

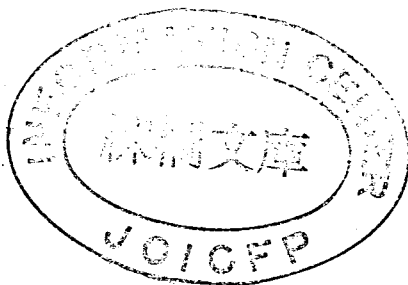
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Fertility of Salaried Men in the Urban Area

by

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I. Introduction

Sometime ago I published a short essay entitled "Fertility of the Farming Population in Japan", rearranging the results of a family survey conducted in 1940 by the Research Institute of Population Problems, the Ministry of Welfare. In that essay I have promised to make an observation on a later occasion as to the fertility of salaried men in the urban area. I have written this article in order to fulfil my promise.

As the salaried men in the urban area which became the subject of an investigation in the above-mentioned family survey chiefly consisted of public officials, bank clerks, primary school teachers, metropolitan electric railway employees, and high-salaried employees of companies (higher tax-payers at that time), residing in Tokyo, the said family survey may be taken as one conducted in respect to the salaried men in the metropolis.

The schedules distributed among the above salaried men were 27,748, and of this figure, 3,055 represented the married couples with wives having passed the child-bearing ages, viz, those above the age of 44 at the time of family survey. From the last-mentioned number of cards, those with no description of the type of marriage, first-marriage or remarriage; and of the date of marriage, were omitted because they were unusable for the purpose of survey. The cards thus discarded amounted to 147 and therefore, the number of cards used for researches were 2,908 in all.

Of the 2,908 cards, 2,384 represented married couples of first-married men and wives and 524 represented those of remarried men and

wives. Of the 2,384 couples of first-married men and wives, 2,173 had children while 211 were without child. On the other hand, of the 524 couples of remarried men and wives and partly of the remarried, those who had children were 317 while those without child were 207.

In the schedules were described whether the marriage was first marriage or remarriage, dates of birth of the husband and wife, date of marriage, whether they had children or not, and the number of children if any. As the card contained such particulars as above, it served the purposes of our survey. But, if the intervals between births are to be computed according to order of births, dates of births should be entered in the card correctly. As a matter of fact, however, in a considerable number of cards there was no entry of dates of children's birth, only their ages being described. In arranging the cards of couples of first-married men and wives, the cards without accurate dates of birth were omitted as they did not meet the necessity of computing the intervals between births according to order of births. Since the cards thus omitted numbered 134, those representing the couples of first married men and wives, which were used for the computation of intervals between births according to order of births totalled 2,039.

An observation will be made hereunder as to the fertility of salaried men in the urban area in the nearly same manner as that in the case of the observation of "the fertility of the farming population in Japan". By so doing, it is considered to be possible to compare the greatest fertility in this country which the farmers have, with the smallest fertility possessed by the salaried men in the urban area.

II. Married couples with children and those without child

As shown in another article, wives who brought forth no child during their child-bearing ages are 12.33% of the total in the

case of farmers' wives whereas such wives are 14.3%, in the case of salaried men in the urban area, the latter somewhat exceeding the former in the percentage. This is, however, the result of an observation which was made in respect to all the married couples including couples by first marriage and those of the remarried. But, if we observe the percentage of couples without child as to those by first marriage and those of the remarried separately, we will find that there is a considerable discrepancy in the percentage between different of couples as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Proportion of couples with children to those without child

	Absolute number			Percentage		
	Total number	Couples with children	Couples without child	Total	Couples with children	Couples without child
Couples of first married men and wives	2,384	2,173	211	100.00	19.15	8.85
Couples of remarried men and first married wives	194	163	31	100.00	84.02	15.98
Couples of first married men and remarried wives	90	49	41	100.00	54.44	45.56
Couples of remarried men and wives	240	105	135	100.00	43.75	56.25
Total	2,908	2,490	418	100.00	85.63	14.37

As will be seen from the above table, the couples of first married men and wives form the best part of the total of married couples, and of the first mentioned couples, those without child represent only 8.85%. But, the proportion of all the couples without child to the total married couples is high as compared with the above case, showing 14.37%. This is attributable to the high percentage of the couples of the remarried. It should, however, be noted that as to the couples of those with previous marriage experience, the percentage of couples without child greatly differs according to whether wives

or men are remarried persons or both of them are remarried.

