

In addition to these new centres, the following existing centres were reinforced by the appointment of additional staff: Alexandra, Birkenhead, Ellerslie, Henderson, Invercargill, Sandringham, Whangarei Country.

Forty-two new clinics have been authorized at centres which were not served before, and eight existing centres are to be reorganized in the immediate future, and their scope extended by the appointment of additional staff. Details of these are given in another section of this report.

To facilitate the control of the ever-increasing number of clinics, the dental districts have been further reorganized by including the Taranaki Health District in the Wellington Dental District, instead of in the South Auckland Dental District as it was originally. The Principal Dental Officer, in addition to his duties at Head Office, retains control in the meantime of a small district comprising the Manawatu, Hutt Valley, and Marlborough areas. This has been designated, for the present, the "Inner Wellington District."

STATISTICS.

Operations performed in the field and in the training-school from 1st January to 31st December, 1939:—

Fillings—					
In permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	281,104
In deciduous teeth	..	..	..	..	334,110
					615,514
Extractions—					
In permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	2,954
In deciduous teeth	..	..	..	..	73,039
					75,993

The following figures illustrate the progress made during the last 10 years:

Year.	Number of Schools under Systematic Treatment.			Number of Children receiving Systematic Treatment.	Total Number of Operations.
1930	930			67,652	463,204
1931	1,180			68,995	562,759
1932	1,297			72,584	619,390
1933	1,430			78,391	623,625
1934	1,551			83,433	626,878
1935	1,590			84,738	674,374
1936	1,629			89,803	725,609
1937	1,568			89,483	759,873
1938	1,620			94,261	826,598
1939	1,749			101,701	912,370

Total number of operations since the inception of the service, 8,463,189.

RATIO OF EXTRACTIONS TO FILLINGS.

The number of teeth extracted as unsavable as compared with the number of fillings performed shows a small increase on this occasion, to the extent of 0.4 extractions per 100 fillings. This is accountable for by the number of new clinics opened, and the corresponding increase in the number of new entrants, as the latter invariably require a certain number of extractions. The figure for the year under review is 12.3 extractions per 100 fillings. The following table shows the ratio of extractions to fillings since the inception of the service:—

	Fillings.	Extractions.	Ratio: Extractions per Hundred Fillings.
1921-22	13,047	14,939	114.5
1922-23	24,603	25,436	103.3
1923-24	47,610	37,978	79.7
1924-25	59,322	43,181	72.6
1925-26	61,506	41,339	67.2
1926-27	84,723	53,232	62.8
1927-28	116,916	66,523	56.8
1928-29	146,354	76,555	52.3
1929-30	190,934	71,128	37.2
1930-31	258,546	75,973	25.5
1931-32	334,827	80,389	24.0
1932-33	382,389	74,633	19.5
1933-34	397,437	69,208	17.4
1934-35	399,560	70,207	17.5
1935-36	450,727	72,782	16.1
1936-37	498,121	72,088	14.6
1937-38	535,441	68,832	12.9
1938-39	571,199	67,972	11.9
1939-40	615,514	75,993	12.3

The above figures include both permanent and deciduous teeth. For permanent teeth alone the ratio is 1.05 extractions per 100 fillings.