



CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION
 DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 9 No. 51

October 22, 1954

INDEX TO INSIDE PAGES

Population 15,313,000	1	Research Conference	3
New Health Records	1	Manufacturing Nation	4
Manufacturing Record	2	Employment Maintained	4
World Wheat	2	Ambassador to Egypt	5
Petroleum, Gas Soar	2	Ambassador to Israel	5
NATO Ministerial Meeting	3	1953 Railway Records	5
Ambassador	3	Toronto Area Flood Disaster	6
Gatt Delegation	3	Minister-Counsellor, Tokyo	6

WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

POPULATION 15,313,000: Canada's population rose by 118,000 in the three months from June 1 this year, bringing the total to 15,313,000 at September 1, according to the Bureau's quarterly estimate. This compares with an estimated 14,893,000 at the same date last year, making an increase of 420,000.

The estimated gain in the months of June to August this year is the largest numerically for any quarter since the Bureau began the issue of quarterly figures in 1951. It compares with a previous quarterly peak of 114,000 for the March 1 - June 1 period of 1952, and with 113,000 for the June 1 - September 1 quarter of 1951 and 104,000 and 112,000 for the corresponding 1952 and 1953 periods respectively.

The quarter's increase was equivalent to an annual rate of 3.1%, which has been exceeded only in the corresponding 1951 quarter and the March 1 - June 1 quarter of 1952, in both of which the increase was equal to 3.2%. The aggregate gain of 420,000 in the twelve months ending September 1 was at the rate of 2.8%, and compares with increases of 359,000 or 2.5% in the previous twelve months and 412,000 or 2.9% in the twelve months ending September 1, 1952.

The Bureau's quarterly estimates do not give any breakdown of population changes by provinces.

NEW HEALTH RECORDS: Canada's position as one of the world's healthiest nations was confirmed by the 1953 official report of vital statistics, yardstick of the nation's health, released October 11 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Previous records toppled as new marks were set last year for the rates for deaths, infant mortality, natural increase and other health indicators. Only two important rates fell short of past records - the marriage rate and the birth rate, which reached postwar peaks in 1946 and 1947 following the return of armed forces from overseas.

The new death rate, an all-time low of 8.6 per 1,000 population, puts Canada well ahead of the United States (9.6), United Kingdom (11.4), France (12.3), and an impressive list of other European and Commonwealth countries including Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Australia and New Zealand. Only two European countries have lower death rates - the Netherlands (7.3) and Norway (8.3).

The infant mortality rate, generally looked on as a sensitive indicator of community health status, fell to a record low of 35 per 1,000 live births after having remained stationary at 38 for the past two years. This compares with rates of 28.5 in the United States, 28.6 in the United Kingdom, 23.8 in Australia and 21.8 in New Zealand.