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1932

TASMANIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1931

BY

E. J. TUDOR

SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, CHIEF INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES, &c.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command



TASMANIA:

WALTER E. SHIMMINS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

1932

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

1931

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SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1931.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 27th April, 1932.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present the Annual Report of the Department of Public Health for the year ended the 31st December, 1931. Owing to the urgent need which exists at the present time for exercising the strictest economy in all Departmental expenditure, the contents of the report have been restricted as far as possible to statistics which are required from year to year in order to estimate the condition of the public health.

The Department was represented at the Fifth Session of the Federal Health Council, held at Canberra on the 24th and 25th March. The Assistant Health Officer (Dr. J. F. Gaha) presented to the Council the report of an investigation into the health of children of pre-school age attending some of the free kindergartens in Tasmania, which was carried out by the Government Medical Officer (Dr. W. Inglis Clark), Dr. T. Gaha, and himself.

The position of Assistant Health Officer was abolished as from the 31st July, from which date the Government Medical Officer attached to the Department was made responsible for the duties performed hitherto by Dr. Gaha.

The new model by-laws framed under the Public Health Act have been adopted by the majority of local authorities. It is hoped that the remainder will fall into line, so that the health laws may be uniform throughout the whole State.

Regulations relating to offensive trades were enacted during the year, but certain of the provisions thereof were disallowed by the Legislative Council on the ground that they constituted unnecessary and harassing restrictions on important sections of the business community. These regulations were framed on the lines of those in operation in the other States of the Commonwealth, and they are not considered to be of a harsh nature. Moreover, every discretion was being exercised in their enforcement. This action of the legislature adds to the difficulties of the Department and local health authorities in their efforts to maintain hygienic conditions in premises used for the purposes of carrying on offensive trades.

Posters regarding infantile paralysis and the treatment of snake-bite, and a leaflet on influenza, were issued during the year for the information of the general public.

It is with much regret that I am called upon to make reference to the death of Mr. W. F. Ward,

who for many years occupied the position of Government Analyst, and in that capacity worked in close and active co-operation with the Department in the administration of the food and drugs law. The late Mr. Ward was ever ready and willing to give the Department the benefit of his advice on the many problems which, from time to time, presented themselves in the administration of this law. Mr. Ward was also a valued member of the Food Standards Committee.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

With a few exceptions, local authorities, supported by the Department, continue to maintain a reasonable standard of efficiency and progress in the discharge of their functions relating to public health services. The guidance and advice of the Department have also been sought on numerous occasions towards remedying defects of an intricate nature. I am able to record that the services thus rendered have been much appreciated.

From time to time representations have been made from various quarters that there is overlapping in connection with the administration of the public health and kindred laws, on the grounds that the Department, through its inspectors, performs work which should be undertaken by local health authorities. The position occupied by local authorities under the law is one which, while practically giving them a free hand in all questions of local administration, also enables the Public Health Department to correct, if necessary, any deficiencies in their work, and to deal with matters likely to affect injuriously the public health, should any neglect or unnecessary delay occur in applying the remedy. An extended experience of local authorities confirms the opinion, repeatedly expressed by Chief Health Officers, that material progress in public health work depends upon systematic and frequent visitation by skilled inspectors from the Department. In the main this is essential, owing to the fact that in many municipal districts the local health officer is not an active unit in health administration, and as a rule is concerned primarily with the urgent demands of private medical practice. The Public Health Act prescribes a minimum remuneration of £10 per annum for local health officers, and in far too many instances this minimum remains the maximum. The duties of a medical officer of health may often bring him into conflict with actual or prospective patients, on whom his income depends, and the miserable pittance he receives affords no protection against financial loss, neither is it a stimulus to attend

to various aspects of health administration. The question of inspectors is somewhat similar. These officers should be efficient and well trained and regarded as extremely important units of health organisation. Unfortunately in too many instances it is considered quite justifiable to appoint any person and then attach to him multifarious duties ranging from road, fruit, and rabbit inspections to the collection of dog licences, with the result that health inspection does not receive the attention which its importance demands. This is to be deplored, as there are few individuals who can so materially improve the sanitary environment of their neighbourhood as a trained and tactful sanitary inspector.

Some ten years ago, a scheme providing for the appointment of qualified district health inspectors to serve grouped municipal districts was propounded for the consideration of local authorities, but was not favourably received owing to the cost involved. In the absence of any such scheme, I am convinced that, so far as health administration is concerned, effectual supervision and control must be exercised by this Department. Designate this control as "duplication" or by any other term, the fact remains that in many instances it is the only effective method of obtaining results in the field of preventive medicine.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.—The number of cases notified was 589; the number in 1930 being 573. The deaths during 1931 totalled 19, equivalent to a case mortality rate of 3.2 per cent. The number of cases per thousand of population was 2.6.

The disease was most prevalent in the districts of Hobart (184 cases), Glenorchy (75 cases), and Esperance (71 cases). Arising out of an investigation made in the last mentioned district, the local authority was requested to adopt various precautionary measures to combat the disease. Unfortunately, immunisation against this disease is a negligible quantity. A wide field is open for this method of prevention, and it is hoped, by educating the public on the subject, which the Department proposes to do by means of a suitable film, that parents will take advantage of the means provided by medical science for securing

a considerable measure of protection for their children against this disease.

Scarlet Fever.—The notifications of this disease numbered 265—a marked decrease compared with the previous year, when 485 cases were reported. There were no deaths.

The districts in which the disease was most prevalent were Hobart (94), Launceston (26), Leven (21), and Glenorchy (16). No cases were reported from 20 districts.

Typhoid Fever.—The notifications numbered 22. There were three deaths. During recent years a remarkable decline has taken place in the incidence of this disease, due in the main to improved water supplies; the prompt removal of faecal matter and house refuse; the education of the public in personal and domestic hygiene; and the improvement which has taken place in the methods employed for the preparation, handling, and storage of foods.

Tuberculosis (All Forms).—Notifications under this heading totalled 174. There were 122 deaths. This disease still remains one of the great public health problems. It is extremely unfortunate that the present economic situation precludes the establishment in the State of an anti-tuberculosis scheme on the lines recommended by Dr. J. Bell Ferguson, State Director of Tuberculosis, Victoria.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.—There was no recurrence of this disease in epidemic form, as prevailed for the first seven months of the previous year. Eight cases only were notified during the period under review. There was one death. Since the epidemic of 1930, the Department has taken the precaution to hold a stock of serum for the treatment of patients in the preparalytic stage of the disease, and, by means of propaganda, has kept the public well informed as to the general symptoms of the disease and the need for seeking early treatment.

