The Story of May Day
1924-1928

By Katherine Glover

Better Children for our Nation
A better Nation for our Children

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As the children at play in the fields, looking up, see the wings of a Lindbergh, in the sky, everywhere through this country the eyes of youth are lifting to a new aspiration of beauty and wholeness.
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By Katherine Glover

American Child Health Association
370 Seventh Avenue, New York City
FOREWORD

For five years a campaign to focus interest upon the health of the children of this country has been waged in the name of May Day—Child Health Day, and truly great accomplishments have resulted.

The American Child Health Association has had the good fortune to sponsor May Day and to act as the center of promotion. It does not, however, claim in any degree the credit for what has been done for children through the stimulus of this campaign. When the happy idea sprang into being there was already under way a tremendous stirring of interest in this whole subject of child health fostered by the war and the post-war influences. May Day furnished a rallying point for much of this interest. In practically every state in the country Divisions of Child and Maternity Hygiene had been created under the State Boards of Health, a concrete expression of the awakening impulse to protect our child life. Between these Divisions, which were in need of some means to arouse public attention, and May Day, an instrument of service to just this end, there was a natural bond. In this new branch of the great public health machinery of the country the idea of May Day, therefore, found a means through which to function. Under the splendid, tireless leadership of the directors of Child Hygiene as chairmen of programs in the different states, the May Day campaign has evolved.

Very rapidly transcending its original sense of a one-day celebration, May Day has become a symbol about which many community forces have gathered to unite their services for the welfare of children. May Day programs are expanding over the whole year, the beautiful festival serving merely as a day to dramatize the year-round activities or to inaugurate something new.

Shortly after May Day, 1928, a group of directors of Divisions of Child Hygiene, who also were May Day chairmen in several of the eastern states, gathered in the office of the American Child Health Association to sum up May Day results and to look forward to the future campaign. It was obvious that so
large and far-reaching have become the accomplishments of this campaign, that presenting them in facts and figures has become almost impossible. The Association each year has tried to assemble the results into a report. This year, with the endorsement of these consulting chairmen, it was agreed that the time had come to gather up the high lights of five years and present them not as a report but as the story of May Day. This publication is the result of that decision.

In these five years May Day has been written into the history of great public health achievements. To all those who have helped to make this possible—to the Divisions of Child Hygiene, to the schools, to the great national organizations, official and voluntary, to the religious groups, commercial groups and to the individual workers—the American Child Health Association, as a mere spoke in the wheel, offers its unstinted gratitude and appreciation.

It is with confidence that we see the May Day idea pass into the hands of the official agencies of the country to use as it best serves the needs of children in different states and communities. What has been accomplished may well be looked upon as a prelude to efforts that will grow and expand until those hopes embodied in the Child's Bill of Rights are within the reach of the great mass of the children of this nation.

S. J. CRUMBINE, M.D.,

General Executive, American Child Health Association.
The purpose of the May Day celebration is to focus attention upon our most precious national asset—our children. The tie between the child and all adult life is at once the strongest and the gentlest element in human nature. Greater sacrifices are made for children than for ourselves; greater happiness is derived from these sacrifices than from all the triumphs that personal success can bring. Our daily labors, whether in the home, or in the outside world of competition for material things, or even in the search for culture and for spiritual advancement, derive largely from the conscious or unconscious impulse to cherish the child and to hold the child's affection and respect.

Herbert Hoover

American Child Health Association
370 Seventh Avenue

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Now and then in the fertile soil of this new country the acorn of an idea springs to the full growth of the oak with such swiftness that it seems a miracle.

In this case it was not an acorn that was planted, but a daisy. It has grown and spread until in every part of this country people looking on the face of the daisy think of a new hope centered in children.

This is the story of an idea, an idea that probably never could have found such swift development in any other country of the world than this.

In 1923 the high tide of war's glory had receded. We were busy picking up the wreckage and counting the cost. Almost for the first time in our history the American people checked up loss against profit, not only material but human loss.

Conservation became the new battle cry.

The engineer whom Europe had drafted to take over her gigantic problem of relief—Herbert Hoover—came back home, to find much the same interest in children had awakened here as abroad. The enemies of childhood, it was discovered, were not altogether war-time enemies, they existed also in peace, and even in a world generally prosperous and productive such as our own. By the chance that draws together those who have a common bond of interest, Mr. Hoover met at dinner one evening the great physician of childhood, Dr. L. Emmett Holt.

Talking of the health conditions of American children in contrast with those in the war-ridden countries, one statement of the physician's stirred Mr. Hoover deeply:

"One baby out of every eleven born in this country dies in the first year of life."

"Has science sufficient knowledge to prevent that loss?" Mr. Hoover asked.

Dr. Holt's reply was that science had the answer that could eradicate many ills and reduce the death toll if it could be interpreted into popular knowledge.
"In a country like ours where there is no great problem of poverty, that waste of life, then, reflects ignorance." The mind that had dealt with the problems of salvage of several million children abroad probed for facts. And the physician whose whole life had been devoted to letting in light upon the ignorance that was marring the lives of children gave them.

We had fed and cared for the children of Europe. Were we going to fail our own?

That contact between these two, each deeply concerned with the welfare of children, had important results. It led to the bringing together of some of the leading child specialists in the country and the workers of pioneer groups who had broken ground in the new field of health education; first at a dinner at Mr. Hoover's home, later for more official meetings at which their common problems were thrashed out. Some solution was sought that would bring together diversified effort for more direct and widespread results in the lives of children and promote more general application of the encouraging preventive measures which science had discovered.

The ultimate outcome was that several existing organizations—scientific and educational—pooled their experience and converged into one association known as the American Child Health Association. The purpose of this new association was to study the common causes that threaten the health of children and to help spread knowledge that would encourage health. Mr. Hoover was elected president, which meant that he was again drafted, this time in the cause of American children.

To bridge the gap between the laboratories and the lives of the thirty-six million children of this country; to find a common meeting ground between science and the woman in the home and the man on the street,—was the problem this new organization had to tackle.

Welfare touching children hitherto had been expressed almost entirely in remedial terms and applied to special groups—to the poor or the crippled, the foreign-born or the tuberculous—but this was an experiment in the positive, concerned with the health of all children, black, white, red and yellow, of north, south, east,
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west, city and country, who live together as Americans in these United States. It was a new expression of democracy. That was the soil in which the daisy was planted.

In Europe the tremendous task of conservation had been put over under the dynamic urge of necessity, and the enemies to be overcome were hunger and devastation. Here there was no such driving force, and the obstacles were the more subtle ones of complacency and ignorance and the unequally distributed opportunities that come in a scattered democracy of such heterogeneous elements as ours.

In spite of a genuine stirring of interest in children the public mind as a whole was still closed in its shell. It needed something to crash through.

As Mr. Hoover stood humble before the challenge of the task in his own country which in Europe had been put over with miraculous efficiency, a woman, untrained as scientist or specialist, came to him with an idea. It had its birth one day when she stood along the line of march on the streets of Paris on that day when they had carried the Unknown Soldier of France to his last resting-place beneath the Arc de Triomphe. And as she watched those soldiers of all the Allied nations in the international pageant and heard the incomparable cheer that rose when the doughboys of the U. S. A. swung into line—a spontaneous tribute to the vigorous, untired youth of a new world—there sprang into her mind a vision of a nation of children each peerless in his heritage of health. And she had waited for an opportunity to serve that vision.

With the forming of this new Association, Aida de Acosta Breckinridge saw the opportunity. She had the idea of rededicating the day associated from early pagan times with the growth of flowers and the happiness of children—May Day—and using the force of a great concentration of interest to spread through every possible channel of publicity and education the dawning hope of health. She proposed enlisting children in their own cause, through happiness and play. Her plan was to erect on the greens of every village in the country, in every city park a maypole, letting it lift its standard upward as a symbol of joy and festivity and beauty, and about that maypole to weave the vari-colored ribbons of all the activities in cities and communities.
that are building towards the health and wholeness of American children.

She chose the commonest flower that grows, the daisy that spatters every hillside in the country with its white and gold lavishness, and made it, with the maypole, the symbol of May Day; the heart of the daisy representing the gold of hope centered in children, the petals the white beneficences that circle about childhood in this country.

Bearing the stamp of the American Child Health Association, a new May Day started. And a country began to sing, to dance, to play—and to visualize health. And the field daisy became the symbol of a new hope.

May Day even transcended the odium that had begun to attach to “days” in the postwar times when the calendar had broken out with them like an epidemic. The country was ready for this “day,” because it touched a secret desire in the hearts of people everywhere that was waiting to flower. Health, vitality, youth were the antidotes for the depression, the losses, the ills of war.

The American Child Health Association, under the direction of its president, went earnestly, efficiently about the business of appraising the health assets and liabilities of the average American child and studying ways and means whereby assets could be increased and liabilities reduced. May Day was the instrument through which the information assembled was broadcast, but May Day rapidly passed beyond the bounds of one organization. Its slogan from the start was “May Day, every child’s day.” It was given to the country, to be used according to the needs and the aims of any community, any school, any organization, any simple well-wisher of children.

A day tinged with all the color, the variety, the optimism of these United States of America.

An Olympic day of play and festivity in villages and cities of forty-eight states.

A day dedicated to the health of thirty-six million children.

That is May Day.

The American Child Health Association was not alone in the field of child conservation. Other forces were moving

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towards the same ends. In the states there had been created Divisions of Infancy and Maternity Hygiene with valiant, well-trained workers fighting for the defense of childhood. They were pioneers struggling against overwhelming odds with the pathetically limited funds and personnel at their command and with the public to win to their cause. The general executive of the American Child Health Association, Dr. S. J. Crumbine, one of the public health leaders of the country, caught the vision of May Day and saw its power to help interpret the work of the Boards of Health for the protection of children. Through his encouragement the public health machinery of the country took over the idea of May Day and gave it body and sinews through which to function.

In practically every state in the union chairmen of Child Hygiene Divisions of State Boards of Health pinned the daisy on their lapels and rallied around the maypole. They not only went on fighting in their great cause but they also began to sing, play and dance health. The May Day slogan became theirs: “Better children for our nation; a better nation for our children.” Through May Day, health became dramatic, picturesque.

By the time the May Day clock had struck five times the daisy had taken firm root, nationally, and the maypole had become solidly planted. These things had happened:

Through the endorsement, “in principle,” by the State health authorities, May Day had become an officially recognized part of state and community health programs throughout the country, not just as a one-day festival, but as part of permanent, year-round activities for the health of children. As a result, May Day became an incentive for campaigns to immunize children against the enemies of smallpox and diphtheria; it was used to encourage clinics—dental, prenatal, preschool; to encourage normal weight campaigns; to ferret out and treat crippled children; to wage safe milk campaigns, sanitation campaigns—for anything, in short, that stood for the improvement of young America.

The Congress of the United States had passed a resolution requesting the President to issue a proclamation an-
nually setting aside May Day as Child Health Day to be recognized in every state throughout the Union.

Before the passing of the resolution, the President of the United States on May 1, 1928, issued a proclamation calling the attention of the nation to the celebration of this day.

Formal May Day committees directing programs extending through the state had been set up in every state in the Union, with many of these committees permanent in their activities and with a tendency on the part of all to become so.

Practically every important organized group in the country—official and voluntary—had entered into the May Day picture—such forces as the departments of health and of education, the churches, the Children’s Bureau, the United States Department of Agriculture, the American Federation of Labor, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, the Red Cross, the American Legion and practically all other organizations that vitally touch the lives of children.

The May Day story is one that can never be told as a whole. It is too big. The picture is sometimes spotty, often spectacular, but the results are like the daisies in the fields, so numerous, so far scattered that they cannot be gathered or estimated. It is as varied as the traditions and color of the different sections and different national elements that make up our patchwork nation.

In Oklahoma they stage a child health “rodeo” on a famous ranch in which children become the principals instead of cowboys and bronchos. It is, as a matter of fact, an ideal child health conference that is held, but expressed in terms of local imagination.

Another state that vitally tells the May Day story is Arkansas, with its fifty-two and a half thousand square miles of orchards and vineyards, its cornfields, cotton plantations, rice fields, its mines, oil wells and varied sources of wealth—a little world of two million in itself, were it, geographically, situated
anywhere else. Arkansas has been recovering from the flood. Part of its recovery has hinged upon an intensive drive for the health of children. Its aim is to scatter over the state, in hill lands and “bottoms,” health centers to protect the children. In twenty-five of its seventy-five counties, there are health units but others are rapidly developing. These have served as dykes against floods of disease, even more effective than the dykes built to restrain the flood waters.

To Arkansas May Day has come as a boon.

Throw the spotlight on one place in the state. From the report comes this:

Jonesboro, with the help of the county and city departments of education, did a beautiful piece of child health work. Active work on the program was inaugurated in January and when May Day and the celebration came round every child in the city schools, both white and colored, had been given physical examinations and 420 had had all defects corrected. In the Junior High School, of 460 students, 176 proved to be 100 per cent according to the State Nine Point Standard of physical fitness. The schools were 100 per cent immunized against smallpox and 176 in Junior High had typhoid inoculation, and practically every child in the school system had proof of his citizenship as shown by a birth certificate — 250 certificates came in from this county as a result of the May Day work.

In one county of the state, Mississippi County, the Health Unit decided to confine the May Day activities to Blytheville, and a thoroughly satisfactory piece of work was used as an educational force for the county, looking to a county-wide celebration in 1929. Work was begun in February when 1,247 school children were examined and recommendations made for correction of defects; 1,245 immunizations for smallpox were recorded, 176 against diphtheria and 175 for typhoid. One hundred and five children were brought up to normal weight.

In the county school in Garland County better water supplies are being obtained, sanitary toilets, better lighting and ventilation, individual drinking cups and facilities for washing hands. Seven schools have been completely immunized against smallpox and typhoid. The goal for next year is all rural schools 100 per cent immunized for smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria.

That is May Day as it serves in Arkansas.

Shift the scene to the east. Massachusetts has set for itself these aims:

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To establish in each city and town a chairman to function at the head of a local Child Health Committee. This Child Health Committee, composed of representatives of the various community organizations interested in child welfare, is to be a permanent force making for the promotion of child health.

To interest and secure the cooperation of all state-wide official and non-official organizations.

To promote the celebration of Child Health Day in the schools throughout the state by supplying health education material in the form of plays, field day suggestions, and rewards for health accomplishments.

To lay special emphasis upon dental hygiene by combining a dental campaign for “100 per cent First Graders” with the Child Health Day Program.

To emphasize the idea of permanency of an all-year-round program with a special Child Health Day celebration serving as a climax of the year passed and as the starting point for the year to come.

It is working towards those aims not just one day but three hundred and sixty-five days in the year.

In 141 cities and towns through the state of Massachusetts there are child health committees, leaders of welfare activities who give themselves to the carrying out of the May Day program and to weaving its aims into the permanent, year-round life of the community.

Two hundred and thirty-three cities and towns held May Day celebrations in their schools in 1928 with special emphasis on standard weight, good posture, clean, sound teeth as evidences of health. Tags for being up to standard were distributed to 112,500 children.

That is May Day in the Bay State.

Now shift the scene to Oregon:

The Health Honor Roll in Jackson County was sponsored by the Jackson County Public Health Association, the Medford Parent-Teacher Associations, the county and city school superintendents and school boards.

The physical examinations of the Medford schools were made by three local physicians who donated their time, giving two or three hours a day until the examinations were finished. Dental examinations were given by the dentist supplied by the Jackson County Public Health Association, cooperating with the State Dental Society. He made a complete survey of all schools in Medford, and some other places in the county. As a result of this survey a dental clinic was established for all county children unable to afford dental care otherwise.
A pedograph machine was purchased, and pedographs were made of some of the older pupils (fourth to eighth grades inclusive). About 80 per cent of these were found to have some defect, usually weakened arches from wearing shoes that were too short. Corrective exercises, both at school and at home, were given.

A posture test of all children is made twice a year by the Director of Physical Education. Corrective exercises are taught to the children until the next test. A silver cup is awarded to the pupil showing the greatest improvement. The average improvement since the first test is 35.55 per cent.

There were 1,553 children examined for the Health Honor Roll. Ten hundred and ninety-nine of these children marched in the Health Honor Roll parade. There were 1,112 defects found, and 702 corrections were made. The interest shown in the Honor Roll was remarkable. Some parents who had been quite difficult about having their children examined, became willing, and even eager, to have them examined. The children were so enthusiastic that the parents were bombarded on all sides, and finally gave in so as to have peace in the family once again.

An Indiana County writes:

We had no celebration but a hundred and one underweight children were brought up to normal. There were ninety dental corrections, fifty-four tonsil operations, nine children had their eyes treated and glasses fitted.

One town in Montana reports as part of its May Day story:

The children's teeth were 75 per cent better this year than last.

In one town in Michigan where a May Day clinic for examining the children was held one little boy was found to have a bad heart and needed rest and watchfulness. His mother had thought his unwillingness to enter into sports and games was just apathy and had urged him to exert himself. One small life saved, perhaps. Multiplied by thousands — that, too, is May Day.

In North Carolina a whole state gave itself to examination of the prospective first-graders, backing the Summer Round-up program of the Parent-Teacher Association.

The chairman writes:

I think we can conservatively say that May Day in North Carolina has been a definite instrument in promoting the idea that the physical examination of the child about to enter school is a part of the routine preparation as much as the purchase of clothing and books.
Preschool children to the number of 6,408 were examined in that one state, although the reports were by no means complete.

Virginia tells a story of how the May Day leaven works:

In the May Day program, which is carried on in close co-operation between the health and the educational authorities, five points of health were chosen for every school child in the state to strive for—the five-pointed star of physical fitness in vision, hearing, teeth, throat and weight. Each year on May Day certificates are given to the children who qualify in the five points of the star. Through the Five-Point campaign, health has become a goal to strive for and the health programs in the schools, in consequence, have taken on new enthusiasm. In 1927 7 per cent of the school children of Virginia measured up to the five points. In 1928, 14 per cent qualified, twice those of 1927.

The sponsors of May Day in Virginia did not set those five points as their final goal, they had steadily in mind optimal childhood at the top of the maypole, but they knew they could not reach the goal at a bound. They set their standard within reach of many in order to encourage rather than discourage. But so many children have attained the Five-Point standard that the state has outgrown it and is ready to add other points to its star. What has happened in Virginia tells the power that lies in the May Day idea. The procession steadily moves forward.

In far-off Hawaii, which also has caught the May Day idea, the health authorities are preparing to put on a 100 per cent preschool drive with the aims of vaccinating all prospective first-graders against smallpox, ascertaining their physical condition and correcting all possible defects.

In Indianapolis the chimes of the churches last May Day rang out songs of childhood and a whole city paused in the midst of its rush, to pay tribute to children.

From one end of the land to another on May Day—in the little towns—in great cities—there are parades, and through Main Street and side streets children march or ride on symbolic floats flashing across the national screen the hope embodied in May Day—children in the glory of health—leaving in their wake an impression indelible.
So the story goes on and on. It will never be told, it is written into the lives of children.

The original idea of May Day has served its end. There is still malnourishment among children in this country, there are still needlessly crippled and handicapped children, there are many gaps of ignorance to be filled, defects neglected, but people everywhere are being stirred to an impatience with physical imperfections that impede the way of childhood, are becoming familiarized with what health in childhood is and educated to the ways and means to insure it.

A picturesque chapter in the American story draws to a five-year climax. May Day lent the maypole about which many impulses and interests which had floated widely scattered winds. It is safe to say that, since the war forged us into one common purpose, no other one agent has brought together so many diverse forces in unison of interest.

If the whole story were not so close to us we should see that what has happened in the past half decade in this country to build a nation of healthy children is an epic as dramatic as that of the salvage of the children of Central Europe during and after the war. But it is not quite so easy to see against the neutral background of peace.

The toll of death is going down. The toll of life and health is going up. In 1927 only one baby out of every sixteen died in the first year of life, instead of one in eleven as in 1919, or one in seven as in 1910.

THE CHILD'S BILL OF RIGHTS

The first maypole ever set up in this country was torn down by the Puritans as a symbol of wickedness and frivolity. Written on the new maypole erected for the new May Day is a Child's Bill of Rights. Were the maypole torn down, the Bill of Rights would remain, for like that earlier Bill of Rights on which Anglo-Saxon liberty rests, it has become part of the aspirations of a people. This newer Bill embodies articles of faith for the children of America—the first constitution of childhood.
THE CHILD’S BILL OF RIGHTS

“The ideal to which we should strive is that there shall be no child in America:

That has not been born under proper conditions
That does not live in hygienic surroundings
That ever suffers from undernourishment
That does not have prompt and efficient medical attention and inspection
That does not receive primary instruction in the elements of hygiene and good health
That has not the complete birthright of a sound mind in a sound body
That has not the encouragement to express in fullest measure the spirit within which is the final endowment of every human being.”

These “rights” embody seven cardinal points of protection and encouragement of childhood:

2. A wholesome home environment: physical, cultural.
3. Sound nutrition.
4. Physical examination, correction of defects, protection against disease.
5. Training in health habits and knowledge: in the home, in the school.
6. Mental and emotional soundness: through inheritance, through environment.
7. Spiritual encouragement: through the home, through the church.

