

of Canada is greatest in the age groups 15-30. Needless to say, such postponement of marriage, if continued, would have a very marked effect on total fertility, since these are the most fertile age groups. Some postponement of marriage is also to be seen in Saskatchewan, but in a smaller degree than in Quebec.

(3) **The Relation Between Nuptiality and Fertility.**—Canadian nuptiality tables have been used to calculate indices which help to elucidate differences in fertility. Table VIII gives some of these indices. All are based on vital data for the years of this special study and so indicate what would happen in a population in which birth, marriage, and death rates remained constant at the 1930-32 level. The gross reproduction rate gives the average number of girl babies born to each woman living to the end of the reproductive period. The net rate gives the average number of future mothers that each of the present generation of mothers would produce; it thus takes into account mortality as well as fertility and gives the rate at which a population would replace itself if current vital rates remained constant. Both these rates describe total fertility without reference to conjugal condition. The nuptial gross and net reproduction rates are similar to the former series but include the effects of current nuptiality. The gross reproduction rate of married women gives the average number of girls born to a married woman. When these rates are available for different periods or for different communities, the effect of differences in the probability of marriage can be distinguished from the effect of differences in the size of family of married women.

VIII.—REPRODUCTION RATES, CANADA AND PROVINCES, 1930-32

| Province | Gross Repro- duction Rate | Net Repro- duction Rate | Nuptial Gross Repro- duction Rate | Nuptial Net Repro- duction Rate | Gross Repro- duction Rate of Married Women |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Canada..... | 1.55 | 1.32 | 1.42 | 1.20 | 1.65 |
| New Brunswick..... | 1.93 | 1.62 | 1.77 | 1.48 | 2.05 |
| Alberta..... | 1.65 | 1.46 | 1.55 | 1.37 | 1.60 |
| Saskatchewan..... | 1.70 | 1.50 | 1.52 | 1.34 | 1.62 |
| Nova Scotia..... | 1.63 | 1.37 | 1.56 | 1.31 | 1.75 |
| Quebec..... | 1.93 | 1.53 | 1.63 | 1.29 | 2.10 |
| Prince Edward Island..... | 1.67 | 1.39 | 1.52 | 1.27 | 1.77 |
| Manitoba..... | 1.37 | 1.21 | 1.28 | 1.13 | 1.44 |
| Ontario..... | 1.29 | 1.13 | 1.26 | 1.11 | 1.43 |
| British Columbia..... | 1.07 | 0.94 | 0.92 | 0.81 | 1.01 |

Considering first the difference between the nuptial reproduction rates and the rates that do not take account of nuptiality, it is seen that in every case the corresponding nuptial rates are lower. This indicates that the nuptiality rates of 1931, if maintained, would result in a lower proportion of married women than that of the population of 1931. The married population enumerated in the census was the result of marriages extending over the previous thirty years. Most of these would have taken place between 1911 and 1931. So it may be said that the marriage rates of 1930-32 represent a lower level of nuptiality than that which prevailed, on the whole, between 1911 and 1931. If the nuptiality rates of 1930-32 were to be maintained, and no change were to occur in fertility or mortality, the proportions