Puerperal Fever.—The number of cases of this disease notified, viz. 15, was below the average of the last few years. In each case a visit was paid by an officer of the Department, with the object of enforcing adequate measures of protection against the spread of infection.

Bacillary Dysentery and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—Seven cases of the former disease and three of the latter were notified during the year.

TABLE A.

RETURN showing Number of Cases of each Notifiable Infectious Disease Reported to Department of Public Health during the Year 1931, together with Comparative Figures of the Aggregate of all such Diseases for the Years 1930 and 1931.

Municipality.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Tubercu- losis.	Puerperal Fever.	Cerebro- Spinal Meningitis.	Anterior Polio-my- elitis.	Bacillary Dysen- tery.	Total 1931.	Total 1930.
1 Beaconsfield	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	4	11	5
2 Bothwell	1	...	9	1	...	1	...	...	12	9
3 Brighton	15	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	16	9
4 Brany	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	6	5
5 Campbell Town	1	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	6	9
6 Circular Head	7	1	5	2	...	...	1	...	16	7
7 Clarence	22	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	29	83
8 Deloraine	3	8	7	2	1	...	...	...	21	10
9 Devonport	3	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	12	19
10 Emu Bay	9	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	14	20
11 Esperance	71	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	75	42
12 Evandale .....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7
13 Fingal	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	5	6
14 Flinders	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	6	5
15 George Town	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	14
16 Glamorgan	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
17 Glenorchy	75	...	16	4	...	1	...	...	96	113
18 Gormanston	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
19 Green Ponds	12	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	19	5
20 Hamilton	11	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	13	39
21 Hobart	184	1	94	54	5	...	5	...	343	454
22 Huon	26	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	34	38
23 Kentish	5	...	7	3	...	...	1	...	16	19
24 Kingborough	8	...	6	2	...	...	...	...	16	27
25 King Island .....	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	3
26 Latrobe	1	...	8	3	...	...	...	...	12	16
27 Launceston	37	4	26	35	7	...	...	1	110	142
28 Leven	2	...	21	2	...	...	...	...	25	22
29 Lilydale	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	16
30 Longford .....	...	...	9	3	...	...	...	...	12	13
31 New Norfolk	17	1	8	3	...	...	...	...	29	68
32 Oatlands	18	1	5	1	...	...	...	...	25	23
33 Penguin .....	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
34 Port Cygnet	3	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	8	36
35 Portland	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
36 Queenstown .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3
37 Richmond .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2
38 Ringarooma	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	6
39 Ross .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	6
40 Scottsdale	7	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	9	12
41 Sorell	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	12
42 Spring Bay .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	6
43 St. Leonards	2	1	2	6	...	...	...	...	11	15
44 Strahan .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 Table Cape	22	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	25	45
46 Tasman	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
47 Waratah .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
48 Westbury	5	...	4	1	1	...	...	2	13	2
49 Zeehan .....	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	4	21
50 Overseas .....	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	5
TOTAL CASES.....	589	22	265	174	15	3	8	7	1083	1430

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Statistical information in respect of these diseases is appended (Tables B to D). It will be observed, upon reference to Table D, which gives the cases reported each year since the inception of the law in 1918, that, during the past few years there has been a marked progressive reduction in notification. Whilst the incidence of these diseases may be greater than is recorded

by notification, the statistics for the period under review must be regarded as satisfactory. As notification of the disease is given by number only, there should be no reluctance on the part of medical practitioners to forward the prescribed information to the Department. Apart from its value for statistical purposes, notification has very little significance, as communal preventive methods cannot be applied, as is the case with infectious diseases.

TABLE C.

HOSPITALS ACT.

RETURN showing Marital Status of Cases of Venereal Diseases reported to the Public Health Department for the Year 1931.

	Male.		Female.		Total.		Grand Total.
	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	
Gonorrhoea	43	106	12	40	55	146	201
Gleet	4	1	...	...	4	1	5
Syphilis	4	9	10	2	14	11	25
Chancre	1	...	1	...	2	...	2
Gonorrhoea and Syphilis .....	...	1	3	2	3	3	6
Gonorrhoea and Ophthalmia .....	...	1	...	...	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	2	...	...	2	2	2
Total	52	120	26	44	78	164	242

Public Hospitals.—At the present time, when many of our public hospitals are financially embarrassed, owing to the economic situation, there is a pressing need for devising ways and means whereby boards of management may carry on their work free from the incubus of increasing debt and be all the better equipped for their duties because relieved from the constant anxiety of inadequate means.

The wonderful improvement in the financial position of the public hospitals in Great Britain and other countries since the war is in large measure due to contributory schemes, which have become a generally recognised source of hospital support. In my opinion, our hospitals must look to an assured source of income, which can be derived under these schemes, if they are to carry on their work satisfactorily and extend their scope to meet the steadily increasing demand for their services. Prominent among the advantages of contributory schemes are the regularity of their income and the opportunities which they afford of increasing the interest of those who use the hospitals, and giving them an active share in the management of the institutions. Another advantage is that they enable men and women in receipt of regular wages or income to save while in health for the hospitals, and to pool their savings, so that they may collectively reimburse the hospitals for services rendered to individuals among them, and may be relieved from expense when they are sick and have comparatively little or no money coming in. The key-note of such a scheme is co-operation; for by this means the hospitals and those who look to them in time of sickness can co-operate to their mutual advantage. The subject merits the widest possible consideration in connection with any proposal to review the present system of financing our public hospitals.

Private Hospitals.—The conduct and management of private hospitals are generally satisfactory. Matters which demand attention inevitably arise from time to time, but in a few instances only has this been the case. These institutions serve a most useful purpose and make much needed provision, which it would be difficult to secure in any other way.

The following table gives details regarding private hospitals:—

TABLE E.

RETURN of Private Hospital Licences Issued during the Year 1931.

	No. of Licences Issued.	Medical, Surgical, & Lying-in.	Medical & Surgical Only.	Lying-in Only.
Hobart	10	1	2	7
Launceston	9	...	2	7
Country	48	10	1	37
	67	11	5	51

TABLE D.
RETURN showing Number of Cases of Venereal Disease reported to Department of Public Health during Each Year since the Inception of the Act in 1918.

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
No. of Cases	356	488	419	473	357	384	516	460	413	376	300	386	324	242

MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE AND INFANTILE MORTALITY.

In its construction, the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme has undergone no change since its inception in the year 1918.

