

# MATERNITY AND INFANCY ACT

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LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS  
COMMENDING THE MATERNITY AND INFANCY ACT

- I. FROM MOTHERS RECEIVING ITS BENEFITS
- II. FROM PHYSICIANS
- III. FROM OTHERS OBSERVING ITS OPERATIONS



PRESENTED BY MR. SHEPPARD

MAY 26 (calendar day, MAY 28), 1926.—Ordered to be printed

# MATERNITY AND INFANCY ACT

LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS  
COMMEMORATING THE MATERNITY AND INFANCY ACT

The letters quoted in this document were received by State health authorities or by Senator Sheppard in reference to work under the maternity and infancy act. Signatures to letters from mothers omitted on account of personal nature of subject.



PRESENTED BY SEN. SHEPPARD  
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# MATERNITY AND INFANCY ACT

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## LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS COMMENDING MATERNITY ACT

### LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM MOTHERS RECEIVING BENEFITS OF MATERNITY ACT

CLARKDALE, ARIZ., August 24, 1923.

Mrs. MAUDE H. HOWE,  
*Phoenix, Ariz.*

DEAR MRS. HOWE: It has been almost seven months since my boy was born to me. He was born in Prescott, Ariz., January 30, 1923. At that time I lived in Ash Fork, Ariz.

I want to thank you for the many letters you sent me. They were of a great help to me, and I think your service to young mothers especially is a wonderful help. I think the money spent for this work is well spent.

Thanking you again for your good information,  
Respectfully.

---

TUCSON, ARIZ., September 11, 1923.

Mrs. MAUDE H. HOWE,  
*Director, Child Hygiene Division, Phoenix, Ariz.*

DEAR MRS. HOWE: I want to express my appreciation and enjoyment of your letters and the interest you are taking in me and others who are in a like condition. I think it is a wonderful movement and feel sure that much good will result from it. I have passed all of my letters on to friends who are not so fortunate as I am in having access to such help and encouragement, and they have all been received with thankfulness.

Very sincerely yours.

---

CLAYPOOL, ARIZ., September 10, 1923.

Mrs. CHAS. R. HOWE,  
*Director, Child Hygiene Division,  
State Board of Health, Phoenix, Ariz.*

MY DEAR MRS. HOWE: As I can not thank all the women who are working to help mothers, I shall thank the director. Your letters have been such aid to me, where I had no knowledge of how to take care of myself. My time is rapidly drawing to a close and I have followed your sound advice in every instance possible.

You are doing a work of great good to humanity. Thank you for the advice I needed so.

Very truly.

WINSLOW, ARIZ., December 7, 1923.

Mrs. CHARLES R. HOWE,  
*Director, Child Hygiene Division,  
Phoenix, Ariz.*

MY DEAR MRS. HOWE: Just a word of thanks to you, as director of the child hygiene division, for the letters and booklets sent me during my term of pregnancy. Am especially thankful for Infant Care, as my baby is of necessity a bottle baby. A few of my mental questions were answered in the pamphlet.

Thanking you again, I am  
Sincerely yours.

---

WILLCOX, ARIZ., May 22, 1925.

Mrs. MAUDE H. HOWE,  
*Phoenix.*

DEAR MADAM: I just think it so kind of you to send me those letters on prenatal care. I was just so nervous and afraid of it before, but since I read your letters I have more self-control.

Mrs. Howe, if you have any more books, please send them on to me, as they are a great help to one that don't know what it is to be confined. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours very truly.

---

YOUNTVILLE, CALIF., October 27, 1925.

ELLEN S. STADTMULLER, M. D.:  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

MY DEAR MRS. STADTMULLER: I am enjoying all the literature very much and my baby's eyes are all right now, and I thank you for your kind interest. I have found everything such a help. My boy will be 2 years on November 1. He weighs 32 pounds, is 34½ inches in height, and has 16 teeth. He has nothing to eat that the diet for that age does not call for. My baby girl is 3½ months old, and weighs 14 pounds and 2 ounces. They are both very solid and not a soft flabby fat as the heavy weight may suggest. I give the credit to the help I have received from the literature now available to any mother, and wish they all may read and benefit by it.

Thanking you, I am,  
Very truly yours.

---

SEBASTOPOL, CALIF., March 16, 1924.

MY DEAR DOCTOR STADTMULLER: I have received all your prenatal letters and the bulletin on prenatal care, which I have greatly appreciated as they have been of great assistance to me. My baby girl is now 2 weeks old and is just getting along fine, as I am also. So now if you would send me your second bulletin, Infant Care, I would be very grateful.

Very sincerely yours.



HAYWARD, CALIF., *February 20, 1924.*  
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
BUREAU OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

DEAR DOCTORS: Your set of prenatal letters were received, for which I thank you. They sure have helped and enlightened me.

Yours truly.

---

VENTURA, CALIF., *April 10, 1925.*  
ELLEN S. STADTMULLER, M. D.,  
BUREAU OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

DEAR MADAM: I received your letters on prenatal care the other day. I enjoyed them very much and I am sure they will be a great help to me. They are so easy to understand and cover the ground so well.

Sincerely yours.

---

SAUSALITO, CALIF., *September 29, 1925.*  
BUREAU OF CHILD HYGIENE:

I wish to thank you for the prenatal letters which you issue and which were given me by my doctor. They have been of the greatest possible help to me. It has been indeed a boon to have them at hand always to refer to.

Yours truly.

---

WILLITS, CALIF., *March 5, 1925.*  
ELLEN S. STADTMULLER, M. D.,  
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

DEAR FRIEND: I am writing to thank you for your very helpful prenatal letters. I received a great deal of help and comfort from them. My 9½-pound baby girl was born January 27, and is doing fine.

I would very much like to have your pamphlets on Breast Feeding, Mental Training of the Young Child, Your Baby: How to Keep It Well, Infant Care, and Child Care.

Thanking you very much for your kindness, I am,  
Yours sincerely.

---

ARCATA, CALIF., *January 5, 1925.*  
DR. ELLEN S. STADTMULLER,  
*Director Bureau of Child Hygiene,*  
*Sacramento, Calif.*

DEAR DOCTOR: Please accept my sincere thanks for the many letters which came to me so regularly during the past months. They have been a great help to me and I appreciate very much the great work which the Bureau of Child Hygiene is doing.

I have a lovely baby boy, 3 months old, and so far he has gained steadily.

Your small pamphlet on the "Care of the Baby" is very good, but I should be glad to have the larger one you wrote about which is furnished by the Federal Government.

With many thanks and best wishes for the growth of your department I am,

Sincerely,

---

WILLOWS, CALIF., *January 8, 1925.*

ELLEN S. STADTMULLER, M. D.,  
*Director Bureau Child Hygiene,*  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you for sending me the letters, as I always read them all with interest, and they have proved very helpful. My little baby girl is now almost 3 weeks old and we are both getting along fine.

Please send me all the pamphlets on the care of the baby, also "Mental Training of the Young Child." Thanking you very much for your past and future kindness, I am,

Sincerely yours,

---

PACIFIC PALISADES, CALIF., *January 12, 1925*

DR. ELLEN S. STADTMULLER,  
*Bureau of Child Hygiene,*  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR STADTMULLER: I want to thank you and the bureau for the splendid letters received on prenatal care. I have watched eagerly for them each month and have received a great deal of splendid information and instruction from them.

