provinces. There was a smaller absolute number of deaths in 1933 than in any other year since the record became available for all the nine provinces.

20.—Deaths and Death Rates, by Provinces, 1931-33, with Averages 1921-25 and 1926-30.

NOTE.—For figures for single years 1921-25 see p. 149 of the 1930 Year Book, and for 1926-30, see p. 167 of the 1933 Year Book.

A.—TOTAL DEATHS.

Year.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada. ²
Averages, 1921-25.....	1,085	6,519	5,093	¹	34,252	5,348	5,859	4,953	4,812	¹
Averages, 1926-30.....	969	6,362	5,019	36,645	36,650	5,507	6,256	5,530	5,986	108,924
1931.....	912	5,968	4,644	34,487	35,705	5,319	6,066	5,302	6,114	104,517
1932.....	1,051	6,159	4,554	33,088	36,469	5,341	6,044	5,521	6,150	104,377
1933.....	1,032	6,045	4,908	31,636	35,301	5,455	6,024	5,346	6,221	101,968

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

Averages, 1921-25.....	12.5	12.6	13.1	¹	11.3	8.6	7.5	8.3	8.7	¹
Averages, 1926-30.....	11.0	12.4	12.5	13.5	11.2	8.3	7.3	8.4	9.3	11.1
1931.....	10.4	11.6	11.4	12.0	10.4	7.6	6.6	7.2	8.8	10.1
1932.....	11.8	11.9	11.0	11.4	10.5	7.5	6.5	7.5	8.7	9.9
1933.....	11.6	11.6	11.7	10.7	10.0	7.6	6.3	7.1	8.7	9.6

¹ Quebec was not included in the registration area prior to 1926. ² Exclusive of the Territories.