

The admissions numbered 1,109 (m. 553, f. 556), or 40 more than in the previous year. Of these, 161 had been previously under care, making the proportion of readmissions 14·52 per cent., and 948 patients were admitted for the first time.

The ratio to population of all admissions (exclusive of Maoris) was 7·07 (m. 7·34, f. 7·20) to 10,000, and of first admissions 6·17 (m. 6·19, f. 6·14), so that 1,388 persons in the general population contributed one patient, and 1,620 contributed a patient admitted for the first time.

The discharges (excluding transfers) numbered 471, or 91 more than in 1935. 201 (or 74 more) harmless unrecovered persons were returned to the care of friends; and 270 (m. 121, f. 149) recovered —17 more than last year—representing a percentage of 24·34 (m. 21·88, f. 26·80) on the total admitted. With voluntary boarders added the percentage rises to 27·34. Altogether, 50·92 per cent. of the inmates admitted were able to leave institutional care.

Of a total of 8,796 patients under care, 465 (m. 252, f. 213) died, or 6·38 per cent. on the average number resident. An inquest is held in the case of every death, whatever the cause. The causes are detailed in Table VI, and the following is the percentage of causes mainly contributing: Senile decay, 18·71; diseases of the brain and nervous system group, 23·01; heart-disease, 19·57; tuberculosis, 6·45.

In Table VII the principal causes assigned for the mental breakdown in the admissions are stated; but as a matter of fact they are merely approximations, and these, with the small numbers with which we have to deal, show such divergencies from year to year that the proportion assigned to any one cause in any one year cannot be assumed to be our average incidence. Causation is always complex, and the most potent factor is the individual. Hereunder the assignment causations in the table referred to are grouped and shown in their relative proportions:—

						Males.	Females.	Total.
Heredity	..	..	..	..	..	8·68	6·83	7·76
Congenital	..	..	..	..	..	19·89	12·41	16·14
Predisposed by previous attack	..	..	..	..	..	12·12	18·70	15·42
Critical periods	..	..	..	..	..	6·87	14·21	10·55
Child-bearing (puerperal, non-septic, and lactation)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1·99	0·99
Mental stress	..	..	..	..	..	18·44	20·32	19·39
Toxic, including—								
Syphilis	..	..	..	4·88	1·44	9·95	3·06	6·49
Alcohol	..	..	..	3·61	0·72			
Traumatic	..	..	..	..	..	0·54	..	0·27
Disorder of nervous system, including—								
Epilepsy	..	..	..	2·89	2·52	5·06	3·78	4·42
Other bodily affections	..	..	..	..	..	8·50	6·65	7·57
Senility	..	..	..	..	..	9·95	12·05	11·00
						100·00	100·00	100·00

VOLUNTARY BOARDERS.

Year.	First Admission.			Not First Admission.			Total Admissions.			Transferred to Register of Patients.			Died.			Discharged.			Remaining on 31st December.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1912	6	17	23	0	0	0	6	17	23	1	3	4	0	0	0	4	3	7	1	11	12
1913	18	19	37	0	2	2	18	21	39	2	5	7	0	1	1	12	12	24	5	14	19
1914	17	19	36	3	2	5	20	21	41	7	5	12	1	1	2	11	15	26	6	14	20
1915	15	17	32	1	2	3	16	19	35	3	4	7	0	1	1	8	14	22	11	14	25
1916	13	23	36	5	8	13	18	31	49	4	4	8	1	2	3	14	14	28	10	15	25
1917	14	21	35	1	13	14	15	34	49	6	6	12	0	1	1	10	23	33	9	19	28
1918	23	38	61	5	11	16	28	49	77	1	4	5	2	2	4	15	30	45	19	32	51
1919	31	39	70	5	19	24	36	58	94	3	3	6	0	2	2	26	42	68	26	43	69
1920	26	38	64	16	12	28	42	50	92	3	4	7	1	2	3	33	33	66	31	54	85
1921	39	39	78	11	15	26	50	54	104	2	3	5	5	1	6	38	41	79	36	63	99
1922	47	38	85	10	16	26	57	54	111	6	5	11	4	4	8	40	48	88	43	60	103
1923	44	50	94	15	21	36	59	71	130	3	6	9	3	3	6	47	47	94	49	75	124
1924	38	44	82	16	20	36	54	64	118	4	8	12	6	3	9	39	48	87	54	80	134
1925	64	59	123	15	34	49	79	93	172	10	15	25	6	3	9	60	63	123	57	92	149
1926	71	60	131	11	29	40	82	89	171	10	11	21	7	2	9	49	71	120	73	97	170
1927	70	70	140	25	32	57	95	102	197	8	6	14	5	12	17	75	58	133	80	123	203
1928	120	94	214	37	39	76	157	133	290	8	10	18	10	8	18	102	97	199	117	141	258
1929	102	63	165	50	43	93	152	106	258	11	3	14	9	9	18	119	110	229	130	125	255
1930	152	84	236	41	35	76	193	119	312	15	9	24	8	6	14	130	79	209	170	150	320
1931	166	98	264	43	36	79	209	134	343	11	14	25	11	7	18	159	102	261	198	161	359
1932	150	85	235	50	40	90	200	125	325	24	32	56	14	5	19	190	108	298	170	141	311
1933	112	109	221	53	32	85	165	141	306	11	14	25	5	4	9	121	107	228	198	157	355
1934	132	90	221	56	33	89	188	123	311	7	11	18	10	6	16	152	99	251	217	164	381
1935	130	87	217	40	55	95	170	142	312	18	20	38	19	10	29	151	116	267	199	160	359
1936	98	99	197	62	44	106	160	143	303	21	20	41	7	10	17	137	111	248	194	162	356

It will be noted that there were 303 voluntary admissions in the year under review, that 248 were discharged, and that 41 boarders, representing 13·53 per cent. of the admissions, had to be transferred to the register of patients (having shown mental disorder in degree sufficiently pronounced and sustained to render it improper for them to be continued as voluntary boarders), while the proportion of deaths on average number of resident was 4·72 per cent. The column devoted to “Not First Admissions” records readmissions on a return of illness in those previously treated to recovery as voluntary boarders. The average daily number of voluntary boarders in 1936 was 360.