



CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

September 11, 1957

RAPID POPULATION GROWTH

Vol. 12 No. 37

Striking changes in the population of Canada as revealed by the 1956 census, taken for the first time at the end of a five-year period instead of the usual ten-year interval, are discussed in the August issue of the Bank of Nova Scotia's "Monthly Review".

The "Review" points out that in the five years from 1951 to 1956 the population grew by almost 15 per cent, or 2.8 per cent per annum. This is an even faster rate of growth than in the earlier postwar period when it was over 2 per cent per annum. In the process the population has become more "urban": two-thirds of it is now so classified against 63 per cent in 1951; and the number living on farms has shown a further sharp decline. Among the provinces, British Columbia and Alberta have continued to show the most rapid growth. But the rate of growth in Ontario, which has had much the largest absolute increase, has not been far behind and the rate in Newfoundland, the newest province, has speeded up markedly as a result of a very high birth rate and a quite spectacular decline in the death rate. Largely because of the sustained high birth rate right across the country (and to some extent also because of immigration), the aging of the population has proceeded no further; in fact the Canadian population has actually become a little "younger". At the 1951 census the under 15's made up 30% per cent of the population and the over 60's 11% per cent, while at the 1956 census the under 15's made up 32% per

cent and the over 60's 11 per cent. The contrast is even more marked with 1941, when the under 15's comprised less than 28 per cent

BABIES AND IMMIGRANTS

From 1951 to 1956 there was a rise of 2,000,000 in the Canadian population, bringing the total to over 16 million. In absolute numbers this is more than the increase in any previous ten-year period except 1941-51 (when the population grew by some 2½ million, including the 345,000 brought in by the accession of Newfoundland in 1949). And the rate of growth was faster than that for any other intercensal period since the first one in the century. Canada's population has, in fact, been showing one of the fastest rates of growth in the world, its 15 per cent increase in these five years being the same as that in Mexico and comparing with 16 per cent in Venezuela, 12 per cent in Brazil, Australia and New Zealand, 10 per cent in Argentina, and 9 per cent in the United States.

In the prosperous conditions associated with the rapid rate of economic expansion, gains from both natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) and net migration (the difference between immigration and emigration) were remarkably high. As in other periods of Canadian population history, natural increase provided much the greater part of the total; but the share contributed by net migration - not far short of 30 per cent - was larger than

(Over)

CONTENTS

Rapid Production Growth	1	Canadian Honoured	5
National Museum Enriched	3	Royal Visit Stamp	5
Trans-Canada Highway	3	NATO Sea Exercises	5
Elderly Persons Housing	3	Tri-Service Guard	5
Trade With Malaya	3	Canada's Net Debt	5
To NATO College	3	Building Funds	6
A Major Arctic Power	4	Civil Defence Day	6
New Ship Passages	5	Vocational And Technical Training	6

in any other period except the first decade of this century. The inflow of people from outside the country was as large as in the late 'twenties, Canada's last big period of immigration, amounting in the five-year intercensal period to 783,000. At the same time emigration was relatively small. An unusually high proportion of immigrants appears to have remained in the country. In addition, with good economic conditions creating more opportunities at home, the outflow of young Canadians to the United States was a less serious drain than it has often been in the past. As a result, the absolute figure of net migration - 600,000 - was larger than in any past five-year period.

The natural increase rate has been higher recently than at any time since the official records began in 1921. With the birth rate sustained around 28 per 1,000, and the death rate gradually declining to little more than 8 per 1,000, the average rate of natural increase in the past five years has been more than 40 per cent above that for the early 'forties, when there had already been some recovery from the low of the depression.

