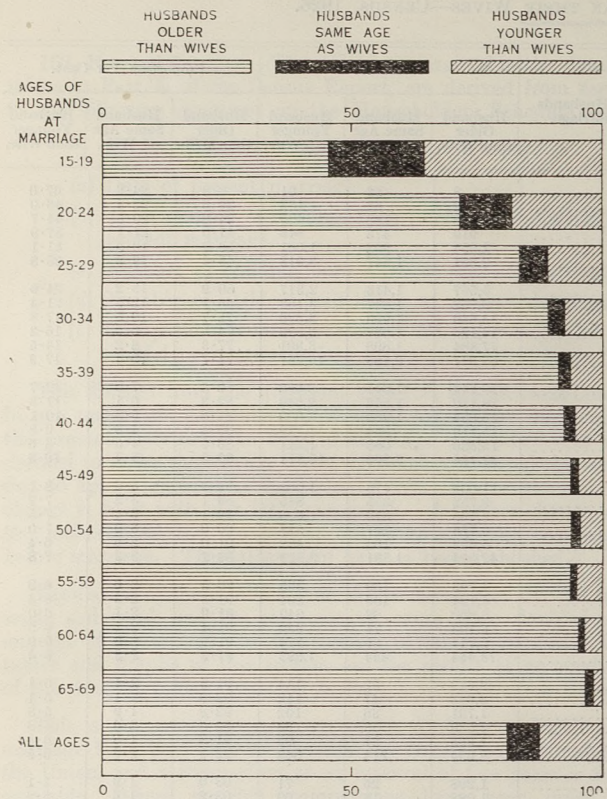
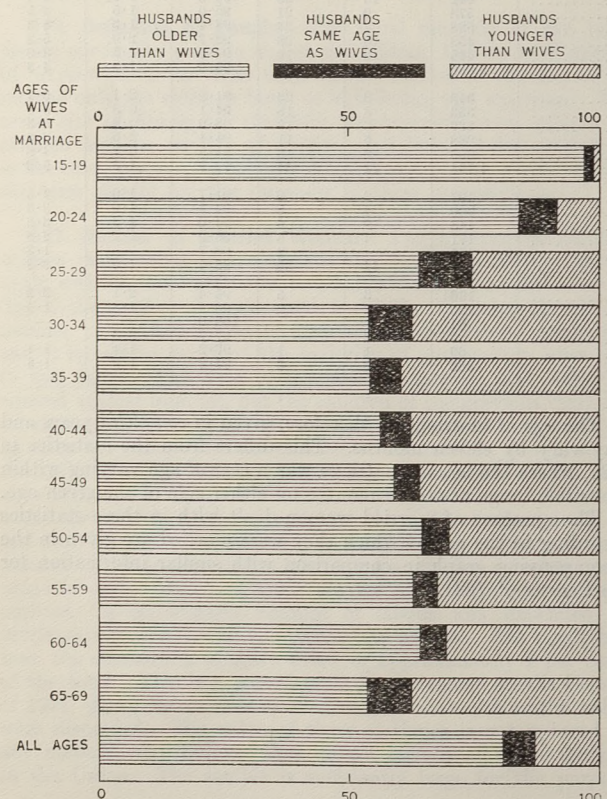


RELATIVE AGES OF HUSBANDS AND WIVES AT MARRIAGE—AGES OF HUSBANDS AT MARRIAGE.



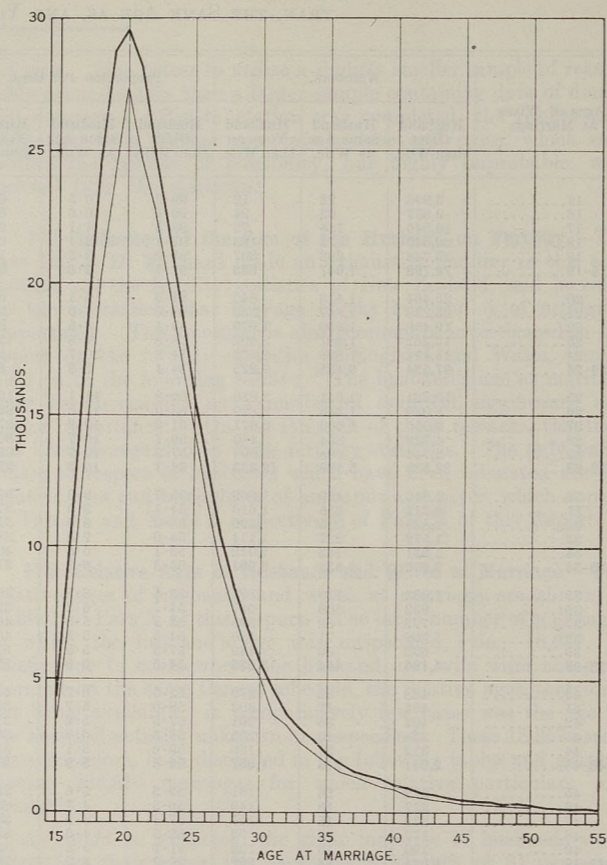
Graph LVII.

RELATIVE AGES OF HUSBANDS AND WIVES AT MARRIAGE—AGES OF WIVES AT MARRIAGE.



Graph LVIII.

NUMBERS OF MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE—CENSUSES, 1921 AND 1926.



Graph LIX.

175. **Duration of Marriage.**—This information was not ascertained by a direct question on the census schedule, but was arrived at by deducting the date of marriage from the date of the Census. At the Census of 1921 a direct question was asked and the tabulated results showed a distinct tendency for round numbers at multiples of 5 to be returned. On the assumption that few married women forget the date of their marriage, it was decided to adopt this form of question. The results have fully justified the change, and although in a few instances it was observed that the year had been overstated or understated by 10, these cases were readily discernible by comparison with other items on the form and corrected accordingly.

In statistics of this nature it is only possible to work in completed years, although the method of ascertaining the duration gave the result in years and months. In reading the tables it must, therefore, be understood that a duration of, say, 5 years means from 5 years to 5 years 11 months, and similarly with other durations. Duration 0 or under 1 year means from 1 day to under 12 months.