To make the “rights” a reality in as many communities and as many homes throughout the country as possible, and to spread the knowledge which reinforces these rights, has been the whole purpose of May Day. With such reiteration and emphasis, and through so many varied channels of publicity has the Bill of Rights gone forth that states have built their whole health programs for children around it; it has been posted on the walls of schools, in clinics and clubrooms; flashed upon the movie
screens, spoken over the radio, printed in newspapers and magazines; made the subject of editorials until it has penetrated into the national consciousness as an irrevocable challenge.

It may be many years before those rights become common currency in the lives of all or even the majority of American children but they have been the means of lifting standards and hopes which will never again sink to the level they were before.

The Bill of Rights is the pinnacle of the maypole.

THE MACHINERY OF MAY DAY

Though May Day has had no formalized program, it has had machinery. Otherwise it might have remained solely propaganda. In every state in the union and in the District of Columbia and also in Hawaii there is a May Day chairman with a May Day committee. In thirty-seven states the machinery centers in the State Board of Health and the chairman is the director of the Division of Infancy and Maternity. These directors with their valiant corps of public health nurses have been the leaders in the great May Day Campaign. In the other states the chairman is an official either in the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the State Parent-Teacher Association or some other leading organization.

Besides a state May Day committee, there are in many states subsidiary committees in counties and communities. While some of these are active only before and after May Day, shaping and following through on the program, many are permanent, becoming the nucleus for all the activities in the community concerned with the health of children.

Central May Day committees are flexible instruments adapted to whatever service the locality needs. Sometimes the program remains entirely within the schools; sometimes it is shared by the whole community, with all organizations,—men's and women's,—chambers of commerce, commercial groups uniting on May Day for a celebration that deeply touches the community life; again the program may be entirely one of active work—clinics, midwife classes, health campaigns, pure milk campaigns—with nothing in the way of festivities and parades. May Day is as the community chooses to color and stamp it
but in more cases than not, it is a dramatization of activities that are continuous.

**Councils of Child Health**

The daisy has a tendency to become a perennial. May Day committees in many instances are formalizing into State Child Health Councils, made up of representatives from all of the leading organizations concerned with the welfare of children.

These Child Health Councils are forming so rapidly that they outstrip enumeration. They are a big step towards coordination in state and community of all those interests that vitally touch the lives of children. Communicating with one another in all different parts of the country, they provide links through which any information and discoveries hopeful to child life can be rapidly transmitted.

The effectiveness with which these Councils work is illustrated by what happened in Texas. The Governor had called together the leaders of the various welfare organizations to form a Council. After discussing what were the chief objectives to aim for in the state it was decided that Texas was impeded at every step of the way by not being in the birth registration area. It could not measure progress when the fundamental human statistics were unavailable. "Texas in the birth registration area between May Day, 1928, and May Day, 1929," therefore, became the first immediate objective. The Governor and his wife started the campaign by having their own birth certificates made out. Almost over night Texas was mobilized to bring the state's human bookkeeping up to standard. Members of local branches of the various organizations appealed to, volunteered to assist in gathering birth statistics. When this aim has been achieved the Child Health Council will then train its guns upon new objectives.

The State Child Health Councils usually have local branches in cities and counties. The Central Council sets certain state-wide aims in which all councils cooperate, and within communities and counties a program of local aims is developed.
May Day Channels

How the Schools Tell the Story

It is only within the past decade that the schools of the country recognized the new responsibility of the health of children. Everywhere they are expanding and adjusting their programs so that health becomes an end as desirable as scholarship. The old-fashioned, anemic bookworm who walked off with honors has vanished from the educational horizon to make place for the straight-spined, broad-chested "blue-ribboner" who caps his scholarship with physical fitness.

Because health education was new in the schools, May Day came along in time to serve as a means of dramatizing this experimental phase of education. All over the country on May Day schools break out with parades, pageants, field days in celebration of the day. In many states this day has become one of the important festival days of the school calendar. Parades participated in by thousands of children, with beautiful floats, pageants rivalling those that graced village greens in England during the Elizabethan days, athletic meets, all visually tell the story of the great drive for health for the children of this country.

The original hope that children could be enlisted in their own cause has more than fulfilled itself. But, as with cities and communities, May Day has sunk deeper roots in the schools than just as a festival day, important as that is. All over the country the May Day celebration has become the dramatization of the health work that goes on throughout the year, culminating on that day and setting in motion a new enthusiasm for the year to come.

Many schools have worked out certain standards of health towards which children are encouraged to strive—Virginia and Kentucky have five points of health, Oklahoma nine points, Missouri has both six and nine points, and other states have "blue ribbon" or "honor roll" standards—and active campaigns among the children to reach these standards have aroused an interest that helps to inculcate lasting habits of health.
If the May Day story began and ended merely with what has been done in the schools, it would be one of significant accomplishment. As Boards of Health have used this instrument—because of the grip it has upon the imagination—to help write child health more forcibly upon the public conscience, so superintendents of schools and supervisors and teachers of health education have found in it inspiration to win parents and city fathers to cooperation with a new phase of education and to enlist children in the crusade for their own physical well-being.

**May Day Through National Organizations**

If all the ribbons that have been wound about that symbolic maypole reared on May Day could waft their story abroad it would make a tremendous sum total of accomplishment. Practically every organized group of any consequence throughout the country has attached its ribbon to the maypole, recognizing in May Day an instrument through which to express its own particular contribution to the welfare of children.

The great organizations of the country—especially those made up of women—represent the new socialized parenthood which has gone beyond the bounds of the home. And May Day is an expression of that larger parenthood.

Many groups have used May Day as an axis about which they have built national campaigns. Besides the official adoption of May Day by State Boards of Health and by schools in many states and communities, the United States Department of Agriculture has opened up all its channels to carry each year the message of May Day into the rural districts. In its great work for the health of the rural boys and girls of the 4-H clubs, May Day has played an important part, and the home demonstration agent has been one of the leaders in community programs stimulated by May Day throughout the country.

Nothing more vividly tells the story of the service to which May Day is put than the part it has played in the great campaign of prevention known over the country as the Summer Round-up of pre-school children inaugurated by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers—a campaign to send to the first grades of the schools of the country, children one hundred per cent free of remedial defects. The Round-up was chosen by
the National Congress as the ribbon it would wind around the maypole, May 1st being taken as the starting point and climax of the Round-up. In many places May Day and the pre-school Round-up have become almost synonymous. Back of this campaign are united the school authorities, the health officials, the medical profession and the parents of the country who are steadily being won through the parent-teacher associations.

Think what it would mean to screen every year the children of this nation before they enter school and bring them to their maximum physical standard!

And the screening is just one step to educate parents to the need of a continuous watchfulness beginning at birth, catching defects at their starting point. In 1927 a group of 2,120 parent-teacher associations were enrolled in this campaign. By July of 1928, 2,466 associations had enrolled and 120,000 examinations were under way, followed up by the necessary corrections. The results can be gauged in the light of one group of 13,520 children from which the returns had been tabulated showing 6,173 defects corrected; and in the same group 2,556 children were brought to one hundred per cent correction by the time school doors opened in the fall.

Writing in the Bulletin of the American Medical Association, Dr. John M. Dodson hails the Summer Round-up as "one of the most important and far-reaching movements in preventive medicine in our time." Were they not part of a greater whole, the results of this one campaign are big enough to stand alone in their contribution to the health of the children of the nation.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs all over the country sponsors May Day and makes use of it as part of its community health studies and in many other ways to increase interest in child health, besides lending its force as an important element in May Day programs in every state.

The American Federation of Labor has found in May Day the power to inject into its auxiliary councils an interest in the health of children as the foundation for the later fitness of the workers. At the annual meeting of the Federation in San Francisco in the fall of 1927, the resolution which later was passed by Congress making May Day officially Child Health Day was
proposed. It is, therefore, to the initiative and impetus of labor that the country now has May Day as a recognized calendar event.

The great youth groups—Girl and Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, and their allied organizations—have all found increased incentive in May Day.

One could pick the ribbon of any one of these groups among the list of organizations cooperating in May Day and find that it tells a story in itself, but the accomplishments are too varied to enumerate. They all contribute towards making a new, more hopeful pattern of childhood in this country.

May Day With the Churches

In 1927 May Day enlarged its horizon. The Child's Bill of Rights was expanded and the last two rights—mental and spiritual soundness—were added. May Day had never stopped short of those rights but it had not projected its aspirations too far for fear certain nearby objectives should be lost. In 1927, with the coming of May 1 on Sunday, the churches of the country were urged to join their forces to those already united under the May Day banner. Any drive for the children of this country would be incomplete without the influence of religion. On their part the churches found in May Day a means to focus attention upon the spiritual health of the child as a vital part of his complete development. Since that first endorsement of May Day it has entered into the accepted calendar of churches throughout the country: Catholic, Jewish, Protestant.

Commercial Cooperation

May Day has used many of the methods of big business to reach its goal. Held inviolate from commercialization, it has had back of it that vital impetus which the endorsement of business gives. Chambers of commerce, men's clubs, national advertisers, and many great commercial groups as well as individual stores throughout the country have contributed to the sum total of May Day results.

Department stores have adapted space and lent personnel to baby clinics; literature bearing upon the health of children has passed over their counters to mothers who perhaps might
not be reached in any other way. One group of chain stores in 1928 distributed more than 260,000 pieces of literature, with the endorsement of the American Child Health Association.

Stores all through the country have had window displays as one means of calling attention to the various aspects of child health. Leaders in the largest chain store groups, moving from their national centers outwards, have become great forces back of May Day throughout the country; such groups as the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, the J. C. Penney Company, the W. T. Grant Stores.

On every diner of the Missouri Pacific Railroad during the week of May 1, 1928, menu cards bore special menus for children, called attention to May Day, and published the Child's Bill of Rights. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad also published the Bill of Rights and called attention to May Day.

National advertisers have carried, in magazines and the press during May, references to the campaign for the health of American children and local advertisers all over the country have given up space in their advertising to displays on May Day and child health.

May Day and Publicity

Without the printed word May Day might not have gone very far. The mobilization of forces behind what was in the beginning just "a brilliant flash of imagination" bears witness to the power that lies in this idea. Wherever there is a printing press in this country May Day is a familiar story.

A writer in the Chicago Journal of Commerce after the May Day, 1927 campaign, commented:

The publicity given to that campaign by the magazines and newspapers of this country, was second only to that accorded to such events as the Dempsey-Tunney fight, the Lindbergh flight, and the world series.

Out of the report we pick two states at random: In Massachusetts, sixty-one newspapers printed 173 stories of the campaign, giving it a circulation of 13,912,210. In Michigan, ninety-eight newspapers printed 193 articles, with a total circulation of 4,112,196.

So it was all over the country; and these figures must be far below the real total, for the reason that most editors are content to make their news contribution without mailing clippings to headquarters—and clipping bureaus never catch all of them.
The magazines did equally well, as did also the tabloids, the Sunday rotogravure sections, trade papers, religious publications, news associations, and even the billboards.

The thousands of newspapers and magazine editors who contributed space to the child health campaign, did so because they believed the thing was right and that it was good for the community and the country.

May Day has touched the great selfless love of children and the desire for service which lies close to the surface of our national character, and magazines and the news press of the country have reflected this. In 1928 two hundred and seventy-five publications, including the leading magazines and many lesser mediums, carried the May Day message, through editorials, stories, special features and publication of the Child’s Bill of Rights. The newspaper circulation of May Day material each year has gone beyond all possibility of calculation.

The power of that printed word, rallying people everywhere, helping to stir communities to their responsibilities, has been a force beyond all reckonings.

May Day goes on record as one of the great romances of modern publicity.
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February 18, 1924.

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to present to you a plea which I know will command your sympathy. That is for your further assistance in a coordinated effort by the organizations interested in approved protection of the health and welfare of many American children.

Out of the mounting disasters that have overtaken the peoples of the world in recent years has come a deeper study of the fundamental factors upon which our civilization stands. Scientific investigations and studies of voluntary organizations by the Children's Bureau, studies of the war draft, including systematic surveys by the American Child Health Association of which I am president, have demonstrated that we in America are far behind what a national conscience should demand for the public protection of the well-being of our children.

We have in America upward of thirty-five million children, the great majority of whom are the object of the utmost solicitude upon the part of their parents, but no amount of individual solicitude can correct the dangers to which they are subject in many communities by failure of community safeguards. With all the enlightenment and all the prosperity of our great people, we find that in five other nations there is a lower death rate among infants; we find in sixteen other nations a lower rate of fatality among mothers at childbirth; the great national draft indicated that something like eighty per cent of the men examined were deficient in some particular or another. We find in many of our communities impure sources of water and impure supplies of milk; and in many insufficient consumption of milk; in others we find inadequate provision for health inspection and playgrounds; we find archaic systems and incompetent administration of public health in many cities and towns; we still have large numbers of children at work in factories when they should be in school.
The picture is not all dark. In the last twenty years the United States' infant mortality has been reduced by one-half. In no other nation of the world is there such solicitude for ill and crippled children. This shows what can be done. There is no country where children are held in such tenderness as in America. Our delinquency is not in individual regard but in community effort that will surround our children as a whole with such safeguards as to bring them to healthy maturity. This is a problem of maintaining health rather than curing disease. Therefore, I lay before you this proposed effort to secure more concentrated public attention in establishing community conditions by which children may have the assurance of full opportunity to reach maturity in full health and strength.

May Day is traditionally and peculiarly a children's day. It is the desire of many organizations to establish the first of May, 1924, as a day for constructive, concentrated thought and demonstration on behalf of community action for the American child. It is thought that on that day, if you approve, the governors of states, commissioners of health and education, mayors of cities, and various organizations working for child health and welfare, the press, motion picture industry, radio broadcasting stations and other agencies might be asked to join in stimulating consideration throughout the country of these problems. I, therefore, would be glad to know if you could give your approval to such an effort.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

To
The President of the United States,
White House,
Washington, D. C.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 8, 1924.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am glad to receive from you the plans of the American Child Health Association with other cooperating associations concerned with children's welfare, to focus the thought of the country on constructive measures for improving and safeguarding the health and welfare of our nation's children on May Day, the traditional outdoor day of children.

The stupendous growth of urban population constantly presents new problems of child life and health. These problems should be met by action within each community itself. Our whole social and political progress lies in strong and effective action and initiative of our local communities. Our national voluntary associations concerned in these questions serve a great purpose in scientific research and building up public understanding upon which action shall be taken and from which solutions will be found in each community. They are not alone effecting remedies—they are serving to support the institutional importance of local government.

I wish the organizations every success in an effort which will touch so sympathetic a chord in every American heart.

Most sincerely yours,

To
Hon. Herbert Hoover,
President, American Child Health Association,
Washington, D.C.
To the State Health Officers:

Greetings!

At the Executive Committee meeting of the State and Provincial Health Authorities, held at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 19, Dr. Crum-bine presented the matter of "May Day—National Child Health Day," all-the-year-round program, with the suggestion that the time was now propitious for the several states to definitely take over the "May Day" idea as a part of their official program around which they might effectively center the social and civic groups and resources of the state through which to further foster and promote their own state child health programs. It was suggested that this might best be accomplished through the creation of a State Child Health May Day Council, a copy of the proposal of which is enclosed.

Upon motion, the proposal was approved, "in principle" and the secretary instructed to notify the state health officers.

Needless to say the Council membership should be carefully selected to include only those of influence and standing in the state and who are ready to "go to the mat," if need be, in the cause of child health.

Please write Dr. Crumbine about your plans, also send a copy of your letter to me for the Conference files.

Sincerely yours,

A. J. Chesley, M.D.,
Secretary-Treasurer
Conference of State and Provincial
Health Authorities of North America.
President’s Proclamation—1928

By the President of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the conservation and promotion of child health places upon us a grave responsibility;

WHEREAS the protection and development of the health of the children of today are fundamental necessities to the future progress and welfare of the nation; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward the health and well-being of our children;

Now, THEREFORE, I, Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States of America, do hereby set apart May 1, of this year, as Child Health Day and do invite the people of the United States and all agencies and organizations interested in child welfare to unite upon that day in the observance of such exercises as will acquaint the people of the nation with the fundamental necessity of a year-round program for the protection and development of the health of the nation’s children.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-second.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

Provided by the Maternal and Child Health Library, Georgetown University
CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION

Joint Resolution

Designating May 1 as Child Health Day

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That the President of the United States is hereby authorized and requested to issue annually a proclamation setting apart May 1 of each year as Child Health Day and inviting all agencies and organizations interested in child welfare to unite upon that day in the observance of such exercises as will awaken the people of the nation to the fundamental necessity of a year-round program for the protection and development of the health of the nation’s children.
A GOVERNOR’S PROCLAMATION

State of Connecticut

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN H. TRUMBULL

GOVERNOR

A Statement

WHEREAS; It is universally recognized that the future strength of our nation and state must be built upon the health of the children of today; and that generally aroused interest in May Day as Child Health Day gives occasion to further the plans for the advancement of the health of our children; and

WHEREAS; The citizens of the Commonwealth of Connecticut are fully alive to the power of an ideal persistently kept before the people;

THEREFORE; I, John H. Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut, recommend that May 1st be set aside as Child Health Day to be observed throughout the state.

I request the hearty cooperation of all Health Officials, Social Units, and the General Public in furthering a work which is vital to the well-being of future generations.

JOHN H. TRUMBULL,

Governor.

Dated at Hartford, April 19th, 1928

By His Excellency’s Command:

EDWARD L. KELLY, Executive Secretary.
EDUCATIONAL ENDORSEMENT

Proclamation

It is very appropriate that we should combine with the spirit of May Day, thoughts directed toward the health and physical welfare of our school children.

The conservation and promotion of health is one of the most important objectives of the educative process.

May Day festivities throughout the ages have been dedicated to joyous health and happiness. Such celebrations may well include the evaluation of the health and physical education activities, together with plans for future development of this program through the successful cooperation of the school and those local agencies that are concerned with personal and community health.

Therefore, I, J. L. Clifton, Director of Education for Ohio, do hereby call upon the school administrators of the state to prepare and conduct suitable programs for the celebration of May Day in furtherance of the health and physical welfare of the school children of Ohio.

J. L. CLIFTON,

Director of Education.

May, 1928.

[SEAL.]
FROM THE MAY DAY
SCRAP-BOOK
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The idea of an annual Children's Day originated with the American Child Health Association; the first one was held on May 1, 1924.

May first was selected for the Children's Day because that is a day that seems to belong peculiarly to childhood. It seemed simple and appropriate to tie up the old idea of May Day Kings and Queens, May parties and May Day basket hanging with the play idea that we hope will mean so much more.

I wish I might take you with me and see one of these celebrations as I have seen them. Troops of children going out into the woods to gather the flowers for their May baskets; days out-of-doors in the spring worth all the other tonics together that have ever been devised or invented. Bright cheeks, and lungs full of life-giving oxygen. Then the joy of hanging the baskets on doors and incidentally cultivating that blessed trait of giving without hope of reward. Group action for a good purpose, the best preparation for the give and take of adult life that we can have. Then the great day itself. The selection of the May King and Queen with no jealousy and incidentally a pretty good lesson in the duties and privileges of citizenship. The happy games with no end of fun, the shining faces and the never-to-be-forgotten memories of childhood that take us over many difficult places in later life.

Into this annual celebration that belongs to children have gradually come the other and host of things that belong to a well-rounded childhood.

There are Christmas Day, Thanksgiving Day, Easter and the Fourth of July. What are they but days consecrated to a certain idea and purpose? Christmas to the idea of friendliness and love; Thanksgiving to the idea of plenty and gratitude; Easter to the thought of immortality and resurrection; and the Fourth of July to that of patriotism. True, they and their ideas have come down to us hoary with tradition. They are hallowed by custom and enriched with sentiment. We have no choice but to accept them and give our own interpretation to their meaning. But still, we would not willingly forego them. They do far more for us than snatch a day from work. Perhaps, all told, they are more potent in determining our national
chararter than pulpit and press combined—they and the ideas which they stimulate and exercise in us. Yet once they were unknown. They had their beginnings. They were initiated and grew into institutions, grew because the idea they celebrated had life, because they filled a need.

"May Day has from pagan times been dedicated to the idea of spring, young budding life. Why not give it a new interpretation, put it to and make it serve our modern needs?"

"Such, indeed, was the thought of those who chose May Day as the day on which to focus thought upon an ideal of perfected childhood. Surely, thought they, there is room on our calendar for a Children's Day. And surely a Children's Day must be dedicated to the ideal of making all children well and happy.

"Not just another day. That was not what they (who chose May Day as the day on which to focus thought upon an ideal of perfected childhood) desired. But to add to the great quartet of Days another that in its turn should gather tradition and so should come to stimulate emotion and stir us to new endeavors."

Will Irwin—New York Herald Tribune Magazine, April 29, 1928

"Now, suddenly May Day and the Maypole have established themselves among us. On the greensward of parks in the great Mid-Western cities, on market places of the South, on commons of New England and plazas of the Southwest, innumerable children will this year weave and plait the colored ribbons about the symbol of spring. For all I know there may even be a maypole at Weymouth, where Miles Standish made his celebrated arrest. We have begun to set this joyous holiday firmly into the structure of American life. Being Americans, we are doing it, characteristically, with our eyes on a practical and utilitarian end. But the little people, enjoying their elfin dances, will never know that!

