

BABY SAVING CAMPAIGN ACHIEVES SPLENDID RESULTS

(Toronto Health Bulletin.)

The Baby Saving Campaign organized this past summer by the department has certainly justified itself. During the three summer months, June, July and August, there were 200 less infant deaths than in the same months last year.

The death rate from infant diarrhea, the most deadly and at the same time the most preventable disease of infancy, has this summer been cut in half.

The work of the Division of Child Hygiene has during the past three months been confined very largely to the care of the babies. Ten baby clinics have been at work throughout the summer, at each of which doctors and nurses have been in attendance twice a week. The attendance at these clinics has doubled itself each month, and the total attendance now is 952. 2,318 babies have been taken out on the steamer *Island Queen*, which was used in connection with the department in an effort to save babies from the prostration of the summer's heat.

A pamphlet, "The Care of the Baby," has been prepared, and also translated into Hebrew and Italian. A copy is sent to every mother on the birth of her child, or free on application to the department.

DRUGS AND THE WAR

The drug trade will suffer perhaps more than any other as a result of the European war. Drugs chiefly affected in price so far are quinine, cod liver oil, hyoseyamus, salvarsan, morphine, opium, aconite, essential oils, ergot, phenol, glycerine, digitalis, buchu, physostigmine, camphor, pilocarpine, senna, rhubarb, cantharides, atropine, homatropine, asafetida, aloes, tartaric acid, strychnine, cocaine, novocaine, and the other local anesthetics, formaldehyde, caffeine, theobromine, bichloride of mercury and the synthetic drugs. The United States is a small drug producer, hence is bound to suffer because of the interruption of trade caused by the war. The increased demand abroad for chloroform and ether will affect the prices of these drugs also. The war ought certainly to result in a tremendous stimulation to domestic drug production. A country which is so great a user of drugs ought not to depend to the extent it does upon foreign producers. While it is true that we are absolutely dependent upon Europe for certain drugs, this cannot be affirmed of all that we