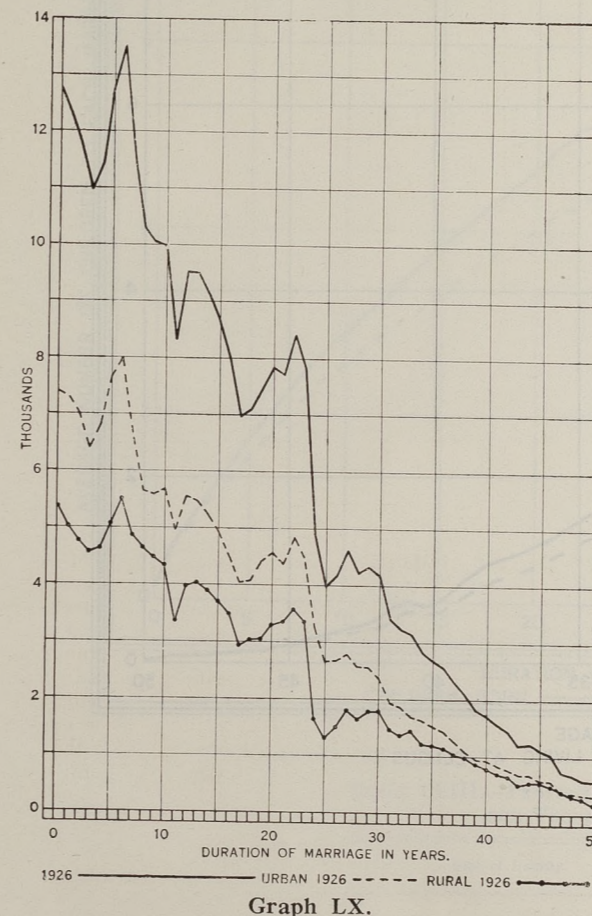
The accompanying graph No. LX shows the number of married women at each duration of marriage dealt with in the statistics. The peak in the graphical line at 5, 6, and 7 years duration is due to the large numbers of marriages during the years 1919 and 1920. The latter year holds the record for the Union with 14,934 European marriages. Marriages are tabulated for calendar years, whereas the durations of marriages shown in these statistics are for periods ending with the Census date 4th May each year. As explained above, a duration of 1 year includes marriages up to 1 year and 11 months duration, and, therefore, applies to marriages contracted between 5th May, 1924, and 4th May, 1925. The marriages included in the duration 6 years are, therefore, those contracted within the period May, 1919, to May, 1920, the years of high wages and post-war prosperity. The years of depression which followed are shown in the trough at 2, 3, and 4 years duration.

An appreciable drop is shown at duration 11 years which covers the period May, 1914, to May, 1915, and corresponds with the commencement of hostilities.

The residue of the marriages contracted at the conclusion of the Boer War period is indicated by the peak at durations 21 to 23 years; conversely the depression in the graphical line at durations 24 to 26 years corresponds with the period of Boer War hostilities.

The numbers of married women enumerated in urban and rural areas are also shown graphically. The numbers in the former area were greater than in the latter, being proportionate to the total population enumerated in each area. Beyond this fact, the most noticeable feature is the remarkable similarity of the two graphical lines.

DURATION OF MARRIAGE.
NUMBER OF MARRIED WOMEN AT EACH DURATION OF MARRIAGE FROM UNDER ONE YEAR TO 50 YEARS, CENSUS, 1926.



Graph LX.

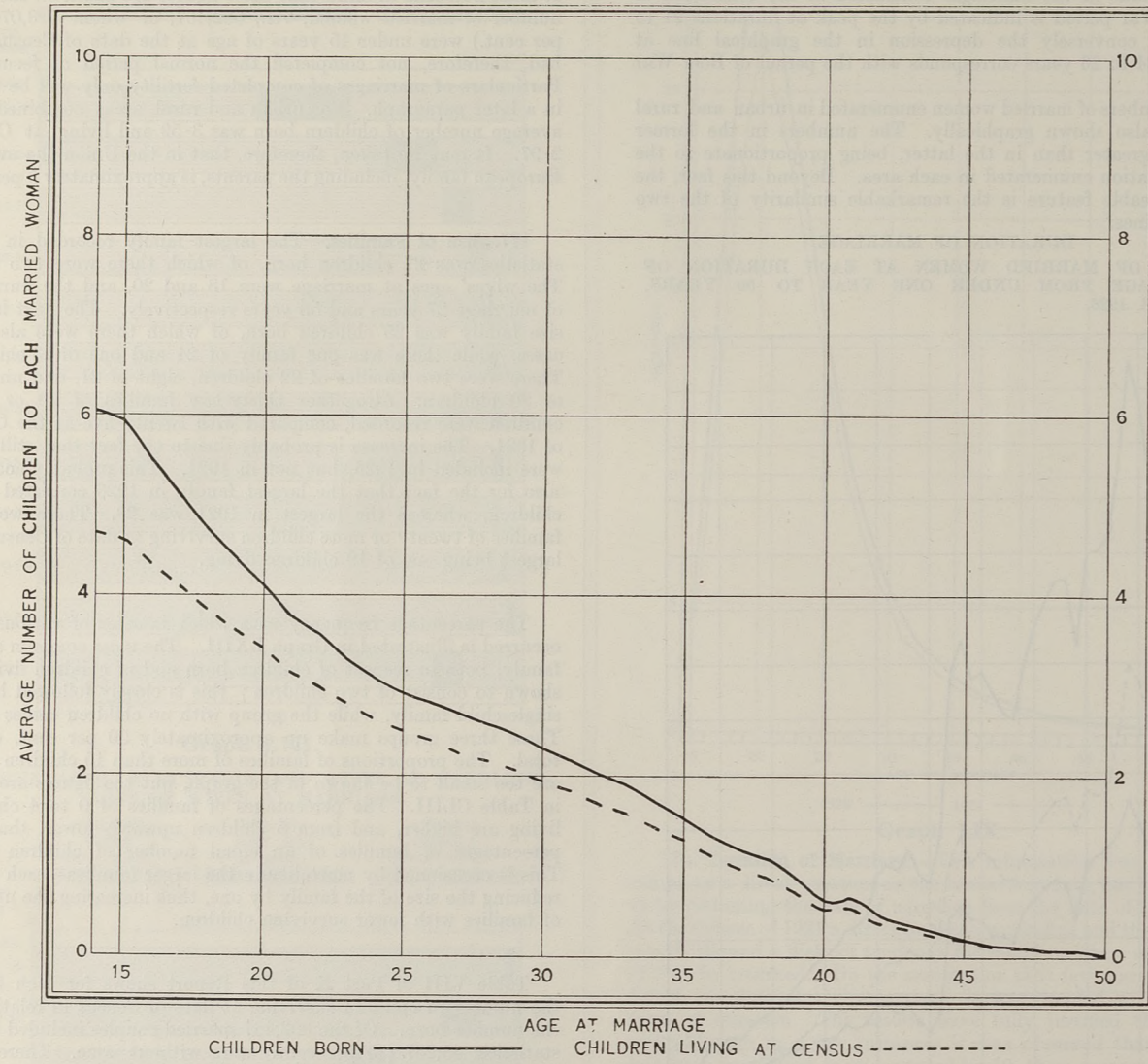
176. **Fertility of All Married Women.**—The average issue born to all married women, and the average number living at the date of Census, are shown in the following graphs, Nos. LXI and LXII. It must be borne in mind that these figures are based on the total number of married women, viz., 302,467, of whom 218,070 (70 per cent.) were under 45 years of age at the date of Census, and had, therefore, not completed the normal period of fecundity. Particulars of marriages of completed fertility only will be found in a later paragraph. For urban and rural areas combined, the average number of children born was 3.59 and living at Census 2.97. It may be taken, therefore, that in the Union the average European family, including the parents, is approximately 5 persons.

177. **Size of Families.**—The largest family recorded in these statistics was 27 children born, of which there were two cases. The wives' ages at marriage were 18 and 20, and the durations of marriage 27 years and 53 years respectively. The next largest size family was 25 children born, of which there were also two cases, while there was one family of 24 and one of 23 children. There were two families of 22 children, eight of 21, and nineteen of 20 children. Altogether thirty-five families of 20 or more children were recorded, compared with twenty-five at the Census of 1921. The increase is probably due to the fact that stillbirths were included in 1926, but not in 1921. This probably accounts also for the fact that the largest family in 1926 consisted of 27 children, whereas the largest in 1921 was 23. There were no families of twenty or more children surviving at date of Census, the largest being one of 19 children living.

