

**Victorian Baby Health
Centres Association.**

Third
Annual Report
1920-1921.



MELBOURNE:
F. P. Cook, Printer, 24 Queen Street.

NEWSPAPERS NEEDED.

Baskets are provided at the city railway stations for the contributor who will bring a paper each morning from home.

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No one is asked to contribute money or bear any expense; merely give a newspaper of any size, daily or weekly, for the babies' sake.

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(Miss) MARY LIVING,

Manager Newspaper Depot

VICTORIAN BABY HEALTH CENTRES ASSOCIATION.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT, 1920-1921.

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Victorian Baby Health Centres.

Third Annual Report.

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

- (1) To safeguard the health of mothers and babies, by the spread of knowledge of the laws of health.
- (2) To encourage the breast-feeding of infants.
- (3) To employ trained nurses who shall:—
 - (a) Attend certain centres, where not only mothers with their babies can come, but also expectant mothers.
 - (b) Visit mothers at their homes and help them carry out simple hygienic rules.
- (4) To hold meetings and give organised teaching to women, as opportunity shall arise, and to disseminate such knowledge by every available agency.
- (5) To co-operate with all present or future organisations working for the same objects.

The objects of the Association being to keep infants healthy, sick children are not treated at Centre, but are always referred to their own doctor or to a hospital.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

In presenting the Third Annual Report, the Executive Council draws attention to the fact that while its report gives a general survey of the Association's work, each Health Centre publishes its own Annual Report and Balance Sheet, manages its own affairs, and extends the work in its own district.

The Balance Sheet at the end of this pamphlet is for the Executive Council and the Training School only.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

During the year great progress has been made in all directions. The establishment of a Training Centre for nurses, the opening of many new Centres, the widening of the scope of the work in all Centres in lectures to school girls, demonstrations to expectant mothers, and propaganda work generally, have brought home to many the fact that life is the chief source of wealth and greatness of a nation, and that the rearing of strong, healthy children is the most patriotic work in which anyone can take part.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Executive Council, which is composed of delegates from the local committees of the various Baby Health Centres, the contributing Municipal Councils, the State Government, the various institutions dealing with child welfare has met monthly.

This year the duties of the Council have been very onerous, owing to the number of new centres opened and various matters relating to the extension of the work in country districts, and it is proposed to form a small executive body to meet at frequent intervals and co-ordinate the work of the Executive Council.

TRAINING SCHOOL.

The Training School and Model Centre was opened by Her Excellency, Lady Forster, at the end of last October. This Training School provides a post graduate course of training of three months' duration for nurses on the general register of the R.V.T.N.A. in order to fit them to take positions as sisters in charge of Baby Health Centres. Sister Peck is in charge, four nurses being in training every three months. The training is an intensive one, and is proving a very great asset to the efficiency of the work done in the Baby Health Centres.

VOLUNTARY HELPERS.

The Executive Council is indebted to Miss Rhoda Strachan for her organisation of the voluntary helpers. These young ladies take a course of instruction and attend demonstrations at the Training School. They are of great assistance to the sisters in many of the Centres.

Thanks are also due to the Misses Anderson and Fortune, who have so materially helped in cutting out patterns sent from the Model Centre.

MARGARET E. WHITE, Hon. Secretary.

NURSES' REPORTS.

Individual babies	8,941
Total attendances at Centres	52,200
New babies	5,824
Expectant mothers advised	820
Visits paid by Nurses to homes	39,830
Total visits since establishment of first Centre in Richmond, 1917	119,285
Infants under 9 months of age	8941
Number fed on breast entirely	3003 (i.e., 51 %)
" " partially	863
" " cow's milk	1084
" " patent foods	573
" " mixed foods	345
VICTORIA, 1920.	
Births	36,214
Deaths under 12 months	2,673
Deaths under 12 months per 1000 births	73.8

ATTENDANCES AT CENTRES:—

RICHMOND.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 7.06.
Individual Babies, 945. Attendances at Centres, 6816. Visits to Homes, 3502.

COLLINGWOOD.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 9.23.
Individual Babies, 765. Attendances at Centres, 5415. Visits to Homes, 3281.

FITZROY.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 13.09.
Individual Babies, 552. Attendances at Centres, 3699. Visits to Homes, 2513.

CARLTON (Melbourne City).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 12.66.
Individual Babies, 661. Attendances at Centres, 4505. Visits to Homes, 4440.

NORTH MELBOURNE (Melbourne City).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 12.66.
Individual Babies, 562. Attendances at Centres, 3894. Visits to Homes, 2511.

FLEMINGTON (Melbourne City).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 12.66.
Individual Babies, 312. Attendances at Centres, 2477. Visits to Homes, 1597.

BRUNSWICK.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 10.63.
Individual Babies, 1287. Attendances at Centres, 3882. Visits to Homes, 2420.

PORT MELBOURNE.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 10.29.
Individual Babies, 302. Attendances at Centres, 2250. Visits to Homes, 3126.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 11.36.

