

Table IV.—Number of Persons seen for the First Time and found to be suffering from Gonorrhœa

Year.	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Total.		Grand Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1941 .. ..	410	183	373	42	271	72	81	79	1,135	376	1,511
1942 .. ..	312	286	236	63	181	69	75	73	804	491	1,295
1943 .. ..	265	441	138	89	122	92	51	15	576	637	1,213
1944 .. ..	215	470	140	59	139	86	50	22	544	637	1,181
1945 .. ..	389	413	178	54	149	66	46	9	762	542	1,304
1946 .. ..	639	329	235	42	168	31	115	13	1,157	415	1,572

It will be noted that in the cases of both diseases, while the incidence of infection among women has remained low, there has been a considerable increase in the number of men seeking treatment. It is not clear how far this represents a real increase, and how far it can be accounted for by the discharge of men from the Services. During the war a large proportion of men between the ages of eighteen and forty were in the Army, Navy, or Air Force and under similar circumstances would be treated in Service hospitals.

The tables at the end of this section of the report give details of the cases of notifiable diseases reported in 1946.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS

*Food and Drugs Regulations.*—During the year a new set of regulations under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act were gazetted. The existing regulations dated from 1924 and were badly in need of consolidation and revision. Some of the chief alterations in the new regulations were as follows:—

- (i) The list of artificial colours permitted in foods has been completely revised so as to exclude a number of dyes that are now known to have toxic properties.
- (ii) The sale of artificial or imitation foodstuffs is prohibited, unless specifically permitted.
- (iii) The addition of synthetic vitamin preparation to foods is forbidden.
- (iv) If claims are made as to the presence of vitamins or minerals in foods, the amounts present must be stated in the label.
- (v) Standards have been introduced for table confections, milk-bread, arrowroot, suet, milk-shakes, rennet, milk-ices, lemon cheese, liqueurs, fish-liver oils, rose-hip syrup, penicillin, proprietary medicines, and dusting-powders.
- (vi) The provisions regarding disinfectants have been revised so that only those substances having a defined standard of disinfecting powers may be sold as disinfectants.
- (vii) The labelling provisions of the large class of non-alcoholic beverages have been revised to ensure that the customer may be able to know exactly what he is buying.

*Dusting-powders.*—All baby-powders containing any natural mineral ingredient such as talc or kaolin must be made from purified talc B.P.C. or from talc or kaolin that has been sterilized by heating to 150° c. for not less than one hour.

*Fish-liver Oils.*—As the manufacture of fish-liver oils is now an important New Zealand industry, a standard for fish oils has been adopted. The addition of calciferol is permitted, and the amounts of vitamin A and vitamin D present in the oil must be stated on the label. Imported halibut-liver oil is required to contain not less than 2,500 International Units of vitamin D per gram.