The percentage frequency with which families of various sizes occurred is illustrated in Graph LXIII. The most common size of family, both in respect of children born and of children living, is shown to consist of two children; this is closely followed by the single-child family, while the group with no children comes third. These three groups make up approximately 50 per cent. of the total. The proportions of families of more than 15 children living are too small to be shown in the graph, but the figures are given in Table CLIII. The percentages of families of 0 to 4 children living are higher, and from 5 children upwards lower, than the percentages of families of an equal number of children born. This is occasioned by mortality in the larger families—each death reducing the size of the family by one, thus increasing the number of families with fewer surviving children.

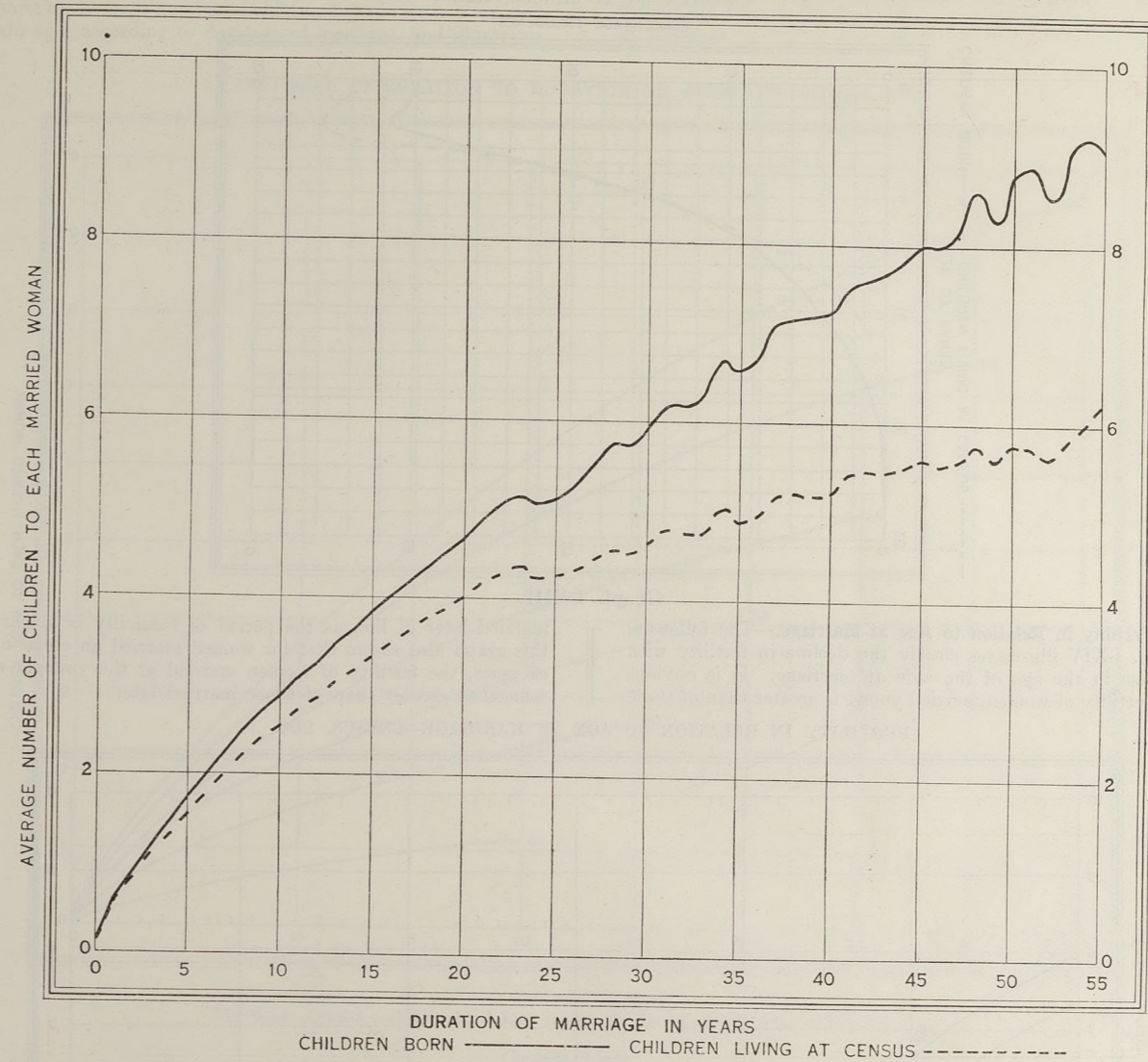
Table VIII of Part X of this Report shows for each family the number of children surviving at date of Census in relation to the number born. Of the 302,467 married couples included in the statistics, 45,287 (15 per cent.) were without issue. There were 160,565 (53 per cent.) families in which no mortality was recorded, while in the remaining 96,615 (32 per cent.) families one, or more than one, child had died. Included in the latter figure are 3,840 cases in which none of the children born survived to the date of Census.

AVERAGE ISSUE TO ALL MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE—CENSUS, 1926.



Graph LXI.

AVERAGE ISSUE TO ALL MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO DURATION OF MARRIAGE—CENSUS, 1926.

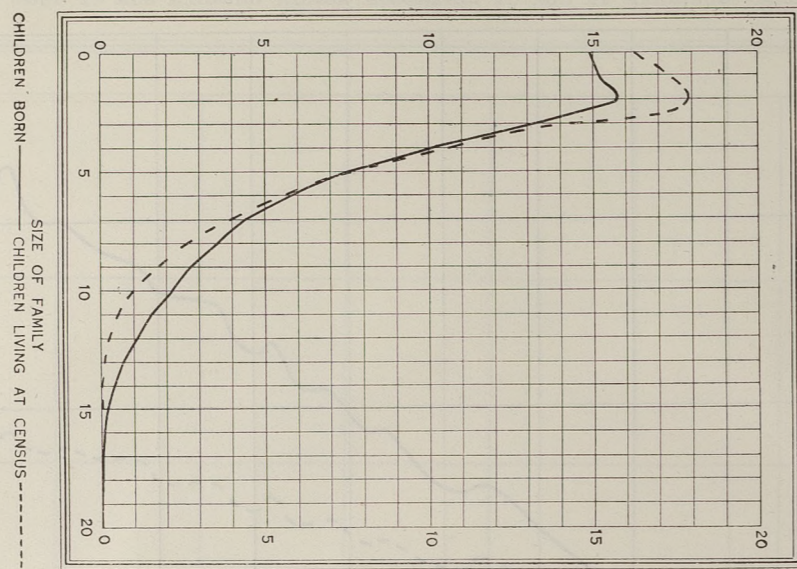


Graph LXII.

TABLE CLIII.—PROPORTION OF FAMILIES OF DIFFERENT SIZES, PER THOUSAND OF ALL FAMILIES.

