

To date 17 medical practitioners have been granted "absolute" recognition as radiologists for the purpose of benefits, whilst 14 have been granted recognition in terms of which they are entitled to provide a limited X-ray diagnostic service at the cost of the Fund.

Cost of Benefits: The following is a statement of the expenditure on the several classes of benefits during the year under review:—

	£
Maternity benefits	505,224
Medical benefits (including general medical services)	1,016,052
Hospital benefits (including treatment in State Mental Hospital and approved institutions and out-patient treatment)	1,540,959
Pharmaceutical supplies benefits	563,247
Supplementary benefits (including radiological services and massage benefits)	97,424
	£3,722,906

GENERAL

Milk-in-schools Scheme.—The total number of pupils included in the Milk-in-schools Scheme in 1942 was 234,838, an increase of 1,094 over the previous year. A further sixty-three schools have also been brought within the scheme. In other words, pasteurized bottled milk, milk for cocoa-making purposes, or malted milk is now available to some 84 per cent. of the school population of the Dominion.

The totals are made up as follows:—

	Pupils.
Pasteurized bottled milk	221,893
Milk for cocoa-making	4,787
Malted milk	8,158
Total	234,838

Apples-in-schools Scheme.—Apples free of cost were supplied during the apple season to pupils attending all types of schools. The supply continued for a twelve-weeks period and involved the distribution of some 157,200 cases of apples over the period.

Health Camps.—The past year has been difficult for the health-camp movement on account of the institutions at Otaki, Gisborne, and Wanganui being taken over to provide accommodation for the armed forces or Hospital Boards. One substitute summer camp was held in the Wellington Province.

The permanent health camp at Roxburgh has functioned throughout the year, while summer camps were held in all provinces. The value of occupational therapy is being stressed, as it has been found children improve in health more readily if adequate time is devoted to practical work of a light and interesting nature. Physical education and games on new lines are receiving special attention.

A recent survey reveals the need for many children whose parents are engaged on war work undergoing a period of treatment in a health camp. Owing to the building restrictions the erection of additional camps already planned has been deferred until the war-building programme is complete.

The proceeds from the sale of health stamps and donations have reached the new high level of £8,735, which is £1,600 more than last year's record total.

Health Education.—Projectors and film-strip machines were supplied to district offices. Seventy-three new films were received from overseas. Several film strips were produced at the Miramar Film Studios, and prints of some of these have also been supplied to the Education Department for use in schools. Medical Officers of Health report favourably on the use of films, and a large number of screenings have been given for different age groups of people. Exhibits arranged by the Department have been well patronized by the public. The daily press and journals with a wide circulation have been regularly supplied with health articles. The weekly broadcasts from the YA stations were continued. The popular booklets "Good Nutrition" and "The Maori Mother and Her Child" were reprinted. Sets of posters have been supplied to all district offices. A number of reference books and new journals have been added to the Library.

Nutrition.—Dr. Muriel Bell has been actively engaged in attempting to maintain standards of nutrition. She has investigated and reported on dietaries of units of armed forces and general hospitals, and has dealt with problems arising out of shortage of certain foodstuffs. She has given numerous addresses to training-college students and other groups. She has arranged nutrition exhibits and contributed articles on dietetics to various publications.

Miss M. Frengley, B.H.Sc., was appointed as Dietitian to the Department. Miss Frengley will assist on the programme of health education and will be available for consultation in regard to dietaries of hospitals and other institutions.

Industrial Hygiene.—In view of the development of industry in the Dominion it has been decided to proceed with the appointment of an industrial hygienist. The duties of this officer when appointed will be (a) to act as adviser in industrial hygiene to the Labour Department and Medical Officers of Health; (b) to undertake surveys of industry; (c) to carry out whatever scientific investigations are necessary to determine the nature and extent of industrial hazards and measures for their prevention; (d) to undertake health education, including nutrition guidance among factory employees; (e) to supervise the health of workers in industry and to take such steps as are necessary for the institution of medical examination, including chest X-ray of entrants to industry; (f) generally to act as a liaison officer between the Labour Department and the Health Department in all matters affecting the health of the people in industry.

Medical Advertisements Act, 1943.—The Act which repealed the Quackery Prevention Act, 1908, came into force on the 1st January, 1943. Its object is to prevent the exploitation of the public by control of medical advertisements claiming to diagnose, treat, cure, prevent, or alleviate sundry complaints and ailments. Wide powers are given to the Board constituted under the Act. It may serve on the proprietor of any drug, cosmetic, dentifrice, article, substance, preparation, instrument, or apparatus to which any medical advertisement relates, or on any other person for whom or on whose behalf a medical advertisement has been published, a notice requiring the proprietor or any other person to prove to the satisfaction of the Board any claim or statement contained in the advertisement. Regulations under the Act have been gazetted.