

## No. 4.—INFANT-LIFE PROTECTION STATISTICS.

## PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED TO AND REMOVED FROM LICENSED FOSTER-HOMES DURING 1917.

	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	206	58	88	62	28	18	20	1	481
Withdrawn from homes—									
Removed by parents or guardians	34	56	80	72	35	31	20	7	335
Deaths .. .. .	8	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	12
Adoptions without premiums	2	4	11	3	3	2	..	1	26
In homes to which exemption was granted	2	2	3	..	1	1	1	1	11
Brought under the operation of the Industrial Schools Act	..	4	8	6	1	2	1	2	24
Written off the books for various causes	..	8	17	11	9	3	5	59	112
Totals .. .. .	46	76	120	93	49	39	27	70	520
On the books at 31st December, 1917	98	92	153	144	119	98	83	54	841

## FOSTER-HOMES.

The 841 infants in foster-homes at the end of the year were distributed as follows :—

In 491 homes each having one ..	..	..	..	..	491
In 104 .. two ..	..	..	..	..	208
In 28 .. three ..	..	..	..	..	84
In 11 .. four ..	..	..	..	..	44
In 1 .. six ..	..	..	..	..	6
In 1 .. eight ..	..	..	..	..	8
636					841

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

The total number of licensed homes was 940, so that at the end of the year there were 304 licensed homes in which for the time being no infants were boarded.

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

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

1 at the rate of 2s. 6d. per week.				4 at the rate of 10s. 6d. per week.			
12	..	5s.	..	12	..	11s.	..
2	..	5s. 3d.	..	53	..	12s.	..
4	..	6s.	..	93	..	12s. 6d.	..
4	..	7s.	..	5	..	14s.	..
39	..	7s. 6d.	..	32	..	15s.	..
1	..	7s. 7d.	..	1	..	17s.	..
19	..	8s.	..	2	..	17s. 6d.	..
6	..	8s. 6d.	..	1	..	19s. 3d.	..
6	..	9s.	..	7	..	20s.	..
532	..	10s.	..	3 adopted, with premium (10s. per week)			
2	..	10s. 3d.	..				

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

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Under 7s. per week	24	29	22	31	19
7s. and under 10s. per week	161	163	153	128	75
10s. per week	482	596	566	539	532
Over 10s. per week	91	120	137	143	215