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many places for distribution. Each of the departments of public health in the provinces has a baby book which every mother should possess. They all have quantities of pamphlets and booklets on contagious diseases, flies, sanitation, care of milk, etc. These should be secured and placed in a conspicuous place to be taken by visitors. The Metropolitan Life has one of the largest welfare enterprises on the American continent and is only too glad to send its literature for distribution. If conferences could be held on a circuit arrangement it is quite probable that a representative of the firm would be despatched to take care of the exhibit at all the conferences and to distribute literature. The health departments of many of the states have literature for free distribution. The greater the variety of the literature the broader is the education of the conference.

It is best to secure the co-operation of all the medical men and nurses who can take the time from their practice to assist with such conferences. It is possible that if the women's organizations, say the Grain Growers or the Homemakers, planned these conferences on a circuit as they do the fairs, that one of the members of the provincial health bureau would assist in examining or lecturing. The lectures should deal with at least three phases of child welfare—prenatal care, the first year and until the child begins school. Those three lectures could be made so exhaustive that they would include mention of feed, clothing, dentistry, contagious diseases, etc.

The Contest at Stonewall

If a small society or community is planning for its first conference it is wise not to attempt to have more than a very few of the branches of such a conference. On September 21 and 22, the Women's Section of the Grain Growers' Association at Stonewall, Manitoba, held a very successful baby contest in connection with the annual municipal fair. There was no attempt to have more than the contest, but the whole-hearted interest of every visitor to the fair proved the wisdom of beginning with one phase of welfare work and doing it well.


Mrs. E. C. Wieneke, provincial secretary of the Women Grain Growers, had almost entire charge of the undertaking and its wonderful success was due to her. Because only two days could be devoted to the contest, no baby under six months was permitted to enter. There were eight classes—boys and girls from 12 months to 24 months, boys and girls from 24 months to 36 months and boys and girls from 36 months to 48 months. Altogether there were 49 entries, among which was one perfect baby, little Jack Smith. Little Jack was given a ten dollar war saving certificate, while the first and second prizewinners in each class were given a bank book, in which had been credited a dollar deposit. Dr. McLeod, the municipal doctor, Dr. Mary Crawford and Dr. M. Ellen Douglass, of Winnipeg, were the examining doctors. In the afternoon, Dr. Stewart Fraser, of the provincial health department, gave an instructive address on the Rights of the Baby. Dr. Fraser briefly outlined the things every baby should have that he might grow into perfect youth and manhood.

This contest was so successful that we may look to Stonewall to take a leading part among rural communities in child welfare work.

An article of this length can at the best be but the merest outline of the outstanding points in connection with a child welfare conference. They are but an aid to something more. I have failed even to mention the problem of the feeble-minded, which might be worked in with a conference also. But a whole story could be written on that aspect of public welfare.

There are those who protest against race suicide, but a greater menace to our country is race-homicide. We have now too many weak, sickly, ill-cared-for babies in the world. And they are so mainly because of some sort of neglect due to ignorance on the part of motherhood. The crowning pathos of motherhood is ignorance. Mothers must be taught to have better babies and to take better care of them when they do come.

This illustration shows a double tub washer that requires no more driving power than a single tub machine.



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