

Influenza.—The outbreak of influenza in the Northern Hemisphere was watched with some anxiety, but did not reach our shores. Influenza in New Zealand in 1943 was at a low level and, indeed, the deaths attributed to this disease (65) were fewer and the death-rate from influenza (0·42 per 10,000) was lower than for some years.

Lethargic Encephalitis.—Four cases of this disease were notified.

Poliomyelitis.—One hundred and twenty-seven cases were notified, in comparison with 30 in 1942. Fortunately, the condition did not become epidemic throughout the Dominion, but was mainly confined, except for a few cases, to the South Island.

Enteric Fever.—There were 60 notifications (56 in 1942). The number of notifications each year remains fairly constant, the average for the past five years being 53.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.—Four hundred and ninety-eight cases of cerebro-spinal fever (434 European, 64 Maoris) were notified in 1943, as compared with 932 (852 European, 80 Maoris) in 1942. Deaths numbered 72 European, 20 Maori. The rates for 1943 were: European 0·47, Maori 2·06 per 10,000 mean population.

Whooping-cough and Measles.—There were 17 deaths from whooping-cough and 7 from measles.

Puerperal Sepsis.—Sepsis following childbirth was responsible for 9 deaths, a rate of 0·30 per 1,000 live births (0·47 in 1942). Sepsis following abortion, on the other hand, caused 15 deaths, a rate of 0·49 per 1,000 live births (0·80 in 1942).

Tuberculosis.—Deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) were 572, as compared with 607 in 1942.

The following table shows the course of the disease for the past five years:—

Year.			Death-rate per 10,000.		
			Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Non-respiratory Tuberculosis.	Tuberculosis (all Forms).
1939	..	..	3·39	0·59	3·98
1940	..	..	3·24	0·64	3·88
1941	..	..	3·19	0·69	3·88
1942	..	..	3·18	0·75	3·93
1943	..	..	3·09	0·63	3·72

The number of deaths and the death-rate from all forms of tuberculosis in 1943 were the lowest ever recorded in New Zealand.

Venereal Diseases.—The following tables summarize the work of the venereal disease clinics in the four main centres for the past five years.

Number of Persons dealt with for the First Time at the Venereal Disease Clinic and found to be suffering from Syphilis

			Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Total.		Total.
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1939	..	..	59	43	18	25	19	11	12	5	108	84	192
1940	..	..	63	37	77	58	12	8	22	8	174	111	285
1941	..	..	102	57	96	63	29	17	33	6	260	143	403
1942	..	..	70	78	53	71	18	11	20	6	161	166	327
1943	..	..	48	95	20	41	17	14	29	3	114	153	267

Number of Persons seen for the First Time at each Venereal Disease Clinic and found to be suffering from Gonorrhœa

			Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Total.		Total.
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1939	..	..	399	141	333	53	328	88	91	90	1,151	372	1,523
1940	..	..	474	118	310	53	286	79	78	89	1,148	339	1,487
1941	..	..	410	183	373	42	271	72	81	79	1,135	376	1,511
1942	..	..	312	286	236	63	181	69	75	73	804	491	1,295
1943	..	..	265	441	138	89	122	92	51	15	576	637	1,213