

Safety League Seeks Support

OTTAWA (CP)—The National Safety League of Canada needs greater financial support if it is to do more than scratch the surface of the accident control problem. C. E. Carson, league president, said here.

He told the annual meeting support is needed from industry and business. Three provinces—Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Manitoba—now contribute to the league but help is needed from other sources, he said.

The league is studying the advisability of merger with the Canadian Highway Safety Council and the Canadian Industrial Safety Association, he added. This would result in "definite economies" and minimize the multiplicity of appeals now being made in the safety field.

Progress on farm safety work has been "disappointingly slow" although it was being given high priority.

P. G. McLaren, league general manager, reported that accidental deaths in Canada per 100,000 population rose to 36.1 in 1965 from 34.9 in 1964. This was an increase of 415 deaths or 3.9 per cent.

Traffic accidents accounted for 45.2 per cent of all accident fatalities. The home accounted for 39.4 per cent of all non-transport accidental deaths.

Texts of their remarks were released in advance of delivery to the press.

Priests Polled On Celibacy

NEW YORK (AP)—Two-thirds of the Roman Catholic priests polled by the American monthly, *Jubilee*, were reported Monday to favor a reappraisal of the church law requiring priests to be celibate.

Replies in the survey came from a fourth of the 500 priests who were sent questionnaires, most of them parish pastors, and the others college and seminary professors, diocesan officials and social workers.

There are nearly 60,000 Roman Catholic priests in the U.S. Results of the poll, to appear in the magazine's October issue, showed that one-third strongly defended celibacy, one-fifth sharply criticized it and most advocated serious re-examination of the present law.

A majority of the replies speculated that an option to marry or not to marry may eventually replace the present ban against marriage.

British Birthrate Declines

LONDON (AP)—Britain's birth rate fell last year for the first time since 1955.

Reporting "his recently, the health ministry also filed a steady increase in cancer deaths, which it blamed mainly on "the melancholy toll of cigarette smoking."

In mid-1965 the population of England and Wales was estimated at 47,762,800 compared with 47,401,300 in 1964. The increase was due largely to an excess of births over deaths. Indices of infant and maternal health were the best on record, but live births totalled only 862,725, down 13,000 from 1964.

There was a continuing trend toward earlier marriages. The health ministry said it was still "impossible to say whether the use of new contraceptive methods is the reason for the birth rate's fall."

Deaths from cancer rose to 106,338 from 104,698 in 1964. The largest single increase (755) was attributed to lung cancer in men.

Lung cancer and chronic bronchitis, the legacies of cigarette smoking, are the causes of more than five times as many deaths as follow road accidents in a year, yet they excite far less comment."

However, the report added: "There is encouraging evidence that the government's anti-smoking campaign is beginning to have effect, especially among younger people. Taking into account the increase of population in 1961-64, a million fewer people in the United Kingdom were smoking in 1964."

Gold Holding Shows Increase

OTTAWA (CP)—Official holdings of gold by the finance ministry, the Bank of Canada, and the exchange fund account rose \$10,500,000 during August to \$36,700,000 in U.S. dollars at Aug. 31, the central bank has reported.

U.S. dollar holdings by the three official agencies amounted to \$1,284,300,000 at the same date, down \$44,900,000 in the month. Total gold and U.S. dollar holdings at Aug. 31 were previously reported at \$2,281,000,000, down \$34,400,000.

Canada's gold holdings have been declining from a peak of \$1,150,800,000 at the end of last December. Canada has been selling some of its gold to the U.S. for U.S. dollars in order to help United States reserves meet the demand for gold from other countries, principally France.

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