

## STAFF.

During the year I regret to report that the Department has lost the services of Dr. Sydney Smith, who accepted a position with the Egyptian Government. Dr. Watt succeeded Dr. Smith as District Health Officer at Wellington, and in this connection it may be said that Dr. Watt is the first New Zealand graduate to take service in this Department.

I cannot conclude this report without thanking those officers of the Department who have so cheerfully and so ably assisted me during this distressful year.

I have, &c.,

T. H. A. VALINTINE,

Inspector-General of Hospitals and  
Chief Health Officer

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified throughout the Dominion throughout the year 1916:—

Disease.	Number of Cases.			Rate of Incidence per 10,000 of the Population.		
	1916.	1915.	1914.	1916.	1915.	1914.
Scarlet fever .. .. .	4,278	2,301	1,506	39.45	20.91	13.81
Diphtheria .. .. .	2,376	1,404	1,095	21.86	12.76	10.04
Enteric .. .. .	806	820	859	7.42	7.45	7.88
Tuberculosis .. .. .	950	1,001	957	8.73	9.10	8.78
Blood-poisoning .. .. .	174	140	162	1.60	1.27	1.49
Chicken-pox .. .. .	..	354	1,123	..	3.22	10.30
Smallpox .. .. .	..	1	63	..	..	0.58
Polio-myelitis .. .. .	1,018	10	268	9.37	0.09	2.46
Cerebro-spinal meningitis .. .. .	135	85	..	1.24	0.77	..
Hydatids .. .. .	25	17	..	0.23	0.15	..
Ophthalmia neonatorum* .. .. .	17	..	..	0.16	..	..
Totals .. .. .	9,778	6,133	6,033	90.00	55.72	55.34

\* Not notifiable prior to 1916.

## DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.—CENSUS, 1916.

Causes.	Number of Deaths, 1916.	Percentage of Total, 1916.
Whooping-cough .. .. .	44	3.04
Convulsions .. .. .	74	5.12
Bronchitis and pneumonia .. .. .	75	5.19
Diarrhœa and enteritis .. .. .	641	11.34
Malformations .. .. .	108	7.47
Premature birth .. .. .	381	26.35
Congenital debility .. .. .	215	14.87
Other causes .. .. .	385	26.62
Total .. .. .	1,446	100.00

## DEATHS FROM CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1916.

Causes.	Number of Deaths, 1916.	Proportion per 10,000 of Mean Population, 1916.
Typhoid fever .. .. .	37	0.34
Measles .. .. .	93	0.85
Scarlet fever .. .. .	52	0.47
Whooping-cough .. .. .	98	0.89
Diphtheria .. .. .	163	1.48
Influenza .. .. .	73	0.66
Pulmonary tuberculosis .. .. .	591	5.38
Other forms of tuberculosis .. .. .	151	1.37