Helping to explain the high rate of natural increase is the fact that good economic conditions are encouraging more people to marry young and begin raising families. The number of marriages has remained high, considering that the group of native-born young people who have been coming of marrying age in the past few years is relatively small, reflecting the low birth rates of the 'thirties. The immigrants have, of course, done something to augment the numbers in this age group: it has been estimated that something approaching 10 per cent of the population in the 15 to 24 age group in 1956 were postwar immigrants. The influx of young people has by no means offset the effects of the depression birth rates, but there is no doubt that it has helped to sustain the number of marriages.

Young people are also having somewhat larger families than they were, say, fifteen years ago (though very big families are becoming less and less common). There is an apparent tendency towards more families of three or four children rather than one or two. First and second children continue to account for about half of all children born, but the numbers of third and fourth children born have been increasing much more sharply in recent years, and now constitute a substantially larger proportion of the children born than they did a decade ago. Immigration has of course increased the total number of births: about 10 per cent of the annual number of births is now estimated to be to postwar immigrant mothers. Whether, however, it has had any other significant effect, such as encouraging a trend to increased family size, it is impossible to say.

GROWTH FASTER BUT UNEVEN

An interesting fact in this latest intercensal period is that few areas of Canada have failed to share in the acceleration of population growth. While the rates of increase have remained very uneven, it is worth noting that all the provinces except Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick grew faster than in the preceding five-year period - an indication that the stimulus of economic expansion has been broadly diffused through the country. Even Saskatchewan, which had been losing population since the mid-thirties, showed a modest increase of 6 per cent, partly a reflection no doubt of the extension into that province of the oil boom, which had already brought a marked upsurge in Alberta's population.

Nevertheless, the contrasts among the provinces are striking. Half of them - the three older Maritime Provinces and Manitoba and Saskatchewan - showed population gains of less than 10 per cent while the remaining five showed gains of 14 to 20 per cent. (The national average, as has been noted, was 15 per cent). These marked variations reflect not only differing rates of natural increase, but sizeable movements of population across provincial boundaries, including the flow from outside the country. In these movements, the five slower-growing provinces were net losers, their population growth in each case being less than their natural increase. In New Brunswick, for instance, though the natural increase for the period amounted to 60,000, the gain in population was less than 40,000, indicating that, in the shift of people in and out of the province, the net outflow was equivalent to roughly one-third of the natural increase. The drain was proportionately somewhat greater than this in Saskatchewan, and in Prince Edward Island the net outflow was almost as large as the natural increase. It is worth noting, incidentally, that these are the two provinces in which agriculture bulks largest. Nova Scotia, on the other hand, lost the equivalent of only about one-sixth of its natural increase, and Manitoba only a small fraction.

The five faster-growing provinces were net gainers from the movements across the boundaries. Newfoundland's population growth was slightly larger than its natural increase and its rate of natural increase was the highest in Canada. Growth in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, the provinces most stimulated by resource and industrial development, was substantially larger than the natural increase. In British Columbia, which had the lowest rate of natural increase in Canada, net migration was, indeed, the larger of the two components of population growth.

The comparison between Quebec and Ontario, which together accounted for two-thirds of the population increment in the whole country in this period, is an interesting one. The nat-

NATIONAL MUSEUM ENRICHED

Resources Minister Alvin Hamilton has announced the acquisition by the National Museum of Canada of a valuable collection of 800 animal skeletons from the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia.

Many kinds of animals from North America, Africa, Asia, South America, and the Antipodes are represented in the collection. They range in size from a mouse to a rhinoceros and include such unusual creatures as a three-eyed lizard from New Zealand, a sea cow from the Indian Ocean, a weird tarsier from Borneo, and various sloths and armadillos from Mexico and South America. There are also a large number of bird skeletons and a variety of specimens of rare apes, monkeys, and chimpanzees, alligators and crocodiles, a camel, a lama, a cheetah, and a koala bear.

Dr. L.S. Russell, director of the museum's natural history branch, said the collection is one of the finest of its kind anywhere on the continent. The bones, most of which are not assembled as complete skeletons, will provide valuable references for general studies in biology and aid the identification of fossils

TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY: The Saskatchewan portion of the Trans-Canada Highway, the first to be completed, has been officially opened.