"For five years, more and more the maypoles have sprinkled the land. There are juvenile kings and queens and a dance with weaving ribbons, as in old days. There are also dances and gymnastic performances whose aim and design is to demonstrate health development—but the useful purpose is carefully concealed from the children so that they enjoy it.

"Meantime, among their elders there are conventions and exhibitions and lectures, all directed toward that same end—the realization of that ideal expressed in the Child's Bill of Rights. The observance has even spread to include that Sunday nearest May Day. Probably no other secular day of observance, except perhaps Armistice Day, evokes so many sermons as this. The custom, it seems after five years, has become permanent; Congress even shows signs of giving it Federal recognition. And I am sure that Miles Standish—who left behind him ten children—would not in the least mind this maypole."
The Survey—May 1, 1924

"May Day in Europe registers the revolutionary tide of the year—sometimes higher, sometimes lower. In our American country-sides May Day often passes unnoticed in the serious pageantry of spring; in our cities, beneath the surface gayeties of maypoles in the parks and charity fairs on the avenues, has more than once run the sombre undercurrent of the processions of the unemployed.

"This year, by a singularly happy stroke of imagination, May Day has been dedicated to all the children of America and to the effort to give to each of them that wholeness of body and mind which might wipe out the old injustices and evils which ache within our social consciousness and mar the full miracle of the world reborn. Whether or not this really poetic impulse can be made strong enough to transcend the shackles of organization and give effective meaning to the old pagan festival, is measure of the strength and the integrity of those of us who give it at least lip service."

Editorial from Good Housekeeping, May, 1927

"Once more comes May Day. This year is the fourth in which the day was set apart as a festival of American childhood, wholesome and whole. The day has rapidly gathered impetus and tradition and taken its place in our national affairs, for as May is to the year, so is youth to life, the gladdest, most promising time of all. With the exception of Christmas and Easter, days of spiritual significance now deeply embedded in our racial consciousness, no day that we are wont to observe has a deeper meaning, for May Day—not the old first of May when troubles were aired and the police were on the watch, but the new May Day of the child—is, in its essence, a dramatization of that hope with which the world has turned to the child as the one permanent thing to steady it against a background of shifting standards, of speed and jazz, of political and social instability. Children grow up, but always there are children, the same in innocence, in aspirations, in possibilities for the future. So on May Day our hope—half for ourselves, half for our children—is celebrated, and in schools, communities big and little, cities small and great, throughout the country, all that is being done to clear the pathway of childhood is brought into the foreground."

Woman's Home Companion, May, 1928

"On the first of May, 1928, there will be seen all over this land a sight such as has never been seen anywhere or ever in the world's history. In thousands of cities and towns, in every state, even on the far islands of Hawaii, people will gather to renew with fresh vigor the greatest and happiest enterprise of modern times.

"Communal doings are all too often drab and prosy. Here is one that..."
is as gay as dancing round the Maypole, as poetic as gathering flowers for May baskets. Some great movements are exclusive, open only to the rich or the leisured or to this or that group. Here is one as democratic as life itself. Boy Scout and Camp Fire Girl, professional man and laborer, housewife and society matron, government official and humblest citizen—all alike are invited to draw into the circle and take a hand.

"It is Child Health Day, and its slogan is 'Better children for our nation; a better nation for our children.'

"In the United States since the opening of this century the death rate of infants has been cut in half. There is not the slightest doubt that it can be cut in half again.

"Nearly twenty thousand mothers die in childbirth annually. Experience where proper prenatal care is given has proved that this maternity death rate also can be cut in half.

"Stillbirths and death in the first year of life can be cut down by two thirds.

"There is none of us without love for little children and pity for their suffering. What many of us have still to learn is the great truth that death and disease are not the handiwork of an inscrutable Providence or a cruel chance. They are enemies to be fought and conquered by devotion and intelligence and dogged persistence. The spirit of Child Health Day is Hope."

The Atlantic Medical Journal, April, 1928

"Great progress has been made in preventive medicine through sanitary procedures established by state and municipal governments, such as the safeguarding of water and milk supplies, the proper disposal of sewage, the supervision of communicable diseases, etc. But the general public had little knowledge of the meaning or value of these precautions, and they often rebelled against what they considered aggressive procedures by health departments, which in reality were being enforced for their protection. They were very slow to accept the newer public-health protective measures and they were almost wholly ignorant of the social and environmental influences which were detrimentally affecting the physical and mental health of their children. In short, they were in a state of apathy—a rather natural attitude, since through generations it had been the habit of people to trust to the Lord and, perhaps to some extent, to physicians to keep their children well or cure them when ill. That they had some personal responsibility in the matter escaped them entirely. They had little idea of what child health meant. The conception of the average individual was that a child was well so long as he kept going. He could emaciate to a shadow, but if he kept going and made no complaint he was classified as well but a little thin.

"The American Child Health Association felt very definitely that this widespread ignorance was blocking the progress of public health, and that if
it could be overcome, the way of the health officer and the physician would be made easier, as the former would find the great public cooperative, interested in, and receptive of the newer health procedures, and the physician would find his patients seeking guidance as to how to keep their children well and consulting him for the treatment of minor departures from health.

"The Child Health Day movement was determined upon as the American Child Health Association's contribution to this end."

*American Educational Digest, December, 1927*

"The American Child Health Association has a well defined project 'to translate the ideal of the Child's Bill of Rights into a working program' in communities throughout the country. Its work is accomplished through cooperation with state and local departments of health and education, with national groups, and with government bureaus. The work of the Association was founded on the faith that there exist in the schools of this nation, says Dr. S. J. Crumbine, general executive, powerful forces for promoting the health of the child. The work, he says, is rooted in the conviction that if there is to be education in health, the program which seeks to attain this end must be an integral part of the educational plan. The responsibility for its development and operation must rest upon the schools and be woven into the child's life and thought by those skilled craftsmen in child training, the teachers. To stimulate schools to accept this responsibility the Association seeks to develop the best group thinking and ways and means to solve problems which arise."

**PRESS EDITORIAL COMMENTS**

*Gloversville (New York) Herald, May 3, 1928*

"While many of the old May Day customs have gone, never to return, it is to be hoped that one of the most recently instituted—the observance of Child Health Day—will grow in impetus and effect as the years pass.

"We are, of course, paying far more attention to the health of children than we used to do; but then, there was a time when we used to pay far too little.

"The child of today is the youth of tomorrow and the citizen of the day after. Concentrating on young America—to make him and her splendid, vibrant, healthy human beings—is a May Day task that should be a privilege as well as a pleasure."

*Lexington (Kentucky) Herald, May 1, 1928*

"Today has been declared by Secretary of Commerce Herbert C. Hoover, as the head of one of the many national organizations of which he is chairman, as Child Health Day."
"There is no more important problem in the United States than the problem of child health.

"State agencies and public health organizations have done much to promote better health among children. Preschool round-ups, health clinics, examinations, preventive steps, dental clinics—all these and many other activities have been of value in bringing about better health among the children of America. The work must go on, and on this day the people of the United States may well pause from other activities to give thought to the importance of the health of the citizens of the future."

Dayton (Ohio) Herald, May 1, 1928

"Using May Day for the purposes of forwarding child welfare was a very happy thought of the American Child Health Association and forms the basis for a most valuable and constructive program. Spring is the time of youth and what could be more appropriate than dedicating one of its traditional festal days to the young of the land? For the fifth time the custom of using this day for the children has been employed. And it is both interesting and pleasing to note that the nation-wide movement is growing most thriftily.

"It is said that more than fifteen million Americans are now interested in this direct form of child welfare work and that no city of any consequence has not been reached.

"An opportunity for every child must be the watchword for the great American people for all time in the future. All wealth and national prestige and all the institutions which make for human happiness and prosperity so abundantly in this country rest upon the continued development of a sturdy and responsible citizenship, free people who know how to use liberty and safeguard freedom. It is to create the greatest number of these and to hold down to the minimum the number of people who would be unworthy of liberty that the child health movement plans and works. In this work every good citizen is properly interested.

"May Day is a great day for the children. But it is even greater and brighter in its promise to the nation."

Boston American, May 3, 1928

"Suppose that, instead of having one National Health Day a year, we had three hundred and sixty-five, with these arrangements:

"A health center in every public school, with clinics where defects of the body would receive as careful attention as we try to give to undeveloped aptitudes of the mind.

"Training camps for boys and girls, in which each youth of the nation could learn how to breathe, stand, walk and ride correctly; how to do
FROM THESCRAP BOOK

common tasks in unison; how to practice collective hygiene; how to meet emergency needs with coolness and self-possession; how to play wholesomely; how to obey.

"A great extension of public nursing, so that the neediest person when ill or threatened with illness could be aided to speedy health.

"It would cost a lot, of course.

"But wouldn't it pay?"

Rochester (N. Y.) Democrat and Chronicle, May 1, 1928

"Not alone does this observance stress the advance in the conquest of children's diseases, an advance which is growing more marked each year, but it brings home the importance of healthful environment for child life and the need for supplying all of the varied elements necessary to healthy physical, mental and moral growth."

Honolulu, T. H. Star Bulletin, May 1, 1928

"Honolulu schools, in common with those of nearly every other American community, are joining today in observance of Child Health Day, set for May 1 each year.

"Nearly all progress in the physical care of children in schools has developed in recent years. Every school system has its physical welfare department, the food of children is watched, they undergo dental inspection, everything is done to assure the sound body without which a sound mind is nearly impossible.

"Such care, however, has not extended into every home. Schools do everything in their power, but they are dealing with children in groups, and seldom can give the individual care. That is up to the home, and on this day every parent should give thought to the physical condition of the children of the family."

News-Times, Neenah and Menasha, Wisconsin, April 30, 1928

"Five years ago tomorrow, May first 1923, the first May Day dedicated to child health in America was celebrated. Each succeeding May Day has seen more general observance of the day in the interests of childhood, until in thousands of cities and towns in every state and even on the far islands of Hawaii, people will gather tomorrow to renew with fresh vigor the greatest and happiest enterprise of modern times.

"Just at the time when the budding trees begin to show delicate tracings against the sky; when the first tender green begins to appear, and bird songs and balmy breezes stir the blood and set the heart a-thrill;—just then it is most fitting that the appeal of the lovely spring of human life, childhood, should be made. So May Day was selected by the American Child Health Association as the proper day to dedicate to the cause of the children of the nation.

Provided by the Maternal and Child Health Library, Georgetown University
"The purpose of the day is to call attention to the 'Child's Bill of Rights' and the most effective means for putting those rights within the reach of every child in the United States.

* * * * * * *

"Our future as a nation is tied up in our children. As conditions of birth and health, of education and training, of moral and spiritual development are bettered, so in direct ratio, will the character of the nation be strengthened and its progress assured. The spirit of Child Health Day is Hope. Let us see that hope reaches fruition."
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATING IN MAY DAY

American Dental Association
American Federation for the Hard of Hearing
American Country Life Association
American Federation of Labor
American Legion
American Medical Association
American Nurses Association
American Red Cross
American Social Hygiene Association
Art Alliance of America
Big Brother and Big Sister Federation
Better Homes in America
Boy Scouts of America
Brotherhood of American Yeomen
Camp Fire Girls
Drama League of America
Federal Council of Churches
General Federation of Women’s Clubs
Girl Scouts
International Council of Religious Education
Junior Red Cross
National Amateur Athletic Federation
National Bureau for the Advancement of Music
National Catholic Welfare Council
National Congress of Parents and Teachers
National Council of Jewish Women
National Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs
National Woman’s Christian Temperance Union
National Federation of Day Nurseries
National Federation of Settlements
National League of Women Voters
National Organization for Public Health Nursing
National Safety Council
National Society for the Prevention of Blindness
National Tuberculosis Association
Needlework Guild of America, Inc.
Playground and Recreation Association of America
Mooseheart Legion of the World
Young Women’s Christian Association

The state and local branches of most of these organizations cooperate in the May Day program, and representatives from the state organizations are invited to become charter members of the State Child Health Council whenever one is formed. There are other local organizations in the states which take active part in May Day, which because of space it is not possible to enumerate.

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THE STORY BY PICTURES
AND BY STATES

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Each year on May Day children of Washington hang a May basket on the door of the White House and in the name of all the nation's children receive the greeting of the First Lady of the Land.
Each year against the seamed hills of this coal mining town May Day witnesses a picturesque and impressive scene in which the entire community joins.

With singing and dancing and play health captures the imagination. The pageants and festivals of the new May Day are bringing richness and beauty into the lives of children.
Children of the miners—of all colors and nationalities—in parade and pageant tell the story of what is being done to encourage health.

The littlest mothers fall in line with the May Day march. Reaching the child before school age is one of the important aims of May Day.
Prevention is the watchword of May Day. In health clinics children, like blossoms, are being pruned of defects and encouraged to fullest growth.

Diphtheria is one of the enemies to be routed. Children by the thousands are being immunized with toxin-antitoxin.
In small towns and large throughout the country, on May Day, marches the parade of healthy childhood.

The maypole on village greens and in city parks is lifting up new standards and hopes for children.

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ALABAMA

Chairman: JESSIE L. MARRINER, R.N.
Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing,
State Department of Health

The spirit of May Day has gripped the state of Alabama, reports the chairman of the first-letter state. The aims of the program are:

To give to every child in every county of Alabama a full-time health service according to the relative urgency of the present needs.

To serve the educational forces of the state and counties by promoting higher standards of health education in elementary schools and educational institutions.

Special Activities.—May Day was celebrated by county programs and festivities, chiefly under the direction of the Division of Physical and Health Education of the State Department of Education.

Many private schools and colleges, especially girls' colleges, held May Day programs.

All community programs have been county-wide. This is one of the distinctive features of May Day in Alabama. It has served to bring the town and country together for a gala occasion at least once a year.

Permanent Results.—The May Day chairman in sending her report said it was too early to summarize results. But could there be a bigger result than that: “May Day has served to bring the town and country together in the interest of the health of children.”

ARIZONA

Chairman: MRS. CHARLES R. HOWE
Director, Child Hygiene Division, State Board of Health

The May Day work in Arizona is just getting well under way. The story of measurable results in consequence is comparatively small but the stimulus is spreading, with the end in view of arousing counties and communities to a responsibility for child health and maternity protection.

Special Activities.—Proclamation by the Governor.

May Day was celebrated almost entirely in the schools through the state, with programs and health examinations. The Governor’s proclamation was very generally displayed.

Gila County had a county-wide celebration through the cooperation of the director of the Boy Scouts, the parent-teacher associations and the
school nurses. There were all-day programs, and all preschool children were examined and will be followed up for corrections.

A May festival was held on the school grounds of Chloride, Mohave County, in the early evening of May 4—parents and children coming together for a maypole dance and program followed by basket suppers. The festival was sponsored by the parent-teacher association and was a means of encouraging interest in the Summer Round-up.

Jerome had a widespread celebration with talks on health subjects in the schools, window displays in the stores and publicity in the local papers.

In Winkelman, a third grade class of the school gave an excellent health play, all the children being Mexicans. The whole school celebrated May Day.

Health examinations were held in many places. The Summer Round-up was started in several communities under the auspices of parent-teacher associations.

ARKANSAS *

Chairman: C. W. Garrison, M.D.
State Health Officer, State Board of Health

In Arkansas a program of child health work has been developed intended to improve conditions through the establishment of health centers. Only a few of these have been established but the number is growing. Health conferences are an important part of the program and as a result of the examinations and inspections at these conferences, many children have had their defects corrected.

The twenty-five county health units are vital factors in the success of the child hygiene program and, their work being largely in the flood area, these units have served as dykes against the floods of disease that would have swept over the state without their watchfulness and aid.

Midwife classes have been held in many counties and splendid results are seen in improvement in the equipment of the midwives and in their personal hygiene.

Crippled children have been sought out and in the absence of a State Orthopedic Hospital, have been referred to the Arkansas Children's Hospital, a private institution.

Lectures, motion pictures, distribution of literature, are an established part of the program.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The May Day program in Arkansas this year was in the hands of the official child health agency of the state, the Bureau of Child Hygiene of the State Board of Health, and the State Health Officer, Dr. C. W. Garrison, was Chairman. The Departments of Educa-

* A few excerpts from the Arkansas report are given in the earlier part of the book. See page 6.
tion, state, county, and city; the University Extension Service and the Home Economics Department, cooperated heartily. Great interest was shown by the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary, and the Parent-Teacher Association helped in every possible way. Its Summer Round-up of preschool children has been a popular feature of the May Day program. The Red Cross, Tuberculosis Association, Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis, the churches, federated clubs, Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and the medical societies backed the movement solidly, and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, with their customary enthusiasm, never failed to help.

The Governor issued a proclamation and mayors of the cities gave hearty encouragement to the workers. The Child's Bill of Rights was used in every county and its standards urged.

Twenty-six counties did much work in putting across the May Day program this year and most of them had their celebrations in the separate schools. Only one county, Pope County, made the occasion a county-wide affair. Six rural schools came into Russellville, with about six hundred children, and formed a part of the parade; took part in the maypole dances and entered heartily into the picnic. Every business house on the line of march had window displays emphasizing health principles, and the civic clubs and public officials gave prizes for the best display and for the child being nearest physically perfect.

In Pulaski County county and school papers gave adequate publicity. Thirty-two schools displayed health posters and moving pictures were shown in a number of schools. Twenty-eight hundred and eighty-eight physical examinations were made and 3079 defects were corrected, including dental work and fitting of glasses. Nine hundred and forty-two immunizations were administered and many nutrition classes were conducted by special workers. All over the county Summer Round-ups of preschool children were held and fourteen well-baby conferences were held with an attendance of one hundred and seventy-five. Six hundred and forty-two children reached the Arkansas standard of child health. Plans have been completed to vaccinate every child who will enter school this fall, and more immunizing against diphtheria will be done than heretofore. A comprehensive health education outline is being prepared for the teachers.

In Crass County 3180 immunizations resulted in practically 100 per cent immunization of children of school age against smallpox and plans are ready for bringing both diphtheria and typhoid immunizations to the same standard.

In Ashley County a May Day celebration was impossible on account of an epidemic of measles, but the health work which should have been celebrated was well done, with the cooperation of many welfare agencies. Nearly four thousand physical examinations were made. All preschool
children had had their birth recorded. Sanitation in rural schools has been stressed and sanitary toilets have been built for several. The county has set aside $500 to operate on ten crippled children, and two have already been made practically normal.

In the schools of Garland County better water supplies are being obtained, sanitary toilets, better lighting and ventilation, individual drinking cups, and facilities for washing hands. Seven schools have been completely immunized against smallpox and typhoid. The goal for next year is all rural schools 100 per cent immunized for smallpox, typhoid and diphtheria.

A health center has been established at Leachville as a result of the Blytheville celebration and the county program.

In Searcy great emphasis was given to dental hygiene. The dentists gave liberally of their time and three hundred dental corrections were made. A health parade of seven hundred school children and many preschool children preceded a May Day operetta in which seventy-five school children took part, all of whom had had some defect corrected.

The work in almost every county was significant enough to record if space permitted.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—As a result of the May Day program, 26,807 Arkansas children received immunization this year against smallpox, diphtheria or typhoid, and many of them against all three; 11,357 physical examinations were reported and these culminated in many corrections of bodily ills; 1174 undernourished children were brought up to a standard weight through nutrition classes and the supervision of nurses and home economics specialists.

Health centers have been established in five counties and others have been unofficially reported; a baby clinic was opened in Fort Smith.

All counties that have entered into the work this year are already talking and planning for a better program next year.

CALIFORNIA

Chairman: Ellen S. Stadtmüller, M.D.

Chief, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Public Health

California continued its plan of emphasizing the need for medical examination of preschool children as the major activity of its May Day-Child Health Day work. Much of the organization of the campaign was left in the hands of the parent-teacher associations, whose national organization has given so much impetus to this work. The response has been very satisfactory. In the first two months of this campaign, opening for the season on May 1, about nine thousand examinations were reported. The Bureau of Child Hygiene of the State Department of Public Health, in cooperation with members of the May Day-Child Health Day committee, worked out physical standards for children of varying preschool ages. These
standards were circulated to various parent-teacher groups, and published in the Weekly Bulletin of the State Department.

Although California has not emphasized the May Day festivals, various communities have utilized the occasion to present health pageants and plays, often under the leadership of the schools.

Special Activities.—Observance of Child Health Week in the schools of San José, which included mass free-hand exercises, health plays and a posture parade, was brought to a close with a play day in which the girls from three high schools took part. Although health knowledge and habits are taught throughout the year, Health Week was used to give emphasis to the regular instruction and to inform the parents of the health work being done in the schools.

In various other communities educational programs, pageants, and plays were headed by the school health groups.

In Los Angeles the Mothers’ Educational Center opened its annual Baby Week on May 1, and awarded blue ribbons on that day to babies reaching the required rating.

At Pasadena health conferences for babies and children of preschool age were held at the city hall on May Day, these being in addition to the regular conferences held in different parts of the city.

Permanent Results.—Increased interest in the correction of defects in the preschool child has resulted from May Day.

COLORADO

Chairman: Helen L. Burke
Executive Secretary, Colorado Tuberculosis Association

This year for the first time the May Day and Health Week program of Colorado was sponsored and carried out by the Council of State-Wide Health Agencies, thus ensuring cooperative effort. The secretary of the Council was appointed State Chairman for May Day, and official and social groups pooled the names of their volunteer workers, so that an efficient leader could be appointed as chairman for each county.