The Child Welfare Association (Hobart) and the Baby Health Association (Launceston), supported by financial and other assistance from the Government, continue to take a leading part in the scheme, and are to be commended, for what they have done and are doing in relation to maternity and child welfare. This particular feature of social reform is one of the greatest boons given during recent years. The clinics and welfare centres have done a great deal to reduce sickness and suffering, and, when the improved infantile mortality statistics are taken

into consideration, the cost at which this progress has been made is comparatively small. Money spent in such a cause can never be said to have been wasted.

Reports submitted by the nurses in charge at the Hobart and Launceston Clinics are detailed in Appendix IV.

Infantile Mortality.—The infantile mortality rate for the year was 46.06, the lowest on record. So far as age and causation are concerned, conditions vary very little from year to year. The greatest number of deaths occurred in the early weeks of life, whilst the outstanding causes of death and the proportions traceable to them were those usually noted.

Tables F to I, containing statistical data in regard to infantile mortality, are appended.

TABLE F.

INFANTILE Mortality.

Number of Deaths under One Year in Tasmania for the last 20 Calendar Years.

	Year.																			
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Deaths.....	393	417	431	422	423	281	321	343	374	451	324	326	296	287	232	256	300	255	242	219

Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1000 Births.)

Year.	Tasmania.	N.S.W.	Victoria	Queens- land.	South Australia.	West Australia.	New Zealand.	North. Tory.	Federal Cap. Ter.	Co'mon- wealth.
1922.....	55.7	53.6	53.4	50.4	47.5	55.6	41.9	...	...	52.7
1923.....	57.6	60.7	65.7	54.0	60.3	56.0	43.8	...	...	60.5
1924.....	55.0	58.9	61.3	51.2	51.3	49.9	40.2	...	...	57.0
1925.....	55.0	55.0	57.0	45.2	46.1	56.6	40.0	...	...	53.4
1926.....	46.5	57.6	55.7	50.7	44.3	49.3	39.8	...	...	54.0
1927.....	53.0	54.9	56.1	54.5	53.4	45.9	38.7	...	...	54.5
1928.....	63.9	54.9	55.6	45.5	47.5	48.1	36.2	60.2	116.7	53.0
1929.....	53.1	56.6	47.2	46.1	40.9	56.2	34.1	18.9	19.6	51.1
1930.....	50.6	49.8	46.5	40.2	48.3	46.7	34.5	70.4	24.4	47.2
1931.....	46.0	43.5	44.5	36.6	36.5	41.5	32.2	83.3	37.3	42.1

TABLE G.
TASMANIA.

TABLE showing the Principal Causes of Deaths of Children under 1 Year of Age in Tasmania in each Year from 1922 to 1931.

Causes of Deaths.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
7. Measles .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
8. Scarlet Fever, &c .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Whooping Cough	6	...	9	23	1	...	19	11	3	8
10. Diphtheria and Croup .....	...	1	2	1	1	1	1	...	1	...
Other Epidemic Diseases	4	2	2	1	1	2	...	2	...	1
22. Tetanus .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Tubercular Meningitis	3	3	...	1	2	...	2	1	1	2
34. Syphilis	4	6	6	3	1	...	3	2	1	1
86. Convulsions	11	9	9	7	5	7	4	1	2	3
106. Bronchitis	4	10	5	3	1	5	5	1	3	1
107. Broncho-pneumonia	12	20	19	15	5	11	15	12	4	13
108, 109. Pneumonia	20	23	24	20	13	14	24	27	12	8
119. Gastro-Enteritis, Diarrhoea, and Enteritis	37	35	16	29	30	31	37	21	23	12
118. Other Diseases of the Stomach	4	9	1	1	...	3	1	2	1	1
157. Congenital Defects	36	29	28	20	19	17	17	31	28	23
159, 160. Premature Birth and Injury at Birth	132	132	97	89	91	101	101	72	100	86
158. Debility, Marasmus	47	47	37	29	26	34	30	25	16	16
161. Diseases of Early Infancy	25	17	8	8	13	22	14	17	20	14
Other Causes	26	29	22	29	20	16	20	25	18	30
Total	324	326	296	287	232	256	300	255	242	219
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 Births)	55.7	57.6	55.0	55.0	46.5	53.0	63.9	53.1	50.6	46.0
Total Births	5817	5657	5383	5218	4988	4833	4691	4797	4785	4762

TABLE H.

(Showing Ages and Causes of Death under 1 year—1931.)

Causes of Death.	Under 1 month.	1 month and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 1 year.	Total.
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	5	3	8
Influenza .....	...	1	...	...	1
Tubercular Meningitis .....	...	1	1	...	2
Syphilis .....	...	...	...	1	1
Diseases of Thyroid Gland	1	...	...	...	1
Diseases of Thymus Gland	1	...	...	...	1
Haemorrhagic Diatheses	3	...	...	...	3
Anæmia other than Pernicious .....	...	...	...	1	1
Alcæmia .....	...	...	...	1	1
Simple Meningitis .....	...	1	...	3	4
Non-epidemic Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .....	...	...	...	1	1
Diseases of Spinal Cord .....	...	...	1	...	1
Convulsions	2	...	1	...	3
Acute Myocarditis .....	...	...	...	1	1
Bronchitis	1	...	...	...	1
Broncho-Pneumonia	5	2	2	3	12
Capillary Bronchitis .....	...	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia	4	...	3	1	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	...	...	...	1
Diseases of Buccal Cavity	1	...	...	...	1
Diseases of Stomach .....	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1	1	3	7	12
Acute Yellow Atrophy of Liver	1	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	3	...	...	...	3
Other Diseases of the Kidneys	1	1	...	...	2
Diseases of Skin .....	...	2	...	...	2
Congenital Malformations	18	5	...	...	23
Congenital Debility	10	4	1	1	16
Premature Birth	62	1	1	...	64
Injury at Birth	22	...	...	...	22
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	13	1	...	...	14
Infanticide	1	...	...	...	1
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation	2	1	1	...	4
Violent Death, Nature Unknown	1	...	...	...	1
Total	154	21	20	24	219

TABLE I.

Comparative Figures of Principal Causes of Deaths under One Year during 1927-1931.

