

1944
NEW ZEALAND

MENTAL HOSPITALS OF THE DOMINION

(REPORT ON) FOR 1943

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 78 of the Mental Defectives Act, 1911

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL to the Hon. A. H. NORDMEYER, Minister in Charge of the Department of Mental Hospitals

Wellington, 17th March, 1944.

SIR,—

I have the honour to present the annual report on mental hospitals for the year ending 31st December, 1943.

In accordance with the wartime requirements, I am presenting only those statistical tables which are essential to the continuity of departmental records, but there are certain other matters which require brief mention.

SHORTAGE OF STAFF

Arising from wartime conditions, we have experienced a shortage of female staff which has rendered it almost impossible to maintain that high standard of care and supervision which psychiatric patients require.

The extra work and the inability to have leave at regular periods have imposed upon our nurses a burden which has taxed their health, their patience, and their loyalty, and I cannot speak too highly of the way in which the big majority have measured up to their duty in this regard. The senior officers, the Matrons, Head Attendants, and others have loyally accepted added anxieties and responsibilities to a degree which merits the highest praise.

SERVICE PATIENTS

Exaggerated reports are heard occasionally as to the number of servicemen admitted to the mental hospitals suffering from psychiatric disorders. The following table shows the position from the commencement of hostilities until the end of last year :—

Admitted after Overseas Service.						Admitted from Camps, &c., in New Zealand.					
Admitted	..	..	..	..	110	Admitted	..	..	..	127	
Discharged recovered	..	..	..	..	49	Discharged recovered	..	..	..	59	
Discharged not recovered	..	..	..	..	13	Discharged not recovered	..	..	..	17	
Died	..	..	..	..	2	Died	..	..	..	5	
					64					81	
Remaining	..	..	..	..	46	Remaining	..	..	..	46	

These numbers are not high, and no doubt a large percentage of those remaining will have recovered before this report is printed.

APPRECIATION

My thanks are due to my medical colleagues, and to Mr. Sinclair, Chief Clerk, and other officers at Head Office, for loyal co-operation and assistance during the present very difficult conditions.

T. G. GRAY, Director-General.

TABLE VIII.—SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1876, TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1943 (EXCLUDING TRANSFERS)

						M.	F.	T.
In hospital, 31st December, 1875	..	..	..	..	..	482	254	736
Admissions	..	..	..	..	..	27,003	21,717	48,720
Discharged—						27,485	21,971	49,456
Recovered	..	..	..	..	..	9,181	8,421	17,602
Not recovered	..	..	..	..	..	3,199	2,894	6,093
Died	..	..	..	..	..	10,729	6,910	17,639
						23,109	18,225	41,334
Remaining on 31st December, 1943..	..	..	..	..	..	4,376	3,746	8,122

TABLE IX.—SUMMARY OF TOTAL ADMISSIONS : PERCENTAGE OF CASES SINCE THE YEAR 1876

						Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Recovered	..	..	..	..	..	33·40	38·33	35·59
Unrecovered	..	..	..	..	..	11·64	13·17	12·32
Died	..	..	..	..	..	39·04	31·45	35·67
Remaining	..	..	..	..	..	15·92	17·05	16·42
						100·00	100·00	100·00

TABLE I.—SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, READMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS IN MENTAL HOSPITALS DURING THE YEAR 1943

						M.	F.	T.
In mental hospitals, 1st January, 1943						4,383	3,693	8,076
Admitted for the first time	..	..	..	..	..	453	516	969
Readmitted	..	..	..	..	..	97	142	239
Total under care during the year						4,933	4,351	9,284
Discharged and died—								
Recovered	..	..	..	..	..	138	223	361
Not recovered	..	..	..	..	..	138	119	257
Died	..	..	..	..	..	281	263	544
(Not including transfers : Males, 171 ; females, 62.)						557	605	1,162
Remaining in mental hospitals, 31st December, 1943						4,376	3,746	8,122
Decrease from 31st December, 1942						7	..	..
Increase on 31st December, 1942						..	53	46
Average number resident during the year						4,181	3,513	7,694

