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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

DEATHS DUE TO AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS, 1927

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports 864 accidental deaths credited to automobile accidents in 1927 as against 606 in 1926, an increase of 42.6 per cent. The death rate from this cause for Canada as a whole was 9.1 per 100,000 population in 1927 as compared with 6.5 in 1926. In the United States for 1926, the latest year for which figures are available, (basing figures for the whole country on the records of the Registration Area, which comprised about 90 per cent of the total population) deaths assigned to automobiles numbered 23,264, a death rate of 18.2 per 100,000 population or double the rate for Canada in 1927 and about three times the Canadian rate of 1926.

That tourist traffic contributes to the death rate from automobile accidents appears to be borne out by a comparison of the death rates in the central provinces and British Columbia and those of other provinces. British Columbia had an automobile mortality rate of 13.4; Ontario 12.1; Quebec 9.7; New Brunswick 5.8; Nova Scotia and Alberta each 5.7. In the Province of Quebec, Montreal was responsible for one half of all automobile deaths; Toronto's contribution in Ontario was only about 23 per cent of the total.

From 1926 to 1927 Toronto increased its automobile death rate by 93.3 per cent; Montreal by 55.6 per cent; Vancouver by 54.5 per cent and London by 50 per cent. In the other cities listed there was no unusual upward movement. It is however to be noted that the uncorrected figures of deaths from automobile accidents in cities tend to be too high, as in the case of fatal accidents occurring outside city limits the injured are frequently hurried to city hospitals and thus unwarrantably increase the city death rate.

Automobile accidental deaths in Canada by provinces, 1926 and 1927.

Province	1926	1927	Increase	Per 100,000 persons 1926	Per 100,000 persons 1927
	No.	No.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Canada	606	864	42.6	6.5	9.1
Prince Edward Island	1	2	100.0	1.1	2.3
Nova Scotia	28	31	10.7	5.2	5.7
New Brunswick	11	24	118.2	2.7	5.8
Quebec	183	252	37.7	7.1	9.7
Ontario	242	387	59.9	7.7	12.1
Manitoba	27	32	18.5	4.2	4.9
Saskatchewan	21	24	14.3	2.6	2.9
Alberta	33	35	6.1	5.4	5.7
British Columbia	60	77	28.3	10.6	13.4

Automobile accidental deaths in cities of 40,000 and over in Canada, 1926 and 1927.

City	1926	1927	Increase
	No.	No.	p.c.
Montreal	81	126	55.6
Toronto	45	87	93.3
Winnipeg	18	18	-
Vancouver	22	34	54.5
Hamilton	20	23	15.0
Ottawa	12	17	41.7
Quebec	10	14	40.0
Calgary	6	8	33.3
London	6	9	50.0
Edmonton	5	7	40.0
Halifax	5	5	-
St. John	-	4	-

Note: Reliable estimates of population upon which to calculate rates for cities not available.

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