

Medical Officer, in turn, sending them on to the tuberculosis specialist at the hospital clinic when expert examination is indicated. The homes are visited by the school nurse in order to ascertain if environmental conditions are satisfactory, and the parents are as far as possible interviewed by the School Medical Officer. In Wellington where Nurse Bulkely has been detailed to undertake this work, tuberculosis contacts have been seen by her and weighed monthly. In order to permit of the inclusion in the scheme of a larger number of children it is proposed in future, however, to adhere to the three-monthly weighings. Supervision is necessarily less complete for children in remote areas though for these cases an effort is made (with varying success) to have a periodic height and weight record forwarded by the teacher. The benefit of all this care is not directly apparent, as in very few cases has active tuberculosis been found on expert examination. There is no doubt, however, but that the measures taken have ensured in general greater attention at home to the requirements of good nurture. More effort has been given to the removal of remedial defect. All districts record such special measures for the benefit of children contacts as residence in convalescent homes or health camps or attendance at open-air schools, &c. Dr. Bakewell in her report for Wellington states: "This group would appear to contain a much larger percentage of the poorer classes who have a struggle to maintain the minimum standard of decent living which obviously handicaps progress. The nurse finds herself more frequently called upon to deal with the resulting problems of lack of clothing, unsuitable food, lack of finance to pay for treatment; all of which require more time and more visiting, besides which her personal escort to hospital clinic or convalescent home is more often required."

Nurse Hodges, School Nurse, Waikato, states: "In nearly all cases parents have been agreeable and apparently pleased to have their children under observation. Conditions vary. On visiting some homes it is obvious that the visits are not really necessary so long as the children's progress is satisfactory. Everything possible is being done and the children frequently being watched by their family doctor. Other homes need constant supervision. While most parents try to do their best regarding diet, the idea of ventilation and particularly sufficient hours of sleep seem foreign to them. Overcrowding in bedrooms even when quite unnecessary seems common. Some parents who are tuberculosis patients, possibly discharged from the sanatorium, conscientiously safeguard their families, while others, although they actually sleep out of doors, spend their days in small unventilated rooms with the families. I certainly think some homes require frequent visits."

In various parts of the Dominion there is evidence of an increased public sense of responsibility towards delicate children. In the Wellington District Mr. Byron Brown has donated a splendid site of four acres and a half at Otaki Beach to provide for a permanent convalescent home and periodical health camps. The Bryant Home at Raglan and the Hamilton Health Camp Association (Auckland District) make provision for undernourished children. In Auckland the Community Sunshine Association, among its other activities, has inaugurated the Community Sunshine School, the object of which is "to attempt to improve the health of the children, especially those of school age who are undernourished or who suffer from frequent illness which interferes with their education and with their development into healthy men and women." An open-air school building has been erected on the Nelson Street property of the organization. The children are selected by the Honorary Medical Director (Dr. Ludbrook), recommendations for admission being made by School Medical Officers, private medical practitioners, and hospital and charitable aid authorities. The Health Department's representative (Dr. Henderson, School Medical Officer) works in association with the Honorary Medical Director, being responsible with him for the supervision of the work of the school nurse and the general work of the school. The Health Department has granted the services of a school nurse, who is on duty the greater part of the school-day, and also visits the homes of the children concerned. Supervised rest and feeding, sun-bathing, and a much modified school curriculum are among the features at the school, where at present approximately thirty children are in attendance.

The association also arranged for a health camp at Waiheke Island during the summer for a group of underweight children. The Health Department assisted in camp arrangements, providing nursing supervision, and also granting a subsidy towards expenses.

WANGANUI HEALTH CAMP.

It is with great regret that we record the death last year of Mr. B. Lethbridge, of Turakina, whose generosity made possible the inauguration of the annual health camps run so successfully since 1919 under Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, School Medical Officer, Wanganui. Mr. Lethbridge not only set aside a portion of his estate for camp purposes and erected thereon semi-permanent buildings which greatly simplified its management, but gave liberal donations of mutton, farm-produce, &c., in aid of it. The kind interest and practical generosity of both Mr. and Mrs. Lethbridge will have given to many Wanganui children not only added health, but life-long memories of happy days at Turakina.

This year the Awapuni Racing Club gave the use of the racecourse buildings and grounds at Palmerston North, and Dr. Gunn ran a successful camp there in February for 128 children, Wanganui district. The duration of the camp was four weeks three days.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

The area to be covered by both School Medical Officers and the physical instructors of the Education Department, together with the widening scope of the School Medical Service, makes co-operation between these officers increasingly difficult. In one or two districts—*e.g.*, Wellington—remedial classes have been arranged, children for which are selected by the School Medical Officer, in consultation with the Physical Instructress, owing to the existence of postural deformities. There is always a difficulty in getting a teacher assigned to a special group of this kind, but results justify the effort.