

COLUMBIA CLINIC PLAYS VITAL ROLE

Wages Vigorous Campaign to Cut Infant Mortality Rate Here.

The infant mortality rate in Washington last week was the second highest of cities along the Eastern seaboard, and only 10 of all the cities for which the Bureau of the Census gathers figures had higher rates than the Capital.

Only five cities had a higher infant mortality rate than Washington for the year 1933, and only five of comparable size had as high a stillbirth rate as Washington.

The rate of death among the children less than 1 year old has become one of the most critical problems facing modern medicine. Surgeons, governments and citizens have organized to combat it and lower it. Improved and expanded hospital facilities and educational opportunity for expectant mothers are two of the most needed methods of lessening the percentage of babies who die in their first year, the most crucial year of their existence.

Clinic Wages Campaign.

In Washington, the Infant Clinic of Columbia Hospital for Women is waging more strongly than any other institution a campaign aimed at making available to every mother or expectant mother in the city information and care that will insure a stronger, healthier baby, one more likely to survive the first few months of its harsh existence.

Last year patients made 11,806 visits to the clinic. They were given physical examinations. They were taught the responsibilities, duties and general physiological problems attendant upon motherhood.

The poorest were provided with transportation to and from the clinic. Some were given layettes if their finances prevented their purchasing them. They were provided with magazines to while away their empty hours.

The social service department of the clinic, which includes one full-time worker and 23 part-time volunteer workers, paid 2,213 calls to the homes of patients registered to see that the lessons taught at the clinic were followed religiously.

The effect of this endeavor is to fit the mother properly for the birth of the child and to fit her to care for the baby during its tender initiation into the ways of its separate existence. The most marked result is an instant decrease in the infant mortality and the rate of stillbirth among the group so taught and supervised.

The clinic is run by Miss Linda Woods under the direction of the Women's Board of Columbia Hospital, headed by Mrs. Sydney Tallafiero, to whom the clinic's recent amazing progress is due. Its money comes from the Community Chest, the Thrift Shop, assessments against members of the board and from the small fees asked, when payable, from the patients who come to the clinic.

Facilities Increased.

The clinic in 1920 was a two-room establishment under one worker. Today it has eight rooms, fitted with baby scales, baby baskets, beds, closets, medical apparatus and other equipment necessary to perform its function.

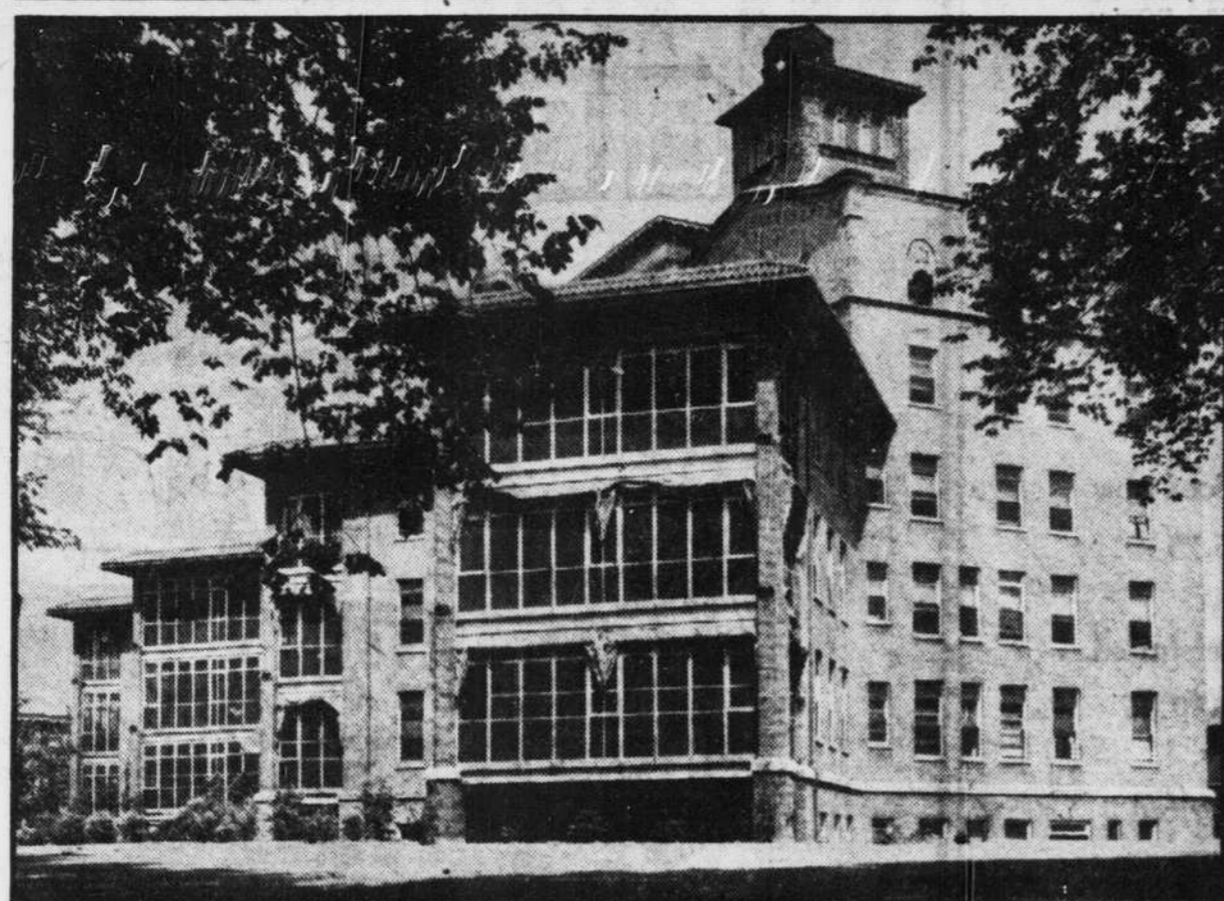
Moreover, the clinic attempts to do far more than merely provide for bare care and instruction of the patients. Mrs. Tallafiero said in her report to the Thrift Shop:

