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ural increase was, in absolute terms, not greatly different in the two provinces, amounting to 475,000 in Quebec and 432,000 in Ontario. The rate of natural increase has risen much more sharply in Ontario over the past decade - in 1951-55 it was an astonishing 75 per cent higher than in 1941-45 as compared with a 20 per cent rise in Quebec - but it is still not as high as in the latter province, Ontario's 1951-55 rate being about 17 per 1,000, Quebec's 22 per 1,000. The fact that Ontario's population grew in all by 807,000 and Quebec's by only 573,000 is accounted for by the much heavier net inflow of population into Ontario from outside the province. Aside from the fact that native-born Canadians have been attracted from other parts of the country by the diversified expansion in the province, it is well known that Ontario has obtained the lion's share of the postwar immigrants. At the 1951 census date, well over half the people who stated they had come to Canada in the preceding ten years were living in Ontario. And of the subsequent immigrants over half have given Ontario as their destination. This big influx of immigrants undoubtedly accounts for a large proportion of the 375,000 persons which Ontario gained in the five years from net migration, and for the fact that its population growth was both absolutely and relatively a good deal larger than Quebec's.

CITY, FARM AND FRONTIER

The 1956 census showed clearly the move off the farm, the trend to the city, and particularly the clustering of population in the suburbs of the larger cities and the fringe areas of medium-sized ones. Actually the rate of decline in the farm population was even sharper between 1951 and 1956 than between 1941 and 1951, and the big cities continued to attract the major share of the total population increase. But along with these obvious developments in the long-settled areas of the country there is noticeable as well a quite remarkable quickening of population growth in the newer areas all across the north - not large by comparison with that in the urban areas of the thickly-populated south, but significant as a reflection of the northward thrust of resource development.

Generally speaking, in both the East and the West, the fastest-growing counties (or census divisions) were on the one hand those containing substantial cities, and on the other hand those embracing new resource areas. The fastest-growing county in Quebec with the exception of one in the Montreal area was the county on the north shore of the St. Lawrence which contains the booming communities of Schefferville (the townsite for the Quebec-Labrador iron ore development), Seven Islands (the port from which the ore is shipped) and Baie Comeau (soon to be the site of a new aluminum smelter). In Saskatchewan, the division with the most rapid rate of growth was

the one in which Uranium City is located, and the rate of growth in the Manitoba division containing the new mining town of Lynn Lake was exceeded only by that around Winnipeg. British Columbia's three most northerly divisions - No. 9 which contains the new aluminum settlement of Kitimat, No. 8 centred on the frontier city of Prince George, and No. 10 covering the new Peace River oil and gas area from which gas will soon be flowing to southern British Columbia and the U.S. Pacific Northwest - grew at spectacular rates of 78 per cent, 49 per cent and 43 per cent respectively.

Important as this growth on the frontier is in opening up new areas and in stimulating the whole economy, the actual numbers of people involved are relatively small. Indeed, much of the population increase resulting from activity on the frontier takes place in the big industrial and financial centres. All told the population increase in the six areas listed above (roughly 70,000 people) was less than that in the metropolitan areas of either Edmonton or Vancouver. To keep perspective, it should be emphasized that half the total population increase in the country in these five years - a million people - was in the 15 census metropolitan areas, and a further 10 per cent was in the 21 other major urban areas across the country that now have over 35,000 population.

Many medium-sized cities and large towns in the developed areas of the country, especially those with some industry or with an important function as distributing centres, also grew rapidly - Lethbridge and Medicine Hat in Alberta, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert in Saskatchewan, Drummondville, Thetford Mines and Granby in Quebec are cases in point. And of course both large and small places within easy reach of the big metropolitan areas expanded by leaps and bounds - witness the mushroom growth of both incorporated and unincorporated communities between the metropolitan areas of Toronto and Hamilton; the population of Halton county, for instance, grew faster than that of any other county in Ontario - by 55 per cent in the five years.

This type of growth is reflected in the aggregate increase of roughly 650,000 people in urban areas aside from the three dozen large ones. The rate of growth (nearly 28 per cent in this group of communities, which includes all incorporated or unincorporated places of 1,000 population or over outside the 36 major urban areas) was actually sharper than that in the big cities (19 per cent). "Fringe area" growth around small and medium-sized cities and large towns is also reflected to some extent in the 16 per cent rise in the population classified neither as farm nor urban. In general, the "rural non-farm" areas that grew appreciably were those close to sizeable communities. Many predominantly agricultural counties without sizeable towns showed