

PLAN TO FOLLOW UP BABY WEEK

Welfare Workers Will Seek Laws Protecting Infants From Disease.

MILK REGULATION URGED

Diet Kitchen Superintendent Calls Attention to Effect of Insanitary Housing Conditions.

It is practically certain that the infant welfare workers of the city will follow up baby week with a systematic campaign for the enactment of laws by Congress for the further protection of babies from disease in the District during the infancy.

Among the first laws to be advocated, it is understood, will be one for a more rigid supervision of the milk supply, which infant welfare workers regard as one of the biggest factors in the present high infant death rate in the United States.

Health Officer William C. Woodward, who for years has been endeavoring to get a stricter milk law from Congress, expressed the belief that Washington is behind other large cities of the country in the regulation of its milk supply.

"We ought to have a milk law," said Dr. Woodward, "that will require dealers to keep their bottles at an even, cold temperature from the time it is taken from the cow until served at the home as an infant's complement."

The Commissioner deputed to have authority to classify the city's milk into grades, such as A, B, and C. "The law should prevent dealers from advertising their milk as 'pasteurized' unless it is really pasteurized."

"We should have more inspectors in order to properly supervise the nearby farms from which much of the city's milk comes."

Infant Death Rate Decreasing. "It is a significant fact that Washington's infant death, which was very high twenty years ago, began to decrease after the passage of the present milk supply law in 1905. This shows the part which bad milk plays in infant mortality."

Dr. Woodward said that while he was not in a position to know whether the women of Washington are wanting in their knowledge of the proper care of babies, he said that the large colored population of the city, among whom less attention is given to the care of infants, is an important factor in Washington's infant death rate.

The peculiarities of the summer climate here, which is a big part in the death of babies during the first year of their life, Dr. Woodward said. This condition, he pointed out, must be remedied by unusual care in housing conditions and the food eaten during the summer.

Miss Estelle Wheeler, superintendent of one of the stations of the Washington Diet Kitchen Association, said that while Washington is a beautiful city, there are many sections in which living conditions are deplorable and standing in the way of the health of the babies who are born in those sections.

Miss Wheeler said Congress should provide the health department with at least three additional inspectors to supervise the health of these infants. The health of babies born in unfavorable surroundings is watched solely by the Washington Diet Kitchen Association and the Infant Welfare Nurses' Society, voluntary organizations which co-operate with the health department.

These two organizations have been largely responsible for the rapid reduction in infant mortality in recent years. When the health department learns of the birth of a child which may have reason to believe will not receive proper care, having no municipal nurse, they notify one of these voluntary organizations.

The Diet Kitchen covers the northwest and northwest, while the Nurses' Society covers the southeast and northeast.

Mrs. May West, of the United States Children's Bureau, and Miss Wheeler both declared that the education of the women of America in the care of infants is the only way in which the wanted reduction of children through carelessness can be checked.

Most Educate Mothers. The baby week campaigns, which are being held in the principal cities of the country this year, were inaugurated, said Mrs. West, after a sudden realization of the fact that 10,000 babies were dying every year in the United States from preventable causes.

"Experience in Europe as well as in this country has shown," said Mrs. West, "that no matter how good the sewage system, milk supply, or other conditions of a city may be, if the mothers do not know how to feed and care for the babies the death rate cannot be reduced. It is the root of the problem."

Miss Wheeler, who is perhaps best informed on the conditions of Washington's infants, said that education in the care of babies is as badly needed here as throughout the country. Those in charge of Washington's baby week campaign credit this reason. It is over there will be few mothers who are informed on the care of babies, for literature will be scattered profusely.

Although Washington has been unable to secure from Congress authority and appropriations to employ municipal nurses to care for infants and educate their mothers, the Washington Diet Kitchen, which will take an active part in the coming baby week campaign, has been educating Washington's mothers.

During these three years they have established five stations, where scores of mothers go every day with their infants to receive instruction. During 1914 2,127 infants were kept under the supervision of the five stations, of which number only forty-two died. During 1914 only 1,127 babies were cared for.

