

DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES AND EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

Of the 1,213 infants who were at one time or another on the books as being in foster-homes during 1924, 5 died in hospitals to which they had been removed for treatment. Three of the five were under twelve months of age, and three were of illegitimate birth.

As shown in the table above relating to exempted institutions, there were 21 deaths in 1924.

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 :—

Year.	Foster-homes.			Exempted Institutions.		
	Number of Deaths.	Number of Infants.	Percentage of Deaths.	Number of Deaths.	Number of Infants.	Percentage of Deaths.
1908	26	1,017	2.56	..	No records	..
1909	25	1,181	2.11	..	..	..
1910	26	1,183	2.19	..	..	..
1911	13	1,183	1.09	47	899	5.23
1912	12	1,228	0.98	36	911	3.95
1913	13	1,330	0.98	18	984	1.82
1914	20	1,423	1.40	37	944	3.91
1915	14	1,440	0.98	11	1,026	1.08
1916	17	1,250	1.36	9	939	0.96
1917	12	1,361	0.88	15	1,136	1.32
1918	6	1,341	0.44	15	955	1.57
1919	10	1,403	0.71	13	1,050	1.24
1920	14	1,306	1.07	19	1,002	1.89
1921	6	1,318	0.47	17	1,118	1.52
1922	10	1,243	0.80	16	887	1.08
1923	6	1,243	0.48	20	1,076	1.86
1924	5	1,213	0.41	21	1,175	1.78

ADOPTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1924.

During the year 320 orders of adoption were made; 32 of the adoption orders provided for premiums, and 288 were without monetary consideration. One order rescinding a previous adoption was also made during the year.

The following shows the ages of the adopted children :—

Age.				With Premium.	Without Premium.	Total.
Under 6 months .. ..	..	..	..	15	59	74
Between 6 months and 12 months .. ..	..	..	..	5	23	28
" 1 year and 2 years .. ..	..	..	..	4	41	45
" 2 " 3 " .. ..	..	..	..	4	33	37
" 3 " 4 " .. ..	..	..	..	2	34	36
" 4 " 5 " .. ..	..	..	..	1	24	25
" 5 " 6 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	14	14
" 6 " 7 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	14	14
" 7 " 8 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	11	11
" 8 " 9 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	7	7
" 9 " 10 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	4	4
" 10 " 11 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	3	3
" 11 " 12 " .. ..	..	..	..	1	8	9
" 12 " 13 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	2	2
" 13 " 14 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	5	5
" 14 " 15 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	6	6
				32	288	320
The adopting parents were—						
Husband and wife jointly .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	296
Widow .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Widower .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Spinster .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bachelor .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wife only .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Husband only .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
						320

The amount of the premiums ranged from £10 to £150.