Above-mentioned Table 1 shows that the percentage of couples without child is 15.98% in the case of those of remarried men and first married wives, 45.56% in the case of first married men and remarried women, and 56.25% in the case of both partners are remarried. It will be seen from the foregoing that the percentage of couples without child is markedly high where wives are remarried. Where both men and wives are remarried or either party is remarried, the percentage of couples without child is high as compared with cases of first married men and wives. It may be attributable to various troubles wives have about their conceptive organism or to the circumstances tending greatly to drive them to avoid child-bearing though it is difficult to prove these facts statistically. It is also considered that the percentage of non-bearing of child is high probably due to the fact that they remarry in some cases as late as their fecund life is nearly at the end, and this can be proved statistically.

The wives' ages of marriage in the case of couples of those with previous marriage experience and of first married men and wives are shown in Table 2 given below.

Table 2. Wives' ages of marriage in the cases of first marriage and remarriage

Wives' ages of marriage	Couples of first married men and wives		Couples of remarried men and first married wives	
	Absolute number	Percentage	Absolute number	Percentage
under 20	627	26.3	24	12.4
20 — 24	1,173	49.2	66	34.0
25 — 29	471	19.8	57	29.4
30 — 34	89	3.7	33	17.0
35 — 39	16	0.7	11	5.7
40 and over	8	0.3	3	1.5
Total	2,384	100.0	194	100.0

Wives' ages of marriage	Couples of first married men and remarried wives		Couples of remarried men and wives	
	Absolute number	Percentage	Absolute number	Percentage
under 20	4	4.4	2	0.8
20 — 24	14	15.6	19	7.9
25 — 29	25	27.8	63	26.2
30 — 34	27	30.0	63	26.2
35 — 39	12	13.3	48	20.2
40 and over	8	8.9	45	18.7
Total	90	100.0	240	100.0

It will be seen from the above table that the wives who married after the age of 35 (very late marriage), are only 1% in the case of couples of first married men and wives, 7.2% in the case of couples of remarried men and first married wives, 22.2% in the case of first married men and remarried wives and 38.9% in case of remarried men and wives. As the reproductive span shortens with the advance of wives' age of marriage, it is quite natural that births will decrease if wives marry late, and moreover, the probability of having no child at all will increase. This can be proved by observing the percentage of couples without child by wives' ages of marriage. Now, let us look at percentage of couples with children and of those without child as classified by wives' ages of marriage shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Percentages of couples with children and those without child as classified by wives' ages of marriage

Wives' ages of marriage	Absolute number			Percentage		
	Total number	Couples with children	Couples without child	Total number	Couples with children	Couples without child
under 20	657	623	34	100.0	94.8	5.2
20 — 24	1,272	1,178	94	100.0	92.6	7.4
25 — 29	616	496	120	100.0	80.5	19.5
30 — 34	212	139	73	100.0	65.6	34.4
35 — 39	87	44	43	100.0	50.6	49.4
40 and over	64	10	54	100.0	15.6	84.4
Total	2,908	2,490	418	100.0	85.6	14.4

According to the above table, there are childless couples even in the case of wives who married at young ages, but the percentage of such couples is very low. In the case of wives' marriage at ages under 20 childless couples represent 5.2% and marriage at age between 20 and 24, 7.4%, but the percentage increases gradually in the case of marriage after the last mentioned ages and it comes to 84.4% in the case of marriage at the age of 40 and over.

III. Number of live births per couple

As has been stated already, the total number of couples under survey is 2,908, and children born alive to them amount to 12,337, and therefore, the number of children for each couple is 4.24. As per couple births of farmers are 5.09, same of salaried men in the urban area are 0.85 less than the former. It is, therefore, clear that the fertility of salaried men in the urban area is weaker than that of farmers and in the average each couple of the salaried men produces about one child less than the farmers' couple throughout the span of fecund life.

Now, an observation will be made as to the influence of wives' ages of marriage on fertility. In the following Table 4, there are shown the births per couple classified by wives' ages of marriage.

Table 4. Births per couple classified by wives' ages of marriage

Wives' ages of marriage	Number of couples	Number of births	Births per couple
Under 20	657	3,607	5.5
20	294	1,544	5.3
21	275	1,338	4.9
22	275	1,339	4.9
23	240	1,120	4.7
24	188	769	4.1
25	175	723	4.1
26	164	562	3.4
27	114	337	3.0
28	84	227	2.7
29	79	216	2.7
30 — 34	212	438	2.1
35 — 39	87	93	1.1
40 and over	64	24	0.4
Total	2,908	12,337	4.2

It is apparent in the above table that with the advance of wives' ages of marriage, the births per couple decreases. Whereas number of births is 5 in the case of marriage at the age of 20 or thereabouts, 4 in the case of marriage between 24 and 25, 3 in the case of marriage between 28 and 29, but the number of births decreases markedly in the case of marriage after the age of 30 and the number of per couple births becomes as small as 0.4 in the case of marriage at the age of 40 and over.

