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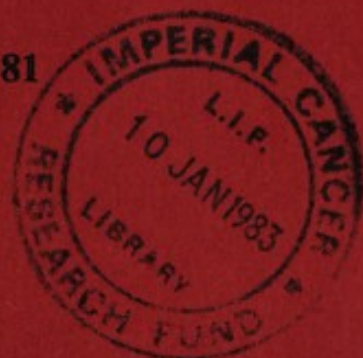


1982

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES

REPORT FOR YEAR 1980-81



Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command

By Authority:

I. C. CARTER, Acting Government Printer, Tasmania



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ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

1980-81

I. INTRODUCTION

The outstanding feature of 1979-80 was the number of major inquiries being conducted and so 1980-81 stands out as a year in which those reports were presented.

The recommendations of the Grants Commission review of State relativities, if implemented, would have devastating effects on Tasmania, and health services would certainly suffer. Final decisions have not yet been reached, and the Grants Commission has been asked to review certain aspects.

The report of the Commission of Inquiry into Efficiency and Administration of Hospitals, chaired by Mr Jamison, was disappointing in many respects. The Commission was under extreme pressure to meet a deadline, but even so the report largely re-states the problems rather than offers solutions. It did not really come to grips with some major issues, and it seems unlikely that this Report will have any significant impact on health services.

The Commonwealth Minister for Health (the Hon. M. J. R. MacKellar) called two special conferences of Health Ministers in May, and the Jamison Report was used as a basis for discussions of the new Commonwealth policies relating to health services, particularly funding. The end result for Tasmania will be to remain in cost sharing until 1985, but under a very modified agreement. It seems likely that the level of funds available for health services will be restricted and will relate to the number of hospital and nursing home beds maintained.

The major features of the new health arrangements are incentives and strong forces to encourage people to insure. The adoption of the user pays principle will result in new and increased charges. Private hospitals and private health insurance are supported, but the public sector will have even greater problems than previously.

Tasmania will be forced to embark on a program of rationalisation of hospital and nursing home beds, and the joint Commonwealth/State survey of bed needs in North-East Tasmania will be a keystone in this rationalisation program. Similar studies will have to be done for the South and North-Western area. Another key feature of the future rationalisation program is new Commonwealth legislation, whereby the Commonwealth is not obligated to pay nursing home benefits to nursing homes run by the State.

This means that the State has to decide whether to close hospital beds, convert them to nursing home status or leave them as hospital beds. A hospital bed, not cost shared but with the patient paying the new hospital fees, is financially more attractive than a nursing home bed which does not attract the Commonwealth Nursing Home benefit. Naturally, the most attractive alternative financially is to close the hospital or portions of it, but closing beds is not well received by the public.

The financing of Tasmanian hospitals' services reached crisis point in the last quarter of the year, resulting in extreme measures being adopted. The Hospitals Act was amended to allow hospital boards to enter into overdraft agreements, but the efforts of hospital management and staff were such that no hospital actually needed to use the provision. The financial position was relieved by an additional Commonwealth/State grant, but this does not detract from the response of hospitals to an extremely serious situation.

The crisis does underline the necessity for rationalisation of services.

The financial crisis was not confined to hospitals, and the Department had to adopt equally extreme measures. There was an overall reduction in staff of approximately three per cent, as well as general economy measures. Perhaps the area that suffered most was travel. I consider that the restriction of interstate travel, if continued for any length of time, would have severe repercussions for Tasmania.

The other change worthy of special mention is the division of health administration at Ministerial level into Health Services and Public Health. This has created problems, as one would expect, and does conflict with the recommendation of Task Force No. 2, that there should be a unified health authority, which was approved by Cabinet.

The really bright spot in an otherwise not-so-bright year was the response of the staff of the Department of Health Services and the staff of the Ministerial offices. Without their loyal and strenuous support, things would have been very gloomy.

II. ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE

The expenditure from Appropriation Act for the financial year 1980-81 was \$109 591 654, an increase of \$11 364 154 from 1979-80. Details will be found in the appendices.

DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The revenue receipts for the financial year 1980-81 amounted to \$52 266 546, being an increase of \$8 101 377 over receipts for the year 1979-80. The major differences are increases in Commonwealth Government payments for Medibank, Douglas Parker Rehabilitation Centre and Home Care Services. Details will be found in the appendices.

BUILDING PROGRAM

The expenditure from Loan Funds for the financial year 1980-81 was \$12 263 811 being a decrease of \$4 851 744 as compared with 1979-80. Details will be found in the appendices.

Works in progress as at 30 June 1981 —

- Launceston New General Hospital
- Douglas Parker Rehabilitation Centre — Phase III
- Queen Alexandra Hospital — Fifth floor fit-out
- St John's Park Hospital — Renovations to Men's Block — Stage II
- Swansea District Nursing Centre — Conversion to Nursing Home Accommodation.

Major works completed or substantially completed in 1980-81 include —

- Queen Alexandra Hospital — less fifth floor fit-out contract
- Ulverstone District Hospital — Extension to kitchen
- Fingal District Medical Officer's residence
- Bridgewater Community Health Centre — extension
- Campbell Town District Hospital — Nursing Home wing
- Launceston General Hospital — Nurses' Training School Fire Safety Alterations
- Mersey General Hospital — New internal roadway
- Royal Hobart Hospital — New lift in the Nurses' Home
- Mersey General Hospital — Hydrotherapy pool
- National Heart Foundation — Upgrading of new accommodation
- Launceston General Hospital — New staff flats 'Nelumie'
- North-Eastern Soldiers' Memorial Hospital — Mechanical services
- Campbell Town District Hospital — Water supply — Domestic and fire safety
- Flinders Island District Hospital — Various upgrading works
- Rosebery District Hospital — Fire protection
- Cosgrove Park Home for the Aged — Alteration to male section
- Bellerive Child Health Centre — Acquisition
- West Coast District Hospital — Re-roof
- Cosgrove Park Home for the Aged — Fire Safety
- Royal Hobart Hospital — Uprating and upgrading boilers.

HOSPITAL AUXILIARIES

As has been their custom and tradition, throughout the course of the year they have continued to make valuable contributions to the hospital services. We are most grateful for their services and wish to convey to all members our sincere thanks for their efforts.

LEGISLATION

Hospitals Amendment Act — No. 56 of 1980

The Hospitals Act 1918 was amended to make further provision for the granting of licences in respect of private medical establishments and for the approval of the alteration or addition to those establishments.

Provision was also made to constitute the Private Medical Establishment Appeals Tribunal.

Hospitals Amendment Act (No. 2) — No. 80 of 1980

For the purpose of restricting the right of private practice of certain medical officers.

Hospitals Amendment Act (No. 3) — No. 87 of 1980

Vesting in public hospitals boards a power of delegation and to provide for the establishment of those boards of advisory committees.

Hospitals Amendment Act — No. 37 of 1981

To provide for the control of parking of vehicles on hospital lands, to empower hospital boards to control and administer the personal property held or received on behalf of inpatients, and to make further provision with respect to expenditure by those boards of money under their control.

Ambulance Amendment (No. 2) — No. 66 of 1980

To amend the Ambulance Act 1977 for the purpose of making fresh provision for the appointment to the Interim Ambulance Authority, by the Governor, of a person to represent the Ambulance Employees' Association of Tasmania.

Ambulance Amendment (No. 3) — No. 102 of 1980

The term of the Interim Ambulance Authority was extended to 30 June 1981.

Ambulance Amendment — No. 16 of 1981

The term of the Interim Ambulance Authority was extended to 31 December 1981.

Pesticides Amendment — No. 73 of 1980

For the purposes of widening the definition of 'pesticide' providing for the responsibility of the Crown under the Act, increasing the membership of the Pesticides Advisory Committee and facilitating references in the regulations under that Act to various standards, rules, codes and other documents and for other purposes.

NURSES' REGISTRATION BOARD**MEETINGS**

The Board met on ten occasions during the year. Standing Committees, Midwifery and Principal Nurse Educators met as scheduled but the Curriculum Committee was suspended owing to financial restrictions. A number of ad hoc committees were called for specific functions such as reviewing the report on Tasmanian Auxiliary Nursing survey. The Board was also involved with the Committee reviewing the Mothercraft and Child Care Courses. The Board Chairman and Registrar were members of the Working Party on Tertiary Education for Nurses.

The initial registration fee was increased from \$10 to \$20 and fee for renewal of registration was increased from \$5 to \$10.

EXAMINATIONS

Examinations were conducted in July, August, November, January and March. It was decided that from 1982 examinations would be conducted twice yearly and that there would be no more than two intakes of students each year.

DENTAL MECHANICS' REGISTRATION BOARD

The Seventeenth Annual Report of the Dental Mechanics' Registration Board has been tabled in both Houses of Parliament.

INTERIM AMBULANCE AUTHORITY AND ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

The Interim Ambulance Authority, with the Director of Hospital and Medical Services as Chairman, continues to administer ambulance services in Tasmania. The Director continues as a member of the Working Party established to formulate legislation for the future management of health transport in this State.

Close liaison with the Royal Flying Doctor Service is maintained with the Director-General of Health Services and the Director of Hospital and Medical Services as members of the Executive Committee.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Restructured hours for forty hour per week day workers was implemented in line with the Engel Report. The main areas affected by the proposal have been the maintenance sections in the larger hospitals.

A new Hospital Employees' Principal Award was handed down by the Public Service Board. The carriage of this hearing occupied both industrial officers for a considerable period of time. The hearing was used as a work value vehicle for general staff in the Public Service as well as the public hospitals.

The Medical Practitioners' Award was varied by the Public Service Arbitrator to include on-call and call-back provisions for senior medical practitioners. The Senior Industrial Officer with assistance from P.A. Consultants commenced implementation and detailed costing of the new provisions.

After lengthy negotiations, a new agreement was signed by the Minister and the Australian Medical Association. The main feature of the new agreement was the reduction in the minimum call-back payment from three and one half hours back to one hour.

III. HOSPITAL, MEDICAL AND NURSING

Activity indicators for public hospitals show a decrease in 1980-81 for the daily average occupied beds (-6.39), percentage occupancy (-5.95) and patients treated (-0.90). General medical and surgical bed days indicated a decrease (-7.62).

There was a reduction in the number of inpatients treated and bed days from obstetric patients, this being due in part to the closure and transfer of the Queen Alexandra Hospital in September 1980.

The average length of stay of patients in hospital decreased from 9.95 to 9.32 for general medical and surgical patients and from 6.95 to 6.92 for maternity patients.

In terms of cost, the cost per daily occupied bed including nursing home type patients rose from \$102.12 to \$123.97, and a new figure of cost per daily occupied bed not including nursing home type patients (\$151.88) has been calculated.

Salaries and wages were again the largest single cost item representing 74.90 per cent of the total followed by Medical and Surgical items, drugs etc., accounting for 7.15 per cent.

The Commission of Inquiry into the Administration and Efficiency of Hospitals handed down its report in December 1980. The report contained some 140 recommendations covering virtually all facets of hospital services. The report was considered by various intrastate and interstate committees, but unfortunately the Commonwealth Government then announced its intention to introduce substantially altered health care funding procedures, which although based to some extent on a highly selective adoption of certain of the Commission's recommendations, were imposed without adequate consultation with the States. Discussion of these proposals, which had far-reaching financial implications for the States, has largely displaced further in-depth consideration of the Commission's findings.

