

Victorian Baby Health
Centres Association



Second
Annual Report
1919-1920



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.

Freight is paid on all newspapers sent by rail from the country. Mayne, Nickless will collect, in any suburb, parcels of newspapers only, weighing not less than 20 lbs. and firmly tied.

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.

All information can be obtained by ringing up Central 6591, or by writing to the Newspaper Depot, 236 Queen Street, Melbourne.

(Mrs. C. J.) LINA HENDERSON,

Hon. Organiser Paper Scheme.

VICTORIAN BABY HEALTH CENTRES ASSOCIATION.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1919-1920.

President:

DR. A. JEFFREYS WOOD.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. C. O. WHITE.

"Tiverton," Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Hon. Treasurer:

MRS. C. O. WHITE.

Hon. Auditors:

MESSRS. BRETNALL, NEWTON & BUTLER.

Hon. Organiser Newspaper Scheme:

MRS. C. J. HENDERSON.

Members of Council:

Mrs. Carty Salmon	Mrs. Small
Mrs. Percy Oakden	Mrs. J. H. Dodds
Dr. Constance Ellis	Mrs. J. Fawcett
Dr. Jean Greig	Cr. Evans
Mrs. G. H. Crespin	Cr. H. J. Robinson
Mrs. W. Ramsay	Cr. T. Smith
Mrs. Stringer	Cr. G. H. Hay
Miss Manger	Mrs. Heath
Lieutenant-Colonel Brodribb	Mrs. V. B. Trapp
Dr. Isabella Younger	Mrs. James
Dr. W. G. Cuscaden	Miss Todd
Mrs. H. P. Douglass	Dr. T. W. Sinclair.

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.

Victorian Baby Health Centres.

Second Annual Report.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

The Executive Council of the Victorian Baby Health Centres Association has pleasure in submitting its second Annual Report and Balance-sheet.

During the past twelve months rapid progress has been made in Victoria in Infant Welfare work, and it is now recognised that Education in Mother-craft is an essential factor in realizing an ideal health for the community. The number of Baby Health Centres has more than doubled, while in several districts it has been found necessary to appoint an extra nurse. New Centres are to be opened as soon as it is possible to provide for the training of the Staff required.

TRAINING SCHOOL.

Rooms have been granted by the South Melbourne Council for a Training School and Model Centre, which is to be opened on October 29th, where nurses for new Centres are to receive training in the Centre work.

The Executive Committee of the Australian Women's National League has generously donated £163/5/2 (profit from Baby Week, 1918) for equipment. For this generous gift special thanks are due.

RICHMOND.

The work in his municipality has increased to such an extent that it has been found necessary to open a Centre in South Richmond and appoint another nurse. The Richmond City Council kindly increased its grant. The numbers attending the Centre are still increasing. The Willsmere Pasteurised Milk, which is granted by the Richmond City Council at a reduced rate and in necessitous cases free of charge, is of the greatest assistance to the work.

COLLINGWOOD.

The work in this Centre has increased tremendously, and early this year it was decided by the Committee to employ a second nurse. The Collingwood City Council increased its grant by £100 to meet the extra expense. Great interest is taken in this Centre by the City Council, who supplied Talbot milk at a reduced rate, and in some cases free of charge, throughout the whole year.

FITZROY.

A new room has been given by the Municipal Council, which has helped the work considerably, also the Council has assisted the Mothers by their grant for Talbot milk.

CARLTON.

This is a very large district, and the work has increased so much that it is impossible for one nurse to cope with it. It is hoped in the near future to establish another Centre at Princes Hill. This Centre is held at the Women's Hospital.

NORTH MELBOURNE.

It was found impossible for one nurse to manage the work at this Centre. The Melbourne City Council kindly granted the use of rooms at the Flemington Town Hall, where a new Centre has been opened and is proving very successful.

BRUNSWICK.

This Centre is making steady progress; the numbers are increasing and good work is being done.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.

South Melbourne is managed by the Municipal Council of this district. A Sub-Centre has been opened at Montague Kindergarten, where excellent work is being done.

PORT MELBOURNE.

Owing to the pressure of work this Centre was separated from South Melbourne and another nurse appointed. Lectures have been given by the nurse in the State School on Mother-craft, and have been much appreciated.

GEELONG.

There are two Centres at Geelong, where the numbers have increased, and the work is proving satisfactory.

PRAHRAN.

A Centre was opened here in March, and has proved so successful that two sub-centres have been necessary, and a second nurse has been appointed. This Centre is managed by the Prahran City Council.

MALVERN.

