

PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO AND REMOVED FROM LICENSED FOSTER-HOMES
DURING 1915.

	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 Months and 1 Year of Age.	Between 1 and 2 Years of Age.	Between 2 and 3 Years of Age.	Between 3 and 4 Years of Age.	Between 4 and 5 Years of Age.	Between 5 and 6 Years of Age.	Over 6 Years of Age.	Totals.
Placed in licensed homes during the year	266	81	84	54	34	25	14	..	558
Withdrawn from homes—									
Removed by parents or guardians	46	52	91	61	47	21	23	10	351
Deaths	8	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	14
Adoptions without premiums	4	7	15	7	2	5	..	..	40
In homes to which exemptions was granted	..	1	2	3	2	2	..	..	10
Brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act	1	3	15	2	5	4	6	4	40
Written off the books for various causes	..	8	10	14	2	3	3	58	98
Totals	59	72	137	88	58	35	32	72	553
On the books at 31st December, 1915	91	103	213	143	120	82	73	62	887

FOSTER-HOMES.

The 887 infants in foster-homes at the end of the year were distributed as follows:—

In 545 homes each having one ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	545
In 103 " two ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	206
In 26 " three ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
In 9 " four ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
In 3 " five ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
In 1 " seven ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
687							887

Forty-one of the homes were those in which children under six were boarded out by Charitable Aid Boards.

The total number of licensed homes was 941, so that at the end of the year there were 254 licensed homes in which for the time being no infants were boarded.

RATES OF PAYMENTS TO FOSTER-PARENTS BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

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

1 at the rate of 3s. 6d. per week.	566 at the rate of 10s. per week.
15 " 5s. "	11 " 11s. "
6 " 6s. "	35 " 12s. "
19 " 7s. "	57 " 12s. 6d. "
59 " 7s. 6d. "	5 " 14s. "
59 " 8s. "	22 " 15s. "
5 " 8s. 6d. "	1 " 17s. 6d. "
11 " 9s. "	6 " 20s. "

NOTE.—Nine children were being maintained without payment, but for various reasons their names are retained on the books.

Generally, the relatives of the infants provide clothing and medical attendance in addition.

The following comparison of the rates paid during the last four years shows that the usual payment is about 10s. a week:—

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Under 7s. 	23	24	29	22
7s. and under 10s. 	195	161	163	153
10s. 	485	482	596	566
Over 10s. 	71	91	120	137