Causes of Death.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Whooping Cough .....	...	19	11	3	8
Convulsions	7	4	1	2	3
Bronchitis	5	5	1	3	1
Broncho-pneumonia	11	15	12	4	13
Pneumonia	14	24	27	12	8
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	31	37	21	23	12
Congenital Debility	26	34	30	25	16
Syphilis .....	...	3	2	1	1
Malformations	17	17	31	28	23
Prematurity and Injury at Birth	101	101	72	100	86
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	22	14	17	20	14

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Buildings which come within the purview of this law have been inspected by departmental officers during the course of sanitary surveys carried out in municipal districts. Very little fault can be found with the principal places of public entertainment, which are maintained in a condition that reflects much credit upon those concerned. The position regarding halls in various rural municipalities is not so satisfactory, and in several instances the attention of those concerned has been directed to the need for remedying structural and sanitary defects, in order to provide for the safety, health, or convenience of the public. Unfortunately, in one particular instance, the principal offender is the local Council, whose attitude seriously handicaps the Department in enforcing any necessary requirement in connection with privately-owned halls in its district. It is obvious that, if a local authority itself is in default in this matter, it cannot very well take action against private individuals.

Film Censorship.—The term of appointment of members of the Censor Board expired on the 28th November, and they were appointed for a further period of twelve months. The personnel of the Board is as follows:—

The Secretary for Public Health (Mr. E. J. Tudor), Chairman.

The Secretary for Education (Mr. W. Wright).

The Secretary, Police Department (Mr. E. P. Andrewartha).

Mrs. A. Brough.

Mrs. V. L. Rowland.

Applications for the registration of 387 films were submitted to the Board. In dealing with 30 of these applications, the Board required the applicant to screen the films for its inspection, with the following results:—

21 films were passed unconditionally for registration;

8 films were passed, after eliminations had been made;

1 film was rejected.

Members of the Picture Censor Board deplore the low moral tone of many of the featured films shown to-day. No matter where produced, those responsible appear able to conceive of few themes other than—

(1) Those with a prominent sex immorality atmosphere.

(2) Stories of the criminal world.

(3) Monstrosities of the "Frankenstein" type.

All these appeal to dominant elemental emotions, which need controlling rather than cultivating. Unfortunately, this type of picture attracts because of its sensual appeal and because it requires no mental effort for its appreciation. And yet, from the large audiences which a good picture nearly always attracts, one would think producers would learn a lesson.

The Censor Board finds it useless to excise the more than usually salacious or undesirable bits from a picture. The fault lies not only in the scenes depicted or dialogue spoken, but in the whole theme of the story. If the Board banned every film that it considered low in tone, judging

by the Board's own personal standards of what is desirable and worthy, a large number would not be permitted to pass.

While deploring this low tone evident in many of the films, the Board must pay tribute to the quite numerous commendable ones that have been shown. Indeed, the big successes of the past few years have been films of good moral standard, although they may have had a sex atmosphere. These have depicted in various ways persons possessing strong characters, with well-balanced minds, people living clean lives as the term is known and understood, love stories with pronounced deep affection of a worthy man for a good woman, plays spiced with acts of bravery and chivalry, and settings here and there interspersed with dashes of pathos, all of which large audiences view silently, absorbing all points of the stories with unmistakable appreciation and enjoyment. We have had reproduced for us the art of many fine actors and actresses, to such a delightful extent that probably the good at least equals the bad.

It has to be pointed out that, before the State Board operates, all the films have passed either the Commonwealth Board or the Appeal Board, so they may be said to have satisfied an Australian standard. The real truth is that, through Censor Boards alone, little can be done to improve matters, unless we are prepared to refuse registration to all pictures that are not thoroughly healthy. This step would undoubtedly cripple the industry in Australia, but might result eventually in the production of a better and cleaner type of story. To take such a step would require uncommon courage, and need the backing of the public, and a strong faith in the belief that the needs of Australia are important enough to be catered for by those who control an institution that has undoubted influence on present day character, because it has come to provide for the leisure of so large a portion of the community.

After a perusal of film literature, it can be said that pictures shown in Australia are far less objectionable than those shown in other countries. To this extent, Censor Boards have justified their existence.

Although it has no jurisdiction over advertisements which appear in the press in connection with the exhibition of films, the Board wishes to record that, from time to time, complaints are received regarding the objectionable nature of many of these advertisements. In the opinion of the Board, these complaints are fully justified, and show the need for some control over public advertisements of films.

Cinematograph Operators' Licences.—Seventy-four of these licences (59 full and 15 provisional) were issued during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

An active policy has been pursued in connection with the administration of this law, in view of the necessity for maintaining standards of purity and quality in foods and drugs. Good work has been accomplished by inspectors, who, in the execution of their duties under this law, furnish information to many inquirers, especially manufacturers, who, knowing of the existence of the legislation, seek advice before entering upon new enterprises.

Regulations.—Under date the 26th May, 1931, the standard of strength for brandy and whisky (Regulation No. 71) was amended to read as follows:—

“Brandy, not more than thirty-five degrees underproof.

Whisky, not more than thirty-five degrees underproof.”

Regulation 6 (Statement of Weight or Measure) was also amended in certain directions.

Meat Inspection.—It is to be regretted that more facilities do not exist for meat inspection. In the cities and a few other centres this is generally satisfactory, but in many districts facilities for inspection either do not exist or are so meagre as to be virtually non-existent. The value of meat inspection at the time of slaughter, as a protection to the public against diseased meat, is very important, and local authorities should make an effort to remedy existing conditions by (a) establishing public slaughter-houses or abattoirs in central positions in their districts, and (b) providing facilities to admit of health inspectors becoming qualified to undertake the inspection of the meat.

Mutton-Bird Industry.—In continuation of the policy adopted for some years past, supervision over the mutton-bird industry was again exercised by an officer of the Department. This work has been responsible for much improvement in the preparation of the birds for human consumption.

Substitutes for Butter.—During the month of June, food products known as “Maypole” and “Cobar,” which could be used as substitutes for butter, were offered for sale in various centres. The analytical examination of samples of these preparations revealed that the same came within the definition of “Margarine,” but that they were not standard margarines which might be lawfully sold. The subsequent action taken by the Department was instrumental in having these products withdrawn from the market.

Milk and Milk Products.—Close attention has been directed to the milk supply, with the object of protecting the consumer from risk of infection by disease and ensuring that he shall get milk of a satisfactory, unadulterated, nutritive value.

Collaborative work has been performed with the Department of Agriculture, in connection with the Dairy Produce Act.

Food Sampling.—Appendix V. gives particulars of samples examined by the Government Analyst. In addition, departmental officers gave advice to the public on various foodstuffs, in respect of which some doubt existed as to fitness for human consumption.

BUSH NURSING.

