

38.—Convicts in Penitentiaries, classified by Race, Nationality, Religion, etc., 1924-1927—concluded.

Items.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
By Conjugal State—								
Single.....	1,213	1,456	1,750	1,577	1,317	1,411	1,485	1,534
Married.....	638	626	790	809	779	823	871	827
Widowed.....	75	68	100	100	127	110	116	115
Divorced.....	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4
By Sex—								
Male.....	1,899	2,125	2,616	2,460	2,194	2,318	2,439	2,441
Female.....	32	25	24	26	31	27	34	39
By Social Habits—								
Abstainers.....	548	580	651	593	483	507	540	475
Temperate.....	975	1,092	1,401	1,309	1,255	1,374	1,549	1,491
Intemperate.....	408	468	538	534	487	464	384	514
By Religion—								
Anglican.....	301	356	435	367	354	370	392	381
Baptist.....	111	113	137	131	99	92	118	105
Buddhist.....	7	12	10	34	38	28	31	14
Greek Catholic.....	57	73	55	98	65	56	85	61
Jewish.....	38	34	41	59	49	51	53	44
Lutheran.....	46	37	50	50	33	51	65	58
Methodist.....	187	207	241	235	212	213	224	192
Presbyterian.....	193	207	285	282	272	285	269	269
Roman Catholic.....	946	1,052	1,294	1,176	1,025	1,130	1,201	1,281
Other creeds.....	45	59	49	58	72	64	47	57
No creed.....	-	-	13	6	6	5	8	15

¹ Includes 1 Arabian. ² Includes 2 Eskimos. ³ Includes 3 United Church.

5.—Divorces in Canada.

For many years subsequent to Confederation the number of divorces granted in Canada was very small, 1883, with 13 divorces, being the first year in which the number attained two figures, while 1903, with 21 divorces, was the record year up to that time. Thereafter the numbers grew more rapidly, 1909 showing 51 divorces and 1913, the last pre-war year, 60 divorces. This number was, however, less than one per 1,000 of the marriages contracted in Canada in these years.

The effect of the war was to increase very greatly the number of divorces granted in Canada. The causes may be found in the generally unsettling psychological effect of the war period, and the long separations between men on active service and their wives. The provision of new facilities for divorce is also to be considered; owing to a decision of the Imperial Privy Council, divorces in the Prairie Provinces have subsequently to 1918 been granted by the courts of these provinces, so that Ontario and Quebec are now the only provinces in which the applicant for divorce must secure a special Private Act of Parliament.

The above-mentioned causes have tended to produce the recent increase in the number of divorces granted in Canada, which have grown from 114 in 1918 to 608 in 1926 and 748 in 1927, these numbers being those of final decrees, which alone really constitute divorces. More divorces were granted in 1927 alone than in the 46 years from 1868 to 1913. The statistics of divorces granted in the years from 1901 to 1927 inclusive will be found in Table 39. (For divorces in the years prior to 1901 see 1921 Year Book, p. 825.)