Thanking you again for the help received from you, I am,

Sincerely,

---

UKIAH, CALIF., *October 14, 1925.*

BUREAU OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
*Sacramento, Calif.*

DEAR MADAM: I want to thank you for sending me the literature on prenatal care and infant care. Your advice means much to me, as I am a young woman and I know very little about my present condition. Your booklets will help me wonderfully.

Thanking your for your kindness, I am,

Yours truly,

---

CAPITOLA, CALIF., *January 30, 1926.*

ELLEN S. STADTMULLER, M. D.,  
*California State Board of Health, Sacramento, Calif.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR STADTMULLER: A fine baby girl arrived in our family on December 23. I wish to thank you for the assistance you gave me in your letters that came regularly prior to her birth. Prenatal advice from a reliable source, I think, is of great value to every woman.

Very sincerely yours.

ATLANTA, GA.

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD.

DEAR SIR: Would like to tell you how much the prenatal clinic helped me before my last baby was born. I do hope you will be able to continue the clinic so other mothers can receive the benefit of it like I have.

---

ATLANTA, GA.

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD.

DEAR SIR: I want to tell you how much the prenatal clinic helped me. I don't think I would have lived if I had not had the treatments.

I felt better the next day after I went to the clinic. I hope you can continue the prenatal clinic for there are other poor mothers just like me who are not even able to have a doctor and who need the prenatal clinic.

Respectfully.

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EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE IDAHO BUREAU  
OF CHILD HYGIENE

I have appreciated very much the letters and books I have received during pregnancy and they have surely helped me.

---

I am writing this to thank you for your monthly letters and the booklets that you sent me. They have certainly helped me a great deal. I don't think there has been a day since I received them that I haven't read some part of them.

Thanking you again for your interest I wish you every success that you may help many mothers as you have helped me.

---

I received the letters from yourself and Doctor Almond and they were read with the greatest interest and will confess some tears.

They seemed like some dear kind friend who was giving me advice and sympathy. I also read parts to my husband and he seemed to have awakened to the fact that I need special care at this time.

I read the letters and then passed them on to another lady who needed them. I am following your directions carefully.

I feel this is a great step forward and do hope you will not get discouraged and give it up, for I feel it fulfills a very urgent need. You know how mothers sometimes are. They are timid about telling anyone of their condition and think it is expensive to go to a physician, not realizing the harm done to themselves and their families, so go on talking to them in your kind sympathetic way and I am sure great results will come.

God bless you in your work.

---

I want to thank you personally for the letters to expectant mothers, which I am receiving. Your letters have given me perfect confidence for I have followed all directions and have been perfectly well all the time.

EMERSON, KY., August 5, 1924.

ANNA S. VEECH,

DEAR MADAM: In reply to your letter of the 19th of June, I wish to state that since following your advice my health is improved, and I do not have to wean my baby at 7 months as I thought. I think I will be able to nurse him now until cool weather. He is doing fine now.

Thanking you for your kind letter of June 19 and hoping you may answer this, I remain,

Yours truly,

PAINTSVILLE, KY.

DEAR DOCTOR VEECH: I feel that I owe you many thanks for the instruction and advice you have given me.

I am following out the instructions you sent me in regard to my baby's feeding. Please send me literature for him, as I want to keep him under your care.

Thanking you for all you have done for me, I am,

Sincerely yours.

MERCER COUNTY, KY., June 1, 1925.

DEAR DOCTOR VEECH: I do wish I could see you and tell you what you have done for me and how much your help has meant. We live so far out in the country that without the instructions which you have sent to me I do not see how it would have been possible for me to care for my baby properly. I have read all the literature which you sent and have followed it as best I could.

Yours truly,

RUSSELL, KY., June 4, 1925.

ANNIE S. VEECH, M. D.,

*Director, Bureau of Maternal and Child Hygiene,*

*State Board of Health, Louisville, Ky.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR VEECH: Please accept this as an expression of my sincere appreciation of the letters on prenatal and child care, which I received several days ago. I have derived great pleasure and benefit from them, and feel that too much can not be said of this great and good work.

Yours sincerely,

ALBION, MICH., July 16, 1925.

I received the book, *Infant Care*, on Tuesday of this week. Just the few pages I have read has taught me so much I did not know before. I hardly know how to thank you. I value that little book.

MUSKEGON, MICH., November 8, 1925.

I am writing wishing to thank you for your kind letter on how to care for myself before and after the birth of my baby. I followed your advice and got along just fine and wish more mothers might have the same chance as I.



IONA, MICH., *August 18, 1925.*

The literature which I received during my expected motherhood was a great help to me. For our baby girl is doing so nicely that I can not help but appreciate you literature along that line. If every expectant mother would try to follow your instructions we would have better citizens in our country.

---

DETROIT, MICH., *March 13, 1925.*

The State of Michigan, through the department of health, is performing a valuable service in keeping expectant mothers informed on the important subject of childbirth. Shortly after informing our family doctor of my condition, I received a series of timely letters which were very helpful. The suggestions contained in the letters, together with the doctor's advice, was followed during the entire period, with the result that the birth was perfectly normal. Both baby and I are enjoying the best of health.

I wish to thank you for having extended this service to me and hope that others will benefit from it to the same extent that I did.

---

BEJOU, MINN., *September 2, 1925.*

MINNESOTA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
DIVISION OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

MY DEAR FRIENDS: The nurse took in my name at the county fair of (Mahnomen, Minn.) and asked if I would like to take the 15 lessons (Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy) I agreed, and she took my name and address. I got 4 lessons so far and thank you very much. But now my question, Must I or am I urged to answer these questions? I have not done so thus far but please don't stop any of your corresponding to me. I have two children 2 and 3 years of age and will expect another in two months from now. So you can imagine the reading matter helps me much.

I have much work, as we live on a 160-acre farm and rent 120 besides. My husband and I are trying to work this together. We milk eight cows together besides. I cut a lot of our grain this year. But now I feel I must rest.

I received your last two books (Prenatal Care and Infant Care). Many thanks for same.

---

CLEARBROOK, MINN., *January 29, 1924.*

DIVISION OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
MINNESOTA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

DEAR SIRs: Yesterday I received the last lesson of the correspondence study course in the "Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy." It is a wonderful study, and I wish to thank you very kindly for it.

Your course has been a splendid help to me. I am sorry that more expectant mothers in the country do not interest themselves in bringing better babies into the world. But eventually your splendid course will reach them.

I am sorry not to have answered each lesson, as I was called to New York before the first lesson came. But since my return I have certainly studied the full course, and wish to thank you again for same.

Sincerely.

---

PERLEY, MINN., *March 12, 1924.*

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing you and thanking you for the kind information you had given me before my child was born. If it wasn't for those letters I got from you telling me how to take care of myself I wouldn't have known what to do; I can not thank you enough for what you taught me by your letters.

I would be very glad to receive the information on the care of the baby as it helped me and I am sure it will the baby also.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours very sincerely.

---

HOPKINS, MINN., *April 25, 1924.*

RUTH E. BOYNTON, R. N.  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

DEAR MISS BOYNTON: Received to-day my last two papers on the course in the hygiene of maternity and infancy and also the certificate of completion of the course. I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all concerned for the time and care that has been expended on my papers and also my thorough appreciation of the course itself and all that it has done for me. I truly believe that the privilege of taking this course and receiving each month your wonderfully helpful letters to prospective mothers is a wonderful thing and I am so thankful my doctor informed me of it.

