

less than 1/700th of the population of Canada, their vital statistics are a negligible factor in the total. Births, marriages, and deaths in Yukon and the Northwest Territories, for the years 1924-36, are summarized in the statement herewith:—

VITAL STATISTICS OF YUKON AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, 1924-36.

| Year.                   | Yukon.  |            |         | Northwest Territories. |            |                  |
|-------------------------|---------|------------|---------|------------------------|------------|------------------|
|                         | Births. | Marriages. | Deaths. | Births.                | Marriages. | Deaths.          |
| 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              |
| 1933.....               | 58      | 15         | 60      | 179                    | 26         | 128              |
| 1934.....               | 44      | 29         | 48      | 203                    | 47         | 154              |
| 1935.....               | 58      | 27         | 69      | 231 <sup>1</sup>       | 63         | 175 <sup>1</sup> |
| 1936 <sup>2</sup> ..... | 38      | 26         | 82      | 198                    | 64         | 170              |

<sup>1</sup> Revised since the publication of the 1937 Year Book.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary figures.

The vital statistics of the provinces are taken up in the following order: births, marriages, deaths, and finally natural increase.

### Section 1.—Births.

Throughout almost the whole of the civilized world the birth rate has, in the past generation, been on the decline, though the consequent reduction in the rate of natural increase has been partly offset by the synchronous decline in the death rate.

The crude birth rate of England and Wales, for example, was 35.4 per 1,000 population for the average of the decennium 1871-80, 32.5 in 1881-90, and 29.9 in 1891-1900. In 1913 the birth rate was 24.1, and, though it rose to 25.5 in 1920, it has fallen quite rapidly, with minor fluctuations since then to 14.7 in 1935.

Similarly, in France the crude birth rate declined from an average of 25.4 per 1,000 population in the 1870's, 23.9 in the 1880's and 22.2 in the 1890's to 21.4 in 1920, 16.1 in 1934, and 15.2 in 1935. In Germany, again, the crude birth rate was 39.1 in the 1870's, 36.8 in the 1880's, 36.1 in the 1890's, 25.9 in 1920, 17.6 in 1930, and 14.7 in 1933. Since then the rate has recovered to 18.9 in 1935.

In Canada the crude birth rate still stands at a comparatively high figure, being 20.0 per 1,000 in 1936. This, however, is largely due to the influence of Quebec, where the rate, although declining, stood at 24.3 per 1,000 in 1936, as compared with 16.9 per 1,000 in Ontario. In the other provinces the figures varied from a low of 14.1 in British Columbia to a high of 24.2 in New Brunswick.

Birth statistics are given by sex in Table 1, p. 159. Table 2 gives the number of live births in cities and towns of 10,000 population or over for the years 1932 to 1936, inclusive. For some years previous to 1930 there was a definite tendency for such births to increase, but the figures given indicate an opposite trend since that year.

**Sex of Live Births.**—Table 1 shows the number and proportion of live male and female births reported for each province of Canada during the calendar years 1934, 1935, and 1936, with averages for the five-year periods 1921-25, 1926-30, and 1931-35. The figures for Quebec commence only with the year 1926, when that