It should be noted that there is a difference in the number of children born to a couple by first marriage and that of a couple by remarriage and this fact is shown in the following Table 5.

Table 5. Births per couple in the cases of first marriage and remarriage

	Number of couples	Number of births	Number of births per couple
Couples of first married men and wives	2,384	11,159	4.68
Couples of remarried men and first married wives	194	673	3.47
Couples of first married men and remarried wives	90	174	1.93
Couples of remarried men and wives	240	331	1.38

The above table shows that the number of births per couple is greatest in the case of couples of first married men and wives, it amounting to 4.68. In the case of couples of remarried men and first married wives, the number of births is 3.47, being 1.21 less than in the case of first married men and wives. But, in the case of first married men and remarried wives the number of births per couple is decidedly small, it being less than 2. Although births per couple of salaried men in the urban area number 4.24, this is attributed to the fact that the number of children born to couples of first married men and wives is as large as 4.68 and that the couples of this type form the greater part of the total.

**IV. Numbers of children born alive to a couple of
first married man and wife classified by wives'
ages of marriage**

The first married men and wives are most normal couples and they form an overwhelming large proportion of the total. Of the total couples numbering 2,908, those of first married men and wives are 2,384 representing some 82%. Hereunder an observation will be made from various angles as to the fertility chiefly of couples of first married man and wives. In Table 6 given below, there are shown numbers of births per couple of first married man and wife as classified by wives' ages of marriage.

Table 6. Number of births per couple of first married man and wife classified by wives ages of marriage

Wives' ages of marriage	Number of couples	Number of births	Number of births per couple
Under 20	627	3,483	5.6
20	274	1,468	5.4
21	259	1,275	4.9
22	255	1,232	4.8
23	218	1,031	4.7
24	167	704	4.2
25	151	657	4.3
26	136	461	3.4
27	82	271	3.3
28	49	141	2.9
29	53	162	3.1
30 — 34	89	242	2.7
35 — 39	16	18	1.1
40 and over	8	14	1.7
Total	2,384	11,159	4.7

The above table shows that the number of children born alive to a couple of first married man and wife decreases gradually with

the advance of wives' ages of marriage as in the case of wives in general. The number of births is largest at ages under 20, it being 5.6 and the number decreases as wives' ages of marriage go up, but it remains near to 5 until the age of marriage passes 23. When the age of marriage passes 26, the number of births becomes less than 4 and if the age of marriage passes 30, the number of births per couple decrease markedly, and it will become less than 2.

As the advance of wives' ages of marriage means the shortening of the fecundatable span, the chances of bearing children will naturally be reduced even if the fecundity and the desire to have children remain unchanged. The wives who married at the age of 20, have

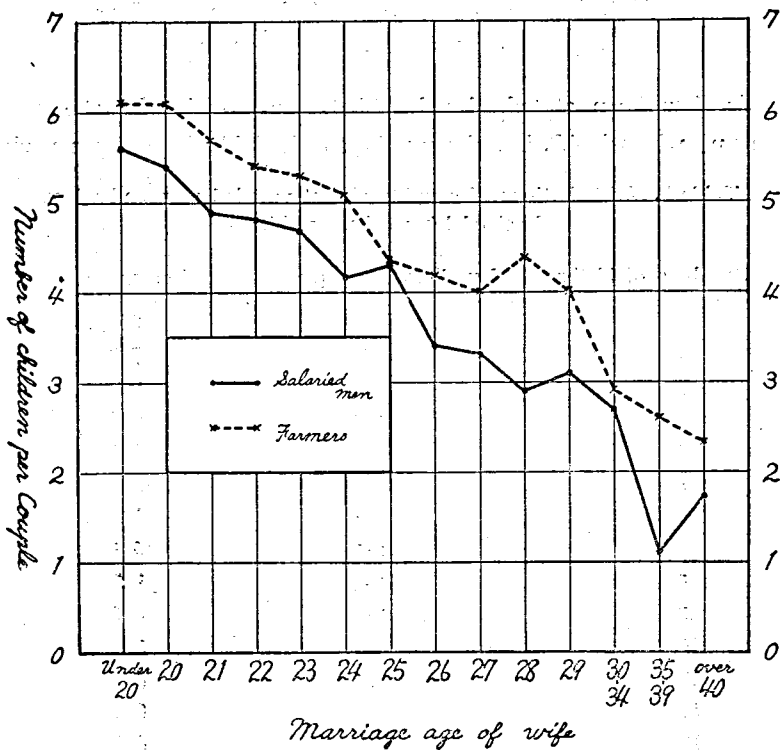


Figure I. Number of children per couple by marriage age of wife in the case of first marriage