A Centre was opened at the Malvern Town Hall in May last, and has proved of great benefit to the community, many Mothers from long distances coming for advice and guidance.

New Centres are to be, shortly opened in Bendigo, Kew, Camberwell and Canterbury.

In February, 1920, Dr. Vera Scantlebury was appointed part-time medical officer to visit the various Baby Health Centres and medically examine each new infant attending the Centre. The Executive Council are indebted to Dr. Scantlebury for an interesting report on Baby Welfare Work in Brisbane and Sydney.

Dr. Margaret McLorinan has charge of an Antenatal Clinic at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital for Women and Children, and has kindly undertaken to give instruction in Antenatal work to nurses attending Baby Health Centres.

Demonstrations have been given at many kindergarten schools and mothers' meetings during the year by Miss Peck, sister in charge. The Central Executive wishes to thank Sister Peck for her unselfish devotion to the work.

The Executive Council regrets that Mrs. Hemphill was compelled to relinquish her work as Hon. Secretary to the Association during the year, and sincerely trusts that she will soon be able to once more take an active part in the work she has so much at heart.

DR. TRUBY KING'S VISIT TO MELBOURNE.

Last year Dr. Truby King visited our Centres and was very much pleased and impressed with the work being done, and expressed his keen appreciation of the work done by the Talbot Milk Association.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

It is with pleasure that the Council reports the continued support of the Infant Welfare Movement by the State Government, for it is felt that it is a recognition of its importance to the country.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

The support of these bodies in districts where Baby Health Centres have been opened has been of the greatest value, not only from a financial point of view but because it also is a recognition by the municipal councils of the necessity of inculcating in the people a knowledge of the laws of health.

CO-OPERATION.

The Executive Council has again to record the cordial co-operation of other societies and institutions. The Children's and Women's Hospitals, Talbot Milk Institute, District Nursing Society and Benevolent Societies have all assisted in every way possible.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Council regrets that another year has passed without any improvement in the general milk supply of Melbourne, and trusts that the efforts now being made by the municipal councils and the women's organizations of Victoria will result in a reform of the present system.

NEWSPAPER DEPOT.

The Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of the splendid financial help rendered by Mrs. C. J. Henderson to the Association. From July 1st, 1919, to June 30th, 1920, £984 has been donated to the Association from the sale of newspapers and waste material. Thanks are due to The Herald and Weekly Times Ltd. for their work as Trustees of this Fund, and also for advertising free of cost; to the Tramway Board for its splendid supply of paper; to Mr. Scarlett, manager of Messrs. Donaghy & Sons, for all the lashing twine used at the depot, which has been a handsome contribution; and to Mr. Hayes, manager of Mayne, Nickless Pty. Ltd., for his great interest and concession rate for parcels.

FINANCIAL.

Each Centre has a Local Committee, which publishes its own Annual Report and Balance Sheet, and in Centres in which a Municipal grant is received the grant is paid direct to the Local Committee for use in that particular district.

The expenses of the Central Executive are met by donations and receipts from the Newspaper Fund. These expenses include the salaries of the part time Medical Officer, the Sister-in-charge, propaganda work, and the training Centre when established.

The Executive Council has to record its gratitude to Mrs. T. Lyle for the proceeds from the sale of flowers and produce from her own garden. During the year no less than £114/5/- has been received from this source.

The Trustees of the Estate of the late Alfred Felton are gratefully thanked for their donations towards the maintenance of the Centres, each Centre having been allocated £20 during the year.

The Trustees of the estate of the late David Syme, J. R. Macpherson, T. J. Sumner, Florence Williams, and Sir William Zeal have kindly allocated grants for the cause of saving Infant Life.

The Executive Council wishes to thank Messrs. Brentnall, Mewton & Butler for auditing the books of the Central Council and the Melbourne Tramway Board for allowing tickets to be purchased for Nurses while on duty, at a reduced rate.

It has been the earnest endeavor of those responsible for the Baby Health Centres Organisation to establish a Centre with a specially trained Nurse in every suburb of Melbourne and also in every country district. The generous support of the public is necessary to do this, and it is with every confidence that the Executive Council appeals to all those interested in the future of their Country to support such an important matter.

MARGARET E. WHITE, Hon. Sec.

NURSES' REPORTS.

Individual babies	4,189
Total attendances at Centres	24,892
New babies at Centres	3,128
Expectant mothers advised	480
Visits paid by Nurses to homes	21,246
Total visits since established of first Centre in Richmond, June, 1917	79,455
Infants under 9 months of age	2996
Number fed on breast entirely	1830 (i.e. 61 per cent)
" " partly on breast	376
" " on Cows' milk	551
" " " Patent Foods	239

ATTENDANCES AT CENTRES:—

RICHMOND.

