

The increase in the numbers of the sexes together for England and New Zealand is represented in the proportions below:—

Deaths from Cancer in every 10,000 Persons living.

Year.		New Zealand.	England.	Year.		New Zealand.	England.
1881	...	2.69	5.20	1900	...	5.63	8.28
1886	...	3.68	5.90	1905	...	6.51	8.85
1891	...	4.68	6.92	1906	...	6.96	9.17
1896	...	5.50	7.64				

The actual number of deaths of persons of either sex and all ages registered in New Zealand during the last seventeen years was:—

	Males.	Females.	Totals.		Males.	Females.	Totals.
1891	154	141	295	1901	265	250	515
1892	173	134	307	1902	296	240	536
1893	188	144	332	1903	325	257	582
1894	240	168	408	1904	323	248	571
1895	208	175	383	1905	313	253	566
1896	205	184	389	1906	337	286	623
1897	210	185	395	1907	361	313	674
1898	263	208	471				
1899	271	197	468				
1900	246	184	430	Totals	4,378	3,567	7,945

MORTALITY FROM DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.

The total of deaths from developmental diseases was 1,092, or 11.88 per 10,000 persons living. The mortality from premature births comprised 359 deaths, and that from atelectasis, cyanosis, and other congenital defects 62 deaths. The proportion of deaths from premature birth varies from 12 to 15 out of every 1,000 births, and that from congenital defects from 2 to 4 per 1,000 births. Particulars for ten years exhibit the annual rates:—

Number and Proportions per 1,000 Births.

Year.	Deaths from Premature Birth.	Deaths from Congenital Defects.
	Number. Proportion per 1,000.	Number. Proportion per 1,000.
1898	251 13.24	54 2.85
1899	261 13.86	47 2.50
1900	276 14.12	55 2.81
1901	264 12.88	63 3.07
1902	303 14.66	79 3.82
1903	301 13.79	67 3.07
1904	291 12.78	58 2.54
1905	360 15.20	41 1.73
1906	337 13.90	51 2.10
1907	359 14.31	62 2.47

Stating the result in another way, there was one death from premature birth to every 70 births in 1907, and one death from congenital defect to every 405 births. In England the proportion of deaths from premature birth to every 1,000 births was as high as 20.38 in the year 1906.

OLD AGE.

Deaths from old age in 1907 numbered 671, against 588 in 1906.

MORTALITY FROM LOCAL DISEASES.

Death by diseases of the nervous system were 910, or 9.04 out of every 100 deaths from all causes, and 9.90 out of every 10,000 persons living. Of the 910 deaths, 330 were due to apoplexy, 110 to convulsions, and 130 to inflammation of the brain and its membranes. Paralysis, including hemiplegia and paralysis of the insane, caused 159 deaths, and locomotor ataxia 14 deaths. Paraplegia, with diseases of the spinal cord, caused 32 deaths. Deaths from nervous diseases (excluding convulsions of children) numbered 800, or 8.70 per 10,000 persons living.

Diseases of the circulatory system resulted in 1,233 deaths, being 12.25 out of every 100 from all causes, and 13.41 per 10,000 persons living. Of the total number in this order, endocarditis and valvular disease of the heart contributed 805 deaths. From angina pectoris there were 32 deaths, from syncope 192, from aneurism 36, and from other forms of heart-disease (hypertrophy, fatty degeneration, and pericarditis) 77.

Diseases of the respiratory system show 1,146 deaths, of which 958 were attributable to bronchitis and pneumonia. Taken together, these two complaints were the cause of more deaths than was phthisis; and adding 48 from pleurisy, 20 from croup, 32 from laryngitis, and 88 from other respiratory diseases, the mortality in the order is found to be 11.39 per cent. of the total deaths, and 12.47 per 10,000 of the population.

Deaths from diseases of the digestive system also formed a large proportion of the whole (9.96 per cent.), the number being 1,003. Enteritis was most fatal, showing 419 deaths, liver-diseases (104), gastritis (99) coming next, while 86 deaths were due to appendicitis.