

The infant mortality rate for our centre at the end of the month of November stands at 130, or five points lower than at the end of October.

I am pleased also to be able to mention, as a new development to begin with December, the opening of a pre-natal clinic in the eastern section of the city. This clinic has been made possible through the efforts and interest of Monsignor Le-Pailleur who has always taken a great interest in the campaign against infant mortality in Montreal, and it is attended by one of our nurses one afternoon a week. It is hoped that this new movement will encourage the other parochial Gouttes de Lait to follow this lead.

December, 1925 - At the end of December, the infant mortality statistics for the years 1924 to 1925, and for 1925 to 1926 in St. Catherine's parish were compiled and the following interesting data were found:-

Jan. 1, 1924 - Jan. 1, 1925 - Births, 273 - Deaths, 60 - Rate, 220;
Jan. 1, 1925 - Jan. 1, 1926 - Births, 263 - Deaths, 33 - Rate, 125, or a reduction of 43%. We have carried on our campaign against infant mortality for nearly eight months.

A comparison was made with the Thetford Mines record for their first year, as, by a coincidence, they also began their work in May and compiled the statistics to January. The following figures will show that we have surpassed the excellent record made at Thetford Mines during the same period of time:-

Thetford Mines rate, first year, 300, reduced by January 1st to 196, or 35%;
St. Catherine's rate, first year, 220, reduced by January 1st to 125, or 43%.

Credit for these satisfactory results should be given to the nurses who left nothing undone to save a baby's life. When we first began this effort to save the babies of St. Catherine's parish, the nurses were told that they should consider the death of every baby as a personal loss, and their feeling of responsibility towards the infant mortality situation has, it would seem, been well demonstrated by the results thus far obtained. We hope to bring the rate well below the 100 mark by the end of another year.

Classes in Home Hygiene, organized during the month of November for the Aides in the Parish Gouttes de Lait, were continued during December. Those living in the eastern part of the city met in the rectory of Hochelaga parish, and those in the west end, met at the English Health Centre, 9 Coursol St.,

J. A. Baudouin, M.D.
Medical Director

Report of Nursing Division

Since the Royal Edward Institute assumed the responsibility of doing the medical examination and home supervision amongst the Tuberculosis patients for the General and the Western Hospitals, we have fewer cases under our supervision, and have found it necessary to decrease, by one nurse, our staff engaged in this work. This nurse is now working in the Demonstration area from 9 Coursol St.

The remaining five nurses doing tuberculosis work are visiting homes of patients referred to us by Bruchési Institute, Royal Victoria Hospital, Children's Memorial Hospital, Herzl Dispensary, and by private physicians. In addition to visiting homes, these nurses attend clinics at the Royal Victoria Hospital and Herzl Dispensary.