

Medical Officers of Health.—These should be directly under the control of the Department. Suggested that such officers should be detailed to certain local authorities for special work, and that a portion of their salaries should be recovered from the local authority. Such appointees should have special sanitary and bacteriological knowledge, and possess special qualifications in public health.

Inspection of Wharves and Shipping.—The inspection of wharves and shipping is very desirable, and Harbour Boards should be made local authorities under the Public Health Act.

District Health Officer, Dunedin.—It is desirable that the District Health Officer for Otago District should be Lecturer on Public Health at the University.

Sanitary Inspectors.—Sanitary Inspectors who are at present servants of Hospital Boards, and therefore only indirectly officers of the Department, should be wholly under the control of and paid by the Department. Much good would result by the periodical transfer of Inspectors from one place to another.

Institutions controlled by Department.—The unanimous opinion was that not one of the institutions under the direct control of the Department was to be compared with the institutions which were under the control of the Hospital Boards, either in equipment or general administration. This is a matter that should be remedied immediately, and the Department's institutions should be brought up to date.

Recasting the Public Health Act.—The desirability of having the Public Health Act remodelled is stressed, and an officer of the Department should be specially detailed to undertake this work, such officer to be relieved entirely of his other responsibilities for the time being only, in order to give his whole time to the work.

Health Districts.—The District Health Officers have to contend with many difficulties in carrying out their various duties, owing to the extremely large area of their districts. The number of health districts should be increased to eight, the subdivision to be as follows:—

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| (1.) North Auckland District, taking in the Hospital Board districts of Bay of Islands, Kaipara, and Whangarei | One medical officer to be stationed at Whangarei. |
| (2.) Auckland Health District, taking in Waikato, Thames, Waikato, Coromandel, Taumarunui, Bay of Plenty, and Taumarunui | Two medical officers. |
| (3.) Cook Health District, taking in Waipatu, Cook, and Wairoa | One medical officer to be stationed at Gisborne. |
| (4.) Wanganui Health District, taking in Taranaki, Stratford, Hawera, Patea, Wanganui, and Palmerston North | One medical officer to be stationed at Wanganui. |
| (5.) Wellington Health District, taking in Wellington, Wairarapa, Hawke's Bay, and Waipawa | Two medical officers. |
| (6.) Nelson Health District, taking in Wairau, Picton, Nelson, Westland, and Buller | One medical officer to be stationed at Nelson. |
| (7.) Canterbury Health District, taking in Inangahua, Grey, North Canterbury, Ashburton, and South Canterbury | Two medical officers. |
| (8.) Otago Health District, taking in Waitaki, Otago, Vincent, Maniototo, Southland, and Wallace and Fiord | Two medical officers, one of whom should reside in Invercargill. |

Both a senior and a junior District Health Officer should be stationed at each of the four centres.

Control of Consumption.—In addition to providing adequate sanatoria accommodation, some form of employment should be provided for those ex-patients whose condition warrants it. The system of farm colonies is worthy of consideration. The tuberculosis dispensary which has existed in Christchurch for several years past is a very useful institution, and a similar system should be established in other centres with a view to bringing cases in the early stages of the disease under proper care and attention. Cognizance should be taken of the valuable lesson taught by the results achieved at the C1 Camp established in connection with the Expeditionary Forces. It should be possible to devise means for giving persons who are weak-chested or otherwise physically defective a course of physical training either by means of classes or by camps.

Hospital Plans.—As regards the preparation of plans for hospital buildings and the consideration of those submitted by architects to Hospital Boards, the present system is unsatisfactory in that the medical officers of the Department have to give this matter their personal attention to the detriment of their other duties. The appointment of an architect to perform the preliminary work and report to the Inspector-General of Hospitals before that officer gives his approval to any of the plans submitted is very desirable, on the same lines as the appointment of the Consulting Engineer. There is sufficient work of this nature to keep such officers fully employed.

Sale of Foods and Drugs Act.—This Act should be administered in more detail than has been the case in the past, and an officer with chemical experience should be added to the staff at Head Office. Such an appointment would result in uniformity being secured throughout the Dominion in the administration of the Act, besides relieving District Health Officers of the more routine work arising therefrom. All laboratories in which any form of vaccine is manufactured should be licensed before being permitted to sell such vaccines.