

FAMILIES IN CANADA

The estimated number of families in Canada (excluding the Yukon and Northwest Territories) on June 1, 1960, was 4,138,000, an increase of 100,000, or 2.5 per cent, from June 1, 1959, and 432,000, or 11.7 per cent, from the 1956 Census count. The average number of persons in each family was 3.9, unchanged from the preceding year but up slightly from the 1956 Census and the two following years.

The average family size was largest in Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces at 4.3 persons a family, followed by the Prairie Provinces at 3.7, Ontario 3.6, and British Columbia 3.5.

The average number of children a family (unmarried children under 25 years of age, living at home) in June 1960 was the same as in 1959, at 1.9, compared to 1.8 in 1957 and 1958, and also 1.8 at the 1956 Census. The combined number of families with no children, accounting for 29.2 per cent of all families, or only one child, continued to show a slight drop from 52.8 per cent of all families at the 1956 Census to 52.1 per cent in 1957, 50.8 per cent in 1958, 49.8 per cent in 1959, and 49.3 per cent in 1960.

According to the 1960 family estimates, 28.6 per cent of the heads of "normal" families (that is, families with both husband and wife living at home) were under 35 years of age, 25.9 per cent were between 35 and 44 years, 34.3 per cent were between 45 and 64 years, and 11.2 per cent were over 65 years of age.

SINGERS TO STRATFORD

Glenn Gould, Oscar Shumsky and Leonard Rose, music directors of the Stratford Festival, have announced two new additions to the list of artists appearing at the Sunday afternoon concerts in the Festival Theatre. Ellen Faull, soprano, and Victor Braun, bass-baritone, will take part in the Richard Strauss programme to be presented in the Festival Theatre on July 23. They will join the artists already announced for the programme, Oscar Shumsky, violinist, and Glenn Gould, pianist and, for this programme, commentator.

AMERICAN TALENT

Ellen Faull, who has been called "one of the most vital and exciting dramatic sopranos in many years", was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and originally studied voice while still in high school. Later she won a scholarship to the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia.

The jump from study to professional success was a direct one for Miss Faull. She made her professional debut in New York, singing Donna Anna in "Don Giovanni" at the City Centre, to such acclaim that she has now sung this role more often than any other American singer now before the public. From this brilliant start, Miss Faull went on to tours of the United States as soloist, with such orchestras as the Boston Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra,

the Chicago Symphony, and the Pittsburg Symphony. She has also starred in many operatic roles in New York and San Francisco.

CANADIAN TALENT

Victor Braun, who will join Miss Faull on the Richard Strauss programme, is a native of London, Ontario, where he attended Western University. For the past five years he has sung with the Canadian Opera Company and has toured with the Company from coast to coast in "The Barber of Seville" and "Orpheus in the Underworld". Following this summer's concert engagements, he will sing Escamillo in "Carmen" with the Opera Company in Toronto.

The July 23 programme will be the first appearance on the Festival stage for both Ellen Faull and Victor Braun. Miss Faull will appear in a group of Richard Strauss' Songs for Soprano and Piano, with Glenn Gould at the piano; and with Mr. Braun in the final scene from "Capriccio", the "conversation piece for music" that Strauss composed in 1942. Glenn Gould will play the piano accompaniment to the Capriccio scene and provide a commentary for the opera.

On the same programme, Mr. Gould and Oscar Shumsky will appear together in the Sonata for Violin and Piano in E Flat Major, Opus 18. The Richard Strauss programme is one of five Sunday afternoon programmes to be staged in the Festival Theatre.

MARCH AND QUARTER IMPORTS

Commodity imports from all countries in March were valued at an estimated \$461,800,000, a decrease of 2.6 per cent from last year's corresponding total of \$473,900,000, according to advance figures that will be contained in the March issue of "Imports for Consumption", published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the first quarter of this year, imports were valued at \$1,289,200,000, 2.8 per cent lower than last year's figure of \$1,326,200,000.

In March the value of imports from the United States declined to \$328,300,000 from \$333 million in the same month last year; from the United Kingdom to \$50,800,000 from \$52,700,000; from other Commonwealth countries to \$17 million from \$18,300,000; and from all other countries to \$65,600,000 from \$69,900,000.

In the January-March period the value of imports from the United States fell to \$901,500,000 from \$940,400,000; from the United Kingdom to \$141,800,000 from \$142,200,000; and from all other foreign countries to \$194,800,000 from \$195,700,000. Purchases from the rest of the Commonwealth rose in the quarter period to \$51,100,000 from \$48 million.

ONTARIO TRADE CONFERENCE

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced recently that he would be accompanied by three Assistant Deputy Ministers of Trade and Commerce and ten other senior officers of the