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Census statistics of vital importance

With the 1961 census starting today, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has stressed that every question to be asked by the enumerators serves definite useful purposes.

No question has been included merely because the resultant statistics would be interesting. The census questions asked are the result of a great deal of planning, during which each suggested question has been subjected to rigorous examination. The prime consideration of course, is the usefulness of each question and the number of users.

In studies involving population, it is of vital concern that census facts can be associated with each other. Thus, the number of people of different ages is an important statistic in itself, as is the count of men and women, the totals of people employed in various occupations. However, each such fact assumes far greater importance when it is possible to compare it with others. For example, even when taken by themselves, figures giving the number of persons who have graduated from high schools and universities are useful in describing the level of education reached by Canadians. However, much more useful information becomes available when the level of education can be related to age and sex, and it becomes possible to answer such questions as, "Are boys leaving school earlier than girls?" "How much more schooling are today's children receiving than their parents?" Similar important relationships exist between language and origin; home-ownership and city; average income per person and average income per family; and occupation, age, income and education.

Thus, in assessing the purpose to be served by a census question, it should be remembered that the merit of each question depends to a considerable extent on the fact that other questions relating to Canada's population are also being asked at the same time.

Here is a brief summary of the questions included in the 1961 census and some of the reasons why the questions are being asked:

● **Name and address:** for the population count.

● **Relationship to head of household:** to provide statistics on the number, size and composition of households and families.

● **Male or female:** for classification by area.

● **Age:** number of children preschool or school age, number of people working or pensionable age.

● **Birthplace:** study of percentage of native population, movement from provinces, immigration pace, how many immigrants still in Canada.

● **Country of citizenship:** percentage taking out citizenship.

● **Ethnic or cultural group:** language and contribution to Canada.

● **Education:** education level of Canada compared to other nations; also comparison between level of education, income and occupation.

● **Employment:** formation of employment policies, employment conditions, occupation structures and estimate of labor force.

● **Wartime service in Canada or Allied Forces:** number of veterans still living in Canada, age and employment.

● **Migration:** movement of population within Canada, from farms to cities, rural to urban.

● **Family size:** number of children to each family, check on birth rate, family formation.

● **Income:** for every household, annual wage or salary; for one household in five, questions on family allowances, old age pensions and investments. Answers will be completed in private by each person of whom they are asked, sealed by him and not opened until they reach the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

These figures are not available to any other department of government. Statistics on family income will be of particular use to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and local governments. Subsidized housing is intended for families with low income, but at present there are no statistics on family income by municipality. The census will provide related data such as the number of families in different income brackets, classified as between owners and tenants.

All in all the 1961 census will be more complete than any before and should provide important data which the government will be able to put to good use in helping Canadians. It therefore behooves every citizen to help and not hinder the census enumerators. They are merely doing an important job to help you.

Will heighten tension

It may be human, but it is neither logical nor honest, to claim that the failure of the Cuban invasion is somehow a demonstration of the impossibility of doing business with the communists.

The only thing that fiasco proved is that there will be a sharp heightening of tension in the world (and a sharp drop in respect for the U.S.) if the Americans combine an attempt to organize the overthrow of a foreign government with an incapacity to do the job properly.

— The Economist, London

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Kennedy hoping Khrushchev will switch signals

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The major hope that President Kennedy carries with him in his venture to Vienna appears to be that Soviet Premier Khrushchev may somehow be persuaded to switch signals at Geneva and agree to a nuclear test ban treaty on modified Western terms.

But even if he fails on this issue, he is not likely to slam the door on future meetings with the Soviet leader. The way American diplomats are thinking now, the informal summit meeting at Vienna likely will be followed by a series of conferences between the two world leaders.

Kennedy is reported to be convinced, however, that despite the unbudging position of Russia in test ban treaty negotiations, Khrushchev is earnest in his desire for an end to atomic explosions. The United States and Britain recently offered new concessions in proposals to police any treaty signed. Russia refused to go along and instead went back to old demands for a built-in veto on inspection and controls.

Now the United States and Britain have offered a new concession — to reduce the minimum number of annual inspections of Russian territory to 12 from 20 while still adhering to the Western principle that there should be an inspection team from neutral countries to see that no cheating takes place.

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Russia is not likely to accept even this concession, still maintaining that only a minimum of three inspections annually are needed, though the Russian delegate at Geneva has admitted this is a token demand and the number will have to be settled on a political basis.

Having gone this far in offering concessions, Kennedy may be prepared to offer more, but without yielding to the central Russian veto demand.

The view in Washington is that if Kennedy should agree to a three-man directorate for administering control over policing — one from the West, one from Russia and one from a neutral country — instead of a single administrator, it would wreck the policing operation.

It could also shatter the Western position in the United Nations, where the Soviet Union has made similar demands to reform the secretariat.

SUITABILITY of the southern area of New Brunswick for dairy farming is shown above as cattle graze on the rich banks of the St. John River near Fredericton. Last year saw a new development for the industry with the export of 25 purebred Holstein-Friesian heifers to South America. The cattle were shipped to Venezuela where they will be used as breeding stock.
— National Film Board Photo

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

Bird and animal hitch-hikers have caused terrible damage to countries where they have arrived as immigrants.