Thanking you again for the time and trouble that have been put upon my particular case, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

---

CLEARBROOK, MINN., *February 19, 1924.*

MINNESOTA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

DEAR FRIENDS: Please accept my heartiest thanks for the very valuable literature of advice concerning myself and baby. Our baby girl was born September 28, 1923, and weighed  $9\frac{1}{2}$  pounds at birth. She has been a healthy baby ever since, and she now weighs  $15\frac{1}{2}$  pounds at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  months. Her eyes just fairly sparkle with health, and she laughs all the day long.

I am so pleased with your valuable information (as this was my first child and I had hardly seen a new-born child before) that I am sending you the name of my sister, who is to have her fourth child, but likes your advice and rules so well she requested me to send in her name.

Thanking you again and again, I am,

Yours very sincerely.

OMAHA, NEBR., *December 1, 1925.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: Our baby girl arrived safely and is getting along nicely. Your kindness and consideration in sending both the letters and bulletins surely was appreciated.

Now we are sending for other bulletins and hope we may raise our baby girl to be a healthy, happy, young woman.

Again thanking you for your kindness, I am,  
Sincerely yours.

---

BROKEN BOW, NEBR., *February 18, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: I want to thank you for your letters to me. They have been a wonderful help.

Again thanking you, I am,  
Yours truly.

---

SUPERIOR, NEBR., *February 5, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: I have appreciated the letters which have been sent me by your department. They have answered a lot of questions that I had been wondering about, and the help and advice given has been much worth while.

Our young son is nearly 7 weeks old and has been gaining nicely and seems to be a healthy, happy baby.

Thank you very much for sending the letters and for your interest in the babies and their mothers. It surely is a fine work.

Sincerely yours.

---

AUBURN, NEBR., *February 25, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: I've received your monthly letters through Doctor Lutgen. I received much help and good out of them. I am passing them on to the expectant mothers now.

Thanking you for help received in the past, I remain,  
Very truly yours.

---

KEARNEY, NEBR., *January 5, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: May I ask you to kindly send me another book on Infant Care, also Prenatal Care, as I loaned mine to my sister and miss them so much, especially the Infant Care.

Thanking you in advance, I am,  
Very truly yours.

---

GRAND ISLAND, NEBR., *January 3, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: I want to thank you very much for the letters, as they helped me quite a bit, because I had no mother to tell me anything.

Thanking you again for your kind information, I remain,  
Yours truly.

OMAHA, NEBR., *December 27, 1925.*

MY DEAR MISS MURPHY: Thank you for your nice note. Will be delighted to receive the bulletins checked, as I am very anxious to do the very best possible for my baby. I have the other two bulletins.

Sincerely yours.

---

NASHUA, N. H., *February, 25, 1926.*

MY DEAR MISS CROUGH: Kindly accept my humble thanks for the useful little booklet, *The Baby*, you have sent me. I have read every word in it, and you have no idea how it has helped me. I shall greatly appreciate any other material on infant care and child care you can send me. Thank you.

Respectfully.

---

MANCHESTER, N. H., *February 4, 1926.*

MISS ELENA M. CROUGH, R. N.,

*Concord, N. H.*

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you for all the helpful literature which you have sent me since the birth of my baby 18 months ago. It has been priceless to me.

The booklet on *Infant Care* is my ready-reference book at all times, and the diet lists are just splendid.

In your last circular letter you stated that there were other leaflets published by the State board of health which would be sent upon request, and I should be very grateful for any which you think might help us in looking after the health of our little family.

It must be gratifying to you to see the good results which your division has worked with the babies here in Manchester; and although I have never been to any of the clinics, yet I feel that I owe some of the good health of my sturdy little 24-pound boy to the authentic information on babies which it has been possible for me to get.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours.

---

VALATU, N. Y., *December 18, 1925.*

KIND FRIEND: I have taken your advice. \* \* \* Words can not express how thankful I am to you. I don't think I would have had her very long if it had not been for your giving me such good advice.

---

FORESTVILLE, N. Y., *November 2, 1925.*

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

DEAR SIR: The two books which you have sent me, *Suggestions for Prospective Mothers* and *New York State Baby Book*, have been a source of great help to me. Kindly send me two more books, which I will appreciate. They are: *A Problem for Parents* and *A Day's Food Plan for Children 1 to 2 years old*.

Thanking you, I am,

Yours truly.



SYRACUSE, N. Y., *January 13, 1926.*

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

*Albany, N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN: I have received your booklet suggestions for Prospective Mothers, and think that it is a great help for women in such cases. I now am the mother of a lovely little girl.

Please send me the booklet, Your Baby, How to Keep It Well, and I shall appreciate it very much.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Sincerely yours.

---

RHINEBECK, N. Y., *January 14, 1926.*

M. NICOLL, Jr., M. D.,

*Commissioner of Health.*

DEAR SIR: Last summer I received a booklet, Suggestions for Prospective Mothers, from you, which was a great help to me.

Now our baby has arrived, a big fat baby boy. In your letter you said you would send me a booklet entitled "New York State Baby Book." I will be very glad to have one from your department.

Yours truly.

---

CORNING, N. Y., *January 25, 1926.*

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

*Albany, N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN: Sometime ago I received a copy of one of your publications on "Your Baby: How to Keep it Well." It has been a great help to me with my baby. Now that she is old enough to take table food, would like to have Circular No. 7, "From the bottle to table food." Thanking you very kindly.

Yours truly.

---

DICKINSON CENTER, N. Y., *February 28, 1926.*

DEAR SIR: Some months ago I received a booklet (Suggestions for Prospective Mothers), for which I thank you and which helped me very much. Baby is now nearly 2 months old, and I would be very grateful if you would please send me a book on how to care for him, as I do desire to have him healthy. This is my first child and I am inexperienced.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am,

Yours sincerely.

---

OWEGO, N. Y., *January 4, 1926.*

DEAR MISS STILLWELL: Just a line to thank you for remembering me at Christmas time. Little Royce is sending you a little token of love, for I know you have made her the good baby she is. We hardly know we have a baby in the house, and she is growing like a little weed. She weighs 15½ pounds without her clothes on. Wish

you could see her. When you come up to Mrs. Talbury's some time come up and see her. You are always more than welcome. Wishing you a happy New Year.

With love.

---

SYRACUSE, N. Y., *February 24, 1926.*

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
*Albany, N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN: Will you please send me one of your books—New York State Baby Book; also any other book or literature for babies.

My baby is 11 months old and has never been sick, as I have followed this book all the time. Found every thing wonderful. The one I have belongs to my friend.

Very truly yours.

---

SPARKS, NEV., *March 20, 1926.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,  
*Children's Bureau, Reno, Nev.*

SIR: I wish to acknowledge my appreciation for the help I have received through the Sheppard-Towner bill.

I have received much helpful and instructive literature for the health and welfare of children.

Have lived for years in the southern part of the State some 100 miles from the home of Mrs. Lee, but when she has made her trips two or three times a year have tried to attend her lectures and received much good from them.

Have been in Sparks since September. My baby was born in Nevada and was very delicate when Mrs. Storey came to my aid. How I appreciate her; she has the baby doing as well as a baby can. She also is interested with other children in the family. Oh, I do love her. I can not tell you how much I have enjoyed her visits and advice. I look forward to her advice as I would to the advice of my mother.

Respectfully yours.

---

ENID, OKLA., *February 10, 1925.*

GOOD CHEER EDITOR:

My one hope is I never get too wise or too old to learn. Of my six children I have had less worry, care, and sickness, healthier and happier babies, since I have had the advice and help from our State board of health.

I am a firm believer in a baby's first 18 months of life, the most important of all, 9 months before birth and 9 after.

