CROSSWORD PUZZLE

5- Vandal
10-Piece out
11-Soak
16-Pig
16-Pig
18-Warning
device
20-Negative
20-Recedingly
large
quantity
5-Flower
Near
Nain

High Rate in Infant Deaths Is **Due to Lack of Prenatal Care**

By ROY O. GILBERT, M.D.

County Health Officer
Compared to many other
countries in the world, the
United States has a very un
satisfactory record in infant
mortality. The infant mortality
rate - the number of babies
who die under one year of age
out of every 1000 born alivewas a low 15.8 for Sweden in
1958, compared with 27.1 for
the United States. During the
same year, the rate for the
Los Angeles County Health
Department jurisdiction was
25.0, and this was reduced in
1959 to 22.7. However, since
1950, the United States has slipped from sixth to ninth place
among nations in the preven

A long step toward lowering infant mortality could be taken if every expectant mother would obtain medical care early in her pregnancy, and continue under regular medical super-vision until the baby is born. under regular medical supervision until the baby is born. When this is done, any unusual condition of mother or baby can be detected early and frequently corrected so that the pregnancy may go on to a normal full term.

PREMATURITY

PREMATURITY, which is the termination of pregnancy before the full nine-month per-

of 3,165 confinements that took place in the Los Angeles County General Hospital. It was found that those mothers who did not have adequate prenatal care had a higher proportion of premature infants. Even among full-term infants, a higher percentage of still-births and deaths in the first weeks of life were found when the mothers did not have early prenatal care.

the mothers did not have early prenatal care.

However, these facts are not new. The study simply confirms that prematurity, still births and early infant deaths are more frequent in the absence of prenatal care. What the study may show that has not hitherto been stressed, perhaps, are the reasons why adequate prenatal care was lacking. Physicians are well aware ing. Physicians are well aware of the importance of early prenatal care, but some women and Safety programs.

1959 to 22.7. However, since
1950, the United States has slipped from sixth to ninth place
among nations in the prevention of infant deaths. There
are a number of reasons for
this, but chief among them
seems to be the lack of proper
medical care during pregmedical care during pregmancy. and the specific disorders that sometimes occur during preg-nancy may therefore be detected soon enough to prevent harm to the mother and the unborn child.

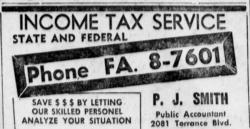
THE MEDICAL care of mabefore the full nine-month period, is responsible for a high proportion of stillbirths and infant deaths and has been called by some medical authorities the nation's number one health problem.

A study was recently made ealth problem.

A study was recently made f 3,165 confinements that local well baby conferences in ook place in the Los Angeles order that the child may content the child may c

Safety programs for bicycle re not, as many apparently trivial reasons are given for failure to obtain care.

PRENATAL care of a high medical standard is available to every expectant mother in Los Angeles County, and most



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