

the Wellington and Canterbury districts. In addition, 10,719 cattle were tested at the owners' request, while 1,394 head of stock were tested at the various Government farms under the control of several Departments.

Actinomycosis (and Actinobacillosis).—During the year, 604 animals were condemned for this disease, while about the same number of animals were treated with iodides. Many animals were dosed with potassium-iodide tablets, as supplied by the Department, while others were treated by injections of sodium iodide.

A rather extensive outbreak of actinobacillosis occurred among young cattle grazing on peat country previously burnt over. A number recovered spontaneously, while others responded well to iodide treatment.

Malignant Growth.—The number of stock condemned was 230, an increase of 34 on the figure recorded the previous year. Compensation was paid in accordance with the Stock Act.

Johne's Disease.—A total of 151 animals were condemned for this disease under the Stock Act, the majority of the animals being in the Taranaki district. The total number of farms where this disease has been reported is increasing from year to year. The control of spread of the disease presents a difficult problem. Some consideration has been given to the possibility of vaccination of young calves on the more severely affected farms.

Anthrax.—No cases of anthrax were recorded during the year. The vaccination of herds is still being carried out on those farms where the disease occurred a few years ago.

Blackleg.—The numbers of calves vaccinated against this disease in the affected areas were : Taranaki, 19,489, and Auckland, 31,031 ; making a total of 50,520. There is an increase of 8,589 in the number of calves vaccinated in Taranaki, whereas the Auckland figures show a decrease of 8,289 compared with the figures for last year.

There were 334 outbreaks in the Auckland district, compared with 313 the previous year. This involved the vaccination of 5,658 calves on 334 farms. In addition, 25,373 calves were vaccinated on 1,272 farms as a preventive measure.

Non-scheduled Diseases

Mastitis.—This disease continues to give concern to dairy-farmers. The modern tendency is to treat the disease by intra-mammary therapy. The use of sulphanilamide in oil for intra-mammary infusion is becoming more general. The field results obtained are encouraging, although some cases fail to respond to the treatment. In one instance it was noted that the disease recurred within three months.

A field trial on a small scale was carried out, when an infusion of the sodium salt of penicillin was used. In the acutely affected quarters the response was good, whereas in quarters infected for some weeks, although the quarter was rendered sterile, the secretion was still far from normal. If the efficacy of the treatment could be established, however, it might prove very useful in preventing the spread of infection through a herd in those cases where a few members are found to be infected in the early part of the season.

Many aspects of the mastitis problem are being investigated by the Animal Research Division.

Contagious Abortion.—The vaccination of heifer calves against this disease is now an established practice. The volume of work involved in carrying out the vaccination of the large numbers requiring vaccination is increasing from year to year. A considerable amount of organization is required to ensure the arrival of the vaccine when required and to co-ordinate the work of vaccination in the intensive dairying districts. The facilities available on many farms leave much to be desired. The field staff are working under difficulties in some districts owing to transport problems, but