

ver. The statistics cover the 12 months ended Sept. 30, 1938. The sample families were selected from those with certain characteristics which make them typical of Canadian wage-earner homes. Both parents and one or more children were present in each home, and in some cases one lodger or a domestic also lived with the family. Earnings in the samples ranged from \$450 to \$2,500 per annum. It was found that family incomes tended to centre between \$1,200 and \$1,600—the proportion receiving less than \$1,200 being larger than the proportion receiving above \$1,600. Of the 1,439 families from which records were received, 1,135 were families of British origin in the cities mentioned, 211 were French families in Montreal and Quebec, and 93 were families of other racial origins in Montreal and Winnipeg. Table 11 gives summary results for the 1,135 British families and the 211 French families separately.

In addition to the main information as to family expenditures, certain other questions were asked, the replies to which throw light upon some family characteristics at progressive income levels. These are summarized in the statement below.

## FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS AT PROGRESSIVE INCOME LEVELS.

Item.	British Families with Incomes of—									Total.
	\$400-799.	\$800-999.	\$1,000-1,199.	\$1,200-1,399.	\$1,400-1,599.	\$1,600-1,799.	\$1,800-1,999.	\$2,000-2,399.	\$2,400+.	
Families.....No.	45	108	184	236	212	118	91	100	41	1,135
Persons per family....."	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.4
Children per family....."	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3
Rooms per person....."	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2
Families with motor cars.....p.c.	4.4	24.1	13.0	32.2	38.2	42.4	41.8	55.0	63.4	33.2
	French Families with Incomes of—									
	\$400-799.	\$800-1,199.	\$1,200-1,599.	\$1,600-1,999.	\$2,000+.	Total.				
Families.....No.	27	62	68	34	20	211				
Persons per family....."	4.2	4.9	5.1	6.6	6.9	5.3				
Children per family....."	2.1	2.3	2.9	4.4	4.9	3.2				
Rooms per person....."	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9				
Families with motor cars.....p.c.	7.4	Nil	11.8	23.5	15.0	10.0				

Preliminary results of the survey show that remarkable similarity prevails in the proportions of income spent upon the more essential budget items in different areas of the Dominion. On the average about two-thirds of the total expended each year goes for necessities. The widest difference is apparent in food purchases, which range from 25.3 p.c. for Charlottetown up to 32.4 p.c. for those families in Montreal of other than British and French origin. Food purchases tend to be higher in the larger cities. Proportion of expenditures devoted to the provision of shelter ranges from 15.1 p.c. in Charlottetown to 20.9 p.c. in Ottawa; fuel and light accounts for between 4.5 p.c. in Quebec city and 7.7 p.c. in Charlottetown; and clothing for 9.6 p.c. in Vancouver to 12.5 p.c. for Montreal families other than British and French.

Many factors affect expenditures for living needs. The amount of family income is generally considered the dominant influence, but income in turn is related to the age of the principal breadwinner, and the numbers and ages of children also affect the character of family living expenditures. The importance of any