

**20.—Numbers and Percentages of Live Births to Parents of Specified Origins, 1941-44,
with Five-Year Averages, 1926-40—concluded**

| Origin of Parents and Year | Numbers | | | Percentages | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Father | Mother | Both Parents | Father | Mother | Both Parents | |
| Origin unspecified..... | Av. 1926-30 | 7,913 | 1,564 | 525 | 3.3 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| | Av. 1931-35 | 8,822 | 1,508 | 343 | 3.9 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| | Av. 1936-40 | 9,484 | 1,345 | 268 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| | 1941 | 10,531 | 952 | 196 | 4.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| | 1942 | 11,516 | 1,021 | 182 | 4.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| | 1943 | 12,055 | 1,119 | 278 | 4.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| | 1944 | 12,530 | 1,002 | 226 | 4.4 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Totals..... | Av. 1926-30 | 236,521 | 236,521 | 174,981 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 74.0 ² |
| | Av. 1931-35 | 228,352 | 228,352 | 162,976 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 71.4 ² |
| | Av. 1936-40 | 228,767 | 228,767 | 155,343 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 67.9 ² |
| | 1941 | 255,317 | 255,317 | 166,942 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 65.4 ² |
| | 1942 | 272,313 | 272,313 | 176,376 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 64.8 ² |
| | 1943 | 283,580 | 283,580 | 183,123 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 64.6 ² |
| | 1944 | 284,220 | 284,220 | 183,946 ¹ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 64.7 ² |

¹ This figure gives the number of children whose fathers and mothers are of the same origin. The difference between this figure and the total number of births represents the number of children whose parents are of different origins. ² This is the percentage of children whose fathers and mothers are of the same origin.

Section 3.—Deaths

A low death rate has come to be regarded as one of the hallmarks of a civilized, healthy society, except for wars and their aftermath—it may be noted that the loss of military and civilian lives in the Wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45 must be counted in tens of millions—impressive declines in the death rate have been recorded during the past century in many countries of the world.

In England and Wales, for example, the death rate, which was 22.4 per 1,000 population during the years 1861-70, declined to 15.4 per 1,000 in the first decade of the present century and to 12.1 in the third; it was 12.9 per 1,000 in 1941, 12.1 in 1943 and 11.9 in 1944. In Germany, the death rate was 26.8 per 1,000 in 1861-70, it declined to 18.7 per 1,000 in 1901-10 and to 12.6 in 1921-30. It was 11.6 per 1,000 in 1938 and 12.6 in 1939. Other European countries in which the death rate has fallen to a very low level are the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. The death rate is also extremely low in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

Another method of measuring conditions of mortality is by means of life tables (see p. 136) and the expectation of life which may be derived from such tables. In England and Wales, the expectation of life at birth in 1933-35 was 59.7 years for males and 63.6 years for females. In Germany, in 1932-34, the figures were 59.9 years for males and 62.8 years for females, while in the Netherlands, in 1931-35, the figures were 65.1 years for males and 66.4 years for females. The Netherlands had, before the War, the longest expectation of life of any European country.

The expectation of life in Canada in 1940-42 was 63.0 years for males and 66.3 years for females. In the United States, for the white population, the expectation of life in 1940 was 62.9 years for males and 67.3 years for females. New Zealand has the longest expectation of life on record; in 1934-38 it was 65.5 years for males and 68.5 years for females.