

bility that the organism acquires a phase which results in mild infections, and that such infections are fairly common under urban conditions. On the other hand, the immunity of the town dweller may be through the nasopharyngeal catarrhs which are commonly antecedent to the meningococcal infections. A country-bred lad has not been exposed so much to influenza, measles, and allied troubles, and has not acquired immunity to them to the extent attained by the town dwellers. When suddenly transported to conditions in which he is exposed to these catarrh-producing organisms he falls an easy victim, and thus the door is opened to invasion by the meningococcus. It is quite possible that both suppositions are correct. It is reasonable to attribute to the same causes the comparative freedom to infection of older persons who have had more years in which to acquire immunity by repeated attacks of catarrhal or modified meningococcal infections.

INFLUENCE OF LOCALITY FROM WHICH RECRUITS CAME.

The following represents the distribution of cases according to locality from which the patient came:—

Auckland Province—						Cerebro-spinal Cases.	Pneumonia Cases.
Auckland City	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Auckland Hospital District other than city	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
North Auckland	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Waikato	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Thames—Te Aroha	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
Bay of Plenty	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Taumarunui	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
						23	9
Total meningococcal infections						32	
Wellington Province—							
Wellington City	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wellington Hospital District other than city	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Palmerston district	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wanganui district	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Taranaki district	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Wairarapa district	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Hawke's Bay	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
						10	12
Total meningococcal infections						22	
Canterbury Province—							
Christchurch City	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
North Canterbury	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
South Canterbury	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
						8	8
Total meningococcal infections						16	
Otago and Southland—							
Dunedin City	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Otago	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Invercargill	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Southland	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
						9	4
Total meningococcal infections						13	
Nelson District—							
City	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Country	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
						3	5
Total meningococcal infections						8	
Marlborough District (no meningococcal infections).							
Westland District						3	...
Total meningococcal infections						3	

There are some apparently contradictory results shown in these figures. Auckland, for example, leads with 32 cases of infection, or about one-third of the total. Yet this province suffered lightly in regard to pulmonary complications, being considerably lower than Wellington,