

Diphtheria in New Zealand, 1918-22.

Year.				Notifications.		Deaths.*	
				Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Mean Population.	Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Mean Population.
918	..	..	..	5,539	50·22	189	1·71
1919	..	..	..	3,499	30·61	157	1·37
1920	..	..	..	2,442	20·48	95	0·81
1921	..	..	..	2,611	21·33	107	0·87
1922	..	..	..	1,989	15·89	78	0·62

* Figures include deaths from croup.

ENTERIC FEVER.

The position as regards this disease for the period 1918-22 is shown in the table below :—

Enteric Fever in New Zealand, 1918-22.

Year.				Notifications.		Deaths.	
				Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Mean Population.	Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Mean Population.
1918	..	..	..	423	3·83	33	0·30
1919	..	..	..	477	4·17	34	0·30
1920	..	..	..	389	3·26	40	0·34
1921	..	..	..	451	3·68	24	0·19
1922	..	..	..	539	4·31	67	0·54

The outbreak of enteric fever at Mount Albert, Auckland, was responsible for a considerable proportion of the 539 notifications, and also for some 30 of the deaths attributed to this disease.

A full account of this epidemic, contributed by the Acting Medical Officer of Health, Auckland, is presented as an appendix to this report.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The notifications for 1922 show a slight decline in comparison with the preceding year, the figures being respectively 1,129 and 1,207.

The next table, based upon the death returns, gives a truer idea of the variations in the prevalence of this disease during the period 1913-22.

Tuberculosis in New Zealand, 1913-22.

Year.				Number of Deaths from Tuberculosis.		Death-rate from Tuberculosis per 10,000 of Mean Population.	Percentage of Total Deaths from all Causes.
1913	..	..	..	..	812	7·60	8·02
1914	..	..	..	..	728	6·67	7·17
1915	..	..	..	..	693	6·30	6·95
1916	..	..	..	..	742	6·74	7·00
1917	..	..	..	..	755	6·87	7·17
1918	..	..	..	..	832	7·54	5·08
1919	..	..	..	..	762	6·71	7·05
1920	..	..	..	..	851	7·21	7·03
1921	..	..	..	..	793	6·48	7·42
1922	..	..	..	..	821	6·56	7·48

The position disclosed by the table is on the whole a satisfactory one. It will be seen that the death-rate from tuberculosis for the year was exceptionally low. Of the total of 821 deaths in 1922, 626 were assigned to pulmonary tuberculosis, and the remaining 195 to other forms of tuberculosis.