During the latter months of the financial year it became clear that hospitals were collectively facing a substantial deficit, and urgent cost containment measures were introduced by all Boards. In some cases these measures were markedly disruptive to patient services, for example the closure of several acute wards and operating theatres at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

Nevertheless, Boards demonstrated a preparedness to take the necessary decisions to implement savings, and discussions are continuing with a view to developing a State-wide plan to rationalise hospital and nursing home bed provision.

GENERAL STATISTICS

NUMBER OF PATIENTS

The total number of inpatients treated in public hospitals for the year was 57 582, a decrease of 524 or 0.90 per cent on the previous year. The general hospitals continued their trend of increase, whilst the maternity and district hospitals reflected a decrease.

BED DAYS

The total number of inpatient bed days was 518 064, a decrease of 36 923 or 6.65 per cent over the previous year. This was mainly due to a significant reduction in general hospital bed days.

BIRTHS

The number of births for the year was 5 964, an increase of 196 over the previous year. The General Hospitals recorded an increase of 1 072, the Maternity Hospitals a decrease of 843 and the District Hospitals a decrease of 33. This large increase in the number of births at General Hospitals can be attributed to the inclusion of the new Queen Alexandra Hospital as a Division of Royal Hobart Hospital.

RECEIPTS

Hospital revenue for the year was \$111 633 280, an increase of \$10 759 087 over the previous financial year. Of total revenue, \$88 414 339 or 83.86 per cent was made up of the State Grant to Hospitals. Direct receipts from Hospitals attributed to 16.14 per cent of total revenue.

PAYMENTS

Total payments were \$112 722 754, an increase of \$10 900 989 or 10.70 per cent over the previous year. Salaries and wages accounted for \$84 900 141 or 75.31 per cent of total expenditure.

PATIENT COSTS

Average costs per patient and bed day rose during the year. The cost per inpatient rose from \$1 405.41 to \$1 471.25, and per daily occupied bed from \$102.12 to \$123.97. The cost of an outpatient attendance rose from \$21.11 to \$24.00, and per registered outpatient from \$69.28 to \$75.67.

ST JOHN'S PARK HOSPITAL

TRAINING SCHOOL

Thirty-three students successfully completed the two-year Auxiliary Training Course and thirteen General Trained Nurses passed the six-month Post Basic Course.

KIOSK AUXILIARY

The ladies of this Auxiliary continue to provide a worthwhile service for patients. Their regular visits to the Hospital Wards with trolley service is most appreciated. The Auxiliary continue to make generous donations of essential equipment to the Hospital.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT

Various outside organisations and individuals provided concert entertainment, afternoon teas and suppers for the patients, both at New Town and Carlton throughout the year. These visits were most appreciated by the residents.

RELIGION

Thanks are due to the various Ministers of Religion for their continued interest in the spiritual welfare of our patients.

LIBRARY

The Red Cross Library continues to provide an efficient service for both ambulant and bed cases. The large print books have proved to be most popular and regular additions to the book shelves help to provide a much needed amenity. This service is most appreciated by the patients.

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

During the year sixty-four students from various secondary schools gained one week's work experience at the Hospital. This program, arranged by the Education Department, is proving most successful and the Hospital has been able to offer work experience in Nursing, Domestic, Catering, Grounds, Clerical, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Electrical and Fitting Departments.

HOME CARE SERVICES

The demands on this service continue to increase and from recent statistics it is evident that the service provided by this Hospital compares more than favourably with other services in the State.

LAUNDRY

Work on restoration of the two electrode boilers was completed by the Hydro-Electric Commission on 30 April 1981, and following testing and trial running, the Hospital was able to re-commence laundry services from 4 May 1981.

Thanks are due to the Hydro-Electric Commission for the important role they played in the restoration of the boilers. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Special thanks are due to the Prisons Department and the Royal Derwent Hospital for their valuable assistance over the long period that the laundry was closed.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

GENERAL

Federal funding has continued at 50 per cent under the Community Health Program. No funds have been made available for expansion of services.

HEALTH CENTRES

There has been some extension at Bridgewater with the addition of dental and physiotherapy facilities. There has been a very pleasing increase of activities at Ravenswood and the Auxiliary at Kings Meadows has fitted out a basement room for community use.

HOME NURSING

Rigorous use of information from the Home Nursing and Home Help statistical returns has led to a somewhat greater number of patients to be cared for without any significant increase in staff. There were 4 779 patients as at 30 June 1981, with forty-two services employing 163 staff.

GERIATRIC SERVICES

The majority of growth in accommodation for the elderly and disabled has taken place in the North and North-West of the State. This has resulted in a much better balance of facilities. The major gap in accommodation now remaining is for psycho-geriatric patients, especially in the North.

Total beds licenced —

- (a) private hospitals — 540;
- (b) nursing home beds — 1 417;
- (c) aged persons hostels — 681;
- (d) aged persons units — 1 016;
- (e) retarded and handicapped persons — 251.

The common assessment lists are working well in the North and North-West. Agreement has still not been reached with all organisations in the South of the State.

STAFF EDUCATION

The last year witnessed the consolidation of initiatives previously taken and the preparation of new development; namely training programs for Home Help Ladies.

However, as in other recent years, attention must be drawn to the difficulties imposed on its operation by the constraints in the level of funding. All study days, seminars, lectures etc, had to be cancelled in the latter half of last financial year, and the Annual Conference planned for May was postponed until July.

PLANNING, EVALUATION AND RESEARCH UNIT

The operation of the Unit has been seriously hampered by staff shortages and the uncertainty of employment of staff members.

Projects undertaken by the Unit during 1980-81 include —

- (a) School and Child Health Records — Design of new records and computerisation of data;
- (b) Survey of need for accommodation for the elderly in the Kingborough area;
- (c) Evaluation of the publication 'Family Health';
- (d) Mothercraft Home — Report on the need for the Mothercraft Home;
- (e) Pre-operative Investigations — Survey of their frequency and effect at the Royal Hobart Hospital;
- (f) Home Help Services —
Design and development of uniform recording and reporting systems;
Development of comprehensive management information system based on computer analysis of monthly statistics;
- (g) North-Western General Hospital — Commencement of Current Usage Survey.

DISTRICT MEDICAL SERVICE

The move towards fee for service practices is continuing. In several locations the Government has offered a Minimum Gross Income Scheme which has proved successful in attracting practitioners to remote areas.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES

FIELD SERVICE

There were seventeen District Dental Officers and seventy-three School Dental Therapists providing care for the Tasmanian School children during 1980-81. The number of children treated by the Service (including the School of Dental Therapy) was —

<i>Schools</i>	<i>School Population</i>	<i>Number Treated</i>
Kindergarten and Primary	57 788	50 878
High and District High	33 389	15 420
Under school age		1 863
TOTAL	91 177	68 161

This is an increase of 6 431 children over the preceding year. The percentage of children requiring no treatment for caries (i.e. fillings or extractions) was —

1979-80 — 55 per cent;

1980-81 — 59 per cent.

During this year as a matter of policy the routine examination, by District Dental Officers, of all Grade IV children who are patients of the School Dental Service was begun.

These examinations will be analysed and, together with the results of the examinations of patients referred by School Dental Therapists for treatment beyond their scope, will result in a greater understanding of the dental status of the Tasmanian school children. Furthermore, as a result of these examinations, every Tasmanian school child for whom consent is given, will be examined at least once during its school career.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL THERAPY

There were fifteen senior students and fifteen junior students on 1 July 1980.

Tasmania did not recruit any first year students in the Calendar year beginning February 1981. Four Commonwealth students commenced training. The annual Open Day was held as usual on the last Wednesday in August 1981. The usual pre-school, infants and kindergarten pupil visits to the School took place. The School's puppet show continued to be a great success with the children.

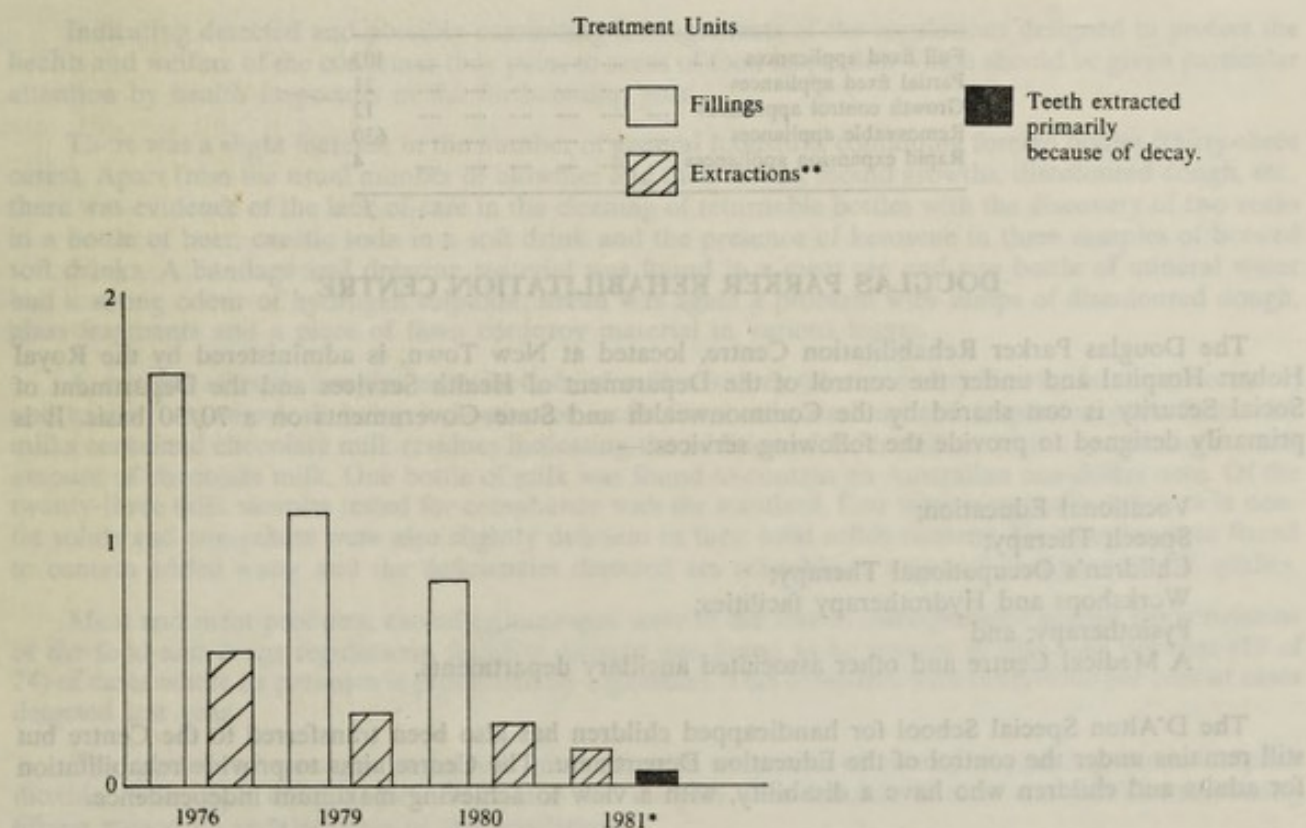
Student Dental Therapists visited the children's wards of the Royal Hobart Hospital and assisted in the maintenance of better oral care in the young patients.

