

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

(Sources: League of Nations Statistical Year Book 1941-42 and Population Index, July, 1943)

Country or Province	Year	Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population	Country	Year	Crude Marriage Rate per 1,000 Population
United States.....	1940	11.9	Denmark.....	1938	8.9
Austria.....	1940	11.7	Hungary.....	1937	8.9
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>1942</b>	<b>10.9</b>	British Isles.....	1942	8.8 <sup>1</sup>
British Columbia.....	1942	12.4	Roumania.....	1935	8.7
Ontario.....	1941	11.9	Bulgaria (without Dobrudys)	1941	8.7 <sup>1</sup>
Nova Scotia.....	1942	11.7	Estonia.....	1937	8.5
Manitoba.....	1941	11.4	Finland.....	1937	8.5
Alberta.....	1942	11.6	Latvia.....	1938	8.5
New Brunswick.....	1941	11.4	Chile.....	1941	8.5
Quebec.....	1942	11.6	Switzerland.....	1941	8.5 <sup>1</sup>
Prince Edward Island.....	1941	11.4	Czechoslovakia.....	1937	8.3
Saskatchewan.....	1942	11.6	Poland.....	1937	8.0
Australia.....	1941	11.4	New Zealand.....	1942	7.9 <sup>1</sup>
Union of South Africa (Whites)	1942	11.6	Scotland.....	1942	7.6 <sup>1</sup>
Japan.....	1941	10.6	Lithuania.....	1939	7.5
Norway.....	1942	10.6	Newfoundland and Labrador.	1938	7.3
Northern Ireland.....	1941	10.8	Netherlands.....	1941	7.3
England and Wales.....	1942	10.0	Germany (territory of 1937).	1941	7.2
Sweden.....	1941	9.8	Uruguay.....	1937	6.7
		8.6	Greece.....	1938	6.5
		7.1	Belgium.....	1941	6.3
		8.5	Italy.....	1941	6.1
		7.9	Spain.....	1935	6.1
		10.6	Ire.....	1942	5.9
		10.4 <sup>1</sup>	France (excl. Alsace-Lorraine)	1941	5.5 <sup>1</sup>
		9.5	Ceylon.....	1939	5.5
		9.4	Ireland.....	1937	5.5
		9.0	Panama.....	1937	4.8
		8.9 <sup>1</sup>	Jamaica.....	1937	4.6
		8.9 <sup>1</sup>	Salvador.....	1941	3.7

<sup>1</sup> Provisional or approximate figure.

#### Subsection 2.—Dissolutions of Marriage (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 each of these years.

One effect of the War of 1914-18 was to increase divorce. The causes were 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 obtaining dissolution of marriage was another factor in the numerical increase of divorces granted. A decision of the British Privy Council in 1918 gave jurisdiction to the Prairie Provinces for granting dissolutions of marriage, so that Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island were then the only provinces in which the applicant for divorce had to secure a private Act of Parliament. In 1930 an Act of the Dominion Parliament (20-21 Geo. V, c. 14) gave jurisdiction in divorce matters to the Supreme Court of Ontario.

In 1918 there were 114 divorces granted in Canada and from then on they grew steadily in number to 608 in 1926, 700 in 1931,\* 1,570 in 1936, and 2,369 in 1940. In 1941 divorces granted in Canada numbered 2,461 and in 1942, 3,089. These numbers, for the most part, cover final decrees of dissolution of marriage which alone constitute divorce. Annulments and legal separations have been eliminated. Coincident with the transfer of jurisdiction in divorce matters in Ontario from the