

# CHAPTER IV.—POPULATION\*

## CONSPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
SECTION 1. CENSUS STATISTICS OF GENERAL POPULATION.....	94	SECTION 12. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.....	119
SECTION 2. SEX DISTRIBUTION.....	99	SECTION 13. BLIND AND DEAF-MUTES....	119
SECTION 3. AGE DISTRIBUTION.....	101	SECTION 14. OCCUPATIONS OF THE CANADIAN PEOPLE.....	119
SECTION 4. CONJUGAL CONDITION.....	102	SECTION 15. DWELLINGS AND FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS.....	120
SECTION 5. RACIAL ORIGINS.....	103	SECTION 16. QUINQUENNIAL CENSUS OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.....	126
SECTION 6. RELIGIONS.....	106	SECTION 17. ESTIMATES OF POPULATION..	126
SECTION 7. BIRTHPLACES.....	107	SECTION 18. AREA AND POPULATION OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.....	128
SECTION 8. RURAL AND URRAN POPULATION.....	110	SECTION 19. AREA AND POPULATION OF THE WORLD.....	128
SECTION 9. MOVEMENT OF POPULATION..	118		
SECTION 10. CITIZENSHIP.....	118		
SECTION 11. LANGUAGES AND MOTHER TONGUES.....	119		

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 may 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. 57). The payment of provincial subsidies on a per capita basis is adjusted annually on population estimated from the census data. In view of this, the *de jure* principle of census enumeration is used, i.e., 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, a method followed in some other countries.

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 of general administration and public affairs, social security and post-war rehabilitation programs, etc.

**Growth of Population in Canada.**—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.

\* This Chapter has been checked by O. A. Lemieux, M.S.A., Ph.D., Chief, Demography Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A list of the publications of this Branch will be found in Chapter XXXII, Section 1, under "Population"