Completion of the 405.9 mile section is expected to play a major role in increasing the number of visitors to Saskatchewan from the United States and the other Canadian provinces. With the exception of a 50-mile section in Newfoundland motorists can now cross Canada from coast to coast using provincial highway systems, which for the most part follow the Trans-Canada route.

ELDERLY PERSONS HOUSING: Public Works Minister Howard Green has announced a Federal Government loan of \$87,800 for the construction of a 24-unit, low-rental housing project for elderly persons at Vancouver, British Columbia.

The loan, which is being provided under the limited-dividend section of the National Housing Act, will be made to the Vancouver East Lions Society, sponsored by the Vancouver East Lions Club. Repayable over a period of 40 years, the loan will bear interest at the rate of 4-1/4 per cent per annum.

A two-storey apartment building, the project will consist of 12 bachelor and 12 one-bedroom units. The apartments will be provided with range, refrigerator and laundry facilities. Heat, domestic hot-water and janitor service will also be supplied. Rents will range from \$30 per month for a bachelor unit to \$40 for a one-bedroom apartment, with the maximum income of the tenant families set at \$2160 and \$2880 per annum, respectively.

found by museum palaeontologists. The bird skeletons will be valuable for identifying birds and archaeologists will use the collection to identify bones found in excavations. Bones from such animals as camels and crocodiles which once inhabited North America but now are found on other continents will aid in the recording of prehistoric life in Canada.

Dr. Russell said the collection will be integrated with the growing collection of North American mammals that the National Museum is assembling. It was acquired because the Wistar Institute, originally founded in 1892 to carry out anatomical research and biological studies, is now concerned principally with applied human biology and does not need its animal anatomical research material. The Institute was established in honour of Dr. Caspar Wistar, the great Philadelphia anatomist who was the first U.S. Palaeontologist and a president of the American Philosophical Society. Wistaria, the tree that displays pale purple flowers, is named after Dr. Wistar, who died in 1818.

Section 16 of the National Housing Act provides for loans by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to limited-dividend companies undertaking the construction of low-rental housing projects. The loan may be up to 90 per cent of the lending value of the project and dividends of the company are limited to five per cent or less of the paid up share capital.

TRADE WITH MALAYA: Underlining the importance of Canada's trade ties with the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, the Department of Trade and Commerce publication "Foreign Trade" notes that last year Canada bought over \$28 million worth of goods from Malaya and Singapore (\$22 million worth of rubber, \$2.9 million tin, \$2.7 million palm and palm kernel oil).

In the same year, Canada sold to Malaya and Singapore \$3.9 million worth of goods, with flour of wheat (\$890 thousand), gas engines and parts (\$785 thousand), automobiles (\$652 thousand) and trucks (\$247 thousand) well in the lead.

TO NATO COLLEGE: One officer of the Canadian Army and two Royal Canadian Navy officers are attending the 12th session of the NATO Defence College in Paris.

Col. G.M.C. Sprung, 44, of Ottawa, Military Attache to Sweden and Finland, Cdr. L.B. Jensen, 36, of Calgary and Ottawa, formerly Commanding Officer of HMCS Micmac (destroyer escort), and Lt.-Cdr. (SB) J.W. Scott, 35, of Halifax and Ottawa, who has been Deputy Judge Advocate General (B.C.).

MAJOR ARCTIC POWER

Canada is one of the major Arctic powers and her Arctic territories may well play a paramount part in the developments of the future in this hemisphere, Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker said in Toronto September 3.

Mr. Diefenbaker devoted major attention to Canada's northern regions in his address of welcome to the representatives of 48 nations gathered in Toronto for the 11th General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. Text of Mr. Diefenbaker's address follows:

"On behalf of the people of Canada I welcome you, the representatives of 48 nations. The day of isolation, political or economic, for any nation the world over has ended, and the independence of every nation is no longer inconsistent with an ever-increasing interdependence on other nations. These international relationships are most manifest in the realms of diplomacy, trade, and physical science.

