

He brought the proposal before the annual conference of architects held in Dunedin last January, and after discussion it was referred to a special committee. The attitude of the Dental Association of New Zealand to the Dental School, and of the Public Health Department to the Medical School, ought to be the attitude of the Dunedin branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects to the School of Mining and Engineering of Otago University.

Research Work for Staff.—In 1919 the Chancellor submitted a scheme to the Minister of Mines for the employment of the permanent staff of the School of Mines in research work for the New Zealand Department of Mines during the summer vacation. According to this scheme each member of the staff was to be employed in the branch of research cognate to his own department, without professional fee, provided that the Department paid out-of-pocket expenses and whatever field assistance might be required. The staff agreed to the proposal, which was approved by the Minister. In accordance with this scheme, Professor Waters, assisted by Messrs. R. T. N. Dale and H. L. Green, has been employed in a metallurgical investigation at Reefton as to the economical treatment of the pyritic concentrates obtained in the treatment of the gold-ores of that district. Data relating to the history of past treatment and numerous statistics have been collected. Many experiments were carried out, and some are still incomplete. Whatever the final result, the work cannot fail to be useful to the mining companies of west Nelson.

At the same time Professor Park made a geological and mineral survey of the south-west district of Southland. He also geologically examined Port Craig, Blue Cliffs, Hauroko, Monowai, and Manapouri country, and collected numerous samples of clays suitable for tile and firebrick manufacture. He discovered an abundance of limestone and marl suitable for the making of cement. This last will be of considerable importance in connection with the big hydro-electric scheme initiated in Southland.

During the summer Professor Benson carried out geological research in New South Wales. He continued work that was in progress before his appointment to the School of Mines, and in consequence was unable to carry out work in New Zealand.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE DENTAL SCHOOL.

During the past year the school has continued to make rapid progress, the number of students on the rolls being fifty-six, of which number seventeen commenced in 1919 and twenty-five in 1920.

The number of patients treated shows the value of the Dental Hospital to Dunedin, and in this connection it is interesting to note that the school nurses, who have special opportunities for observation, are enthusiastic about the good that is being done by the Dental School. They state that they are continually noticing a great improvement in bodily health in children who have had their mouths treated at the Dental Hospital. The number of patients attending for treatment still keeps pace with the increasing requirements. This is a very satisfactory feature, especially as new patients have volunteered the statement that they come because of the treatment others have received.

The Dental School and the Dominion.—The past three or four years have clearly shown how vitally the welfare of the Dental School is bound up in the welfare of the profession and in the dental welfare of the people of the Dominion. When the fortunes of the school were at the lowest the profession and the public were in danger of having the Act amended in such a way that not only would unqualified men be allowed to practise, but also that a considerably lower standard of general and dental education would allow men to practise dentistry in New Zealand. This danger was a real one, and those retrograde proposals were supported by prominent politicians, and even by some members of the profession. To counteract these proposals and yet not to unduly lower the standard, amended regulations were carried into effect, not without strong opposition from those who wished the standard to be much lower. This had the effect of staving off attacks for the time being, and by so doing gave time for the bursary scheme to prove its worth.

The bursary scheme has proved of the utmost benefit to dentistry in New Zealand. It not only provided sufficient students and thus stifled the political outcry, but also established upon right lines the nucleus of a State dental service. The fact that the State is now educating its own students has immensely strengthened the position of good dentistry and the Dental School. Instead of (as happened three years ago) prominent State officials attacking dental education, it will be found that the State will have to protect its own students, and in so doing will protect the public, the profession, and the Dental School.

The Needs of the Dental School.—In a previous report the urgent needs of the Dental School were given, and I feel that I cannot urge too strongly the inadvisability of delay. By next year, even with the temporary additions which are to be made, there will be congestion, and before the time new accommodation can possibly be ready the position will be intolerable.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF HOME SCIENCE.

I am glad to be able to report another satisfactory year in the development of the Home Science School. The number of students on the 1919 roll (taking either the full degree or diploma course) was fifty-nine, while four others took special short grouped courses. Seven students out of the fifty-nine took the final year's work for the degree, and nine the final year for the diploma, which means, of course, that a larger number sat for both degrees and diploma than ever before. Indeed, the numbers steadily continue to grow. All did not, unfortunately, pass the examinations, but of those who did all were offered posts, with thoroughly satisfactory salaries, before the New Year; and we could have filled many more posts if trained students had been available. There is still a great shortage of trained and certificated home-science teachers.