I do wish every mother would send her address to the children's bureau at Oklahoma City, for it means health and happiness for mother and baby.

Explanation: This is the copy of a letter written without our knowledge to our largest rural paper, the Oklahoma Farm Stockman.

L. S. B.,

*Oklahoma State Health Department.*

Mrs. ———, Oklahoma City, Okla., sent a Christmas box to her married daughter in South America. In the box she included a complete set of the literature sent out by the Oklahoma Bureau of Maternity and Infancy. In due time she received a letter of thanks from her daughter saying: "I appreciated everything you sent, mother, but most of all I enjoyed the literature. I'd rather have that than anything else you sent me because I find it so helpful in caring for my baby boy."

---

SAND SPRINGS, OKLA., *November 30, 1925.*

DEAR MADAM: I am in receipt of your first and second prenatal letters and the accompanying leaflets. I do not know from whom you obtained my name, but I wish to be sure of receiving the remainder of them. I am young. This is my first child and the bureau can be of great service to me.

Thanking you in advance, I remain.

Yours truly.

---

EDINBURG, TEX., *December 13, 1925.*

DEAR MADAM: Pardon me for not writing sooner, but I always thought I would write to-morrow, and now our baby boy is 2 months old. He weighed a little over 6 pounds at birth and now he weighs 9 pounds. I thank you very much for your good letters and booklets. We wish God's blessings for you and yours. You sure are doing good work for humanity.

Yours very thankful.

---

WEBB CITY, OKLA., *November 28, 1925.*

I received your letters and pamphlets. They have done me worlds of good, and I would certainly not part with my books, but one of my friends needs these letters and books and I wonder if you would care to send them to her also.

Sincerely yours.

---

IDABEL, OKLA., *December 20, 1925.*

DEAR DOCTOR: I am in receipt of your third postnatal letter, and note, as usual, with care the contents. All of your letters and the literature you have sent me have been read, carefully digested, and preserved.

I am writing this because my husband and I appreciate the instruction given. I know that you are doing lots of good work and that your literature and letters are acceptable to all thinking mothers. It has been of untold benefit to me.

Very truly yours:

---

FREDERICK, OKLA., *January 14, 1926.*

KIND ADVISER: These thanks are late in coming, but none the less sincere. I want you to know that your prenatal and postnatal letters and the booklets you sent me were carefully read and studied. My Infant Care is used constantly.

Begging your pardon for taking up so much time and thanking you many, many times for your help, I remain.

TULSA, OKLA., *January 31, 1926.*

MADAM: One can not adequately express one's appreciation of the work you are doing for the mothers of Oklahoma. I received my first helps through the mother's club of this city (Tulsa) and through them got in touch with your bureau.

Yours sincerely.

---

ROCKAWAY, OREG., *February 2, 1926.*

DR. ESTELLA FORD WARNER,

*Portland, Oreg.*

DEAR DOCTOR WARNER: I am coming to you with more questions, as you have helped me so much in the past with your advice and letters. Perhaps you remember Baby Dick and me at Garabaldi in December, 1924. He was a poor, weak little creature, and I guess no one thought he had much of a chance to live.

Now he is plump and rosy, mischievous of course, and loves potatoes and kindling wood better than all the toys Santa brought him.

Until he was a year old his diet was no problem. I followed your directions and the schedules in *Infant Care*, and the results have been very satisfactory.

Before I close I want to tell you how much we love you and to thank you for all you have done for us. Your name has become a by word in our family, as I am sure is true of other bewildered parents all over the State.

P. S.—If you come to Rockaway on your vacation look us up. The little green roofed cottage on Nob Hill. By summer time it will be covered with flowers and Dick will be playing in the yard.

---

MIDLAND, S. DAK., *June 17, 1924.*

CLARA E. HAYES,

*Division of Child Hygiene, Warbay, S. Dak.*

DEAR MADAM: I have had a *Mother's Book* but have moved since and can not find it. I used it to refer to very often with my year and a half old baby.

Thanking you for the letters I received before and the wonderful help the book did me, I am

Very sincerely.

---

CONDE, S. DAK., *June 1, 1925.*

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,

*Warbay, S. Dak.*

DEAR SIR: I am asking you if it would be possible to get enough copies of the *Mother's Book*, published by the State board of health, to give to mothers of our Cradle Roll Babies? I am so interested in these babies and I know the mothers would appreciate a copy. We have 51 mothers of 66 babies.

We had a wonderful clinic here last week and so many of them came to it. Now I can give these out, or I can mail you the address of those. Have in mind four expectant mothers also. I helped with the clinic and thoroughly enjoyed it and was benefited as well.

Respectfully.



LEAD, S. DAK.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Waubay, S. Dak.*

SIR: Please send your pamphlets on Prenatal Care and Child Care to \_\_\_\_\_

Your books have been a wonderful help to me so I wish my friend to have them.

Very truly,

---

ARMOUR, S. DAK., *April 30, 1925.*

DR. CLARA E. HAYES,  
*State Board of Health.*

DEAR DOCTOR HAYES: I think the clinic here was very successful. Forty-three children were examined. We all fell in love with Doctor Jongewaard, and Mrs. Hoover was very fine in her work. I hope they may be with us next year if we are fortunate enough to have a clinic then.

We certainly appreciate these clinics and will always do what we can to make them successful.

Sincerely,

---

HURON, S. DAK., *September 23, 1925.*

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Waubay, S. Dak.*

DEAR SIR: At the time my baby's birth was reported I received a book on care and training of little children. In lending this book I have lost it and would like very much to get another copy, also one for a friend of mine. I have never had a book that was so much help to me.

Yours sincerely,

---

DALLAS, S. DAK., *June 4, 1925.*

CLARA HAYES,  
*Waubay, S. Dak.*

DEAR MADAM: Will you kindly send instructions on infant care, also information for expectant mothers to the following address. They were such a help to me that I am anxious to pass it on. This is the address.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

---

INTERIOR, S. DAK., *November 21, 1925.*

CLARA E. HAYES, M. D.,  
*Waubay, S. Dak.*

DEAR MISS HAYES: I thought perhaps you would appreciate a letter from some of us relating to the health lectures—mothers' classes. We have had five lectures now, and I am gratified by the interest and attendance, of which I was rather uncertain. We who have attended more to influence others to attend, find ourselves

quite as interested and indeed have learned many things. Mrs. Hoover, field nurse for the division of child hygiene, has made many friends.

The lectures, I am sure, can be called a success, and I am pleased and I feel sure you will be.

Most cordially.

---

ENCINAL, TEX., *June 19, 1923.*

MISS ANNE F. PRITCHETT, R. N.,

*Director Public Health Nursing.*

DEAR MISS PRITCHETT: Your letter was most gladly received, also the prenatal letters and literature. I am always glad to have valuable information, and thank you very much for your sympathy and offer of assistance.

I am glad our State is helping and assisting and interested in this good work, and hope that before long they will be able to give aid to all sections of the State.

Very truly.

---

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *September 11, 1925.*

BUREAU OF CHILD HYGIENE,

*Austin, Tex.*

DEAR SIR: I want you to know how very much my husband and I appreciated the very helpful letters sent to me before and since our baby came. They were very helpful, and although I was under the doctor's constant care your letters helped so much. I am now in better health than ever. Have a perfectly normal baby girl. Your letters were such a help to me I am sending for the booklet on Infant Care.

Also am asking that you send the letters to ———.

Thanking you again for all the advice,

I remain.