The programs in the different counties varied greatly, but emphasis was especially placed on control of communicable diseases and birth registration—Colorado not as yet having been admitted to the birth registration area.

Special Activities.—The Governor proclaimed May 1 Child Health Day and the week beginning with that day as Health Week.

A marked feature throughout the state was the unusual number of health talks and radio speeches given. Arrangements were made with KOA, Denver, for weekly 15-minute broadcasting programs by different members of the Health Council, covering a period of nine weeks.
In many places examination of preschool children and special clinics for immunization against smallpox and diphtheria, characterized May Day; in one place the Health Department even offered to visit homes in which there were five or more children for the purpose of giving toxin anti-toxin. In another county community health conferences were held for six days in five towns, for the examination of infants, preschool and school children. A tuberculosis diagnostic department was conducted during two days for children living in contact with tuberculosis. Educational publicity over a period of several weeks prepared the way for these clinics and conferences.

In Greeley, concentration was on cleanliness and sanitation as they affect child health. Eight committees of representative men and women, each functioning in relation to one aspect of sanitation, were formed to secure more sanitary and healthful living conditions. They were successful in obtaining the cooperation of the City Council.

The schools were active in laying particular stress on the value of health as well as in illustrating it through pageant, festival, and sport. There was a tendency towards the less formal type of field day, as at Rocky Ford where the participation of all the school children was the keynote of the program. Seven hundred and seventy-five children enjoyed an afternoon of play at the Fair Grounds, and put on a delightful program by playing the usual games which they enjoyed throughout the school year.

In Denver, where Health Week was sponsored by the Denver Public Health Council and managed through a series of committees, those in charge felt that, so widespread were the activities, the appeal for better health had reached every adult and child in the community. The hospitals and welfare organizations kept open house and explained their service to visitors; special clinics were conducted; in the schools health was emphasized in unusual ways throughout the week; welfare and official agencies, including the schools, cooperated in giving a health exhibit which ran all the week.

Permanent Results.—May Day helped to coordinate the efforts of state, as well as local health agencies.

It stimulated service clubs to include health in their yearly programs.

It created interest in birth registration.

CONNECTICUT

Chairman: A. Elizabeth Ingraham, M.D.

Director Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

Connecticut, being a small state, used the congressional districts as organization units—seven in all—in its child health programs. May Day this year was much more widely and effectively celebrated than ever before.
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It represented the close cooperation of varied groups which included the health, the educational, the religious, the milk dealers and producers, the motion picture houses as well as clubs and scout groups and 4-H Clubs.

The Governor issued a brief but strong statement calling attention to "the power of an ideal persistently kept before the people" and stressing the ideal for which May Day—Child Health Day stands. This statement was used as the keynote of the Connecticut program. Over 1,200 copies of the proclamation were sent out giving great impetus to the program. One of these was mailed to every health officer, every state supervising agent of schools and every superintendent of schools in the state. Others were distributed by the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and also by the members of the 4-H Clubs. Two of the Department of Health workers on two different days drove through the rural sections of the state to leave one with the teacher of each little wayside school and asked her to put it up on the walls of her room and then to give a talk to her children on the meaning of May Day—Child Health Day.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—May Day activities of all kinds were inaugurated in different parts of the state.

Splendid cooperation on the part of the health officers throughout the state characterized the May Day program. One health officer on only a four-day notice got together, in the largest park of his city, 6,000 school children. These were addressed by the mayor, the school doctor and the health officer. Games were inaugurated and prizes given to the winners of the games. The Boy Scouts put up their first-aid tent and demonstrated their efficiency whenever need might arise for their services.

A stamp containing the message, "Connecticut May Day Greetings—Safe Milk Makes Healthy Children," was sent to milk distributors, Visiting Nurse Associations and tuberculosis workers, with the request that it be used on all outgoing correspondence, envelopes and enclosures during the month of May. The stamp was also used in the Bureau of Child Hygiene on all outgoing correspondence.

Sixty thousand slips calling attention to May Day and containing the message "Build Your Child's Health on the Foundation of Safe Milk and Simple Foods" were distributed to families through the milkmen on the morning of May 1st.

A May Day program broadcast from station W. T. I. C. was an important feature of May Day. This included various musical selections given by the orchestra and girls' chorus of one of the Hartford high schools, and talks by His Excellency, John H. Trumbull, Governor of the state, Right Reverend Maurice F. McAuliffe, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, and Robbins B. Stoeckel, State Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.
A May Day slide was sent from the Child Hygiene office to every reputable moving picture house in the state with the request to use it the week preceding and also that following May 1st.

Through the Connecticut Dairy and Food Council 90,000 May Day health leaflets published by the National Dairy Council were distributed to the schools.

DELAWARE

Chairman: C. A. Sargent, M.D.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health

Delaware made May Day an occasion to emphasize the periodic health examination for children and to stimulate interest in the health work carried on throughout the year.

In order to obtain data on existing conditions in the smaller towns, sanitary surveys were started on October 27, 1927 in towns not having a municipal water supply. It was hoped to complete the work before May 1. One county has been completed and the other two will be surveyed at an early date. In each community where the survey has been completed stress is laid on better sanitary conditions, better milk and water supplies and the elimination of flies. Following the survey a detailed report was given to the councilmen of each town, and a community meeting was held at which the conditions were discussed.

Special Activities.—The Governor issued a proclamation.

School principals acted as local May Day Chairmen and the schools generally celebrated with programs. Health pageants were given in three towns. Sunday schools in different parts of the state had May Day programs.

The State Parent-Teacher Association is cooperating with the May Day Chairman in a campaign for the examination of children entering school in September. The State Board of Education furnished a list of such children. The names of the children in each town are forwarded to the local association and it assists in bringing the children to the permanent health center or itinerant conference for examination.

As a result of the sanitary surveys a personal letter was sent to the mothers of preschool children in the surveyed towns inviting them to attend conferences which would be conducted in their town once a month. At the conferences preschool children are examined, mothers instructed in the care and feeding of infants and a home nursing class is conducted for the mothers.

A beautiful health pageant was given in the Georgetown Ball Park. On the afternoon of May 12 the children were arrayed in costumes transforming them into air fairies, sunshine fairies, good food and pure water.
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faries, and others. Some became witches of bad habits; coffee, drinks, etc. There was Any Child, who should have the opportunities of health given to him, and the great Queen Good Health. The children of the community showed talent in this pageant. The mothers and other members of the community were greatly interested. On the afternoon of May the 12th, a great number of cars were parked on the site and a large gathering of people came out to view the pageant. The onlookers were much impressed not only with the beauty of the display but with the value of the ideas expressed.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman: E. J. SCHWARTZ, M.D.
Assistant Health Officer
Assistant Chairman: MRS. ERNEST R. GRANT

In the Nation's Capital, on May Day, all races and creeds joined forces in observation of "Better Health for Children," and presented a program arranged through the coordinated efforts of representatives from twenty-six different organizations; ranging from the U. S. Children's Bureau, the District Health Department, and the American Red Cross to every important educational, social and health group in the District.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—May Day—Child Health Day was sponsored by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

The established custom of sending flowers to the White House was observed this year, but without ceremony or publicity, due to the critical illness of Mrs. Calvin Coolidge's mother.

The general staffs at Children's Hospital and the ten welfare stations were assisted by volunteer physicians and nurses in making physical examinations of several hundred children and giving instructions to their parents.

One hundred and fifty-five white and twenty-five colored volunteer dentists provided treatment for six hundred children. They pulled, filled, or x-rayed teeth, as the individual cases required. By a system of cooperation with the committee of nurses, school authorities, parent-teacher association, and Red Cross motor corps drivers, the children were transported to and from the offices of the respective dentists.

The president of the Federation of Churches assisted the May Day Committee in enlisting the clergymen of Washington to stress from their pulpits the spiritual, mental and physical needs of America's children.

The radio played a prominent part in heralding messages of "Better Health for Children." Seven men of national and local prominence faced the microphone to urge parents and teachers to "Stop, Look and Listen":

Dr. W. A. White, Superintendent of the U. S. Government Hospital
for the Insane, Secretary of Labor Davis, Dr. Curtis Lee Hall, a noted children's orthopedic surgeon, Frederic William Wile, author and international news correspondent, Dr. Joseph S. Wall, former president of the Medical Society and Dr. Quickin Messner, head of the dental department of the U. S. Public Health Service.

In addition, a very interesting talk was given by Dr. Elliott C. Schutz of the Podiatry Society on "The Care of Children's Feet," and a Child Health play entitled "Every Girl an American Beauty Product" was broadcast by the Girl Scouts.

Secretary of Commerce Hoover furnished the climax to the observance of May Day by broadcasting a nation-wide address over the "red network" in which he declared "the greatest purpose of our civilization, which is the happiness and contentment of our people, rests upon health."

The physical training directors, Dr. Rebecca Stoneroad, of the white schools, and Miss Anita Turner, of the colored schools, reported that every public school in the District of Columbia participated in some type of joyous celebration, including health plays, pageants, Maypole dances, and athletic events.

Dr. Paul Furfey, Professor of Sociology, Catholic University of America, directed a May festival for eight thousand parochial school children on the University campus. An exhibit of health education materials used in elementary schools throughout the country was on display in the University gymnasium, with a trained health worker from the National Catholic Welfare Conference to explain the work to parents and teachers.

At the Tidal Basin a picturesque feature of the day was the official opening of the summer season by the Swan Boat, which is operated for the benefit of a clinic at Children's Hospital.

At the Children's Hospital the little patients were not forgotten. Bouquets and baskets of red tulips and ferns were sent to these little shut-ins, the flowers donated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Special celebrations of various kinds were observed in the forty-two District playgrounds. At four of them the Tuberculosis Association weighed and measured the children, while at another playground the wife of a former President planted a red maple tree. Here several hundred children and grown-ups watched Mrs. William Howard Taft plant the tree, during ceremonies which featured saving trees.

The official May Day poster was on display in schools, store windows, street cars and public vehicles.

In the early morning of May Day a health message signed by the District May Day Committee atop ninety-five thousand milk bottles went into the homes of the rich and the poor alike. This message, urging parents to have their children physically examined, and suggesting simple funda-
mental health rules, was contributed by the Washington Dairy Council.

The publicity in the press was very liberal and valuable.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Examination of preschool children and diphtheria immunization with correction of defects, is being carried forward during the summer months.

FLORIDA

Chairman: LAURIE JEAN REID, R.N.
Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing,
State Board of Health

The May Day celebrations, which were very general throughout Florida, did a great deal to foster and emphasize the aims of the state child health program which, beginning with the lowering of maternal and infant death rates by prenatal instruction, includes parental education and the protection of the health and education in health habits of children from the preschool on up to high school age. All over the state there were beautiful festivals and parades. Twelve counties had county celebrations with all communities coming in to the county seat.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor wrote a letter of approval and commendation.

The Child’s Bill of Rights was widely used in all counties and communities and the May Day seal was used on all letters sent out by the Bureau of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing preceding May Day.

In Tallahassee, the capital city, the May Day festival, held for many years, this year for the first time introduced the health feature. There were health plays and a maypole dance, and a year’s program was inaugurated which will include the Summer Round-up of preschool children, health education in schools, and tonsil, adenoid and dental clinics—the program to reach its climax May Day, 1929.

West Palm Beach had a wonderful May Day, beginning with a parade made up of school children and all fraternal orders, Salvation Army, American Legion, Boy and Girl Scouts, woman’s clubs, civic organizations, bands, orchestras, drum and bugle corps, kindergartens, and parent-teacher associations.

The celebrations in the counties were varied and in many cases included the interest and cooperation of whole communities. In Bay County festivities were held at Panama City, beginning with a parade of over two thousand school children, those leading the parade being from the Health Honor Roll. The parade included the Mayor, Councilmen, Shriners, Elks, Red Cross, American Legion, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Salvation Army. There were infant and preschool floats. The school children carried banners with health slogans. Infant and preschool clinics were also held.
Marion County had a day of celebrations at Ocala and a parade in which thirteen hundred children marched, all of whom had kept health rules or had defects corrected.

In Pasco County there were forty-nine community programs. Dade City had a parade in which the whole community was interested and for which the mayor ordered the streets roped off.

The Woman's Club of Perry put on the first May Day celebration to be held in Taylor County. The pageant included parades, health plays, crowning of May Queen, and maypole dance. The club gave prizes to 100 per cent babies examined by physicians in the baby clinic.

In several other places pageants and programs were sponsored by women's clubs.

Permanent Results.—All of the twenty-five counties that celebrated May Day will make every effort to foster health programs put on by State Board of Health; the Florida Public Health Association; the Board of Education, and the Department of Agriculture. These programs promote interest in infant, preschool, and school clinics, immunization against disease, and Blue Ribbon health contests; encourage attendance at tuberculosis clinics, and assist in mosquito campaigns.

Different counties are working also for certain specific ends:

Putnam County will work for a dental clinic in the schools, and will hold an infant and preschool conference during the summer.

Monroe County, made up of many islands, will put on a Blue Ribbon contest in all the schools in the fall, and will immunize children against typhoid, smallpox, and diphtheria in the Summer Round-up.

Escambia County will place scales in all schools, and serve one hot dish at lunch, either soup or cocoa, and will give health credit on deportment and scholarship.

In Indian River County each school child is to have a thorough physical examination by a physician, and follow-up work will be done.

Bay County will have clinics for infants and preschool children. In rural districts it will hold typhoid, diphtheria, and smallpox immunization clinics. Honor Rolls of Health are to be established in all schools, and a tonsil, adenoid, and orthopedic clinic will be held during the summer.

GEORGIA

Chairman: Joe P. Bowdoin, M.D.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health
Vice-Chairman: Mrs. C. A. VerNooy

May Day in Georgia is definitely planned to promote the aims of the state child health program, which are to develop machinery for an adequate public health program to give every child the care outlined in the Child's
Bill of Rights. This calls for the operation of the Ellis Health Law in every county; better trained health officers, nurses, welfare workers; health education; public health nurses in the schools; cooperation with the University of Georgia in its plan to add psychological clinics to its extension department and with Emory University in its effort to establish a great Child Welfare Research Station; state appropriations for Maternity and Infancy to replace the Sheppard-Towner fund when it is no longer available and an equalization fund for the operation of the Ellis Health Law in poor counties, with ever increasing emphasis on prenatal and preschool needs; active Child Health May Day Councils in every woman's club and every community in the state; to continue to make the Community Health Studies until every county in the state reaches the 1,000 point standard set up by the American Public Health Association.

A committee representing practically all of the official and non-official groups in the state sponsored the May Day program.

Special Activities.—The Governor and also many mayors issued proclamations.

Georgia had no chance to escape concentration upon the health of children on May Day for the newspapers throughout the state heralded the idea widely, publishing editorials and announcements; posters made by the Business and Professional Women's Clubs were displayed in street cars and shop windows; and many of the department stores in Atlanta had window displays to remind passers-by of the responsibility for the health of children.

The Child's Bill of Rights was widely displayed and made the subject not only of editorials but the text of sermons in churches. Many ministers emphasized the spiritual health of the child in sermons on the Sundays preceding and following May Day.

The schools had programs and festivities of many kinds, sponsored by the boards of education and the parent-teacher associations. There were, also, a number of community and county celebrations.

In Savannah all of the kindergartens of the city united in a festival in the municipal auditorium on the morning of May 1st.

Permanent Results.—An educational program that has focussed attention on public health activities and enlisted the cooperation of organizations has resulted from the May Day stimulus.

There is a steadily increasing number of health centers and clinics of various kinds and full time nurses.

The Federation of Labor has appointed a May Day Committee to cooperate with our May Day Council; Woodmen of the World, a fraternal insurance organization, has pledged the membership of its eleven hundred
An increasing number of schools are entering the campaign for the Summer Round-up. The Board of Health distributed last fall 149,280 ampules of toxin anti-toxin.

HAWAII

Chairman: MABEL L. SMYTH, R.N.
Director, Division of Maternity and Infancy, Board of Health

Hawaii has joined the May Day ranks and adds its picturesque contribution to the national story. May Day is used to drive home better health standards for the children of Uncle Sam's islands in the Pacific. The health authorities in cooperation with the parent-teacher associations are planning a hundred per cent preschool drive this summer, hoping to vaccinate children entering school in the fall, and to ascertain and correct defects.

The island of Kauai had its second annual May Day-Child Health Day in 1928, directed by Miss Mabel Wilcox, Kauai Health Supervisor for the Territory of Hawaii, in cooperation with the public schools and faculties and the County Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations.

Special Activities.—A "Flying Squadron" health program of high school students demonstrating Indian club and wand drills and a talk by "Uncle Sam" was given. This involved two days of intensive work on the part of a group of eighteen people with three automobiles, travelling more than 200 miles.

A health contest was inaugurated in the schools of the island using five points of health on which to score. Six thousand of the health tags were used in the public schools.

A health poster contest was held in all of the public schools with cash prize awards and the posters later displayed in the Kauai Public Library.

Lantern slides of the 1928 national poster were made for use in the local community and plantation centers.

Publicity copy from the American Child Health Association was reprinted in local English and Japanese papers.

Three stores had window displays of wholesome and healthful food properly prepared for the meals of a day.

Permanent Results.—May Day is being used to raise the health standards of the youth of Hawaii.
IDAHO

Chairman: MRS. S. J. EWEN, R.N.
Associate Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene, Department of Public Welfare

By means of the cooperation of the women's clubs, the parent-teacher associations, the schools, the tuberculosis associations, with the State Department of Public Welfare, a rather comprehensive program was put on through the organized groups in the State.

Special Activities.—Those schools of Bear Lake County which had not already closed, joined in a parade and health program in Montpelier. Awards were made to students who had completed four years of health work.

In Lewiston the Mayor issued a May Day—Child Health Day proclamation. The day was observed by the schools and other organizations. A pageant was written especially for the fête. Twenty groups of dancers took part, each group demonstrating how today's child may be kept healthy.

Blackfoot held a Child Health Day parade of school children. Healthful foods and outdoor sports conducive to good health were depicted. Health talks were given.

Twenty-two communities started the Summer Round-up of children on May Day.

ILLINOIS

Chairman: GRACE S. WIGHTMAN, M.D.
Chief, Division of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health.

May Day in Illinois has become a significant part of Health Promotion Week which has been held in the state for some years to encourage interest in and promotion of health of individuals and communities. In many places May Day is the climax of the week's activities. The concentration upon health throughout the state during this one week has served to awaken a greater public interest for health work throughout the year.

Special Activities.—The Governor issued a proclamation urging the observance of Health Promotion Week. The interest that has been stirred in health in Illinois strongly colors the May Day celebration. The schools, both public and parochial, observed the week in many ways,—with talks from health authorities, with poster contests, gain-weight campaigns, and festivals, but in a large number of cases Health Week and May Day meant health examinations and clinics and dental surveys in which parent-teacher associations and women's clubs cooperated with the school authorities.

Practically every county engaged in some health promotion project.

In Peoria County everyone of the twenty townships took part in some kind of health programs the nature of which varied with the needs of the
community. A great deal of preliminary interest was developed through
talks before clubs and parent-teacher associations. Some townships had
dental clinics, others nose and throat or chest clinics. Public meetings fol-
lowed each of the clinics at which health plays were given by the school
children, health films shown and literature distributed. The program of
Elmwood with a 1200 population and school enrollment of 296 shows the
interest in health in the county. The woman’s club sponsored a nose, throat
and chest clinic in the school as their Health Week program. Dr. C. D.
Thomas and Dr. J. F. Duane, both of Peoria, were in charge of the nose
and throat clinic and Dr. G. T. Palmer, of Springfield, had charge of the
chest clinic. One hundred and seventy-six children from the school were ex-
amined at the nose and throat clinic. In all instances the parents were wel-
comed at the examinations. Many mothers did come to the clinic and al-
ways the physician discussed the child’s condition with her and made recom-
mendations. At the chest clinic Dr. Palmer examined forty patients who
were advised by their family physicians to attend. This was only a one-day
clinic, therefore time did not permit examination of all the school children.
However, the Woman’s Club, school authorities and others were so well
impressed with the work that they expressed a desire to have another con-
ference to complete the examinations of the school children. The parent-
teacher associations were responsible for a health program given in the
evening at the Opera House. That completed a recognition of health week
that stirred the whole community.

Preschool conferences have been a Health Week and May Day feature
in Urbana for the past three years. Last year Washington and Leal Schools
received recognition from the State Congress of Parents and Teachers for
securing 50 to 75 per cent of handicaps corrected in their preschool group.
The conferences have been sponsored by the parent-teacher associations.
They arrange for them and pay the local physicians and dentists who make
the examinations. They also do the clerical work and furnish transportation
for children and mothers. The children were first taken to the school build-
ing in their own community, where they were weighed and measured and
tested for vision. They were then taken to the local hospital where the ex-
amination was completed. The majority of the children were accompanied
by their mothers or fathers. The interest of doctors, dentists, mothers and
children themselves in attaining health, made it evident that Urbana is
reaching the goal of May Day, a sound mind in a sound body for every
child.

The Summer Round-up was started in many places in connection with
May Day with special emphasis upon toxin anti-toxin inoculations.