The report of the Supervisory Nurse under this heading, which will be found in Appendix III., contains detailed information relative to the activities of bush nurses during the year. The work performed compares very favourably with the services rendered in previous years.

Unfortunately, the existing financial stringency necessitated a reduction in the salaries of the nurses; the liability of local committees being reduced by £20 per annum as from the 1st June, whilst a further reduction of £10 was made from the 1st November. With the exception of the Adamsfield centre, where the nurse receives £215 per annum, on account of the high cost of living,

each bush nurse is now in receipt of a salary of £170 per annum. Owing to the reduced amount of interest derived from the Red Cross Bush Nursing Trust Fund, the liability of the Northern and Southern Bush Nursing Associations towards the salaries of the nurses has increased. This liability, together with various other expenditure met by the associations, is a heavy drain upon the financial resources of these bodies. It is recognised that every effort should be made at the present time to safeguard the value of the work already performed and that the most careful consideration must be given to any extension of this service, which would impose extra burdens upon those concerned.

FACTORIES ACT.

Registration of Factories.—The number of factories registered with this Department at the close of the year was 1177, as compared with 1204 for the previous year.

Fees.—The sum of £413 1s. 6d. was received in fees for the registration of factories.

Persons Employed in Factories.—From statistics prepared from returns furnished by occupiers of factories during the period under review, it was ascertained that there were 8531 persons employed in factories. Of this number, 6511 were males and 2020 females.

Horse-Power of Machinery Used in Factories.—Machinery used in the various factories throughout the State equalled 78,046 horse-power.

Factory Hygiene.—Seventy-seven requisitions were served on occupiers of factories throughout the State to rectify various defects.

WAGES BOARDS ACT.

The following Wages Boards amended their Determinations during the year:—Bakers, Barristers and Solicitors, Bootmakers, Brickmakers, Builders and Painters, Butchers, Butter and Cheesemakers, Cement-makers, City Councils and Marine Boards, Country Municipal Councils and Marine Boards, Country Storekeepers, Cycle-makers, Electrical Engineers, Electrolytic Zinc, Fuel Merchants, Hairdressers, Hotelkeepers, Insurance, Mechanical Engineers and Founders, Motor Garage, Plumbers, Printers, Produce Merchants, Quarrymen, Retail Grocers, Shipping Trade, Softgoods, Tanners, Textile, Threshers, Wholesale Grocers.

Apprentices.—Six licences were issued to apprentices, who were unable to complete their term of apprenticeship before attaining the age of 21 years.

Improvers.—Five improvers' licences were issued.

Aged, Slow, and Infirm Workers.—Licences to the number of 33 were granted to persons who, by reason of age, slowness, or infirmity, were unable to earn the minimum wage.

Arrears of Wages.—The sum of £395 17s. 9d. was secured to employees as arrears of wages.

SHOPS ACT.

Small Shops.—Small shops to the number of 791 were registered during the year. Fees amounting to £398 5s. were received on account of these registrations.

Small Shop Assistants.—Three hundred and three licences were issued to assistants in small shops. The sum of £73 2s. 6d. was received in fees under this heading.

Tobacco Licences.—The number of licences issued to persons to sell tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes totalled 1708. The sum of £831 5s. was received in respect of such licences.

Newsvendors' Licences.—Seventy-two licences were issued to persons to sell newspapers, magazines, periodicals, and stamps. The sum of £35 was received in fees for such licences.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

Many claims for compensation were settled by the Department without recourse to law. This was due to the particular provision of the statute which empowers the Chief Inspector, in any case in which he considers it desirable so to do, to enter into negotiations with an employer for the settlement of any claim for compensation, or of any question arising in relation thereto, at the request and on behalf of a worker.

STAMP DUTIES ACT.

Active measures were taken towards the enforcement of the provisions of that portion of the Stamp Duties Act relating to the payment of stamp duty on receipts for salary or wages.

An amount of £32,702 18s. 10d. was received by the Department from employers authorised to make payment at monthly intervals of a sum equal to the total amount of stamp duty payable by employees.

Inspections to the number of 4597 were made throughout the State by officers of the Department for the purpose of checking the payment of stamp duty on receipts held by employers. These inspections resulted in stamp duty to the value of £810 3s. 5d. being affixed to receipts not conforming with the requirements of the law. Proceedings were instituted in only two cases for offences against the Act, those concerned having received a warning previously.

I have, &c.,

E. J. TUDOR,

Secretary for Public Health and
Chief Inspector of Factories.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 31st March, 1932.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report of the work performed by the inspectorial staff of the Department during the year ended the 31st December, 1931.

It was found necessary to reallocate the districts owing to officers having to carry out inspections under the Factories Act and other industrial laws in conjunction with public health work. Under this arrangement, one officer attended to all activities of the Department, so far as actual inspections were concerned, in his own district, thus effecting a saving in travelling expenses.

Stamp Duties Act.

Considerable time was spent in checking receipts and explaining the provisions of the Stamp Duties Act to both employers and employees. The numerous breaches detected were chiefly due to ignorance of the law and were generally settled without the need for instituting legal proceedings.

Sanitary Surveys.

The majority of municipalities were visited at least once during the year in order to comply with the provisions of Section 92 of the Public Health Act. These sanitary surveys are very helpful to local inspectors, as many important sanitary problems are discussed and advice given by departmental officers.

Careful inspections are made with a view to ascertaining if any nuisances or sanitary defects exist, and measures are formulated to enforce the provisions of the Act. The necessity for regular sanitary surveys is especially noticeable in districts where the local inspector is concerned with other activities on behalf of his Council and has little time to devote to public health work.

Meat Inspection Demonstrations.

Owing to the increase in the Department's activities, the staff was unable to continue the meat inspection demonstration work commenced during the previous year. Several requests were made for the continuance of this important work, and, as soon as practicable, efforts will be made to comply.

Food and Drugs.

Two hundred and thirty-six samples of foods and drugs were procured by the staff for analytical examination. Ten were found to be adulterated (approximately 4 per cent.). Five prosecutions were recommended, two of which were adjourned *sine die*. Convictions were obtained in all cases undertaken, and fines amounting to £16 16s. were inflicted. In accordance with existing practice, warnings for slight breaches of the law were issued in five cases. Several consignments of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for consumption.

Rat Extermination.

The following is a record of work carried out by the rat-catcher employed by the Department:—

Poisoned baits laid on wharves, piers, and water frontage	88,500
(Of these, 37,355 were rejected—approximately 42 per cent.)	
Traps set	18,068
Rats caught	4,292
(Of these, 685 were caught in shops, warehouses, &c., and the balance came from wharves and piers on the foreshores.)	

