Weighing of Foodstuffs during the Year ended 31st December, 1920.

Hospital District.	Other Foodstoffs.										
	Samples weighed.		Samples complying.		Samples not complying.						
	Number of Samples.	Number of Vendors.	Number of Samples.	Number of Vendors.	Number of Samples.	Number of Vendors.	Number of Warnings issued.	Number of Prosecutions recom- mended.			
Kaipara	6	1	6	1							
Whangarei	94	11	91	11	3	2	2				
Auckland	108	12	86	10	22	_4	3	1			
Waikato	127	15	127	15							
Tauranga	108	10	99	10	9	3	3				
Bay of Plenty	1	1	1	1							
Taumarunui	18	3	12	2	6	¦ 1	1				
Waiapu	76	21	76	21							
Cook	13	5	13	5		•••		• •			
Hawke's Bay	176	31	168	28	8	3	2	1			
Palmerston North	1	1	•••		1	1		1			
Waitaki	2	2	2	2	••		• • •				
Otago	66	5	66	5	• •			•••			
Vincent	10	1	10	1	••		,	••			
Totals, 1920	806	119	757	112	49	14	11	3			
,, 1919	527	133	492	127	35	9	9				

INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

Hospital District.	Number of Instances Articles were "seized" or "destroyed."	manufactur-	Number of such Premises requiring Action re Sanitary Defects.	Hospital District.	Number of Instances Articles we "selzed" or "destroyed	re inspected engaged in manufactur-	Number of such Premises requiring Action re Sanitary Defects.
Bay of Islands	1	21	10	Wellington	25	299	11
Kaipara	i	225	90	Wainanana	11	498	39
Whangarei	. 7	650	129	Wairer	5	268	15
Auckland	. 36	490	76	Picton		56	1
Waikato	. 24	1,591	88	Nelson	13	181	5
Thames	. 1	886	171	Westland	35	97	10
Tauranga	. ! 8	486	12	Buller		314	13
Bay of Plenty		163	13	Grey	3	268	4
Taumarunui	. 1	488	40		152	578	35
Waiapu		264	3	Ashburton	12	190	10
Cook		193	9			81	2
Wairoa		110	14	Waitaki	14	154	4
Hawke's Bay		427	31		. 15	314	34
Taranaki	2	680	• •	Vincent		40	1
Stratford		26	3	Maniototo		12	2
Hawera	6	106	10	Southland	. 1	206	10
Patea		19	1	Wallace and Fiord		18	
Wanganui		274	7				
Waipawa		140	11	Totals, 1920	506	11,077	933
Palmerston North	35	264	29			_ 	ļ
	İ	1	ĺ	,, 1919	125	11,890	657

^{*} Not number of inspections.

SECTION 6.—ADMINISTRATION.

During the year two new health districts were formed—(1) the Hawke's Bay District, opened on the 1st January, 1920, under the charge of Dr. Mercer, with headquarters at Napier; and (2) the Wanganui-Taranaki District, opened on the 1st July, 1920, under the control of Dr. Monk, with headquarters at Wanganui. Both these areas had formerly been included in the Wellington Health District. Two additional bacteriological laboratories were also established—one at the Gisborne, the other at the Palmerston North Public Hospital. The effect of these changes will undoubtedly be in the direction of vastly improved efficiency.

An important venture was embarked upon during the year by the Head Office of the Department undertaking the storage and distribution of biological products. The object in view was to provide fresh serum at a reasonable cost for the public hospitals of the Dominion. The scheme has proved most successful; the Department by buying in large quantities obtains liberal discounts, and is able, moreover, to reduce to a minimum the accumulation of time-expired serum, with its consequent loss. The great majority of the Hospital Boards have been glad to avail themselves of the Department's operations, and, judging by the absence of complaints, are well satisfied with the system. Certainly a very real economy has been effected by this means.

The usual routine work of the Department was carried out during the year in the direction of supervision of water-supplies and drainage-disposal schemes, inspection of buildings with a view to serving notices for demolition or repairs, inspection of hotels, abatement of nuisances, &c. It is satisfactory to record that steady progress is being made in the general sanitation of the Dominion.

M. H. WATT, Director, Division of Public Hygiene.