Each school grade of Polo had a window display in one of the local
stores.
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INDIANA

Chairman: ADA E. SCHWEITZER, M.D.
Director, Division of Infant and Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

"The aim of the Indiana Child Health Day program is to bring every child to the highest possible degree of perfection. Interest is growing in May Day as the culmination and the renewal of the year's child health activities, and the actual preparation for the festival day in 1928 really began on May 1, 1927," reports the Child Health Day Chairman. Literature was prepared early in January and sent to the local committees in February, so that there was ample time to prepare for the school programs, parades, the health plays and songs and other Child Health Day activities of a festival character.

The State Chairman carries on the work with the assistance of an advisory committee which acts as a council.

Many health conferences were held where parents might learn what physical defects their children had and receive instruction in health measures and habits.

Special Activities.—The Governor wrote a letter of encouragement and a number of Mayors issued proclamations. The Publicity Bureau of the Indiana State Medical Association officially endorsed Child Health Day.

The Child's Bill of Rights was extensively used in publicity, as well as the May Day poster. Slogans were found helpful, especially "Every Day Child Health Day in Indiana."

In Indianapolis an important feature was the May Day pledge cards signed by five hundred and fifty-nine parents who promised to have their children examined periodically. The educational value of these is significant. Special programs for the children were held in Indianapolis hospitals and in one all the children able to leave their beds had a part—the singing of a health song or reciting of a health verse. The Red Cross Motor Corps, Girl Scouts, public schools, Rotary Club, a number of florists and several individuals cooperated with the Public Health Nursing Association in distributing May baskets and flowering plants to children in hospitals and to approximately two hundred children ill in their homes.

The Interstate Public Service Company held a Child Health Day contest among its women employees in preparing window displays. The aim was to illustrate the need for correct lighting as related to the health of children.

In Gary the schools gave a joint exhibit and demonstration. Five booths were devoted to health and a first aid station. The methods of preventing contagious diseases were demonstrated, vision and hearing tests
were given, and the care and cleaning of teeth were shown. One dentist had a group of children tell of the dental work. Weighing was demonstrated.

Greencastle held a Child Health Day festival in which schools from practically every township in Putnam County took part.

Blackford County is also included among those in which every community was impressed with the importance of child health.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—On May Day, 1927, the Children's Dispensary and Hospital Association of South Bend started a year-round program of prevention of contagion. The first five months were devoted to an educational program and thereafter a weekly clinic was held. This is to be continued.

With the closing on May Day of the three-month nutrition program and the awarding of seven hundred blue ribbons to children of approximately normal weight, the nutrition worker of DeKalb County made a check-up of the increased sale of wholesome foods. She found that 100 per cent more milk had been sold and 300 per cent more whole wheat bread.

In Fort Wayne and Allen County the seven hundred examinations of preschool children were to be followed up by the Visiting Nurse Association.

The greatest permanent work of Child Health Day in Indiana is: the development of the examination of a large percentage of the children before they enter school, in cooperation with the parent-teacher associations; and the greater local interest in better health throughout the State.

IOWA

Chairman: MAE HABENICHT, M.D.
Chairman, Public Welfare Committee, Iowa State Federation of Women's Clubs

In Iowa May Day proved a means of pooling the activities of nineteen different organizations in a program that brought the health of children to the attention of practically every community in the state. The Chairman, representing the General Federation of Women's Clubs, worked in close cooperation with the Health Commissioner, and the secretary of the Iowa Tuberculosis Association acted as publicity chairman.

These combined forces directed the state campaign with the two clear-cut objectives in mind: the Summer Round-up, and the eradication of diphtheria from the state.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—Proclamation by the Governor.

A speakers' bureau with forty-seven speakers played an important part in the May Day program. The speakers scattered all over the state taking part in the celebrations of different communities. The radio carried the May Day message with programs from six different stations.

The schools throughout the state, almost without exception, made May Day the occasion of festivals and programs.
An important part of the May Day program was a health poster contest launched by the State Department of Health among high school students of the state, with four prizes of $25.00, $15.00, $10.00 and $5.00, the contest to close March 1, 1929, and the posters to be used in the 1929 May Day campaign.

Summer Round-up clinics were held in communities in many places.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Initial steps have been taken towards a Child Health Council which it is hoped will mature later.

May Day has promoted a better understanding between all organizations doing child welfare work and materially advanced the program of diphtheria immunization and the Summer Round-up.

KANSAS
Chairman: J. C. Montgomery, M.D.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

In Kansas the Child Health Day work was handled by Dr. Montgomery who is Director of the Division of Rural Sanitation as well as that of Child Hygiene. It was not possible to organize the state completely for May Day; nevertheless, the State Nurses Association passed resolutions endorsing the program, the Kansas Federated Clubs offered their services to help organize the work, and many other state organizations assisted in promoting interest in the day in one form or another.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The most conspicuous and widespread feature of Child Health Day was the parading of school children, graded according to their health. The “Nine-Point” children (those who met the standard tests of the Kansas State Board of Health as to vision, hearing, throat, nose, posture, weight, and immunization from smallpox, diphtheria, and typhoid) were distinguished in some way such as the carrying of sunflowers, the wearing of crowns, etc.

In Cherokee County the Nine-Point children met at a picnic in Columbus and one of them was chosen county May Queen.

The Morse School in Kansas City held posture examinations in all the rooms. Those who qualified for tags—two hundred and forty-three in number—paraded through the building. The underweight children who had gained during the year also had a parade.

Other school activities included the making of health posters, distribution of health literature, athletic events, health talks, etc.

Free medical and dental examinations were given to children about to enter school for the first time. The need of correcting any remediable defects during the summer was suggested to the parents in hopes of a 100 per cent healthy group of children entering the schools in the autumn. The parent-teacher associations cooperated in this work.
KENTUCKY

Chairman: Annie S. Veech, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, State Board of Health

Thirty-six counties in Kentucky observed May Day in 1928. In twenty-seven of these the programs took the form of a Blue Ribbon Campaign—an effort to put before the parents, teachers and children standards of positive health and to stimulate interest in these ideals. The awarding of the Blue Ribbon to those children who met all requirements of the standards, showed the communities in a most attractive way just what had been accomplished through continuous effort in the past year. The Blue Ribbon movement spread beyond the confines of the school and took in infant and runabout children in health centers. Standards for next year are to be higher but every effort will be made to keep this year's Blue Ribbon children eligible for the honor next year, as well as to secure new Blue Ribbon children.

In other counties, also, not entered in the Blue Ribbon Campaign, the festival celebrated the completion of a year's health work, showing Kentucky's belief in the value of a steady all-year-round effort; and everywhere May Day opened the Summer Round-up—the campaign for the physical examination of preschool children.

Special Activities.—As in former years, the interest in the May Day program spread through every variety of group—official, private, business, church and lay.

May Day in Louisville was celebrated as the culmination of many months of work on the part of teachers, parent-teacher associations, children, City Health Department and Board of Education, Public Health Nursing Association, physicians, dentists and State Board of Health. Over 7000 children of all ages were presented with Blue Ribbons, the mayor assisting in pinning them on. The names of all these children were signed in a beautifully bound book, which will be kept in the archives of the city hall. Just previously, at the close of Negro Health Week, about eight hundred negro school children, as well as infants from the health centers, had been awarded Blue Ribbons.

Prestonsburg and Berea featured health parades as part of their celebrations. In the former town the schools, by attractive costumes and posters, portrayed milk, vegetables, long sleep, drink water, bathe often, clean teeth and outdoor exercise. An original feature of the parade in Berea was the appearance of the Progress Club dirt-sweepers, scrubbers, cleaners and rat killers, attired in their gingham aprons and dust bonnets, riding behind a team of mules, and prescribing cleanliness as a first aid toward health. Contrasted with this was a beautiful airplane float on a "non-stop" flight to
child health. Everywhere parades, pageants and varied programs formed part of the schools' celebration.

In at least two cases, community and health centers discussed Blue Ribbon standards at regular meetings throughout the year and as a culmination held a child health conference or baby show during Health Week, Blue Ribbon standards being used to judge all children entered.

Showing that the Blue Ribbon Campaign is building on a sound basis, in one county four schools, white and colored, started a Blue Ribbon Campaign this year for the first time, and though no children reached the required standard, good progress was made and special ribbons were given to thirty children who had kept the health rules faithfully.

In another county the school accomplishing the most in health during the year was the recipient of a silver cup; while a school nurse elsewhere announces that she expects to offer a prize to the grade with the largest number of Blue Ribbon children by next May Day.

An interesting feature of one community center was the demonstration of a model nursery, showing everything from the baby bed to the glass of orange juice.

In a small city where a recent dental clinic has shown a very high percentage of children needing dental attention, care of the teeth was particularly stressed during Health Week.

**PERMANENT RESULTS.**—The Blue Ribbon movement is spreading and must come to mean improved health for the children of Kentucky. Already a higher standard and stricter inspection are being planned for next year's Blue Ribbon children, and these standards are being made widely known to parents and schools throughout the state.

Of especial value to the future of Kentucky is the interest that the most intelligent of the laity took in the Blue Ribbon Campaign. Many parents expressed appreciation of the help it had been to them in training their children in better health habits.

**LOUISIANA**

*Chairman: Agnes Morris, R.N.*

*Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health*

The Child Health Day program in Louisiana was the fruit of cooperation on the part of the state and parish departments of health and education, the State Superintendent of Parochial Schools, the State University through its community worker, and private organizations both state and local.

The Governor issued a proclamation naming a day in the first week of May as Child Health Day. The State Superintendent of Schools followed this with a letter giving his approval of the schools' setting aside a
day or part of a day for the appraisal of the health activities of the school and community, with plans for future improvements. An open letter from the President of the State Board of Health, copied in all the newspapers, urged the family, the school, and the community to take stock of their health assets and liabilities on Child Health Day.

The State Chairman and the State Community Worker together outlined a community-night program, which was circulated to eight hundred communities and the program actually given in one hundred and forty-one community clubs. The program was accompanied by a circular letter which urged that during May each community should stress whatever the local need for the health of children happened to be—whether better sanitary environment, protection from diseases by inoculation or vaccination, a school nurse, instructive lectures to mothers, or whatever seemed most needed. One club wrote in, “Through a health committee we had a children’s day in May and had the children examined as an addition to our regular program. Our health committee is urging the importance of cleaning and screening each home in the community.”

Special Activities.—Child Health Day was observed in New Orleans by a public showing of the clinics, laboratories, records, and other work of the City Board of Health, at the invitation of the city government.

The Child Welfare Association held a special clinic for three days during the first week of May, at which children were examined and also received dental care. Several of the colored churches gave health programs on the first Sunday of May, and moving pictures from the Bureau of Child Hygiene were shown.

In several cases special clinics were held and schools gave health programs—frequently under the direction of the home economics teachers.

In Baton Rouge every school in the parish had a program of maypole dances, plays, or pageants, in addition to the making of health posters and writing of compositions.

MAINE

Chairman: CLARENCE F. KENDALL, M.D.
Commissioner, State Department of Health

May Day in Maine this year spread over a wider area than ever and sank its roots deeper into the community life, due to the stronger stimulation of the State Child Health Council, organized early in the year. A meeting of the Council in April stirred the various organizations represented to share in the May Day programs and all other groups were lined up by the Division of Public Health Nursing and Child Hygiene.

A backward, rainy spring caused many programs to be delayed. More requests for material came from the Granges than any other organizations,
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while Public Health Nursing Associations, Women's Clubs, W. C. T. U.'s and parent-teacher associations were all interested. Some 4-H clubs had celebrations, also Legion Auxiliaries, schools and churches.

There was a general tendency of various organizations in a town or city to unite for a joint observance of the day. The Granges and schools often combined, or clubs and nursing associations, and in certain instances the whole community was organized for this celebration.

Throughout the state more and more attention was given to preschool clinics in connection with May Day.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—In accordance with a proclamation from the Governor, flags were displayed on May Day in many places.

The Child Health Day programs have been more or less along the same lines. A health speaker from the State Department of Health, or some one interested in child welfare was usually secured, and in most cases health films or slides were shown in connection with the health talk. Health papers were read, health plays presented by the children, together with recitations and songs. Health posters were displayed and health literature distributed. There were many outdoor health parades and pageants, and maypole dances.

Health sermons were given in some of the churches, and one community reported a union service of all the churches for Child Health Day.

The stores cooperated by showing posters and special window displays and the newspapers gave liberal space to articles relating to child welfare.

A very valuable part of the child health project was the work of the children in making posters and health scrapbooks and writing compositions on health subjects. In one place the windows of all stores were decorated, each store having posters made by school children. In another the merchants gave a store window to be decorated by the grade school children under the direction of the art teacher. Posters made by the children in school were used with the appropriate merchandise from each store.

In other places talks were given in schools by Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts.

One school reports an afternoon devoted to health work in every grade, to which parents and friends were invited; not a “concert” type of program, but a review of the year’s work in health.

One chairman writes: “We contributed nearly $40.00 to the Dexter Community Nursing Service.”

PERMANENT RESULTS.—There is an increased tendency to continue the child welfare work beyond the celebration of Child Health Day. Among the health projects listed for attention later in the year were the following: more dental work; more nutrition classes and talks; reports of results from following diet suggestions; home hygiene classes; tonsil and adenoid clinics; toxin anti-toxin treatments; child conferences; second pre-
school clinics to be held in the fall. Many organizations are already planning for their next year's Child Health Day observance.

MARYLAND
Chairman: J. H. Mason Knox, Jr., M.D.
Chief, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health

The keynote of the celebration of May Day in Maryland was expressed by the Chairman:

"The principal reason for celebrating Child Health Day is to focus the attention of the grown-ups on the younger citizens of the state and on certain rights they have to health and to good care, not only for one day, but for every day in the year. And in Maryland that means good health and good care for what amounts to a great army, for the very young children and those still in school constitute about one-third of the total population of the state. Roughly speaking, that means over 500,000 out of the total estimated population of 1,600,000. A great army upon which the health and prosperity of the state will depend."

The aim is to interpret the "Bill of Rights" into actual conditions for the children of Maryland.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—A strong May Day committee, with the Governor of the state and the Mayor of Baltimore in the lead and with representatives of every leading organization, stimulated the May Day program. There were county committees made up of deputy state or county health officers, county superintendents of schools, the presidents of county medical societies and officers of parent-teacher associations.

The proclamation of the Governor fostered interest in the recognition of May Day.

The schools generally throughout the state celebrated the day with programs illustrating the health activities of the year.

A typical child health program was presented at an all-day celebration at Kitzmiller, Garrett County, by the schools of the Bloomington-Kempton-Kitzmiller Health District of Garrett County, under the direction of the local public health nurse, Miss Yolanda Clawson.

Nearly 300 children took part in the exercises and each group contributed something to the program. The children in the younger grades led off with a pantomime, toothbrush drills and songs dramatizing health habits. An elder group gave an exhibition of their physical training exercises followed by a realistic baseball drill. The home-makers' classes among the high school girls gave a "foods for health" demonstration and the high school boys a "first aid drill."

The grown-ups in the community were out in large numbers and were equally active in the celebration, beginning with the Mayor of Kitzmiller,
who made the address of welcome, and including the county commissioners, the county superintendent and county supervisor of schools; county, state and neighboring health officers; public health nurses; representatives of the medical and dental profession, and the pastors of nearby churches. Addresses were made by Dr. Hugh Strachn of Kitzmiller; on “Child Health” by Dr. J. H. M. Knox, Jr., Chief of the State Bureau of Child Hygiene; on the “Care of the Teeth” by Dr. Morris of Kitzmiller; on the “Care of the Eyes, the Nose and the Throat” by Dr. G. O. Sharretts of Cumberland. Health movies were shown by Mr. Harvey Weiss, health officer of Cumberland.

MASSACHUSETTS

Chairman: Merrill Champion, M.D.
Director, Division of Hygiene, State Department of Health

The aims of the Massachusetts child health program, summarized in another part of the book,* are directed towards a broad, permanent health program which shall protect and encourage health for every child in the state. In this program practically every organized force, educational and social, is united.

Beginning in March, conferences covering the whole state, presenting the purposes and place of May Day, prepared the way for the interest that was expressed in the May Day program.

In each of one hundred and forty-one cities and towns there is functioning a Child Health Committee which is responsible for some very definite community plans for a Child Health Day celebration.

Window displays, cooperation on the part of libraries, a Sunday child health service, consideration of child health topics in the women’s clubs and men’s clubs, and spectacular demonstrations by the school children contributed to the community celebrations.

At least two hundred and thirty-three cities and towns carried on Child Health Day celebrations in their public schools. Fifty-three parochial schools in Greater Boston did likewise. Special emphasis was placed upon standard weight, good posture, and clean, sound teeth. Reward tags were distributed to 112,500 Massachusetts children who were up to standard weight; 109,800 to those having clean teeth, healthy gums, and receiving a dental certificate signed by a dentist stating that all the necessary dental work had been done; 103,500 reward tags were given to those who had Grade A posture. Three thousand copies of each of four Child Health Day plays, and five thousand of another were requested. Educational material of the Department of Health was in great demand during the months

* See page 7.
of April, May and June, as special posters, exhibits, and films were used in the Child Health Day celebrations.

Governor Alvan T. Fuller, Mayor Malcolm Nichols of Boston, a member of the Boston School Committee, and the State Vice-Chairman of Child Health Day broadcast on Child Health Day.

The May Day seal was used on all May Day correspondence and the Child's Bill of Rights was widely distributed.

Window displays in Boston department stores, florist and toy shops, and in local stores all through the state, were important features of the May Day celebration. In one community every store cooperated.

The tags to encourage interest in health throughout the state formed one of the important elements in the Massachusetts May Day program. There were three of these tags—one for weight, one for posture, and one for teeth. Distributed to the schools in March, the standards necessary for the winning of these tags were made familiar to the school children and great enthusiasm and interest developed about the competition to secure them. The tags stirred new zest for the achievement of health among children throughout the state.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—It is impossible even to attempt to give a complete summary of permanent results. Newspaper clippings indicate that numerous communities are carrying on the Summer Round-up, and in many cases it is stated that this is a definite outcome of the stimulus created by Child Health Day. One community has had toxin anti-toxin immunization for a special objective and several others have taken definite steps toward the establishment of a dental clinic.

An essential factor, however, in the child health program of Massachusetts is the local Child Health Committee. Here is a permanent organization to which can be brought throughout the year various health projects.

MICHIGAN

Chairman: Lillian R. Smith, M.D.
Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing,
State Department of Health

The chief aim of the Michigan Child Health Day program is to increase the health assets of the children of the state and to reduce child mortality and morbidity; to awaken communities to their responsibility towards the children in their midst, and to help them to meet this responsibility.

The State Chairman is assisted by an advisory committee which resembles a Child Health Day Council. Several state-wide organizations have taken an active part in the Child Health Day programs. County or other public health nurses were usually chosen as local chairmen.
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—Governor Green issued a proclamation which was widely published in the newspapers. A letter from the State Department of Public Instruction to all county school commissioners urging May Day observances unquestionably added considerably to the school activities.

The county medical association in each county was asked to cooperate with the clinics, and assurance of such cooperation was sought before the clinic was started. The medical profession responded whole-heartedly to the appeal. The Journal of the Michigan State Medical Society published an endorsement of May Day and throughout the state the physicians were most generous in offering their services free of charge in the examining of infants, preschool and school children.

Detroit entered the campaign with the Wayne County Medical Society offering free physical examinations to the 40,000 children between the ages of four and a half and six who will enter school for the first time in September.

In Clinton County eighty doctors agreed to give free examinations to children of their patients, 1270 families promised to take children to the physician. Approximately three thousand children were examined by doctors. Many awards were given to the four schools that first reported all pupils examined. Much corrective work has already been done. Doctors and nurses sent in lists of families not able to afford corrective work and for these the county will do whatever possible.

Saginaw had a month's campaign to examine every child about to enter school for the first time. A clinic was held every day and a series of child conferences at intervals.

Cass County held a Child Health Day program to beautify and clean up its school yards and buildings and make the schools happier and healthier places in which to work.

Throughout the state the schools had varied programs—good posture campaigns, health talks, plays and poster contests, and so forth. In Hillsdale County 90 per cent of the rural schools had health programs and all village schools took part.

In Michigan the Summer Round-ups of the parent-teacher associations are especially well established and well carried out. They are closely tied up with Child Health Day. An increasing number of associations are carrying the Round-ups through to their logical completion—a second examination in the fall to check up on the number of defects corrected.

In addition to the constructive health work already described, window displays, pageants, parades, posters, essays and other means of observance were not overlooked by the leaders. Those engaged in May Day programs numbered 28,985.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—May Day is now generally accepted as Child Health Day in Michigan, and the response to requests for coopera-
tion in its observance is most gratifying. Educators, public health workers and lay groups include the observance of May Day in their plans for the year, and what is better still, look upon May Day as the culmination of all their child health activities for the year. The festive observances of May Day, with maypoles, May baskets, pageants, and parades, will always have a popular appeal, but it is encouraging to note the increased interest in physical examination of children, correction of defects, immunization against communicable diseases, and a more general knowledge of the fundamentals of child health.

MINNESOTA

Chairman: E. C. Hartley, M.D.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health

Child Health Day, 1928, in Minnesota was devoted mainly to the dissemination of health knowledge and to informing the public of the opportunities they may grasp for the betterment of the health of children. The nurses under the Division of Child Hygiene (including the Indian nurses) carried the May Day story throughout the state. The day was made the occasion for planning future programs including: Summer Round-ups, preschool and dental clinics, and various expansions of May Day programs for next year.

