

Medical Council

During the year the Medical Council met on four occasions. A total of 148 medical practitioners were admitted to the New Zealand Medical Register 110 holding New Zealand medical qualifications and 38 holding overseas medical qualifications. The total number of medical practitioners on the New Zealand Medical Register as at 31st March, 1949, was 2,272. It was found necessary to discipline one medical practitioner for an offence against the Dangerous Drugs Regulations 1928.

The Council has continued its efforts to extend medical reciprocity between New Zealand and other countries. Existing reciprocal arrangements with South Africa have been extended, and negotiations were commenced to establish reciprocity between New Zealand and the Province of Saskatchewan in Canada and between New Zealand and Pakistan. At the present time New Zealand has medical reciprocity with the United Kingdom, Australia, Manitoba (Canada), and to a limited extent with South Africa and India.

Dental Council of New Zealand

At the 31st March, 1949, there were 667 dental practitioners holding annual practising certificates. In addition, the Health Department, the Armed Services, and the University of Otago Dental School employed a total of 63 dental practitioners. At a meeting of the Dental Council in February, 1949, 39 graduates of the University of New Zealand were granted registration, together with 6 dental practitioners from overseas possessing United Kingdom qualifications previously approved by the Dental Council.

The question of reciprocity of qualifications between New Zealand and countries outside the Commonwealth was considered, and of the 6 applicants for registration who were concerned, 4 were successful in being granted registration and 2 unsuccessful as their qualifications were not approved for registration in New Zealand.

A total of 69 names were removed from the Dentists Register, 17 because of death, 35 non-practising dentists at their own request, and 17 to whom letters in terms of section 19 (1) of the Dentists Act, 1936, were sent and returned unclaimed.

Nurses and Midwives Board

During the year five meetings of the Board were held. Fifteen applications for approval or regrading of training-schools were dealt with, and 1,676 nurses (including 202 overseas personnel) were admitted to the respective registers. Six disciplinary cases were considered and appropriate action taken.

The principal matters dealt with during the year were the consideration of the report on recruitment and training of nurses in Great Britain, shortage of pupil-nurses in New Zealand, and the revision of the general nursing syllabus.

Other matters dealt with included—

- (a) Anæsthetics in maternity training.
- (b) Inspection reports on training-schools.
- (c) Reciprocity with overseas registration authorities.
- (d) Pre-nursing course for secondary-school girls.

Masseurs Registration Board

Two meetings of the Masseurs Registration Board were held during the year, 49 applications for registration being considered, of which 45 were granted. The establishment of an additional subsidiary training-school at Palmerston North Hospital was also approved. Two cases in connection with unregistered practitioners were dealt with.