

*Return of Imports and Exports for the Eleven Years 1915 to 1925, inclusive.*

Year.					Imports.	Exports.	Total Value.
					£	£	£
1915	..	..	..	..	65,590	63,057	128,647
1916	..	..	..	..	58,478	68,146	126,624
1917	..	..	..	..	80,061	60,190	140,251
1918	..	..	..	..	99,632	82,708	182,340
1919	..	..	..	..	142,925	127,729	270,654
1920	..	..	..	..	177,911	94,697	272,608
1921	..	..	..	..	112,974	69,301	182,335
1922	..	..	..	..	116,726	125,802	252,528
1923	..	..	..	..	131,590	118,710	250,300
1924	..	..	..	..	138,202	154,554	292,756
1925	..	..	..	..	130,609	151,939	282,548

## MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

General health conditions in all the islands have been satisfactory during the year, the only sickness of an epidemic nature being a very mild outbreak of chicken-pox affecting Rarotonga, Aitutaki, and Mangaia.

The new out-patients' building at the Rarotonga Hospital, which contains dressing-room, dispensary, consulting-room, dental surgery, laboratory, and storeroom, is now completed, and the alterations and additions to the main hospital buildings are almost finished. These comprise new side and back verandas of a width of 18 ft., giving a floor area of 1,508 square feet, which is available for convalescents, tubercular cases, &c.; the enlarging of the operating-theatre, the provision of an additional European ward, new lavatories, bathroom, and other conveniences, together with the widening of the front veranda to 16 ft. These alterations and extensions have now given the Group a central institution well equipped and of modern design, and sufficient for the needs of the people for some years to come.

Dr. S. M. Lambert, of the International Health Board (Rockefeller Foundation), made a health survey of Rarotonga and all the Lower Group islands during the months of November, December, and January last, and his report, which is printed as an appendix to this report is a most valuable one, and will be of great help to us in dealing with hookworm, yaws, filaria, and other tropical diseases.

The removal of our lepers from all islands of the Group to the Fijian Leper-station at Makogai, where they will receive up-to-date treatment with every prospect of cure, has now been rendered possible by the recommissioning and transfer of the "Hinemoa" to the control of the Cook Islands Department. Arrangements have accordingly been completed for the transfer of these afflicted people in May of this year.

The provision of the dental clinic which opened in June last has proved of great convenience and benefit to both adults and children, the latter receiving particular attention. From June to December of last year, and from February to 31st March, the attendances totalled 1,550, involving 2,106 operations. Two local probationers are now being trained at the dental clinic in Wellington, with an arrangement that when qualified their services shall be made available to the people of the Cook Islands.

The following are extracts from the annual report of Dr. J. P. Donald, who has acted as Chief Medical Officer since Dr. Trotter's retirement last June:—

"Dr. R. S. Trotter relinquished his appointment as Chief Medical Officer in June, 1925. Dr. L. L. Burton acted as Assistant Medical Officer from June to November. We will welcome the arrival of Dr. Ellison, the newly-appointed Chief Medical Officer, in Rarotonga, early in May.

"Good service has been rendered during the year by the Matron of the Cook Islands Hospital, Miss Sisley; and by the resident nurses—Miss Walshe in Aitutaki, and Mrs. McGruther in Mangaia.

"For his work on hookworm disease Dr. S. M. Lambert has the gratitude of Maoris and Europeans, in that he has paved the way for a campaign against this disease, which is to be commenced immediately on the arrival of the necessarily large supply of drugs required for mass treatments of the whole population. Dr. Lambert's work and advice on other disease conditions, such as yaws, filariasis, &c., has also proved of great value.

"*Chicken-pox*.—In Rarotonga, between September and December, there occurred an epidemic of chicken-pox, which affected both Native and European children. The disease ran a very mild course, there being very little constitutional disturbance. Only one case was observed to show febrile symptoms, the temperature reaching 100 deg. F. In August a similar mild epidemic occurred in Aitutaki; in October and November a few cases were reported in Mangaia.

"*Enteric Fever*.—There were six cases in Rarotonga during the year, and all were admitted to hospital for the sake of isolating them. All recovered from the attack of the disease, though one died two months later from pulmonary tuberculosis, which he had contracted previous to the attack of enteric fever.

"*Tetanus*.—No cases have occurred. A number of cases of earth-infected wounds have been given prophylactic injections of anti-tetanic serum.

"*Tuberculosis—Glandular and Pulmonary*.—From the return showing causes of deaths under 'Vital Statistics' it will be seen that pulmonary tuberculosis is responsible for 39.5 per cent.; but