

**The House of Commons.**—In Sect. 37 of the British North America Act of 1867 it was provided that “The House of Commons shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, consist of one hundred and eighty-one members, of whom eighty-two shall be elected for Ontario, sixty-five for Quebec, nineteen for Nova Scotia, and fifteen for New Brunswick”. Further, under Sect. 51, it was enacted that, after the completion of the 1871 Census and of each subsequent decennial census, the representation of the four provinces should be readjusted by such authority, in such manner, and from such time, as the Parliament of Canada provided, subject to and according to certain rules set out in the original Act.

The representation of the provinces in the Parliament of Canada as at 1867 and the readjustments that took place with the admission of the newer provinces into Confederation and with each decennial census up to 1931, are outlined in the 1946 Year Book, pp. 57-59. The postponement of redistribution of parliamentary constituencies following the 1941 Census, together with the Address of both Houses of Parliament to the King requesting that a Bill for the required amendment to Sect. 51 of the British North America Act be laid before the United Kingdom Parliament, the wording of the new Section, and the passage of the Representation Act, 1947 (11 Geo. VI, c. 71), providing for an increase of membership from 245 to 255 are described in the 1951 Year Book, p. 65.

Under the Terms of Union of Newfoundland with Canada (*see* 1951 Year Book, pp. 56-57), provision was made for the Province of Newfoundland to be represented by seven members in the House of Commons. This increased the number of Members of Parliament to 262.

By c. 15 of the statutes of 1952, the Parliament of Canada, acting under the authority conferred by the British North America Act of 1949, amended Sect. 51 of the British North America Act providing for a new method of readjustment of representation in the House of Commons. Pursuant to this amendment a new Representation Act was passed (1 Eliz. II, c. 48) providing for a total of 265 members of the House of Commons (*see* pp. 1288-1289 for details).

The number of representatives of each province elected at each of the 22 general elections since Confederation is given in Table 8.

**8.—Representation in the House of Commons as at Federal General Elections, 1867-1953**

Province or Territory	1867	1872	1874 1878	1882	1887 1891	1896 1900	1904	1908 1911	1917 1921	1925 1926 1930	1935 1940 1945	1949	1953
Ontario.....	82	88	88	92	92	92	86	86	82	82	82	83	85
Quebec.....	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	73	75
Nova Scotia.....	19	21	21	21	21	20	18	18	16	14	12	13	12
New Brunswick..	15	16	16	16	16	14	13	13	11	11	10	10	10
Manitoba.....	...	4	4	5	5	7	10	10	15	17	17	16	14
British Columbia	...	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	13	14	16	18	22
P. E. Island.....	...	...	6	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Saskatchewan....	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	16	21	21	20	17
Alberta.....	...	...	...	...	4	4	10	7	12	16	17	17	17
Yukon.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mackenzie River.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Newfoundland....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>265</b>