Some well-meaning oaf gave the English sparrow a ride to North America, hoping that the bird would eat caterpillars.

Soon the original few pairs had multiplied into thousands and tens of thousands. The sparrows devoured comparatively few insects, and they drove away the truly useful birds by bullying and harrassing them. They fouled buildings and destroyed grain.

The English sparrow is one of several immigrants that have become pests.

English rabbits, taken away from their natural enemies and transplanted to Australia, found the earth, air, water and food so much to their taste that they spilled across the whole country in a population explosion that cost millions.

The common blackberry bramble, taken to South Africa, became a fast-spreading weed.

However, some immigrant birds, animals and plants have turned out to be good citizens.

Wildlife Review, the magazine of the fish and game branch of the department of recreation and conservation in British Columbia, presents both sides of the story of migrant creatures and plants.

On the debit side:

The American grey squirrel in England (it turned ugly and began killing trees by chewing their bark); the muskrat, taken to Europe, burrowed into dikes and canal walls, made them cave in.

The Chinese crab, travelling to other countries attached to the hulls of ships, undermined river banks, destroyed fishing nets and carried a serious parasitic disease.

Deer liberated in New Zealand multiplied enormously and over-ran the pasture. Government hunters are trying vainly to prune down their numbers. Hitch-hiking mosquites, arriving by airplane, have brought African diseases to South America.

On the credit side:

The Chinese pheasant and Hungarian partridge are providing good sport in North America. Montana buffalo are flourishing in Alaska.

Domestic chickens, geese and ducks are all immigrants to North America. Spanish settlers brought the horse to the Americas in the 17th century.

Most food crops are imported. Corn, beans, pumpkins, squash and tobacco were growing in North America before the white men came—but the Indians had introduced them from South America.

"Man has changed the face of the earth wherever he has gone," says the Wildlife Review writer. "Perhaps because of homesickness for familiar things, man has brought his own plants as well as animals, even when it has meant destroying the country's native environment."

There will be more bird, animal and plant immigration in future. However, the transfer will be scientifically managed. The case of the Australian rabbits the biologists hope, will never be repeated.

Realism on gambling

From the Lacombe, Alberta Globe

Let us bring our gambling laws up to date so that the vast majority of Canadians are not breaking the law every time they purchase a ticket on a pool, or a draw for any number of prizes. Such laws could be restrictive enough to keep out the crooks who invariably try to step into countries where wide-open gambling is allowed, and still broad enough to prevent the need for under-the-counter sales of innocent tickets being sold to raise money for worthwhile projects.

In short, let's be realistic, instead of idealistic in our views on innocent gambling.

Quote and unquote

President Kennedy:

"Our greatest adversary is not the Russians. It is in our unwillingness to do what must be done."

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H. George DeYoung, chairman of the National Productivity Council, at the Association of Canadian Advertisers' convention:

"Let's not be naive. A national unity, a co-operative effort on a national scale or a co-operative effort in a company of the two sides of industry will only be forthcoming if all see that there is more in it for all concerned.

"It must increase the size of the melon to be divided."

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Copyright: Canada Wide

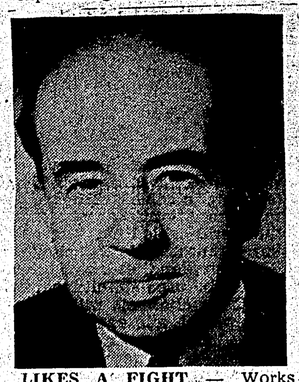
While the number of people who own motor cars is increasing, it may be that the number of people who don't own motor cars is also increasing. A new trend is beginning to assert itself. In recent months, I have met a number of former car owners who have retired from the rat race.

"I find," said a professor of economics, "that those who don't own motor cars are getting a good deal more value out of their wages or salaries. To purchase and operate a motor car is a major expense against income. It has been generally accepted by a very large section of the population as a necessary expense, a necessity. It is, of course, nothing of the kind. People who don't own cars are getting far more out of their dollar than those who do. It is obvious."

I asked the profesor if he owned a car.

"No," he said. "I live within comfortable and economical bus distance of the university.

Many if not most of my friends have cars, so that for holidays and rides in the country, I can always rely on them. And I am most particular to pay for the gas. Very occasionally, I rent a car. The final solution of our economic and traffic situation will almost certainly be the rental of cars. The ownership of cars is based on the assumption that we are all solvent."



LIKES A FIGHT — Works Minister David Walker, a one-time boxer, seldom backs away from a verbal battle in the House of Commons. A scrappy debater who has been involved in some memorable exchanges, he was first elected for Toronto Rosedale in 1957 and was appointed to Prime Minister Diefenbaker's cabinet in August, 1959. CP Photo

With the classics

Sleep, Silence' child, sweet
father of soft rest,
Prince, whose approach peace
to all mortals brings,
Indifferent host to shepherds
and to kings,
Sole comforter of minds with
grief oppressed;
Lo, by thy charming rod all
breathing things
Lie slumb'ring, with forgetfulness possessed,
And yet o'er me to spread thy
drowsy wings
Thou spares, alas; who cannot be thy guest.
—William Drummond.