5.4 children in the average, but those who married at the age of 25 have 1.1 less children; those who married at the age of 29, 2.3 less children; and those who married at ages of 40 and more, 3.7 less children.

As to the numbers of births per couple of first married man and wife as classified by wives' ages of marriage, it may be said that the number of children born to a married couple of salaried men in the urban area are less than that of farmers' couple in all cases of marriage ages. This can be shown in graphic form in Fig. 1 given in p .9.

V. Distributions of couples of first married men and wives by numbers of births

As has been stated already, births per couple of first married men and wives is 4.7, but the numbers of individual cases are varied.

Table 7. Distributions of couples of first married men and wives classified by numbers of births

Numbers of births	Numbers of couples	Percentage
0	211	8.9%
1	188	7.9
2	198	8.3
3	251	10.5
4	265	11.1
5	315	13.2
6	294	12.3
7	253	10.6
8	191	8.0
9	112	4.7
10	71	3.0
11	22	0.9
12	8	0.3
13	2	0.1
14	3	0.1
Total	2,384	100.0

In the Table 7 is shown the distributions of couples as classified by births.

According to the above table, couples of first married men and wives are distributed between childless couples and those with 14 children at the maximum. We know already that the percentage of childless couples is 88%, but the percentages of those with 1 or 2 children are still smaller, they being 7.9% and 8.3% respectively. In the case of salaried men in the urban area, couples with 3–6 children form a pretty large percentage of the total, to say precisely they represent 57.7%. And the mode is somewhere about the couples with 5 children representing 13.2%.

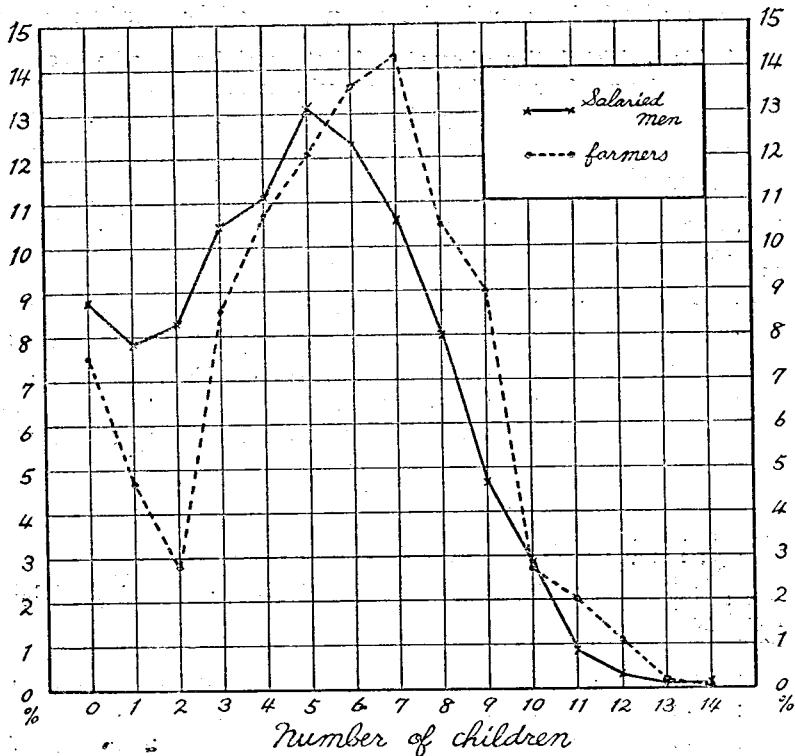


Figure II. Distribution of wives by number of children in regard to couples by first marriage

