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TO THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

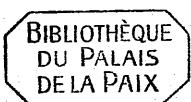
TAKEN BY THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

ON

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION

Session 1908.



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Is General Secretary of the Scottish National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, which covers all Scotland except Dundee, he represents Scottish views generally,

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MANCHESTER. Alluded to, Brodie-Hall, 922; Turner, 999. See also Chorlton; Guardians Boards.

MASON, MISS MARIAN H. (Digest of her Evidence).

Has been for ten years Senior Inspector of Boarding-out under the Local Government Board, and was previously inspector of all boarding-out beyond the Union, in England and Wales, 1060-1065, 1108, 1109, 1114.

One-child Cases: This system is largely employed by Local Government Board, and Witness strongly favours inclusion under the Act, 1066, 1084, 1085, 1094, 1102—Cases of neglect and cruelty are not rare, and since development of inspection they are equally common in one and two-child homes, 1066-1073.

Foster-parents: The treatment of children is generally good, but there is a scarcity of reliable foster-parents, 1096, 1121, which might be lessened by judicious inspection, 1122. Inspection: In Witness's opinion this would not increase maintenance (which is now 5s. per week), 1074, 1075, 1090-1095, 1122—Witness thinks that both mothers and foster-mothers would welcome inspection, &c., 1076-1080, 1082, 1096-1099, 1123-1125—It is only objected to in cases of neglect, &c., 1077, 1080, 1111, 1112—Visits of the Relieving Officer are objected to only in towns, 1083—Witness prefers women as inspection; they should be efficielly appointed by County Councils, 1083 inspectors; they should be officially appointed by County Councils, 1083—Witness would not agree to exemption of homes in which a succession of one-child cases had been taken; these are the worst cases, 1086-1088, nor of those homes otherwise inspected, 1118 -She would advise cases for exemption being submitted to County Councils, 1110.

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MATERNITY HOMES. Women's Home, Charlton Road, Kilburn, St. Helier, 725-732. Main Memorial Home (London), Wethered, 661, 765.

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MOTION, MR. JAMES RUSSELL. (Digest of his Evidence.) Has been Inspector of the Poor and Clerk to the Parish Council of Glasgow and Clerk Treasurer to the Lunacy District Board since 1898; he was previously acting inspector for the Barony Parish from 1885, and has had 40 years' experience of Poor Law Administration, 328-332, 434-436——He confines his evidence to Glasgow, 334-337,

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NORLAND INSTITUTE. Inspection of this Home under the present Act, Ollis, 1302-1305.

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NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT. Alluded to, Turner, 1024.

NURSE CHILDREN. Number of nurse children in certain Unions, Appendix No. 2.

OLLIS, MR. JAMES. (Digest of his Evidence.)
Is Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the London County Council, 1252, 1253, with whose authority he speaks with regard to London, 1257–1260, 1329.

Administration of the Act: This is effected by the Public Control Department, 1254, 1255, three women and two men being employed as inspectors, 1260, 1286, 1299-1307, 1334, 1335—The latter investigate for infringements of the law and watch private lying-in houses, 1260, while the women inspect notified houses, and visit unofficially many singlechild homes, 1260.

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PARR, MR. ROBERT JOHN. (Digest of his Evidence.)
Is Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 172-174,

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ST. HELIER, LADY. (Digest of her Evidence.)

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Was Manager for nearly 25 years of a women's home in Kilburn, started in connection with Lying-in Ward of Marylebone Workhouse, 725-730—Number of inmates, 728

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SIMPSON, MR. JESSE JAMES. (Digest of his Evidence.) Has been Clerk to the Guardians of the City and County of Bristol since 1887, 561-567, 605-608—They have about 30 children chargeable on them, 594-598, and one hundred and forty boarded-out under Local Government Board regulations, 621, 622, and unofficially visited by ladies, 623-625.

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THOMAS, MR. DAVID. (Digest of his Evidence.) Is Clerk to the Guardians of Bethnal Green, 134, 135.