"The social service equipment has included a supply of dishes, glasses, silver, etc., for serving refreshments at mothers' club meetings; demonstration clothes; pictures, posters and magazines for teaching and entertaining the mothers; toys to entertain the children while their mothers are taken care of in the clinic; nine window boxes filled with flowers each year, and flowers for the clinic rooms; curtains for the window; rubber door mats, social service stationery."

"Layettes have been furnished to 100 mothers. Christmas tree decorations have been arranged for the clinic. Boxes and baskets of food, clothes, toys and sweets have been provided for needy families of patients who were not taken care of by other organizations each Christmas. A car is maintained for the social service department."

The clinic makes an heroic effort to attract every poor prospective mother who could not afford placing herself

Long Life for Babies Born Here



The high infant mortality rate in the District of Columbia fades among the families who avail themselves of the pre-natal and obstetrical care offered for a pittance by the Pre-Natal Clinic at Columbia Hospital, above. —Star Staff Photo.

under the care of a personal physician and hence might leave herself wholly unprepared to attend properly to her own highly specialized wants and those of the baby, who under these conditions might be unable to survive its first year.

Supervisor Is Author.

Miss Woods, the supervisor, is so expert in her work that her new book, "You and Your Babies," written with the wealth of experience she has had at the clinic, is prefaced by a note from Dr. Sterling Ruffin, one of the country's most famous obstetricians.

But the clinic's work is limited. It cannot force attendance of prospective mothers of whose existence it is ignorant. It cannot care for every poverty-stricken expectant mother who requires the type of care it offers. Not only is similar expansion needed in other hospitals, but a municipal service is urgent to prevent the birth of any baby under unhygienic and unscientific conditions which would tend to reduce its expectation of survival of earliest infancy.

The maternity supervision should be divided for those groups which can pay nothing, or practically nothing, and those low-salaried patients

who would refuse to accept outright charity, yet whose moderate income would preclude possibility of care by a family physician.

Leading citizens of the District suggest that Gallinger and Freedmen's Hospitals institute free maternity and pre-natal clinics, while the private hospitals, Providence, Emergency, Georgetown and Garfield, follow Columbia's lead and establish clinics for the part-pay patient, whose problem is more serious than that of any other group. For the low-salaried citizen is usually an earnest citizen whose progeny are held well worth raising.

Members of Board.

Working with Mrs. Tallafiero are these other members of the Women's Board of Columbia Hospital:

Mrs. Duncan Lawrence Groner, first vice president; Mrs. William R. Smedberg, second vice president; Mrs. Charles Carroll Morgan, third vice president; Mrs. Roger Bobb, fourth vice president; Mrs. Paul Sieman, recording secretary; Mrs. D. Buchanan Merriman, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Robert V. Fleming, treasurer.

