

health was good. Mantoux testing was done, all positive reactors being x-rayed, and a minority referred to the chest clinic for serial x-rays and specialist supervision. In this age group, 15–17 years, the positive reactors to the Mantoux test average 20 per cent. in the areas studied, and by the age of 19 years 32 per cent. have become positive.

#### CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL OFFICERS

During the year a refresher course for medical officers engaged in child-hygiene work was held in Wellington, lasting one week. The physical, psychological, and specialized medical needs of the pre-school child were reviewed. The course was found valuable and much appreciated by the medical personnel. The lectures given at this course will soon be issued in pamphlet form for the use of those interested.

#### IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DISEASE

*Whooping-cough.*—Departmental medical officers immunize on request only babies and toddlers between the ages of 3 months and 2 years. During the year, 5,148 complete courses of whooping-cough vaccine were given.

*Typhoid Fever.*—Maori children attending primary schools were vaccinated with triple vaccine in the autumn term against typhoid and paratyphoid fevers. During the year 19,521 of these vaccinations were done by District Nurses.

*Diphtheria.*—Departmental nurses and medical officers carried out anti-diphtheria immunizations to a total of 29,181 complete courses of prophylactic.

Table 18—*Diphtheria Immunization*

Health District.	Babies, 3 Months. to 1 Year.	Pre-school, 1 up to 5 Years.	School, 5 up to 10 Years.	School, 10 up to 15 Years.	Total.
North Auckland .. .. .	1,725	465	88	3	2,281
Central Auckland and Thames - Tauranga .. .. .	2,407	1,593	130	4	4,134
South Auckland .. .. .	829	661	823	99	2,412
East Cape .. .. .	367	1,312	292	10	1,981
Taranaki .. .. .	592	641	153	9	1,395
Wellington - Hawkes Bay .. .. .	937	1,277	139	8	2,261
Central Wellington .. .. .	1,674	1,134	2,643	42	5,493
Nelson-Marlborough .. .. .	295	215	93	3	606
Christchurch - West Coast .. .. .	1,352	1,847	1,429	5	4,633
Timaru .. .. .	471	763	149	21	1,404
Dunedin .. .. .	242	522	174	26	964
Southland .. .. .	1,087	394	20	16	1,517
Totals .. .. .	11,978	10,824	6,133	246	29,181

This does not give a complete picture of the state of artificial immunity in New Zealand, as private practitioners are doing an increasing amount of this work and are failing as a body to keep the Department informed of numbers done, although they accept free prophylactic from the Department on the understanding that such returns are made in due course.

#### HEALTH CAMPS

As in previous years, officers of the Department concerned with child hygiene continued to recommend for treatment in approved health camps some 3,000 children found to have defects which could possibly be corrected by the treatment offered in the camps. The Department maintains a general oversight of camps through the Medical Officers of Health and appoints matrons and sub-matrons from the registered nursing staff of the Department.