---

TO STATE BOARD OF HEALTH:

Your advisory letters were certainly appreciated and were a source of very helpful information. I had never thought just what the bureau of child hygiene was doing, but now I know its work is very important.

The card you inclosed I have misplaced, but trust the booklet on Infant Care will be sent soon.

Thanking you for all this help and information you have given me, I am,

Very truly yours.

---

HENDERSON, TEX., *June 1, 1923.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

*Austin, Tex.*

GENTLEMEN: I should have thanked you for your kind service to me some time ago, but on account of unavoidable reasons I have neglected it. I wish to say that your service was of great value to me.

To a great extent, I attribute the fact that I am strong and feel well and can enjoy my smiling baby to my observance of your instructions in the course of letters you sent me.

I shall be glad to have you send your work to ——— of this place, who will furnish you full information upon hearing from you.

Again thanking you for your kindness, I am,

Sincerely yours.

---

IRELAND, TEX., *March 1, 1923.*

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,

*Austin, Tex.*

GENTLEMEN: Please accept my sincere thanks for the series of letters mailed me for the past several months.

Wish to state that I believe you are doing a splendid work, and filling the greatest need of any thing I can think of.

Yours respectfully.

---

DAINGERFIELD, TEX., *April 13, 1924.*

H. GARST, M. D.,

*Director Bureau of Child Hygiene.*

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND: I can never be able to thank you for your good letters of advice, they were such wonderful help to me. I don't feel like baby would have been the fine healthy baby he is without those letters. Words are just not adequate to express my thanks for those good letters.

I have filled out the card and am inclosing it to you as you asked me to do.

Thanking you again for the helpful advice you have rendered to me and wishing you much success in all your undertakings and works of life, I am,

Very truly.

---

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM WOMEN OF VIRGINIA  
WHO HAVE TAKEN THE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE FOR MOTHERS  
WHICH IS MADE POSSIBLE UNDER THE SHEPPARD-TOWNER ACT.

As this completes my course, I wish to thank you for giving me something no one can take away. This course is really a wonderful education for mothers. I have thoroughly enjoyed every lesson. Probably you will be amused when I tell you I have put every book and paper away. If I am ever fortunate enough to have a daughter I shall save them for her. I feel like I would like to have every married woman take this course.—Richmond, Va.

---

This whole course has been a fine inspiration to develop efficient motherhood. I am very grateful for the splendid personal attention given to every detail. It should be a great help to every mother.—Gloucester County, Va.

I can not state how fully I have appreciated this course, as it has been very, very helpful to me, and undoubtedly will be as time goes on after my return from the hospital. I was ignorant as to the first step to do until I was fortunate enough to receive your pamphlets.—Washington, D. C.

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I have found the lessons extremely interesting as well as helpful, and only wish that more of our mothers would take advantage of the splendid course that is given them by the State. I thank you sincerely for every lesson.—R. F. D., Warrenton, Va.

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I wish I could tell you how much this course has meant to me. I don't believe any mother could regret having begun this course, and I wish many of them could have the chance and read these lessons. There are so many things that I have not thought important until now.—Crozet, Va.

---

I certainly do appreciate the opportunity that the Virginia Board of Health gave me to learn the care of babies.—Pittsylvania County, Va.

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The mothers' training course should be continued by all means. It is a great work and especially helpful to farm women. There are many who do not pay attention, but it is a great benefit to those that do. I could not get along without your helpful pamphlets and bulletins. The county nurses should be more in number and more home nursing courses organized.

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## II. LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM PHYSICIANS IN REFERENCE TO MATERNITY ACT

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., *March 18, 1926.*

Mrs. ESTELLE N. MATHEWS,  
*Secretary, Colorado Child Welfare Bureau,  
Capitol Building, Denver, Colo.*

DEAR MRS. MATHEWS: In answer to the questionnaire regarding Colorado child welfare work and its results, I am glad to say that Grand Junction has certainly received great benefits from this work.

We are familiar with the children's clinic established at Palisade, and according to the reports from the doctors who have been taking part in the examinations a number of cases have been greatly benefited by their examination in this clinic.

I can notice in my obstetrical work year after year that the general knowledge of infant care and prenatal care and general hygiene is decidedly on the increase. Certainly one of the greatest factors in educating the public in these matters has been the State child welfare bureau.



I am sure that the medical profession as a whole feels as I do about the very great value of the child welfare bureau work and will be glad to do anything in its power to insure the continuance of their activities.

Very truly yours,

E. H. MUNRO,  
*Mesa County Physician.*

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FLORENCE, COLO., *March 18, 1926.*

Mrs. ESTELLE N. MATHEWS:

I heartily indorse the Sheppard-Towner work. And it has done wonders in our community as far as its progress so far is concerned. Am always ready to assist in any movement for the betterment of our people and community.

Dr. F. R. MOORE.

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ENGLEWOOD, COLO., *March 18, 1926.*

Mrs. ESTELLE N. MATHEWS,  
*Executive Secretary Colorado Child Welfare Bureau,  
Denver, Colo.*

DEAR MADAM: In answering your letter of recent date as to my opinion of the work being done by your bureau, I will say that I believe that mothers realize the importance of this work and on the whole are cooperating to carry out the instructions which may be given them by the bureau. It is unquestionably of benefit to the children, though this benefit is directly in proportion to whatever cooperation is secured from the mother in carrying out the recommendations of the clinics.

I would be glad to give any further assistance in this work that you may desire.

Yours very truly,

P. C. CARSON.

---

FLORENCE COLO., *March 19, 1926.*

COLORADO CHILD WELFARE BUREAU,  
*Denver, Colo.*

DEAR SIR: In response to your inquiry as to the work done by the child's clinic held some time ago in this town, I wish to state that I have some very excellent results and know personally of some cases in which there has been correction of conditions which were brought out in the examination at the clinic, and believe that much good has been accomplished.

I think that this work should be continued and that it is a long step toward the promotion of good health and better social conditions which follow.

It seems that the local men should always welcome and cooperate with you in this work, which is of vital importance.

Yours truly,

GEO. T. COLVARD, M. D.

HAXTUN, COLO., *March 19, 1926.*  
 COLORADO CHILD WELFARE BUREAU,  
*Denver, Colo.*

DEAR MRS. MATHEWS: In reply to your letter of recent date, I shall say that the work done has been of value to both mothers and little ones and I should like to see Federal support of the work for two more years.

Respectfully yours,

F. A. ALCORN, M. D.

FULTON BAG & COTTON MILLS,  
*Atlanta, Ga., March 12, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR: I have been with the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills for the past seven years employed as full-time physician, and have no other practice.

Before we had a prenatal clinic I have known of several instances where expectant mothers have needed medical attention and advice, but being of their nature and ignorant in some instances, failed to see a doctor until it was too late. Since this clinic has been opened for the expectant mothers I am sure there have not been any instances of this kind, and many have benefited by the physician's examination and advice.

For the class of practice that I have I believe that this law is a good one and that we are greatly benefited by having a clinic at our office.

Yours truly,

D. T. HEYSER, M. D.

SMITHLAND, KY., *April 25, 1925.*

MY DEAR DR. VEECH: You just don't know how much these expectant mothers appreciate what you are doing for them. They say the State board is giving them really "worth-while service, and at the time it is needed most." I wish I had time to write and you had time to read a number of nice things they say about "our State board" of health.

