

There are very few acute cases, the majority of the inmates being old-age pensioners and chronic cases of long standing.

At the time of my visit there were four women in the female ward, three men in the medical ward, six in the surgical, and ten old men. The medical ward had been done up, and looked bright and fresh.

The place was clean and well kept.

Miss Gosling recently resigned her position, and Miss Barry, from Greymouth, has taken her place.

22. WAIMATE HOSPITAL.

Governing body : Waimate Hospital Trustees.

Usual date of meeting : Last Wednesday of each month.

Secretary : George S. Cochrane.

Stipendiary medical staff : Dr. H. C. Barclay (non-resident), Medical Superintendent.

Nursing staff : Matron, Miss E. Shanks, and 3 probationers.

Domestic staff : 1 cook, 1 housemaid, 1 wardman, 1 gardener.

Number of beds available for males, 13 ; for females, 12 ; children's cots, 2 ; isolation and infectious, 12 : total, 39.

Average number of patients per diem, 21.

Average number of patients to each of nursing staff, 5.2.

In-patients : Number of patients on 31st March, 1908, 15 ; admitted during year, 223 ; discharged during year, 213 ; died during year, 10 ; in hospital on 31st March, 1909, 15. Sex—Male, 134 ; female, 104 : total, 238. Collective days' stay, 7,694 ; individual average days' stay, 32 ; average daily cost per head, 5s. 11½d. ; average daily payment per head, 7d. ; average daily cost per head after deducting in-patients' payments, 5s. 4½d. ; weekly fee charged for maintenance, £1 5s. for adults, 10s. per week for children under twelve years.

Percentage of cost of administration on maintenance-expenditure, 2.5.

Localities, broadly, from which patients came : Waimate Borough, 68 ; Waimate County, 170.

Nationalities of patients : New-Zealanders, 152 ; Australian, 4 ; English, 33 ; Scotch, 14 ; Irish, 32 ; Americans, 3.

Number of out-patients treated during year, 58 ; number of attendances of such out-patients, 167.

Visited 20th June and 10th December, 1908.

On the first occasion there were thirty patients, fifteen being convalescent scarlet-fever cases.

On the second visit there were fifteen patients, two being in fever wards.

Early in the year this Hospital had been obliged to cope with an epidemic of scarlet fever. The fever ward is in a bad state of repair, and will not be fit for its purpose much longer. The male ward also needs repairing.

The new wards, ward kitchen, and nurses' rooms which have been erected are a great improvement ; the latter especially were very badly needed.

The plaster in the newly erected lavatories was cracking.

I commented on the high price of drugs and foodstuffs at this Hospital.

A consumptive-shelter has been erected.

Miss Cruden, the Matron, resigned her position, and Miss Shanks was appointed Matron.

A larger amount of fees might be recovered from the patients.

23. WAIRAU HOSPITAL.

Governing body : Wairau Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

Usual date of meeting : Second Thursday in month.

Secretary : Lewis Griffiths. Assistant, 1.

Stipendiary medical staff : James Freeborn Bennet, M.B., Ch.B. (non-resident) ; David M. Nairn, L.R.C.P.

Nursing staff : Matron, Miss W. S. Fulton, and 1 registered nurse and 8 probationers.

Domestic staff : 1 cook, 1 housemaid, 1 wardmaid, 1 laundress, 1 porter, 1 gardener.

Number of beds available for males, 21 ; for females, 8 ; children's cots, 2 ; isolation and infectious, 10 : total, 41.

Average number of patients per diem, 18.

Average number of patients to each of nursing staff, 1.8.

In-patients : Number of patients on 31st March, 1908, 15 ; admitted during year, 235 ; discharged during year, 208 ; died during year, 25 ; in hospital on 31st March, 1909, 17. Sex—Male, 151 ; female, 84 : total, 235. Collective days' stay, 6,660 ; individual average days' stay, 28 ; average daily cost per head, 9s. 2d. ; average daily payment per head, 1s. 3½d. ; average daily cost per head after deducting in-patients' payments, 7s. 8½d. ; weekly fee charged for maintenance, £1 1s.

Percentage of cost of administration on maintenance-expenditure, 3.7.

Localities, broadly, from which patients came : Marlborough, 231 ; Auckland, 1 ; Christchurch, 1 ; Wellington, 1 ; Nelson, 1.

Nationalities of patients : New Zealand, 148 ; England, 35 ; Scotland, 22 ; Ireland, 10 ; Australia, 9 ; America, 5 ; Sweden, 2 ; Germany, 3 ; France, 1.

Visited on the 25th September, 1908, by Miss Maclean, and on the 2nd July, 1909, by myself.