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Age-limit: No observations made with regard to this, 154, 155.

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TRANSFERENCE OF CHILDREN. Hill, 79; Brown, 300, 326, 327; Zanetti, 560.

TURNER, MR. EDWARD BEADON, F.R.C.S. (Digest of his Evidence.)

Is a London medical man with over 30 years' experience of Rescue Work among illegitimate children and their mothers, chiefly in London, at rescue homes and boarded-out cases. 970-977, 1001-1004, 1053---Number of cases dealt with annually, 1005-1009---All homes are carefully selected or visited by Rescue Societies, 1053, 1054, 1058.

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WAUGH, REV. BENJAMIN. Former Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Parr, 173. His opinion in favour of inclusion of one-child cases under the Act, Brodie-Hall, 929.

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Represents Paddington and Marylebone Ladies' Association for the Rescue and Care of Friendless Girls, 647, 648, 654-659, 663, 679, 689——Organisation and objects of Association, 649-653, 672, 691, 699, 700—Witness thinks her views represent those of many rescue workers, 653, 660-662, 664, 665—Cases, &c., dealt with, 713-715.

One-child Cases: These form the best homes, children not being taken only for remuneration. 666, 687, 688—Owing to their scarcity, 666, 677, 711, recourse to the London County Council Homes is necessary, 666.

Cases of Neglect and Cruelty: These are rare among selected foster-mothers, 669-676, 705-708.

Age-limit: Witness considers these proposals unnecessary, 684, 685.

Inspection: In one-child cases this is welcomed when made by the mothers, &c., 666, 709, 710, and by the Association's matrons, 666, 696, who only inspect homes of their own choosing, 694, 723, 724—Witness regards official inspection as increasing babyfarming, 712, and much prefers Health Visitors, 693, 697, 698, 718, 719-722, preventing desertion and the throwing illegitimate children on the rates, 678, 683, 702-704-Witness suggests increasing powers of Police, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and other bodies, firmer measures with criminals and fostering education through Health Visitors, 666—Illustrative one-child cases, 666-669.

Extension of the Act: Witness considers the Act was framed to supervise plurality cases, where it has done much good, 666, 686, 687, 716; she is opposed to the amendment, evasions being easy, 666, 717, and inspection would be inefficient as well as raising maintenance, 666, 701, 702——It would also reduce the best classes of homes, 666, 678 —The widespread objection to official inspection is another reason against it, 666, 690, 692.

WITNESSES. List of, page viii. Expenses of, page 99.

WORKHOUSES. Disadvantages of these in respect to one-child cases, Turner, 977-980, 1012, 1013.

ZANETTI, MISS FRANCES. (Digest of her Evidence.)

Is an Inspector under the Act of 1897, for Chorlton Union (Manchester), 448, 449— Population of district, 450, 451—Witness's ten years' experience, 452-455, 459-461, 466, 495, 496, 547-553.

One-child Cases: These comprise the large majority of nurse children, 524-533—Witness strongly approves of including them under the Act, 456, because of the growing evil of not reporting these cases, 457-465, while Act at present fails to protect children from carelessness of nurses, &c., 466—Inspection is difficult, due to evasions which are almost suggested by the Act, 480, 481, and baby-farming, of one child at a time, is allowed, 482, 483—Absence of inspection tends to raise cost, 484-492, and there is difficulty in tracing children when homes are not registered, 493.

Inspection: This is never objected to in suitable homes if tactfully carried out, 493, 494, 526, 527, 541, 542, and is very necessary, 502-520—Efforts to evade inspection, 560.

Age-limit: Witness does not think it important to raise this, 499, 545, 546.

Witness does not approve of differentiation between legitimate and illegitimate children. 500, 501, 543, 544.

In cases where small payment only is made to friends, child is often badly treated, 536-540, although the most highly paid cases are often the most unsatisfactory, 555-558. Table handed in, Appendix No. 2.