

The rise in the average age at death has already been noted (p. 248). Deaths from causes that mainly affect children and young adults have declined. Diphtheria for example has been almost wiped out and tuberculosis has been greatly reduced. On the other hand the aging of the population has increased the proportion of deaths from certain causes that affect older people. Thus, cancer and diseases of the cardiovascular-renal systems now account for a substantially larger proportion of all deaths than formerly.

These trends indicate the remarkable success that has attended the attack by health authorities on the infective and contagious diseases which in the past have constituted such a great hazard in the early and young adult years of life. They have similarly served to emphasize the emergence of the chronic and degenerative conditions of later life as the targets towards which the public health programs of the future will be directed. In effect, Canada has shared the experience of most western nations in exchanging a high mortality in younger life for high morbidity in older age groups.

The Chart on p. 251 shows death rates for the major cause groups from 1931-58.

### 13.—Deaths and Rates per 100,000 Population, according to the International Abbreviated List of 50 Causes, 1957 and 1958

International List No.		Cause of Death	Numbers of Deaths		Rates per 100,000 Population	
Abbreviated List	Detailed List		1957	1958	1957	1958
B 1	001-008	Tuberculosis of respiratory system.....	1,035	883	6.2	5.2
B 2	010-019	Tuberculosis, other forms.....	148	144	0.9	0.8
B 3	020-029	Syphilis and its sequelæ.....	190	177	1.1	1.0
B 4	040	Typhoid fever.....	12	3	0.1	1
B 5	043	Cholera.....	—	—	—	—
B 6	045-048	Dysentery, all forms.....	25	25	0.2	0.1
B 7	050, 051	Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat..	25	6	0.2	1
B 8	055	Diphtheria.....	20	7	0.1	1
B 9	056	Whooping cough.....	63	40	0.4	0.2
B10	057	Meningococcal infections.....	86	68	0.5	0.4
B11	058	Plague.....	—	—	—	—
B12	080	Acute poliomyelitis.....	26	26	0.2	0.2
B13	084	Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—
B14	085	Measles.....	108	93	0.7	0.5
B15	100-108	Typhus and other rickettsial diseases.....	—	—	—	—
B16	110-117	Malaria.....	1	—	1	—
	030-039, 041, 042, 044, 049, 052-054, 059-074, 081-083, 086-096, 120-138	All other diseases classified as infective and parasitic.....	348	373	2.1	2.2
B17						
B18	140-205	Cancer (all malignant neoplasms) <sup>2</sup> .....	21,390	21,795	128.9	127.8
		Cancer <sup>1</sup> .....	20,266	20,580	122.2	120.7
	(201)	Hodgkin's disease.....	234	255	1.4	1.5
	(204)	Leukæmia and aleukæmia.....	890	960	5.4	5.6
B19	210-239	Benign and unspecified neoplasms.....	349	294	2.1	1.7
B20	260	Diabetes mellitus.....	1,866	1,869	11.2	11.0
B21	290-293	Anæmias.....	328	398	2.0	2.3
B22	330-334	Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system.....	15,151	15,122	91.3	88.7
B23	340	Non-meningococcal meningitis.....	205	221	1.2	1.3
B24	400-402	Rheumatic fever.....	116	80	0.7	0.5
B25	410-416	Chronic rheumatic heart disease.....	1,609	1,402	9.7	8.2
B26	420-422	Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease.....	38,278	38,853	230.7	227.9
B27	430-434	Other diseases of heart.....	1,969	2,044	11.9	12.0
B28	440-443	Hypertension with heart disease.....	3,781	3,710	22.8	21.8

<sup>1</sup> Less than 0.1 per 100,000.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Hodgkin's disease, leukæmia and aleukæmia.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes