

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

TO ALL MEMBERS, MONTREAL HEALTH SURVEY COMMITTEE

V - ANTE-NATAL HYGIENE

1927

Total Number of Births	-	22,325
Number receiving ante-natal nursing supervision at home	-	7,866
Number of nursing visits to these cases	-	25,744
Number receiving ante-natal clinic supervision	-	2,913
Number of visits to clinic by these cases	-	10,910

Approximately 16 per cent. of births occur in institutions

Midwives are licensed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. There is no supervision of their work.

PROBLEM

1. Maternal Mortality is low in Montreal - 3.8 deaths per 1,000 births - as compared with most cities. The ante-natal work in Montreal is one of the bright spots of health work here. The weakest part is the small percentage of cases delivered in institution.

The problem is to extend the service to save the 3.8 mothers who die for every 1,000 births.

2. Of all the infant deaths last year, 693, or 28 per cent. of such deaths, were of infants under one month. This means that, out of every 1,000 infants born alive, 32 died in their first month of life.

These deaths are chiefly due to conditions occurring before or at the time of birth.

The problem is to improve ante-natal and natal conditions so as to save these infant lives.