

proportion receiving less than \$1,200 being larger than the proportion receiving more than \$1,600. Of the 1,439 families from which records were received, 1,135 were families of British origin, 211 were French families in Montreal and Quebec, and 93 were families of other racial origins in Montreal and Winnipeg.

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 a statement at p. 863 of the 1939 Year Book.

Summary of Results.—Results 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 value of food purchases tends to be higher in the larger cities. The proportion of expenditures devoted to the provision of shelter ranged from 15.1 p.c. in Charlottetown to 20.9 in Ottawa; fuel and light expenditures range from 4.5 p.c. in Quebec City to 7.7 p.c. in Charlottetown; and clothing expenditures from 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 expenditure. In these studies that the Bureau is making, living expenditure records are shown grouped according to three principles of classification with a view to examining the relationships between living expenditures and the factors in family composition, viz., number of children in the family, age of the father, and principal types of families.

From the data gathered there appeared to be no general tendency in urban wage-earner families of British origin for the number of children to increase in the higher family-income groups, although in French families the average number of children was larger at higher income levels.

In both racial origin groups, amounts spent per person declined as the number of children in the family increased. Average expenditure per person dropped from \$516 in British families with one child to \$212 in households with five children. Corresponding averages from French families were \$397 and \$219. All budget groups contributed to this decline, with food outlay per person falling from \$127 to \$74 for British families and from \$109 to \$75 for French families with one and with five or more children, respectively.

A different picture was obtained when expenditure records were classified according to the age of the father. The number of children per family tended to increase until the father's age was somewhere between 45 and 54, and amounts spent per person on food and clothing increased slightly as the age of the father moved upward into that range. This was associated with a more rapid rise in income than in numbers of children at progressive age levels of the father.

Analyses of records for living expenditure tendencies related to numbers of children and the length of time the family had been formed, did not reveal the existence of a 'typical' family. Families with one child under 13 years, or with two children from 4 to 12 years apparently possess some claim to this title but, contrary to popular opinion, families with three children form a definite minority. The