

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 :—

Year.	Foster-homes.			Exempted Institutions.		
	Number of Deaths.	Number of Infants.	Percentage of Deaths	Number of Deaths.	Number of Infants.	Percentage of Deaths.
1908	26	1,017	2.56	..	No records.	..
1909	25	1,181	2.11	..	..	..
1910	26	1,183	2.19	..	..	..
1911	13	1,183	1.09	47	899	5.23
1912	12	1,228	0.98	36	911	3.95
1913	13	1,330	0.98	18	984	1.82
1914	20	1,423	1.40	37	944	3.91
1915	14	1,440	0.98	11	1,026	1.08
1916	17	1,250	1.36	9	939	0.96
1917	12	1,361	0.88	15	1,136	1.32
1918	6	1,341	0.44	15	955	1.57
1919	10	1,403	0.71	13	1,050	1.24
1920	14	1,306	1.07	19	1,002	1.89
1921	6	1,318	0.47	17	1,118	1.52
1922	10	1,243	0.80	16	887	1.08

ADOPTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1922.

During the year 349 orders of adoption were made; 44 of the adoption orders provided for premiums, and 305 were without monetary consideration.

The following shows the ages of the adopted children :—

Age.				With Premium.	Without Premium.	Total.
Under 6 months	..	..	..	20	56	76
Between 6 months and 12 months	..	..	..	7	27	34
.. 1 and 2 years	..	..	..	6	35	41
.. 2 " 3 "	..	..	..	..	31	31
.. 3 " 4 "	..	..	..	2	25	27
.. 4 " 5 "	..	..	..	1	21	22
.. 5 " 6 "	..	..	..	..	23	23
.. 6 " 7 "	..	..	..	2	16	18
.. 7 " 8 "	..	..	..	1	15	16
.. 8 " 9 "	..	..	..	2	3	5
.. 9 " 10 "	..	..	..	1	10	11
.. 10 " 11 "	..	..	..	1	8	9
.. 11 " 12 "	..	..	..	..	15	15
.. 12 " 13 "	..	..	..	..	6	6
.. 13 " 14 "	..	..	..	1	6	7
.. 14 " 15 "	..	..	..	..	8	8
				44	305	349
The adopting parents were—						
Husband and wife jointly				..	..	314
Widow				..	..	15
Widower				..	..	2
Spinster				..	..	7
Bachelor				..	..	3
Wife only				..	..	5
Husband only				..	..	3
						349

The amount of the premiums ranged from £10 to £150.