The five stations are located at 2500 Dumbarton avenue, 2304 Washington circle, Twelfth and V streets northwest, John Marshall place northwest, and 1125 Four-and-a-half street southwest.

Normal School to Hold Baby Show. "An Appeal to American Motherhood" is the subject of an address to be delivered by Dr. Lawrence E. Kress at a baby week celebration to be held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon in the auditorium of the J. Ormond Wilson Normal School, Eleventh and Harvard streets northwest.

The address will be followed by a sketch, "Better Babies," written by a teacher in the J. Ormond Wilson Normal School, and played by public school girls.

Every mother within a mile of the school is urged to bring her baby—or babies—to the show and enter them in a prize contest that will follow the play. There will be gifts for the best, sourest, and healthiest infants. There will be no admission fee.



PROGRAM OF THE WEEK

Saturday, May 6th—Rally Day and Baby Sabbath.

Rally of all interested at Central Exhibit, southeast corner Fifteenth and F streets northwest. Principal exhibit formally opened. Observed in Jewish Synagogues as Baby Sabbath.

Sunday, May 7th—Baby Sabbath.

Observed in churches and Sunday Schools; Theater Mass Meeting; program to include several prominent speakers from other cities.

Monday, May 8th—Little Mother's Day.

Observed in the schools. Essays and compositions on Baby-saving to be written by pupils. Special instructions to be given in infant welfare matters.

Tuesday, May 9th—Flag Day.

From every baby's home an American flag will be displayed. Where parents have no flag, committee will furnish one, flags to be kept in place throughout the balance of the week.

Wednesday, May 10th—Inspection Day.

Parties will visit and inspect the Infant Welfare Stations, Day Nurseries, Social Settlements, Foundling Hospitals and Asylums to become better acquainted with the institutions doing Baby-saving work.

Thursday, May 11th—Demonstration Day.

Demonstrations will be given in infant hygiene at Infant Welfare Stations. Educational demonstrations at Social Centers. Hours and program, see daily papers.

Friday, May 12—Father's Day.

Leaflet will carry a special message to every man, showing his share in campaign for better Babies.

Saturday, May 13th—Outing Day.

Decorated automobiles. Parties of mothers and Babies will spend afternoon in the park ending with picnic at Baby Hospital Camp.

In The Realm of Women's Clubs

Petworth Woman's Club.

The Petworth Woman's Club met last Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Hill, the president presiding. Eight members were admitted to membership. The home committee reported one meeting in April, and a meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Sullivan on the evening of May 17.

The educational committee held one meeting during the month when Miss Byer, instructor of domestic science in the schools of Cleveland, gave a talk. The May meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Norcross, May 15.

The philanthropic committee will hold two meetings in May, one on the 3d and the other the 20th.

The club voted to give \$5 to the Florence Crittenton Home and \$5 to the Bruen Home. The literary committee reported a meeting in April at the home of Mrs. Knowlton, the topic being "Jane Addams." A paper prepared by Mrs. Belden was, in her absence, read by Mrs. Knox.

At the hearing before the District Commissioners in reference to locating the Municipal Hospital on the government reservation bounded by Fourteenth street, Georgia avenue, Uphur and Varnum streets, Mrs. Norcross entered the protest of the club.

Mrs. Norcross gave a report of the meeting of the District of Columbia Congress of Mothers which she attended as delegate. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for a banquet in June, preferably the annual meeting night.

After adjournment the new officers were presented with symbols of office, and each responded with an appropriate speech. The next meeting will be held June 5 and will be the annual meeting.

Monticello Chapter, D. A. R.

The annual meeting of Monticello Chapter, D. A. R., was held at the home of the regent, Mrs. A. E. T. Hanemann, 2315 Twenty-seventh street northwest, on Tuesday. The usual patriotic exercises were conducted by the regent, Mrs. Helen Hall, vice regent, was at the piano. The membership committee reported the application of Miss Alvira Wade.

The entertainment committee made partial report on theater party held April 25. Twenty-five dollars was appropriated for Mrs. Ellis' School, at Yancey, Va., and also five dollars to assist in keeping open the night schools until the regular closing time in June. This was granted at the request of the Jewish Women's Society.

The Anthony League.