TABLE II.—ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS, WITH THE MEAN ANNUAL MORTALITY AND PROPORTION OF RECOVERIES, ETC., PER CENT. ON THE ADMISSIONS, DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Mental Hospitals.	In Mental Hospitals on 1st January, 1943.			Admissions in 1943.									Total Number of Patients under Care.		
				Admitted for the First Time.			Not First Admissions.			Transfers.					
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Auckland	682	634	1,316	106	113	219	21	34	55	14	17	31	823	798	1,621
Kingsseat	403	325	728	10	11	21	2	3	5	42	3	45	457	342	799
Tokanui	392	616	1,008	32	41	73	7	8	15	9	24	33	440	689	1,129
Porirua	659	376	1,035	127	136	263	24	50	74	10	6	16	820	568	1,388
Nelson	581	385	966	59	48	107	3	3	6	33	2	35	676	438	1,114
Hokitika	243	279	522	12	6	18	2	2	4	37	..	37	294	287	581
Christchurch	769	660	1,429	60	101	161	23	23	46	19	8	27	871	792	1,663
Seacliff	642	395	1,037	44	51	95	15	19	34	7	2	9	708	467	1,175
Ashburn Hall (private mental hospital)	12	23	35	3	9	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	32	47
Totals	4,383	3,693	8,076	453	516	969	97	142	239	171	62	233	5,104	4,414	9,518

Mental Hospitals.	Patients Discharged, Transferred, and Died.												In Mental Hospitals on 31st December, 1943.					
	Discharged recovered.			Discharged not recovered.			Transferred.			Died.						Total discharged, transferred, and died.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.			
Auckland	36	48	84	31	33	64	5	27	32	46	49	95	118	157	275	705	641	1,346
Kingsseat	4	2	6	2	4	6	9	1	10	19	8	27	34	15	49	423	327	750
Tokanui	14	23	37	10	8	18	5	18	23	21	23	44	50	72	122	390	617	1,007
Porirua	41	79	120	26	19	45	85	3	88	63	65	128	215	166	381	605	402	1,007
Nelson	4	4	8	8	1	9	7	1	8	34	21	55	53	27	80	623	411	1,034
Hokitika	2	2	8	7	3	10	8	3	11	12	10	22	29	18	47	265	269	534
Christchurch ..	20	37	57	33	27	60	46	7	53	43	35	78	142	106	248	729	686	1,415
Seacliff	17	28	45	21	21	42	5	1	6	39	48	87	82	98	180	626	369	995
Ashburn Hall (private mental hospital)	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	1	2	4	4	8	5	8	13	10	24	34
Totals	138	223	361	138	119	257	171	62	233	281	263	544	728	667	1,395	4,376	3,746	8,122

Mental Hospitals.	Average Number resident during the Year.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions during the Year.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Number resident during the Year.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Auckland	639	582	1,221	28·35	32·65	30·66	7·20	8·42	7·78
Kingsseat	426	318	744	33·33	14·29	23·08	4·46	2·52	3·63
Tokanui	377	599	976	35·90	46·94	42·05	5·57	3·84	4·50
Porirua	576	356	932	27·15	42·47	35·61	10·94	18·26	13·73
Nelson	590	385	975	6·45	7·84	7·08	5·76	5·45	5·64
Hokitika	257	268	525	14·29	25·00	18·18	4·67	3·73	4·19
Christchurch	698	625	1,323	24·10	29·84	27·54	6·16	5·60	5·89
Seacliff	607	356	963	28·81	40·00	34·88	6·43	13·48	9·03
Ashburn Hall (private mental hospital)	11	24	35	..	..	..	36·36	16·67	22·86
Totals	4,181	3,513	7,694	25·09	33·89	29·88	6·72	7·49	7·07

