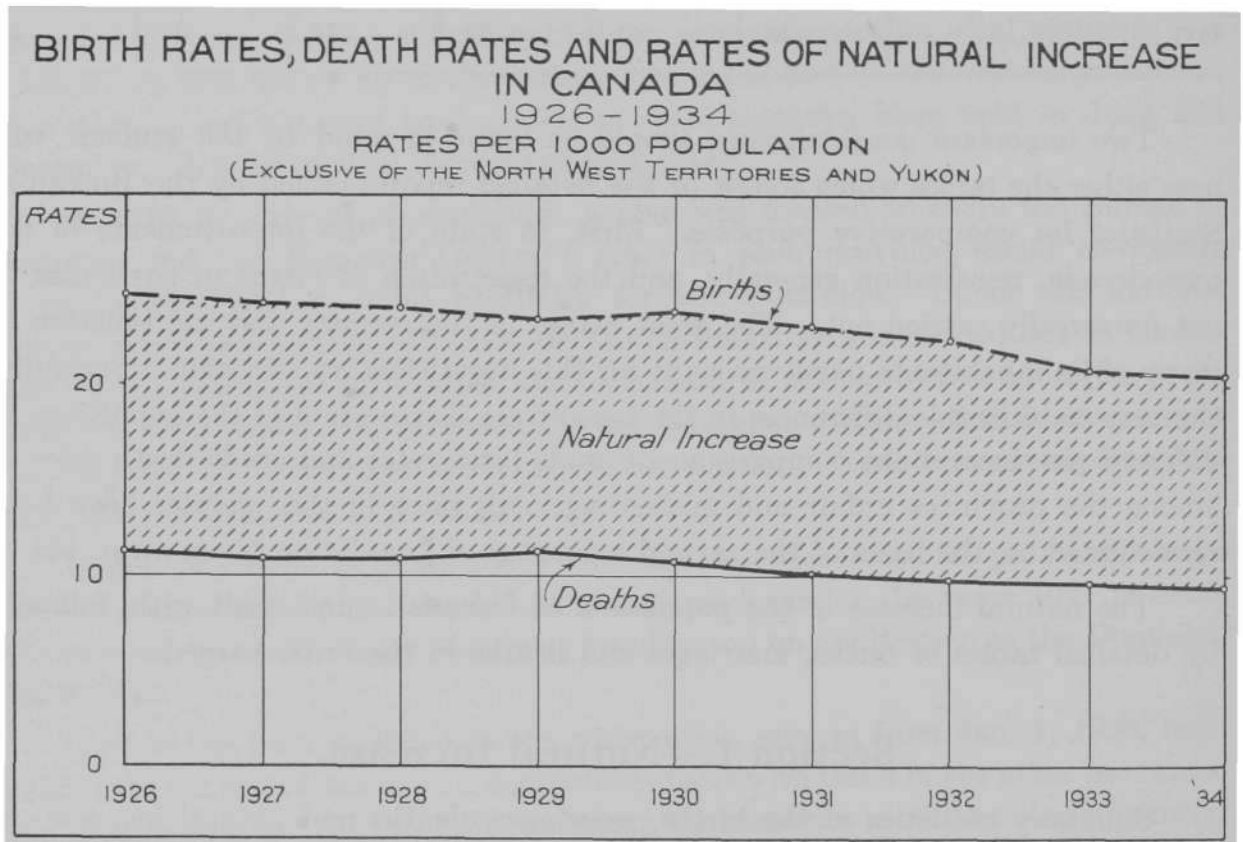


1928, 12.2 in 1929, 13.2 in 1930, 13.1 in 1931, 12.6 in 1932, 11.3 in 1933 and 11.1 in 1934. The rate of natural increase in 1933 was 7.9 per 1,000 in Australia, 8.6 in New Zealand, 2.1 in England and Wales, 4.4 in Scotland and 5.7 in the Irish Free State, so that Canada compares quite favourably with other British countries.

The rates of natural increase per 1,000 of the mean population for other countries in the latest years are as follows, the figures being for 1933, except where stated in parentheses: Denmark, 6.7; Japan, 13.8; Netherlands, 12.0; Norway, 4.6; Finland, 4.5; Italy, 10.1; Switzerland, 5.0; Sweden, 2.5; Spain, 11.9 (1932); France, 0.5; Belgium, 3.3; United States, 5.9; Union of South Africa (whites), 14.3.

During recent years the rate of natural increase of the population of Canada has declined. In 1921 the rate was 17.8; it declined to 13.3 in 1926 and 12.2 in 1929. After 1929 there was a temporary improvement but, as Table 1 shows, the rates for 1932, 1933 and 1934, 12.6, 11.3 and 11.1 respectively, continued the downward trend.



Statistics of the births, marriages, deaths and natural increase in cities and towns of 10,000 and over are given for the calendar years 1933 and 1934 in Table 2, but these are not worked out as rates per 1,000 of population, though the census populations in 1931, which are also given, furnish some guide to the rates of natural increase. Particularly notable in this table are the larger proportionate numbers of births in such cities as Montreal and Quebec, as compared with Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver. These higher birth rates are, in part, counterbalanced by considerably higher death rates, but the natural increases in Quebec cities are still considerably higher than in the cities of other provinces.