The Anthony League held its regular monthly meeting Thursday evening at 207 Columbia road, the residence of the president and vice president, Mrs. Anna E. Hendley and Mrs. Nanette B. Paul. Miss May Eleanor Smith was the speaker and gave a talk on "The Theory of Music," followed by a musical and literary

Kennington Woman's Club.

A meeting of the Woman's Club of Kennington devoted to social service was held last Friday at the residence of Mrs. W. Edward Vellender, knowledge avenue, Kennington. The program was in charge of Mrs. J. P. Hermann, chairman of the social service section of the club. Dr. Bird, of Sandy Spring, president of the Social Service League of Montgomery County, gave an interesting talk. He defined social service as a study of character under adversity and an effort to remove the adversity. The workers along the line of social service in the county are very much gratified at the passage of the bill, through the efforts largely of Dr. Jones, of Kennington, providing for an appropriation to erect and maintain a hospital to provide for the treatment of cases of tuberculosis among the poor of the county. Miss Reinhardt, chairwoman of the committee having in charge the celebration of "baby day" in Kennington, reported the success of the day and the interest awakened in the community towards "better babies."

The April meetings of the Woman's Club of Dawsonville were held April 5, with Mrs. James H. Jones, and April 20, with Mrs. James Gott, president of the club. The annual business session was with the Misses Byrd last Thursday.

Woman's Club of Bethesda.

The Woman's Club of Bethesda met on Tuesday at the home of Mrs. E. L. Brandenburg, Mrs. V. R. Wilson, of Washington, spoke on the National Service School of the woman's section of the Navy League. Several selections on the piano were given by Miss Nellie Wheatley.

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REGISTRATION OF BABY BIRTHS IMPORTANT

Parents Urged to Have Vital Statistics Records Sent to Municipal Authorities.

Has the birth of your baby been registered? If not, you should see to it that this duty is performed without delay. It may some time be of the greatest importance to your child that there be in existence an accurate legal record of his birth, date, place, and parentage. Such a record serves to establish his legal right to the legal period of schooling and freedom from labor. It may also serve to establish his right to a dilated inheritance and to establish for him various property or other legal rights which may be in dispute. There are numerous instances where the lack of this sort of record has been the cause of serious losses of inheritance and of educational and other rights.

It is, in most States, required by law that the doctor, midwife, or other attendant at birth shall report the birth to the registrar of birth, but as this duty is not infrequently neglected, parents should investigate to see whether it has been done properly in the case of their children.

The complete registering of all births is indispensable, not only to the individual, but to the State and the nation.

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BABY CAMPAIGN SHOWS PROGRESS

Health Officials Recall First Efforts Along Line 20 Years Ago.

FEW MID-WIVES REMAIN

Health Department Declares Co-operation of Volunteer Organizations Has Lowered Death Rate.

With the attention of the whole city focused on the better baby movement, which will reign in Washington all this week, the older officials of the District Health Department recall conditions here fifteen and twenty years ago, when no one thought of educating mothers on "How to Care for Baby."

Today an army of infant welfare workers are at work in the city using every possible means to raise healthy babies. In those days an array of ignorant midwives, with witchcraft instead of knowledge in their minds, kept Washington's infant death rate soaring by their crude operations.

In 1906 Health Officer William C. Woodward founded the deathknell of this period of ignorance by ordering a special investigation of infant welfare conditions in the city. Dr. J. L. Norris, now assistant health officer, was selected to make the investigation.

The uneducated midwives, many of them old women who believed in witchcraft, when approached for data would decline that they had been sent by the Almighty to carry on the work they were doing. The statistics for that period show that the work of the mid-wives was a big factor in the high infant death rate.

Following Dr. Norris' report, a law was enacted for the control of the city's milk supply, and from that date on the high infant death rate tumbled steadily as follows:

In 1898, 1,523 died under 1 year; 1897, 1,411 died; 1896, 1,247; 1895, 1,246; 1900, 1,121; 1901, 1,124; 1902, 1,125; 1903, 1,092; 1904, 1,124; 1905, 1,123; 1906, 1,233; 1907, 1,125; 1908, 1,100; 1909, 1,042; 1910, 1,070; 1911, 887; 1912, 599; 1913, 828; 1914, 775; and 1915, 775.

