H.—31.

SECTION 2.—KING GEORGE V HOSPITAL, ROTORUA.

83

Dr. L. A. Lewis, Medical Superintendent; Dr. W. S. Wallis, Orthopædic Surgeon; Dr. R. G. Phillips-Turner, Assistant Medical Officer; Miss A. C. Searell, A.R.R.C., Matron.

I have the honour to present the report on this institution for the past year.

Of the 996 patients under treatment during the year, 755 were admitted suffering from general diseases as distinct from orthopædic conditions. Of the ninety-six orthopædic cases admitted during the year, thirty were suffering from the after-effects of infantile paralysis. Fifteen of these patients were the victims of the 1925 epidemic; the remainder were sporadic cases which had arisen more recently. Other conditions dealt with in the orthopædic department are, as previously, birthpalsies, congenital deformities, malunited fractures, deformities following septic and tubercular bone and joint disease.

Infectious Diseases.—Eighty-six patients were accommodated in this department during the year, and the accommodation was at no time taxed, as on previous occasions during recent years.

Theatre.—Three hundred and sixty-seven operations were performed during the year, classified as follows:—Major orthopædic operations, 33; minor orthopædic operations, 52; major ordinary operations, 95; minor ordinary operations, 143; local anæsthetics given in theatre, 31; local anæsthetics given in plaster operations, 13.

Maternity Annexe.—Eighteen accouchements were attended in this department during the year.

Nursing.—Two nurses passed the necessary examination for registration, one with honours,

Acknowledgments are made of the services of the Sunshine League, Red Cross, Women's Club, Rotorua Bowling Club, and the employees of the Perpetual Forestry Co. in providing recreation and comforts for the patients.

SECTION 3.—OTAKI SANATORIUM.

Dr. E. IRWIN, Medical Superintendent; Miss POWNALL, Matron.

During the year 114 patients were admitted; of these 7 had been away for short periods, necessitating readmission. Of the 107 patients, 2 were under twelve years of age, 21 were under twenty years of age, 70 between twenty and thirty-five years of age, 12 between thirty-five and fifty years of age, and 2 over fifty years of age: 38 were married, 2 being widows.

Country of birth: England, 15; Ireland, 2; Scotland, 2; Russia, 1; and New Zealand, 87.

Of the 87 New-Zealanders, 8 had Native blood.

Occupation previously engaged in: Domestic duties, 58; dressmakers, 3; upholsterer, 1; clerks and typists, 13; teachers, 7; nurses, 9; telegraph operator, 1; factory hand, 1; shop-assistants, 4; and schoolgirls, 10. In the case of 9 nurses, 2 showed a family history of tuberculosis.

Patients discharged, 115, 6 having been temporarily discharged for hospital treatment or home reasons. One child was admitted who proved not to be tubercular, and another patient admitted at the end of the preceding year was discharged, the diagnosis being hydatid of the lung. Those improved, 35; unimproved, 11; disease arrested, 69.

Complications of the disease have been-Hyperthroidism, 1; nephritis, 3; pelvic trouble, 2; hemorrhoids, 3; middle-ear trouble, 3; antrum trouble, 2; septic tonsils, 5; naso-pharyngeal catarrh, which has tended to retard progress, 5; pregnancy, 1; neurasthenia, 5; tubercular glands, 3; defective eyesight, 3 (remedied by specialist); tubercular knee, 1; defective teeth, 5; appendicitis, 1.

After-history reports of the 109 patients leaving the institution: 22 still under treatment; 24, disease quiescent—carrying out light duties; 55 doing definite work; 2 dead; 1 extremely ill;

2 transferred to Hanmer; 3 no information.

This year, on the whole, the type of case referred for Sanatorium treatment has been more suitable as such: Early cases, 20, comparatively early, 22; moderate, 50; and advanced, 15.

Treatment has been carried out on much the same lines as in previous years. In this year's group of cases, where there was a history obtainable, about 50 per cent. had been fed naturally as infants. Influenza appears to have been fairly common causative factor in the breakdown of health; also, in the case of the adolescent, excessive sport and dancing after the day's work, mostly in those predisposed.

Nurses have received periodic instruction by the Matron in the work generally. The educative part of the work in regard to the patients, for the most part, has been restricted to their monthly examinations. Advice is given on departure, but there is urgent need for follow-up work, the subsequent condition of living in most instances predisposing to a setback.

The post-graduate nurses visited the institution during the year, and as much information as possible was given on the Sanatorium treatment.

Farm Report.—It is pleasing to note the satisfactory results obtained from the working of the farm, under the advice of the Agricultural Advisor, carried out by the Farm Manager. The dairy herd supplying milk to the institution has been handled so as to supply plenty of first-class-quality milk all the year round. At present the butterfat test is 5.05. This has been made possible by culling the dairy herd, so that only profitable young stock which are reared on the farm are kept. It is found that a smaller number of dairy stock than previously carried can maintain the necessary supply by systematic and proper feeding, with a balanced ration. All supplementary feed for them is