Pollution of Water Supplies.

Owing to pollution of various streams utilised for domestic water supplies, a large number of inspections had to be made in various parts of the State. The chief contributing cause was the sawdust from timber mills. These establishments are generally located on the banks of rivers, creeks, &c., and, where satisfactory arrangements are not made for the disposal of the sawdust, it gravitates in stormy weather into the nearest stream.

Local authorities have power to make by-laws to enforce the cleansing, and prevent the polluting or defiling, of watercourses, streams, or lakes. Action on these lines has already been taken by two municipalities, and it is expected that others will follow.

By-Products Building—Derwent Park.

The Department investigated complaints received from the Glenorchy Council and others as to offensive odours emanating from the Hobart Corporation's Abattoir at Derwent Park. An investigation revealed the presence of insanitary conditions at the by-products building, which is located in the area vested in the Hobart City Council. The Council was requested to take adequate measures to abate the nuisance, and to prevent a recurrence thereof.

Dairies.

Several conferences were held with the Chief Dairy Officer of the Agricultural Department with the object of deciding upon uniform methods in regard to the inspection of dairies by officers of both Departments. Subsequently, a few dairies were inspected, in conjunction with the Chief Dairy Officer, to test the efficiency or otherwise of the score cards, which had been provided to assist officers in carrying out their inspectorial duties.

Places of Public Entertainment and Public Buildings.

A number of plans and specifications of new buildings, and providing for alterations to existing buildings, were submitted for approval during the year. Numerous inspections were made, in conjunction with officers of the Hobart City Council, in connection with applications for the licensing of rooms for dancing and other forms of amusement. In many instances, extensive structural alterations and additions had to be insisted upon, in order that the buildings might comply with the Regulations under the Places of Public Entertainment Act.

I have, &c.,

J. RILEY, Chief Inspector.

The Secretary for Public Health.

APPENDIX II.

Department of Public Health,
Bacteriological Laboratory,
Hobart, 26th January, 1932.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to subjoin details of the work performed at the Department's Laboratory during the year ended 31st December, 1931.

The total number of specimens forwarded from all parts of the State was 12,017.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE HADDOW, Government Bacteriologist.

The Secretary for Public Health.

Nature of Specimen.	No. of Specimens.	No. Positive.
Swabs for diphtheria bacillus	9,980	996
Sputum for tubercular bacillus	934	323
Urine for tubercular bacillus	25	—
Cerebro-spinal fluid for tubercular bacillus	1	—
Widals' test for typhoid	9	—
Fæces for typhoid bacillus	2	—
Bile for typhoid bacillus	1	—
Urine for casts, blood, pus, &c.	263	—
Smears for gonococcus	651	35
Eye smears for gonococcus	16	2
Urine for gonococcus	4	—
Vaccines	5	—
Pathological	17	—
Miscellaneous	109	—
Total	12,017	1,356

APPENDIX III.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 31st March, 1932.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report of Bush Nursing work performed during the year ended 31st December, 1931.

For six weeks 17 centres were operating, 16 being still active at the close of the year.

A new centre (Waratah) was opened under the control of the Mt. Bischoff Hospital Board, and Sister Adams, formerly of Stanley, was appointed thereto. This Board had previously managed the hospital, but, owing to the closing of the mine and a large number of men leaving the district, a shortage of funds occurred, together with a decrease in the number of patients treated, which no longer justified the expense of maintaining the institution as a hospital. A doctor is resident in one part of the

hospital, whilst the bush nurse occupies another portion. A fair number of cases are treated at the casualty department.

The Blessington centre closed on the 31st March. This was decided upon owing to shortage of funds, due mainly to the residents not contributing the quota which was deemed necessary. Increased means of transport has made it fairly easy for patients in this district to be taken to a doctor or hospital.

Three changes have occurred in the nursing staff. In April, Sister Munck, who had given many years' valuable service in the Tullah centre, resigned, owing to her approaching marriage; Sister H. J. Cadger being appointed in her stead. Sister Adams resigned from Waratah in July, when Sister D. Bramich was appointed. Sister Treahy also resigned in July from the Marrawah centre, Sister L. Iles assuming the position there.

The following is a summarised statement of work performed in all centres during the period under review:—

SUMMARY of Work done during the Year ending 1931.

Centre.	Visits to Nurse.	Visits to Patients.	Nursing Days.	Maternity Cases.	Child Welfare.	School Visits.	Mileage.	Fees Earned.	Number of Hospital Beds.
								£ s. d.	
Adamsfield	614	339	27	3	148	1	356	72 15 11	2
Avoca	65	351	...	6	142	10	799	39 4 6	...
Blessington* ...	20	5	2	...	38	2	544	2 0 6	...
Bruny Island ...	2	47	72	5	30	5	718	36 18 3	...
Burnie .....	...	106	175	15	2364	...	2585	63 12 0	...
Cygnet	1	229	57	17	99	12	811	52 13 6	...
Flinders Island ..	109	147	138	9	78	8	1133	97 6 6	...
Lilydale	296	292	18	4	53	5	2204	115 19 7	...
Marrawah	200	485	133	6	240	15	3160	120 3 5	2
Onse	76	217	139	14	43	7	399	146 13 11	1
Rosebery	1128	1167	12	7	324	7	1817	...	2
Spring Bay ...	59	221	15	6	244	6	425	48 4 6	...
Swansea	186	1035	2	20	289	1	754	130 12 11	...
Tasman	51	219	93	13	263	15	5915	126 12 6	4
Tullah ...	1906	737	30	5	273	5	458	...	2
Ulverstone .....	...	520	109	33	904	8	3457	97 0 7	...
Waratah †	218	384	24	22	170	2	555	52 19 6	2
Total	4931	6501	1046	185	5702	109	26,090	...	...

* Closed 31st March, 1931.

† Opened 16th February, 1931.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary for Public Health

C. ALICE STAMMER, Supervisory Nurse.

APPENDIX IV.

Department of Public Health,
Hobart, 2nd April, 1932.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the child welfare report for the year ended 31st December, 1931, which deals with the work performed at the welfare centres at 5A Elizabeth-street (central clinic); 26 Strahan-street (North Hobart branch); Albert-road, Moonah (Moonah branch); Main-road, Glenorchy (Glenorchy branch).

During the year nine student nurses from the Mothercraft Home have attended at the central clinic, in their turn, for two weeks' experience in district work.

