

18.—Crude Marriage Rates of Various Countries in Recent Years.

Country or Province.	Year.	Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population.	Country or Province.	Year.	Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population.
Ukraine.....	1929	11.3	Alberta.....	1931	7.0
United States.....	1920	10.1	Manitoba.....	1931	7.0
Czechoslovakia.....	1930	9.3	New South Wales.....	1930	7.0
Chile.....	1930	9.2	Ontario.....	1931	6.9
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1930	9.2	Scotland.....	1930	6.9
Latvia.....	1930	9.2	Finland.....	1930	6.8
Roumania.....	1930	9.2	Australia.....	1930	6.7
Hungary.....	1930	9.0	Tasmania.....	1930	6.7
Belgium.....	1930	8.8	Nova Scotia.....	1931	6.6
Germany.....	1930	8.7	Queensland.....	1930	6.6
France.....	1930	8.4	Victoria.....	1930	6.5
Denmark.....	1930	8.2	Canada.....	1931	6.4
Estonia.....	1930	8.0	Norway.....	1930	6.4
England and Wales.....	1930	7.9	Uruguay.....	1930	6.3
Japan.....	1930	7.9	New Brunswick.....	1931	6.2
Netherlands.....	1930	7.9	Saskatchewan.....	1931	6.2
Switzerland.....	1930	7.9	Northern Ireland.....	1930	6.1
New Zealand.....	1930	7.8	Quebec.....	1931	5.8
Austria.....	1930	7.7	South Australia.....	1930	5.7
Western Australia.....	1930	7.7	British Columbia.....	1931	5.6
Spain.....	1930	7.6	Prince Edward Island.....	1931	5.6
Italy.....	1930	7.4	Ceylon.....	1930	5.1
Iceland.....	1930	7.1	Irish Free State.....	1930	4.6
Sweden.....	1930	7.1	Salvador.....	1928	3.3

Subsection 2.—Divorces.

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 British Privy Council, divorces in the Prairie Provinces have, subsequently to 1918, been granted by the courts of these provinces, so that Ontario and Quebec have since then been the only provinces in which the applicant for divorce must secure a special Private Act of Parliament. In 1930, however, an Act of the Dominion Parliament (20-21 Geo. V, c. 14) gave jurisdiction in divorce cases to the Supreme Court of Ontario.

The above-mentioned causes have tended to produce the recent increase in the numbers of divorces granted in Canada, which grew steadily from 114 in 1918 to 875 in 1930, these numbers being those of final decrees, which alone really constitute divorces. In 1931 the number decreased to 684, this being largely due to the transfer of jurisdiction in Ontario divorces from the Parliament of Canada to the Supreme Court of the province, with the consequent delay between the granting of the decree *nisi* and the decree absolute. In 1932 the number rose to 887, this figure being greater than the total divorces granted in the 48 years from 1868 to 1915. The statistics of divorces granted in the years from 1901 to 1932 inclusive will be found in Table 19. (For divorces in each year prior to 1901 see the 1921 Year Book, p. 825.)