

It will be seen on reviewing the necessary means for diminishing infant mortality as deduced from the known facts at our command, that this movement supplies them all. Education of the prospective mother, of the mother, of the dairyman, of the public; help in the nutrition of the expectant mother; guidance of the mother in her treatment of the new-born babe; encouragement of breast-feeding; furnishing where necessary of a pure milk properly modified, drawn under proper conditions from healthy inspected cows; continual oversight of the infant, with advice ready when needed to prevent illness; continual, educational, uplifting influences, at the Conferences and in the homes; all these this system supplies in the most logical and direct way.

It would seem that such should appeal to every person interested in the betterment of his fellows. It is not an untried system, but has been operated successfully in other cities.

The enthusiasm that soon pervades everyone brought in close contact with this work is one of its most remarkable features and vistas of its immense possibilities are "opening more widely, more surely, more radiantly," day by day. It is evidently destined to lead to yet undreamt-of good. Just as the Medical Inspection of Schools had for its original object merely the early detection and isolation of contagious diseases, but has by a natural growth become so important a factor in the betterment of all that pertains to school life, so this attempt to prevent disease by inspection and supervision of infants, (who really need such supervision much more than older children, as witness the comparative mortality rates) will doubtless lead to much more than we at present realize. We feel that we are building better than we know. And if it be true, as was said by Phillips Brooks, that "He who helps a child helps humanity with a distinctness and a definiteness which no other help given to human creatures can possibly give," surely here is one of the most logically worthy objects in the wide world for the exercise of practical philanthropy.

Since the Consultations were established under Dr. Conally's direction in June, one of the five hundred babies has died. There has been a fifty per cent. increase in the demand for the modified milk furnished at cost by the committee—this in spite of greater care than ever to prevent the early weaning of babies whose mothers can be made to nurse them. During the month from June 24th, the date of opening the first Consultation for mothers, to July 24th, 1909, the number of deaths of babies in Boston was 104 less than during the corresponding period of 1908." This plan, as outlined above, now in operation in Boston, under the direction of Mr. Walter E. Kruesi, is perhaps the best and most effectual. Of the value of such work there can be no doubt.

The Milk Committee of the New York Association for improving the condition of the poor, has conducted a campaign which has already had splendid results. Dr. Darlington, the head of the Department of Health in New York, has under him a corps of physicians and nurses, who, during the school vacation, devote themselves wholly to Health Department work, chiefly for the babies. A Register is kept of every baby in New York, and mother and baby are visited, advised and helped.

CONFERENCE AT YALE UNIVERSITY.

On November 11th and 12th, 1909, the American Academy of Medicine held a conference on Infant Mortality at Yale University, where an impetus was given