TABLE X.—SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS, WITH THE MEAN ANNUAL MORTALITY AND PROPORTION OF RECOVERIES PER CENT. OF THE ADMISSIONS, FOR EACH YEAR SINCE 1ST JANUARY, 1896

Year.	Admitted.			Recovered.			Discharged.			Not Improved.			Died.	Remainings, 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Numbers resident.										
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.		M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.								
..	278	159	437	104	70	174	25	16	41	2	1	3	86	32	118	1,390	925	2,315	1,347	882	2,223	37	41	44	02	39	13	6	38	3	63	5	29
896	284	193	477	102	73	175	17	12	29	10	..	10	105	43	148	1,440	990	2,430	1,411	944	2,355	35	92	37	82	36	69	7	44	4	55	6	28
897	254	212	466	114	110	224	13	23	36	7	1	8	88	60	148	1,472	1,005	2,477	1,438	973	2,411	44	88	51	89	48	07	6	12	6	17	6	14
898	259	199	458	88	99	187	15	19	34	2	1	3	114	43	157	1,512	1,045	2,557	1,487	1,004	2,491	33	98	49	49	40	83	7	67	4	28	6	30
899	300	202	502	103	96	199	29	10	39	..	4	4	99	46	145	1,581	1,091	2,672	1,534	1,049	2,583	34	36	47	54	39	64	6	45	4	38	5	61
900	320	223	543	125	104	229	20	17	37	..	2	2	102	72	174	1,654	1,119	2,773	1,622	1,064	2,716	39	06	46	64	42	17	6	29	6	58	6	41
902	352	192	544	135	99	234	26	15	41	10	9	19	120	55	175	1,715	1,133	2,848	1,671	1,114	2,785	38	35	51	56	43	01	7	18	4	94	6	28
903	355	226	581	144	101	245	26	24	50	..	2	2	126	44	173	1,771	1,188	2,959	1,741	1,160	2,901	40	56	44	69	42	17	7	41	3	79	5	96
904	332	236	568	137	106	263	24	11	35	1	..	1	120	70	190	1,801	1,237	3,038	1,780	1,198	2,978	47	59	44	91	46	30	6	74	5	84	6	38
905	360	251	611	139	121	270	29	24	53	..	..	..	147	67	214	1,836	1,276	3,112	1,796	1,232	3,028	41	39	48	21	44	19	8	18	5	44	7	07
906	395	264	659	157	126	283	28	22	50	..	1	1	146	85	231	1,900	1,306	3,206	1,823	1,265	3,088	39	75	47	73	42	94	8	01	6	71	7	48
907	359	241	600	160	139	299	22	13	35	..	..	..	168	64	232	1,909	1,331	3,240	1,851	1,285	3,136	41	29	57	68	49	84	9	08	4	98	7	39
908	426	318	744	180	146	326	9	12	21	1	..	..	148	74	222	1,997	1,417	3,414	1,894	1,346	3,240	42	25	45	91	43	82	7	81	5	50	6	85
909	419	297	716	179	170	349	17	11	28	1	..	1	136	68	204	2,083	1,465	3,548	1,970	1,404	3,374	42	72	57	24	48	74	6	90	4	84	6	00
910	474	314	788	182	145	327	29	27	56	..	..	..	186	97	283	2,160	1,510	3,670	2,028	1,445	3,473	38	40	53	00	41	50	9	17	6	71	8	15
911	448	317	765	163	168	331	23	16	39	4	2	6	198	105	303	2,220	1,536	3,756	2,105	1,496	3,601	36	38	46	10	43	27	9	41	7	02	8	41
912	458	381	839	184	141	325	17	44	61	11	5	16	193	87	280	2,273	1,640	3,913	2,146	1,551	3,697	40	17	37	01	38	74	8	99	5	61	7	57
