

the decree absolute. Since 1931 there has been an increase of 239 p.c. in the total number of divorces granted. In 1938 the number passed the two-thousand mark for the first time, owing largely to the increases in Ontario and British Columbia.

Statistics of divorces granted have been recently revised through the co-operation of the provincial authorities concerned. Table 15 gives the completely revised figures.

### 15.—Divorces Granted in Canada, by Provinces, 1918-40

NOTE.—In consequence of a decision of the British Privy Council, divorces in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have, subsequently to 1918, been granted by the courts of these provinces. For divorces in each year prior to 1918, see the 1921 Year Book, p. 825.

Year	Granted by the Dominion Parliament			Granted by the Courts						Total for Canada
	P.E. Island	Quebec	Ontario	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	
1918.....	Nil	2	10	24	10	Nil	1 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	65	114
1919.....	"	4	46	36	13	88 <sup>2</sup>	3	36 <sup>2</sup>	147	373
1920.....	"	9	89	45	15	42	20 <sup>3</sup>	112	136	468 <sup>3</sup>
1921.....	"	10	96	41	13	122	59 <sup>3</sup>	89	128	558 <sup>3</sup>
1922.....	"	6	91	35	12	97	35 <sup>3</sup>	129	138	543 <sup>3</sup>
1923.....	"	10	102	22	19	81	44 <sup>3</sup>	88	139 <sup>2</sup>	505 <sup>3</sup>
1924.....	"	13	113	42	15	77 <sup>4</sup>	26 <sup>3</sup>	118	136 <sup>3</sup>	540 <sup>3</sup>
1925.....	"	13	119	30	15	79	43 <sup>3</sup>	101	150	550 <sup>3</sup>
1926.....	"	10	111	19	12	85	50 <sup>3</sup>	154	167	608 <sup>3</sup>
1927.....	"	13	181	29	17	101	62 <sup>3</sup>	148	197	748 <sup>3</sup>
1928.....	"	24	213	28	13	79	57 <sup>3</sup>	173	203	790 <sup>3</sup>
1929.....	"	30	207	30	21	89	71 <sup>3</sup>	147	222	817 <sup>3</sup>
1930.....	"	41	204	19	27	114	64 <sup>3</sup>	151	255	875 <sup>3</sup>
1931.....	1	38	91 <sup>5</sup>	36	20	94	55 <sup>3</sup>	157	208	700 <sup>3</sup>
1932.....	Nil	27	343 <sup>5</sup>	35	26	114	66 <sup>3</sup>	150	245	1,006 <sup>3</sup>
1933.....	"	24	307 <sup>5</sup>	27	12	116	48	138	258	930
1934.....	"	38	365 <sup>5</sup>	33	17	126	67 <sup>3</sup>	170	306	1,122 <sup>3</sup>
1935.....	2	28	491 <sup>5</sup>	52	36	145	68 <sup>3</sup>	225	384	1,431 <sup>3</sup>
1936.....	Nil	40	519 <sup>5</sup>	41	38	179	84 <sup>3</sup>	218	451 <sup>3</sup>	1,570 <sup>3</sup>
1937.....	2	43	607 <sup>5</sup>	36	53	200	112 <sup>3</sup>	259	520 <sup>3</sup>	1,832 <sup>3</sup>
1938.....	2	83	824 <sup>5</sup>	51	39	205	126 <sup>3</sup>	271	625 <sup>3</sup>	2,226 <sup>3</sup>
1939.....	Nil	50	747 <sup>5</sup>	64	40	181	133 <sup>3</sup>	272	581 <sup>3</sup>	2,068 <sup>3</sup>
1940.....	"	62	916 <sup>5</sup>	60	52	206	125	274	674	2,369

<sup>1</sup> Granted by Parliament.  
of the 1941 Year Book.

<sup>2</sup> One granted by Parliament.  
<sup>4</sup> Two granted by Parliament.

<sup>3</sup> Revised since the publication  
<sup>5</sup> Granted by the courts.

## Section 3.—Deaths

Disregarding the effects of wars and their aftermath, the past century has seen a decline in the death rate in countries of the White world. Perhaps the most impressive testimony regarding this decline in the death rate is furnished by the mortality statistics of Sweden, where vital statistics have been kept with great accuracy for the whole nation ever since 1750. There, the crude death rate declined from an average of 27.4 per 1,000 in the decade 1751-60 to 14.3 in the decade 1911-20 and to 11.5 in 1938.

Similarly, in England and Wales, the crude death rate, which was 18.2 in the 90's of the past century, declined to 15.4 in the first decade of the present century and 12.1 in the third; it was 12.1 in 1939. In Scotland, again, the average rate was 22.1 in the 60's, 21.8 in the 70's, 18.6 in the 90's, 13.9 in 1921-25, 13.6 in 1926-30, 13.2 in 1931-35 and 12.9 in 1939. For crude death rates of different countries, see Table 22, p. 136.