

developments, have expanded during the 20th century virtually to embrace the entire world.

Population heterogeneity refers to populations diverse by culture, by language, by religion, by values, by behavior, by ethnicity and by race. These are obviously not mutually exclusive categories, but they constitute foci for problems of communication, conflicts of interest, and frictions of interaction.

Finally, the accelerated tempo of technological social change are well enough understood to require little elaboration. Suffice it to say that technological change has, in general, preceded and necessitated social change; and that the gap in rates of technological and social change, evident in myriad examples of "cultural lag" constitutes a framework in the light of which most of contemporary problems, domestic and international, may be better comprehended.

The four developments expositied are, needless to say, highly interrelated. The population explosion has fed the population implosion. Both have fed population diversification. And the accelerated tempo of technological and social change have operated as both antecedents and consequences of the other three developments. Each in its own way and all four in concert have generated severe problems: chronic and acute; physical, economic, social and political; and domestic and international. Man as the only culture building animal on the globe not only adapts to environment, he creates environment to which to adapt; and an increasingly important element in his environment is man himself—more specifically, his increasing numbers, density and heterogeneity. Man has, in large measure, created the world in which he lives—physical, economic, social and political—and he is still learning how to live in it. This is the perspective in the light of which urbanization, which encapsulates all four developments, may be regarded as one of the contemporary world's greatest challenges.

#### URBANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The United States constitutes the world's most dramatic examples of all four of the developments outlined above. These have precipitated major crises during the last third of the 20th century and constitute the framework for comprehending and dealing with America's urban difficulties. Virtually all of the urban problems which are increasingly and urgently requiring national attention, whether they be physical, personal, social, ethnic and racial, economic or governmental problems, may be viewed as frictions in the transition which is still under way transforming the United States from an agrarian to an urban and metropolitan order.

*The Population Explosion.*—In 1790, when the first Decennial Census of the United States was taken, the United States had a total population of less than 4 million persons. By 1960 the population of the nation numbered more than 180 million; during 1967 it reached 200 million.

The rapid population growth of the United States was the product both of natural increase, the excess births over deaths, and of immigration. Between 1820, when the government first began to count newcomers, and 1966, almost 44 million immigrants were admitted into the country, predominantly from Europe. The peak in immigration was reached during the decade 1901 to 1910, when some 8.8 million immigrants were admitted. During World War I immigration slackened, and then, with the passage, beginning in the 1920's, of the various laws controlling the admission of newcomers, immigration became a minor factor in population growth. It is now restricted to about 300,000 immigrants per year. Despite the relatively large volume of immigration, in no decade did immigration exceed natural increase in contributing to total population growth.

Natural increase, including of course that of the immigrants, has been the main source of population growth of the nation. By reason of the changes in fertility and mortality the rate of natural increase in the U.S. declined from about 25 (excess of births over deaths per 1000 persons per year) in 1800 to a level of about 7 at the bottom of the depression. With the post-war baby boom, natural increase rose to a level of about 15, but it declined again to a level of about 9 in 1966, and again to a level of 7 in 1967. Thus, the excess of births over deaths alone, without considering immigration, has changed over time so as to drop from a contribution of a 2.5 per cent annual growth rate in 1800, to a .7 per cent growth rate in 1935, to a 1.5 per cent growth rate during the post-war baby boom, to a .7 per cent growth rate in 1967. Although changes in the birth and death rates considered (the "crude" rates) reflect in considerable part changes in the nation's age structure, nuptiality and child spacing and do not accurately depict what has happened to the level of child bearing per couple during the entire