Even among the salaried men in the urban area there are sometimes prolific couples who have more than 10 children, but their percentage is very low and they represent only 4.4% of the total. In the case of farmers' couples, births per couple range from nil to 14 children as in the case of salaried men in the urban area, but couples with 3 children and less including childless ones form a small percentage whereas the percentage of couples with 5 children and more represent a large percentage, the mode being somewhere about couples with 7 children forming 14.3% of the total. It may be said that among farmers there are far more prolific couples than in the case of salaried men in the urban area. Comparative distributions of couples of salaried men in the urban area and farmers by numbers

Table 8. Distribution of couples of first married men and wives by numbers of births and wives' ages of marriage

(a) Absolute number

Wives' marriage ages \ Numbers of births	Numbers of births											Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 & over	
under 20	31	32	47	46	64	85	71	77	75	44	55	627
20 — 24	80	83	89	129	131	159	161	139	93	59	50	1,173
25 — 29	74	53	42	62	57	62	54	37	23	6	1	471
30 & over	26	20	20	14	13	9	8	0	0	3	0	113
Total	211	188	198	251	265	315	294	253	191	112	106	2,384

(b) Percentage

Wives' marriage ages \ Numbers of births	Numbers of births											Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 & over	
under 20	4.9	5.1	7.5	7.4	10.2	13.6	11.3	12.3	11.9	7.5	8.7	100.0
20 — 24	6.8	7.1	7.6	11.0	11.2	13.6	13.7	11.9	7.9	5.0	4.2	100.0
25 — 29	15.7	11.2	8.9	13.2	12.1	13.2	11.5	7.9	4.8	1.3	0.2	100.0
30 & over	23.0	17.7	17.7	12.4	11.5	8.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	100.0
Total	8.9	7.9	8.3	10.5	11.1	13.2	12.3	10.6	8.0	4.7	4.5	100.0

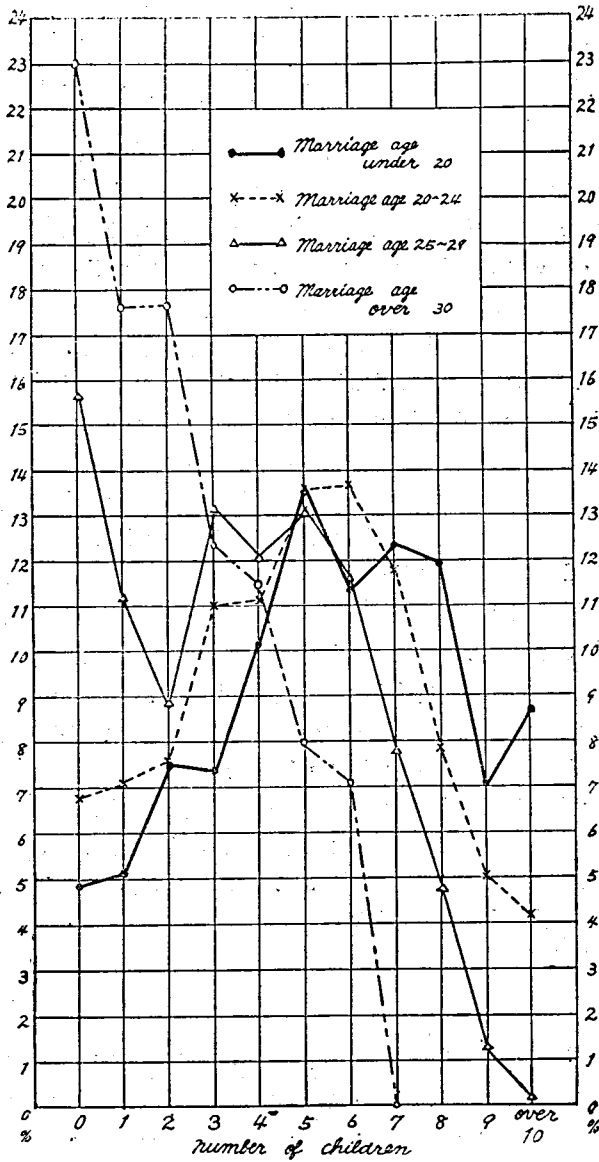


Figure III. Distribution of couples by number of children born to first married couples classified by their marriage ages.

of births are shown in graphic form in Fig. II.

Let us now look at Table 8 in which is shown the distribution of couples of first married men and wives by numbers of births and wives' ages of marriage.