913	466	318	784	175	162	337	35	48	83	1	5	6	196	111	307	2,332	1,632	3,964	2,252	1,597	3,849	37	55	50	94	42	98	8	76	6	96	7	98
914	509	359	868	207	162	369	27	29	56	6	9	15	193	88	281	2,408	1,703	4,111	2,309	1,641	3,950	40	67	45	12	42	51	8	36	5	36	7	11
915	450	361	811	202	157	359	26	32	58	10	11	21	172	112	284	2,448	1,752	4,200	2,391	1,703	4,094	44	89	43	21	44	58	7	19	6	58	6	94
916	518	361	879	160	171	331	35	34	69	7	8	15	209	80	289	2,555	1,820	4,375	2,483	1,768	4,231	30	89	47	37	37	66	8	42	4	52	6	80
917	470	374	844	171	152	323	32	20	52	6	5	11	205	113	289	2,611	1,904	4,515	2,543	1,825	4,368	36	38	40	64	38	27	8	06	6	19	7	28
918	437	402	839	142	141	283	17	36	53	12	12	24	274	174	448	2,603	1,943	4,546	2,602	1,899	4,501	32	49	35	07	33	73	10	53	9	16	9	95
919	512	371	883	190	147	337	27	44	81	9	13	22	212	130	342	2,667	1,980	4,647	2,620	1,907	4,527	37	11	39	62	38	17	8	09	6	82	7	55
920	455	418	873	162	148	310	27	37	64	6	10	16	210	166	376	2,717	2,037	4,754	2,674	1,980	4,634	35	63	35	32	35	51	7	85	8	40	8	08
921	479	402	881	178	193	371	30	21	51	15	9	24	201	117	318	2,772	2,099	4,871	2,723	2,031	4,734	37	23	47	88	42	11	7	38	5	76	6	69
922	453	386	839	166	157	313	32	20	52	10	8	18	211	184	395	2,816	2,116	4,932	2,747	2,062	4,809	34	44	40	67	37	31	7	67	8	92	8	21
923	442	366	808	168	151	319	42	38	80	15	5	20	194	131	325	2,839	2,137	4,996	2,789	2,079	4,868	38	00	41	25	39	48	6	95	6	30	6	67
924	446	377	823	152	128	280	30	42	72	9	11	20	221	95	316	2,873	2,258	5,131	2,808	2,146	4,933	34	08	33	95	34	02	7	87	4	42	6	37
925	445	430	875	144	175	319	29	37	66	23	17	40	207	123	324	2,921	2,336	5,257	2,830	2,203	5,033	32	36	40	69	36	45	7	45	8	57	6	43
926	508	439	947	136	145	281	27	35	62	15	25	40	207	147	354	3,044	2,423	5,467	2,926	2,287	5,213	26	18	30	75	29	67	6	16	6	42	6	77
927	531	414	945	157	128	285	40	42	82	14	9	23	217	132	349	3,147	2,526	5,673	3,022	2,373	5,395	29	56	30	91	30	16	7	17	5	65	6	47
928	506	450	956	115	134	249	40	40	80	17	13	30	207	161	368	3,274	2,628	5,902	3,120	2,459	5,579	22	72	29	77	26	04	6	63	6	55	6	59
929	549	407	956	145	144	289	30	28	58	22	16	38	227	153	380	3,399	2,694	6,093	3,215	2,495	5,710	26	41	35	37	30	23	7	06	6	13	6	65
930	621	474	1,095	138	128	266	28	34	62	31	23	54	251	172	423	3,572	2,811	6,383	3,342	2,590	5,932	22	22	27	00	24	29	7	51	6	64	7	15
931	587	476	1,063	127	120	247	29	30	59	22	19	42	3,753	2,908	420	3,753	2,908	6,661	3,503	2,696	6,199	21	64	25	21	23	37	6	31	7	39	6	76
932	587	484	1,071	141	160	301	39	42	81	38	41	79	219	169	388	3,903	2,980	6,883	3,681	2,738	6,419	24	02	33	05	28	10	5	97	6	17	6	06
933	563	554	1,117	117	144	261	35	27	62	28	22	50	221	124	345	4,063	3,217	7,282	3,809	2,932	6,741	20	78	25	99	23	3						

