

for exhibitions of this kind because by then the federation of The West Indies will have become well established. As the dollar exchange position of the Islands has been satisfactory in recent years and is continuing to improve, it is hoped that in 1959 when the trade fairs will be held, import restrictions against Canadian goods will be lessened and Canadian exporters will be able to promote larger sales.

The exhibitions planned would differ from the usual Canadian Government displays at established international trade fairs, simply because there is no such ready-made vehicle in The West Indies. In consequence, the fairs would be organized in their entirety by the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission and the Department of Trade and Commerce. In this respect, they would resemble the former Canadian International Trade Fair. Overall costs would be shared between the private exhibitors and the Government of Canada.

The department's canvass of Canadian businessmen is intended to indicate the possible support for the project, obtain reactions to the tentative planning, and get information as to probable participation by private companies.

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RECORD POPULATION GROWTH

Canada's population increased at a record rate in the first 11 months of 1957, rising 516,000 to an estimated 16,860,000 at December 1 from 16,344,000 at the start of the year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics quarterly estimate. This compares with a January-November increase of 389,000 in 1956, 358,000 in 1955, and 402,000 in 1954.

Over the 12 months (December 1, 1956 to December 1, 1957), Canada's estimated population growth was 552,000 (3.4 per cent), comparing with 415,000 (2.6 per cent) in the 1955-56 period, 386,000 (2.5 per cent) in the 1954-55 period, 433,000 (2.9 per cent) in the 1953-54 period, and 417,000 (2.8 per cent) in the 1952-53 period. The population growth was 779,000 from the 1956 Census total of 16,081,000 and 2,851,000 from the 1951 Census count of 14,009,000.

The table following lists quarterly estimates of Canada's population from June 1, 1951 to December 1, 1957 (actual census totals for June 1, 1951 and June 1, 1956):

Estimated Population of Canada 1951-1957

	March 1	June 1	Sept. 1	Dec. 1
1951...	-	14,009	14,129	14,242
1952...	14,336	14,459	14,568	14,657
1953...	14,730	14,845	14,966	15,074
1954...	15,162	15,287	15,409	15,507
1955...	15,587	15,698	15,803	15,893
1956...	15,972	16,081	16,193	16,308
1957...	16,420	16,589	16,745	16,860

MODERN CONVENIENCES

Proportions of Canadian households equipped with modern conveniences increased again in 1957, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics annual survey of household facilities and equipment. The survey shows that over nine-tenths of all households were served with electricity and all but a relatively small number had radios. More than four-fifths had piped water, electric washing machines and electric refrigerators, and between 70 and 80 per cent had installed bath facilities and flush toilets.

Heading the list in the rate of increase over 1956 were television receivers with sets now in some 63 per cent of the estimated 4,055,000 households versus 54 per cent in September 1956 (as already reported on November 22). Ontario and Quebec had largest proportions with over 70 per cent each, followed by Nova Scotia with about 60 per cent and British Columbia slightly over half. Increases were spread through all provinces with numerically largest gains in Ontario and Quebec. Radios were in 96 per cent of households, telephones in 76 per cent and some 95 per cent were served with electricity, all three being relatively unchanged from September 1956.

The degree of electrification of Canadian households is also reflected in the number with other electrical household conveniences, those with electric refrigerators increasing to 82 per cent from 79 per cent and with electric vacuum cleaners to 58 per cent from 55 per cent.

More than 58 per cent of Canadian households used furnaces for heating purposes (reported on December 5), relatively unchanged from September 1956. Slightly more than half used oil as a heating fuel versus 46 per cent, but the proportion using coal or coke fell to 23 per cent from 26 per cent. Those using wood were little changed at about 18 per cent. The proportion relying on gas represented about 8 per cent of all households in both years, and those using other fuels such as sawdust, electricity and briquettes accounted for 1 per cent. About 60 per cent of all households had automobiles versus 58 per cent in 1956.

Proportion of owner-occupied dwellings in May 1957 remained practically unchanged at about 68 per cent. For tenant-occupied dwellings the proportion rented for less than \$30 a month fell to 16 per cent from 18 per cent, those renting for between \$30 and \$49 a month to 27 per cent from 29 per cent, but those renting for between \$50 and \$69 a month rose to 23 per cent from 22 per cent and those renting for \$70 a month and over to 26 per cent from 23 per cent.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' report on the May 1957 survey estimates the number of households in the 10 provinces (territories, Indian reserves, hotels, lodging houses, institutions, clubs and camps, excluded) at 4,055,000. In September 1956 the number was 3,974,000.