

DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES.

Of the 1,341 infants that were at one time or another on the books as being in foster-homes during 1918, six died; of these, three died in the foster-homes and three in hospitals to which they had been removed for treatment, so that the deaths in foster-homes represented 0·22 per cent. of the total number dealt with. Four of the six were under the age of twelve months, and three were of illegitimate birth.

The following is a statement of the number of deaths during the time that the infant-life-protection system has been in the Department's charge:—

1908	..	..	..	26	deaths out of 1,017 infants = 2·56 per cent.
1909	..	..	..	25	„ 1,181 „ = 2·11 „
1910	..	..	..	26	„ 1,183 „ = 2·19 „
1911	..	..	..	13	„ 1,183 „ = 1·09 „
1912	..	..	..	12	„ 1,228 „ = 0·98 „
1913	..	..	..	13	„ 1,330 „ = 0·98 „
1914	..	..	..	20	„ 1,423 „ = 1·40 „
1915	..	..	..	14	„ 1,440 „ = 0·98 „
1916	..	..	..	17	„ 1,250 „ = 1·36 „
1917	..	..	..	12	„ 1,361 „ = 0·88 „
1918	..	..	..	6	„ 1,349 „ = 0·44 „

DEATHS IN EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

These, with other particulars, are shown in the foregoing table relating to exempted institutions. The following is a statement of the deaths during the eight years in which a record of the deaths has been kept:—

1911	..	..	47	deaths out of 899 infants dealt with = 5·23 per cent.
1912	..	..	36	„ 911 „ = 3·95 „
1913	..	..	18	„ 984 „ = 1·82 „
1914	..	..	37	„ 944 „ = 3·91 „
1915	..	..	11	„ 1,026 „ = 1·08 „
1916	..	..	9	„ 939 „ = 0·96 „
1917	..	..	15	„ 1,136 „ = 1·32 „
1918	..	..	15	„ 955 „ = 1·57 „

ADOPTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1918.

During 1918 one order was made cancelling a previous order of adoption.

During the year 280 orders of adoption were made; 22 of the adoption orders provided for premiums, and 258 were without monetary consideration.

The following shows the ages of the adopted children:—

Age.					With Premium.	Without Premium.	Total.
Under 6 months	..	..	..	..	9	65	74
Between 6 months and 12 months	..	..	..	..	3	27	30
„ 1 and 2 years	..	..	..	..	5	32	37
„ 2 „ 3	..	..	..	..	1	31	32
„ 3 „ 4	..	..	..	..	1	25	26
„ 4 „ 5	..	..	..	..	..	16	16
„ 5 „ 6	..	..	..	..	1	7	8
„ 6 „ 7	..	..	..	..	..	10	10
„ 7 „ 8	..	..	..	..	1	11	12
„ 8 „ 9	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
„ 9 „ 10	..	..	..	..	1	6	7
„ 10 „ 11	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
„ 11 „ 12	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
„ 12 „ 13	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
„ 13 „ 14	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
„ 14 „ 15	..	..	..	..	..	6	6
					22	258	280
The adopting persons were—							
Husband and wife jointly					..	..	267
Widow					..	..	4
Widower					..	..	5
Spinster					..	..	4
							280

The amount of the premiums ranged from £10 to £100.