

use of as many nurses who were employed by the Department under Dr. Caroline Hedger, in the successful effort made by them in 1911, to reduce Infant Mortality. This request was granted by the Hon. W. J. Hanna. The Report is now out of print.

THE WORK OF TWO CANADIANS.

Two important pieces of work were done in Ontario in 1911 on Infant Mortality. One was a thesis presented for the degree of M.A. in the University of Toronto on the Vital Statistics of Ontario and the Registration of Births in Toronto. The other was the work of a graduate in Medicine of the University of Toronto who was appointed Medical Health Officer of Fort William in 1910.

The thesis presented by Mr. R. E. Mills, B.A., Fellow in the Political Science Department, aimed to review and criticise the Vital Statistics of Ontario at present available in such a manner as to provide a statistical basis for future practical campaign work in connection with the improvement of birth and death rates, and especially the infant death-rate; and also to make a plea for better statistics from which to work in future.

Mr. Mills' line of argument is somewhat as follows:

So long as the census figure for net births in Toronto, viz., 20.4 per 1,000 population is obtained by taking the sum of the following—

Number of children living under 1 year of age; number of children living in census year who died under 1 year of age, it cannot be wondered at that we find the birth-rate for Toronto (given in the Report of the Registrar-General for Ontario as 21.8, which Mr. Mills finds to be 25 per cent. too low), still more misleading than the Ontario returns.

In Ontario We Have—

1. The Registrar-General—The Provincial Secretary. 2. Deputy Registrar-General—The Secretary of the Provincial Board. 3. Division Registrars—The Municipal Clerks.

The Division Registrars are paid (59 Vict. Ch. 2, S. 24) 20 cents for each registration. (Cities and towns of more than 10,000 population may limit the aggregate sum to be paid.)

The law provides, R.S.O., 1897, Ch. 44, S. 15:

1. That the birth shall be notified to the Division Registrar—

(1) Within 30 days.

(2) By the father or by the mother or by some person standing in his or her place, or by the occupier of the house where the child is born, or by the nurse present at the birth.

2. That the birth shall be notified to the Division Registrar forthwith by the attending physician.

3. That the penalty of non-fulfillment shall be not less than \$1.00, and not more than \$10.00 and costs.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTER.

In order to have a basis of facts and figures for this matter Mr Mills transcribed from the register of baptisms in five churches of Toronto the following particulars from January to November, inclusive, 1908:

1. Name of each infant baptized.
2. Date of each infant's birth.