Professor Noel Martin of the Sydney University acted as External Examiner in the final examinations in November/December 1980.

Eight Tasmanian and four A.C.T. Health Commission students were successful. The Director-General of Health (Commonwealth), Dr Gwyn Howells, visited the school in company with the Tasmanian Director of Tasmanian Health Services, Dr C. F. A. Younger, on 29 July 1981.

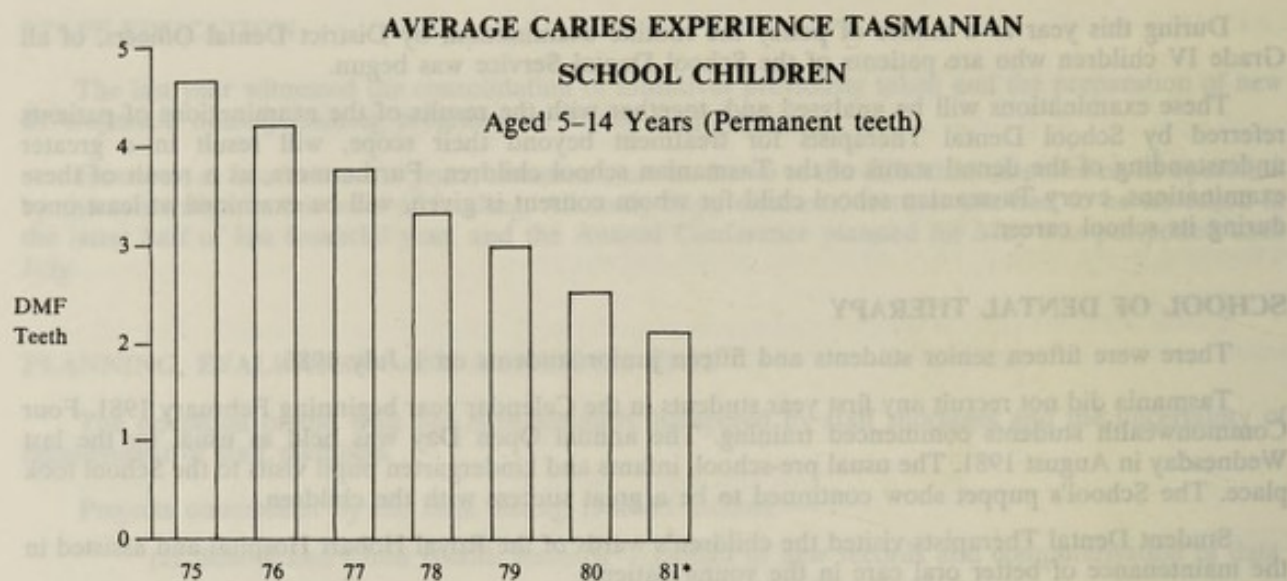
Child Health Sisters, third year nursing students and mothercraft home trainees visited the School throughout the year.

TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS PER COURSE OF TREATMENT PROVIDED



* Figures for 1981 are from first six months of 1981.

** Extraction figures include extractions for all reasons including sound teeth extracted for Orthodontic reasons.



* Figures for 1981 are from first six months of 1981.

Data which has recently become available from the evaluation study indicates that the mean annual caries movement for Tasmanian School Children under 16 years of age is only 1.15 tooth surfaces. (Data for first six months of 1981.)

ORTHODONTIC DEPARTMENT

The Orthodontic Department continues to have recruitment problems and will continue to do so.

Full fixed appliances	103
Partial fixed appliances	21
Growth control appliances	12
Removeable appliances	630
Rapid expansion appliances	4

DOUGLAS PARKER REHABILITATION CENTRE

The Douglas Parker Rehabilitation Centre, located at New Town, is administered by the Royal Hobart Hospital and under the control of the Department of Health Services and the Department of Social Security is cost shared by the Commonwealth and State Governments on a 70/30 basis. It is primarily designed to provide the following services:—

- Vocational Education;
- Speech Therapy;
- Children's Occupational Therapy;
- Workshops and Hydrotherapy facilities;
- Pysiotherapy; and
- A Medical Centre and other associated ancillary departments.

The D'Alton Special School for handicapped children has also been transferred to the Centre but still remains under the control of the Education Department. The Centre aims to provide rehabilitation for adults and children who have a disability, with a view to achieving maximum independence.

Stage II of the Centre provides day centre facilities. It is planned during 1981-82 to open Stage III which will provide up to forty-six residential beds in the old Nurses Home.

GOVERNMENT ANALYST'S LABORATORY

Contrary to the previous several years there was a decrease of 757 in the number of samples submitted for analysis.

Major decreases were in plant materials (484), water (pollution) (243), foods (115), sewage (109), and crime exhibits (101), while the major increases were in the categories of water (204), pesticides residues (179), and biochemical specimens (151). Most other categories remained much the same or were slightly down on last year. The chief sources of decreases were the public (255), Police (217), Forestry (194), Agriculture (158) and Environment (121) while major increases occurred for the hospitals (127), Rivers and Water Supply Commission (87) and the University of Tasmania (80) with minor decreases/increases in a number of other client categories.

Details of the samples submitted and their sources are set out in Tables 13 and 14.

CONSULTATIVE AND ADVISORY SERVICES

Many hours are spent by senior officers of the Division in attempting to provide the answers to chemical problems being encountered by officers of other Departments. Firms and members of the public seek the expertise of staff members in solving problems relating to the home treatment of farm water supplies, the application of fertilisers to home gardens and to similar applied chemical problems and these activities consume a considerable amount of staff time. Because this time does not relate directly to a specific sample, and can thereby be counted, there is no place in the yearly statistics of the laboratory for recognition of the time taken up by such activities.

FOOD CHEMISTRY

Many of the food samples forwarded for examination or analysis relate to specific quality complaints to the public or to foodstuffs detected by health inspectors as infringing the provisions of the food and drugs regulations. Consequently the number of food samples submitted are a biased selection of the general food supplies available to the consumers in this State.

Indicating detected and possibly continuing infringements of the regulations designed to protect the health and welfare of the consumer they point to areas of food inspection which should be given particular attention by health inspectors in the forthcoming year.

There was a slight increase in the number of general foodstuffs containing foreign bodies (thirty-three cases). Apart from the usual number of blowflies and their larvae, mould growths, discoloured dough, etc., there was evidence of the lack of care in the cleaning of returnable bottles with the discovery of two corks in a bottle of beer, caustic soda in a soft drink and the presence of kerosene in three samples of brewed soft drinks. A bandage and dressing material was found in a meat pie and one bottle of mineral water had a strong odour of hydrogen sulphide. Bread was again a problem with lumps of discoloured dough, glass fragments and a piece of fawn corduroy material in various loaves.

A number of milk samples contained dried milk residues (eleven cases) blowfly larvae (two cases) and snails (two cases) all being indicative of ineffective bottle washing and inspection procedures. Six milks contained chocolate milk residues indicating the addition of fresh milk to a tank containing a small amount of chocolate milk. One bottle of milk was found to contain an Australian one-dollar note. Of the twenty-three milk samples tested for compliance with the standard, four were marginally deficient in non-fat solids and two others were also slightly deficient in their total solids content. No samples were found to contain added water and the deficiencies detected are relatable to seasonal changes in milk quality.

Meat and meat products, excluding sausages, were to the fore in infringements against the provisions of the food and drugs regulations. Sulphur dioxide was found to be present in fifty-four per cent (13 of 24) of cases where its presence is prohibited by regulation. This compares with thirty-four per cent of cases detected last year.

The quality of sausages improved this year with only two of twenty containing excess sulphur dioxide, one sample contained excess fat and two samples were deficient in meat content. The remaining fifteen passed all requirements of the regulations.

Six samples of icecream showed deficiencies in the solids per gallon in two samples and marginal deficiencies in the fat content of two other samples.

PESTICIDES RESIDUES

The University of Tasmania submitted 300 of the 413 samples of materials forwarded for the determination of the pesticide residues content. These 300 samples were connected with the investigation of the effect of a pesticide on the growth of fish in inland waters.

The National Parks and Wildlife Department submitted sixty-eight specimens, fifty-two being connected with the deaths of birds of prey.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY

Soil samples examined numbered 1 195 and of these the public forwarded 685 through Department of Agriculture officers and 167 were submitted direct from the grower. The Forestry Commission submitted 261 samples connected with their research into the nutritive requirements of trees. The Department of Agriculture and the Hydro-Electric Commission forwarded twenty-five and twenty-six samples respectively while thirty-one samples were received from five other sources.

FORENSIC CHEMISTRY AND TOXICOLOGY

Crime exhibits numbered 152 from forty cases compared with 227 from sixty-one cases last year. Suspected arson cases numbered fifty-seven for the year and resulted in 135 exhibits, mainly charred fire debris, being examined for the presence of flammable liquids. No evidence of the presence of flammable liquids was found in 65 per cent of the exhibits submitted.

The examination of paint flakes and smears in connection with hit and run cases again took up a considerable proportion of the time of laboratory staff.

Wilful damage to vehicles was investigated in six cases and some of the substances used were sugar solution, adhesive with a solvent base, paint stripping solvent, and paint.

Marihuana dominated the dangerous drugs examined and accounted for 256 of the 486 exhibits. Hashish and hashish oil accounted for a further fifty. Heroin was detected in 10 exhibits from six cases compared with 19 from ten cases last year. Other drugs detected were morphine, amphetamine, phenobarbitone, B.D.M.A., methaqualone, phentermine, plus a number of schedule 4 drugs. No L.S.D. was detected this year and in seventy-six exhibits no drugs were detected.

Poppy straw material was checked for the efficacy of the extraction procedures in ninety-five cases, the same number as last year.

Two hundred and eighteen specimens were submitted in connection with fifty-nine cases for toxicological examination. Toxic agents were absent, or found to be present in therapeutic quantities only in thirty-one cases. There were thirteen cases of carbon monoxide poisoning, four cases of alcohol induced death and three cases of sylicylate poisoning. Seven different drugs were involved in seven cases and there was one death caused by the ingestion of a soldering solution. Alcohol was also present with other toxic agents in eight of the above cases.

Suspected animal poisoning exhibits fell this year to fifty-two from thirty-five cases. The major causes of death were organophosphorous pesticides in ten exhibits and strychnine in eight exhibits and there were thirty-one exhibits in which no poisonous substance was detected.

BLOOD ALCOHOL

Coroners submitted 105 samples of blood for analysis of their alcohol content connected with road traffic accidents. There were thirty-two drivers, ten passengers, fourteen pedestrians and five cyclists/motor cyclists in whom the level was zero. Two passengers had blood alcohol levels less than 0.05 per cent. Five passengers and one pedestrian had levels below 0.08 per cent.

Of the remaining thirty-six who exceeded 0.08 per cent there were two drivers, two passengers, one pedestrian and two motor cyclists with an alcohol level between 0.08 per cent and 0.15 per cent while eight drivers, one passenger and one motor cyclist exceeded 0.15 per cent but did not exceed 0.20 per cent. Exceeding 0.20 per cent but under 0.25 per cent were seven drivers, two passengers, two pedestrians and one motor cyclist and in excess of 0.25 per cent but less than 0.30 per cent were two drivers and one pedestrian. One driver and three pedestrians exceeded 0.30 per cent while none were above 0.40 per cent.

