

1898.  
NEW ZEALAND.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS OF THE COLONY  
(REPORT ON) FOR 1897.

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*

The INSPECTOR of ASYLUMS to the Hon. the MINISTER of EDUCATION.

SIR,—

22nd April, 1898.

I have the honour to lay before you the following report on the lunatic asylums of the colony for the year ended the 31st December, 1897 :—

The number of registered insane persons on the 31st December, 1897, was 2,430—males, 1,440; females, 990: an increase over the previous year of 115—males 50, and females 65.

The insane of the colony are distributed as follows :—

|                           | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Auckland ... ..           | 274    | 159      | 433    |
| Christchurch ... ..       | 276    | 245      | 521    |
| Dunedin (Seacliff) ... .. | 362    | 239      | 601    |
| Hokitika ... ..           | 74     | 39       | 113    |
| Nelson ... ..             | 81     | 58       | 139    |
| Porirua ... ..            | 142    | 110      | 252    |
| Wellington ... ..         | 209    | 118      | 327    |
| Ashburn Hall. ... ..      | 22     | 22       | 44     |
|                           | 1,440  | 990      | 2,430  |

The proportion of the male insane to the male population of New Zealand is,—

|                                          |                             |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| New Zealand (exclusive of Maoris) ... .. | 3·74 per 1,000, or 1 in 267 |
| New Zealand (inclusive of Maoris) ... .. | 3·54 " or 1 in 282          |

The proportion of female insane to the female population,—

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Exclusive of Maoris ... .. | 2·87 " or 1 in 348 |
| Inclusive of Maoris ... .. | 2·73 " or 1 in 366 |

The proportion of the total insane to the total population,—

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Exclusive of Maoris ... .. | 3·33 " or 1 in 300 |
| Inclusive of Maoris ... .. | 3·16 " or 1 in 316 |

ADMISSIONS.

On the 1st January, 1897, the number of insane persons in our asylums was 2,315. Of these, 1,390 were males and 925 females. The number of those admitted during the year for the first time was 449—males 253, and females 196. The readmissions were 47 males and 48 females: total, 95.

DEATHS.

The percentage of deaths on the average number resident during the year was 6·28, as compared with 5·29 for the previous year.