Minnesota has an advisory committee which acts as a Child Health Council. Those who have helped foster Child Health Day include: the Minnesota State Department of Education, Minnesota League of Women Voters, University of Minnesota extension division, Minnesota Federation of Women’s Clubs, American Legion and auxiliary, Minnesota Congress of Parent-Teacher Associations, State Board of Control, and State Dental Auxiliary, the farm bureau clubs, and the home demonstration workers. All of the organizations of men and women gave their hearty support.

Special Activities.—The Governor wrote a letter of endorsement. He also received Chippewa Indian children from the Cass Lake Reservation and was presented with May baskets of flowers.

The activities may be divided into two groups, of which those of the first were more generally used. First group—displays in shop windows; poster displays; parades, plays, and pageants; hikes and games; health articles and programs; clinics (chest, dental, and preschool); health talks (doctors, dieticians, nurses, ministers, and health officers); showing of health moving picture films; and health articles in newspapers. Second group—class demonstrations in mothercraft; school contests (health essays, health posters, and posture); campaigns in schools (eat more vegetables and cereals, new tooth brush, and clean-up days); and health marionette shows and mothers’ meetings.
A May Day program was carried out on the Red Lake Indian Reservation.

The local chairman in Blue Earth County reports unusually extensive cooperation in a Child Health Day clean-up parade in Mankato participated in by the police force, city officials, fire department, children from all the schools, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, three bands, Legion drum corps, medical division of the National Guard, hospital and public health nurses, Blue Earth County Public Welfare Association, and model dairy floats.

In several counties the program was participated in by children from all over the county.

Permanent Results.—From the beginning the idea was to work into a permanent program rather than a day’s celebration.

MISSISSIPPI

Chairman: Mrs. Cliff Davis
President, State Parent-Teacher Association

Mississippi has set for its high aim the carrying out of the Child’s Bill of Rights for every child in the state, or the development of the childhood of the state, four-square—physical, mental, moral and spiritual—and to that end is trying to work out a constructive year-round program using May Day as a starting point and climax. The state health and educational forces, supported by the Department of Agriculture, parent-teacher associations and the federated women’s clubs, united in May Day programs looking towards these aims.

Special Activities.—May Day proclamation by the Governor.

Fifty of the eighty counties in the state celebrated May Day and six counties united in a community program. Thirty-five cities and towns had celebrations or programs.

Talks on the health of children were given at district meetings of teachers and at parent-teacher meetings.

Health films sent out by the Department of Health were used at a number of meetings.

Merchants in many places had window displays.

The schools celebrated with May Day programs. Students of the high schools made health posters.

The Clinton Woman’s Club, in cooperation with merchants of Jackson, offered prizes to the children scoring highest at the child health conference held on May Day in the gymnasium of Mississippi College. All children from infancy to six years who applied were examined by Dr. Noblin of the Health Bureau, a prominent pediatrician, and a corps of nurses.
THE STORY OF MAY DAY

MISSOURI

Chairman: I. B. Krause, M.D.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

Due to the stimulus of the year-round program in Missouri, May Day in 1928 showed great progress—with the various state organizations, fifty-two counties, many communities, schools and homes united in backing the program.

In the various counties and communities in which the May Day activities were carried on they were organized by the County Health Units, the Federation of Women’s Clubs, Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, American Red Cross, County Superintendent of Schools, League of Women Voters, Farm Bureau and other groups. The best results, however, were shown where there was some form of health organization.

The Six and Nine Point campaign has been a great stimulus to positive health among children and an excellent way in which to put the May Day celebration over with a boom. It played a great part in the school health work, the preschool clinics, the Summer Round-ups, the health programs, May Day parades, health movies, etc.

What child isn’t proud to own the blue button with a six-point star on it, which signifies that he has met the six requirements:

- No decayed teeth
- Normal vision
- Good posture
- Normal throat
- Normal hearing
- Standard weight

The Nine Point child meets the six requirements previously mentioned, and in addition is protected against diphtheria and smallpox and has his birth registered. This work has been the means of bringing about better cooperation through the home for a health program.

The total number of Six Point buttons issued throughout the state during 1927 was 11,190. With the year-round health program the number of buttons for the present year will far exceed that of last.

The health work done by the Kansas City schools was significant. Last year 5704 Nine Point badges were issued to their preschool and school children. This year, due to their untiring efforts in carrying on the year-round child health program, the number has been increased to more than 10,000.

St. Joseph also celebrated May Day with a health program. During this meeting one thousand Six Point buttons were given out by Dr. James Stewart, State Health Commissioner.

Four counties, all of them strictly rural, with a full-time health unit, have carried on a county-wide Six and Nine Point project. Each county has conducted an all-year-round health program, with results as follows:
Boone County—1575
Scott County —1165

Other counties have done splendid work, but these are the most outstanding.

Another interesting phase of the May Day program was the state poster contest, in which any grade pupil in public or parochial schools of the state was eligible. Children from twenty-one counties participated.

The poster prize fund was made up by contributions from various state organizations, including: The Tuberculosis Association, The Street and Highway Safety Council, The State Nurses Association, The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, The Auxiliary to the State Medical Association, The Parent-Teacher Association, The Federation of Women's Clubs.

While many communities made recognition of May Day in one way or another, it is possible to mention only briefly a few of the most significant events. One community arranged a health movie for the children and issued the buttons to the Six Point children. Several communities had parades, while others had health programs consisting of health plays, drills, operettas, etc., and one town launched their May Day-Child Health Day by having a banquet with several national speakers for the occasion, and others by conducting preschool clinics or immunization clinics. It is very evident that the spirit of May Day has expanded in meaning and in forms of expression.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—The program in Missouri, in schools, communities, and the state as a whole, under the recently organized Child Health Council, is moving towards a year-round program to continue activities inaugurated or celebrated on May Day.

MONTANA

Chairman: Hazel Dell Bonness, M.D.
Director, Child Welfare Division, State Board of Health

"The real meaning of May Day—Child Health Day, is becoming increasingly apparent to the public generally—a day for taking an inventory of the achievements in health work during the year past and a day for studying needs and making plans for the work of the coming year." The State Superintendent of Public Instruction expresses Montana's idea of Child Health Day.

There was fine cooperation between the Child Welfare Division, the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Tuberculosis Association, the schools and other agencies interested in child health. It was due to this that Montana achieved a May Day program which was unusually successful for a state so sparsely settled.
Communities are striving towards permanent, year-round programs and have awakened interest principally through poster exhibits and contests, window displays, newspaper publicity, health plays, school programs and talks at organization meetings.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor wrote an endorsement of Child Health Day.

In Dillon County the Summer Round-up of the parent-teacher association was carried out with great thoroughness. The local chairman estimates that 90 per cent of the children about to enter school in the fall were reached. Many defects were corrected and the parents showed a great willingness to cooperate.

The work among the Blackfeet Indians was especially interesting and encouraging in the light of the hold of the Medicine Man on many of the Indians. There were eleven local programs, practically every one of which included physical examinations, and instruction in health rules. At times the interest shown by the Indians was remarkable, one father making a special trip home to bring his little son for a chest examination. In Browning 186 Indian children had their teeth examined and treated. They showed an improvement of 75 per cent over 1927.

At Billings the Kiwanis Club not only entertained the children of their members at lunch, but sponsored a free tonsil and adenoid clinic. Medical members of the club gave their services and other members assumed the hospital fees.

A feature of the radio program was a series of health talks given by the children themselves.

One school teacher made good use of the epidemic of smallpox in her county by having the children prepare essays on vaccination, hoping to combat the parents' prejudice against it by giving them greater information on the subject.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Child Health Day has been instrumental in giving more health instruction to parents and children.

In obtaining better health supervision for the children, the parents have also fared better. One chairman says: “We put forth our greatest effort in an attempt to create general feeling all over the county, that our greatest need is help to keep our children healthy and to secure a leader to that end.”

NEBRASKA

Chairman: Mrs. George H. Wentz
President, Nebraska Branch, National Congress of Parents and Teachers

“The health movement, with May Day as Child Health Day,” reports the Chairman, “has swept the entire state and I feel sure has created an
interest in the health of the children of Nebraska as nothing else could possibly do."

All important groups, including educational, public health, church, fraternal, social, and labor cooperated to make May Day-Child Health Day one of the great days of the year. Radio talks, publicity in state and local papers, window displays, and talks at civic meetings—all contributed to this result.

The Summer Round-up, conducted by the State Bureau of Health in cooperation with the State Parent-Teacher Association, was an outstanding part of the program. Preschool clinics and child health conferences opened on May 1.

In many cases the county superintendent of schools was the county May Day chairman, and a large percentage of the schools carried out an all-year-round health program, with a final celebration on May 1st. The awarding of blue ribbons to children who had reached the required standards was one of the happy events of the day.

Special Activities.—Dr. W. H. Wilson, Chief of the State Bureau of Health, gave a talk over the radio urging observance of May Day, and asking cooperation in the all-year-round effort to suppress diphtheria.

The Division of Child Hygiene put out a leaflet defining the optimal child and urging periodic examinations to ascertain whether individual children came up to the standards described.

A very interesting part of the May Day exercises was a “dance drama” on the campus of the State University, staged by the Department of Physical Education for Women. A play day was also held, in which nearby colleges joined.

In Omaha between eight and ten thousand children danced folk dances at the same time in eight parks, with broadcasted music; and in the township of Omaha little children had a sunrise May festival, each in their own school yard.

The spirit of the schools may be gathered from the circular letter sent out by Dr. E. R. Hays, Director of Health of the Public Schools of Falls City, who says, "Child Health Day is to call our minds from the immediate obligations of life to consider whether we have done our full duty to make health possible for all children. . . . In order to pay our just respects to what has been done for child health and to determine the important aims of the incoming Child Health Year, we are celebrating May 1st."

Permanent Results.—The correction of physical defects of the preschool child, through the health conferences, held on May Day, which enables children to enter school in September as nearly 100 per cent in health as possible.
The education of not only parents and teachers but all those interested in child welfare, regarding the all year-round health program through the literature distributed and through the May Day programs. People of Nebraska are becoming enthusiastic over the importance of such a program.

NEVADA
Chairman: Nettie Johnston Story, R.N.
Child Welfare Division, State Board of Health

May Day was observed in Nevada chiefly in the schools. There were many health plays and programs which interpreted the health knowledge of the children, gained in their year’s work.

Many of the churches through the state had sermons and programs on the Sunday before May Day.

Nevada is already looking ahead to a larger program next year.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Chairman: Mary D. Davis, R.N.
Director, Division of Maternity, Infancy and Child Hygiene,
State Board of Health

“The high light of May Day in New Hampshire,” writes the chairman, “was the wonderful spirit of cooperation and the developing sense of community responsibility regarding the health of our children.” From the Governor, who issued through the newspapers a letter endorsing May Day activities and child health work, to the little children pushing doll carriages in community health parades—all alike seemed eager to center public attention on child health, carrying out the words of the Governor’s proclamation, “Health makes life precious and is everybody's business.”

In New Hampshire every town and district carried on its own program, which resulted not in a drive towards a single objective but in a great diversity of original programs. Even a rural community strung along twenty miles of road without any village was able to have its health festival and to begin planning for permanent work. Through the stimulus of these May Day programs work for the entire year was often set in motion.

Special Activities.—In many communities clinics and conferences were organized in honor of May Day.

The schools throughout the state celebrated May Day by health talks, essays, discussions, plays, pageants, songs, stories and moving pictures. Where a community health meeting was planned the children read their own papers as part of the program. The community meetings were numerous and included radio talks, child health conferences, underweight clinics.
parades, window displays and dancing on the green. On the Sunday preceding or following May Day ministers preached on the spiritual health of the child.

The chairman from Laconia, which had a very comprehensive program, writes, “We believe the good accomplished by focusing the minds of the people on the important subject of health will have a lasting effect.”

In Keene the county tuberculosis nurse organized a health entertainment for twenty-five hundred children, including crippled children, in one of the theatres. “Bill Bartlett,” the “health king,” gave a two-hour program of music and story to a spellbound audience.

In Berlin, Child Health Day, sponsored by the Berlin Child Hygiene Association and ably managed by the local chairman, was a brilliant success. The health parade, in which many children marched, was headed by a boy carrying the telling slogan, “Suppose nobody cared.” Mothers marched, wheeling baby carriages, and little girls followed them, with doll carriages decorated in many original ways. At the clinics three hundred and twenty-three babies were registered and weighed that day, four district nurses assisting.

The Nashua public schools put on a health week in the middle of May in which many outside organizations assisted, and which had for its purposes: to stimulate in each pupil a greater interest in his health; to promote better health habits among parents, teachers and pupils; to show some of the features of the health department and the members at work; to emphasize the need of a systematic, comprehensive program of health education for all schools; and to create a better understanding of the real value of school health work.

NEW JERSEY

Chairman: JULIUS LEVY, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health

Throughout its preparation for May Day, New Jersey laid special emphasis on the prevention of disease. The importance of protecting the preschool child from smallpox and diphtheria was everywhere stressed, as was the physical examination for children soon to enter school—the last-named in preparation for the Summer Round-up. A number of preschool clinics were opened and many children were examined, had the Schick test, received toxin anti-toxin or were vaccinated. The schools cooperated, and in one county each school child made a booklet of invitation to the clinics to take to their parents and friends.

Special Activities.—The Governor issued a proclamation setting apart May Day as Child Health Day.

In honor of May Day the annual state conference on child hygiene was arranged for the first week of May.
The Little Mothers' League took an active part in the celebration of Child Health Day. They put on plays for the parents and friends of the clinics and in other ways stimulated interest in health and particularly in the prevention of diphtheria.

Some of the more unusual efforts in connection with May Day were:
(1) In one county medical inspection was procured for preschool children whose parents desired it, and a special arrangement made through the parent-teacher association whereby tonsils and adenoids could be removed for $10.00; (2) fourteen county libraries cooperated in publishing in the papers lists of books on child care and in displaying health literature. Attractive posters and booklets of health stories for children were loaned by the Morris County Tuberculosis Association for display in the children's library of Morristown and proved of much interest to the public; (3) a thousand daisies—emblem of Child Health Day—were made and distributed by the art department of one of the schools.

The schools, besides sharing in the immunization campaign, put on many interesting programs of plays, dances and drills and were active in making posters.

Special sermons stressing the ideals of health were given in many of the churches on May the sixth.

The Beanstalk, the monthly publication of the New Jersey Tuberculosis Association, devoted its May number to outdoor play, with recommendations for plays and special sports applicable to May Day.

**NEW MEXICO**

*Chairman: Dorothy Anderson, R.N.*

*Chief, Division of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing, State Department of Public Welfare*

In New Mexico the State Chairman wrote to nurses, health officers and club women urging them to stimulate more interest in a really constructive child health program by means of plays, pageants, baby conferences, store window exhibits, school programs, etc. for their local celebrations of Child Health Day.

A potent appeal was sent out by the Bureau of Public Health, which stressed the value of the Summer Round-ups of the parent-teacher associations scheduled to start on May Day—Child Health Day.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—**The Governor issued a Child Health Day proclamation.

The nurses at Roswell had four child health conferences with examinations of ninety preschool children from outside the city. The Women's Club of Albuquerque held an open Child Health Day meeting to which parents were invited to bring their children.
NEW YORK

Chairman: Elizabeth M. Gardiner, M.D.
Director, Division of Maternity, Infancy and Child Hygiene,
State Board of Health

The May Day story in a state like New York is so diverse and so
big, interwoven so closely with the general activities in the interest of the
health of children that it is impossible to gather up the threads and weave
them into any sort of effective pattern. There is in this state—as varied as
Joseph's coat of many colors—less uniformity possible than in the smaller,
more homogeneous states. May Day was used, everywhere, to foster and
center attention upon the essential local needs relating to child health.
A number of different organizations took the lead in promoting programs
—sometimes health authorities, sometimes school boards, or parent-teacher
associations and women's clubs. The Legion and men's clubs in some places
played important parts.

Special Activities.—New York City:—The celebration of the
day in New York City commanded interest all over the country. Children
of San Francisco sent by airplane a great basket of flowers to children
in New York City which was received with ceremony on the steps of the
post-office building on the morning of May Day.

A beautiful celebration in Central Park in the afternoon culminated
the day's official program. Five hundred school children took part in the
festivities during which two of the healthiest preschool children in the
city were crowned King and Queen of Health. The arrival of the
fliers from the aeroplane Bremen, having just arrived in the city, little
Patricia Fitzmaurice, daughter of the Irish pilot, was crowned also, and
by her presence lent an interesting note to the occasion. Other features
of the New York City program were a May Day presentation of
the "Pied Piper" at the Auditorium of Wanamaker's Store by the
children of eight Neighborhood Houses; the appointment of a healthy New
York boy to serve as City Health Commissioner for May Day, the
distribution of flowers by the Junior League to the sick children in hospital
wards.

The schools of the city celebrated the day very generally with
programs, with health examinations, poster and essay contests.

Ministers of many of the city churches paid tribute to children in their
sermons the week of May 1st.

The city press carried publicity that brought May Day and the health
of children to the attention of millions, not only in New York City but
all over the country.

The Governor issued a proclamation, as did the Mayors of New
York City, Syracuse, Plattsburg, and other cities.
State Activities:—From end to end of the state the school children made May Day a red-letter day with parades and pageants, programs, reviews of the year's health work, health checks and examinations, and athletic field days.

Ministers all over the state held special services either for children or with sermons on the spiritual health of children.

The work of clinics in examining children, expectant mothers, of dental and nutrition clinics was a splendid demonstration in preventive work. Many new clinics also were opened the week of May 1st. Department stores with window displays and exhibits, films in the theatres, radio talks, health talks before clubs, poster displays, exhibits in libraries, all made vivid on May Day the various activities fostered the year round for the health of children.

The Summer Round-up of the children to enter school in the fall was inaugurated on May Day in many places; and great stimulus to diphtheria immunization was given by May Day programs.

In Rochester the Central Council of the Parent-Teacher Association, in cooperation with the Child Health Committee of the Tuberculosis and Health Association and the Department of Health Education of the Rochester Public Schools, had a luncheon meeting, with an address on "The Child's Right to Live." Tests were made in Rochester schools by the American Public Health Association's representatives. The Central Council of the Parent-Teacher Association also arranged a health program for the preschool child to encourage complete health examination among children.

Walden had preschool physical examinations, a toxin anti-toxin clinic, free dental examinations and treatment. There was a public meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association, Board of Education, and pupils and teachers. Window exhibits and poster displays called attention to child health. A field day in which the American Legion and the public schools cooperated was also part of the program and there were demonstrations by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Monroe had a health record contest among school children in all grades, the largest parade the village has ever known, a field day, window displays, and toxin anti-toxin clinics.

Permanent Results.—The permanent results in New York State are linked up with the permanent health activities and are: very widespread arousing of public sentiment back of the state and local health boards; a strong move towards immunization against diphtheria; and a steady trend towards regular health examinations for children in clinics and schools.
THE STORY BY STATES

NORTH CAROLINA

Chairman: GEORGE COLLINS, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Maternity and Infancy, State Board of Health

North Carolina's May Day report is brief but it is so large in results that no words could possibly tell it. It gives a picture of state-wide cooperation of those forces chiefly interested in the health and education of children. Initiative was largely local but the various agencies all worked together in a common program.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—Proclamation by the Governor.

The whole North Carolina program centered with the strongest possible emphasis upon examinations of preschool children. The State Board of Health unreservedly endorsed the program of the State Parent-Teacher Association in its Summer Round-up of children. Material was sent to the thirty-eight whole time health departments in this state suggesting that they cooperate with the local boards of education and the local parent-teacher associations. In most instances county health departments placed their entire county health machinery cooperatively with the education and parent-teacher officials, with the result that by the end of June more than thirty counties reported either county-wide examinations of preschool children or campaigns that embrace certain communities in which it was possible to secure sufficient support to make preschool clinics a successful venture.

According to actual reports received, 6,408 preschool children were examined. These reports are not complete but merely serve as an index of progress.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Says the May Day chairman, "I think we can conservatively say that May Day in North Carolina has been a definite instrumentality in promoting the idea that the physical examination of the child about ready to enter school is a part of the routine preparation just as the purchase of clothing and books."

State-wide council of child health agencies to work on a year-round program has been organized.

NORTH DAKOTA

Chairman: MRS. T. L. BROUILARD

Chairman, Public Welfare Department, State Federation of Women's Clubs

The chief aim of the North Dakota Child Health 1928 program was to attain the goal of the Child's Bill of Rights. The particular points emphasized were nutrition, medical care and examinations, health education, spiritual growth.

Sub-chairmen were appointed in all counties. It is expected that a Child Health Council will be organized next year.
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor issued a Child Health Day proclamation.

Emmons County was organized 100 per cent in celebrating May Day. Steele County ran a close second.

Six county-wide celebrations were held in as many county seats. In Pierce County the children of thirty-two rural schools observed Child Health Day by inviting their parents to hear their health programs.

The prize offered for the best report on Child Health Day observance was won by the city of Hope.

In general the activities included immunization against diphtheria, drink-more-milk and clean-up campaigns, health drills, athletic events, programs on child health, poster contests, health films, plays, parades, pageants, window displays and sermons.

