

CHAPTER IV.—POPULATION*

CONSPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
Part I.—Statistics of General Population	137	SECTION 8. BIRTHPLACES.....	156
SECTION 1. CENSUS STATISTICS OF GENERAL POPULATION.....	137	SECTION 9. CITIZENSHIP.....	158
SECTION 2. MOVEMENT OF POPULATION.....	137	SECTION 10. LANGUAGES AND MOTHER TONGUES.....	159
SECTION 3. INTERCENSAL ESTIMATES OF POPULATION AND CURRENT ANALYSES	138	SECTION 11. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.....	159
Part II.—Census Analyses of General Population	142	SECTION 12. BLIND AND DEAF-MUTES..	159
SECTION 1. RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION.....	142	SECTION 13. OCCUPATIONS.....	160
SECTION 2. AREA AND DENSITY OF POPULATION.....	149	SECTION 14. DWELLINGS, HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES.....	161
SECTION 3. SEX DISTRIBUTION.....	150	SECTION 15. QUINQUENNIAL CENSUS OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.....	162
SECTION 4. AGE DISTRIBUTION.....	151	Part III.—International Statistics of Population	171
SECTION 5. MARITAL STATUS.....	152	SECTION 1. AREA AND POPULATION OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.....	171
SECTION 6. RACIAL ORIGINS.....	153	SECTION 2. AREA AND POPULATION OF THE WORLD.....	171
SECTION 7. RELIGIONS.....	155		

The records accumulated at the decennial censuses of Canada since the creation of the Dominion in 1867 to the latest census to date, 1941, make a valuable contribution to the demographic history of the nation. Each successive decade has added to the vast scope of the material; the detailed statistical analyses and the numerous monographs and studies available under the several aspects of demography and agriculture have made the census a most important statistical measure of accomplishment and progress.

The salient aspects of population growth under each main heading shown in the conspectus are covered but not necessarily in any one edition. The Canada Year Book can do no more than summarize the broad results of the census. More detailed information can be obtained from the census publications.

The main legal reason for a periodic census under the constitution of Canada is to determine representation in the House of Commons: this, according to the British North America Act, is based on population (see p. 85). The payment of provincial subsidies on a per capita basis is adjusted annually on population estimated from the census data. In view of this each person is counted as belonging to the locality of his regular domicile, rather than to the place he may be at the date of enumeration.

The modern Dominion-wide census, however important this redistribution purpose, has a much wider sphere of usefulness. It constitutes, through the data collected directly from the people, a true measure of the social and economic progress of the country and can therefore be used in the regulation and general administration of public affairs, social security and rehabilitation programs, etc.

History of the Census.—An outline of the history of the census is given at pp. 96-97 of the 1947 edition of the Year Book.

Growth of Population.—A brief résumé of the population history of Canada from the first census in 1666, when it numbered 3,215 persons, to the eighth Dominion Census of 1941, when the figure was 11,506,655, places Canada among the leading countries of the British Empire in the rate of population growth. The inflow of

* This Chapter has been checked by O. A. Lemieux, Director, Census (Demography) Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.