Thanking you in advance for sending literature and blanks, and wishing you the greatest of success, I am,

Very truly yours,

WM. C. DAVIS, M. D.,  
*Livingston County Health Officer.*

STURGIS, KY., *June 15, 1925.*

MISS EDNA B. HILL: I will say that your work in our city opens the eyes of the mothers to the real good and importance of such work and makes it easy for the doctor to carry out such work.

Give us more of it.

Sincerely yours,

DR. B. F. HUMPHREY, *Sturgis, Ky.*

DETROIT, MICH., *December 18, 1924.*

"Do you not have some literature for mothers which has to do with the care of their babies during the first few months of life; something in a way that corresponds to your prenatal letters? If so, will you kindly send me some for distribution among my patients?"

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OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., *February 3, 1926.*

DEAR DOCTOR BLACHLY: I want to express my appreciation of the excellent service being rendered by you and your corps or workers.

With the increasing realization of the appalling toll of preventable mortality and morbidity incident to childbirth and early child life, there has developed a widespread interest in the means for their prevention. As the organized response to this desire for education along these lines, your bureau has performed its task remarkably well. You have enlisted the friendliest cooperation of both the medical profession and the laity. So far as I can learn, there has been no friction whatever in the development of this work, a thing which speaks not only for the tact of the personnel of your bureau, but for the sincere interest generally in this work.

Very truly yours,

W. A. FOWLER.

Explanation: This is one of the leading obstetricians of the State.

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HENRYETTA, OKLA., *October 11, 1925.*

DEAR SIR: God bless the mothers. Let them have all the help they can get.

Send me more blanks. I average 100 obstetric cases a year. I had 72 in my first year of practice—a world record. More than glad to cooperate with you.

W. L. STEPHENSON, M. D.

Explanation: This is the attitude of so many of our doctors.

Dr. L. S. BLACHLY,  
*Oklahoma State Health Department.*

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UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL,  
*Enid, Okla., August 19, 1925.*

DEAR DOCTOR: Received your letters this morning; also your cards. I am filling them out and returning them to you. I think these are far enough in advance so that you will have plenty of time in getting their letters to them.

I do not hesitate to sign my name to the cards even though I should not have one a year. One should not be ashamed of the work which he feels he does well.

I am glad to cooperate with you.

Respectfully,

D. D. ROBERTS.

Explanation: In making my first request of the doctors for names I stated they might leave the cards unsigned.

L. S. B.

EASTERN OKLAHOMA HOSPITAL,  
Vinita, Okla., March 3, 1925.

MY DEAR DOCTOR: I wish to thank you for the copy of your report recently mailed me. I have read this report with a great deal of interest and feel that your department has done a wonderful amount of work for the short time that it has been organized. I feel that the legislature will make a great mistake if they do not give the health department a sufficient appropriation to carry on this work. If they could only come in contact with your workers and see what you do, I believe they would give you twice as much money as you are asking, but of course very few of them have ever come in contact with this work and do not know.

With kindest personal regards, I am,  
Very truly yours.

F. M. ADAMS.

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OKLAHOMA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,  
Blackwell, Okla.

DEAR DOCTOR BLACHLY: By some accident your letter and inclosed lecture were mislaid so I did not see it until my return from Oklahoma City, so I did not refer directly in my talk to your plan. However, it is a part of our most important function of "instruction of the public," "medical publicity," in other words, and I approve of your proposed scheme for disseminating knowledge by the regular doctors.

If opportunity offers I shall be glad to assist in carrying out your program, which can be made to fit into what ought to be an organized state-wide campaign by the State medical association.

Very truly yours,

A. S. RISSER, M. D., *Councilor.*

Explanation: This is from the president-elect of the State medical association. He is giving the Sheppard-Towner work splendid assistance.

Dr. L. S. BLACHLY,  
*Oklahoma State Department of Health.*

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BARTLESVILLE, OKLA., March 19, 1925.

DEAR SIRs: Through the district health nurse of the local public health association, I received a copy of the pamphlets and letters that you send to prospective mothers. I think the plan is excellent and that the suggestions that you give are very fine.

Yours very truly,

S. J. BRADFIELD.

---

HENRYETTA, OKLA.

Inclosed please find all the cards you sent me filled out. You failed to send enough cards. Please mail me a supply and I will



indeed be glad to cooperate with you. An educated mother is by far the most satisfactory patient.

Yours truly,

I. W. BOLLINGER.

Explanation: A common comment.

L. S. B.

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PURCELL, OKLA., *August 17, 1925.*

MY DEAR MISS BLACHLY: Am inclosing the cards filled. I certainly think this a fine thing for the mother as well as the expectant mother.

Would appreciate more of these cards.

Respectfully,

W. C. McCURDY.

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SEMINOLE, OKLA., *October 15, 1925.*

DEAR DOCTOR: This is in answer to your circular letter in regard to pre and post natal letter service for Oklahoma mothers which I received this morning.

The only reason I have not cooperated before is that this is the first I ever knew of the service.

I am sending you herewith two prenatal cards. I wish you would mail me some more at once.

Thank you for calling my attention to the matter,

Yours sincerely,

M. M. TURLINGTON, M. D.

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### III. LETTERS AND EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM OTHERS OBSERVING OPERATION OF MATERNITY ACT

#### LETTER FROM THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *March 16, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD,

*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR SHEPPARD: Being informed that the present Congress will have to reenact the Sheppard-Towner law if it is to continue after 1927, I am writing to urge that everything possible be done toward keeping this great piece of legislation in force.

In my position as State and National chairman of preschool circles, I am in constant touch with those administering the wise provisions of the Sheppard-Towner Act. As a result of this observation I believe that this work is based upon the most humane law now on the statute books of our Nation, and one which no man with a spark of chivalry in his soul, a single beat of unselfish love in his heart, or a glimmer of thought for the future welfare of his Nation should dare to touch unless it be to extend its saving power.

It is humane in its saving of life, it is chivalrous in its protection of the woman who faces death in order that life may continue upon the earth, and it is absolutely fundamental in that it not only saves

life at its source but teaches the gospel of prevention of disease instead of temporary patch work in later life.

The men and women who are administering the Sheppard-Towner law in Georgia are of the highest caliber—for it is a work which challenges the best that we have. They are not only saving life in our State, but they are lessening the number of delinquents, the horde of misfits, dependents, and criminals, thus assisting the moral and spiritual forces by making the men and women more fit to see clearly and to think straight. They are striving always toward a better citizenry and a stronger Nation. In fact, I know of no group who work more steadily and more seriously for a finer race of men and women than those who are administering the Sheppard-Towner law. Keep it on our statute books by all means.

Respectfully and cordially yours,

ROSA M. WALKER,  
(Mrs. CLIFFORD WALKER),  
*National Chairman Preschool Circles.*

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GOLD BEACH, OREG., *January 22, 1925.*

DOCTOR WARNER,  
*Portland, Oreg.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR WARNER: For some time I have been thinking of writing to you to give you a little idea of the good your baby clinic has done down here.

You no doubt remember the baby of that young mother, which was on the verge of rickets and in a very bad shape generally. You should see what a big healthy child she is now. Several other mothers have also appreciated the advice you gave and their babies have come out wonderfully well.

One of the ladies who assisted at the clinic asked me only a short time ago if we could have another baby clinic again this year. I do not have the child welfare department of the club now, but I'd like to know what you would think of it. I have enjoyed reading the monthly bulletins from your office and now pass them on to the child welfare department this year.

Mrs. M—— asked me this morning if I would give a little talk on child welfare at her department this next month, and wonder if you could send me some material I could use.

Sincerely,

MAUDE B. HASSLER.

