

*Otago and Southland Districts.*

The Otago Hospital Board has continued work on the additions to its nurses' home, and has almost completed plans for a new X-ray department and two additional wards.

The South Otago Hospital Board has added to its nurses' home, and is building a children's ward and a teaching suite at Balclutha Hospital.

The Waitaki Hospital Board has built a Superintendent's house, and is building additions to its nurses' home, boilerhouse, and laundry, and has completed plans for additional wards, operating-theatres, X-ray, massage, and out-patient blocks.

The Southland Hospital Board has almost completed a new children's ward at Gore Hospital, and has repaired the fire damage to the Kew Hospital.

## DEATHS UNDER ANÆSTHETICS.

The annual report for 1935 gave a summary of the deaths under anæsthesia for the previous five years. The following is the summary for the past six years:—

Total deaths under anæsthetic for year ending—

31st December, 1940	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
31st December, 1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
31st December, 1938	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
31st December, 1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
31st December, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
31st December, 1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	31

Total deaths for six years .. .. . 194

The total number of deaths under anæsthetic during the previous five-year period was 90.

Nature of Anæsthetic.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	Total.
Chloroform .. .. .	3	1	2	..	1	..	7
Chloroform and ether .. .. .	6	8	3	2	4	7	30
Ether .. .. .	4	4	6	1	3	3	21
Ethyl chloride and ether .. .. .	6	7	5	2	3	6	29
Gas and oxygen .. .. .	4	1	3	4	4	5	21
Avertin alone or followed by ether .. .. .	2	2	1	1	3	1	10
Paraldehyde and ether .. .. .	..	3*	..	..	..	1	4
Cyclopropane .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
Evipan .. .. .	..	1	1	..	1	2	5
Morphine and hyposaine .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Spinal with or without gas and oxygen .. .. .	3	..	1	2	2	1	9
Nature of anæsthetic not stated .. .. .	3	8	12	13	14	3	53
Total .. .. .	31	35	34	26	37	31	194

*Deaths under Anæsthetic, according to Age-groups.*

Age.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	Total.
0- 5 .. .. .	3	4	3	4	8	5	27
6-10 .. .. .	1	7	2	3	5	2	20
11-20 .. .. .	6	3	2	3	3	5	22
21-30 .. .. .	4	4	3	2	6	2	21
31-40 .. .. .	3	2	2	3	2	6	18
41-50 .. .. .	4	4	6	3	7	2	26
51-60 .. .. .	2	4	4	5	2	4	21
61-70 .. .. .	3	3	5	1	3	3	18
Over 70 .. .. .	2	1	3	2	1	1	10
Age not stated .. .. .	3	3	4	..	..	1	11