

THE ALTAR

Marriages are estimated at 127,000, compared to 128,475 in 1961; the rate declined to 6.8 (per 1,000 population) in 1962 from 7.0 the preceding year. The marriage rate has been declining gradually from the peak of 10.9 (per 1,000 population) set in 1946, and is now the lowest since 1934. When returns are complete for 1962, totals are expected to be lower than 1961 in five of the ten provinces, including Quebec and Ontario.

THE GRAVE

Deaths numbered an estimated 144,000 in 1962, compared to 140,985 in 1961. The annual death rate (per 1,000 population) has been declining since the end of the Second World War, from 9.5 to below 8 in recent years. In 1958 the rate reached a low of 7.9. It rose to 8.0 in 1959, fell to 7.8 in 1960 and 7.7 in 1961, and is estimated at a record low of slightly under 7.7 in 1962. This rate is one of the lowest in the world. When final returns are received, the number of deaths is expected to be higher than in 1961 in all provinces except perhaps New Brunswick.

SWEDEN-CANADA A-PACT DETAILS

The nuclear-energy agencies of Sweden and Canada have made detailed arrangements to implement the co-operation envisaged in their agreement of September 11, 1962, on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and Aktiebolaget Atomenergi will exchange technical information on heavy-water moderated reactor systems by means of exchanges of reports.

Both organizations have agreements with the British Atomic Energy Authority and contemplate periodic tri-lateral technical meetings.

BURMESE ENVOY INSTALLED

On February 11, His Excellency James Barrington presented the Governor General with his Letter of Credence as Ambassador of Burma, in a ceremony at Government House.

Mr. Barrington is a graduate of Rangoon University, with two years study at Oxford before his entry into the Indian Civil Service in 1936. He held several high-ranking civil-service posts in Burma before being appointed Permanent Secretary to the Burmese Foreign Office. Following this appointment, he served as Ambassador to the United States and as Alternate Chairman of Burmese Delegations to the United Nations General Assembly, and later as Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

TOWN AND COUNTRY POPULATION

Seven out of ten Canadians (69.6 per cent) lived in an urban community at the time of the 1961 Census, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Of the remaining three persons in ten who lived in rural areas (30.4 per cent), one lived on a farm (11.4 per cent). The latest report supplements an earlier release on this subject and shows the type of locality of residence for males and females separately at the county and census-division level.

These results are based on a definition that specifies the urban population as all persons living in cities, towns and villages of 1,000 and over, including the urbanized fringe outside the city or town limits (where the total population of both city and fringe is 10,000 and over). The remainder of the population is classed as rural, of which the "rural farm" population comprises all persons living in dwellings situated on farms in rural localities. A "farm" for the 1961 Census is defined as a holding of one or more acres with sales of agricultural products of \$50 or more.

URBANIZATION

Ontario, with 77.3 per cent of its population classed as urban, is the most urbanized province, followed by Quebec (74.3 per cent) and British Columbia (72.6 per cent). Three provinces have less than half their population living in urban areas - namely New Brunswick (46.5 per cent), Saskatchewan (42.0 per cent) and Prince Edward Island (32.4 per cent).

The report further indicates that 9.6 million people, or 52.8 per cent of Canada's population, lived in urbanized areas of 30,000 or over, with 3.7 million, or 20.5 per cent, living in the urbanized fringe beyond the city limits. The Atlantic provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta had less than half their population living in urbanized areas of 30,000 and over, compared to Ontario with 62.4 per cent and Quebec with 57.5 per cent.

The percentage of the Canadian population living in the urban centres under 30,000 was 16.8 per cent. The percentage ranged provincially between 13.4 per cent for Manitoba and 32.4 per cent for Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, with about 33 per cent, had the largest proportion living on farms, while Newfoundland, with 2.0 per cent, had the lowest. The percentage living in rural areas but not on farms ranged between Ontario (14.5 per cent) and Newfoundland (47.3 per cent).