P. S.—This clinic was held at an isolated section along the coast. Doctor Warner and myself went in by stage and children came to the clinic from all over the county. There are only about 350 children in the whole county. The local doctor assisted with the clinic and arranged for remedial clinic later for children needing this care.

MANSFIELD, LA., March 30, 1925.

MISS AGNES MORRIS,  
*Director Bureau of Child Hygiene,  
Louisiana State Board of Health, New Orleans La.*

DEAR MISS MORRIS: I have your letter of March 28, in which you ask that I express an opinion in reference to the work done in our parish through the infancy and maternity division of your department.

I will say that I have been very well pleased, indeed, with all of the work done in this parish and with the assistance afforded by the two physicians and two nurses who have helped us in this work.

We will be mighty glad to have one of these physicians and nurses back with us for as long as they can arrange to stay. Please use your own judgment and convenience as to which one you send. Any one of the three will be perfectly satisfactory to us and we will be glad to help them in any way that we possibly can.

Very truly yours,

P. B. GARDNER,  
*Director, DeSoto Parish Health Unit.*

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ATLANTA, GA., March 19, 1926.

HON. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: It is our understanding that you will again introduce a bill similar to the Sheppard-Towner Act, to obtain a further appropriation for five years or more to continue the work which has been carried on under this act for the past five years.

We wish to express to you our appreciation of the work that has been done under this appropriation and the benefit received by the mothers and babies in this locality.

We find that during the time we have had this clinic the death rate has been considerably lower among the mothers. We also find that the number of defective babies has decreased considerably. We had 86 mothers enrolled in the prenatal clinic and out of this number there was not a single defective baby. When the child is old enough he is brought to the health clinic and under the care of the nurse becomes a normal healthy child. The people in this locality in a great many cases are unable to afford the care of a doctor or nurse and the result has been a surprising number of deaths and defective babies. Considering the increasing number of normal babies and the decreasing number of deaths occurring during the time this clinic has been maintained, we feel that a continuation of this work is warranted.

We trust that you can obtain a further appropriation and wish you all success.

Yours very truly,

FULTON BAG & COTTON MILLS,  
N. E. ELSAS, *Secretary.*

ATLANTA, GA., *March 15, 1926.*

HON. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of a letter from the State board of health, telling me that you are going to ask Congress to continue the Sheppard-Towner law. In the interest of the continuation of this law, I would like to tell you just what the Sheppard-Towner law has meant to a few poor mothers and babies in Atlanta, Ga. In December, 1924, Dr. J. P. Kennedy, the health officer of the city of Atlanta, asked me to take charge of the maternity and infant hygiene work under the Sheppard-Towner law in Atlanta. I took over a very poor district, which included the Fulton cotton bag mill. I knew the district, as I had done general public health work in this district for six years under Doctor Kennedy. The president of the mill gave me the use of three rooms in the club building, but could not let the mill physician assist me in any of the examinations of the mothers and babies, as he did not have the time. After visiting several of the expectant mothers who had not even seen a doctor, I went to see Dr. B. O. Weinkle, who had had post-graduate work at our city hospital, the Henry W. Grady, and had had a course in obstetrics in New York, and asked him to conduct a prenatal clinic once a week at the Fulton cotton bag mill. He gladly offered his services free of charge until November, 1925, when he went to Florida for the winter. After he left I was very fortunate in getting Dr. Jas. H. Byram, who is on the Henry W. Grady Hospital staff, to take charge of the clinic. It has been a wonderful help to the mothers.

In connection with the prenatal clinic we have a baby health center at the Fulton Club Building. We examine all babies—sick or well. The baby specialist has been able to save quite a few babies. In the past six months we have had more normal babies than ever before. They are the ones whose mothers have had the prenatal care at the clinic.

I also have a mother's club. The mothers are quite eager to learn the proper way to care for their babies.

In October, 1925, I started a prenatal clinic at the Exposition cotton mills in Atlanta. The superintendent of the mills gave the services of their part-time physician twice a month and also the use of their clinic rooms. Here the mothers are very anxious to cooperate in every way. The physicians have cooperated with us and asked us to make a prenatal call on their expectant patients and to urge them to come to the prenatal clinic.

I have found such a decided improvement in the mothers and babies in my district. All due to the Sheppard-Towner fund, and I think it would be a calamity to discontinue the work, for when you go in and out of the poor homes you find the mother so neglected and a self-sacrificing angel on earth. She works all day in her little humble home, cooking, washing, ironing, attending to two or three children under 6 years of age and absolutely without anyone to look after her health—afraid of doctors and hospitals. When the nurse does gain her confidence, what a change. She puts herself under the doctor's care, with correct diet, more rest, and a good



strong, new baby to make a healthy citizen for the United States of America.

For the sake of the mothers and babies in Georgia, give us more doctors and nurses by continuing the Sheppard-Towner law.

Respectfully,

MAUDE E. ASHMORE, R. N.

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LUMBER CITY, GA., *March 12, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD:

We are taking the privilege of addressing you in behalf of the continuation of the Sheppard-Towner Act. We feel that this is a great work and much needed everywhere; especially in this section. It has just been started, in fact in its infancy, but during the time much interest has been manifested, and we have been able to see the great benefit derived by the class especially who could not avail themselves of the gain in knowledge, so important, through any other method.

We had several splendid addresses before our P. T. A. by one of the State workers, Miss Thora Anderson, of Macon, and we feel that the continuation of this work will mean more than dollars and cents to teach and improve our people along all lines of health, and bring the youth of our land to a more perfect knowledge of the things they should know. Thanking you for your consideration, I beg to remain,

Sincerely,

MRS. J. D. VAUGHAN,  
*Secretary P. T. A.*

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH,  
*Augusta, Ga., March 12, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: Richmond County has been using some of the funds provided through the Sheppard-Towner Act for rather a short period, 14 months, and the benefits derived therefrom can hardly be put down in words or figures.

However, I wish to tell you of a few very definite things which this community has been able to accomplish because of this fund. Eight centers for infant welfare and preschool conferences have been opened and at least six are functioning to full capacity. Through these conferences 1,295 examinations have been made of infants and preschool children; 2,683 visits have been made to 625 pregnant mothers. These mothers have kept in close touch with either the prenatal clinic or their private physicians, in most instances through the influence of the nurse.

Possibly the most outstanding piece of work has been done with the midwives. These have all been organized into classes, with regular instruction. The local registrar reports that since this work was started the reporting of births has increased 50 per cent.

We feel that just a beginning has been made, and it is too soon to be able to judge as to the results of this work, but we do know it is far too important to drop, and trust that everything possible may be done to continue this fund.

Sincerely yours,

AGNES CAMPBELL,  
*Director Division of Public Health Nursing.*

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DALTON, GA., *March 6, 1926.*

HON. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

SIR: In reply to a request for a letter to you concerning my work under the Sheppard-Towner Act in this county, Whitfield, one of the counties situated in the northern part of the State, in the mountains. We find in this county a high birth rate, both rural and around the industries, particularly our cotton mills, hence, the need of an educational program to take care of these children. The need of it is evidenced by our death rate, though not exceptionally high, the number of bottle-fed babies and undernourished children. The expectant mother needs instruction before the birth of these children, for in this do we hope to prevent infant mortality as well as maternal mortality.

It has been my pleasure to be located in this county for one year, and during that time many calls have come from obscure parts of the county, where roads are in some parts impassable in winter, but the calls have been made. The mothers are eager for knowledge in the care of their babies and are usually responsive. Knowledge once gained is put into practice and passed onto neighbors.

