

Native Plaited Ware.—Although there were shipping difficulties during the year, the value of Native plaited ware exported shows a substantial increase over the 1945 figure, which was the previous record. Most of the increase is due to the large quantities exported to Australia.

MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The staff at 31st March, 1947, consisted of one European Medical Officer, one Native medical practitioner (on loan from Western Samoa), one European Matron, one European nurse, five Native nurses, including two on loan from Western Samoa, and two Niuean Dental Officers. In addition, there were two Native dispensary assistants and one Native dental clinic assistant.

All medical and dental treatment, including hospitalization, is provided free of charge to Natives.

The following is a comparative table showing the amounts expended on health services over the last five financial years :—

—	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.	1946-47.
Amount expended	£3,755	£3,900	£3,656	£5,305	£8,211
Population	4,434	4,242	4,200	4,271	4,328
Amount per head of population	16s. 11d.	18s. 5d.	17s. 5d.	£1 4s. 9d.	£1 17s. 11d.

A summary of the work performed at the hospital and during the weekly and other visits to villages is set out below :—

—	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
(1) Infectious diseases—					
(a) Tuberculosis ..	30	28	11	26	13
(b) Gonorrhœa ..	45	107	21	44	171
(c) Yaws ..	939	863	713	1,038	1,173
(d) Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia	7	178	25	29	41
(e) Conjunctivitis ..	128	156	17	104	148
(f) Ringworm ..	133	418	37	146	55
(g) Varicella ..	7	16	1	25	5
(h) Typhoid ..	27	33	15	13	12
(i) Leprosy ..	2	2	1	1	2
(j) Infectious jaundice	..	..	78	112	49
(k) Puerperal fever ..	..	..	..	3	2
(l) Intestinal parasites	..	..	..	150	155
(m) Scabies ..	..	..	..	166	163
(2) Endemic diseases—					
(a) Filariasis ..	Very prevalent	Very prevalent	207	181	120
(b) Myositis tropica ..	3	10	6	6	60
(3) Hospital and dispensary—					
Admissions for year ..	118	116	76	71	139
Average number of days in hospital per patient	123·39	32·5	28	11·29	10
Daily average bed state	39·88	9·95	8·13	4·55	6
District out-patients ..	21,422	29,062	29,811	} 23,024	21,839
Dispensary out-patients	2,365	1,802	2,984		
Special visits ..	1,661	4,421	2,124		
Operations ..	10	Nil	75	2,205	1,891
Dental extractions ..	136	134	130	369	137
Injecti ons, N.A.B., T.A.B., &c.	3,869	10,159	844	221	950
Confinements ..	15	18	23	4,301	6,828
Anæsthetics—					
General ..	8	10	..	20	63
Local ..	120	220	149	315	21
					134