

Under the provisions of the Industrial Schools Act, 1909, power is given for the detention beyond the age of twenty-one years of any inmate who, upon application being made to a Magistrate by the Manager of the school at the direction of the Minister of Education, is found to be morally degenerate or otherwise not (in the public interest) a fit person to be free from control. In the fifteen years since this Act came into operation there have been ninety-five orders issued extending the period of control, sixty-nine of the inmates concerned being girls. The Act provides for extension for four years, and gives power to the Court on similar procedure to renew the order from time to time for a period of four years. It is expected that the number of those over whom authority beyond twenty-one years will be needed will always be small in proportion to the whole number of inmates; but the value of such an enactment in respect of the remainder who have to be detained is obvious, both in their own interests and in that of the community at large.

### NO. 5.—INFANT-LIFE-PROTECTION STATISTICS.

#### PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO AND REMOVED FROM LICENSED FOSTER-HOMES DURING 1924.

	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 Months and 1 Year of Age.	Between 1 and 2 Years of Age.	Between 2 and 3 Years of Age.	Between 3 and 4 Years of Age.	Between 4 and 5 Years of Age.	Between 5 and 6 Years of Age.	Over 6 Years of Age.	Totals.
On the books at 31st December, 1923	78	88	169	118	83	85	63	..	684
Placed in licensed homes or transferred from other districts during 1924	186	82	92	56	46	40	25	2	529
Totals .. ..	264	170	261	174	129	125	88	2	1,213
Withdrawn from homes—									
Removed by parents or guardians	35	51	87	59	46	37	35	16	366
Deaths .. ..	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	5
Adoptions without premium ..	3	4	13	7	4	5	2	..	38
In homes to which exemption was granted during 1924	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act	2	2	5	4	2	1	2	1	19
Written off the books for various causes (including those who attained the age of 6 years)	2	1	11	6	8	5	2	44	79
Total withdrawals ..	44	59	117	76	61	49	42	61	509
On the books at 31st December, 1924	70	96	143	115	103	96	59	22	704

#### RATES OF PAYMENTS BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

An account of the rates paid is given in the following statement :—

2 at the rate of 5s. per week.	2 at the rate of 22s. 6d. per week.
7 „ 7s. 6d. „	15 „ 25s. „
48 „ 10s. „	1 „ 30s. „
7 „ 10s. 6d. „	1 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 5s. per week.
1 „ 11s. „	1 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 10s. per week.
3 „ 12s. „	1 adopted with premium disbursed at the rate of 10s. 4d. per week.
75 „ 12s. 6d. „	12 adopted with premium disbursed at rate of 15s. per week.
1 „ 13s. „	1 adopted with premium disbursed at rate of 20s. per week.
1 „ 13s. 6d. „	1 where only occasional payments are being made.
1 „ 14s. „	8 for whom no payment is being made.
308 „ 15s. „	
9 „ 15s. 6d. „	
2 „ 16s. „	
1 „ 16s. 6d. „	
47 „ 17s. 6d. „	
1 „ 18s. „	
147 „ 20s. „	

The following is a comparison of the rates paid during the last six years :—

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Under 7s. per week .. ..	7	2	2	4	3	2
7s. and under 10s. per week ..	53	22	11	5	1	7
10s. per week .. ..	368	240	133	105	65	48
Over 10s. per week .. ..	376	531	508	579	580	615