

to the study of the question and there was gathered a large number of those interested in the question, citizens, physicians, philanthropists, doctors, nurses, educators and others. Several of the conclusions reached have already been referred to, especially those in Dr. Devine's paper. A brief list of some of the more important papers follows, and it will be seen at once that this congress was a remarkable one. In point of attendance and interest, it would rank high, but its significance includes also the plans suggested, and the far-reaching character of its conclusions. The personnel of the meeting was unusual. Not talkers, but workers, gathered there. Among the papers were:

The Relation of Alcoholism to Infant Mortality, Dr. J. H. Mason Knox, Jr., Associate in Pediatrics, the Johns Hopkins University Medical School.

The Relation of Tuberculosis to Infant Mortality, Dr. Clemens von Pirquet, Professor of Pediatrics in the Johns Hopkins University.

The Relation of Syphilis to Infant Mortality, Dr. Richard A. Urquhart, Instructor in Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore.

Institutional Prevention of Infant Mortality, Mr. Homer Folks, Secretary of the New York State Charities Aid Association.

In institutions for providing a home for presumably well infants mortality has always tended to be very high. Of 28,436 babies received at the St. Petersburg Foundling Hospital, 24,272 died, 85 per cent. In such institutions mortality has been reduced, but is still excessively high, not more than 50 per cent. surviving amongst the best institutions.

This is not from neglect. Artificial feeding is what kills babies in infant homes. Babies and their mothers should be kept together.

Hospitals for sick babies are necessary and valuable.

PROVIDING SITUATIONS FOR AND OTHERWISE ASSISTING HOMELESS "MOTHERS WITH THEIR INFANTS."

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Abstract: The death-rate is frequently 90 to 100 per cent. when babies are separated from their mothers.

Agencies find it entirely practicable to place women with babies in domestic service, chiefly in the country or small towns, with wholesome environment. Increasing stringency in the domestic service market increases desirable opportunities. The Philadelphia Society, 1908, placed 609 mothers. In 15 years the New York Agency has provided over 7,000 situations. Statistics are difficult to present as the situation is usually only temporary (until father obtains work, or families are reconciled; many widowed or unmarried marry). In three years (1900-1902) of the mothers kept track of four-fifths of the babies lived and were in good condition; one-fifth died or were in poor condition.

Agencies need closer co-operation with maternity hospitals to induce mothers to keep, not abandon their babies; more temporary homes; more places for training incompetent mothers. The plan of keeping mothers and babies together is susceptible of much wider application.