By examining the above table, it can be seen first of all that the percentages of couples with 4 children are almost equal in all cases of different marriage ages, ranging from 10% to 12%. However, in the case of wives who married young, those without child or not having more than 3 children represent a small percentage, but those having 5 to 8 children form a pretty large percentage. On the other hand, in the case of couples with wives having married late, those without child or not having more than 3 children form a considerably high percentage, but those having 5 children or more represent a very low percentage. The proportion of childless couples is only 4.9% in the case of wives who married under 20 whereas in the case of wives who married after 30, childless couples are so many as forming 23.0% of the total. The couples who have 1 to 3 children are only 20% in the case of wives' marriage ages are under 20, but the proportion increases to 47.8% in the case of wives whose marriage ages are over 30. In the meantime, couples who have 7 children or more are 39.9% in the case of wives whose marriage ages are under 20, but where wives' marriage ages are over 30, couples having not less than 7 children become only 2.6%. In order to show briefly the distributions of couples by wives' marriage ages and numbers of births, Fig. III is given in p.13.

VI. Average birth intervals in the case of couples of first married men and wives classified by numbers of births and birth orders

As is already known to us, the numbers of couples of first married men and wives amounts to 2,384, and of these couples,

Table 9. Average births intervals of couples of first married men and wives
classified by numbers of births and birth order

(unit=month)

	mothers with 1 child	mothers with 2 children	mothers with 3 "	mothers with 4 "	mothers with 5 "	mothers with 6 "	mothers with 7 "	mothers with 8 "	mothers with 9 "	mothers with 10 "	mothers with 11 "	mothers with 12 "	mothers with 13 "	mothers with 14 "
Interval between marriage and 1st. child	68.86	41.96	29.11	25.91	22.56	21.11	20.86	19.44	16.52	21.16	20.44	13.29	14.50	27.50
1st child—2nd child		58.01	40.69	40.50	34.02	31.05	28.82	30.85	27.10	23.55	24.19	23.43	24.50	13.50
2nd — 3rd			53.90	43.88	35.24	34.47	31.14	29.70	27.75	27.23	24.81	24.29	21.00	22.50
3rd — 4th				50.74	38.47	34.98	31.29	29.64	28.08	27.94	25.13	20.57	30.50	14.00
4th — 5th					42.25	36.28	30.70	30.26	27.50	27.08	25.44	23.57	25.00	17.50
5th — 6th						43.16	34.56	31.52	28.10	27.32	27.37	23.14	20.50	21.00
6th — 7th							39.59	33.00	29.28	26.53	27.37	23.86	22.00	24.00
7th — 8th								36.80	31.50	27.69	27.69	22.00	20.50	20.50
8th — 9th									36.17	27.60	28.56	29.00	20.00	13.00
9th — 10th										35.27	30.13	22.29	11.50	22.00
10th — 11th											31.50	25.86	22.50	11.50
11th — 12th												31.29	31.50	26.50
12th — 13th													31.50	44.00
13th — 14th														19.50

those who have children are 2,173. Since it is necessary to omit schedules without entry of correct dates of children's birth if average birth intervals are to be computed according to birth orders, the cards discarded amounted to 134 and those actually used for the investigation were 2,309.

In the Table 9 are shown the results of computation of average birth intervals classified by numbers of births and birth orders as expressed in an arithmetic mean.

When we published sometime ago "Fertility of the Farming Population in Japan", Dr. Whelpton, commenting its contents, stated: "It seemed to me that this interval was so much longer than what we would expect in the United States among married couples of normal fecundity."

I also thought strange that the birth interval in respect to married couples in Japan was longer than I had expected. As will be found in Table 9, for instance, the interval between marriage and the 1st child in the case of mothers with one child is 68.86 months, but this is an unbelievably long interval. We have, therefore, made an observation as to the distributions of mothers by numbers of births and intervals between marriage and the first child, and the results are such as shown in Table 10.

As to the distributions of mothers with one child by birth intervals, it will be seen from the above table that they are so widely distributed as from "under 13 months" to "277-288 months." It also shows that 9.73% of mothers produce their first children within less than 13 months after marriage and 22.7% of them produce their first children within 13-24 months, but those who give birth to their first children after more than 60 months from marriage form approximately one half of the total. When an average birth interval is computed by arithmetic means, a mother whose interval between marriage and her first child is 130 months, can compare with ten mothers whose interval is 13 months. As mothers whose intervals between marriage and their first children are markedly long, amount to a

considerable number, the birth interval becomes so long as mentioned above when the average birth is computed by arithmetic mean. If the average interval between marriage and the first children in the case of mothers with one child is computed by arithmetic mean, the result is 68.86 months, of which the median is found to be 46 months. But, it may be said that the last mentioned interval is still too long. On the other hand, the distribution of mothers with two children by birth intervals appears to resemble that of mothers with one child.

