

NEW-TREATMENT CENTRES.

At the date of this report—31st March, 1939—arrangements were well in hand for establishing school dental clinics at forty-nine new centres and for the strengthening the staff at thirteen of the existing centres in order to enable local extension to additional schools to be carried out. These centres are shown hereunder:—

(1) *New Centres.*—Balmoral; Kaitaia; Kaikohe; Kaeo; Kamo; Mangonui; Maungaturoto; Meadowbank; Napier Street, Auckland; Newton Central, Auckland; Newton West, Auckland; Newmarket; Okaihau; Point Chevalier; St. Heliers; Parnell; Silverdale; Waiuku; Waimamaki; Kawhia; Mahoenui; Matawai; Putaruru; Tolaga Bay; Whakatane; Manaroa (Pelorus Sound); Paraparaumu; St. Omer (Pelorus Sound); Te Puru (Pelorus Sound); Te Towaka (Pelorus Sound); Albury; Akaroa; Cheviot; Darfield; Kumara; Moana; Oira; Oxford; Riccarton; Spreydon; Waltham; Clydevale; High Street, Dunedin; Kaikorai; Lumsden; Orepuki; Riverton; South School, Invercargill; Tuatapere.

(2) *Existing Centres to be reinforced.*—Avondale; Otahuhu; Pukekohe; Sandringham; Tauranga; Wairoa; New Plymouth; Rangiora; Rotorua; Hastings; Palmerston North; Lower Hutt; Addington.

TRAINING OF DENTAL NURSES.

Dr. J. B. Bibby, Principal of the Wellington Dental Clinic, reports as follows on the training of dental nurses and the work of the clinic:—

“(1) *Staff.*—In addition to the Principal, the training staff consists of seven dental officers, a matron, and six senior dental nurses. Mr. G. H. Leslie, B.D.S., Mr. J. G. Epsie, B.D.S., and Senior Dental Nurses Clarkson, Cornwall, and Wain were appointed to the staff during the year. In view of the further increase in the number of student dental nurses it was necessary again to augment the staff of Dental Surgeon Instructors by appointing further trained dental nurses in a temporary capacity as Dental Nurse Instructors.

“Those who served in this capacity during the twelve months passed are Nurses M. V. Duncan, M. M. Grocott, F. G. McDonald, G. McQueen, J. R. Robbins, and M. M. Wade. The services of these officers have been of the utmost value during a period of rapid expansion, and it is very gratifying that Nurses Clarkson, Cornwall, and Wain are now attached permanently to the instructional staff of the training-school.

“Mr. A. D. Brice, who has been Acting-Principal of the institution since 1935, relinquished this position at the end of 1938 on my resuming my normal duties, after being engaged on special work.

“Dr. R. M. S. Taylor left on transfer to Hamilton, being promoted to the position of Senior Dental Officer, South Auckland District, while Mr. J. F. Fuller resigned in order to enter private practice.

“(2) *Student Dental Nurses* (as at 31st March, 1939):—

“In second year of training—

“First group (fifteenth draft) 33

“Second group (fifteenth draft).. .. 27

“In first year the training—

“First group (sixteenth draft) 38 (41 commenced; 3 transferred from second group, second year; 4 transferred to second group, first year; 2 resigned).

“Second group (sixteenth draft) 40 (36 commenced; 4 transferred from first group, first year).

“The year has seen a still further increase in the number of student dental nurses. Of the total number approved by the Government for the sixteenth draft (1938), 41 commenced training in April, and a second group of 36 took up duty in October. The total number of nurses now in training is 138. This number will be further increased in April next.

“(3) *Annexe.*—Brought into use to give additional accommodation pending the completion of the new dental clinic and training-school, the annexe has functioned efficiently during the last twelve months.

“Certain sections of the training of both first- and second-year students are now being concentrated upon in this building.

“The Senior Instructor, Mr. G. H. Leslie, is in charge, and associated with him has been Miss Haines as Senior Dental Nurse. To give more efficient working an endeavour has been made to station certain members of the staff permanently at the annexe, while students at certain stages in their training transfer to or from the main training-school. It does not seem possible to overcome the loss of time by the instructional staff in transit between the two institutions, nor the objection raised by parents in travelling to this clinic.

“(4) *Examinations.*—(a) It was necessary to hold two final examinations during the year. The first one, in September, 1938, was for those members of the fourteenth draft who had failed to pass the final examination in March, 1938. The six candidates were all successful in passing.

“The second final examination was held in March, 1939, for the 35 members of the fifteenth draft. Of this group, 32 were successful, the remaining 3 being required to be present for a special final examination in September next.