

or 2.9 a thousand below the average birth rate in the third quarters of the ten preceding years. It was the lowest birth rate ever registered in any third quarter since the establishment of official civil registration.

French statistics just issued indicate that there will be an actual falling-off of 40,000 in the population of France in 1911, as compared with 1910. Last year the official registration figures showed that there was a slight decrease, not enough to justify belief that the trend would be downward permanently. The figures now presented, which cover the first six months of 1911, show that there were 14,000 fewer births and 26,000 more deaths than during the first six months of 1910. This made a net loss of 18,270 in the population.

In 1901 the sleeping sickness was found to be rampant in Uganda, and by 1905 no less than 200,000 natives had died from it. In one small district alone 20,000 natives had died, and the population of one village had dropped from 8,000 to 2,000.

The American Health Association met a short time ago in Havana. Dr. Simpson, Winnipeg, presided. Drs. Bell, Bryce, and Roberts represented Ontario.

Dr. Tahara, of Tokio, Japan, claims that after twenty years' research to have discovered a toxin from the body of the globe fish that is of much value in the treatment of leprosy and may prove a cure for the disease.

Report from Seattle, Wash., states that \$50,000 worth of opium was recently seized at Manila, P.I., on board the steamer Kumeric.

Report from Washington, D.C., on Nov. 13 states that of the samples of imported foods and drugs analyzed at ports of entry in this country during the past year, over 3,000, or nearly one-third, were found to be adulterated or misbranded. Of 9,500 samples of interstate foods and drugs examined by the Bureau of Chemistry, 3,113 were found to be adulterated or misbranded.

BRITISH.

The agitation for and against the British insurance law continues in other than political circles. The National Medical Union has formed a plan to raise a fund of \$2,500,000 from which to make grants to physicians who refuse to treat beneficiaries under the law. Six thousand doctors are already pledged not to accept service under the Act.

Dr. Charles Mayo, of Rochester, Minn., was operated upon recently for an attack of appendicitis. He was suddenly taken ill and operated on in New York. He made a good recovery.