

26.—Crude Death Rates of Various Countries in Recent Years.

Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.	Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.
Saskatchewan.....	1925	6.7	Quebec.....	1924	12.4
Alberta.....	1925	7.2	Iceland.....	1923	12.8
Manitoba.....	1925	8.0	Belgium.....	1924	13.0
New Zealand.....	1925	8.3	Scotland.....	1925	13.4
British Columbia.....	1925	8.7	Prussia.....	1923	13.5
Queensland.....	1924	8.9	Greece.....	1921	13.8
West Australia.....	1925	9.0	Newfoundland.....	1923	14.2
South Australia.....	1924	9.2	Irish Free State.....	1924	14.3
New South Wales.....	1924	9.3	Latvia.....	1924	14.8
Tasmania.....	1925	9.4	Argentina.....	1921	14.8
Australia.....	1924	9.5	Finland.....	1924	15.3
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1925	9.5	Estonia.....	1924	15.3
Netherlands.....	1925	9.6	Austria.....	1923	15.3
Canada (Registration Area).....	1925	9.7	Northern Ireland.....	1925	15.4
Victoria.....	1924	10.1	Czechoslovakia.....	1924	15.7
Ontario.....	1925	10.9	Italy.....	1923	16.6
Panama.....	1923	11.0	Hungary.....	1925	16.9
Norway.....	1924	11.1	France.....	1924	17.1
Nova Scotia.....	1925	11.3	Spain.....	1924	19.8
Denmark.....	1923	11.3	Japan.....	1924	21.2
Prince Edward Island.....	1925	11.5	Jamaica.....	1924	21.7
United States (Reg. Area).....	1925	11.7	Bulgaria.....	1921	22.0
Sweden.....	1925	11.7	Rumania.....	1924	23.2
Uruguay.....	1924	11.8	British India.....	1923	25.0
Germany.....	1925	12.0	Egypt.....	1923	25.7
England and Wales.....	1925	12.2	Ceylon.....	1924	25.7
New Brunswick.....	1925	12.3	Chile.....	1923	32.8
Switzerland.....	1924	12.4			

2.—Infantile and Maternal Mortality.

In recent years a great part of the energy devoted by the medical profession and sanitarians to effect a decline in the death rate has gone to reduce infantile mortality, and in this field a large measure of success has been attained. In Canada, both the Dominion, provincial and municipal health authorities have taken part in the struggle to reduce infantile mortality, and usually, in the absence of epidemics, each year is showing an improvement. Even in the five years for which the figures are available for the registration area, there is evident a very considerable decline in infantile mortality. In 1920 more than 10 p.c. of all children born died in the first year of life; in 1921 the proportion dropped to 8.8 p.c. or 14,893 deaths in a total of 168,979 births; in 1922 the infantile death rate showed a further betterment, dropping to 8.7 p.c. or 14,256 deaths in 164,194 births, while in 1923 it showed a slight increase to 8.8 p.c. In 1924, however, there was a considerable improvement, the rate falling to 7.85 p.c. and increasing but slightly in 1925 to 7.87 p.c. The number of infant deaths in 1925, however, is the lowest on record, being 220 lower than the 1924 total. Deaths of children under one year of age constituted 18.3 p.c. of all deaths in 1925, as compared with 20.7 p.c. in 1922. Table 27 shows that in five provinces the infant death rate per 1,000 living births was lower in 1925 than in the preceding year, the actual number of infant deaths being lower in five provinces and in the registration area as a whole.