

### RATES OF PAYMENT TO FOSTER-PARENTS BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

An account of the rates paid is given in the following statement :—

| 3 at the rate of 2s. 6d. per week. |         |    | 1 at the rate of 9s. 6d. per week. |          |    |
|------------------------------------|---------|----|------------------------------------|----------|----|
| 2                                  | 1s.     | .. | 351                                | 10s.     | .. |
| 19                                 | 5s.     | .. | 3                                  | 10s. 6d. | .. |
| 18                                 | 6s.     | .. | 5                                  | 11s.     | .. |
| 3                                  | 6s. 6d. | .. | 22                                 | 12s.     | .. |
| 37                                 | 7s.     | .. | 37                                 | 12s. 6d. | .. |
| 72                                 | 7s. 6d. | .. | 1                                  | 14s.     | .. |
| 54                                 | 8s.     | .. | 7                                  | 15s.     | .. |
| 7                                  | 8s. 6d. | .. | 1                                  | 20s.     | .. |
| 1                                  | 8s. 9d. | .. | 1                                  | 21s.     | .. |
| 21                                 | 9s.     | .. |                                    |          |    |

Generally the relations of the infants provide clothing in addition.

The following comparison of the rates paid in 1908 and 1909 shows that the usual payment is about 10s. a week.

|                    | In 1908, 1940; | in 1909, 45 |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Under 7s.          | 164            | 193         |
| 7s. and under 10s. | 297            | 351         |
| 10s.               | 73             | 77          |
| Over 10s.          |                |             |

The foster-parents as a rule do their duty to the infants in all respects satisfactorily; some of them, when the occasion arises, exhibit an amount of devotion and self-sacrifice that is above all praise. They are often materially encouraged and assisted by the ladies who as honorary local visitors do much quiet and good work in connection with the boarding-out system.

### EXEMPTIONS.

From the provision that "it shall not be lawful for any person in consideration of any payment or reward to receive or retain in his care or charge any infant for the purpose of nursing or maintaining it apart from its parents or guardians for a longer period than seven consecutive days unless such person is licensed as a foster-parent," the Minister may grant certain exemptions, and under this authority exemption has been granted to the institutions set forth in the following list, which shows also the numbers dealt with and the deaths. The conditions of the exemption provide for inspection, and for removal of the infants only with due formality.

| Name of Institution.                          | (1909)<br>Admissions. |                 |                          | Deaths.       |                 |                          | On the Books at<br>31st December, 1909. |                 |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
|                                               | Total Number.         | Under 6 Months. | Between 6 and 12 Months. | Total Number. | Under 6 Months. | Between 6 and 12 Months. | Total Number.                           | Under 6 Months. | Between 6 and 12 Months. |
| St. Stephen's Orphan Home, Papatoetoe .. ..   | 2                     | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 5                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| St. Mary's Maternity Home, Otahuhu .. ..      | 5                     | 4               | 1                        | 2             | 2               | ..                       | 14                                      | 11              | 2                        |
| The Door of Hope, Auckland .. ..              | 12                    | 8               | 4                        | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 4                                       | 2               | 2                        |
| Salvation Army Maternity Home, Auckland ..    | 2                     | 1               | ..                       | 2             | 2               | ..                       | 12                                      | 10              | 1                        |
| St. Mary's Orphanage, Auckland .. ..          | 8                     | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 6                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| Children's Home, Remuera, Auckland .. ..      | 15                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 20                                      | ..              | ..                       |
| Children's Home, Ponsonby, Auckland .. ..     | 19                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 14                                      | ..              | ..                       |
| Cook County Women's Guild Crèche, Gisborne    | 21                    | 2               | 3                        | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 12                                      | ..              | 3                        |
| Wanganui Orphanage, Wanganui .. ..            | 1                     | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 1                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| Children's Home, Palmerston North .. ..       | ..                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 6                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| St. Joseph's Orphanage, Wellington .. ..      | 17                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 10                                      | ..              | ..                       |
| Salvation Army Children's Home, Wellington    | 4                     | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 6                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| The Levin Memorial Home, Wellington .. ..     | ..                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 7                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| Home of Compassion, Wellington .. ..          | 164                   | 70              | 16                       | 48            | 42              | 3                        | 69                                      | 12              | 8                        |
| St. Mary's Orphanage, Nelson .. ..            | 14                    | 3               | 1                        | 2             | 1               | 1                        | 19                                      | 1               | 1                        |
| Sacred Heart Orphanage, Mount Magdala ..      | 4                     | ..              | ..                       | 1             | ..              | ..                       | 10                                      | ..              | ..                       |
| Children's Convalescent Cottage, New Brighton | 25                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 1                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| Salvation Army Maternity Home, Christchurch   | 8                     | 3               | 5                        | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 5                                       | 1               | 1                        |
| St. Mary's Orphanage, Dunedin .. ..           | ..                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 4                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, Dunedin ..   | 10                    | 6               | 2                        | 2             | 2               | ..                       | 21                                      | 2               | ..                       |
| Karitane Home, Dunedin .. ..                  | 77                    | 67              | 10                       | 6             | 5               | 1                        | 16                                      | 12              | 4                        |
| Presbyterian Orphanage, Dunedin .. ..         | 3                     | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 15                                      | ..              | ..                       |
| Salvation Army Maternity Home, Dunedin ..     | 29                    | 26              | 3                        | 2             | 2               | ..                       | 12                                      | 9               | 3                        |
| Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill .. ..    | 5                     | 3               | ..                       | 1             | 1               | ..                       | 12                                      | 4               | 2                        |
| Salvation Army Children's Home, Middlesmarch  | ..                    | ..              | ..                       | ..            | ..              | ..                       | 3                                       | ..              | ..                       |
| Totals .. ..                                  | 445                   | 193             | 45                       | 66            | 57              | 5                        | 304                                     | 64              | 28                       |

Private individuals to the number of fourteen also received exemption. These were either adopting parents, or near relatives, or friends of the infants concerned.

### DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES.

Out of the 1,181 infants under six years of age that were at one time or another on the books of the foster-homes during 1909, 25 died—that is, 2·11 per cent. Of these, 20 died in the foster-homes, and 5 in hospitals or nursing-homes. Only in three cases did the Coroners consider it necessary to hold inquests. Eighteen of the infants were under the age of twelve months.

With 1,017 infants dealt with in 1908 the number of deaths was 26 (2·56 per cent.), and, as that was shown to be a lower rate than the statistics of infant mortality would lead one to expect