Fargo has an excellent year-round health program which they are planning to sum up each year in one general May Festival participated in by all the schools of the city.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—The spirit of May Day—Child Health Day has pervaded North Dakota. An increased number of towns have made it an established event; more counties have established a Red Cross Nursing Service; more immunizations against diphtheria have been given.

In many towns May Day has become the culmination of a year-round program.

The Sixth District of the North Dakota Federation of Women’s Clubs—comprising six counties—was unanimous in asking the Director of the Bureau of Child Hygiene to hold preschool clinics.

OHIO

Chairman: J. A. Frank, M.D.
Acting Chief, Division of Child Hygiene, State Department of Health

May Day celebrations in Ohio were held in one hundred and five counties and cities. The state has eighty-eight counties and one hundred and four cities and the health departments of each district were asked, in conjunction with the local school superintendents and secretaries of local public health leagues, to appoint a May Day chairman. In a number of counties the same May Day chairman served for both the county and the cities in the county, thus practically the entire state was covered in the May Day program.

Local health commissioners, public health nurses and school superintendents served as chairmen in most districts. School nurses were appointed in several cities. A very close relationship between the State Department of Health and the State Department of Education resulted in excellent cooperation by all school officials. A letter from the State Director of Educa-
tion to all school superintendents called their attention to this project and outlined the accredited plan of celebration. The State Department of Education included in its March Bulletin the description of specific activities which were suitable for Child Health Day.

Ohio has a Director of Health Education in the State Department of Education. This is of inestimable value to health departments from an administrative standpoint and the May Day celebrations have been the common ground on which groups have met and built.

The churches appreciated that their sphere has widened and with their active cooperation in all health matters, child hygiene has been a subject with special appeal.

The programs were not only constructive in the giving of health education to parents and children but offered much in the way of health examinations and the correction of defects.

Special Activities.—The Governor designated May Day as Child Health Day and urged its observance.

Several local chairmen sponsored school health essay contests for individual children and for schools as a group in conjunction with their other activities. These essays were judged by local health officials, members of the local press and others. The state chairman was appointed judge in one county and reports that the essays showed a surprising knowledge of health subjects on the part of school pupils. The prize essays in the various counties were printed in the official publication of the Ohio Health Department.

Blue Ribbon contests were organized in a number of counties and May Day was chosen as the logical day for the distribution of their award. This project is countywide in three districts and a number of cities carried out modified Blue Ribbon projects. Assurance has already been received from many more districts that they will further this movement during the coming year.

Preschool Round-ups were featured by several cities and counties as a part of this May Day celebration. The Ohio Department of Health and the Parent-Teachers' Associations have been carrying on this special piece of work through local health departments for several years and these May Day celebrations devoted to this activity were of special value in that they were held in counties and cities where the work had not been actively carried out previously. Preschool Round-ups with a partial modification of the federal plan is one of the major projects of all health departments in this state. Their goal is to have all children given physical examinations by their family physician before entering school. Already in several districts the Round-up has given way to the private examination.

In Troy evidence of the value of the Blue Ribbon parade was seen in the voluntary seeking of the school physician by three children who wished to report what they were doing to procure the coveted badge. The
parent-teacher associations made a daisy chain to be carried by the most physically perfect children and those whose defects had been corrected.

The Zanesville school children celebrated Child Health Week by giving intensive study to a separate health subject each day.

**Permanent Results.**—The May Day celebrations can best be summarized by stating that undoubtedly child health activities have received an added stimulus in Ohio. This has been of benefit not only to the public in general but has stimulated in health departments and private health agencies a new appreciation of this type of public health activity. Many health departments have increased the amount of child health work being done by their organizations and others have made this a definite part of their program. As a result of this increased interest it is hoped that permanent Child Health Councils will be formed in a number of health districts, thus making it possible for permanent chairmen to prepare a program extending over a period of years which would provide the machinery for a wide spread extension of child health service.

**OKLAHOMA**

*Chairman:* Lucile Spire Blachly, M.D.

*Director, Bureau of Maternity and Infancy, Department of Public Health*

May Day was signalized in Oklahoma by a meeting of the heads of official and non-official health agencies, called together at the State Senate Chamber by the Governor, for the purpose of forming a Child Health Council. Forty-three organizations responded, and others have since joined. Addresses were made by the Governor, the State Health Commissioner and another member of the State Health Department, the State Superintendent of Education, the May Day Chairman, and the editor of the Journal of the American Dental Association, who happened to be in the state and flew to Oklahoma City in order to be present. An executive committee was elected, with the State Health Commissioner as ex-officio chairman; the committee has since met and decided to make the adoption of the Standard U. S. Public Health Milk Ordinance its first objective.

**Special Activities.**—Judging by the requests for material and suggestions a large number of communities put on May Day programs, but only in a few cases were reports received. Nowata and Blackwell celebrated the day by holding baby conferences, that at Nowata being the first to be held in that city for fifteen years. Other towns had programs of games and parades.

May Day in Cherokee County was lengthened into Health Week by virtue of a proclamation by the Mayor and the three county commissioners. The week's celebration was used to popularize health and to focus attention on the one-year health demonstration in progress in that county—organized.
by the State Board of Health. During the week there were school programs, public health talks, sermons in the churches, a poster contest, window displays, child health conferences, and a health parade. The chief feature of the parade was the King and Queen of Health, two youngsters chosen because of their physical fitness as determined by complete physical examinations. This came appropriately at the close of a drive for physical examinations for all the city pupils, which the local physicians made for a charge within the reach of all. According to the State Chairman the objective sought for was secured.

A celebration specially arranged by the Bureau of Maternity and Infancy was staged at Seminole as a culmination of a ten months' study to work out a plan for public health nursing in an oil field community, characterized by the handicaps common to such a community. Among the May Day activities were two lectures and a child health demonstration given by Dr. Casparis, Professor of Pediatrics of Vanderbilt University, the latter under the auspices of the Seminole City Medical Society. A thoroughly organized health parade demonstrated to fifteen thousand beholders the value and beauty of health. There were thirty-seven units of children of all ages from schools in and near Seminole, each unit carrying a slogan representing some health principle. Preceding the children came the city council, chamber of commerce, school board, and men's civic clubs, riding in appropriately decorated automobiles.

The second annual Baby Rodeo held at the 101 Ranch, Ponca City, this year lasted three days. In this time four hundred and twenty infants and preschool children were examined by pediatricians, orthopedic surgeons, and dentists, each demonstrating the proper methods. Local physicians had been invited to bring in their special cases for consultation, and a large number accepted the invitation.

One of the objectives of the Rodeo, as planned by the Kay County Health Unit, the Kay County Medical Association, and the Bureau of Maternity and Infancy, was the endeavor on the part of professional groups and individuals to raise the standard of preschool examinations. This was achieved not only by the demonstrations but by organizing the nurses and pupil nurses assisting in the examinations into a temporary "training school," and by organizing an eight-weeks' course in pediatrics and child conferences, which was inaugurated at the time of the Rodeo and attended by three hundred and sixty-three doctors.

Permanent Results.—The permanent Child Health Council organized on May Day will unify and strengthen the health work being carried on for the children of Oklahoma.

The eight weeks' course in pediatrics for Oklahoma physicians, together with the demonstrations of health examinations given, should tend to raise the standard of preventive work among the physicians attending.
OREGON *

Chairman: GLENDORA M. BLAKELY, R.N.
State Advisory Nurse, State Board of Health

The Oregon report gives the impression of a state completely unified in a drive towards the goal of health for its children. Every important agency seems to have played its part in making May Day a great demonstration of the interest in child health in the state—official and government agencies, men's and women's clubs, physicians and medical societies, churches, religious groups, 4-H clubs, youth groups, stores, libraries, and theatres. All over the state were celebrations, parades, track meets, and festivals, but through it and back of it all was a strongly organized gathering of forces for constructive, far-reaching efforts to protect and encourage the health of children. The variety of work for the health of children which was demonstrated on May Day, the interest manifested on the part of citizens—men and women—and the progress made in Oregon since May Day 1927, stand out conspicuously and cannot be summed up in this brief report.

Special Activities.—A proclamation was issued by the Governor.

The Child's Bill of Rights was made the keynote of Oregon's entire May Day program. It was widely circulated in posters, in the press, and was read to large groups in all counties where May Day was celebrated and before club meetings, distributed at luncheons and in churches in Portland, and was flashed on the screen. In one county it appeared on the screen in every movie house at each showing during the entire week of May 1st.

In Marion County there was a Health Honor Roll parade with 1910 children in line. Each one of them had fulfilled the requirements of the Health Honor Roll, with the additional ones of immunization against smallpox and diphtheria. In the elaborate parade marched every Oregon vegetable good for children. All the rules of health were floated again and again; the implements of health, from the milk bottle to the toothbrush, were strikingly displayed.

The main celebration of Portland was a huge May Day program which took place on May 26 in the great Grant Bowl. About seven thousand children took part in the drills and pageantry. Thirty-one May Day plays, some very elaborate affairs with maypole dances, were presented in the various schools of the city. Seven parent-teacher associations were entertained by plays and pageants in their various school buildings.

Sponsored by the School Division of the Portland Health Bureau, the health plays and drills given before luncheon clubs that were so popular last year were again put on by Portland school children, under the

*Excerpts from the Oregon report are given in the earlier part of the book. See page 8.
direction of Mr. Robert Krohn, Physical Director of City Schools. Fifteen different clubs of the city enjoyed these demonstrations.

In a number of places, especially in smaller communities, physicians from Portland held clinics as demonstrations for local doctors on how to conduct child health clinics.

Many well-baby and preschool clinics were held all through the state. Child Health Week saw the start of a series of infant and preschool clinics which are to be held all over the state, as part of the program of the Bureau of Child Hygiene. Dr. Story, Assistant State Health Officer, and Miss Mary P. Billmeyer, State Field Supervising Nurse, made a long trip into eastern Oregon, where they held thirteen clinics, with a total of five hundred and fifty-one children examined. These clinics will be continued all summer and during the fall.

The cooperation in Oregon was unusually good and diversified. A total of twelve hundred 4-H clubs over the state assisted in making May Day a success. Wherever there was a May Day celebration planned in their community, the clubs contributed to it. If there were none planned, the local 4-H club gave one of its own.

Another instance of cooperation was in Eugene, where one way in which May Day was celebrated was by an essay contest to insure intensive study and a more general interest in health. The Lane County Medical Association offered a prize of $10.00 for the best essay on "How to Keep Well," and the City Federation of Women's Organizations offered a second prize of $5.00.

Churches throughout the state gave generous cooperation to May Day, dedicating the first Sunday in May to sermons for children or on the subject of the spiritual health of children. In Bend, the Rev. Francis Ball, pastor of the Episcopal Church, gave a very fine sermon on child health. His services on May 6 were all devoted to May Day. He also took charge of a parade conducted by the Boy Rangers and school children. They marched uptown, with music furnished by the Bend High School Band. They stopped at two corners, giving a demonstration of first aid in cases such as a fractured leg or arm, or a head wound.

The libraries played their part in the May Day program. The Portland Central Library arranged a shelf of books especially for parents and children on health subjects. They also had a list of suitable books on their bulletin board, and some attractive posters. These exhibits were repeated in the small branch libraries.

Pendleton, and Umatilla County as a whole, gave the child and his needs, spiritual, mental and physical, a very prominent place in churches, schools, clubs and the movies during Child Health Week. Fifteen towns in the county participated. By the generous cooperation of the nine newspapers in the county interest was aroused. Talks by health workers in ad-
vance of May Day, interpreted the program in its broadest significance. Through the months of April and May, clinics were held in thirteen different centers, teaching the welfare of the child. The Child’s Bill of Rights was shown on all the screens in the county at each showing during the entire week. Both rural and city schools put on health plays and gave special programs, stressing the child and his needs. Clubs gave the Child’s Bill of Right attention and publicity, reading it before large groups of people. Mr. Johnson of the West Coast Theatres, gave the Alta Theatre for Saturday afternoon for a special May Day matinée. He provided a good clean comedy for the feature film, also vaudeville acts and prize winning contests, personally supervising the program.

Stores throughout the state cooperated actively with the May Day program. The posters of school children were exhibited in windows, other stores had window displays that centered attention upon the health of children.

**Permanent Results.**—One of the permanent results of May Day is a very definite interest in the Honor Roll program, which will probably result in more counties taking up this phase of health education.

A definite interest in a State Child Health Council which will coordinate all the state agencies interested in child health work is another result of May Day activities.

A keen interest in child health has been aroused by May Day, which will be capitalized in some places during the year to put on special health projects, such as membership campaigns for health associations, dental surveys, or the organizing of health centers.

**Pennsylvania**

*Honorary Chairman: Theodore B. Appel, M.D.*

*Secretary, Department of Health*  

*Chairman: Samuel McC. Hamill, M.D.*

The chief aim of the May Day celebrations in Pennsylvania has been to utilize the interest which nation-wide observance of any such fete can arouse, by having permanent child health activities culminate in the special celebrations, or by making the celebration the starting point for other worth-while projects.

In general May Day is used to speed up already existing child hygiene work.

The response to the May Day appeal throughout the state in 1928 was in excess of that of any preceding year. Sixty-six of the sixty-seven counties were definitely organized and some work was done in the sixty-seventh county. This is approximately four times the number of counties that were active for Child Health Day in 1924 and twice as many as in...
1926. Community programs were held in more than three hundred and twenty-nine towns.

The enthusiasm shown and earnest effort expended have been inspiring. Welfare organizations of all kinds afforded the most hearty support.

Permanent committees have been organized to function the year round and to hold themselves in readiness to meet any emergency threatening the health of the child.

Through the county committees the health of the preschool child has been emphasized, by urging and helping to organize for: complete physical examination of the preschool child, immunization against diphtheria, vaccination against smallpox, the opening of child health centers, and the securing of school or other public health nursing service. The importance of mental health in children was stressed in the program.

The transitory festival character of the celebration was secondary to the more permanent projects, but it is recognized that parades, campaigns, playlets, music, dancing, special movie shows, Jolly Jester and Health Clown entertainments, and poster contests are of very real value.

Special Activities.—A statement was made by the Governor and also by many Mayors.

The Secretary of Health, Dr. Appel, who is the Honorary Chairman of Child Health Day in Pennsylvania, wrote a message to school boys and girls which was widely read in the schools.

The medical profession gave its services with especial whole-heartedness. On very many county committees a representative from the County Medical Society was included. Physicians were most generous in giving talks, examining infants and preschool children, administering toxin antitoxin and smallpox vaccine, etc.

By the distributing of literature, scores of talks in schools, churches, Sunday schools, clubs, and other public places, clinics and demonstrations (especially of dental hygiene), radio talks by specialists, and movie health films, much health information has been given to mothers.

There were, coincident with the emphasis on the preschool child, valuable May Day celebrations in the grade schools. But the getting of six-year-olds ready for school entrance was by all odds the most widely undertaken task of all, and there has been a gratifying sense of responsibility for follow-up work to secure the correction of defects. Here the parent-teacher associations, because the Summer Round-ups are part of their national program, have been most able allies.

More than in any previous years there were celebrations of Child Health Day in county-wide fashion. At the instigation of the County Superintendents of Schools, special health programs were arranged and carried out throughout the counties.

Provided by the Maternal and Child Health Library, Georgetown University
An effort was made to find crippled children and give them assistance. The Child's Bill of Rights and the Child Health Day poster were widely shown. Window displays were numerous and effective, featuring model child health centers, dental hygiene demonstrations, etc. The newspapers were most generous with news items and editorial comment. Five thousand stickers of the Child Health Day seal were made, most of which were given to the county chairman to use.

The slogan "Better Children for Our Nation, A Better Nation for Our Children" was used very generally, and Philadelphia adopted "The Health of the Child is the Strength of the Nation" as its slogan.

It is possible in this small space to give only a condensed summary of the many interesting and constructive activities of Child Health Day in Pennsylvania. The individual celebrations of many counties have been of large scope entailing a year-round program.

**PERMANENT RESULTS.**—In many communities Child Health Day has awakened a new desire for improved health. To mention but a few of the results of the 1928 celebration: sixty-one new health clinics were started, one new parent-teacher association organized, several school boards took over the examination of children entering school for the first time and administered toxin anti-toxin, several school nurses were placed in new districts, one playground was established with the money raised, one county parent-teacher association arranged to pay the local doctors to examine preschool children. Incomplete reports have been received showing that 10,400 infants and preschool children were examined, and 26,389 children were immunized against diphtheria.

An encouraging result of the five-year Child Health Day work in Pennsylvania is the spontaneous seeking of information and assistance on the part of many who had not been previously approached by those active in organizing work in the state.

**RHODE ISLAND**

*Chairman: Marion A. Gleason, M.D.*

*Director, Child Welfare Division, State Board of Health*

The chief aims of the Child Health Day program in Rhode Island were to create general interest in all matters pertaining to the health and safety of the children and wherever possible to establish new clinics, to foster health work in the schools, and to encourage immunization.

The school departments throughout the state practically all cooperated with the State Chairman in observing Child Health Day. The superintendents, recognizing the value to the school system of improved health
conditions among the children, were willing to do everything possible to promote health work.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor endorsed Child Health Day, as did also the Mayor of Providence.

A May Day fête was held on the grounds of the State Capitol. There was dancing on the lawn. The Governor was presented with a May Basket filled with flowers from the children of the state. The State Chairman gave a short talk. Paper airplanes bearing messages of health were dropped from the State House roof to be scrambled for by the children.

Practically every school in session made note of the meaning of the day by having short health programs, games or athletic features, poster making or the writing of short essays on health subjects. The State Chairman distributed to the schools pamphlets in the shape of milk bottles describing health “stunts” which the children enjoyed doing.

The nutritionists in many of the schools demonstrated healthy meals. The cost, as well as the nutritive value, was discussed. The meals were actually prepared before the pupils, comments being made on the correct methods of cooking.

At clinics in Cranston, after each baby had been examined, the mother received a rosebud and was told that babies, like roses, needed proper food and plenty of sunlight to make them perfect.

May 1st and 2nd were celebrated in Westerly at a department store with a clinic demonstrating proper clothing for babies and how to give sun baths. Only babies under two years of age were entered. The attendance was good and the public health nurse felt that a large group had been made aware for the first time of what the Visiting Nurse Association of Westerly is doing for their children.

The airplane, “Spirit of Good Health” was sent by the State Child Welfare Department to carry the health message to the younger school children of various communities.

Sixteen hundred and sixty-one members of the 4-H Health Clubs, located in practically every section of the state, participated in the May Day activities.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Child Health Day, 1928, in Rhode Island resulted in the establishment of two well baby conferences.

Plans for the immunization of the preschool children in Middletown are under way.

A marked increase in all matters pertaining to children’s health work seems to be manifested throughout the state.
The principal aims of Child Health Day in South Carolina in 1928 were to illustrate to the community the growth of the present child health program and to co-ordinate the activities of a number of official and non-official organizations.

A committee, comprised of representatives of the Tuberculosis Association, the American Legion and its Women's Auxiliary, the South Carolina Medical Association, the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the state Parent-Teacher Association, the Home Economics Department of Winthrop College, has been forwarding the movement to make May Day a real Child Health Day by not only organizing May Day festivals and child health programs, but also by promoting child health conferences and clinics on that day and by making it the official day on which to begin the "Summer Round-up of Preschool Children," sponsored by the parent-teacher associations.

Special Activities.—A state-wide health poster contest was held. The posters of each county were exhibited on May Day in the county seat. Several of the programs were participated in by children throughout the county and individual programs were given in some of the schools.

In Aiken the county schools had window displays representing "Dental Care", "Drink Milk", "Good Sanitation", etc. Child Health Day coincided with County Field Day and these health windows carried their messages to thousands of people.

A colored clinic held a program which was enthusiastically received. It consisted of health recitations, songs and plays and a pageant in which sixty or more children took the part of vegetables or milk. Half of the babies examined were found to be underweight and their mothers received instructions on how to feed them.

Richland County was one of those which celebrated Child Health Day by giving physical examinations to the children, especially those who will enter school in the fall. It has been announced when the second clinic is held in the autumn a silver cup will be presented to the child making the greatest improvement during the summer.

In Charleston County, for two weeks in May, the clinic traveled to the rural districts, so that physical examinations and health instruction could be carried to the more isolated districts.

During the entire month of May the Greenville County Department of Health offered baby and preschool child clinics to any community in
the county upon request. On May Day in Greenville the milk bottles carried a list of a few health rules.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—Child Health Day in South Carolina has brought forth the fruit of better care for children in the hundreds of homes that have been touched by it.

The State May Day Committee has functioned so effectively that it promises to develop into a State Child Health Council through which all Child Health activities can be coordinated.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Chairman: Miss Florence E. Walker, R.N.
Director, Division of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

The chief activities sponsored by the state chairman for Child Health Day in South Dakota in 1928 were: continuation of the immunization program; the extension of preschool clinics with a later examination before the child enters school; a check-up by physicians and dentists, on the special work for the undernourished in the schools; May Day concerts, parades, field days, etc.

A preliminary May Day—Child Health Day Council was formed. The Governor and ten representatives of official and lay groups, accepted membership.