Sixty-seven specimens were examined for alcohol levels in cases of violent or unexplained death. Alcohol was at zero level in forty-five cases and was below 0.08 in three other cases. Ten cases had blood alcohol levels below 0.20 per cent and included two persons who drowned and six who died from self inflicted gunshot wounds as well as one who choked on food. Of the five with blood alcohol levels between 0.20 and 0.30 per cent three died from gunshot wounds, one choked on food and one died from hanging. In the case of one death from gunshot wounds the blood alcohol level exceeded 0.40 per cent.

The police forwarded 366 blood samples for analysis of their blood alcohol content on behalf of alleged offenders connected with breathalyzer offences. There were thirty-three (9 per cent) with zero alcohol and there were fourteen further cases (3.8 per cent) below the legal level of 0.08 per cent. Between 0.08 per cent and 0.15 per cent there were 123 cases (33.6 per cent) and below 0.20 per cent there were 113 further cases (30.9 per cent). Above 0.20 per cent but below 0.30 per cent there were eighty cases (21.9 per cent) and three cases exceeded 0.30 per cent but no cases exceeded 0.40 per cent. In all there was a slight increase to 87.2 per cent of cases exceeding 0.08 per cent compared with last year's figure of 86.5 per cent and a range of 82 to 85 percent over the previous years.

The Breathalyzer reading and the level of alcohol determined from a blood sample in the laboratory was able to be compared in 186 cases.

The laboratory result was higher than the breathalyzer reading in 115 cases by up to 0.094 per cent and in nineteen cases the level was lower by up to 0.046 per cent. In nineteen cases the two levels were in agreement and in thirty-three cases both methods recorded a zero reading.

WATER, SEWAGE AND CORROSION

The 460 water samples forwarded by the Forestry Commission were mainly connected with their policy of monitoring for environmental stress in feeder creeks and rivulets from nearby major logging operations. No deterioration of water quality has been detected over the past six-year period.

The Hydro-Electric Commission submitted 152 water samples for analysis connected mainly with design planning for power station equipment and services. Continued checks for water quality changes were made in a number of the newer storage dams.

Department of the Environment samples were mainly for official action following suspected or detected infringements of the Environment Protection Act and Regulations.

The Metropolitan Water Board, Rivers and Water Supply Commission and Local Authorities submitted 459 waters for fluoride check analyses. There was general good agreement between the method in use in the field and the more precise laboratory method. Some deviations from the calculated level and that actually present in the treated water enabled the early detection and correction of malfunctions in feeder systems.

Sewage samples dropped slightly to 407 and mainly stemmed from local authorities or their engineering advisors. The fall in numbers is due to the now successful functioning of newer schemes which had some initial teething problems.

Trade wastes mainly derived from local authorities and firms and is due in part to the requirement by the Department of the Environment that a certificate be furnished as to the chemical analysis of any effluent issuing from properties before a licence to continue operation can be granted. This requirement covers a wider range of analyses than is normally made on a water sample and takes a considerable time to complete.

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

The medical staffs of the Royal Hobart Hospital, the John Edis Hospital and the Royal Derwent Hospital contributed the great majority of the 595 biochemical specimens submitted for heavy metal content or drug screening purposes. Fifty-five specimens were from various sources and related to industrial exposure to heavy metals or other toxic agents. Thirty-eight of these were examined for their lead content and ten related to exposure to mercury. Specimens related mainly to drug screening numbered 297. The most common elements monitored were zinc (112 cases), aluminium (fifty-nine cases), lead (forty-one cases), copper (twenty-three cases), zinc and copper (eighty-six cases).

MISCELLANEOUS

The charges raised for analyses relating to client sources amounted to \$9 041.25 for the year.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

As in other years the work of the Division continued in the routine administration of the environmental health, child health (including school health), health education, and occupational health services.

As separate annual reports must be made to Parliament for the purposes of the Fluoridation Act, the Pesticides Act and the Radiation Control Act, these matters are not included in this report in any great detail. However, it is worth mentioning that the current concern regarding 2, 4, 5-T, and the unremitting campaigning of one dedicated anti-fluoridationist have occasioned much work for members of the staff answering direct questions from members of the public and providing information for the Minister to answer those who approached her Office. As the Division has no research officers whatsoever, that work falls directly on the medical officers and causes considerable waste of time that could otherwise be spent to better advantage.

During the year a Minister for Public Health was appointed by Cabinet. That separation of portfolios was much welcomed by the staff of the Division because it is hoped the move will help remove much misconception as to the word 'health' which has pervaded the Australian scene for some time. There has been comparatively little interest in 'health' but a great deal of interest in 'medical care' and, from the legislation downwards, medical care has been confused with health. In fact the word 'health' might qualify as one of the most misused (or abused) words in the English language. The so-called National Health Acts are in fact schemes to provide medical care at the lowest direct cost to individuals as possible. In Australia, State Departments of Health which were originally created to carry out or to supervise measures designed to protect the health of citizens are increasingly becoming involved with all forms of medical care, especially the provision of hospital services and with highly specialised therapeutic procedures. In view of the social climate this is probably inevitable but because of the magnitude of the task and the note of urgency being first priority associated with the ill, medical programs demand an increasingly important role in the activities of 'Health Departments' to the detriment, most public health personnel believe, of the original preventive functions. The creation of a separate Ministry was therefore much welcomed and boosted staff morale considerably.

Fundamental in the Ministry changes was an increased emphasis on Occupational Health Services. The appointment of two Medical Officers (one also being qualified in engineering) provided much needed stimulus and a means of direct field action. The rapport of the Minister with both Managements and Unions helped greatly in easing the work of the Medical Officers whose prime function is to advise Managements, Unions and the Departments of Labour and Industry and Mines of how each can contribute to maintaining the health of workers who are the State's principal capital asset. It is indeed true that people enjoy better health not because of what happens when they become ill, but because they become ill less often, and enjoy a favourable standard of living.

During the year financial stringencies tightened. These provided considerable challenge to try and find ways of containing budgets while still maintaining essential services. Staff recognised the value of careful re-examination of accepted practices on the basis that a re-look at what's done is always useful towards maintaining morale and efficiency.

The Mothercraft Home building continued to cause concern and preliminary moves were made towards its re-location elsewhere.

CHILD HEALTH SERVICE

INTRODUCTION

The tightening of the State purse strings has affected the Child Health Services. One position for a Sister in each service being abolished and a tight control imposed on expenditure for travelling.

In the Child Health Service there has been increasing emphasis on developmental assessment of young children. The Child Health Association has provided the simple testing equipment which is necessary.

In the School Health Service, an extended role for the Sister is being considered and pilot studies are being carried out during the 1981 school year.

A Departmental Committee is considering the role of the Mothercraft Home and what its future should be.

VITAL STATISTICS

1. BIRTHS

The birth rate in 1980 was 15.9 (16.2 in 1979) with births totalling 6 735 (6 757).

The illegitimacy rate for 1979 was 13.9 (12.9).

2. INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate in 1980 was 11.7 (14.1). Deaths under the age of one totalled 79 (95). Table 9 gives details of the causes of death in the first year. Sudden Infant Death is the highest individual cause of death accounting for 30 of the total.

The Committee concerned with counselling services for the parents of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome cases has continued to meet and arrangements have now been made for Life Line to be notified of these deaths so that their counsellors can visit the parents and offer help. Research on the causes of such deaths continues as does the epidemiological study.

3. PERINATAL DEATHS

Perinatal deaths are deaths occurring from the twentieth week of pregnancy up to the end of the first month of life per thousand live births plus deaths from twenty weeks gestation.

	Number	Rate
1973	181	24.52
1974	157	20.98
1975	165	23.34
1976	143	21.03
1977	118	17.34
1978	136	19.80
1979	98	14.41

4. CENTRES

Clinic sessions are being held in 107 centres throughout the State.

Ownership of buildings —

State	77
Child Health Association	8
Other	22

Two new clinics were established during the year. A monthly visit is being made to the Highland Hospital, Tarraleah and a weekly visit is made to Bicheno using the doctor's surgery as a Centre.

Due to the decrease in the number of young infants in the area the Montagu Bay Centre was closed as from 1 April. This Centre was the property of the Child Health Association and is now being used as the State Office.

As there has been a requirement by the Auditor-General for the Child Health Association which is an incorporated body to show its complete assets, the ownership of buildings has been determined. Wynyard, Devonport (Best Street), Havenview, New Norfolk and Midway Point are now recorded as local government property. Negotiations regarding the ownership of New Norfolk North building are currently taking place with the Australian Newsprint Mills.

Owing to redevelopment in the Bellerive area, the Centre was handed over to the Clarence Council and in exchange a new Centre was provided in the Bellerive Quay Development.

It was occupied in November 1980 and officially opened by the Minister for Public Health (Mrs G. James) on 30 April 1981.

In Currie, the clinic sessions moved from the Child Health Centre to rooms in the Community Centre in October 1980.

During the year under review, 5 506 new babies, 81.7 per cent of total births were visited at home by Child Health and District Nursing Centre Sisters, and 6 514 or 96.7 per cent of babies born attended Child Health or District Nursing Centres. In all 63 341 visits were made and attendances at all centres totalled 181 027.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

During the calendar year 1980, 30 573 medical examinations were made by School Medical Officers, a decrease of 682 compared with the preceding year.

Five thousand four hundred and ninety-nine (17.98 per cent) of the children examined required notification of one or more defect.

Ten thousand one hundred and twenty-four (33.12 per cent) were examined in the presence of a parent. This figure represents both an overall increase in the number of parents present and an increase in percentage attendance when compared with the preceding year. (9 470 children with a parent present = 30.29 per cent). It is noted that in the school year under consideration there were more new entrants and more children in the age group turning eleven years than in the preceding year.

1. OBESITY

Obesity is a major community and Public Health problem which, once set in train during childhood, is likely to proceed to adult obesity.

Heights and weights are therefore assessed on school entrants and on students in the ten-year-old and 14-year-old age groups in order to decide whether the condition of being overweight should be notified so that advice and assistance may be given to parents and students regarding diet, exercise and weight control.

School Health statistics have been collected since 1963 and show a gradual increase in the incidence of obesity until 1979 which was the first year in which the overall incidence of 9.75 per cent was just less than that of the preceding year, 9.94 per cent.

The figures presented for the calendar year 1980 refer to those children actually notified as being overweight rather than the aggregate figures presented previously which included those notified, together with children under observation and treatment.

In 1980, ninety-two males and 155 females were notified overweight, a total of 247 children. In 1979, 111 males and 145 females were notified giving a total of 256 children. While the overall incidence is similar it should be noted that the proportion of males to females is different, the number of males notified declined and the number of females increased, (see table below).

NOTIFICATION OF OVERWEIGHT

	1979	1980
Males	111	92
Females	145	155
TOTALS	256	247

These figures support the possibility that the overall incidence of obesity has not increased above the 1979 level. The possibility of different distribution by age and sex must be kept in mind.

2. HYGIENE AND INFESTATION

Pediculosis

During the period 1.7.80 — 30.6.81 the School Health Service maintained an active screening and treatment program to control head lice infestation among school children and their families.