Very respectfully,

BEULAH M. CARRINGTON, R. N.

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DALTON, GA., *March 8, 1926.*

HON. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*Member of United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. SHEPPARD: As chairman of the local health committee in charge of our Sheppard-Towner nurse, I am writing to you at the request of Dr. Joe Bowdoin, department of child hygiene, State board of health, Atlanta, Ga., in regard to this work in Whitfield County.

Let me say at once that this county has no organized health work of any kind, with the exception of what is accomplished by a Metropolitan Insurance Co. visiting nurse—no local board of health, no medical inspector, no clinics, no school nurse; nothing of that kind.

In October, 1924, the four members comprising a local tuberculosis committee for sale of penny seals at Christmas (myself as chairman), from the Lesche Woman's Club, decided we must have a visiting nurse of some kind. Since it was hard to raise by popular subscription the whole salary of a nurse, we eagerly accepted the advice of the child hygiene people in Atlanta to get a Sheppard-

Towner nurse. This first \$1,200 accordingly started with \$250 of T. B. money, with the balance secured from local industries and \$150 each from city and county. After we sent on our \$1,200 check we waited four months before a suitable nurse could be found to start the work. We have no cause for complaint on this score, since Miss Beulah Carrington, an industrial nurse of much experience and with war experience, has proved to be exactly the right person for the job.

I have dwelt at length upon the above in order to show you that a Sheppard-Towner nurse has literally been our salvation, and her work has been "sold" from the start. Doctors, ministers, and the people whom she serves all say her work is the most important being done in this county. She, herself, says she has never worked so hard nor found so much to do that cried out to be done.

To secure necessary funds for 1926 was no easy task, because the industries feel it is the county's business to carry on this work. We expect by another year to induce them to carry the burden of most of it. Obviously, if we could not secure Government aid in this work, we would be nowhere. The recent two-year extension of Federal aid in Sheppard-Towner work means a great deal to us and we trust you will use your influence toward a permanent fund for public health work. I am, dear sir,

Yours truly,

BLANCHE GARDNER,  
*Chairman, Health Nurse Committee,*  
*Dalton, Ga.*

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COLUMBUS, GA., March 5, 1926.

HON. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: The State and Federal fund received by Columbus through the Sheppard-Towner Act has been the means of saving, we feel reasonably sure, many lives of babies, and some mothers, and aiding hundreds of others in promoting better health. Five preschool clinics have been established, where the mothers are urged to bring their children from 6 weeks of age to school age for physical examination, and regularly weighing and measuring, to watch the normal growth and detect the abnormal and to get advice on feeding and general care of the infant and preschool child.

The fund has aided in establishing the prenatal clinic, which is open one day in each week for mothers not financially able to have their own physicians, and for all cases where a midwife is engaged. The fund has aided in giving instructions to 75 midwives, which, by reducing the dangers of midwifery, protects mothers and babies. This fund also is the means of organizing educational classes in health for mothers and young women.

All this work needs to continue. There is no other way for mothers and babies to have this care at present. We trust your honor will see from the above facts our needs, which we feel reasonably sure are universal over the State of Georgia.

In 1925 we cared for 1,421 mothers and 1,200 babies.

We pray that your efforts for the continuation of this fund may be successful.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. ISADORE HERMANN, R. N.,  
*Superintendent, Public Health Nurse Association,*  
*Columbus, Ga.*

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COLUMBUS, GA., *March 5, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: Speaking for the Public Health Nurse Association of Columbus, Ga., this association appreciates an opportunity from you to do a special piece of work that could not be accomplished if it had not been for the financial support that was received from the Sheppard-Towner fund.

Our association has been an eyewitness to the benefit it has been to both mother and child. It would be a great calamity to discontinue this splendid piece of work for mothers and babies in Columbus. The continuance of this fund means the saving of lives of mothers and babies.

Trusting every effort put forth by you in regard to the Sheppard-Towner bill will be successful.

Yours very respectfully,

Mrs. JOHN T. FLETCHER,  
*President, Public Health Nurse Association,*  
*Columbus, Ga.*

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ATLANTA, GA., *March 8, 1926.*

Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD,  
*United States Senator, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR SHEPPARD: In behalf of the club women of Georgia, I want to thank you for the splendid contribution to child welfare that we owe you and to urge you to do all in your power for the continuation of the Sheppard-Towner appropriation.

Women like myself who have seen in Atlanta and other communities throughout the State what the Sheppard-Towner fund makes possible in the saving of childhood realize that the Sheppard-Towner bill was an epoch-making event and its continuation a thing of the most vital import to the mothers of Georgia and the country at large.

Sincerely yours.

Mrs. ALONZO RICHARDSON,  
*Director, General Federation in Georgia.*

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MANZANOLA, COLO., *March 21, 1926.*

COLORADO CHILD WELFARE BUREAU.

DEAR SIR: In regard to your communication of recent date and in answer to same will say that there is no doubt but that this work should be continued. I know of several children whose outlook on life has been completely changed by what you might term a stitch in time, so much so that in place of becoming public charges in adult



life, they will be self-respecting and respected units of society. Looking at the mother in a broad way, its educational value to young mothers and old ones for that matter, will be inestimable. It will teach them to investigate child troubles, instead of assuming that they are just a little backward.

I have seen a lot of good in this movement and no possibility of harm to any one. The meeting spoken of was of decided value to me in bringing to my attention more effective measures of detecting child abnormality.

Yours respectfully,

B. A. PEDEN.

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MINTURN, COLO., *March 18, 1926.*

Mrs. ESTELLE N. MATHEWS,  
*Executive Secretary Colorado Child Welfare Bureau,  
Denver, Colo.*

DEAR MADAM: I am sure the clinics held at our town by the traveling health conference has been of great value and benefit to both the mothers and little ones.

The Sheppard-Towner work was excellent and I hope to meet with them again in the future.

Sincerely yours,

N. DYMBENBERG.

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CALIENTE, NEV., *March 1, 1926.*

Mrs. S. H. WHEELER,  
*Reno, Nev.*

DEAR MRS. WHEELER: I have been recently informed that there is grave danger of the maternity and infancy work in Nevada being discontinued, owing to the possible termination of Federal support.

I have kept in close touch with this work in Lincoln County, my wife being on the special advisory board appointed by Governor Scrugham in the matter, and know that much real good has been accomplished and I sincerely hope that means will be found to continue or increase the scope of the work in the future.

Sincerely yours.

E. C. MARRIAGE,  
*Justice of the Peace and Ex-Officio Coroner.*

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SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *May 27, 1925.*

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS,  
*Austin, Tex.*

GENTLEMEN: Attached hereto is birth certificate filled out in full for our recently born son.

The attached certificate was sent along with one of the medical letters from your office and the writer wishes to thank you and wishes to express his appreciation for your system of coaching and

teaching expectant mothers. I believe if this system was adopted throughout the country we would have a much larger and stronger future generation.

Again thanking you, I am.

Yours very truly.

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GRAYBURG, TEX., *October 18, 1923.*

Dr. W. H. BEAZLEY,  
*State Health Officer.*

DEAR SIR: I am writing you a few lines, endeavoring to express my appreciation for the pains or, in other words, the interest which you have so carefully and freely manifested by the way of information and through your many letters of helpful advice to my wife. I really haven't words to express my thankfulness for such helpful instruction. I don't know who sent in her name to the board of health. But it surely must have been a friend, or they played the part of a very dear friend.

I am,

Truly yours.

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