Subway chivalry

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In this scared and scary world it is heartening to find now and then that idealism and high hope are not dead. For example a drive just has been started to bring courtesy back to the New York subways.

Carefully avoiding the crush of Manhattan's rush hours, the cynics scoff that only dreamers would hold this possible in the throngs of the work-bound and the home-bound. But the New York Transit Authority seems to be realistic enough.

As its slogans, it has chosen: "Bring Back the Age of Chivalry" and "Be a Knight for a Day." Very realistic indeed—when one remembers the garb of the knights of the Age of Chivalry. For the subway, their iron suits are just the thing.

The lighter side

As the policeman helped the battered man up from the pavement in front of the tavern he asked:

"Can you describe the man who hit you"

"That's exactly what I was doing when he hit me," the man replied.

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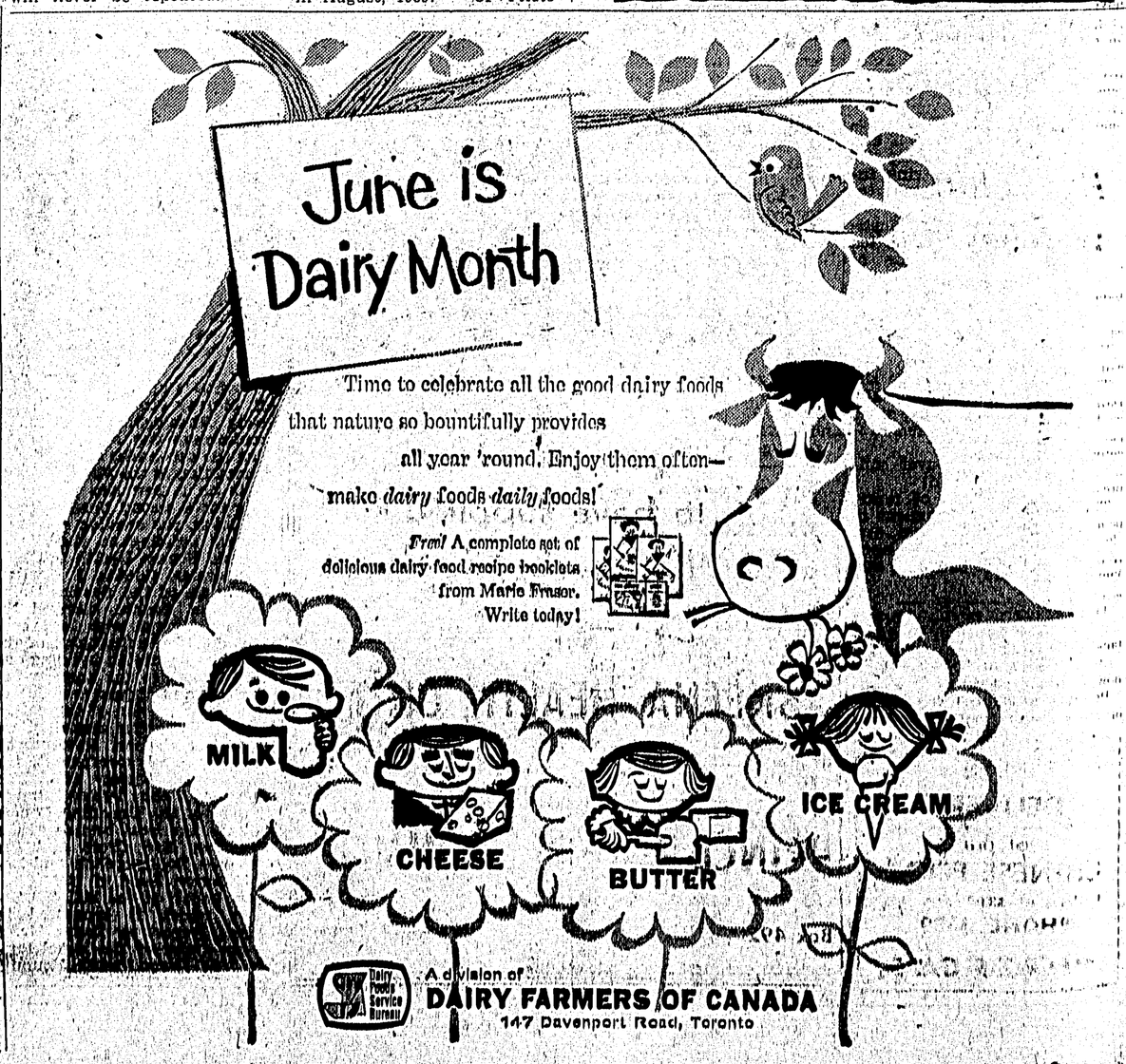
Scotty (hoping for free advice): "Doctor, what should I do for a sprained ankle?"

Doctor, also a Scot: "Limp."