

Hospital Patients for the Year ending 31st March, 1914.

Maori	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
European	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
							166
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	166
Anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Major operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

Isolation Hospital, from July, 1913, to 31st March, 1914.

Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
							15
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Maori out-patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,440
Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,800

REPORT OF RESIDENT OFFICER ON TOWN OF ROTORUA.

The Resident Officer (Mr. W. Hill) reports as follows on the municipal administration of the Town of Rotorua:—

FINANCE.

There is nothing in the General Account calling for any special mention, the revenue and the expenditure being normal. I attach copy of annual statement of accounts.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GENERAL.

During the year the sum of £3,349 has been expended in improving and maintaining the footpaths, streets, roads, culverts, and bridges within the town.

Footpaths.—A considerable portion of the asphalted footpaths which had worn out were renewed, a total length of 35½ chains having been so dealt with. In addition to this portions of the existing paths were faced with tar and sand.

850 ft. of concrete kerbing and channelling were laid down, and 594 ft. of concrete kerbing only, the latter to complete the Sanatorium frontage in Hinemaru Street.

Eight new ferro-concrete and seven wooden culverts were constructed during the year, the latter being in localities where the traffic did not warrant the more expensive style of culvert being supplied.

Streets and Roads.—In the inner area and on the Whakarewarewa Road a considerable amount of metalling was done; local metal (from Kawaha Point and the Hemo Gorge) and imported 2½ in. metal (from Te Aroha and Te Kuiti) were used, the extent of streets dealt with being 120 chains with local metal and 140 chains with imported metal. The absence of a good class of road-metal in the district makes our street maintenance very expensive, as the local metal is only fit for bottoming or for application to suburban roads where the traffic is not so heavy. The thinning-out of the double line of gum-trees on the eastern side of the Whakarewarewa Road, thus allowing freer access to the sun and the wind, was of great advantage in more speedily drying the road while the wet weather lasted. Many more of these trees could be cut down to the further advantage of the road.

Some of the earth and pumice roads in the outlying suburban districts, such as the Taupo Road, Ranolf Street South, and Malfroy Street West, which have had very little attention for years, were in a bad condition, having become dished in the centre, and badly cut by the storm-water. An arrangement with the County Council was entered into whereby we got the use of their large road-grader, plough, and teams, and some 436 chains of these roads were formed and graded at prices varying according to the work required, the average cost being 2s. 6d. per chain.

In addition to the foregoing, the usual coatings of pumice were given to all the earth roads and footpaths in and around the town.

A system of underground pipes for carrying off the storm-water during heavy rains is very much needed, particularly in Tutaneikai, Fenton, and Eruera Streets. Under present conditions, during a heavy downpour the shallow water-tables and culverts cannot cope with the body of water, which accumulates rapidly, spreads over footpaths and streets, and does great damage to them. In addition to this great quantities of pumice and sand are washed into the lake, which tends to silt up the foreshore in an unsightly manner.

During the year a single-horse watering-cart, with a capacity of 250 gallons, and supplied with a rotary sprinkler, was purchased and put into use in the inner area. Apart from the