It may be possible to say that mothers who cannot produce more than one child or two, are abnormal from the viewpoint of fecundity. Consequently, it should be stated that their average birth interval is abnormal no matter what method be used for computation thereof. As will be seen from Table 10, the more children mothers produce the more shorten their birth intervals. For instance, in the case of mothers with five children, the intervals between marriage and first children are less than 13 months at the shortest and between 133 and 144 months at the longest, and in the case of mothers with nine children, the intervals are less than 13 months at the shortest and between 37 and 48 months at the longest. And the average birth intervals computed by arithmetic mean in the above two cases are 22.56 and 16.52 months respectively, showing the similarity between the actual figures and what we guess by common sense.

Coming to Table 9 again, when we compare, according to order of births, average birth intervals of mothers classified by numbers of births, we will find that such intervals of less productive mothers are longer but that the intervals of prolific mothers are short. For example, the average birth interval between first and second children is 58.01 months in the case of mothers with two children, 34.02 months in the case of mothers with five children, and 23.55 months in the case of mothers with ten children. And the average birth interval between 4th and 5th children is 42.25 months in the case of mothers with five children, but it is 27.08 months in the case of mothers with ten

Table 10: Distributions of mothers by intervals between marriage and 1st child

Birth interval	Mother with 1 child		Mother with 2 children		Mother with 3 children		Mother with 4 children		Mother with 5 children	
	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%
under 13 months	18	9.73	26	13.69	52	21.76	51	20.00	79	25.90
13-24	42	22.70	69	36.33	99	41.41	115	45.10	136	44.58
25-36	21	11.35	22	11.59	38	15.89	42	16.47	51	16.72
37-48	13	7.03	17	8.95	15	6.28	18	7.06	20	6.56
49-60	12	6.49	8	4.21	15	6.28	14	5.49	5	1.64
61-72	12	6.49	13	6.84	2	0.84	4	1.57	7	2.20
73-84	10	5.42	7	3.64	4	1.67	4	1.57	3	0.98
85-96	6	3.24	8	4.21	2	0.84	4	1.57	1	0.33
97-108	11	5.95	8	4.21	4	1.67	1	0.39	0	0.00
109-120	5	2.70	3	1.58	3	1.26	1	0.39	2	0.66
121-132	6	3.24	4	2.11	3	1.26	0	0.00	0	0.00
133-144	2	1.08	1	0.53	1	0.42	1	0.39	1	0.23
145-156	7	3.78	2	1.05	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
157-168	5	2.70	0	0.00	1	0.42	0	0.00	0	0.00
169-180	3	1.62	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
181-192	1	0.54	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
193-204	2	1.08	1	0.53	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
205-216	3	1.62	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
217-228	2	1.08	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
229-240	1	0.54	1	0.53	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
241-252	1	0.54	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
253-264	1	0.54	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
265-276	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
277-288	1	0.05	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total	185	100.00	190	100.00	239	100.00	255	100.00	305	100.00

Birth interval	Mother with 6 children		Mother with 7 children		Mother with 8 children		Mother with 9 children		Mother with 10 children	
	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%	Absolute Number	%
under 13 months	80	28.88	74	31.90	59	35.55	35	34.65	20	32.26
13-24	125	45.13	95	40.95	78	46.99	51	50.50	31	50.00
25-36	46	16.61	38	16.38	16	9.65	11	10.89	7	11.29
37-48	13	4.69	16	6.90	6	3.61	4	3.96	2	3.23
49-60	8	2.89	2	0.86	2	1.20	0	0.00	0	0.00
61-72	3	1.08	3	1.29	2	1.20	0	0.00	0	0.00
73-84	0	0.00	3	1.29	1	0.60	0	0.00	0	0.00
85-96	0	0.00	1	0.43	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.61
97-108	1	0.36	0	0.00	1	0.60	0	0.00	0	0.00
109-120	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
121-132	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
133-144	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.60	0	0.00	0	0.00
145-156	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
157-168	1	0.36	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
169-180	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
181-192	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
193-204	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.61
205-216	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
217-228	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
229-240	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
241-252	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
253-264	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
265-276	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
277-288	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total	277	100.00	232	100.00	166	100.00	101	100.00	62	100.00

children and 17.50 months in the case of mothers with 14 children. It can be seen that the average birth interval in the case of births in the same birth orders is short in prolific mothers as compared with less productive mothers. It is quite natural that the average birth interval is short in the case of prolific mothers because the span of fecund life in all women are almost equally delimited.

