

EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

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 exemptions provide for inspection, and for removal of the infants only with due formality.

Name of Institution.	Admissions, 1915.			Deaths.			On the Books at 31st December, 1915.		
	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (1) and (2)).	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (4) and (5)).	Under 6 Months of Age.	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age.	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (7) and (8)).
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)	
The Door of Hope, Auckland	22	10	37	3	..	3	4	2	6
Mission House of the Order of the Good Shepherd, Auckland	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	35
The Methodist Orphanage, Mount Albert, Auckland	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	9
The Orphan Home, Papatoetoe, Auckland	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	16
St. Mary's Orphanage, Epsom, Auckland	..	2	17	..	..	..	..	1	24
St. Vincent's Home of Compassion, Epsom, Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Takapuna, Auckland	..	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	23
The Manurewa Children's Home, Auckland	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	15
Children's Home, Ponsonby, Auckland	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	12
Leslie Presbyterian Orphanage, Remuera, Auckland	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	10
St. Mary's Home, Otahuhu, Auckland	30	5	35	2	1	5	14	6	40
Salvation Army Samaritan Home, Gisborne	14	3	38	..	..	..	..	..	7
Cook County Women's Guild Crèche, Gisborne	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	9
Salvation Army Bethany Home, Napier	3	2	9	..	..	..	1	2	4
Wanganui Orphanage, Wanganui	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	9
Children's Home, Palmerston North	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	7
Salvation Army Children's Home, Wellington	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	5
The Levin Memorial Home, Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Presbyterian Orphanage, Wellington	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5
Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington	9	2	31	1	..	2	2	6	49
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Upper Hutt, Wellington	..	..	53	..	..	..	..	2	36
St. Mary's Orphanage, Nelson	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	15
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Christchurch	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sacred Heart Orphanage, Mount Magdala, Christchurch	3	..	20	..	..	..	3	..	28
Nazareth House, Christchurch	..	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	20
Methodist Orphanage and Children's Home, Papanui, Christchurch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Presbyterian Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
St. Saviour's Home, Shirley, Christchurch	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	10
Children's Convalescent Cottage, New Brighton	..	..	29	..	..	..	..	..	4
St. Mary's Orphanage, Mornington, Dunedin	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	10
Salvation Army Home, Bishopecourt, Dunedin	..	..	31	1	..	1	..	..	11
St. Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, South Dunedin	1	2	6	..	..	..	1	2	14
Glendining Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	10
Salvation Army Home, Middlemarch	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	7
Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill	9	1	12	..	..	..	1	1	2
Totals for 1915	93	28	458	7	1	11	26	22	486
Totals for 1914	174	59	480	17	9	37	45	51	568

DEATHS IN FOSTER-HOMES.

Of the 1,440 infants that were at one time or another on the books as being in foster-homes during 1915, 14 died. Of these, 10 died in the foster-homes and 4 in hospitals or nursing-homes to which they had been removed for treatment, so that the deaths in foster-homes represented 0·75 per cent. of the total number dealt with. Nine of the 14 were under the age of twelve months, and 11 were of illegitimate birth.

The following is a statement of the number of deaths during the time that the infant-life-protection system has been in the Department's charge :—

1908	26 deaths out of 1,017 infants = 2·56 per cent.
1909	25 „ 1,181 „ = 2·11 „
1910	26 „ 1,183 „ = 2·19 „
1911	13 „ 1,183 „ = 1·09 „
1912	12 „ 1,228 „ = 0·98 „
1913	13 „ 1,330 „ = 0·98 „
1914	20 „ 1,423 „ = 1·40 „
1915	14 „ 1,440 „ = 0·98 „

This continued low death-rate reflects great credit on the district agents, their assistants, the local visitors, and the foster-parents. Generally speaking, the Department has reason to be well satisfied with the homes in which these infants are placed.