

CHAPTER IV.—POPULATION*

CONSPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
Part I.—Statistics of General Population		SECTION 7. CITIZENSHIP.....	162
SECTION 1. GROWTH OF THE POPULATION	148	SECTION 8. LANGUAGES AND MOTHER TONGUES.....	163
SECTION 2. MOVEMENT OF POPULATION	153	SECTION 9. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.....	163
SECTION 3. INTERCENSAL ESTIMATES OF POPULATION.....	154	SECTION 10. BLIND AND DEAF-MUTES..	163
Part II.—Analyses of General Population		SECTION 11. OCCUPATIONS.....	163
SECTION 1. RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION.....	155	SECTION 12. DWELLINGS, HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES.....	163
SECTION 2. SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION	157	SECTION 13. QUINQUENNIAL CENSUS OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.....	164
SECTION 3. MARITAL STATUS.....	160	SECTION 14. POPULATION STATISTICS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND.....	171
SECTION 4. RACIAL ORIGINS.....	160	Part III.—Statistics of World Population.....	176
SECTION 5. RELIGIONS.....	161		
SECTION 6. BIRTHPLACES.....	162		

NOTE.—*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

The records accumulated at the decennial censuses of Canada since Confederation 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. 98). 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 nation-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.

* This Chapter has been revised in the Census (Demography) Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.