

PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.

The following table shows the course of this disease for the quinquennium, 1918-22:—

Puerperal Septicæmia in New Zealand, 1918-22.

Year.	Notifications.		Deaths.	
	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
1918	76	2.94	48	1.86
1919	79	3.23	52	2.12
1920	124	4.14	67	2.22
1921	178	6.23	48	1.68
1922	262	9.03	52	1.79

It is well known that the returns of notifications in puerperal septicæmia are, as a general rule, far from complete. The marked rise in the notification-rate for 1921 and 1922, therefore, does not necessarily indicate an increased prevalence of the disease for these years, but represent rather an increased observance of the laws regarding notification. The returns of deaths provide a more accurate presentation of the position. The fact that 1922 has the second-lowest death-rate of the series is so far satisfactory, although there is no ignoring the fact that New Zealand occupies an unfavourable position as regards this disease in comparison with other countries.

INFLUENZA.

The year under review was noticeable for its low incidence and general mildness of influenza. The figures for the severer types of this disease (the pneumonic, septicæmic, and fulminant varieties) are 216 notifications and 23 deaths in 1922, as compared with 295 notifications and 105 deaths in 1921.

ACUTE PRIMARY PNEUMONIA.

This also was less prevalent than in 1921. In 1922, 946 cases were notified, as compared with 1,029 cases in 1921, and 1,933 cases in 1920, the first complete year for which figures are available.

Fuller information concerning the distribution of the above diseases, together with details of the remaining notifiable diseases, is contained in the subjoined tables.

TABLE A.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN NEW ZEALAND, 1921, SHOWING DISTRIBUTION BY MONTHS.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Tuberculosis.	C.S. Meningitis.	Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Pn. Influenza.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Hydatids.	Tetanus.	Trachoma.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Lethargic Encephalitis.	Anthrax.	Food-poisoning.	Actinomycosis.	Totals.
January ..	104	171	28	92	1	21	28	15	29	15	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	509
February ..	103	127	29	59	3	20	14	13	28	15	..	1	2	2	..	..	4	..	420
March ..	140	179	27	85	4	21	27	14	51	18	3	2	1	3	..	..	..	1	576
April ..	185	210	157	76	1	14	19	8	52	36	4	2	..	3	3	..	..	..	770
May ..	163	217	87	93	4	4	26	12	62	37	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	711
June ..	125	212	43	110	2	5	16	10	78	31	3	4	2	1	3	1	..	..	646
July ..	147	202	19	102	5	3	19	33	100	31	..	2	..	4	9	..	..	..	676
August ..	132	182	36	105	1	2	21	24	173	22	3	1	..	3	12	..	..	..	717
September ..	132	143	33	85	6	2	26	35	105	25	2	..	2	2	3	..	..	..	601
October ..	80	143	28	128	5	3	26	26	119	22	6	3	..	3	3	..	..	..	595
November ..	65	86	27	102	7	2	18	14	91	9	3	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	428
December ..	73	117	25	92	3	1	22	12	58	10	8	2	..	..	2	1	..	..	426
Totals, 1922	1,449	1,989	539	1,129	42	98	262	216	946	271	36	22	7	26	36	2	4	1	7,075
Totals, 1921	1,845	2,611	451	1,207	56	267	178	295	1,029	228	36	21	12	35	23	2	1	2	8,209