

16.—Numbers of Marriages and Marriage Rates, by Provinces, 1931-34 with Averages for 1921-25 and 1926-30.

A.—NUMBERS OF MARRIAGES.

| Year. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | Que. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B.C. | Canada. |
|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Averages, 1921-25 | 473 | 3,186 | 2,953 | ¹ | 24,037 | 4,634 | 4,982 | 4,313 | 3,971 | ¹ |
| Averages, 1926-30 | 473 | 3,224 | 2,970 | 18,731 | 25,449 | 4,951 | 6,036 | 5,265 | 4,786 | 71,885 |
| 1931..... | 490 | 3,394 | 2,544 | 16,783 | 23,771 | 4,888 | 5,700 | 5,142 | 3,879 | 66,591 |
| 1932..... | 456 | 3,197 | 2,380 | 15,115 | 22,224 | 4,729 | 5,772 | 5,054 | 3,604 | 62,531 |
| 1933..... | 481 | 3,316 | 2,517 | 15,337 | 22,587 | 4,819 | 5,371 | 5,389 | 4,048 | 63,865 |
| 1934..... | 536 | 3,756 | 3,045 | 18,242 | 25,874 | 5,296 | 5,519 | 6,053 | 4,771 | 73,092 |

B.—MARRIAGE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Averages, 1921-25 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 7.6 | ¹ | 8.0 | 7.5 | 6.4 | 7.3 | 7.1 | ¹ |
| Averages, 1926-30 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 7.4 | 6.9 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 7.0 | 8.0 | 7.5 | 7.3 |
| 1931..... | 5.6 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 5.8 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 6.2 | 7.0 | 5.6 | 6.4 |
| 1932..... | 5.1 | 6.2 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 6.4 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 6.8 | 5.1 | 6.0 |
| 1933..... | 5.4 | 6.4 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 6.4 | 6.7 | 5.6 | 7.1 | 5.7 | 6.0 |
| 1934..... | 6.0 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 6.0 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 5.7 | 7.9 | 6.6 | 6.8 |

¹ Quebec was not included in the registration area prior to 1926.

Age at Marriage.—The average age of all bridegrooms in the Dominion in 1933 was 29.2 years and that of all brides 24.9 years. The average excess of the bridegroom's age was thus 4.3 years. It may be noted in Table 17 that when the contracting parties are grouped by age of bridegroom, the average difference in age is less for the younger groups, grooms under 20 being 0.3 year younger than the brides, while the excess of the average bridegroom's age was 1.6 years in the group 20-24, and steadily increased for each quinquennial age group until it was 11.2 years for the bridegrooms 50 years and over in 1933. On the other hand, when the parties are grouped by the age of the bride, the same regularity is not shown. In the case of brides in the age groups 25-29 years and 50 years and over the bridegrooms approximate most closely in age to their 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 1933, 911 were bachelors, 78 widowers, 10 divorced men; out of each 1,000 brides 939 were spinsters, 51 widows, 9 divorced women. The first year in which as many as 1 p.c. of those marrying had previously been divorced was 1928. The comparison between the figures of divorces granted, as shown in Table 21 of this chapter, and the number of divorced persons re-married is of some interest. Thus 923 divorces were granted in 1933, while 654 divorced males and 606 divorced females married again. This of course does not mean that these were the same persons. Table 18 gives the average ages of brides and grooms by provinces.