

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND HEALTH DISTRICT.—REPORT BY DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER (DR. CHESSON).

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the above district for the year ending the 31st December, 1914.

Many changes have been made in the administration of this district during the year. Formerly Waitaki, Maniototo, Vincent, Southland, Wallace, and Fiord formed part of the Canterbury District, Otago being a separate district worked from Dunedin. In May Dr. Champtaloup resigned his position as District Health Officer, and the above-named Hospital Boards districts were included in the Otago Health District, and for a time were administered from Head Office, with Inspector Cameron supervising the work locally, pending the arrival of the newly appointed District Health Officer for that district.

It having been found advisable, however, to attach Dr. Smith to Head Office to assist Dr. Frengley during the absence of Dr. Valintine, the entire district was again attached to the Canterbury District for administrative purposes, and I made fortnightly visits to Dunedin for the purpose of dealing with affairs locally. Dr. Sydney Smith took over the district, however, in the latter part of December.

I attach herewith appendices, being tables and data on the following matters: Notifiable infectious diseases, sanitary inspections, offensive trades, insanitary buildings, by-laws, legal proceedings, quarantine, disinfection of oversea goods, Immigration Restriction Act, Midwives Act, and Sale of Foods and Drugs Act.

Attached hereto is Dr. Champtaloup's report for the Bacteriological and Public Health Laboratory, and Mr. Napier's report from the Public Health Analytical Laboratory.

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C. APPENDICES TO THE REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1914.

(1.) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The diseases declared to be infectious diseases in the meaning of the Public Health Act, and consequently notifiable, are as follows: Scarlet fever, scarlatina, diphtheria, enteric fever, tuberculosis, puerperal fever (including milk-fever, sapræmia, acute sepsis, septicæmia), plague, smallpox, leprosy, cholera, actinomycosis, hydatids, beriberi, blood-poisoning, cerebro-spinal meningitis (including cerebro-spinal fever, cerebral typhus, spotted fever, petechial fever, malignant purpuric fever), poliomyelitis, typhus fever, chicken-pox.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified throughout the Dominion:—

Nature of Disease.	Health District.				Total.
	Auckland.	Wellington, Hawke's Bay, Marlborough, and Nelson.	Canterbury, and Westland.	Otago, and Southland.	
Scarlet fever	109	536	521	340	1,506
Diphtheria	379	350	255	111	1,095
Enteric fever	537	269	34	19	859
Tuberculosis	245	307	235	170	957
Blood-poisoning	65	55	16	26	162
Chicken-pox	513	370	147	93	1,123
Smallpox	63	63
Poliomyelitis, cerebro-spinal meningitis, &c.	14	37	83	134	268
Totals	1,925	1,924	1,291	893	6,033