The principal control measures used being —

- (1) The appointment (funds permitting) of Special Head Lice Control Nursing Officers.
- (2) Screening all children in Grades 3 and 4 in all primary schools.
- (3) Contact tracing to screen class-mates of affected siblings of children identified in (2) as being infested.
- (4) Follow-up home visits were made immediately after screening so that parents could be personally advised on treatment procedures and permission gained to screen all available family members.
- (5) Screening families of all infested children.
- (6) Other contact tracing.
- (7) Checking all children transferred from interstate and between schools.
- (8) By making personal contact with parents to provide education on this problem and to maximise treatment compliance.
- (9) By making available Maldison Lotion without cost.

The use of Maldison $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in a spirit base was introduced at the beginning of 1980 (Maldison 1 per cent aqueous has been used previously). This proved to be an effective therapeutic agent. Clinical experience has shown that it is certainly ovicidal and to date there is no evidence of resistance to its therapeutic action.

A new information brochure, 'Here's what you should know about Head Lice', was designed and prepared by the Health Education Section of the Division of Public Health and is used extensively by the School Health Service. It is an effective health education aid and it has been widely distributed by school sisters to parents, teachers and others. It has been through two print runs of 5 000 copies each.

In addition a clearly printed instruction leaflet is issued with each bottle of Maldison Lotion.

In all some 9 000 bottles of lotion have been issued by the School Health Service since June 1980.

During the financial year 1.7.80 — 30.6.81 the cost of Maldison was \$4 534.75 to which should be added the cost of nit combs etc., giving an overall cost for therapeutic agents of \$5 000 (approximately).

NUTRITION SERVICE

ACTIVITIES

1. The Longitudinal Growth studies were extended to the girls turning thirteen years between 1 September 1980 and 31 August 1981. School Sisters collected the information on an ongoing basis.

2. Children who were subjects in the Infant Feeding Survey of April 1974 were weighed and measured on attaining their seventh birthday. The data are being processed.

3. The Child Health pilot study on the influence of oral contraceptives and length of breastfeeding was evaluated. A full-scale survey was organised and re-piloted. Child Health Sisters will interview all mothers who have babies from 1 September to 13 October. The study will extend to 15 March 1982.

4. Three dietary surveys were conducted in secondary schools in Launceston and Devonport. Milk consumption shows an upward trend.

5. School Canteen Seminars were conducted in Burnie, Devonport and Hobart. The publication 'The School Canteen and Tuckshop' was accepted by the Interdepartmental School Canteen Committee as a good policy statement regarding the specification of suitable foods and drinks in school canteens. Food manufacturers have benefitted from this booklet by adjusting their products to fit in with the guidelines. A second edition is needed.

6. Publications —

- (a) J. F. Coy, H. B. Gibson *et al.* 'Longitudinal Growth Study of Tasmanian Children — The Ten Year Olds.' M.J.A., 1980. October 18, pp. 424-426.
Resume in Journal of Food and Nutrition Vol. 38, 1981, No. 1, pp. 24-25.
- (b) J. F. Coy and R. K. Lowry 'Tasmanian Infant Feeding Survey 1979-1980'— Annual Report of the Child Health Service 1980.
- (c) J. F. Coy and R. K. Lowry 'Relationship of birth weight and feeding pattern to consequent growth in Tasmanian Children.' Journal of Food and Nutrition Vol. 38, 1981, No. 1, pp. 1-6.
- (d) Family Health, September 1980 'now is the time to slim down for summer'. 'Your guide to healthy weight loss'.

ASSESSMENT CENTRES

Funding of the Assessment Centres in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie remained on a 50-50 basis during the year. Again particularly in Hobart there were several staff changes with delays in finalising appointments which interfered with the smooth flow of the work. There were 183 referrals to the Centre in Hobart, 116 in Launceston and forty-three in Burnie. Fifty per cent of the referrals were under five.

MOTHERCRAFT HOME

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

Admissions and discharges from the Mothercraft Home for the above period, compared with figure of the two previous years.

	1.7.80 to 30.6.81	Year Ending 30.6.80	Year Ending 30.6.79
Admissions	286 (62.5%)	176	152
Discharges	279	177	149
Deceased .....	.....	.....	3
Transfers to R.H.H.	8	12	4
Transfers to R.D.H. ....	.....	1	.....
No. of Admissions from R.H.H.	23	4	3
Adoptions	15	6	8
Admissions of Mothers	48 (59%)	32	8

It is obvious from the above that there has been a greater demand for the services supplied by the Mothercraft Home. Of the forty-eight mothers admitted, twenty-two had breast feeding problems, while the rest required support and teaching of 'parenting'. Total bed day occupancy was 3 621 for babies and 367 for mothers, i.e. an average stay of 12.6 per babe and 7.6 days per mother.

There has been no change in the referring agencies nor in the reasons for admission.

During the year the plans for the new Mothercraft Home were finalised but in February the Department was informed that funds were not available to commence the project. Following that a Departmental Committee was set up to report on the future of the Home.

HEALTH EDUCATION

STAFFING

The staff was increased by the appointment of a Research and Evaluation Officer to work in the ambit of the National Drug Educational Program. Employment next year will depend on the continued funding by the Commonwealth Government.

TALKS AND TEACHING SESSIONS

A total of fourteen talks were delivered to 756 persons and a total of forty-five teaching sessions were conducted involving 1 954 persons.

Talks and teaching sessions continued to be in demand. Teaching sessions in schools were generally used as part of a school program in the Social Sciences, and Transition Education Courses.

Short teaching segments were given to refugees on the availability and use of Health Services in Tasmania.

SEMINARS

One seminar was held for twenty-five law enforcement officers.

In conjunction with the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Board, a seminar was held on 11 and 12 May in Hobart. The occasion was a review of licit and illicit patterns of drug behaviour and usage. Officers attended from the Tasmania Police, Australian Federal Police, Bureau of Customs, Probation and Parole Service, and Department of Health Services.

Special guests were —

Chief Superintendent — S. B. McEwen, New Zealand Police;

Mr D. Lyons — Director of Enforcement Division, New Zealand Customs;

Dr G. Wardlaw — Australian Institute of Criminology;

Chief Superintendent B. Bates — Officer-in-Charge, Drug Division, Australian Federal Police.

In addition, a seminar for the Child Health Service and the School Health Program was sponsored by the National Drug Education Program.

EXHIBITION

A major exhibition was staged at Eastlands Shopping Centre, Clarence Municipality, from 27 April to 2 May. The theme 'Help Yourself to Better Health' brought together exhibits from —

Alcohol and Drug Dependency Board;

Child Health Service;

Clarence Commonwealth Youth Support Scheme;

Clarence Municipal Council;

Division of Housing;

Division of Road Safety;

Inter-Departmental Schools Canteen Committee;

Keep Australia Beautiful;

National Heart Foundation;

National Drug Educational Program;

Occupational Health Service-Work Health Office;

Rheumatism and Arthritis Foundation of Tasmania;

Royal Australian Institute of Architects (Tasmanian Division);

St John Ambulance;

School Dental Service;

School Health Service;

Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority.

Exhibits included a plaque tunnel to demonstrate plaque on children's teeth, and staff from the School Dental Health Service provided advice and demonstrations on correct teeth brushing.

A free hearing test was administered to many members of the public by officers from the Work Health Office.

The Division of Housing displayed a kitchen for the disabled which featured variable height adjusting work tops and an overhead track system for transporting items in the home.

Over 20 000 pamphlets and posters were distributed to the public.

FILMS

A short film produced by the Tasmanian Film Corporation 'Habits for Health and Happiness' completed a series of three on nutrition. The other titles being 'Energy, Food and Exercise' and 'Fatness, Foods and Fads'.

PUBLICATIONS

New publications produced were —

- 'How Language Grows';
- 'Care of Plaster Casts';
- 'Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (Cot Death)';
- 'Breast Self Examination' (for the Tasmanian Cancer Committee);
- 'School Canteen and Tuckshop'.

The series of publications for the illiterate had its second addition with a pamphlet on Home Safety. The wordless pamphlet demonstrates hazards and safety remedies in different rooms in the home.

'Community Health Nursing News' was launched for the Community Health Service, and is published three times a year with national distribution.

The text for 'How Language Grows' was written by Mrs Ruth Porteous, speech pathologist and expert in early language development, without cost to this Department.

This small booklet has received wide acclaim, being extensively used by speech pathologists and pre-school teachers and students throughout Australia.

Much of the appeal of the section's publications can be attributed to the artwork of cartoonist and medical illustrator Mrs Hilary Goldsmid.

HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT

The Curriculum Centre has continued its project on promoting health education in the schools. The cost of the project is being fully underwritten by funds from the National Drug Education Program.

GENERAL REMARKS

The work of the Health Education Section has attracted the attention of other States and health agencies which are following our lead into supermarket health promotion.

PESTICIDES SECTION

There were 200 applications for registration or re-registration received during the year resulting in an income of \$2 000. This figure does not adequately reflect the amount of work involved. Of these 200 products, ninety-five required alterations to their labels and a further sixty-six label changes to products already registered were requested by the companies. Arranging these label changes can involve a lot of time and protracted correspondence. Two products were refused registration on the grounds that they represented an unreasonable risk either to the user or the public at large.

Three permits were issued for the sale and use of DDT. Other permits issued were thirty-five to cover trial work with either unregistered pesticides or for non-label trials with registered products, and four permits to permit general non-label use of registered products in advance of changes to the printed labels.

Due to the continued unusually dry conditions this year the demand for Lindane-Superphosphate continued and permits were issued for the sale and use of 1 074.8 tonnes of the mixture which was applied on twenty-six properties. In the case of permits for both DDT and Lindane-Superphosphate, before a permit is issued the intended area of application has to be inspected by the District Extension Officer of the Department of Agriculture and the application recommended by him.

The Pesticides Amendment Act 1980 was passed by Parliament during the year receiving Royal Assent on 26 November 1980. The main effects of the Act are to extend the scope of the original Act to include growth regulant chemicals and organisms which may be used as pesticides, to extend the membership of the Pesticides Advisory Committee from six to seven members by including a nominee of the Minister for the Environment and by allowing reference to be made to the publications of Specified Bodies in order to simplify and streamline future regulations.

During the year in conjunction with the other States of Australia regular samples of products containing 2,4,5-T were taken and analysed for Dioxin content. All samples taken showed the Dioxin content to be well below the permitted level.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The work and the effect of the Occupational Health Service was greatly increased by the appointment of two Medical Officers in the early months of 1981. This addition to the staff allowed forward planning and undertaking of long-term projects rather than the 'bush fire' response to emergency situations that had been the situation in the past with only one specialist Medical officer available.

One major project undertaken was to introduce hearing protection methods into the meat and timber industries on a State-wide basis. This was done on an advisory basis. The aim was eventual self-regulation by the industries themselves after an initial period during which Hearing Conservation Programs were designed and introduced by the Section. As well as the concentration on these two major industries, assistance in this area was available to any other organisation who requested it. In addition to the necessary noise surveys, audiometric surveys were carried out in eighteen individual factories. This involved the examination of 719 people of whom 154 or twenty-one per cent had a significant hearing loss. As these figures are an average of both noisy and not so noisy industries, one would expect the hearing loss figures to be higher in the more noisy industries and this is shown in a breakdown of the figures. One industry returned a figure of thirty-two per cent of tested employees with a hearing loss.

Other major projects in hand but not completed at the time of this report are a State-wide survey of asbestos exposure in industry, an epidemiological survey of back injuries in hospitals, and a medical surveillance program for a major industry.