Preparation for the Child Health Day programs was started in December and communications were sent to all physicians, public health nurses, county superintendents of schools, presidents of women’s clubs, presidents of local associations of parent-teacher associations (also the state vice-presidents) and to six hundred ministers. The cooperation given by these groups was very gratifying.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—Governor Bulow issued a proclamation.

In addition to organizing the state-wide activities, the state chairman did some special work. A day was given to the Northern State Normal School helping with their program. On May first she drove two hundred and fifty miles against one of South Dakota’s worst winds in order that a town where the plans were made for a clinic should have new clinic record sheets—since the original papers had gone astray in the mail.

Brown County, which has a full-time health organization with two nurses and also a school nurse, staged an excellent program. Three preschool clinics were held. There were excellent displays in shop windows, many rural schools participated in the celebration, and the local papers were most cooperative. The girls in the town who had had home nursing classes by the nurse made the plans for their clinic. They were presented with their certificates on May 1st.

One former public health nurse, who lives forty miles from a rail-
road, planned a special May Day demonstration for four county schools. They obtained literature and posters from the Division of Child Hygiene.

In Mitchell the splendid year-round health program in the schools begins in Child Health Week with the free physical examination of preschool children. Those discovered to be free of defects are presented with a blue ribbon. When school opens the children are re-examined and notices are sent to the parents of those whose defects have not yet been corrected.

Three school nurses report an attendance of three hundred and twenty children for examination at their clinics. These nurses are all planning ways and means whereby those who will enter school in the fall may have their defects corrected.

In Turner County the women’s clubs united to publish a May Day edition of their local daily paper. The proceeds are being used for the correction of physical defects of the children whose parents cannot afford to have the work done.

A nurse in a town devoid of amusement facilities for children, was able to report that on May Day plans were made for playground equipment and to engage two supervisors for the summer.

A kindergarten primary council adopted the slogan, “He who serves the child best serves humanity.”

PERMANENT RESULTS.—The state chairman says that “added to the number of children who will profit by the work and have corrections done during the summer, we find other things which are most encouraging. The spirit expressed in the Governor’s message, the deeper interest on the part of parent-teacher associations and women’s clubs, all point to the fact that our May Day work has really meant a great deal to the state.”

The extension specialist at the Agricultural College has signified her intention of making out a schedule for 1929 and leaving one day free for each of their seven hundred clubs to do some special May Day work.

TENNESSEE

Chairman: EVELYN G. CHASE, R.N.
State Department of Public Health

In Tennessee the Child Health Day program stresses health work with the preschool and the school-aged child, with particular emphasis on the follow-up work for preschool children for the correction of defects before entering school.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor issued a proclamation which devoted May Day to child health.

Peabody College for Teachers staged a very constructive and charming program.
Approximately sixteen thousand pupils of the city schools participated in Knoxville’s Child Health Day. Programs varied in the different schools but each culminated in the presentation of Junior Red Cross badges to the children meeting the health rule requirements, which included the correction of defects. In one school two hundred of these gold star pupils paraded through the school. The examination of preschool children was included in the program.

In Harriman the public health nurse carried on a health contest which was concluded on Child Health Day; nine hundred and sixty-nine school children were examined. The celebration ended with a festival in the city park. The business men of Harriman were much interested in the Child Health Day project and gave their assistance to its furtherance.

TEXAS

Chairman: H. N. Barnett, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

The general program for May Day—Child Health Day in Texas has been built around the Child’s Bill of Rights.

Those who have been most active in arousing the enthusiasm throughout the state are: the parent-teacher associations, the county home demonstration agents, the Woman’s Auxiliary of the American Medical Association, the American Legion, women’s clubs, county public health nurses, and schools.

By means of posters, window displays, radio, health plays, parades, pageants, and school programs, the story of May Day was told from one end of the state to the other and fresh enthusiasm stirred for the encouragement of the health of children.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The Governor issued a proclamation and his enthusiasm was a strong factor in the success of the program. His night letter to the head of every organization in the state, asking them to meet with the representative of the American Child Health Association to form a May Day Child Health Council, brought fifty-five delegates. This Council adopted the specific aim of putting Texas in the birth registration area as its contribution to National Child Health Day. The state was thoroughly organized and twenty thousand Boy Scouts canvassed the homes in an effort to get 100 per cent birth registration.

Constructive work was done in the examination of preschool and school children and the correction of defects. San Antonio started a campaign to wipe out diphtheria.

The Summer Round-up of the parent-teacher associations was carried on with enthusiasm.
Newspapers and magazines, including the negro press, cooperated very generously.

In Nolan County a program was arranged with a place provided for every school in the county. The large attendance insured the work reaching a public which might otherwise have been inaccessible.

In one community the May Queen and her duchesses sailed away on the Ship of Health—so christened by the Health Fairies.

In Wichita Falls clinics were held in each school district and two hundred and ninety-six children had a complete physical examination.

The special Mercy Plane of a San Antonio drug company made a trip to Donna to demonstrate the emergency delivery of serums and antitoxins.

Permanent Results.—Texas can boast of two permanent features of her 1928 Child Health Day which will be of lasting benefit—the formation of the May Day Child Health Council, which will provide a year-round program, and the determination to put the state in the birth registration area.

UTAH

Chairman: H. Y. Richards, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Child Hygiene, State Board of Health

In Utah the Child Health Day Chairman asked the school superintendents to take the lead in organizing for the May Day celebrations. Hearty response was also accorded by other groups interested in child health who were urged to cooperate. The parents were appealed to to take an interest in Child Health Day and to help see to it that the programs were well carried out and the interest of their children aroused. Several towns reported that Child Health Day observance has become such a fixed institution that an annual holiday is made of it.

Special Activities.—The Governor, in a letter to the State Chairman, expressed his appreciation of the value of Child Health Day. In addition to the more serious work of physically examining the children and immunizing them against diphtheria, the gayety of May Day was translated into health terms by means of parades and field days, the braiding of the maypole, health drills and songs.

In Tremonton several towns joined in a Child Health Day parade to which squaws and papooses from a neighboring Indian reservation came to join the festivities.

Permanent Results.—The Health Commissioner says: "Many do not realize the far-reaching effect of these May Day programs, but they make a deep and lasting impression on the minds of the children. There are numerous children today who are endeavoring to observe the rules of
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health and hygiene, who never gave the matter a passing thought until it had been impressed upon them by one of these May Day health programs.

VERMONT

Chairman: Mrs. Samuel Frank

President, Vermont Branch, National Congress of Parent-Teacher Associations

May Day in Vermont serves the end of broadcasting through the state a clearer understanding of what a well-rounded child health program would mean to the children of the state.

May Day programs will be more significant next year than this.

Special Activities.—During the month of February, three hundred and forty-one letters were sent out to presidents of women's clubs, parent-teachers associations and to all of the superintendents of schools in the state urging that they use the month of May to plan their health work with the children for the coming year and to consider what had been accomplished during the past. Various plans were outlined for child health programs. These letters were all sent out as a part of child health work under the State Department of Public Health, Division of Maternity and Infancy.

Springfield had a large celebration with a health parade in which nine hundred children marched.

A little town in the southern part of the state turned its May Day program into a Health Day in the village school for which the children from the rural districts were brought in.

Health plays written and planned by the various schools were put on, there was a picnic lunch and Nellie M. Jones, State Advisory Nurse, gave a talk to the parents on “Child Care and the Meaning of May Day.”

VIRGINIA

Chairman: Mary Evelyn Brydon, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Child Welfare, State Board of Health

Vice-Chairman: Ellen H. Smith

“Child Health Day in Virginia,” writes the Chairman, “might be called the ‘Victory March of the Five Pointers.’ The recognition and reward of the children who reached this minimum standard of physical fitness has been the central idea of all the festivals, whether in individual schools, or in county or city-wide programs. The Five Point children wore blue ribbons, or colored paper caps, carried banners, or rode on floats, to distinguish them from the ‘common herd.’ The effect has been that the ‘herd’ has been stampeding to join the Five Point class. Children have
pleaded, wept, and walked miles to secure corrections that formerly they would have bolted to escape.

"The Health Contests for the highest percentage of Five Point children that have been held in counties and cities for the last two or three years, have steadily increased in number and in interest, both in white and colored schools."

The number of Five Point children in the state has doubled since last year, and now reaches about eighty-four thousand or 14 per cent of the total number. When one considers that forty-two thousand children have been added to the ranks in the space of twelve months, this seems a notable accomplishment.

Child Health Day, as Virginia prefers to call it, constituted the "finals" in those contests, but the plans were laid in June, 1927 when a committee of division school superintendents appointed by the State Department of Education met to confer with the State Chairman. This committee gave the matter much attention and came several times to Richmond to meet with the State Chairman. It prepared resolutions which were adopted by the Superintendents' Conference in November and which provided among other things for a permanent Superintendents' Health Committee to be advisory to the State Board of Health and for the appointment of each Superintendent of Schools as chairman of Child Health Day in his respective county or city; the resolutions also advised that where practicable a central county-wide Child Health Day be arranged for the visual health education of parents as well as children, and that the State Board of Health be requested to prepare suitable health literature to aid in the celebration of Child Health Day.

All these resolutions were carried into effect, and in regard to the last named, "Health Notes for Superintendents," a mimeographed monthly, was started in January, 1928 by the Child Health Bureau for the purpose of keeping the superintendents in touch with Child Health Day plans and other public health data. Special articles were published monthly in two educational journals and in "Community League News."

Special Activities.—Proclamation by the Governor.

The first school to reach the goal of 100 per cent Five Pointers was the Rockland School in Warren County, with the Dolphin School in Brunswick County only one point behind. Competition was keen all over the state and in some cases spectacular gains were made, as in the case of Rockbridge County, which reported the number of its Five Point children increased from two hundred to nine hundred in a year's time, although the Health Unit had been in existence only eighteen months.

Child Health Day has embraced many phases of health besides the five points. Tuberculin-tested cows have paraded with the Five Pointers;
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Red Cross floats, Drink Milk floats, Toxin Anti-toxin floats, Preschool floats, Health Habit floats, Swat the Fly floats, etc., have given stimulus to the other health aims. In some places the preschool children were especially featured by miniature floats drawn by the children in procession.

In the campaign to produce the greatest per cent of Five Point children, new activities sprang up in schools, such as the provision of hot lunches or midmorning milk in schools not having had these before but which were trying to bring their underweight children up to average weight. Where tonsils and adenoids needed to be removed, and family budgets could not be made to cover this, clubs helped to secure the necessary funds.

Both the Community and Junior Leagues made encouragement of the largest number of Five Point children one of their special objectives.

A Committee of Pediatricians was appointed by the Bureau of Child Welfare to study the problems of the preschool child entering school for the first time.

Permanent Results.—Child Health Day in Virginia has grown in four years from scattered celebrations voluntarily promoted by interested citizens and organizations, into a unified, carefully planned program under official direction.

A permanent "Superintendents' Health Committee," advisory to the State Board of Health in its child health program, has been appointed by the Division Superintendents in conference.

WASHINGTON

Chairman: Mary Louise Allen, R.N.
Chief, Division of Public Health, Nursing and Child Hygiene,
State Department of Health

The child health program during the month of May this year covered a broad field in the state of Washington, and there were few counties that did not take cognizance of May Day as Child Health Day.

Responses and reports from all parts of the state indicated that the awakening had come to the value of setting aside this definite time of year to emphasize child health.

Through committees of various local organizations, interesting and instructive programs were arranged in churches, schools, city halls, and theatres. A volume of material was sent out through the Child Hygiene Division to these various committees in response to requests for material and assistance in putting on attractive programs.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.—The May Day program in the state of Washington was characterized by exhibits and displays in health conferences, show windows, and public meetings; lectures, pageants, and festivals in
schools; special programs in Sunday schools and churches; radio programs, health film showings; and child health conferences.

As heretofore, the Seattle Federation of Women's Clubs conducted a city-wide program during the first week of May, culminating in the May Day luncheon at the chamber of commerce on the fifth of May, at which approximately seven hundred and fifty persons were present. The theme of the luncheon addresses was the importance of health in all activities of human life, beginning with the child and extending into business, industry, the home and the community.

Letters were sent to the ministers of all the churches in Seattle with a request for cooperation, and a most favorable response was received.

In Tacoma, a series of health examinations was conducted in all the schools of the city, pediatricians, dentists, etc., giving freely of their time and cordially cooperating with the school medical department in this work.

There were thirty special child health conferences held throughout the state during May in which the Child Hygiene Division of the State Department of Health, and a number of the state's foremost pediatricians assisted. A series of conferences at four of the Indian Reservations deserve special mention.

Many talks were given to lay audiences by pediatricians and members of the staff of the State Department.

The public press cooperated in publishing special articles and pictures emphasizing child health activities.

Permanent Results.—While it is not possible to point out any one or more definite results from the May Day project, it may be safely said that this annual emphasizing of child health is bringing about a gradual growth of interest and study among lay groups, women's clubs, and various other organizations. The results are manifested in the gradually increasing demand for special conferences, talks, literature, courses in hygiene of maternity and infancy, and in the many requests for information on child welfare subjects.

The preschool circles of the parent-teacher associations have felt the stimulus and as a result are formulating plans for an almost state-wide anti-toxin campaign. This, together with the increasing interest in the examination and correction of defects of the preschool child, seem to be the outstanding features of the year.

The Chairman writes: “We can hope and look confidently forward to the time when in all activities of human endeavor, the importance of the health and general welfare of the child will be preeminent, and we believe that the May Day project will have much to do in bringing about this auspicious day.”
WEST VIRGINIA

Chairman: MRS. R. L. PUGH
President West Virginia Parent-Teacher Association

West Virginia uses May Day to center attention on child health and welfare, and declares that the day has three objectives:

1. To review the accomplishments of the past year in behalf of child health.
2. To set the mark for achievement along this line for the coming year a little further ahead.
3. In communities and counties where little health work for children has yet been undertaken, to use May Day for the purpose of focusing the thought of the people on child health needs, and the responsibility, individually and collectively, for meeting these needs. In other words, to map out a definite child health program to be carried on throughout the year.

The program was set in motion by the combined efforts of several state-wide organizations which, under the leadership of the State Chairman, prepared and circulated suggestions for May Day celebrations, and for local organization and publicity. In carrying out the plans for Child Health Day, however, the county was in most instances the unit of organization, though in some of the more mountainous districts the unit was smaller.

One of the definite activities growing out of the May Day celebrations has been the Summer Round-up which this year is an integral part of the health program in a large number of communities and in several counties. (Last year more than 2,268 were examined in the preschool clinics.) Interest in the May Day for 1928 in West Virginia was greatly increased over that of any previous year and nineteen counties put on a county-wide May Day program. These were Preston, Webster, Cabell, Wetzel, Putnam, Mercer, Mineral, Monroe, Barbour, Kanawha, Hampshire, Hancock, Roane, Raleigh, Lewis, Harrison, Fayette, Logan and Randolph.

Special Activities.—Governor Gore issued an appeal to the people of the state to join in the national observance of Child Health Day.

In Mineral and Monroe Counties ribbons were awarded to pupils meeting the State standard. Preschool children were examined in Hampshire County on May Day. In Raleigh County one hundred and thirty-four health badges were presented by the President of the Raleigh County Medical Society. In Harrison County pins were presented to Five Point children.

Preston County has an outstanding record of a May Day program in twenty-four schools.
Putnam, Mineral and Fayette Counties carried on their May Day activities in connection with "Public School Day."

As last year, the schools of Logan County, in cooperation with the County Health Unit, staged a three-day festival of parades and pageants at the county seat. Activities began with a float parade on the first day and continued in a series of health pageants given in Holden Park and lasting two days. Each school district contributed a pageant, the school selected to represent it being chosen because it had the highest percentage of Five Point children in the school district—that is, those who had endeavored to correct defects of teeth, vision, hearing, and weight, and had kept the health rules. The serving of hot lunches and the sanitary condition of the premises also entered into the grading. Judges of floats and pageants were from the Department of Health and the prizes were given by the Governor.

Other counties made other plans; in one, child health conferences were the most prominent feature, May Day marking the first, and others following through the spring and summer. In another, contests were held among school children for the best health essays, slogans, posters, plays, or pageants. Eight hundred rural children were brought in to the county seat, where in the auditorium there was a program of group singing, plays, and pageants, followed by the awarding of thirty-one prizes.

**permanent results.**—Reports show a decided reduction in infant mortality in the past year, to which the activities started on May Day of last year may fairly be considered to have contributed.

A Child Health Council has been formed for the purpose of coordinating the programs of state-wide official and voluntary agencies, as they relate to child health.

It is confidently believed that the intelligent interest and activity aroused by the numerous programs in behalf of child health will be reflected in a higher health level for the people in many of these communities during the coming year.

**Wisconsin**

Chairman: Cora S. Allen, M.D.

Director, Bureau of Child Welfare, State Board of Health

For the past five years Wisconsin has cooperated with the Child Health Day State Chairman in the organization and demonstration of health programs. This year particular stress was laid on the preventive program, which included vaccination against smallpox, immunization against diphtheria, as well as the general check-up of health conditions throughout the schools, clinics, etc. The moral side of the child received due importance through the ministerial associations, and almost every com-
Community made some special effort to unite in producing "better children for our nation."

Practically every one of the seventy-one counties participated in the observation of May Day either by holding welfare clinics, chest or dental clinics, school programs, or exhibits. In the counties having county nurses, for the most part these acted as chairmen and arranged the programs with the cooperation of the county superintendents, ministers, doctors, dentists, and storekeepers.

A particularly noteworthy feature of the celebration in Wisconsin was the generous response of the press which gave lavishly of its space.

Special Activities.—The Governor and many mayors of cities issued proclamations.

From the wealth of constructive and interesting child health achievements reported throughout the state, a few representative programs have been chosen to illustrate Wisconsin's Child Health Day:

Racine had found in 1927 that six weeks was too little time in which to prepare for a Child Health Day of real significance. It was therefore decided that meetings of the committee would be held from time to time throughout the year and contact established with those in the community through whom the committee's work would be accomplished. This resulted in a program which was most efficient in scope and detail.

The schools were especially active. Posters were made and displayed in store windows. Lincoln School, in celebration of the new baby clinic being opened there, held open house to parents all day—and this included four semi-formal programs.

Eleven hundred children marched in the Washington School parade. This was so carefully planned as to the safeguarding of the children's health and their physical education had been so well developed that the time schedule was exactly adhered to and no fatigue was experienced at the end.

The service clubs heard ten-minute talks from the Health Commissioner. The Child Health Day program marked the opening of a series of radio talks to expectant mothers.

Health movies, plays and tableaux were given. The libraries kept a special shelf of health books.

Extra clinics for well babies and preschool children were held and widely advertised.

In Kenosha Girl Scouts ran errands and had charge of the distribution of the health literature. Demonstrations of bed making, bathing children, and bandaging, learned in classes in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, were given in store windows.

An evidence of the scope of the work in Oshkosh is the fact that in addition to the Mayor's proclamation, the chief of police gave an interview...
on training children in coping safely with traffic and the fire chief wrote on caution against fire in homes and at play; shop windows arranged displays of health posters; local child welfare workers gave ten minute talks on health; and the newspapers cooperated generously.

At one clinic in Madison two hundred and fourteen preschool children were weighed, measured, and inspected. Literature from the State Board of Health was distributed and prizes were given to children measuring up most nearly to perfect health standards.

One large display window in the State Bank showed an exhibit of posters made by Winnebago Indian school children interpreting their conception of modern health measures.

Children in the grade schools of Fond du Lac celebrated the day by giving health plays and poems and talking about health. They lived and breathed health in every subject, from beginning to the end of the day. Arithmetic problems asked “How many days did John lose by illness if he was absent two days last week and two days this week?” In geography, the health of the countries was studied, and in history the story of diseases was traced.

Marinette opened its first child health center on May Day and thirty-six children were examined.

In Oconto a health float toured the city all day.

For the first time the State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs joined in the Child Health Day work. Their whole-hearted cooperation was very gratifying.

PERMANENT RESULTS.—The diffusion of health knowledge throughout the state, the awakening of interest in people of all occupations, and the improvement of the children’s health by means of clinics, etc. are permanent results of which Wisconsin may well be proud.

WYOMING

Chairman: MRS. THOMAS HUNTER, Cheyenne

Concentration on one point—health clinics for the preschool age—mark the program of Wyoming. It is hoped that by next year, thanks to the cooperation of many forces, toxin anti-toxin for the prevention of diphtheria will be generally used throughout the state.

A Health Week rather than a Health Day was proclaimed by the Governor, who joined with it Music Week, saying, “One relates to the welfare of young Americans and the other to one of the most elevating influences in American life.” Clinics for the physical examination of preschool children, especially those who were to enter school next fall, were continued all the week. Children participated in the week’s programs by parades, plays and music.
I have seen May Day grow from an idea to an accomplishment that captures the imagination. The achievements in the program of almost any one state outdistance what might have been hoped for in the country at large when the idea was launched. I believe that the great response to the appeal of May Day gives witness to a latent desire in the hearts of the people of this great new nation of ours to build towards racial perfection—a perfection such as no country in the world has ever yet dared aspire to—inclusive of the spirit and the mind as well as the body. All who have in any way shared in the May Day story have unconsciously built towards that pattern of perfection, the hope of which rests in our children.

Wade Horn
Barnes

Provided by the Maternal and Child Health Library, Georgetown University