Size of Family.	Children Born.	Children Living.
0.....	149.73	162.43
1.....	151.92	173.69
2.....	157.56	179.10
3.....	132.32	142.79
4.....	102.45	105.93
5.....	75.51	75.23
6.....	58.36	56.36
7.....	44.64	39.42
8.....	35.77	27.03
9.....	27.57	18.25
10.....	22.14	10.36
11.....	15.28	5.20
12.....	11.33	2.60
13.....	6.92	1.02
14.....	4.07	0.40
15.....	2.24	0.14
16.....	1.13	0.03
17.....	0.55	0.01
18.....	0.29	0.01
19.....	0.11	—
20+.....	0.11	—
TOTAL CASES.....	1,000	1,000

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SIZES OF FAMILIES TO ALL MARRIED WOMEN AS AT CENSUS, 1926.
PERCENTAGE FREQUENCY

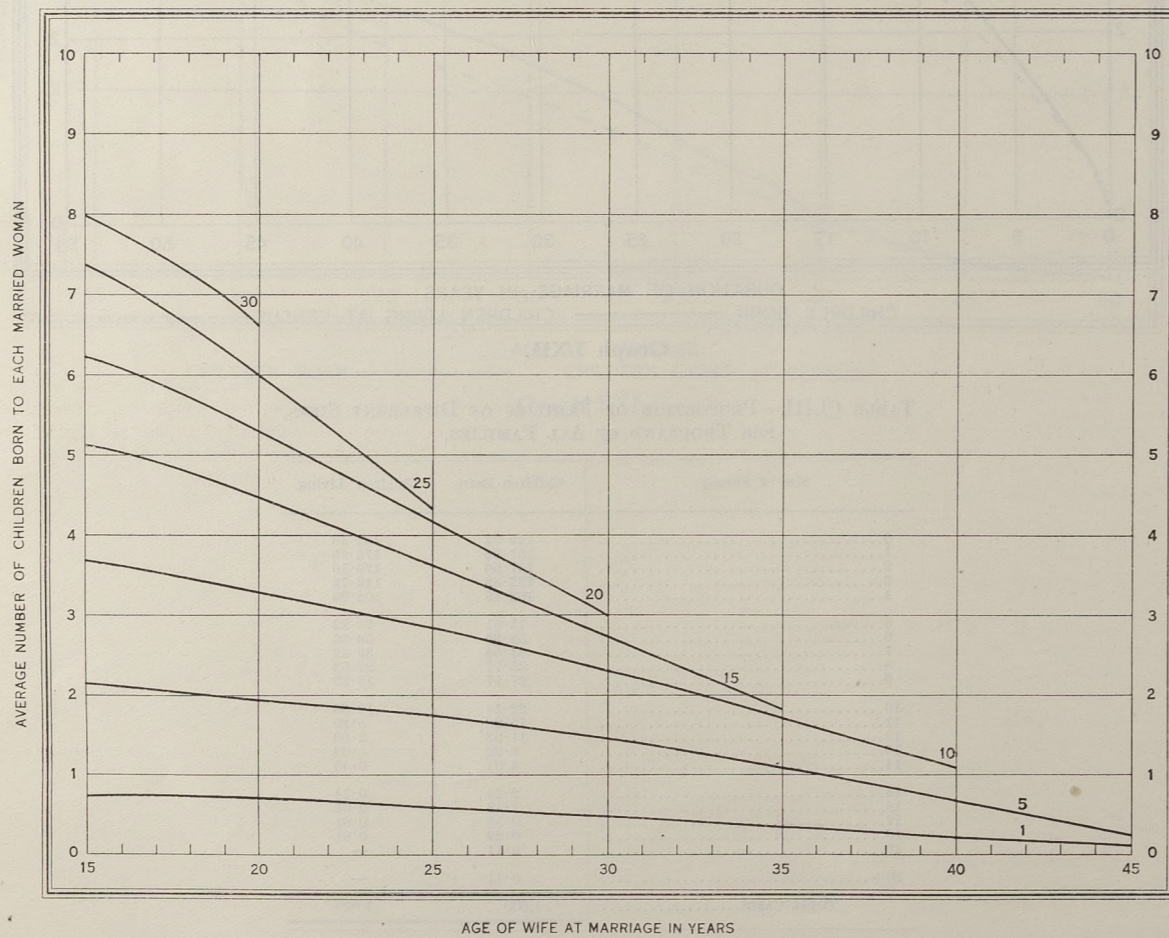


Graph LXIII.

178. **Fertility in Relation to Age at Marriage.**—The following Graph No. LXIV illustrates clearly the decline in fertility with the increase in the age of the wife at marriage. It is obvious that the fertility of women married young is greater than of those

married later in life, as the period of fecundity is longer; but this graph also shows that for women married an equal number of years, the fertility of women married at the younger ages is somewhat greater than of those married later.

FERTILITY IN RELATION TO AGE AT MARRIAGE—CENSUS, 1926.



AGE OF WIFE AT MARRIAGE IN YEARS

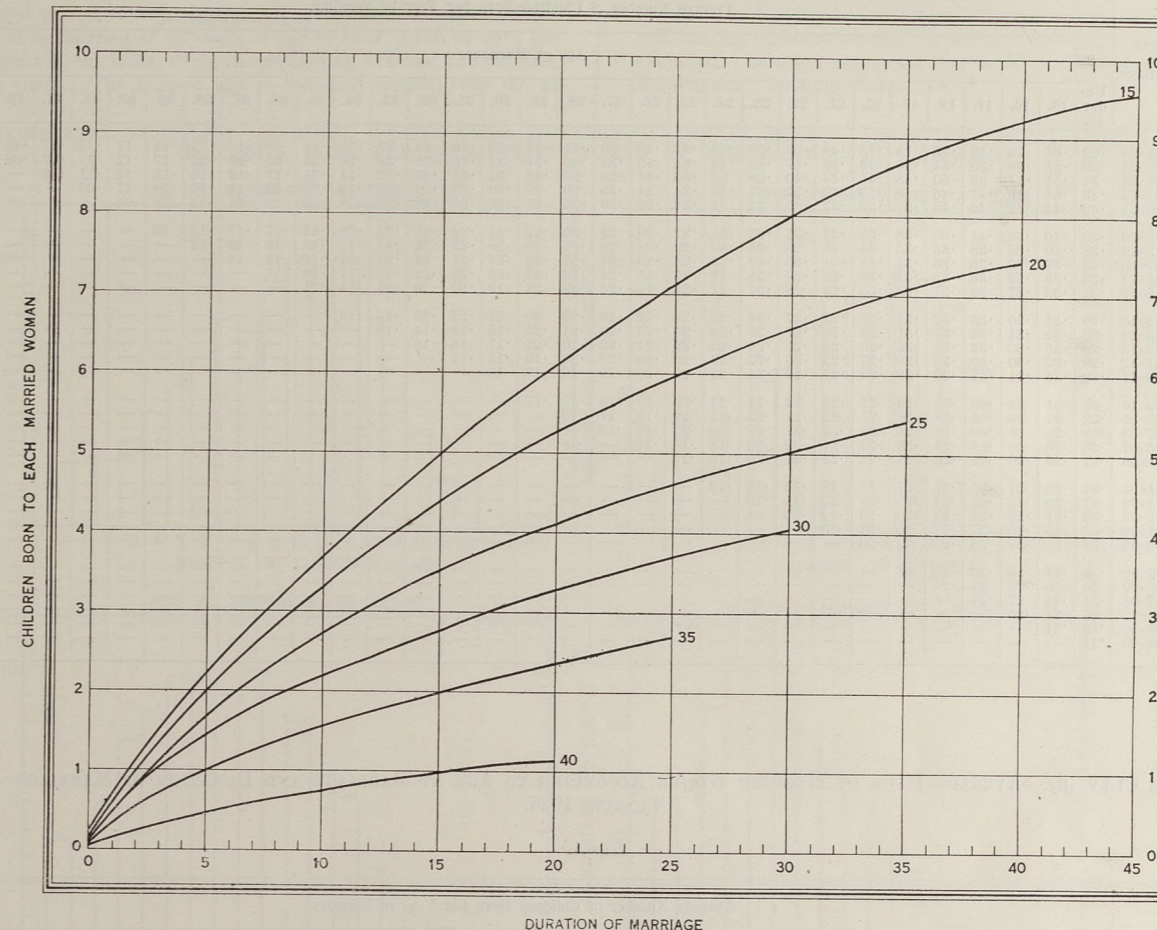
The duration of Marriage is shown in figures against each Graph Line.