Under 1 year of age have died. This is regarded as a bad start with the hot months ahead.

There are only a handful of licensed mid-wives in the District today. Although it is admitted by social workers that the women of Washington need education in the care of infants, the records of the Health Department show the Capital has surpassed many American cities in saving babies during the past fifteen years. Officials of the Health Department say this has been made possible by the co-operation of certain voluntary infant welfare organizations.

In 1913 a total of 1,743 babies died in the District under 1 year of age. The population at that time was about 570,000. Last year, out of a population of 571,149, only 775 infants died.

An official of the Health Department would not commit himself to show that had the infant death rate of 1906 continued, 1,564 babies would have died last year.

USE "ADS" TO SPY ON FRENCH.

German Learn French Positions by Sale of Swiss Watch Watches.

Paris, May 6.—A new spy device is revealed daily. The latest discovery draws attention to the multiplicity of Swiss watchmakers' advertisements in the French press. Soldiers at the front are offered magnetic alarm watches or bracelet watches at the low price of 50 cents. To insure delivery they are recommended to send their full address, which of course gives their regiment, battalion, company, brigade, division, army corps, army and postal sector.

A magnetic watch is sent in return for this valuable information, which is sent to Germany. Many neutral watchmakers are honest, says the paper which discloses the scheme, but many are simply booby-traps.

An accurate legal record of his birth, date, place, and parentage. Such a record serves to establish his legal right to the legal period of schooling and freedom from labor. It may also serve to establish his right to a dilated inheritance and to establish for him various property or other legal rights which may be in dispute. There are numerous instances where the lack of this sort of record has been the cause of serious losses of inheritance and of educational and other rights.

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FILMS TO SHOW IDEAL DAIRIES

Mothers Will See Pictures Depicting Milk Production and Infant Welfare.

FACTS SHOWN DAILY

Local Theaters Plan Free Baby Week Performances of Reels That Point Out Hygienic Methods.

A feature of baby week will be the moving picture lectures to be delivered in some movie house in every section of the city every afternoon during baby week.

The films to be used at these matinees have been selected with a view to presenting pertinent facts of an educational value to mothers along the line of infant welfare.

Depicts Sanitary Dairy. One film shows the various stages of the production of milk from the inspection and selection of healthy cattle for dairy herds to the delivery of the milk to the consumers.

Clean and properly ventilated dairy barns, proper pasturage, the grooming and cleaning of the cows before milking, the periodic inspection of the cows by the veterinarians, sanitary milking, the proper handling of milk after being drawn, the care and storage of milk in the farms prior to shipment, the shipping of milk in cool and properly constructed cans to avoid dirt and dust, the receiving stations in the city, laboratory tests of samples of milk, the handling of milk within the dairies and the cleaning and sterilizing of dairy utensils.

A film entitled "The Five" shows the life cycle of the fly, from the time of laying of the eggs in a public manure heap through the development of the larva, the pupa, showing how flies and bacteria are carried from refuse into the home, to be deposited on exposed food and especially showing the danger of infecting infants not protected by screens.

A film entitled "A Day in the Life of a Baby" shows the proper method and proper method in the hygiene of babies, including feeding, bathing, clothing and rest. This is a most striking film and greatly interested by comparisons the most serious of commission and omission in the daily care of babies.

Shows Insanitary Methods. The film entitled "The Man Who" shows in a most forcible manner the insanitary methods of handling milk for the market. The story told by this film is one in which a man learns by personal experience, the grave dangers of insanitary methods whose milk is consumed.

The following is the schedule: Monday—Circle Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Dumbarton Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Monday Evening, 7:30 to 9:30. Tuesday—Columbia Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Grand Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30. Wednesday—Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Monday Evening, 7:30 to 9:30. Thursday—Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Monday Evening, 7:30 to 9:30. Friday—Howard Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Monday Evening, 7:30 to 9:30. Saturday—Elmside Theater, 11:30 to 1:30; Monday Evening, 7:30 to 9:30. Sunday