

The following is a comparison of the rates paid during the last six years :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Under 7s. per week ..	11	7	2	2	4	3
7s. and under 10s. per week ..	52	53	22	11	5	1
10s. per week ..	502	368	240	133	105	65
Over 10s. per week ..	294	376	531	508	579	580

FOSTER-HOMES.

The 684 infants in foster homes at the end of the year were distributed as follows :—

In 469 homes, each having one child ..	469
„ 76 „ two children ..	152
„ 17 „ three „ ..	51
„ 3 „ four „ ..	12
565	684

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

The total number of licensed homes was 798, so that at the end of the year there were 233 licensed homes in which for the time being no infants were boarded.

EXEMPTED INSTITUTIONS.

Name of Institution.	Admissions, 1923.			Deaths, 1923.			On the Books at 31st December, 1923.		
	Under 6 Months of Age. (1.)	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age. (2.)	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (1) and (2)). (3.)	Under 6 Months of Age. (4.)	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age. (5.)	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (4) and (5)). (6.)	Under 6 Months of Age. (7.)	Between 6 and 12 Months of Age. (8.)	Total—All Ages (including Cols. (7) and (8)). (9.)
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Russell .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
St. Mary's Industrial School (Girls' Branch), Auckland .. ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	7
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Takapuna, Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Orphan Home, Papatoetoe, Auckland .. ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	9
Children's Home, Ponsonby, Auckland .. ..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	8
Methodist Orphanage, Mount Albert, Auckland .. ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5
Leslie Orphanage, Remuera, Auckland .. ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Manurewa Children's Home, Auckland .. ..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	14
St. Mary's Home, Otahuhu, Auckland	25	35	66	8	2	10	32	2	43
Salvation Army Orphanage, "The Grange," Herne Bay .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Auckland .. ..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Salvation Army Children's Home, Hamilton .. ..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	36
Cook County Women's Guild Crèche, Gisborne .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Gisborne	3	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	2
Salvation Army Samaritan Home, Gisborne	2	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	5
Children's Home, Palmerston North .. ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	10
Manawatu Willard Children's Home, Palmerston North .. ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	9
Salvation Army Bethany Home, Napier	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	5
St. Hilda's Home, Otane, Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wanganui Orphanage, Gonville, Wanganui .. ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Eltham .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Barnabus' Home, Khandallah, Wellington	8	9	29	1	..	..	6	4	20
St. Mary's Home, Karori, Wellington .. ..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	7
Residential Nursery, Wellington	12	14	165	..	..	1	..	..	14
Presbyterian Orphanage, Berhampore, Wellington .. ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	7
Levin Memorial Home, Wellington .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Upper Hutt, Wellington .. ..	..	..	42	..	..	..	..	..	28
Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington	17	5	46	2	..	5	19	8	65
Salvation Army Girls' Home, Owen Street, Wellington .. ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Island Bay, Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
St. Mary's Orphanage, Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
Methodist Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nazareth House, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	15
Sacred Heart Orphanage, Mount Magdala, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	15
St. Saviour's Home, Shirley, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	30
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Christchurch	8	..	8	1	..	1	2	4	13
Presbyterian Orphanage, Papanui, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	7
Children's Convalescent Home, New Brighton, Christchurch .. ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	1
St. Saviour's Orphanage for Boys, Otipua Road, Timaru .. ..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	4
Salvation Army Boys' Home, Temuka .. ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	6
Children's Rest Home, Mornington, Dunedin .. ..	..	1	37	..	..	..	..	..	8
Grant's Braes Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin .. ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	7
St. Mary's Orphanage, Mornington, Dunedin .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
St. Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, South Dunedin .. ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	14
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Roslyn, Dunedin	8	5	13	1	..	1	1	4	6
Salvation Army Home, Anderson's Bay, Dunedin .. ..	..	..	11	..	..	1	..	..	20
Presbyterian Orphanage, Gordon Street, Invercargill .. ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3
Victoria Memorial Home, Invercargill	3	3	11	..	..	..	..	1	5
Totals	88	75	598	13	2	20	62	23	480

Of the above 480 children, 19 have no parents living, 51 have a mother only, and 127 have a father only. The remainder (283) have both parents living.