

The weighing of foodstuffs, including bread, is being continued by the Department of Labour in conjunction with its regular activities under the Weights and Measures Act. It has been decided recently to annul the special arrangement entered into in 1924 with the master bakers, which allowed slight concessions in weight for special loaves, and to revert to the requirements of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1908, which demand full 2 lb. and 4 lb. weights for all loaves exceeding 1 lb.

Amendments are to be gazetted during the coming year governing the standards and labelling requirements for household soap, disinfectants, baking-powder, and cheese, which are expected to simplify the control of the sale of these articles.

Thanks are again due to the Comptroller of Customs and the Dominion Analyst and their officers for valuable assistance and advice. The officers of this Department are particularly indebted to Dr. J. S. Maclaurin, D.Sc., F.C.S., who retired from the position of Dominion Analyst, for his most helpful co-operation for many years past. Dr. Maclaurin's expert advice in the drafting of our food and drugs laws proved of great value.

*Dangerous Drugs.*—In the administration of the regulations under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1927, scrutiny has been kept of the importations and distribution of the habit-forming drugs concerned. Indications are that there is no noticeable development of drug-addiction in the Dominion.

I desire to accord my appreciation of the continued loyal and able co-operation of the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

T. McKIBBIN,  
Director, Division of Public Hygiene.

### PART III.—SCHOOL HYGIENE.

I have the honour to report on the work of the Division of School Hygiene for the year ended 31st March, 1930.

#### STAFF.

The permanent staff consists of a Director, twelve School Medical Officers, and thirty-one school nurses. In addition, Dr. Meeredy acts in the dual capacity of Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for Taranaki, Dr. Turbott acting similarly for the separate health unit created with its centre at Gisborne, Poverty Bay. Dr. Helen Dougall acted as Junior School Medical Officer (temporary capacity) until the 31st December. Dr. Phyllis Moir was appointed as Junior School Medical Officer (temporary capacity) on the 1st June, 1929, for a period of one year. There were no alterations in the personnel of the permanent staff during the year. Dr. Collier, School Medical Officer, Hawke's Bay, was transferred back to Southland, Dr. Catherine Anderson going from Southland to Hawke's Bay.

There have been several resignations from and appointments to the school nursing staff during the year. An additional appointment was made in Auckland, Miss Milroy joining the staff, and undertaking the double duty of nurse attached to the Sunshine School as well as follow up work with regard to tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

#### FIGURES RELATING TO WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN 1929.

The following summary serves to indicate the extent of work accomplished during the year :—

Schools inspected—						
Of roll under 100 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,280
Of roll 100 to 500 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	397
Of roll over 500 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	164
					..	1,841
Children examined—						
Complete examinations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	73,668
Partial examinations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	40,729
					..	114,397
Number of notifications sent to parents .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	52,265
Number of addresses to school-children .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,024
Number of parents interviewed .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	12,360
Number of lectures or addresses to parents .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	40
The figures for the work of the school nurses are as follows :—						
Number of days assisted Medical Officer in schools .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,933½
Number of children examined for medical schedule (H. 529) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	97,133
Number of days engaged wholly in clerical work .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,354½
Number of children re-examined after Medical Officer's inspection .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	41,677
Number of visits to homes in—						
Large towns .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	10,099
Small country towns .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,908
Scattered districts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,322
					..	15,329
Number of children taken personally to hospital .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	429
Number of children taken personally to dental clinic or dental hospital .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	805