Due to the increase in staff it was possible to increase the support and direct supervision of the staff based in Launceston. Weekly visits were made by one or other of the medical officers to advise them and to plan and direct projects with them in the North of the State.

The bulk of the staff time, as in previous years, is still occupied in discussing with and answering enquiries from management, unions, Government organisations and others regarding aspects of work and health and in more formal educational procedures as will be mentioned later.

During the year fifty-two work sites were visited and in most cases an improvement in working conditions resulted. Visual screening was also carried out on eighty-six employees in two special industries. Blood samples were taken for routine lead estimations in four industries and urine samples for arsenic in two. All the results obtained were normal. New dust sampling equipment was purchased during the year and a protocol for doing asbestos surveys was established. A protocol for the estimation of other types of dust is being established. The lack of a trained chemical hygienist on the staff was keenly felt during the year with the increase in industry and union interest in occupational health but to offset this, invaluable help was obtained from the laboratory staff in the Departments of Mines, Environment and Agriculture.

As mentioned before, educational assistance in the form of lectures and tutorials was provided for the following organisations: the Trade Union Training Authority; the Faculties of Medicine and Science; University of Tasmania; the Australian Maritime College, Launceston and the St John Ambulance. In addition a very successful weekend seminar on Occupational Health was held in conjunction with the College of General Practitioners. This seminar attracted 70 participants who included doctors, sisters, first-aiders, unionists, managers and lawyers. The industrial sister had an article published in 'Community Nursing' dealing with the principles of Occupational Health.

The staff also participated in a number of inter-departmental committees where an occupational health input was required. All of the abovementioned activities necessitated the closest collaboration with appropriate officers of the Departments of Labour and Industry and Mines who administer the legislation affecting industry. This co-operation increased steadily during the year and at present regular meetings are held to discuss ongoing projects.

SCREENING OF REFUGEES

The program for screening of refugees under the Office of the Attorney-General and in co-operation with Commonwealth authorities continued. In the South this consisted of funding and arranging supplies for a private practice which did the practical screening of all new Asian immigrants within a very short time of arrival.

In the North this was done via private practitioners, but in the North-West area the work was carried out by the Regional Medical Officer of Health.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Thirty new cases of Tuberculosis were notified under the Tuberculosis Act to the Tuberculosis Division. A further sixty-eight other notifiable diseases were notified under the Public Health Act.

The Tuberculosis cases do not include re-activated cases who, although re-notified during the year, were in fact first notified in previous years. There were four such re-activated cases. The distribution among municipalities was as follows:—

Hobart	8
Glenorchy	4
Clarence	4
Launceston	4
Burnie	2
Brighton	1
Devonport	1
George Town	1
Green Ponds	1
Queenstown	1
St Leonards	1
Sorell	1
Ulverstone	1
	30

Of the conditions notified under the Public Health Act *Salmonella* infections and Hepatitis provided eighty-seven per cent of all cases. The occurrence of *Salmonellosis* indicates, in most instances, food contamination. It is therefore a general principle that infected persons who work in food industries are kept off work until cleared of infection. One of the *Salmonella typhi-murium* cases was a barmaid, and one of her eight contacts was a food handler.

One human case of Typhoid occurred in a man recently returned from Indonesia. A daughter was found also to be infected a few days later. Both were admitted to the Wynyard Hospital where a ward had to be opened because of concern shown by North-Western General staff about isolation. These cases occasioned much contact tracing and answering of queries by anxious parents of schoolchildren. Thirteen contacts were found who had eaten at the affected family's home (or vice versa). All were subjected to periodic examinations of urine, stools and blood immediately and at the expiry of the incubation period. Several false alarms occurred due to extensive publicity and although enquiries were received day and night for the first four weeks the media displayed much responsibility in reporting accurately information provided to them. In the investigation it was discovered that a West German couple who had teamed up in Indonesia with the Tasmanian family developed typhoid on return to West Germany despite the fact that they had been immunised against that disease immediately prior to departure. The Tasmanian family had not been immunised against Typhoid but had been immunised against Cholera.

One case of *Leptospirosis* on the North-West Coast occasioned a survey with the help of local doctors to enable the Department of Agriculture to decide whether the expense of testing all dairy herds in the area was justified.

VENEREAL DISEASE

It was pleasing to note that no cases of Syphilis seemed to have occurred during the year. The low incidence of this scourge over recent years requires that all cases be carefully checked and followed up with much effort so as to avoid possible outbreaks should an infection from interstate or overseas be found here.

The occurrence of Gonorrhoea appears to be fairly constant.

The question of efficiency of notifications was raised by the Medical Officer of Health for Hobart. It was also of concern to the Public Health Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia. One suggestion was that specific reporting by special laboratories and by designated general practices might provide better epidemiological information for the practising medical professions than the simple reporting of cases by law which is known in many countries to be deficient and very difficult to assess. In some surveys elsewhere it has been suggested that Gonorrhoea might be undernotified by between six and ten times. Unfortunately the means available in Tasmania do not allow for specific surveys here.

The possibility of new approaches to notification will be looked at in the coming year.

HEALTH INSPECTION SECTION

NEW LEGISLATION

A Bill to amend the Public Health Act received further consideration. Due to delays in final drafting it was not ready for presentation during the year under review.

The Public Health (Food and Drug Standards) Regulations were amended to require packages of pre-packed bread to show a Baked On — or Baking Date on the label. Although this amendment was Gazetted on 29 April 1981, the proposed enforcement of the provisions will not take place until 1 December 1981. This action was necessary to enable manufacturers sufficient time to obtain suitable date marking equipment and machinery.

An amendment to the Public Health (Food Hygiene) Regulations provided for the adoption of the Minister's Standard Rules and Specifications for —

- (1) Vehicles from which fish may be distributed for retail sale.
- (2) Vehicles used for the carriage of milk and dairy products.

SEPTIC TANKS

A total of 1 457 septic tank applications were processed during the past year.

On a regional basis the breakdown of these applications is as follows:—

	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Rejected</i>
North-West Region	266	3 (1.13%)
Northern Region	514	30 (5.84%)
Southern Region	598	46 (7.69%)

SUB-DIVISIONS

The following table shows details of the number of land sub-division proposals examined for suitability for the disposal of septic tank effluent and sullage:—

North-West Region	175
Northern Region	116
Southern Region	255

These range from small to large proposals. All advice as to suitability is given to the Town and Country Planning Commission which collates that information in deciding how to deal with proposals before it.

TOWN SEWERAGE SCHEMES

The main activity in this field has been minor extensions to existing schemes.

Unfortunately the action predicated in the last report in relation to a formal inquiry under the Sewers and Drains Act in relation to the sewerage of Cambridge has not yet occurred.

PLACES OF ASSEMBLY

The examination of plans and specifications of 114 new places of assembly as defined by Part V of the Public Health Act continued. Plans of alterations and additions to existing premises are also subject to an assessment before local council approval.

FOOD PREMISES INSPECTIONS

The inspection of establishments licensed under the Licensing Act 1962 still constitutes a major workload in this section. A reasonable time factor would be about 20–25 per cent of each Inspector's yearly work output. This estimate includes physical inspections, reports, plan assessments, and follow-up duties associated with these inspections.

Plans of 148 new food premises and alterations were also examined for compliance with the Public Health Act and Food Hygiene Regulations.

FOOD SURVEYS

The section continues its involvement with the Commonwealth Department of Health in the collection of samples of perishable foods for microbiological examination. These samples are collected on a weekly basis and forwarded to Sydney for analysis to help determine the State's position in the National Market Basket Surveys of food.

Sampling of a wide range of locally produced and imported foods is also undertaken on a quarterly basis for pesticide residue and noxious substances determination.

Local sampling and analysis of foods including milk has continued. Four hundred and fifty samples were checked bacteriologically.

HEALTH AUDIT

A Health Audit of the Spring Bay Municipality was completed during the year.

The final report was supplied to the Council and other interested authorities.

RECALL OF DEFECTIVE FOODS

The section was again involved with the recall and seizure of suspect and contaminated foods during the year.

These recalls included canned fish from Western Australia, Chinese food from Queensland, mineral water from Victoria and canned rockmellon from Taiwan.

The service encourages manufacturing and distributing companies to lodge with it the standard arrangements for recall procedures in the case of mishap. That practice simplifies understanding and speeds up actual recall when instituted. It helps avoid public confusion which can be damaging to industries and services alike.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

A total of 4 311 samples were checked bacteriologically during the year. Details of type are provided in the following table.

Many of the waters were provided by agencies such as the Department of the Environment and the Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Others came from municipalities directly.

The return of analyst's reports from the Government Analyst's Laboratory showed ninety-five food samples checked chemically for compliance with the Public Health Act. Of these sixty-seven failed to comply with a standard laid down.

The relative infrequency of food sampling is a source of concern. It points to the probability that Municipal Health Inspectors are kept so busy at other forms of health inspection work that food surveillance is relatively infrequent. With increasing frequency of re-call of foods suspect it is important the food surveillance receive adequate priority.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

LIST OF SENIOR OFFICERS

Director-General of Health Services:

G. MACKAY-SMITH, M.B.B.S. (Qld), B.H.A., F.R.A.C.M.A., A.H.A., F.A.I.M., J.P.

I. HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Chief Inspecting Pharmacist:

F. D. POTTS, Ph.C., M.P.S.

Registrar of Nurses:

Mrs M. R. ALLWRIGHT, Dip.N.Admin. (Lond.), F.C.N.A., J.P.

II. DEPARTMENTAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Chief Administrative Officer:

L. J. BAILLIE, B.Com. (Tas.), A.A.S.A., J.P.

Administrative Officer:

R. H. MIDDLETON, A.A.S.A., A.I.P.M.

Chief Accountant:

R. T. HAWKES, A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S.

Accountants:

E. J. KREMZER, B.Ec. (Tas.), A.A.S.A.

G. N. McELWEE, B.Ec. (Tas.), A.A.S.A.

Executive Officer-in-Charge, Property Section:

D. T. BJORKLUND, Dip.Pub.Admin.

III. DEPARTMENTAL MEDICAL OPERATIONAL SERVICES

Hospital, Medical and Nursing Services Consultant and Advisory Branch

Director of Hospital and Medical Services:

J. M. SPARROW, M.B.B.S. (Melb.), B.H.A., A.H.A., F.R.A.C.M.A., J.P.

Senior Medical Officer (Community Health and Geriatrics):

J. T. CURRAN, M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.), M.Sc., M.D., D.R.C.O.G., M.R.A.C.G.P.

St John's Park Hospital

General Superintendent:

S. A. GINSBERG, M.B., Ch.B. (Cape Town), F.R.A.C.M.A.

Secretary:

R. T. LANGDALE.

Cancer Registry

Medical Director:

L. A. F. YOUNG, M.B.B.S. (Melb.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.)

Division of Public Health

Director of Public Health:

A. D. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Edin.), D.T.M.&H. (Eng.), F.R.A.C.M.A.

Senior Medical Officer — Child Health Services:

CATHERINE MAIR, L.R.C.P. (Edin.), L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), D.C.H., D.P.H. (Edin.)

Industrial Medical Officer — Occupational and Environmental Health:

E. J. McARDLE, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O. (N.U.I.), L.M. (Coombe), D.I.H. (Apoth.), D.I.H. (Eng.), F.R.A.C.M.A.

