

**Marriage Rates in Various Countries.**—For comparative purposes, the crude marriage rates per 1,000 of population in various countries of the world and in the provinces of Canada are shown for the indicated years in Table 14.

**14.—Crude Marriage Rates of Various Countries of the World and of Provinces of Canada in Recent Years.**

| Country or Province.                     | Year.       | Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population. | Country.                            | Year.             | Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population. |
|--|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Union of South Africa (Whites) . . . . . | 1936        | 11.1                                      | Finland . . . . .                   | 1936              | 7.9                                       |
| Denmark . . . . .                        | 1936        | 9.3                                       | United States . . . . .             | 1932 <sup>1</sup> | 7.9                                       |
| New Zealand . . . . .                    | 1936        | 9.3                                       | Belgium . . . . .                   | 1936              | 7.8                                       |
| Roumania . . . . .                       | 1936        | 9.2                                       | Japan . . . . .                     | 1936              | 7.8                                       |
| Germany . . . . .                        | 1936        | 9.1                                       | Norway . . . . .                    | 1936              | 7.8                                       |
| Australia . . . . .                      | 1936        | 8.7                                       | Scotland . . . . .                  | 1936              | 7.6                                       |
| England and Wales . . . . .              | 1936        | 8.7                                       | Chile . . . . .                     | 1936              | 7.5                                       |
| Estonia . . . . .                        | 1936        | 8.7                                       | Lithuania . . . . .                 | 1936              | 7.5                                       |
| Hungary . . . . .                        | 1936        | 8.6                                       | Italy . . . . .                     | 1936              | 7.4                                       |
| Sweden . . . . .                         | 1936        | 8.5                                       | Netherlands . . . . .               | 1936              | 7.4                                       |
| Latvia . . . . .                         | 1936        | 8.4                                       | Northern Ireland . . . . .          | 1936              | 7.1                                       |
| Poland . . . . .                         | 1936        | 8.4                                       | Switzerland . . . . .               | 1936              | 7.1                                       |
| British Isles . . . . .                  | 1936        | 8.3                                       | Austria . . . . .                   | 1936              | 6.8                                       |
| Czechoslovakia . . . . .                 | 1936        | 8.0                                       | France . . . . .                    | 1936              | 6.7                                       |
| Bulgaria . . . . .                       | 1936        | 7.9                                       | Greece . . . . .                    | 1935              | 6.7                                       |
| <b>Canada . . . . .</b>                  | <b>1937</b> | <b>7.9</b>                                | Newfoundland and Labrador . . . . . | 1936              | 6.6                                       |
| Manitoba . . . . .                       | 1937        | 8.5                                       | Spain . . . . .                     | 1935              | 6.1                                       |
| New Brunswick . . . . .                  | 1937        | 8.3                                       | Uruguay . . . . .                   | 1935              | 5.6                                       |
| Alberta . . . . .                        | 1937        | 8.2                                       | Iceland . . . . .                   | 1936              | 5.4                                       |
| British Columbia . . . . .               | 1937        | 8.2                                       | Ceylon . . . . .                    | 1936              | 5.0                                       |
| Ontario . . . . .                        | 1937        | 8.1                                       | Irish Free State . . . . .          | 1936              | 5.0                                       |
| Nova Scotia . . . . .                    | 1937        | 8.0                                       | Jamaica . . . . .                   | 1936              | 3.9                                       |
| Quebec . . . . .                         | 1937        | 7.9                                       | Salvador . . . . .                  | 1935              | 3.7                                       |
| Prince Edward Island . . . . .           | 1937        | 6.3                                       | Panama . . . . .                    | 1934              | 3.3                                       |
| Saskatchewan . . . . .                   | 1937        | 6.2                                       |                                     |                   |   |

<sup>1</sup> In the United States 1932 is the latest year for which the rate has been computed.

**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.

One effect of the War was to increase divorce. The causes may be found in the generally unsettling psychological influences 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 tended to increase the number of divorces granted in Canada, which grew steadily from 114 in 1918 to 873 in 1930. The numbers are those of final decrees, which alone really constitute divorces. In 1931 the number decreased to 692, this being largely due to the transfer of jurisdiction in