

The above shows that 2,145, equal to 35 per cent. of the entire number of deaths, were infants only a few months old. Another heavy mortality was that of children from 1 to 5 years of age, the percentage of these to the total being 11.50 per cent. The deaths up to 5 years were 2,851, which is 46.5 per cent., or nearly half the total mortality of this city.

When this fact is taken into account the mortality record of this city compares favourably with other cities, and even with this vitiating and deplorable factor the average rate, last year, was about 20 per 1,000, which differs little from the average of cities in Great Britain and the United States.

The death rate for other years in this city was as follows:

1904.....	6,567	1901.....	6,911
1903.....	6,951	1900.....	7,356
1902.....	6,275	1899.....	6,871
Average of years 1902 to 1904.....	6,594	Average of years 1899 to 1901.....	7,045

As the population has been increasing since 1899, while the mortality has been decreasing, it is a safe conclusion that the efforts to improve the sanitary conditions of the city have had a markedly beneficial effect. Let the good work go on and be developed until Montreal takes the rank to which it could be raised by improved sanitation, as one of the healthiest cities on this continent.

UNITED STATES MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The last Census Bulletin of the United States gives the number of deaths in the whole country, in each of the States, in groups of cities, in rural districts, and in 53 cities, for various ages. From these very elaborate statistics we have compiled the following table and worked out the percentage which the deaths under 1 year and under 5 years bear to the total. The averages prove how exceptionally high is the mortality of infants in this city and from this we learn the true reason of the high average mortality rate in this locality.

Localities.	Total Deaths.	Ratio of Deaths under 1 year to total.	Ratio of Deaths under 5 years to total.
Montreal	6,124	35 p. c.	46.50 p. c.
United States cities.			
Albany.....	1,813	17.15 p. c.	25.04 p. c.
Baltimore.....	10,679	23.89 "	34.14 "
Boston.....	11,217	21.46 "	32.04 "
Buffalo.....	5,207	24.35 "	35.91 "
Chicago.....	27,533	20.93 "	34.15 "
Cincinnati.....	6,214	17.00 "	25.52 "
Detroit.....	4,893	26.98 "	37.10 "
Lowell.....	1,876	30.49 "	40.40 "
New Orleans.....	8,287	16.61 "	25.18 "
New York.....	70,229	23.35 "	37.44 "
Philadelphia.....	27,456	20.60 "	32.65 "
Pittsburg.....	6,436	21.28 "	37.43 "
Rochester.....	2,446	13.90 "	20.31 "
All United States..	1,039,094	19.18 "	30.55 "
Rural parts.....	110,003	15.30 "	21.81 "
Cities.....	210,999	19.76 "	30.25 "

The contrast between the above American cities and Montreal in regard to infant mortality is startling. The next highest to this city is Lowell, Mass., which we selected as having a large population of factory operatives of much the same class as those amongst whom infant mortality is so high in this city. Lowell, it will be noticed, has a mortality of those under 1 year more than 50 per cent. higher than the average of American cities, and of those under 5 years 33 per cent. higher than the average.

New York, Detroit and Pittsburg hold a bad pre-eminence for the high rate of mortality amongst children up to their fifth year. The figures in above table showing the mortality amongst children in rural districts and in cities reveals the main cause of the high death where population is congested and youngsters are shut in narrow areas where fresh air is rarely enjoyed. In American cities the percentage of deaths of infants under 1 year in proportion to the total is 19.76 as against only 15.30 per cent. in rural districts. Of children under 5 years in cities the ratio of deaths to the total is 30.25, compared with 21.81 in rural districts. In the early years of life when the constitution is being developed, it is an inestimable boon to children to have fresh air where they live and where they play. A young child must live out of doors to have fair play in preparing for the battle of life.

Having the United States tables before us we will present some of the figures which are highly interesting and some instructive. The effect of the advances made in medical science and sanitation is shown in the reduced death. In 1890 the rate in 271 cities of 5,000 or more population was 21 per 1,000, in 1900, the rate was 18.6 per 1,000 in 341 cities of 8,000 population and upwards, a reduction of 2.4 per cent. The Census enquiry brought out that there has been a decrease in the rates due to diseases most frequent in the early period of life, and an increase in rates due to those diseases occurring generally at advanced ages. In 1890 the average age of death was 31.1 years, in 1900 it was advanced to 35.2 years, which is a very important factor in life insurance.

DEATH RATES 1900 AND IN 1890.

	1900.		1890.	
	Deaths.	Rate.	Deaths.	Rate.
Registration record.....	512,669	17.8	386,212	19.6
Cities.....	402,666	18.6	314,119	21.0
States, total.....	301,670	17.3	231,130	19.5
Cities.....	191,667	18.6	159,037	22.1
Rural.....	110,003	15.4	72,093	15.3
Cities in other States....	210,999	18.6	155,082	19.9

Here we have comparisons covering the cities in the United States and a large section of the rural section of the country, and in every division, or classification there was a decrease in the death