Assistant Senior Medical Officer — Child Health Services:

W. E. CROWTHER, M.B., B.S., M.R.A.N.Z.C.P.

*Regional Medical Officers of Health:**North-West Coast—*

A. FARNHILL-MORGAN, M.B.B.S. (Durham), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), D.P.H. (Birm.)

Chief Health Inspector:

R. H. FREEMAN, R.S.H., M.I.H.S.

Executive Officer:

W. RICHARDS.

School Dental Health Service**DISTRICT DENTAL SERVICE***Director of Dental Services:*

A. D. ESLAKE, B.D.S. (Syd.)

SCHOOL OF DENTAL THERAPY*Principal:*

B. A. J. RIEDEL, B.D.S. (Syd.)

Deputy Principal:

J. D. BELLAMY, L.D.S. (Birm.)

Dental Officer Tutor (seconded from Commonwealth Department):

H. R. J. MARSHALL, B.D.Sc. (Melb.)

Matron (Dental Therapist):

Mrs P. MERHULIK.

ORTHODONTIC SERVICE:*Senior Orthodontist:*

R. L. WEST, B.D.Sc. (Melb.), L.D.S.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:*Executive Officer:*

M. J. TINDALL.

Government Analyst's Laboratory*Government Analyst and Chemist:*

M. H. R. SHIPP, B.Sc., A.R.A.C.I.

Deputy Government Analyst and Chemist:

J. W. WISHART, B.Sc., A.R.A.C.I.

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APPENDIX I

SCHOOL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1980

1. DETAILS OF DOCTOR'S EXAMINATIONS

A. NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS—

	Number	Per cent of Total
Total number examined	30 573	
Number with notification of defect(s)	5 499	17.98
Number without defects	25 071	
Number of physical defects notified	6 121	
Number of dental defects notified	288	
Number examined with parent present	10 124	33.12
<i>Regional Distribution:</i>		
South	16 294	
North and North-East	7 541	
North-West and West	6 738	
	30 573	

2. DETAILS OF SISTERS' WORK

<i>A. Contacts with Parents—</i>		
Interviews at School	15 877	
Present at Medical Inspection	25 066	
Home Visits	4 618	
<i>B. Contacts with Children—</i>		
Routine School Visits	193 596	
Medical Inspections	30 593	
Minor Casualties: Accidents	4 323	
Illness	1 716	
Immunisation	8 168	

3. GOITRE — INCIDENCE OF VISIBLY ENLARGED THYROID

	Total Recorded	Number with Visible Goitre	Per cent with Visible Goitre
<i>New Entrants:</i>			
Boys	3 594	1	0.03
Girls	3 382	3	0.09
<i>1969 Age Group</i>			
Boys	3 637	3	0.08
Girls	3 568	19	0.53
<i>1965 Age Group</i>			
Boys	2 170	3	0.14
Girls	2 289	31	1.35

OBESITY

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED AS OVERWEIGHT IN THE YEARS 1979 AND 1980

1979				1980			
Children examined in 1979	Examined	Notified	Per cent notified	Children examined in 1980	Examined	Notified	Per cent notified
Males	10 833	111	1.02	Males	10 168	92	0.9
Females	10 564	145	1.37	Females	10 053	155	1.54
TOTAL	21 397	256	1.2	TOTAL	20 221	247	1.22

The above tables show that the overall incidence of overweight conditions notified by School Medical Officers in the school years 1979 and 1980 fall within the same range, that is approximately 1.2 per cent of notifications in each year.

The first table may indicate a slightly lower incidence among males in the 1969 and 1965 age groups when compared with 1968 and 1964 age groups.

CHILDREN NOTIFIED AS OVERWEIGHT

IN THE YEAR 1979			IN THE YEAR 1980		
	Number examined	Number notified		Number examined	Number notified
New entrants:			New entrants:		
Males	3 542	4	Males	3 756	17
Females	3 377	15	Females	3 483	16
TOTAL	6 919	19	TOTAL	7 239	33
Old entrants:			Old entrants:		
Males	720	3	Males	553	....
Females	692	6	Females	651	13
TOTAL	1 412	9	TOTAL	1 204	13
1968 age group:			1969 age group:		
Males	3 625	62	Males	3 668	48
Females	3 585	75	Females	3 601	77
TOTAL	7 210	137	TOTAL	7 269	125
1964 age group:			1965 age group:		
Males	2 946	42	Males	2 191	27
Females	2 910	49	Females	2 318	49
TOTAL	5 856	91	TOTAL	4 509	76

CATEGORIES

1. Entry

- 'New' entrants — first examination of children just entering school — born 1974 and later.
- 'Old' entrants — first examination of children born 1973 and earlier. Transfers from interstate or overseas, of local children entering school late or absent at time of previous inspection.

2. Routine

- 1969 age group.
- 1965 age group.
- Miscellaneous — children from other age groups fully examined for various reasons, usually because absent the previous year.

3. Review of previously diagnosed defects.

4. Special — Referred by class or physical education teacher, guidance officer, speech therapist, school sister or parent.

APPENDIX II

STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE 1

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE — CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND

The expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund Appropriation Act for the year 1980-81 was \$109 591 654, an increase of \$11 364 154 over 1979-80. Comparative figures are:

	1979-80 \$	1980-81 \$
Administration — Head Office	858 935	975 427
Hospital and Medical services—		
Administration	553 569	576 950
Grants to Hospitals	75 677 483	84 366 266
Medical Services, Country	483 214	465 089
Community Health Services	2 119 693	2 472 339
Interim Ambulance Authority — Government contribution	1 925 000	2 603 389
Public Health Division —		
Administration and Inspectors	711 064	842 863
Fluoridation — Public Water Supplies	179 274	228 710
School Medical Service	636 533	690 123
Child Health Service	782 156	841 834
Grants—		
Red Cross Blood Transfusion	487 720	441 554
Medical Unions	75 500	80 000
Senior Citizens Centres	201 917	268 393
Miscellaneous	380 000	225 000
Other —		
Pharmaceutical Section	109 687	115 500
Dental Health Service	2 950 228	3 329 750
Government Analyst and Chemist	399 401	467 963
Nurses' Registration Board	74 228	83 040
Victorian and Tasmanian Cancer Institute	740 000	820 000
Planning, Evaluation and Research Unit	40 116	34 335
Alcohol and Drug Dependency Board	49 889	55 837
X-Ray Unit and Cancer Registry	108 685	115 273
Costs of Management Consultant Services	194 000	65 000
Pensions payable to former employees of Public Hospitals	621 678	699 682
Cost of Inquiry into the needs of the Handicapped	37 437	7 500
St John's Park Hospital, New Town	7 830 093	8 719 837
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$98 227 500	\$109 591 654

TABLE 2

DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The revenue receipts for the financial year 1980-81 amounted to \$52 266 546 being an increase of \$8 101 377 over the year 1979-80.

	1979-80	1980-81
	\$	\$
Commonwealth Reimbursements—		
Community Health Services	1 231 358	1 288 714
Health Program Grants	227 506	243 035
Home Care Service	584 384	630 068
Medibank Hospital Agreement	35 491 211	42 604 208
Paramedical Service	20 810	22 899
Pharmaceutical Benefits	270 132	85 056
Planning, Evaluation and Research Unit	10 000	20 000
Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service	161 400	189 500
Rehabilitation Centre		594 479
School Dental Scheme	1 886 955	1 682 559
Senior Citizen's Centres	135 833	98 421
Departmental Revenue—		
Government Analyst Fees	8 022	9 589
Nurses Registration Board Fees	45 845	76 462
Other Revenue	19 417	41 630
St John's Park Hospital—		
Commonwealth Nursing Home Benefits	2 839 492	3 292 383
Hospital Fees	1 185 769	1 294 229
Miscellaneous	21 845	72 150
Other—		
General Refunds	4 680	6 040
Property Sales	20 510	15 124
	<u>\$44 165 169</u>	<u>\$52 266 546</u>

TABLE 3

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE — LOAN FUND

The capital expenditure by the Department for the year 1980-81 was \$12 263 811, a decrease of \$4 851 744 from the year 1979-80.

Comparative figures are —

	1979-80 \$	1980-81 \$
Geriatric Hospital—		
St John's Park, New Town	281 427	274 665
General Hospitals—		
Royal Hobart	2 800 504	2 287 244
Launceston General	9 057 399	5 603 321
Mersey General	68 042	287 191
North-Western General	5 494	304
Maternity Hospitals—		
Queen Alexandra, Hobart	19 837	725
Queen Victoria, Launceston	1 436	
District Hospitals—		
Beaconsfield		
Campbell Town	41 125	165 624
Flinders	64 437	37 462
Huon		
King Island	3 090	
Longford (Toosey Memorial)		1 794
New Norfolk	71 074	
North-Eastern Soldiers' Memorial (Scottsdale)	16 767	80 178
Ouse		1 282
Rosebery	4 573	1 494
Smithton	2 259	
St Helens Public Hospital	1 200	4 000
St Marys		
Ulverstone	67 948	14 851
West Coast	56 507	22 403
Mothercraft Home	9 335	
Furniture and Equipment	3 779 269	2 910 662
Other Expenditure—		
Community Health Centres	67 702	155 274
Dental Health Service	3 698	
District Medical Service	73 151	11 034
State Nursing Homes		41 395
Furniture and Equipment (other)	379 129	227 687
Purchase of Properties and Miscellaneous Expenditure	240 152	135 221
	\$17 115 555	\$12 263 811

