

During a six-year period in the Bellevue-Yorkville district of the city, mothers who did not have the care of the association showed a maternal mortality rate of 6.2 or nearly three times as high as the rate for mothers who had that care, Dr. Dublin reported.

Of the 4,726 mothers studied, during a period of eight years, no woman under care died before her child was born. Only 11 died after the birth of the child, the deaths being from puerperal causes. The babies of these mothers have about twice the chance of being born alive that the average white baby has in New York City. Those born alive, have three times the chance of living beyond one month that the other babies of their district have.

While there is still room for improvement in maternal and infant mortality even under the regime of the association, the country as a whole can profit by the lessons of the association's work.

Science News Letter, January 3, 1931



THE ATHENAEUM

At the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, where Professor Einstein is expected to be a guest

METEOROLOGY

English Rainfall Predicted For Coming Decade

ENGLAND is due for a rainy time in the second half of 1932, the first half of 1934, the first half of 1935, and especially in the second half of 1937. In the latter year, the rainfall will average 43 per cent. more than the mean for nearly a century. On the other hand, English rainfall will be deficient in the first half of 1931, throughout 1936, especially the first half, the first half of 1939 and the second half of 1940.

These are the predictions of Dr. Dinsmore Alter, professor of astronomy at the University of Kansas, announced in Cleveland before a meeting of the American Meteorological Society. He has just returned from a year in England where he made his studies of periodicities in English rainfall.

Using the mathematical method known as a "periodogram," Dr. Alter has found eleven separate terms that vary periodically and affect the rainfall. Using these terms, and data that were available in 1925, he made predictions of the excess or deficiency of rainfall from then until 1930. The curves showing the predicted rainfall, and the actual observations, follow each other very closely. The predictions were made

after the years in question, but they could have been made in 1925, as the same material was then available.

Dr. Alter has continued these predictions to 1940. If these are as close to the truth as the 1925-1930 period, they should establish the value of his method.

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GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Athenaeum Opened at Pasadena

WHEN Prof. Albert Einstein comes to Pasadena this month it is expected that he will visit the new Athenaeum of the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena.

In this \$500,000 building, just completed and opened this fall, Prof. Einstein will find congenial thinkers and fellow scientists. For the whole building is devoted to the social interests of the California Institute of Technology, the Mount Wilson Observatory and the Huntington Library and Art Gallery, to serve as a gathering place for scholars and visiting scientists, the staffs and

research students of these institutions. It has already a membership of 400.

The building, designed in Mediterranean architecture to harmonize with the other structures of the campus, has a spacious lobby, a large, beautifully appointed lounge, several small dining rooms and one seating 500 people. These may be thrown into one for important banquets, and adjoining them is a salon-hall known as the Hall of Associates, in which weekly lectures and demonstrations will be held as well as more social functions.

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BIOLOGY

Two-Headed Baby Reported to Scientists

A BABY with two heads, that died as soon as it was born, was reported before the meeting of the American Society of Zoologists in Cleveland by Leo E. Buss of the University of Detroit.

A preliminary examination of the anatomy of this ill-starred little being showed that it was a sort of half-way stage between a normal individual and a pair of Siamese twins. It had two separate hearts and two stomachs. Two separate spinal columns rose from a single pelvis. On the mid-line of its body there was a third arm, containing a double upper-arm bone but only one bone in the forearm, where normal arms have two.

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