Graph LXIV.

179. **Fertility in Relation to Duration of Marriage.**—Graph LXV shows the average number of children born to women married at certain ages according to duration of marriage, and illustrates

the increase in fertility with increase in duration of marriage. This graph also shows the decline in fertility with increasing age at marriage.

FERTILITY IN RELATION TO DURATION OF MARRIAGE—CENSUS, 1926.



DURATION OF MARRIAGE

The figure against each Graphical Line represents the respective Ages at Marriage.

Graph LXV.

180. **Average Issue per Year of Fertility.**—The following Table CLIV shows for urban and rural areas, the average issue per year of fertility in relation to age at marriage and duration of marriage. There is a gradual decline in fertility with increasing duration, indicating that more children are born in the earlier years of marriage. This table also illustrates the decrease in fertility with increasing age at marriage.

Only women up to 45 years of age at the Census are included in this table, i.e., those who had not completed or had just completed the normal period of fecundity, as the number of years of fertility does not increase with increasing duration of marriage after the period of fecundity is complete.

TABLE CLIV (i).—AVERAGE ISSUE OF MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE AT CENSUS, 1926.

Urban.

Duration of Marriage in Years.	Year of Marriage.	Average Number of Children Born per Year of Fertility.																																																			
		Age at Marriage.																																																			
		Under 15.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.	41.	42.	43.	44.	45.																				
1.....	1924-25	.69	.66	.76	.82	.78	.75	.73	.64	.63	.59	.55	.54	.48	.50	.51	.49	.53	.46	.44	.37	.35	.44	.28	.19	.21	.25	.17	.24	.17	.13	.22																					

TABLE CLIV (ii).—AVERAGE ISSUE OF MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE AT CENSUS, 1926.

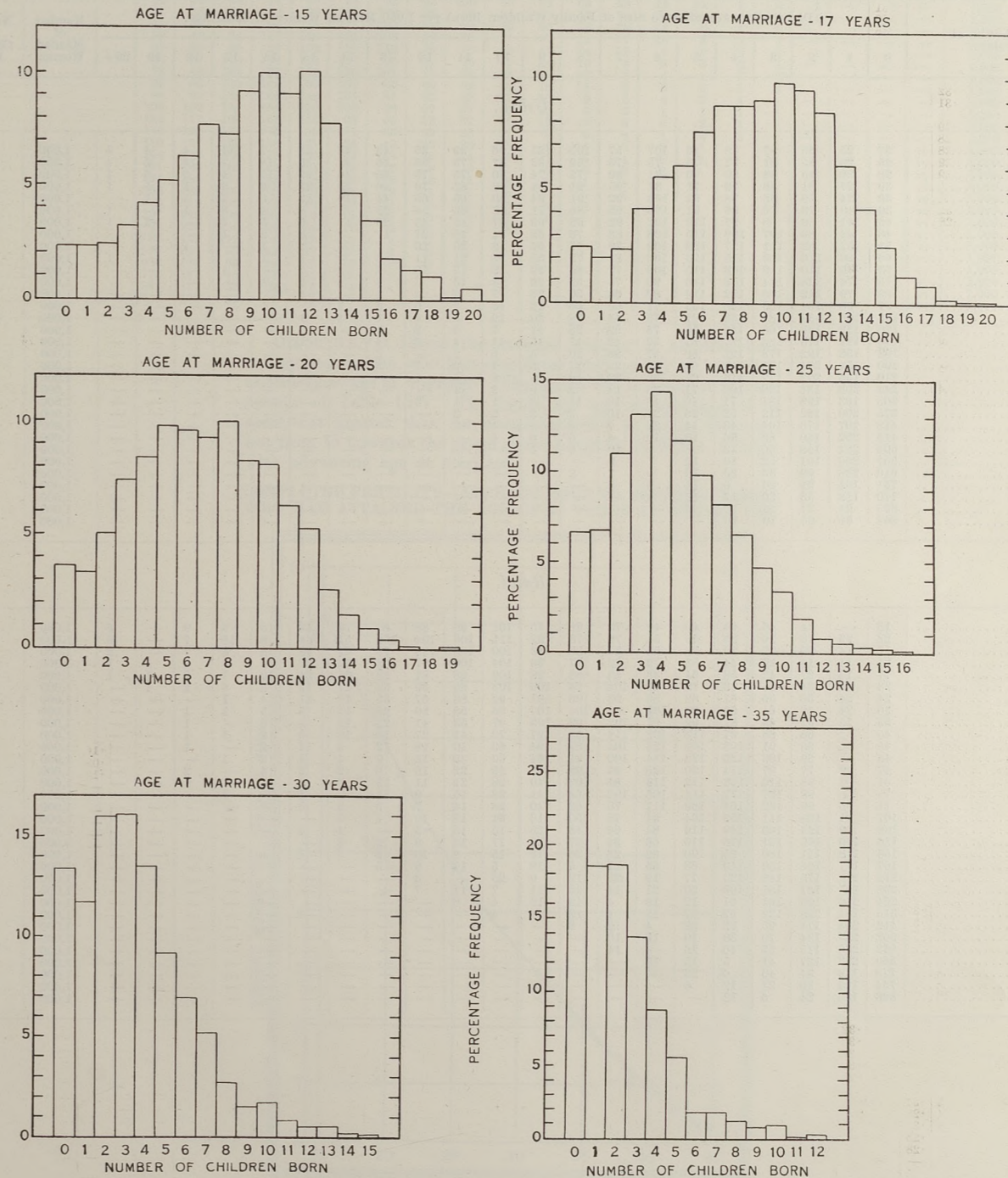
Rural.

Duration of Marriage in Years.	Year of Marriage.	Average Number of Children Born per Year of Fertility.																																																				
		Age at Marriage.																																																				
		Under 15.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.	41.	42.	43.	44.	45.																					
1.....	1924-25	.77	.79	.77	.71	.71	.74	.73	.73	.71	.63	.64	.62	.70	.60	.59	.65	.58	.57	.59	.58	.54	.61	.45	.40	.41	.39	.22	.06	.20	.09	.05																						

181. Completed Fertility.—The term "completed fertility" is used to cover those cases where the wives had reached the age of 45 years at the date of Census, and had, therefore, completed their normal period of fecundity. While the tables show a few cases of children born to women over 45 years of age at marriage, the figures are very small, and fully justify the assumption that the normal period of fecundity ceases at 45 years of age. Of the 3,279 women married at 46 years of age or over, 3,165 or 96.5 per cent. were without issue, while the remaining 114 had 162 children between them. The highest age of recorded fertility was 50, at

which age there were four cases of one child having been born. Table CLV shows the numbers and sizes of families of all cases of completed fertility per 1,000 marriages for each age at marriage. This table shows the frequency per thousand with which the various sizes of families occurred according to age at marriage. The first column shows the proportions of married women who had borne no children, though the possibility of their still bearing children beyond the normal period of fecundity is not excluded. Selected ages from this table provide the data for the six diagrams forming Graph LXVI.