Now, let us observe the average birth interval of mothers with different numbers of children according to order of births. When an observation is made as to mothers with two children, the average birth interval between marriage and the first child is 41.96 months as against the average interval between the first and second children which is 58.01 months and thus the latter is 16.05 months longer than the former. In the case of mothers with three children, when average birth intervals classified by numbers of births are compared with each other according to order of births, intervals become longer gradually as birth order advances as evident in figures such as 29.11., 40.69 and 53.90 months. The almost same tendency can be seen in the case of mothers with four children and in the following Fig. IV are shown average birth intervals, as classified by numbers of births and order of births, in the case of mothers with six, eight, and ten children.

It is illustrated by the data of the above table that the average birth interval of mothers with four children becomes longer steadily as birth orders advance. The average birth interval of mothers with six children approximates that of mothers with four children, but the interval between the third and fourth children is not so long. In the case of prolific mothers with eight or ten children birth intervals become longer generally as birth orders advance, but intervals between births in intermediate orders are nearly of the same length. It may be said that this is a characteristic point meriting attention.

The next point to which we should pay our attention is that, however prolific are mothers, the interval between last two children is bound to be long. For instance, in the case of mothers with eight

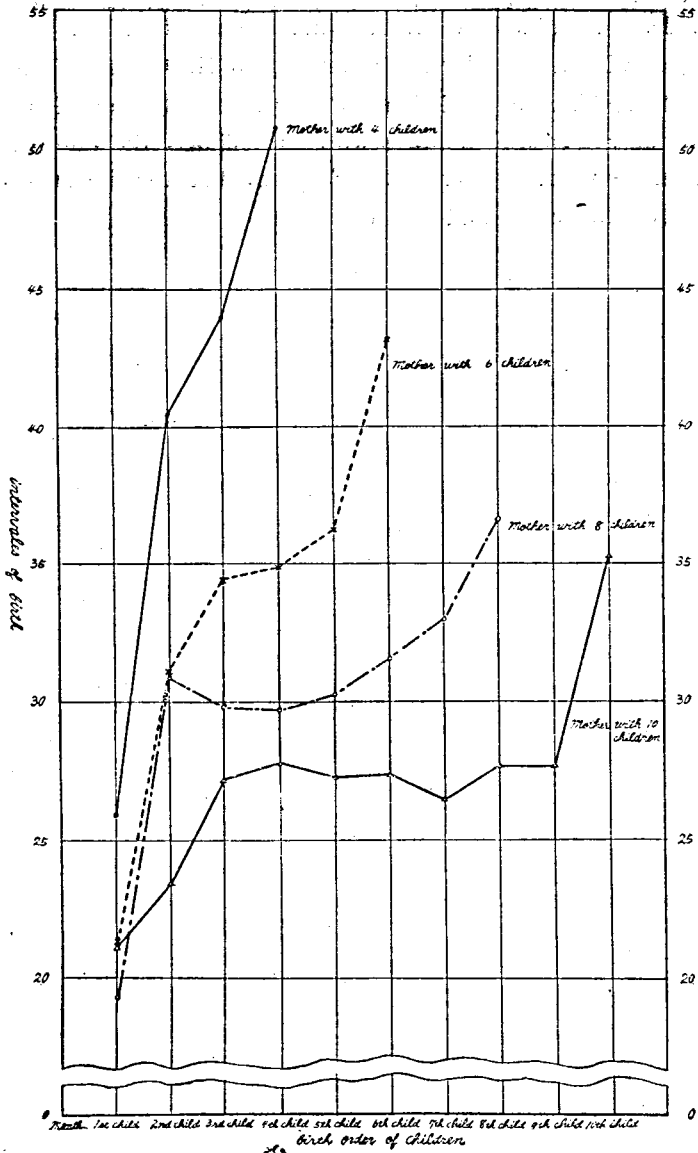


Figure IV. Average birth intervals in the case of mothers with different numbers of children as classified by order of births

children, the interval is 33.00 months between 6th and 7th children, and 36.80 months between 7th and 8th children. In the case of mothers with nine children, the interval is 31.50 months between 7th and 8th children, and 36.17 months between 8th and 9th children while in the case of mothers with ten children, the interval is 27.60 months between 8th and 9th children, but the interval is 35.27 months between 9th and 10th children.

