

Population and Statistical Commissions, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Office. These same bodies have also strongly endorsed the plan for the World Census of Agriculture which is being promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization, and have urged all countries to take a World Census of Population. The Population and Statistical Commissions have set out suggestions for questions, definitions and procedures, and FAO has done the same thing for the World Census of Agriculture. For this wider effort, training schools were organized in different sections of the world. Dr. O.A. Lemieux, the Director of the Census Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was lent for this purpose and instructed for three months in the training centre at Cairo.

These efforts by international organizations to promote census-taking on a world-wide scale spell out the need for reliable evaluations of the human and economic resources of all nations. For the formulation of policy to achieve their high objectives, the various United Nations organizations require a vastly improved record of the population, food and other resources of the nations. While census information in itself cannot yield the solution of the many problems concerned with social and economic welfare which confront the United Nations, these statistical data furnish a basis to which many other facts can be related and by which they may be appraised. In connection with the vital problem of population versus food supply, an adequate World Census would show, on one hand, the national and world production of food through the Agricultural Census and, on the other, through the Population Census, the numbers who have to be fed - thus providing a basic picture of needs in relation to supply.

It is not to be expected, however, that the long-cherished objective of a World Census enumerated according to an internationally recommended plan, complete and comparable as between nations, will be achieved in 1950 and 1951 or for many years thereafter. Nevertheless, through the efforts of international statistical organization, considerable gains in that direction will be achieved in the current census programme.

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