

DENTAL CLINIC

The staff consists of 1 European dental officer and 5 Native dental officers.

The European dental officer has general supervision and direction of the Native dental officers, and is also responsible for training of cadets. The three cadets referred to in the previous report qualified during the year; the two Niueans returned to Niue, and the Samoan officer assumed the duties of a dental officer at the Apia Clinic. The European dental officer undertakes operative and surgical work of all types, having the right of private practice among the European community, but the service to Samoans is free.

Besides undertaking preventive treatment, the Native dental officers undertake extractions and scalings and surgical attention for Samoan children and adults and for all Samoan in-patients at the hospital. The Native dental officers also pay regular visits to the outlying districts of Upolu and Savai'i.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths (Samoans) at Different Ages

	Number of Deaths.					Percentage of Total Deaths.				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Under 1 week ..	31	28	35	23	12	4.16	4.32	2.73	3.56	2.35
1 week to 1 month ..	19	10	19	11	4	2.55	1.54	1.49	1.70	0.77
1 month to 3 months ..	19	11	43	22	17	2.55	1.71	3.36	3.39	3.33
3 months to 6 months ..	24	31	55	22	11	3.22	4.79	4.30	3.39	2.15
6 months to 12 months ..	61	64	143	86	65	8.19	9.89	11.18	13.32	12.72
1 year to 2 years ..	97	68	173	71	70	13.02	10.52	13.53	10.98	13.70
2 years to 3 years ..	43	38	67	18	24	5.77	5.86	5.24	2.78	4.70
3 years to 4 years ..	21	26	47	19	16	2.82	4.02	3.67	2.93	3.13
4 years to 5 years ..	19	9	19	9	5	2.55	1.39	1.49	1.38	0.98
5 years to 10 years ..	55	37	74	48	31	7.38	5.72	5.79	7.42	6.07
Over 10 years ..	356	325	604	318	256	47.79	50.24	47.22	49.15	50.10
Totals ..	745	647	1,279	647	511	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The infant-mortality rate has shown a further drop to the lowest figure yet recorded—viz., 53.8 per 1,000 births. A table setting out the rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 registered births during the last twenty years is set out below:—

1926 ..	106	1933 ..	114	1940 ..	73.80
1927 ..	101	1934 ..	104.8	1941 ..	69.59
1928 ..	58	1935 ..	97.0	1942 ..	72.69
1929 ..	70	1936 ..	291.77*	1943 ..	124.42
1930 ..	61	1937 ..	89.30	1944 ..	75.8
1931 ..	111	1938 ..	73.79	1945 ..	53.8
1932 ..	121	1939 ..	83.56		

* Due to epidemics of whooping-cough and measles; see report for 1936-37, page 22.

XVIII. LAND TENURE

Under the Samoa Act, 1921, all land is legally—

- (a) Crown land, vested in the Crown free from Native title or any estate in fee-simple, of which there are (including New Zealand Reparation Estates) 103,630 acres; or