

In the case of the Department's staff there has been a minor expansion only, as it was considered advisable, while there was such a shortage of nurses, to delay expansion of services. The district staffs, particularly the Nurse Inspectors, have worked under great disadvantages in many instances owing to scarcity of Medical Officers of Health, and it has meant a great deal of thought and effort to maintain and carry on the work, particularly in rural areas. The expanding diphtheria immunization campaign, the expansion of the school health service, and the increased emphasis on Maori infant welfare and tuberculosis control all required well-prepared nurses to carry out their programme. The better results are an encouragement to further effort.

The following table shows a year's work for 18 Nurse Inspectors and 174 District Health Nurses (of whom 19 have been on leave for special courses):—

School work—				Maori.	European.
Hours spent in school work	..	..	..	5,767	35,132
Number of schools visited with S.M.O.	..	..	..	57	2,113
Number of schools visited alone	..	..	..	3,785	13,169
Number of visits to homes of school-children	..	..	..	29,442	23,432
Number of visits to homes of pre-school children	..	..	..	30,970	8,749
Tuberculosis control—					
Number of visits to homes	..	..	..	17,361	17,581
Number of cases seen at home	..	..	..	12,332	9,444
Number of contacts seen—					
Adult	..	..	..	16,491	12,801
Children	..	..	..	25,991	9,825
Maternal and infant welfare—					
Ante-natal cases seen	..	..	..	9,803	1,971
Confinements attended	..	..	..	165	42
Number of visits during puerperium	..	..	..	1,950	202
Infants seen at home or clinic	..	..	..	40,917	8,191
Attendances and treatments—					
Number attended at cottage or office	..	..	..	19,608	15,955
Number in own home	..	..	..	48,721	20,179
Total number of homes visited for any purpose	..	..	..	133,063	65,560
Number of inoculations	..	..	..	18,858	28,121
Social-welfare cases	..	..	..	2,398	715
Pas or settlements visited	..	..	..	19,492	3,933
Lectures given—					
To school children	..	..	..	2,089	6,206
To other groups	..	..	..	520	351
Complete immunizations (six-monthly period, April to September, 1946):—					
Diphtheria	..	..	..	24,235	
Whooping-cough	..	..	..	789	
Typhoid	..	..	..	6,363	