COMPLETED FERTILITY, MARRIED WOMEN OVER 45 YEARS OF AGE AT CENSUS. FREQUENCY OF CERTAIN SIZES OF FAMILY BORN PER 100 MARRIED WOMAN AT CERTAIN AGES OF MARRIAGE.



Graph LXVI.

182. **Married Women Without Issue.**—The following Table CLVI shows the numbers of women married one year and less than two years and the size of their families. The last column shows the percentage of women at each age at marriage who had borne no children within the period of their marriage. The upper line in Graph LXVIII is drawn from this data. The lowest percentage of women without issue is 25.8 per cent. for age 16 years at marriage.

The lower line in the graph shows the percentages of marriages where the wife had reached the age of 45 years which were unfruitful, and is derived from the first column of table CLV. Here again women aged 16 years at marriage showed the lowest percentage without issue, viz., 2.2 per cent.

It must not be overlooked that these fertility statistics deal with present marriages only, and that particulars of children by previous marriages to women who have been married more than once are not included. It is, therefore, probable that some of the women included in the above tables as without issue have borne children by a previous marriage, and thus should not be classed as unfruitful. There are also unknown factors, such as male sterility and voluntary birth-control, which may cause a marriage to be unfruitful, and, therefore, the above figures do not necessarily reflect the true proportions of female sterility.

TABLE CLVI.—PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED WOMEN WITHOUT ISSUE AFTER A MARRIED PERIOD OF OVER ONE BUT UNDER TWO YEARS AT CENSUS, 1926.

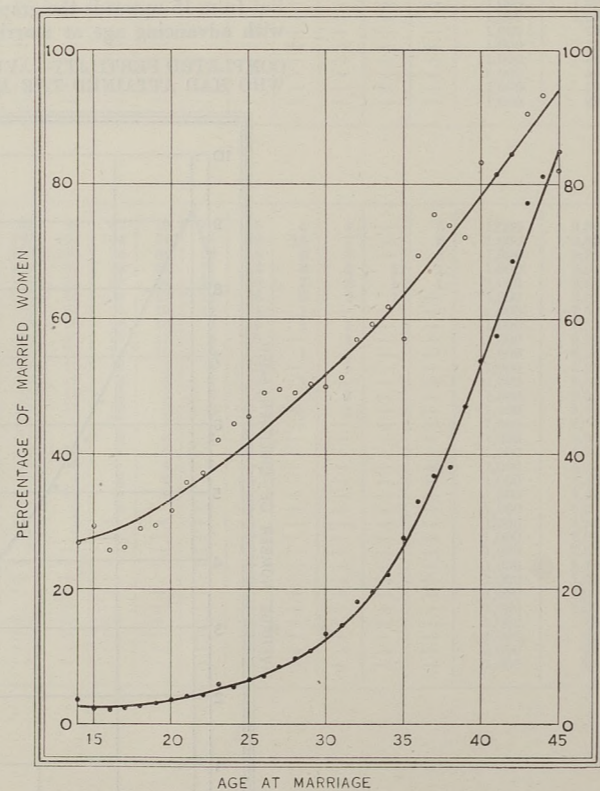
Age at Marriage (in Years).	Women Married One Year and Under Two Years.							
	Number of Children Born.				Number of Married Women.	Total Number of Children Born.	Average Number of Children Born.	Percentage of Marriages with no Children.
	0	1	2	3				
Under 15	7	19	—	—	26	19	.73	26.9
15	22	51	2	—	75	55	.73	29.3
16	71	197	7	—	275	211	.77	25.8
17	159	428	16	1	604	463	.77	26.3
18	259	600	34	—	893	668	.75	29.0
19	340	774	39	3	1,156	861	.74	29.4
20	392	796	43	6	1,237	900	.73	31.7
21	421	706	44	1	1,172	797	.68	35.9
22	332	528	29	1	890	589	.66	37.3
23	315	412	17	—	744	446	.60	42.3
24	357	425	17	3	802	468	.58	44.5
25	314	356	17	1	688	393	.57	45.6
26	275	267	14	4	560	307	.55	49.1
27	236	226	14	1	477	257	.54	49.5
28	211	207	12	—	430	231	.54	49.1
29	151	139	7	3	300	162	.54	50.3
30	127	115	12	—	254	139	.55	50.0
31	95	87	3	—	185	93	.50	51.4
32	86	58	5	2	151	74	.49	51.0
33	83	51	6	—	140	63	.45	59.3
34	91	52	3	1	147	61	.41	61.9
35	63	40	5	2	110	56	.51	57.3
36	77	30	3	1	111	39	.35	69.4
37	60	18	1	—	79	20	.25	75.9
38	56	19	—	1	76	22	.29	73.7
39	65	24	—	1	90	27	.30	72.2
40	64	12	1	—	77	14	.18	83.1
41	44	10	—	—	54	10	.19	81.5
42	43	7	1	—	51	9	.18	84.5
43	56	5	1	—	62	7	.11	90.3
44	40	1	1	—	43	6	.14	93.0
45	32	5	2	—	39	9	.23	82.1
46	34	—	—	—	34	—	—	100.0
47	34	1	1	—	36	3	.08	94.4
48	29	—	—	—	29	—	—	100.0
49	27	1	—	—	28	1	.04	96.4
50	23	—	—	—	23	—	—	100.0
51	134	—	—	—	134	—	—	100.0
Totals	5,225	6,667	357	33	12,282	7,480	.61	42.5

183. **Urban and Rural Areas.**—For the first time fertility statistics are available for urban and rural areas separately. Table CLVII shows comparative figures for urban and rural areas in respect of the average number of children born to all married women, the average number of children living at the date of Census, and the average number born to women who had completed their period of fecundity. It will be noticed that the rural figures are appreciably higher than the urban figures for every age at marriage. Graph LXIX has been drawn from the data in this table.

TABLE CLVII.—FERTILITY IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS, 1926.

