

DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES AND EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

Of the 1,423 infants who were at one time on the books as being in foster-homes during 1926, one died in a foster-home. This infant was under twelve months of age and was 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 :—

TABLE 16.

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
1925	5	1,301	0.38	12	1,638	0.73
1926	1	1,423	0.07	18	3,196	0.56

TABLE 17.—ADOPTIONS DURING THE YEAR, 1926.

During the year 361 orders of adoption were made ; 26 of the adoption orders provided for premiums, and 335 were without monetary consideration. The following table shows the ages of the adopted children :—

Age of Child.				With Premium.	Without Premium.	Totals.
Under 6 months .. ..	..	..	..	11	47	58
Between 6 months and 1 year ..	..	..	..	6	34	40
" 1 year and 2 years .. ..	..	..	..	4	57	61
" 2 " 3 " .. ..	..	..	..	2	46	48
" 3 " 4 " .. ..	..	..	..	1	24	25
" 4 " 5 " .. ..	..	..	..	1	25	26
" 5 " 6 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	22	22
" 6 " 7 " .. ..	..	..	..	1	19	20
" 7 " 8 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	7	7
" 8 " 9 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	7	7
" 9 " 10 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	7	7
" 10 " 11 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	8	8
" 11 " 12 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	9	9
" 12 " 13 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	7	7
" 13 " 14 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	5	5
" 14 " 15 " .. ..	..	..	..	..	11	11
Totals .. ..	..	..	..	26	335	361
The adopting parents were—						
Husband and wife jointly .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	327
Widow .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Widower .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Spinster .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bachelor (including one divorcee) ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Wife only .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Husband only .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
						361

The amount of the premiums ranged from £20 to £130.