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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

INFANT MORTALITY

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Infant mortality, in the ordinary use of the term, signifies the deaths of children under one year of age. For convenience this mortality is estimated in proportion to every thousand births registered during the same year.

There is little to be learned by examining by themselves the small number in our table; but protected against the vagaries liable to occur in the analyses of small numbers by being placed alongside the Infant Mortality Tables of a large population for comparison, they have a value as indicators to the causes which are chiefly responsible for the Infant Mortality within our Area, and should help in directing any efforts to lessen this mortality into the proper path.

For this purpose of control the figures of England and Wales are convenient. It is necessary, however, to know some of the outstanding facts disclosed by the English tables before using them as a guide.

In view of the fact that the Infant Mortality for England and Wales had remained practically the same, 154 per 1,000, for sixty years, notwithstanding the marked fall in the general death-rate,