

mixed up that absolutely accurate statistics cannot be compiled for my purpose. The accompanying tables will clearly show, however, (1) The incidence of the disease by months, July and August, having an especially bad pre-eminence; (2) The enormous preponderance of deaths from infantile diarrhœa before the end of the first year, the remarkable falling off in the second year, and the still more marked "zone of safety" upon which the child enters with the third year, so far as diarrhœas are concerned.

Taking the figures for 1897 for Toronto, as a basis, it will be seen that 31.23 per cent. of all deaths in Toronto occur under one year, and that 5.15 per cent. of all deaths are due to diarrhœa under one year. Of the total deaths under one year (977) diarrhœa causes 161, or 16.48 per cent. These figures compare distinctly favorably as regards infant mortality with those given for the larger American continental centres.

Further calculations show that there are more than three times as many deaths from all causes in the first year than in the next four years of life put together.

As regards the season of greatest incidence the figures show with the greatest monotony the decided beginning of the epidemic in June, its worse incidence in July, though during August it remains almost as severe, a drop to about one-half in September and its disappearance in October.

TABLE I.—TORONTO.

Showing infant mortality under five years, of diarrhœa. (For 1897 and 1898, figures are for three years and under.) It shows also incidence by months, and incidence by years of age.

|                 | 1898. | 1897. | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. | Totals. |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| January .....   | ..    | ..    | ..    | 1     | ..    | 1       |
| February .....  | 3     | 1     | 2     | 1     | 1     | 8       |
| March .....     | 2     | ..    | 1     | ..    | 1     | 4       |
| April .....     | 2     | 2     | 1     | 1     | 2     | 8       |
| May .....       | 1     | 1     | 4     | 5     | ..    | 11      |
| June .....      | 3     | 13    | 16    | 10    | 3     | 45      |
| July .....      | 53    | 22    | 65    | 77    | 61    | 278     |
| August .....    | 48    | 64    | 48    | 53    | 60    | 273     |
| September ..... | 38    | 46    | 17    | 34    | 21    | 156     |
| October .....   | 25    | 14    | 2     | 12    | 8     | 61      |
| November .....  | 4     | 5     | 1     | 1     | 2     | 13      |
| December .....  | 4     | 5     | 2     | 1     | 3     | 15      |
| Totals.....     | 183   | 172   | 159   | 196   | 162   |         |
| 1st year.....   | 173   | 161   | 150   | 178   | 136   |         |
| 2nd year.....   | 9     | 10    | ..    | ..    | ..    |         |
| 3rd year.....   | 1     | 1     | 9     | 18    | 26    |         |