

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, WELLINGTON.

Report by Mr. J. A. Hurley, Government Bacteriologist, Wellington.

I have the honour to submit tabulated reports of the work carried out at the Bacteriological Laboratory and at the Vaccine Station during the year ending the 31st March last.

The number of examinations in the Bacteriological Laboratory shows an increase of 33 per cent. This has been the average increase for several years past. The work in the Vaccine Station presents a much greater increase, and to keep up supplies of lymph there has often been a severe strain on the staff. This was especially the case during the epidemic of smallpox in the early part of the year, when the sudden demand for lymph was met without the employment of any extra assistance in the preparation of it. What this means is best shown by the fact that during the eleven weeks of the epidemic sufficient lymph was prepared to inoculate 734,000 persons. This amount does not include the lymph in stock when the first call for lymph to meet the epidemic was made. The lymph then in stock was sufficient to inoculate 60,000 persons, and was double the amount required to be in hand. To put the above facts on record is at least due to my staff, who, I have great pleasure in acknowledging, worked night and day with enthusiasm to carry out a seemingly impossible task.

Summary of Work performed at the Vaccine Station for Year ending the 31st March, 1914.

Calves inoculated	71
Total for 1913	18
Post-mortem of calves	44
Total for 1913	18
Bacterioscopic examination of lymph	153
Total for 1913	54
Lymph prepared (cubic centimetres)	14,053
(sufficient for 1,006,480 inoculations)	
Total for 1913	23,158

Lymph issued sufficient for 347,614 inoculations.

Table showing Results of Examination of Pathological Specimens, 1st April, 1913, to 31st March, 1914.

Material.	Object of Examination.	Result.		Total.
		Positive.	Negative.	
Sputum	Tubercle bacillus	137	402	539
	Other conditions	214	41	255
	Bacterioscopic examinations	..	..	86
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	880
				746
Purulent discharges	Microscopical—			
	For gonococcus	27	52	79
	,, tubercle bacillus.. .. .	10	30	40
	,, other pathogenic organisms	204	35	239
	Bacterioscopic examinations	211	26	237
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	595
				355
Pleuritic fluid	Microscopical—			
	For tubercle bacillus.. .. .	3	14	17
	,, other conditions.. .. .	5	2	7
	Bacterioscopic examinations	12	4	16
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	40
				34
Cerebro-spinal fluid	Microscopical	16	6	22
	Bacterioscopic	13	9	22
				44
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	31
Stomach-contents		..	..	7
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	5
Fæces	Chemical	2	5	7
	Microscopical	6	14	20
	Bacterioscopic	..	..	4
				31
	<i>Total for 1913</i>	..	..	36