"For its fullest development a high degree of international co-operation is necessary in the field of science. That is not to say that individual scientists do not disagree among themselves. Their bond of union is forged in their dedication to the pursuit of truth and their determination that the way of the discoverer and the experimenter in his endeavour to add to human knowledge and a clearer insight into the nature of the physical universe shall not be impeded. The search for truth must not be circumscribed by political, racial or other limiting considerations. No nation can be self-sufficient in scientific matters and collaboration among scientists is vital to the functioning of modern science.

"Canada owes much in the phenomenal development of her natural resources to modern advances in geophysical science. In the ever-expanding oil fields of the west and the mining areas of both east and west, geophysical instruments have given indications of subsurface structures which have led to discoveries vital to our economic life. Our extensive northern areas have difficulties of transportation and communication which have been materially reduced by the aid of geophysics. Air navigation has been made more certain by geomagnetism; new methods of geodetic surveying have made our maps more accurate, and spectacular improvements in meteorology have led to more accurate weather casting.

"It is significant that this gathering, the first in Canada of this world-wide organization, is closely associated with the inauguration of the International Geodesy and Geophysics Year. Canada is generally thought of as only an Atlantic and a Pacific power although in fact she is one of the major Arctic powers and her Arctic territories may well play a paramount part in the developments of the future in this hemisphere.

"The Canadian Arctic until 1953, when the Royal Canadian Air Force completed its photographic survey, was the last unexplored frontier. The romance of the lost Franklin Expedition and the searches made through the years - the long-sought North West Passage - the quest for fur by the Hudson's Bay Company and the solitude of the deathless heroism of the North West Mounted Police (the Royal Canadian Mounted Police of today) - and the exploration leading to newly discovered lands, and now of the history of this nation as scientific explorations have taken the place of adventurous discovery.

"This year's effort by the Union has, because of Canada's Arctic interests, a special significance for Canadians even greater than in the two previous Polar years of 1882-3 and 1932-33.

"When the first Polar year was held Canada had one magnetic observatory in the city of Toronto and none in the northern regions. In that year as a result of international agreement three additional observatories were operated for the duration of that Polar year, one by Great Britain on Great Slave Lake, the other by the United States on Ellesmere Island and one by Germany on Baffin Island.

"In the Second International Polar Year held 50 years after, Canada's greater interest in her northland is shown by the fact that the Meenook Observatory, established in 1916, was classified as 'polar'. An additional observatory operated by Canada at Chesterfield Inlet on the northwest coast of Hudson Bay was established, as was one by the United Kingdom on Great Slave Lake - these two observatories operated during the year, being devoted to various aspects of geophysical research including meteorology, earth magnetism, earth currents, atmospheric electricity and auroral studies.

"Canada has become acutely Arctic-conscious since the end of the Second World War. Of the nearly 100 Geophysical Year stations set up in Canada this year all but five had their origin in this country and many will continue to operate in the years ahead. That Canadian eyes are on the Arctic is evidenced by the fact that a majority of the stations are operated by Canadians, with equipment designed and manufactured by Canadians.

"Gatherings such as this provide for a wider and most intimate exchange of scientific information and experiences and tend to diminish and dissolve unresolved tensions between nations - a paramount responsibility of mankind today if mankind's survival tomorrow is to be assured.

"In declaring this meeting open I express the hope that the deliberations of this Conference will make not only for fruitful contributions to a wider knowledge of the earth's sciences but will also contribute to international goodwill and co-operation for the common good of all mankind."

NEW SHIP PASSAGES: Official congratulations have been sent to the Arctic patrol ship, HMCS Labrador, on the establishment of two vital new deep-draft ship passages in the Canadian Arctic, the Royal Canadian Navy announced.