Classes.—Seven classes of girls from the State schools have attended the clinics for a course in mothercraft and infant hygiene, and a class of girl guides also attended. By arrangement with 7ZL, lectures on child welfare were broadcast each week. The "Illustrated Tasmanian Mail" has been supplied with articles for publication.

Correspondence.—One hundred and thirty-seven letters have been sent to country mothers in reply to enquiries regarding the feeding and care of baby; 212 leaflets of advice to mothers have been posted to mothers of new-born babes; 70 mothers in necessitous circumstances have been supplied with milk free of charge.

Creches at the Hobart Show and Regatta Grounds were conducted as in previous years.

SUMMARY of the Work of the Nurses.

	Visits to Individual New-born Babies.	Subsequent Visits to Mothers.	Visits to Expectant Mothers.	Individual Babies Attending.	Total Babies Attending.	Total Expectant Mothers Attending.
Hobart Centre ...	352	3720	105	914	7007	140
North Hobart Centre ...	263	1354	29	298	2686	54
Moonah Centre ...	166	1354	45	297	3058	73
Glenorchy Centre ...	34	215	8	77	622	6
Total ...	815	6602	187	1586	13,373	273

I have, &c.,

The Secretary for Public Health.

C. BONNILY, Nurse-in-Charge.

Baby Health Association,
Launceston, 11th April, 1932.

Baby Health Clinic.

SIR,

THE following are the numbers for the year 1931:—

Number of visits paid to the Launceston Clinic	9,401
Number of visits paid to the Invermay Clinic	1,364
Number of visits paid to the Newstead Clinic	1,186

Total attendances at Clinics 11,951

Number of New Babies at the Launceston Clinic	400
Number of New Babies at the Invermay Clinic	86
Number of New Babies at the Newstead Clinic	44

Total New Babies at Clinics 530

Number of visits paid to homes by Sisters	2,935
Number of New Babies visited in homes	747
Number of Expectant Mothers visited in homes	61

New Babies.—Out of 530 new babies, 456 were wholly or partially breast fed, and 74 were artificially fed when first brought to the clinics. Two hundred and ninety-three were normal healthy babies, 44 were premature, and the rest consisted of babies who were undernourished or suffering from overfeeding, indigestion, and other minor upsets.

Expectant Mothers.—There have been 241 visits from expectant mothers at the clinics during 1931, and 61 have been visited in their own homes.

Letters.—Two hundred and fifty-eight letters, with literature enclosed, have been written to mothers seeking advice, and letters have been received from all parts of the State. An article dealing with Child Welfare has been published each week in the "Courier."

Literature.—Pamphlets dealing with the feeding of babies and older children, the prevention of diarrhoea, suggestions for expectant mothers, &c., have been freely distributed. "The Expectant Mother and Baby's First Month," "The Feeding and Care of the Baby," and patterns for baby clothes, have been sold when required.

Mothercraft.—Lectures and examinations have been given to schoolgirls from the following colleges and State schools:—Methodist Ladies' College, Broadland House, Wellington Square State School, Glen Dhu, Invermay, Charles-street, and East Launceston. These lectures include the instruction of the girls in the feeding and care of the baby, the bathing and clothing of baby, and infant hygiene. Lectures have also been given to Girl Guides and Mothers' Unions during the year.

Broadcasting.—We thank 7LA for their courtesy in allowing a weekly talk on mothercraft to be broadcast. This is an excellent way of educating the public, and we have had many expressions of appreciation from mothers who have listened in.

Kariol and Karilac.—1104 lb. of Kariol and Karilac and 1760 lb. of Karilac have been sold during the year, to be used in the preparation of modified milk.

Milk from an approved dairy has been distributed to necessitous cases, averaging 15 families weekly. Kariol and Karilac have also been given when the need has arisen.

I have, &c.,

O. M. GREEN, Nurse-in-Charge.

The Secretary for Public Health.

APPENDIX V.

Return of Samples of Foodstuffs Examined in Government Laboratory in 1931.

Butter	370
Baking powder and self-raising flour	11
Cereals	11
Confectionery	22
Cordials	9
Cream and condensed milk	48
Drugs and chemicals	14
Essences	7
Fish in tins	20
Fruit and pulp	49
Margarine	12

Meat and sausages	13
Milk (cows)	427
Milk (human)	24
Oils and fats	16
Poisons	35
Sauces and condiments	9
Spirits and wines	22
Tea, coffee, and cocoa	16
Vinegar	7
Water	17
Sundries	7

Total 1,167

Butter.

Thirty-five samples of butter intended for export were found to contain over 16 per cent. of water, but in nearly all cases the excess was less than 1 per cent. Eleven samples contained boric acid.

Milk.

Twenty-five samples were found to be deficient. Thirteen of these were proved to be definitely adulterated with water, the two worst cases being 24 per cent. and 26 per cent., while five were classed as of doubtful quality and four were deficient in fat, in one case to the extent of 14 per cent. of the minimum required. The deficient samples represent 5.3 per cent. of the total, a further slight improvement on last year's 5.9 per cent.

Cream.

Four samples were deficient in milk fat to the extent of from 7 per cent. to 18 per cent.

Fish.

Four samples of sardines contained metallic tin, derived from the container, in excess of the amount allowed.

Fruit.

A sample of apples for export was found to contain $\frac{1}{2}$ grain per lb. of arsenic, the surface of the apples being liberally spotted with the arsenate of lead from the spray.

Oils and Fats.

Two samples of ghee from ships' stores were found not to consist entirely of fat from the milk of domestic animals, but contained vegetable fats. Fats evidently intended for use as butter substitutes, under the names of "Cobar" and "Maypole Special," were found to contain no starch, but contained fat other than milk fat. It was decided that these must comply with the regulations for margarine.

Sausages.

Two samples of sausages contained an excess of starch to the extent of 8 per cent. and 13 per cent. of the maximum allowed.

The quality of sausages usually sold here is, in my opinion, very poor. They frequently contain five to six times as much water as they do proteins, whereas most meats contain less than four times as much water as protein.

The protein in lean meats is about 16 to 20 per cent., whereas sausages frequently contain as little as 10 per cent. A dye intended for colouring sausage skins proved not to be a permitted colour, and its use was disallowed.

Essences.

Three samples of essence of lemon were slightly deficient in oil of lemon.

Water.

Water from the laboratory tap was examined in August, and proved to be of highly satisfactory purity.

Wines.

A "claret cup" examined in connection with police enquiries contained 5.1 per cent. of proof spirit.

E. WARD, Government Analyst.

The Secretary for Public Health.

