

year since and including 1910, as well as in several preceding years, measles has caused a greater number of deaths than scarlet fever. The rate for scarlet fever in 1916 was the lowest on record, while that for whooping cough, although considerably below the highest recorded rate for that disease, 15.8 in 1903, was far above the lowest, 6.5 in 1904.

Acute anterior poliomyelitis, commonly called infantile paralysis, caused 7,130 deaths in 1916, representing a rate of 10 per 100,000 population. This disease developed in epidemic form in that year, and the resultant mortality showed an enormous increase. The rate from infantile paralysis declined from 2.7 per 100,000 in 1910—the first year in which this malady was reported separately as a cause of death—to 1 per 100,000 in 1915, the decrease having been continuous between 1911 and 1912. The rate for 1916, however, was ten times as great as that for the preceding year.

Of the 26 States in the registration area in 1916, the five showing the highest rates reported 75 per cent. of all the deaths from this cause. These States, with their rates, were New Jersey, 41; New York, 32.8; Connecticut, 19.2; Massachusetts, 12.5; and Maryland, 8.1. The next highest five rates appear for Pennsylvania, 7.8; Rhode Island, 7; New Hampshire, 5.6; Montana, 5.2, and Michigan, 4.9.

The deaths resulting from accidents in 1916 numbered 60,071, corresponding to a rate of 83.9 per 100,000 population. This rate is considerably in excess of that for 1915 (76.3). The most marked increases appear for deaths due to railroad and to automobile accidents and for those resulting from the effects of heat.

The rate for deaths from railroad accidents in 1916 (11.3) exceeds the corresponding rates for 1914 and 1915 (10.7 and 9.9, respectively), but, with these exceptions, is the lowest one recorded since 1906, the first year for which deaths from this cause were reported separately.

Deaths from automobile accidents and injuries in 1916 totalled 5,193, or 7.3 per 100,000 population. As might be expected, in view of the enormous increase in the number of automobiles in use, the death rate due to these causes has advanced continuously since 1906—the first year for which they were reported separately—when it stood at 0.4 per 100,000 population.

Deaths resulting from street car accidents in 1916 numbered 1,775, or 2.5 per 100,000. This rate is the same as that for 1914, but shows an increase as compared with 1915. During the past 10 years, however, there has been a material falling off in the rate for this cause.

Machinery accidents caused 1,624 deaths in 1916, or 2.3 per 100,000 population, this rate being somewhat greater than those for the preceding two years—1.9 for 1915 and 2 for 1914.