The most recent notable passage made by the Labrador occurred when she became the first deep-draft ship to sail through Bellot Strait, between Somerset Island and Boothia Peninsula, thus establishing an alternate eastward escape route for ships operating in the central and western Arctic.

The earlier passage was between Resor and Pike Islands at the south-eastern end of Baffin Island, a discovery which offers a new deep-draft channel into Frobisher Bay from the Foxe Basin area.

The Naval Board of Canada had praise for both of the Labrador's exploits in its message to the Labrador, under the command of Captain T.C. Pullen of Oakville, Ont., and Halifax. The Naval Board's message, dispatched from Ottawa, commended the Labrador on the transit of Bellot Strait and added, "The continued meeting of assigned tasks and undertaking of unassigned projects of such significance as the survey of Frobisher Bay reflect great credit on the officers and men of HMCS Labrador and their civilian collaborators."

Two United States Navy admirals also sent their appreciation of the Labrador's work.

CANADIAN HONOURED: The City of Antwerp has paid tribute to a distinguished Canadian general who figured prominently in its liberation from the Germans in 1944.

At ceremonies commemorating the 13th anniversary of its regained freedom the city named one of its streets after Lt.-Gen. Guy Granville Simonds, who commanded the 1st Canadian Army in the relief of the Scheldt estuary during the Second World War. General Simonds retired two years ago as the Canadian Army's Chief of the General Staff.

The event took place in one of Antwerp's main squares. The programme included concerts by Belgian, Canadian and United States military bands, a flag-raising ceremony, the laying of a wreath by Antwerp's Burgomaster and the sounding of the Last Post.

ROYAL VISIT STAMP: Mr. William Hamilton, Postmaster General, has announced the details of the new design postage stamp that will be issued to commemorate the visit to Canada in October of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. The stamp will be issued for sale to the public on October 10, 1957.

The stamp portraying the Queen and the Prince in profile was designed and engraved by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, from photographic portraits prepared by Karsh of Ottawa. The colour of the stamp will be black.

This special issue will be of the five cent denomination and slightly larger than the small size stamps now in use that portray Her Majesty, but will be distributed in panes of one hundred stamps each.

NATO SEA EXERCISES: Eight ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, including four anti-submarine destroyer escorts of the new St. Laurent class are taking part in the first phase of a series of NATO exercises in the Atlantic.

Exercise Sea Spray concludes on September 13, following which the Canadian ships will call at Portland, England, for two days before proceeding to participate in further NATO exercises, which will carry on until the end of September.

The concept for Exercise Sea Spray is to test the movement of ships from the western to the eastern Atlantic as part of an alert for NATO forces. A combined tactical exercise, it has been designed to train the participating forces in co-ordinated operations in all phases of underway tactics and anti-submarine warfare.

TRI-SERVICE GUARD: A tri-service Royal Household Guard will be mounted at Government House while Her Majesty the Queen is in residence October 12 to October 16 and will perform the ceremonies of guard mounting on October 12, guard changing on October 13, 14 and 15, and guard dismounting on October 16.

The Guard of Honour for the opening of Parliament will be provided by the 1st Battalion, The Canadian Guards. The Guard for the arrival at Uplands will be provided by the R.C.A.F., and the Navy will mount the Guard for the departure.

Details of participation by Militia and Reserve units in the supplementary programme are to be announced later.

CANADA'S NET DEBT: Mr. Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, has announced that the Government of Canada's revenues for the fiscal year 1956-57 were \$5,107 million, or \$42 million less than the forecast of \$5,149 million given by the previous Minister of Finance in his budget speech of March 14, 1957.

Expenditures, including a provision of \$50 million for the reserve for losses on the realization of assets and \$50 million as a special government contribution to reduce the unamortized portion of the public service superannuation account liability, were \$4,849 million or \$18 million less than the budget forecast of \$4,867 million.

Consequently the budget surplus was \$258 million compared with the forecast of \$282 million given in the budget speech.

