

Of 414 deaths from diseases of the urinary system in 1907, the deaths from Bright's disease of the kidneys (albuminuria) numbered 211.

Of the groups, (a) and (b), constituting the order styled "Diseases of the reproductive system," the greater mortality is found under (b), "Diseases of parturition." In considering the deaths of women in childbirth the numbers from Order 6, Class I, under the designation "Puerperal fever, pyæmia, septicæmia," have also to be dealt with.

As the figures are highly important, a special comparative statement has been made out, giving besides the number of deaths of mothers the proportions in every 10,000 children born. These proportions, taken over ten years' comparison, fluctuate irregularly, the extreme limits being 38·37 per 10,000 births in the year 1900, and 58·64 for the year 1903.

Women dying in Childbirth.

Year.	Deaths of Women in each Year.			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born.*
	In Childbirth.	From Puerperal Fever, &c.	Total.	
1898	72	19	91	48·01
1899	71	15	86	45·66
1900	51	24	75	38·37
1901	70	20	90	43·92
1902	85	25	110	53·26
1903	100	28	128	58·64
1904	85	21	106	46·56
1905	79	21	100	42·23
1906	76	18	94	39·11
1907	87	29	116	46·23

* Stillbirths are not registered.

But any conclusion drawn from the above figures must be held as qualified by the remarks on page 3 touching the matter of diminished fertility of wives at child-bearing ages.

VIOLENT DEATHS.

Deaths from violence form a large item in the total mortality. In 1907 the proportion per 10,000 of persons living was 7·76, the total number of deaths having been 713.

Of 602 males who died violent deaths, 92 were suicides. The deaths of females by violence were far fewer than those of males, amounting to 111, and out of these only 10 committed suicide. A table given previously states the full list of deaths from external or violent causes for the year 1907.

Accidental deaths numbered 605—males 506, and females 99. Of the total male deaths, 210 resulted from fractures or contusions, and 161 from drowning. Of the female deaths, 25 were due to drowning.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table is worthy of more than passing interest. It shows the number of infectious diseases reported to the Department from the several health districts:—

Nature of Disease.	Health District.								Total.	Deaths.
	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Wellington.	Marlborough.	Nelson.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.		
Enteric fever	353	55	102	6	23	1	80	36	656	53
Scarlet fever	277	133	959	4	27	22	205	246	1,873	25
Diphtheria	165	36	296	17	6	8	95	58	681	55
Blood-poisoning	76	8	39	..	..	..	52	33	208	..
Bubonic plague	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Tuberculosis	198	52	171	9	4	9	83	152	678	856
Leprosy	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Puerperal fever	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Hydatids	..	..	5	..	..	..	21	..	26	15
Actinomycosis	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Totals	1,071	284	1,574	37	60	40	536	525	4,127	..

There are difficulties in the way of assessing with any degree of accuracy the relationship between the number of cases and the number of deaths. As I have already pointed out, the years