APPENDIX VI.

Public Health Department,
Hobart, 20th April, 1932.

SIR,

THE NURSES' REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

We have the honour to submit the following report bearing upon the administration of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1927.

Applications for Registration.

General nurses—	
Number of applications	70
Number accepted	69
Number refused	1
Midwifery nurses—	
Number of applications	52
Number accepted	51
Number refused	1

Applications for Renewal of Registration.

General nurses	229
Midwifery nurses	245

Trainees.

The pupil nurses who commenced training during the year numbered 79. Of these ten resigned, two were dismissed, and one died.

Examinations.

The Board conducted four examinations for registration as general and midwifery nurses—two at Hobart and two at Launceston. Fifty-one persons presented themselves for examination in general nursing. Of these 43 passed the necessary examination, four failed, two applications were refused, and two withdrawn. In the midwifery section, 45 persons presented themselves for examination. Forty passed and five failed.

Educational examinations for intending trainees were arranged on four occasions. Thirty-four applications were received for these examinations, and of these 17 passed, 16 failed, and one was withdrawn.

Inspections.

The Supervisory Nurse attached to the Public Health Department carried out 560 inspections in connection with the practice of midwifery nurses.

We have, &c.,

W. INGLIS CLARK, Chairman.
E. J. TUDOR, Secretary.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

APPENDIX VII.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Statistical and General.

Population:

Estimated on the 31st December, 1931—

Males	110,696
Females	112,694

Total 223,390

Mean population 1931 (for whole year)—

Males	108,994
Females	110,952

Total 219,946

Mean population 1930 (for the whole year) 216,493

Increase for the year 3,453

The population of the State, as shown by the figures, reveals an increase of 3,453.

Commonwealth Birth-rate for the Year 1931 Per 1000 Persons Living.

(As compared with previous year and a year in the previous decade.)

	1921.	1930.	1931.
New South Wales	25.93	20.94	19.01
Victoria	23.16	18.56	16.88
Queensland	26.64	20.14	18.62
South Australia	24.08	17.19	15.56
West Australia	23.39	21.98	20.32
Tasmania	26.98	22.10	21.65
Northern Territory	20.23	15.27	15.68
Federal Capital Territory	10.87	18.66	18.68
Commonwealth	24.95	19.93	18.23

Death Rates for 1931 Per 1000 Persons Living.

(As compared with the previous year and a year in the previous decade.)

	1921.	1930.	1931.
New South Wales	9.50	8.54	8.48
Victoria	10.52	8.94	9.48
Queensland	9.36	7.93	7.86
South Australia	10.02	8.35	8.38
West Australia	10.43	9.02	8.75
Tasmania	10.30	9.00	9.35
Northern Territory	20.48	16.56	15.24
Federal Capital Territory	1.61	3.64	4.18
Commonwealth	9.91	8.59	8.70

Deaths in Relation to Disease.

The following return, from data supplied by the Government Statistician, shows the number and causes of deaths during the year 1931, also the death-rate per 10,000 persons living (mean population 219,946), as contrasted with the previous year, 1930 (mean population estimated at 216,493).

Cause of Death.	Number of Deaths, 1930.	Death Rate per 10,000 persons.	Number of Deaths, 1931.	Death Rate per 10,000 persons.
General Diseases—				
Typhoid Fever	2	.1	3	.1
Malaria	...	...	...	...
Smallpox	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	8	.4	...	...
Whooping Cough	6	.3	13	.6
Diphtheria and Croup	20	.9	19	.9
Influenza	5	.2	26	1.2
Dysentery	1	...	2	...
Syphilis	3	.1	4	.2
Tubercular Diseases	129	6.0	122	5.5
Rheumatic Fever, Rheumatism, and Gout	6	.3	14	.6
Cancer, all forms	206	9.5	220	10.0
Dietic Diseases and Industrial Poisoning	...	...	...	...
Other General Diseases	81	3.8	90	4.3
Total General	467	21.6	513	23.4
Local Diseases—				
Diseases of Nervous System...	202	9.3	183	8.3
Diseases of Circulatory System	359	16.6	420	19.0
Diseases of Respiratory Organs	197	9.1	226	10.3
Diseases of Digestive Organs	109	5.0	115	5.2
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	80	3.7	107	4.9
Diseases of Puerperal Origin	18	.8	18	.8
Diseases of the Skin	8	.4	9	.4
Diseases of Bones and Malformations	39	1.8	34	1.5
Diseases of Early Infancy	145	6.7	116	5.3
Total Local Diseases	1157	53.4	1228	55.7
Deaths Produced by External Causes—				
Accident or Negligence	115	5.3	106	4.8
Homicide	2	.1	2	.1
Suicide	21	1.0	30	1.4
Total External Causes	138	6.4	138	6.3
Ill-defined—Not Specific Diseases—				
Old Age	165	7.6	169	7.7
Ill-defined Diseases	21	1.0	9	.4
Total Ill-defined Diseases	186	8.6	178	8.1
Total Deaths, All Causes	1948	90.0	2057	93.5

Scarlet Fever.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Death rate per 10,000 population.	Cases per 100 persons living.	Deaths per 100 cases notified.	Death % of cases.
1921	598	6	·3	2·79	10·0	1·0
1922	981	7	·3	4·57	7·1	0·7
1923	604	3	·1	2·80	5·0	0·5
1924	376	3	·1	1·75	8·0	0·8
1925	288	3	·1	1·35	10·4	1·0
1926	188	1	·05	0·89	5·3	0·5
1927	91	2	·1	0·43	22·0	2·2
1928	190	1	·05	0·89	5·3	0·5
1929	314	2	·1	1·47	6·4	0·6
1930	485	8	·4	2·24	16·5	1·6
1931	265	.....	.....	1·20	.....	.....

Diphtheria.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Death rate per 10,000 population.	Cases per 100 persons living.	Deaths per 100 cases notified.	Death % of cases.
1921	2055	61	2·9	9·60	30·2	3·0
1922	1616	58	2·7	7·52	35·9	3·6
1923	870	32	1·5	4·04	36·8	3·7
1924	597	20	·9	2·78	33·5	3·4
1925	473	13	·6	2·21	27·5	2·7
1926	347	6	·3	1·66	17·1	1·7
1927	507	10	·5	2·41	19·7	2·0
1928	908	18	·8	4·29	19·8	2·0
1929	488	18	·8	2·28	36·9	3·7
1930	573	20	·9	2·65	34·9	3·5
1931	589	19	·9	2·68	32·3	3·2