MODEL CENTRE (Town Hall).

Individual Babies, 741. Attendances at Centres, 4751. Visits to Homes, 4044.

MONTAGUE.

Individual Babies, 154. Attendances at Centre, 1294. Visits to Homes, 2389.

PRAHRAN, HAWKS BURN, TOORAK AND SOUTH YARRA.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 7.15.
Individual Babies, 606. Attendances at Centres, 4474. Visits to Homes, 1819.

MALVERN.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 5.02.
Individual Babies, 571. Attendances at Centres, 2662. Visits to Homes, 2473.

CAMBERWELL AND CANTERBURY (Seven Months).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 6.21.
Individual Babies, 276. Attendances at Centres, 1374. Visits to Homes, 1308.

KEW (Five Months).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 5.78.
Individual Babies, 142. Attendances at Centres, 1082. Visits to Homes, 1406.

HAWTHORN (Six Months).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 6.73.
Individual Babies, 176. Attendances at Centres, 1159. Visits to Homes, 844.

BRIGHTON (Five Months).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 5.20.
Individual Babies, 140. Attendances at Centres, 597. Visits to Homes, 600.

CAULFIELD (Three Months).

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 4.01.
Individual Babies, 183. Attendances at Centres, 665. Visits to Homes, 496.

GEELONG.

1920—Deaths under 1 year per 100 births, 6.94.
Individual Babies, 573. Attendances at Centres, 1214. Visits to Homes, 1061.

CENTRES ARE OPEN AS FOLLOWS:—

BRUNSWICK.—Town Hall, Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 1.30 to 4.30; Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

CARLTON.—Women's Hospital, Monday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Wednesday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

FITZROY.—Town Hall, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

COLLINGWOOD.—Town Hall, open daily, 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

KEW.—Town Hall, Tuesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

KEW EAST.—C/r High and Valerie Streets, Mondays and Thursdays, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

HAWTHORN.—Town Hall, Wednesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

CAMBERWELL.—Town Hall, Monday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

CANTERBURY.—Library, Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30 p.m.

RICHMOND.—Town Hall, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SWAN STREET.—Library, Tuesday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

BURNLEY.—St. Bartholomew's School Room, Monday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

SOUTH YARRA.—Parochial Hall, Argo Street, Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

PRAHRAN.—Town Hall, Tuesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

HAWKS BURN.—Try Society Hall, Surrey Road, Wednesday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

MALVERN.—Town Hall, Tuesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

MALVERN EAST.—Old Fire Station, Monday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

CAULFIELD.—Town Hall, Tuesday and Friday, 1 to 4 p.m.

BRIGHTON.—Library, Bay Street, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.—Model Centre, daily, 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. only, Town Hall.

PORT MELBOURNE.—Town Hall, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

MONTAGUE.—Buckhurst Street, Kindergarten, Monday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

NORTH MELBOURNE.—Post Office Place, Tuesday to Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

FLEMINGTON.—Town Hall, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

MIDDLE PARK.—Picture Theatre, Armstrong Street, Tuesday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

PRINCES HILL.—682 Rathdown Street, Monday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

AUBURN.—Melba Hall, Queen's Avenue, Monday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

NORTHCOTE.—Town Hall, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

VICTORIAN BABY HEALTH CENTRES

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from 1st July, 1920, to 30th June, 1921

EXPENDITURE	RECEIPTS
To Salaries	By Balance at State Savings Bank
" Travelling Expenses	" Balance at Commonwealth Savings Bank
" Printing, Stationery, and Propaganda	" Balance at National Bank of Australasia Ltd.
" Equipment and Maintenance, Training School	" Donations—
" Rent, Newspaper Depot	Felton Bequest
" Repairs, Newspaper Depot	Edward Wilson Trust
" Petty Expenses	Sir William Zeal's Estate
" Grants to Centres	T. J. Sumner's Estate
*Balance at State Savings Bank	David Syme's Estate
*Balance at Commonwealth Savings Bank	Commonwealth Button Fund
*Balance at National Bank of Australasia Ltd.	Mrs. T. Lyle (Sale of Flowers)
	Newspaper Depot (per "Herald" and "Weekly Times" Ltd.)
	E. Truby Williams, Esq.
	Mrs. John Porter
	Miss Mary Thomas
	Stanley Mullen & Co.
	Mrs. Trapp
	Per Miss Living
	Miss Clugston
	Women's Service Guild
£3,181 15 0	" Interest
	£3,181 15 0

*Although a large balance appears in Balance-Sheet, the Executive Council wishes to state that this amount is absolutely necessary for the advancement of the work—medical and nursing supervision to be provided, and greater activities are to be extended into the country districts.

Melbourne, 21st July, 1921.

Audited and found correct.

THOS. BRENTNALL, F.C.P.A., Hon. Auditor.

MARGARET E. WHITE,

Hon. Treasurer.