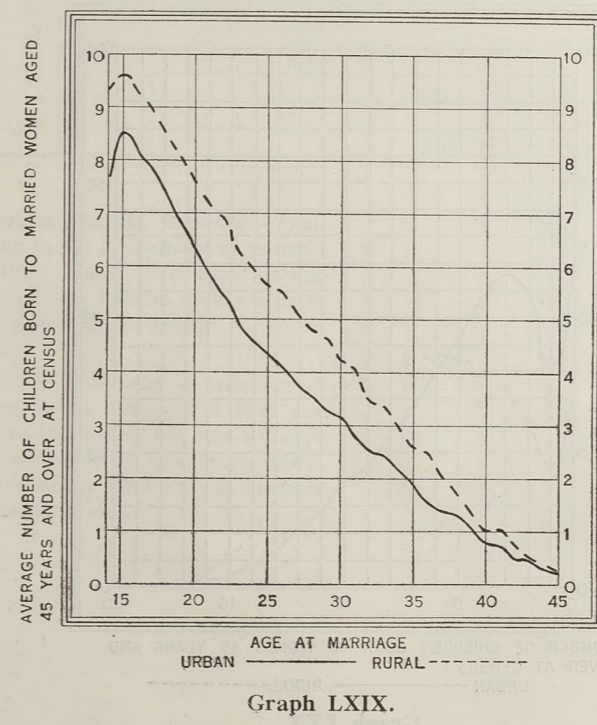
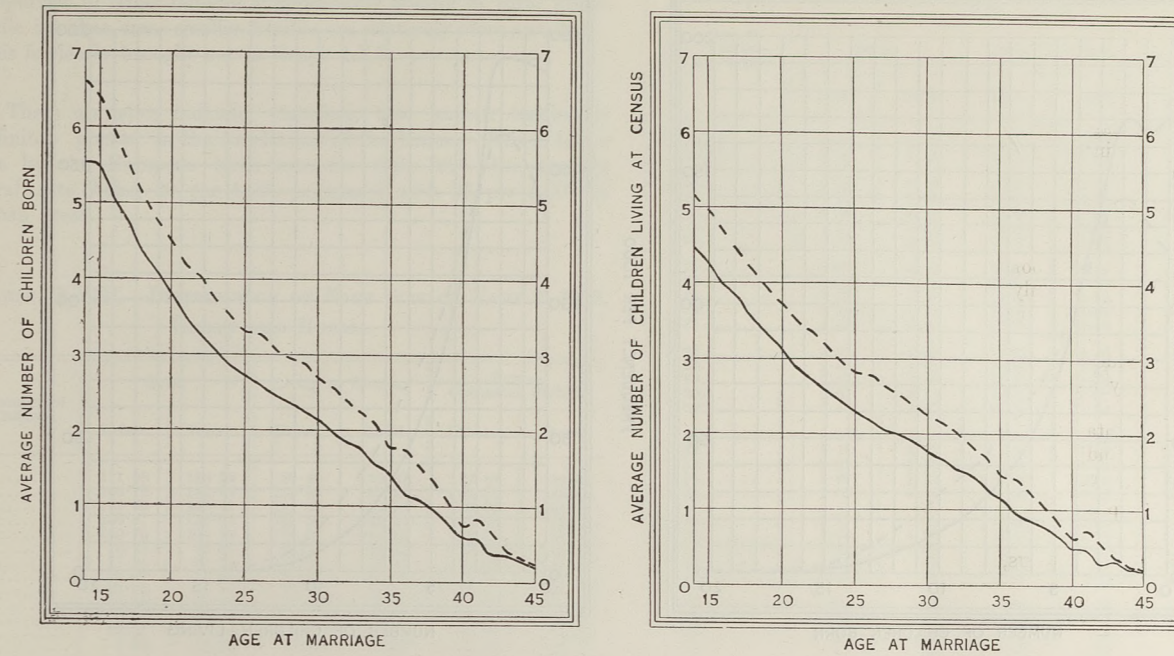
Age at Marriage (in Years).	Average Number of Children.					
	Born.		Living at Census.		Born—Completed Fertility.	
	Urban.	Rural.	Urban.	Rural.	Urban.	Rural.
Under 15	5.52	6.59	4.45	5.16	7.67	9.31
15	5.50	6.40	4.29	4.96	8.52	9.64
16	5.02	5.94	3.97	4.70	8.14	9.28
17	4.76	5.51	3.81	4.40	7.89	9.01
18	4.34	5.11	3.54	4.17	7.34	8.52
19	4.07	4.77	3.34	3.94	6.80	8.07
20	3.80	4.51	3.14	3.73	6.33	7.60
21	3.47	4.17	2.89	3.50	5.81	7.14
22	3.26	4.04	2.73	3.39	5.43	6.90
23	3.03	3.77	2.57	3.19	4.91	6.28
24	2.85	3.53	2.43	2.99	4.60	5.99
25	2.72	3.30	2.31	2.82	4.35	5.64
26	2.59	3.28	2.20	2.78	4.10	5.53
27	2.46	3.09	2.05	2.61	3.77	5.10
28	2.37	2.96	2.00	2.51	3.57	4.80
29	2.26	2.90	1.91	2.39	3.29	4.65
30	2.14	2.70	1.78	2.25	3.15	4.23
31	1.98	2.58	1.67	2.15	2.78	4.06
32	1.83	2.39	1.52	2.03	2.52	3.47
33	1.76	2.22	1.46	1.85	2.44	3.37
34	1.55	2.10	1.29	1.71	2.17	3.00
35	1.42	1.77	1.17	1.47	1.93	2.59
36	1.15	1.76	.98	1.43	1.55	2.52
37	1.07	1.51	.85	1.25	1.37	2.03
38	.97	1.33	.79	1.06	1.32	1.79
39	.78	1.05	.65	.85	1.07	1.32
40	.59	.74	.48	.63	.79	1.01
41	.57	.83	.46	.71	.73	1.05
42	.37	.65	.29	.54	.47	.77
43	.37	.39	.31	.34	.45	.44
44	.28	.30	.24	.23	.29	.38
45	.20	.23	.19	.22	.21	.25
All Ages	3.19	4.14	2.64	3.42	4.58	6.35

PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED WOMEN WITHOUT ISSUE AS AT THE CENSUS OF 1926.



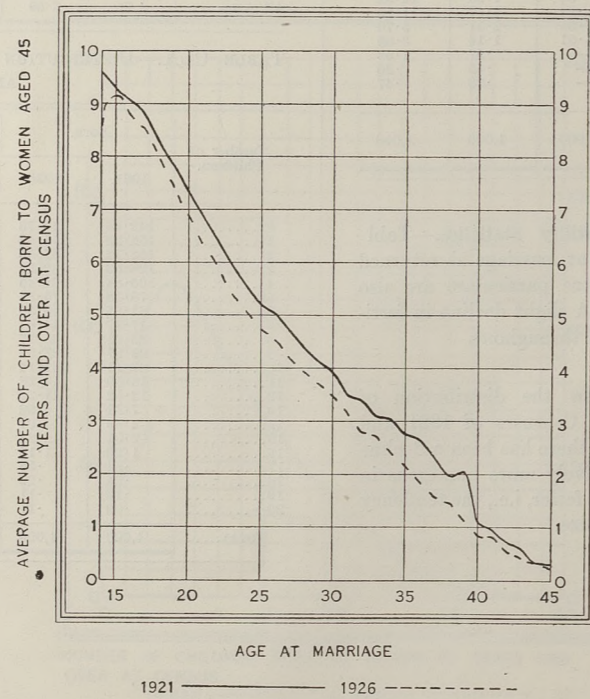
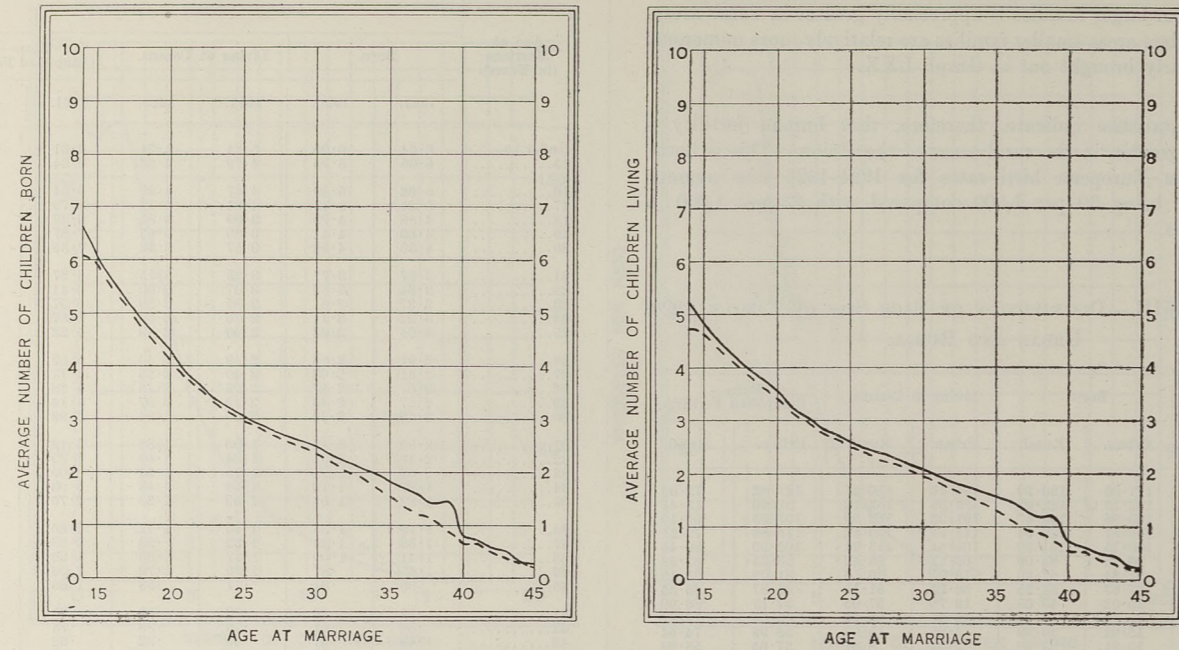
Graph LXVIII.