Individual Babies, 652. Attendances at Centres, 4044. Visits to Homes, 2453.

COLLINGWOOD.

Individual Babies, 640. Attendances at Centres, 4502. Visits to Homes, 2446.

FITZROY.

Individual Babies, 340. Attendances at Centres, 2212. Visits to Homes, 2246.

CARLTON.

Individual Babies, 436. Attendances at Centres, 2855. Visits to Homes, 3561.

NORTH MELBOURNE.

Individual Babies, 346. Attendances at centres, 3409. Visits to Homes, 2157.

FLEMINGTON (One month only).

Individual Babies, 32. Attendances at Centre, 59. Visits to Homes, 112.

BRUNSWICK.

Individual Babies, 513. Attendances at Centre, 2677. Visits to Homes, 1715.

PORT MELBOURNE.

Individual Babies, 278. Attendances at Centre, 2306. Visits to Homes, 2418.

SOUTH MELBOURNE AND MONTAGUE.

Individual Babies, 558. Attendances at Centres, 4256. Visits to Homes, 1087.

PRAHRAN (Four months only).

Individual Babies, 130. Attendances at Centres, 589. Visits to Homes, 340.

MALVERN (Two months only).

Individual Babies, 97. Attendances at Centre, 167. Visits to Homes, 316.

GEELONG AND CHILWELL.

Individual Babies, 180. Attendances at Centres, 805. Visits to Homes, 1065.

CENTRES ARE OPEN AS FOLLOWS:—

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

BRUNSWICK.—Town Hall, Monday and Tuesday, 1.30 to 4.30; Wednesday, 10 till 12; Friday, 1.30 to 4.30.

CARLTON.—Women's Hospital, Monday, 10 till 12 and 1.30 to 4.30; Wednesday, 1.30 to 4.30; Thursday, 10 to 12 and 1.30 to 4.30.

COLLINGWOOD.—Town Hall, open daily, 10 a.m. to 4.30. Closed Saturday, Sunday and all Public Holidays.

FITZROY.—Town Hall, Monday and Tuesday, 1.30 to 4.30; Wednesday, 10 to 12 and 1.30 to 4.30; Friday, 1.30 to 4.30.

NORTH MELBOURNE.—Post Office Place, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 1.30 to 4.30.

PRAHRAN.—Town Hall, Tuesday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30. Try Society, Wednesday, 1.30 to 4.30. Parochial Hall, Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30.

FLEMINGTON.—Town Hall, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 1.30 to 4.30.

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

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

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

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

SOUTH MELBOURNE.—Town Hall, Monday and Tuesday, 1.30 to 4.30; Wednesday, 10 to 12, 1.30 to 4.30; Thursday and Friday, 1.30 to 4.30.

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

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

VICTORIAN BABY HEALTH CENTRES.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure from 1st July, 1919, to 30th June, 1920.

EXPENDITURE.		RECEIPTS.	
To Salaries	£354 5 10	By Balance at National Bank	£214 17 2
„ Travelling Expenses	21 3 11	„ Donations—	
„ Printing and Stationery	70 15 11	Felton Bequest	£200 0 0
„ Insurance	4 5 6	Sir William Zeal's Estate	10 10 0
„ Medical Supplies	13 13 11	T. J. Sumner Estate	15 0 0
„ Rent	27 6 0	J. R. McPherson's Fund	50 0 0
„ Repairs	100 0 0	David Syme's Estate	60 0 0
„ Display at Town Hall	29 0 0	State Accident Insurance Co.	5 5 0
„ Petty Expenses	17 7 0	Commonwealth Button Fund	65 0 0
	<u>£637 18 1</u>	Bacchus Marsh Milk Co.	6 6 0
„ Local Clinics	359 0 0	A.N.A. Exhibition Committee	25 0 0
„ Baby Welfare Association	2 5 0	Australia Women's Nat. League	163 5 2
„ Balance at State Savings Bank	300 0 0	Mrs. T. Lyle	114 5 0
„ Balance at Commonwealth Savings Bank	300 0 0	"Herald and Weekly Times" Ltd.	984 0 0
„ Balance at National Bank	326 7 5	Miss Thomas	2 0 0
		Sundry amounts	10 2 2
			<u>1710 13 4</u>
	<u>£1925 10 6</u>		<u>£1925 10 6</u>

Melbourne, 5th August, 1920.

Audited and found correct.

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

MARGARET E. WHITE,

Hon. Treasurer.