Mr. Fleming pointed out that if the expenditures had not included these two items of \$50 million the surplus for the fiscal year would have been \$358 million.

At March 31, 1957, the gross liabilities of the Government amounted to \$18,326 million of which \$14,368 million consisted of unmatured bonds and treasury bills. As assets totalled \$7,318 million, the net debt of Canada amounted to \$11,008 million at the end of the fiscal year.

* * * *

BUILDING FUNDS: Public Works Minister Howard Green has announced the completion by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation of its arrangements to add \$150,000,000 of federal funds to current mortgage lending activity under the National Housing Act. Mr. Green said that the federal money will be available to supplement the National Housing Act mortgage lending programmes of the banks, life insurance companies and trust and loan companies operating as approved lenders under the Act.

* * * *

VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

Growth was substantial in vocational and technical training in Canada between 1951 and 1956, according to the first progress report on the Labour Department's research programme on the training of skilled manpower which has been released by Hon. Michael Starr, Minister of Labour.

The returns from the provinces indicated that total annual expenditures on all branches of vocational and technical training have increased from approximately \$29,500,000 in 1951 to nearly \$41,500,000 in 1956 and that there had been substantial growth in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Preliminary figures for enrolment for 1956 in full-time courses of those public schools and institutes which provide some form of vocational training totalled approximately 97,000 of whom approximately 37,000 or 38 per cent were enrolled in industrial and technical courses as distinct from commercial, agricultural and home-making courses. Of these 37,000 approximately 6,000 were enrolled in advanced technical courses, 7,000 in specialized short-term courses and 24,000 in general industrial courses of secondary schools. More than 47,000 were reported as enrolled in vocational evening classes.

In addition, there were 5,500 people enrolled in provincial vocational correspondence courses, about 10,000 in special classes for indentured apprentices, and over 30,500 in private trade schools.

The research programme was begun in 1956 under the direction of the Interdepartmental Skilled Manpower Training Research Committee in co-operation with the provinces and other

CIVIL DEFENCE DAY: Friday, October 4, 1957 has been set aside by Civil Defence organizations in all parts of Canada as National Civil Defence Day. Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare and federal cabinet minister responsible for Civil Defence has announced.

"Primarily", the minister said, "the objective of National Civil Defence Day is to focus the attention of every citizen in Canada on Civil Defence, and to emphasize the importance of Civil Defence in the defence of Canada under emergency conditions".

Mr. Monteith said that the observance of National Civil Defence Day is being organized by provincial and municipal Civil Defence bodies, with the advice and assistance of the federal organization. Displays, demonstrations and other public presentations will be featured on the programmes being planned across the country by individual units.

* * * *

interested agencies. This committee, consisting of members from several government departments and agencies, was established to make a critical examination of changing requirements for skilled manpower in Canadian industries and occupations.

The preliminary findings showed that many of the new occupations were emerging on the "technician" level between the skilled tradesman and the professional engineer or scientist. The report points out that the increased requirements for skilled tradesmen and particularly technicians have tended to reduce requirements for semi-skilled assemblers and machine operators.

The research programme revealed that apprenticeship and trade school training played an important part in the training of skilled workers in the heavy industrial machinery, aircraft and automotive parts industries. However, apprenticeship and trade school training were not considered particularly important as a source of skilled manpower in the electrical products and chemical industries.

More consideration should be given to the role of public training institutions in the development of apprenticeship, including the need for flexibility in entrance requirements, the importance of uniformity in instruction and adjustments in the length and character of training in keeping with industrial requirements, the preliminary findings indicated.

The research indicated that immigrants generally had received more formal training than Canadians through apprenticeship or in technical institutions. Their training also seemed to involve a greater integration of classroom and on-the-job training.

(Continued from P. 2)

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

little or no growth (in the Prairie Provinces there were often actual declines in population), reflecting not only the contraction in the farm population but a virtual cessation of growth in dozens of small towns and villages.