COMPARATIVE FERTILITY—URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.



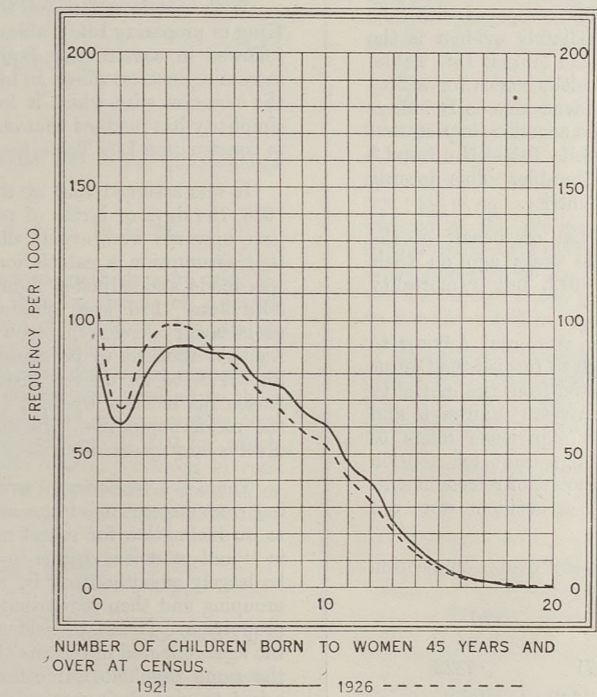
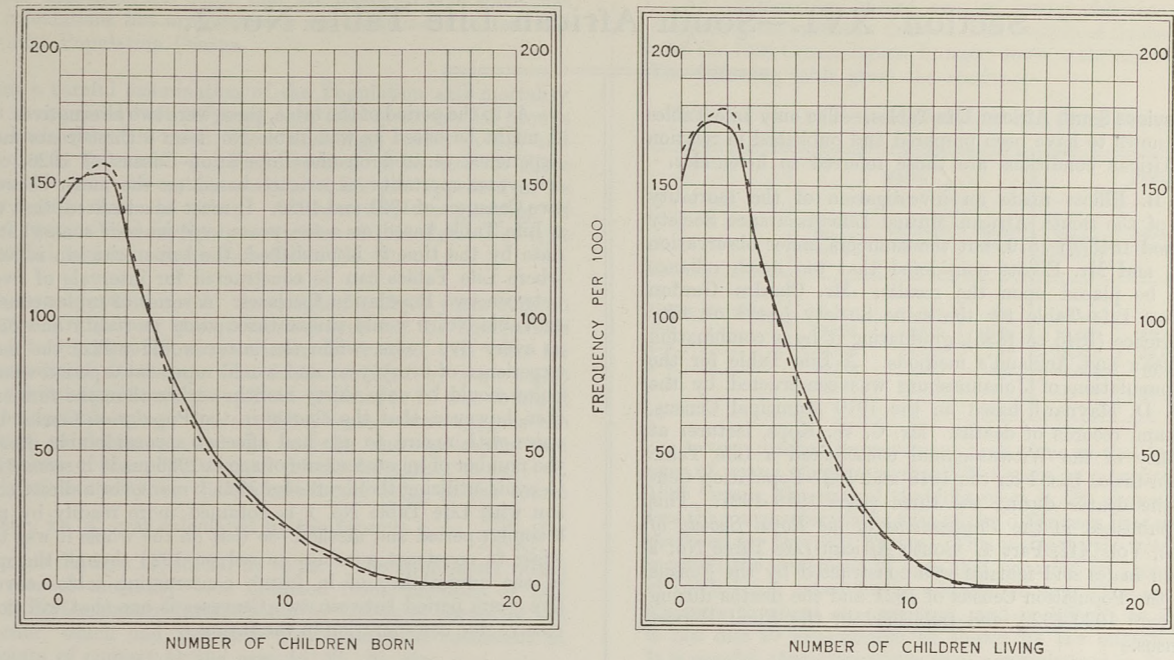
Graph LXIX.

COMPARATIVE FERTILITY—1921 AND 1926.



Graph LXXI.

DISTRIBUTION OF EACH SIZE OF FAMILY, 1921—1926.



Graph LXXII.

Unfortunately fertility statistics are not available prior to 1921, but in the Report on the Vital Statistics of the Union, 1927, it is shown that there has been a gradual decrease in the European birth-rate of the Union since 1911, when the rate was 32.18 per 1,000 to 25.95 per 1,000 in 1927.

As fertility statistics deal with married women only, a more accurate method of indicating relative fertility than the crude birth-rate is the legitimate birth-rate per 1,000 married women of child-bearing age. Differences in the constitution of the population in respect of sex and marital condition are thereby eliminated and also to a certain extent in the age constitution. This rate is only available for Census years, as there is no satisfactory method of estimating the number of married women for inter-Censal years.

The legitimate birth-rate per 1,000 married women of child-bearing age for the Census years, are as follows:—

1911.....	248 per 1,000.
1918.....	218 per 1,000.
1921.....	219 per 1,000.
1926.....	205 per 1,000.

Thus, whereas for every child born in 1911 there were just over four married women of child-bearing age in the population, for every child born in 1926 there were nearly five. In other words, during the 15-year-period the birth-rate to married women of child-bearing age has dropped by 17 per cent.

These statistics point definitely to a decline in the fertility of the European population of the Union; this decline, however, is not peculiar to South Africa, but is evident throughout the civilized world.