

SECTION 5.—BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES.

The facilities available in the Dominion for the bacteriological investigation of disease are being gradually extended. Apart from the main laboratories in the four centres, there are now six branch laboratories established in connection with the public hospitals of the subsidiary centres of the Dominion.

The table below, which summarizes the work of a definite public-health nature performed in these laboratories, shows the importance and wide range of the examinations undertaken in these institutions.

TABLE SHOWING PUBLIC HEALTH WORK PERFORMED IN BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1922.

Disease.	Number of Examinations.																			
	Positive.										Negative.									
	Whangarei.	Auckland.	Hamilton.	Gisborne.	Napier.	Palmerston North.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.	Whangarei.	Auckland.	Hamilton.	Gisborne.	Napier.	Palmerston North.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.
Diphtheria diagnosis ..	20	272	155	4	49	160	696	253	111	38	58	1,229	596	30	354	810	3,201	1,487	967	360
Diphtheria clearance ..	30	..	250	1	192	144	..	651	416	60	67	..	1,090	15	281	571	..	3,371	923	114
Tuberculosis—																				
Sputum ..	69	108	69	30	91	46	244	70	97	62	110	719	354	105	450	294	705	496	525	228
Cerebro-spinal fluid ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	9	1	1	1	6	15	1	25	16	28	26	29	11
Urine ..	..	1	2	..	9	8	10	20	3	2	10	30	36	1	111	97	47	132	74	50
Pleuritic fluid ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	50	6	32	62	..	12
Fæces ..	..	..	..	..	9	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	29	..	14	5	..	3
Other material ..	..	..	..	..	15	..	5	6	2	1	1	3	8	8	46	18	30	24	25	20
Typhoid-fever diagnosis—																				
Agglutination tests ..	11	61	26	8	34	8	62	9	10	1	12	90	59	11	128	32	796	56	42	10
Blood-culture ..	..	8	1	7	..	..	..	2	3	..	6	40	28	10	5	1	1	4	15	..
Fæces ..	1	3	1	..	9	..	..	6	..	..	27	49	32	26	39	5	19	29	18	3
Typhoid-fever clearance—																				
Fæces ..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	2	1	..	14	..	31	2	30	5	5	23	7	..
Urine ..	..	..	4	..	..	5	..	..	2	..	1	20	49	21	15	10	16	31	5	2
Cerebro-spinal-fever diagnosis—																				
Swabs ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	8	11	14	3	1	8	4	..	15
C.S. fluid ..	..	..	4	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	3	1	2	14	12	34	22	..	2
Cerebro-spinal-fever clearance: Swabs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Gonorrhœa ..	3	69	9	9	32	56	682	72	25	4	15	172	55	28	135	116	788	245	135	26
Ophthalmia neonatorum for gonococcus	..	..	1	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	6	2	35	..	..	1
Syphilis, spirochæta, pallidum	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	2	..	2	..	3	..	..	2	10	17	4	2	..
Syphilis, Wasserman reaction	..	159	..	..	26	..	245	136	104	..	..	454	..	..	55	..	1,040	489	297	..
Hydatid disease ..	..	7	3	..	2	1	1	9	14	1	..	..	3	2	22	6	3	26	26	6
Plague: Examination of rats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	254	8,204	..	..	844	3	2,878	71	325	54
Vincent's angina ..	..	18	..	..	15	..	11	..	..	1	..	31	..	..	9	..	4	..	..	1
Leprosy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Anthrax ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	23	..	1
Tetanus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lethargic encephalitis ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Actinomycosis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Others ..	..	4	..	..	28	..	8	4	..	3	1	26	..	1	55	..	19	1	..	8

NOTE.—This report represents only part of the work performed at the above laboratories. It does not include instructional work, investigations, or reports on specimens other than those of a public-health nature.