1925 the rates fell to 7·1 and 7·0 per 1,000 population respectively, while in 1926 to 1929 the rates rose again to 7·1, 7·3, 7·7 and 7·9 per 1,000 respectively, probably influenced by the return of prosperity. It should be mentioned, of course, that there doubtless occurred in 1920 and 1921 a number of deferred marriages, which under more normal conditions would have occurred in the war years. Summary statistics of marriages contracted in 1921 to 1929 appear in Table 14, the figures and rates for Quebec from 1921 to 1925 being taken from provincial sources.

14.—Number of Marriages and Marriage Rates, by Provinces, 1921-1929.

A. NUMBER OF MARRIAGES.

Year.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.[1]	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada.
1921	518	3,550	3,173	18,659	24,871	5,310	5,101	4,661	3,889	69,732
1922	579	3,169	2,799	16,609	23,360	4,808	5,061	4,272	3,763	64,420
1923	454	3,246	2,911	17,361	24,842	4,544	5,045	4,117	3,943	66,463
1924	408	2,999	2,972	17,591	24,038	4,132	4,792	4,159	4,038	65,129
1925	407	2,964	2,908	17,427	23,074	4,377	4,909	4,355	4,223	64,644
1926	459	2,861	2,938	17,827	23,632	4,537	5,483	4,503	4,418	66,658
1927	482	3,042	2,887	18,551	24,677	4,716	5,733	4,707	4,730	69,515
1928	466	3,256	3,146	19,126	25,728	5,170	6,701	5,776	4,942	74,311
1929[2]	469	3,510	3,117	19,610	27,605	5,269	6,535	5,999	5,151	77,265

B. MARRIAGE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

Year.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.[1]	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada.
1921	5·8	6·8	8·4	7·9	8·5	8·7	6·7	7·9	7·4	8·0
1922	6·6	6·0	7·1	6·5	7·8	7·8	6·6	7·2	7·0	7·2
1923	5·2	6·1	7·4	6·3	8·2	7·3	6·4	6·9	7·2	7·4
1924	4·6	5·6	7·4	6·7	7·9	6·6	6·0	6·9	7·3	7·1
1925	4·7	5·5	7·2	6·5	7·4	6·9	6·1	7·2	7·5	7·0
1926	5·3	5·3	7·2	7·0	7·5	7·1	6·7	7·4	7·8	7·1
1927	5·5	5·6	7·0	7·1	7·7	7·3	6·9	7·6	8·2	7·3
1928	5·4	6·0	7·6	7·2	8·0	7·9	7·9	9·1	8·5	7·7
1929[2]	5·5	6·4	7·4	7·3	8·4	7·9	7·5	9·3	8·7	7·9

[1] Provincial figures 1921-25.
[2] 1929 figures are subject to revision.

Age at Marriage.—The average age of all bridegrooms in the Dominion in 1928 was 29·3 years and that of all brides 25·0 years. The average excess of the bridegroom's age was thus 4·3 years. It may be noted in Table 15 that when the contracting parties are grouped by age of bridegroom, the average difference in age is less for the younger groups than for the older, grooms under 20 being 0·3 years younger than the brides, while the excess of the bridegroom's age was 1·6 years in the group 20-24, and steadily increased for each quinquennial age group until it was 10·7 years for the bridegrooms 50 years and over. On the other hand, when the parties are grouped by the age of the bride, it is found that, although with less regularity than is shown in the table by age of grooms, the general tendency is for the older brides to marry men nearer their own age than in the case of the younger brides. Since these tables are based upon all marriages contracted during the year, the figures given should not be understood to signify the average ages at first marriage. Out of each 1,000 bridegrooms in 1928, 904 were bachelors, 86 widowers, 10 divorced men; out of each 1,000 brides 930 were spinsters, 60 widows, 10 divorced women. Nineteen twenty-eight is the first year in which as many as 1 p.c. of those marrying have previously been divorced.