

SERVICE PATIENTS

The movements of Service patients and boarders from the beginning of the war until the end of last year are shown in the following table :—

Admitted after Overseas Service.					Admitted from Camps, &c., in New Zealand.				
Admitted	..	..	..	287	Admitted	..	..	..	194
Discharged, recovered	..	..	129		Discharged, recovered	..	..	92	
Discharged, not recovered	..	..	46		Discharged, not recovered	..	..	38	
Died	..	..	8		Died	..	..	9	
			—	183				—	139
Remaining	..	..	..	104	Remaining	..	..	..	55

In addition to service patients and boarders admitted to our hospitals, our Medical Officers are seeing and treating many cases of psychoneurosis, but, as previously stated, these cases are mainly reactive in origin, and the numbers may safely be expected to fall off before long.

MEDICAL STAFF

In July last I went to England in an endeavour to select suitable psychiatrists to fill the depleted ranks of our medical staff. The position in Britain was rather difficult, because there was there also a serious shortage of men with the necessary qualifications, and applications were all subject to embargo by the Central Medical War Committee. My representations were greatly helped by the sympathetic consideration of Sir Wilson Jameson, Principal Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health, and I was able to appoint six highly qualified medical men, who have now joined our service.

It has been the practice in the Department in recent years to appoint final-year medical students as locums during the vacation period, and some of the men who first became interested in this way in psychiatry have also joined the service, so that we are now better situated for medical staff than we have been for years.

NURSING EXAMINATIONS

The following passed the Senior Mental Nursing Examination held in November, 1945 :—

Passed top for Dominion : Nurse E. M. Wedding (Auckland).

Auckland—

Attendant : S. A. Nicklin.

Nurses : I. Nelson, *E. M. Wedding.

Kingseat—

Attendants : R. J. G. Mack, D. J. Williams.

Tokanui—

Attendants : J. A. Steele, D. Young.

Nurses : S. Bristowe, M. P. A. Power, B. M. Solly.

Porirua—

Attendant : G. D. Cathro, J. S. Shaw.

Nurses : A. R. Biggs, E. I. McAuley, S. K. O'Donnell.

Nelson—

Attendants : A. C. Cole, K. Davis, D. W. Gill, J. Graham, P. L. Judge; E. L. Quinney, M. Thompson.

Nurses : J. C. Cowan, P. M. Hayes, J. L. Russ, D. K. Roughton.

Hokitika—

Attendants : R. D. D. Monks.

Nurses : B. E. Milner, M. Mulrennan, M. M. Williams.

* Passed with distinction.