Behind the accelerated decline in the farm population to which attention has already been drawn - 7 per cent in the five years 1951 to 1956 as compared with 10 per cent in the preceding ten years - lie some rather diverse developments. The decline was particularly striking in the Atlantic Provinces, where it amounted to 14½ per cent. Since it was accompanied in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick not only by a substantial decline in the number of farms but by a roughly corresponding contraction in the area of occupied farm land, it probably represented a drop in the subsistence farming that is commoner in this than in other regions of Canada. Progress in mechanization on the reduced number of farms, however, was notable, the number of farm tractors in the Atlantic Provinces increasing by 55 per cent in the five years and the number of motor trucks by 33 per cent.

In the Prairie Provinces, and to a lesser extent in the central provinces, the decline in the farm population reflected a continuation of the long-term trend towards fewer, larger and more highly mechanized farms. In the three western provinces, while the number of farms decreased substantially, the total area of occupied farm land actually increased a little. At the same time, the number of grain combines in the three provinces rose by 48 per cent and the number of farm tractors by 16 per cent. In the central provinces, the decrease in the number of farms and the increase in their average size was a good deal less striking, but mechanization moved rapidly ahead: in 1956 the number of farm tractors in Ontario and Quebec was nearly 40 per cent greater than in 1951.

All across Canada, too, there was a marked increase in the number of farms reporting electric power. Progress in this respect was particularly noticeable in the Prairie Provinces. Nearly twice as many Prairie farms reported electric power in 1956 as at the preceding census date, though in Alberta and Saskatchewan the proportions (52 per cent and 42 per cent respectively) were still much smaller than the 80 to 90 per cent which now have this convenience in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia.

THE YEARS AHEAD

The "Review" then engaged in speculation on how well the extraordinary rate of population growth of the past few years will be maintained. Clearly much will depend on economic conditions. Immigration is usually very sensitive to any slackening in business, and

marriages tend to follow the course of the major indicators of business activity. An economic downturn, particularly if at all prolonged, could reduce immigration drastically and would almost certainly be reflected in a contraction in marriages and in due course in a less buoyant birth rate.

So far, of course, all these various factors in population growth have remained buoyant: the official estimate for June 1, 1957 places the Canadian population at 16.6 million, an increase of no less than 3.2 per cent in the year following the 1956 census date. Preliminary vital statistics for the first half of 1957 indicate that the birth rate is being maintained at its recent high level and that the trend in marriages, which slackened in 1954 and 1955, is strongly upward again, despite the fact, already noted, that the 20 to 29 age group from which the largest number of marriages comes is relatively small. Immigration, which also turned upward again last year after slackening in 1955, this year promises to reach a new high for the postwar period.

In any case, the size of the age groups now marrying and raising young families suggests that there could well be a few years of rather less buoyant population growth, and consequently a period of somewhat less vigorous demand for houses and household equipment.

The uptrend in births that got under way before the end of the thirties will shortly begin to make itself apparent in the numbers of young people coming of working and marrying age.

In 1962, the first contingent from the postwar boom in births will be reaching 15 years of age. High schools will be having to cope with the wave of children that has been inundating elementary schools for the past few years, and the universities will have on their doorsteps the throngs of young students for whom they are already preparing. A few years later these young people will be taking jobs, marrying and founding families.

However things develop in the meantime, the size of this group makes it highly probable as the decade of the sixties unfolds there will be growing pressure on the housing market and an upsurge in demand for all the varied equipment that goes into new houses, not to mention the many kinds of services and the vast array of consumer goods required by growing families. This increased demand for goods and services implies new investment in productive facilities and social capital. Thus, the demands of a rapidly increasing population will be a factor of mounting strength in the decade of the sixties. If world conditions are at all favourable, this could result in a period of expansion and broadening growth in the Canadian economy dwarfing anything this country has yet experienced.