

Reference was made last year to the growth of the social-service State. In this connection it is interesting to observe the rapid advance made by the School Dental Service during the past fifteen years. The first trainees were appointed in April, 1921, and since that date the number has increased as shown below :—

Date.	1922.	1927.	1929.	1932.	1936.
Number	31	129	178	200	210

Despite this increase there is still a demand throughout the country for the appointment of additional nurses.

The numbers of permanent officers in the various Departments under the control of the Commissioner have fluctuated during recent years as shown in the table hereunder :—

PERMANENT STAFF.—NUMBER OF OFFICERS.

(Excluding Administrative Officers, Native-school Teachers, and Officers on Extended Leave or on Loan to other Administrations.)

Department.	1st April, 1930.	1st April, 1933.	1st April, 1936 (Provisional).
Agriculture	558	513	522
Audit	158	162	173
Cook Islands	..	4	..
Crown Law	6	6	7
Customs	310	292	347
Defence	47	31	33
Education	297	257	270
External Affairs	6	3	..
External Affairs and Cook Islands	..	..	6
Government Insurance	107	96	111
Health	453	403	391
Immigration	10	..	..
Industries and Commerce	10	..	..
Industries and Commerce, Tourist and Publicity	..	159	189
Internal Affairs	379	258	225
Justice	270	301	..
Justice and Prisons	..	..	543
Labour	102	96	216
Land and Deeds	131	123	119
Land and Income Tax	159	172	201
Lands and Survey	627	570	596
Marine	189	163	166
Mental Hospitals	945	1,089	1,089
Mines	53	49	51
National Provident and Friendly Societies	35	29	..
National Provident, Friendly Societies and Government Actuary's	..	..	34
Native	74	80	141
Native Trust	28	28	..
Pensions	107	101	116
Police	6	6	7
Prime Minister's	1	1	6
Printing and Stationery	305	237	248
Prisons	243	242	..
Public Service Commissioner's	8	8	9
Public Service Superannuation	9	8	8
Public Trust	646	645	721
Public Works	758	637	734
Scientific and Industrial Research	53	56	67
Stamp Duties	76	71	44
State Advances	97	102	52
State Fire Insurance	136	135	133
State Forests	123	98	98
Tourist	103	..	..
Transport	7	7	25
Treasury	88	79	88
Valuation	83	75	83
Totals	7,803	7,392	7,869