Mrs. Frank C. Baldwin, Mrs. Earl Biscoe, Mrs. Charles H. Bradley, Mrs. Thomas Bradley, Mrs. Wilson Brown,

Mrs. Arthur Carpenter, Mrs. Walter Chappell, Mrs. Wright Clark, Mrs. Levi Cooke, Mrs. Walter Distler, Mrs. Dallas Dort, Mrs. J. Spalding Flannery, Mrs. Ernest Graves, Mrs. Richard M. Kleberg, Mrs. Reeve Lewis, Mrs. Daniel Long, Mrs. Harry B. Mirick, Mrs. Barry Mohun, Mrs.

BOYS' CLUB CAMP PLANS ANNOUNCED

Director Fyfe Looks to Greatest Season in History at Camp Reeder.

Plans for the greatest season in the history of Camp Reeder, the Boys' Club of Washington camp, were announced yesterday by Charles M. Fyfe, managing director of the Boys' Club and who will be director of the camp this summer. Camp Reeder is located on West Hatton Farm, Charles County, Md., 52 miles from Washington.

The camp has been completely remodeled and many improvements made. Two new log cabins, donated by Frank R. Jelleff and Foster M. Reeder, member of the board of trustees of the Boys' Club of Washington, and an addition to the dining hall are among the improvements. All cabins used in past years have been relocated so as to put them back among the trees with plenty of shade. Bathing

in the Wicomico River is safe and under strict supervision at all times.

Plans for this season include a counselor for every eight boys, thus insuring complete supervision at all times. An attractive program is enforced throughout each day. The camp is available to members of the Boys' Club who are active members and in good standing. Regular registered members of the Boys' Club of Washington, the Georgetown Branch and the Northeast Boys' Club are eligible for camp registration.

In addition to Fyfe as director, the staff this year consists of Arthur Fyfe, assistant director; Joseph Heiser, water front and head life guard; John Jankowski, director of athletics; Albert Suraci, camp doctor; John Zauner, in charge of nature study; Mrs. Cora G. Fyfe, stewardess.

Camp counselors will be John McCortney, Carl R. Hill, Mario F. Gregorio, Joseph Wallace, Arthur Metshow, Lindsay Branson, Creighton Allen and Frank Tolzman.

Jersey Club to Entertain.

Senator and Mrs. Moore and Representative and Mrs. Sutphin will be the guests of the Third Congressional District Club of New Jersey on a moonlight sail down the Potomac on the City of Washington, June 28.

George H. Myers, Mrs. John S. McClure, Mrs. Malcolm McConihe, Mrs. John E. Parker, Mrs. James H. Patten, Mrs. Clarence W. Peirley, Mrs. Stanton C. Peelle, Mrs. Frank L. Purdon, Mrs. Mary G. Rafter, Mrs. Thomas H. C. Reed, Mrs. James P. Robinson, Mrs. Henry C. Rowland, Mrs. Nathan Scott, Mme. Jacques de Sieyes, Mrs. John Lewis Smith, Miss Frances Sortwell, Mrs. John W. Tur- rentine, Mrs. Robert C. Watson, Mrs. J. Marvin Wright and Mrs. Chester Wells.

(This is the fifth of a series of articles on privately financed social service endeavor in the District of Columbia. The sixth, next week, will concern the Christ Child Society.)

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JAIL ENDS HONEYMOON

Bride of Freight Train Romance Only 15 Years Old.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., June 22 (AP)—A 2,500-mile freight train honeymoon, which ended with the couple being placed in jail here, apparently failed to dim a California romance.

Both Lee Hayward, 20, and his 15-year-old bride Clara, insisted yesterday they would not be separated by the parents, who asked police to return them to Pasadena, Calif.

The bride's parents have indicated they may charge Hayward with kidnapping.

COLLEGE HEAD NAMED

Dr. James E. Allen President of Davis and Elkins.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., June 22 (AP)—Dr. James E. Allen, president of Davis and Elkins College for 25 years was elected president of Marshall College last night. He succeeds Dr. Morris P. Shawkey, resigned. Dr. Allen's term begins July 1.

Dr. Allen has been principal of high schools in Virginia, is a graduate of Hampden-Sydney and holds degrees of A. B. and LL. D. He also studied at the University of Virginia and did graduate work at Johns Hopkins University.

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