are adopted. For example, in countries so far distant from the other civilized countries of the world as Australia and New Zealand, it is possible, with good vital statistics and records of the comparatively few arrivals and departures, to obtain the actual population at any particular date with approximate accuracy by the simple method of adding births and arrivals and subtracting deaths and departures during the period elapsed since the census. For Canada, on account of her 4,000 miles of common boundary line with the United States, crossed every day by many thousands of people in both directions, this method is impracticable; consequently our annual figure of population must be an estimate pure and simple. This indeed is the case in almost all civilized countries, though their methods of making the estimates vary.

Thus, the method of arithmetical progression is widely used in estimating the populations in the older countries of the world, and also in the United States; this method involves the annual addition to the population of the country and of particular areas within it of one-fifth or one-tenth of the numerical increase in the last quinquennial or decennial intercensal period. This method is not yet applicable to Canada, where immigration is still relatively but variably heavy and the growth of population rapid. The method of geometrical progression, involving the addition each year to the population of a certain percentage of the population at the commencement of that year, is also generally inapplicable to Canada, as in only two decades since 1871 has the application of this method given approximately accurate results.

In making the estimates of Canadian population, the Bureau of Statistics has adopted the method of fitting a series of curves to the populations of the different provinces, as ascertained at the six decennial censuses since 1871, using the curve which is found on trial to fit the population-history of the province, and adding the results for the provinces to obtain the population of the Dominion.

The estimated population of each province for each year from 1924 to 1930 is given in Table 7. (Estimates for the years 1922 and 1923 will be found at p. 95 of the 1929 Year Book.) The mathematical formulæ used in obtaining the estimate for each province, may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician. These formulæ are merely general expressions of long trends of past growth in each province and estimates based upon them are reliable only to the extent that these trends continue uniformly into the future. In such a table of normal growth, good years are not credited with their full addition to the population, while bad years receive more credit than is their due. Nevertheless, the table is believed to represent approximately the broad facts of the situation.

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