TABLE 4

GENERAL STATISTICS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

Hospital/Subject	Average Daily Number	Per cent Occupancy	IN-PATIENTS																			OUT-PATIENTS									
			Beds Available			Number Treated			Bed Days			Daily Average of Occupied Beds			Average Length of Stay-Days			Patients Attending Hospital			Visiting Services										
			General	Maternity	Cots	Total	General	Maternity	Total In-Patients	General	Maternity	Total Bed Days	General	Maternity	Total Daily Average	General	Maternity	Average All Patients	Births (Total Deliveries)	No. of Registered Persons	Total Attendances	Av. No. of Visits Per Person Treated	Home Nursing	Home Help							
GENERAL HOSPITALS:																															
Royal Hobart Hospital—																															
Royal Hobart Hospital (City)	339.53	69.01	492	—	—	492	15 765	—	15 765	123 932	—	123 932	339.53	—	339.53	7.86	—	7.86	—	57 566	190 669	3.31	84 322	12 558							
Queen Alexandra	45.09	66.32	—	68	—	68	—	2 312	2 312	—	16 461	16 461	—	45.09	45.09	—	7.11	7.11	1 759	946	7 459	8.09	—	—							
Neo-Natal	7.86	56.16	—	—	14	14	349	—	349	2 870	—	2 870	7.86	—	7.86	8.22	—	8.22	—	—	—	—	—	—							
District Nursing Centres	3.38	26.06	13	—	—	13	183	—	183	1 237	—	1 237	3.38	—	3.38	6.75	—	6.75	—	5 953	23 575	3.96	26 779	4 445							
Vaulcove	4.63	26.88	15	—	—	15	50	—	50	1 472	—	1 472	4.63	—	4.63	29.44	—	29.44	—	97	107	1.05	—	—							
Lady Clark	2.50	6.80	38	—	—	38	60	—	60	916	—	916	2.50	—	2.50	15.26	—	15.26	—	182	2 807	15.42	—	—							
Royal Hobart Hospital Total	402.43	62.88	558	68	14	640	16 407	2 312	18 719	130 427	16 461	146 888	357.33	45.09	402.43	7.92	7.11	7.94	1 759	64 744	224 817	3.47	111 101	17 003							
Launceston General Hospital—																															
Launceston General Hospital (City)	271.01	70.94	354	—	28	382	9 814	—	9 814	98 919	—	98 919	271.01	—	271.01	10.07	—	10.07	—	26 607	105 440	3.96	124 273	25 016							
Evandale	27.36	91.22	30	—	—	30	38	—	38	9 989	—	9 989	27.36	—	27.36	262.86	—	262.86	—	—	—	—	—	3 414	—						
District Nursing Centres	32.53	65.07	50	—	—	50	888	—	888	11 877	—	11 877	32.53	—	32.53	13.37	—	13.37	—	—	—	—	—	15 323	4 395						
Launceston General Hospital Total	330.91	71.62	434	—	28	462	10 740	—	10 740	120 785	—	120 785	330.91	—	330.91	11.24	—	11.24	—	26 607	105 440	3.96	143 010	29 411							
Mersey General Hospital—																															
Latrobe	82.38	58.01	142	—	—	142	3 918	—	3 918	30 070	—	30 070	82.38	—	82.38	7.67	—	7.67	—	7 123	11 200	1.58	7 363	8 787							
Devonport	30.06	66.80	18	27	—	45	798	1 017	1 815	4 639	6 334	10 973	12.70	17.35	30.06	5.81	6.22	6.04	777	14 546	39 029	2.69	—	—							
Mersey General Hospital Total	112.44	60.13	160	27	—	187	4 716	1 017	5 733	34 709	6 334	41 043	95.09	17.35	112.44	7.35	6.22	7.15	777	21 669	50 229	2.32	7 363	8 787							
North-Western General Hospital—																															
Burnie	100.12	70.50	89	28	25	142	5 542	1 114	6 656	28 428	8 117	36 545	77.88	22.23	100.12	5.12	7.28	5.49	829	21 803	54 725	2.50	19 493	21 263							
Spencer Division (Wynyard)	71.85	61.41	105	12	—	117	1 506	—	1 506	26 227	—	26 227	71.85	—	71.85	17.41	—	17.41	—	2 757	16 673	6.04	11 120	—							
Savage River	4.62	36.61	11	—	—	11	363	—	374	1 428	—	1 428	4.62	—	4.62	3.91	0.11	4.02	3.91	647	1 381	2.13	—	—							
North-Western General Hospital Total	176.00	65.18	205	40	25	270	7 411	1 125	8 536	56 083	8 159	64 242	153.65	22.35	176.00	7.56	7.25	7.52	834	25 207	72 779	2.88	30 613	21 263							
Total General	1 021.80	65.54	1 357	135	67	1 559	39 274	4 454	43 728	342 004	30 954	372 958	936.99	84.80	1 021.80	8.70	6.94	8.52	3 370	138 227	453 265	3.27	292 087	76 464							
MATERNITY HOSPITALS:																															
Queen Alexandra*	23.27	36.36	—	52	12	64	25	259	284	205	1 936	2 141	2.22	21.04	23.27	8.20	7.47	7.53	220	45	116	2.57	—	—							
Queen Victoria	73.35	62.69	29	68	20	117	1 506	—	1 506	26 227	—	26 227	73.35	—	73.35	4.56	7.36	5.96	1 749	1 804	6 260	3.47	—	—							
Maternity Total	96.62	49.52	29	120	32	181	2 262	2 507	4 769	10 419	18 496	28 915	30.20	66.40	96.62	4.60	7.37	6.06	1 969	1 849	6 376	3.44	—	—							
DISTRICT HOSPITALS:																															
Beaconsfield	26.89	79.10	31	3	—	34	378	56	434	9 543	274	9 817	26.14	0.75	26.89	25.24	4.89	22.61	37	256	456	1.78	4 878	2 226							
Campbell Town	16.21	73.72	15	3	4	22	615	—	615	5 920	—	5 920	16.21	—	16.21	9.62	—	9.62	—	1 459	4 825	3.30	6 910	2 106							
Hoon—																															
Franklin	22.02	56.47	24	10	5	39	256	121	377	7 302	737	8 039	20.00	2.01	22.02	28.52	6.09	21.32	81	—	—	—	6 597	404							
Dover	6.44	71.62	9	—	—	9	79	—	79	2 353	—	2 353	6.44	—	6.44	29.78	—	29.78	—	—	—	—	—	—							
Hoon Total	28.47	59.31	33	10	5	48	335	121	456	9 655	737	10 392	26.45	2.01	28.47	28.82	6.09	22.78	81	—	—	—	6 597	404							
King Island																															
New Norfolk	30.98	78.21	19	2	3	24	304	33	337	4 895	205	5 100	13.41	0.56	33.97	16.10	6.21	15.13	20	2 459	3 446	1.40	3 512	625							
North-Eastern Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	37.27	76.08	44	5	—	49	1 091	101	1 192	12 916	691	13 607	35.38	1.89	37.27	11.83	6.84	11.41	88	4 359	10 672	2.44	22 868	4 004							
Ouse	8.65	86.54	8	1	1	10	223	57	280	2 874	285	3 159	7.83	0.78	8.65	12.88	5.00	11.28	33	—	—	—	1 641	109							
Rosebery	4.52	30.17	10	2	3	15	446	39	485	1 524	128	1 652	4.17	0.35	4.52	3.41	3.28	3.40	24	2 273	2 854	1.25	—	484							
Southport	21.92	54.55	26	7	7	40	705	146	851	7 056	909	7 965	19.33	2.49	21.92	10.00	6.22	9.35	105	1 263	1 720	1.36	3 881	888							
St Helens	4.97	55.28	8	1	—	9	280	17	297	1 728	88	1 816	4.73	0.24	4.97	6.17	5.17	6.11	4	1 495	2 076	1.38	4 790	1 000							
St Marys	15.64	82.33	19	—	—	19	334	13	347	5 662	48	5 710	15.51	0.13	15.64	16.95	3.69	16.45	3	720	1 823	2.53	5 122	1 640							
Toney	21.93	66.46	25	—	—	25	33	551	—	551	8 006	—	8 006	21.93	—	21.93	14.52	—	14.52	—	1 405	3 920	2.79	3 108	2 062						
Uverbstone	34.84	72.59	40	8	—	48	762	195	957	11 634	1 085	12 719	31.87	2.97	34.84	15.26	5.56	13.29	121	2 281	7 109	3.11	11 761	4 976							
West Coast	25.15	78.50	40	3	—	43	885	68	953	8 895	287	9 182	24.36	0.78	25.15	10.05	4.22	9.63	35	8 051	15 302	1.90	7 988	4 471							
Total District	291.37	66.82	351	51	34	436	7 543	948	8 491	101 040	5 313	106 353	276.82	14.56	291.37	13.39	5.60	12.52	625	28 513	55 035	1.93	88 047	27 206							
MISCELLANEOUS:																															
Peacock	18.02	62.15	29	—	—	29	336	—	336	6 579	—	6 579	18.02	—	18.02	19.58	—	19.58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Mothercraft	8.92	49.60	2	—	—	2	18	258	—	258	3 259	—	3 259	8.92	—	8.92	12.43	—	12.43	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Total Miscellaneous	26.95	57.34	31	—	—	31	47	594	—	594	9 838	—	9 838	26.95	—	26.95	16.56	—	16.56	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Grand Total	1 419.35	63.84	1 768	306	149	2 223	49 673	7 909	57 582	463 301	54 763	518 064	1 269.31	150.03	1 419.35	9.32	6.92	8.99	5 964	168 589	514 676	3.05	380 134	103 670							

YEARLY COMPARISONS

Year—	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81																			
1	529.73	67.09	1 738	319	223	2 280	50 154	8 839	58 993	495 730	62 620	558 350	1 358 17	171.56	1 529.73	9.88	7.08	9.46	6 030	151 792	511 099	5.37	244 603	411 514
2	1 497.02	66.98	1 740	290	196	2 235	49 395	8 556	57 951	486 206	60 177	546 383	1 329.73	167.29	1 497.02	9.84	7.03	9.43	5 886	167 070	556 097	5.32	190 059	367 360
3	1 466.92	65.55	1 790	284	156	2 338	48 816	8 070	56 886	478 192	57 243	535 435	1 310.09	156.83	1 466.92	9.79	7.00	9.41	5 895	165 788	533 869	5.23	195 911	414 479
4	1 516.36	67.88	1 800	280	154	2 234	50 416	8 960	58 106	538 154	53 439	534 987	1 370.35	146.01	1 516.36	9.95	6.95	9.55	5 768	161 860	531 045	5.28	337 435	79 007
5	1 419.35	63.84	1 768	306	149	2 224	49 675	7 909	57 582	463 543	54 763	518 964	1 269.31	150.03	1 419.35	9.32	6.92	9.59	5 968	168 589	514 676	5.35	330 373	103 848

TABLE 5
PUBLIC HOSPITALS — SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS,
COSTS, ETC., FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1961

TABLE 6
STATISTICS OF DISTRICT NURSING CENTRES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

Hospital Number	Hospital/Statistic	In-Patients						Out-Patients					Hospital Number	
		Daily Average of Occupied Beds	Per cent Occupancy	Total Beds Available	Total Number Treated	Total Bed Days	Average Length of Stay	Patients Attending Hospital			Visiting Services			
								Number of Registered Persons	Total Attendances	Average Number of Visits Per Persons Treated	Home Nursing	Home Help		
1	Alonnah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	327	2 819	8.62	1 482	636	1
2	Avoca	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91	169	1.85	1 059	396	2
3	Cygnnet	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1 171	7 619	6.50	2 137	681	3
4	Deloraine	.....	74.45	20	325	5 435	16.72	.....	.....	.....	4 125	1 037	4
5	Dover	.....	6.44	71.62	9	79	2 353	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
6	George Town	.....	11.55	77.05	15	485	4 219	.....	.....	.....	3 882	2 013	6
7	Gladstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	69	2.02	2 750	544	7
8	Lilydale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 389	3 154	2.27	2 802	.....	8
9	Mole Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 058	1 489	1.40	.....	.....	9
10	Oatlands	.....	2.61	52.38	5	125	956	1 398	1 736	1.24	2 666	.....	10
11	Ringarooma	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	60	1.5	2 253	235	11
12	Rossarden-Storeys Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79	136	1.72	538	.....	12
13	Savage River	.....	4.02	36.61	11	375	1 470	647	1 381	2.13	.....	.....	13
14	Strahan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	159	169	0.94	1 648	379	14
15	Swansea	0.76	19.24	4	58	281	4.84	402	2.447	6.08	2 303	15
16	Tasman	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	1 537	5 999	3.90	1 669	434	16
17	Triabunna	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 118	2 955	2.64	3 507	557	17
	Total	40.31	58.42	69	1 447	14 714	10.16	9 450	30 202	3.19	32 821	6 912		
YEARLY COMPARISONS														
Year—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1976-77	.....	34.31	52.79	65	996	12 524	12.57	13 294	40 403	3.04	19 657	2 836	
1977-78	.....	33.08	50.11	66	1 119	12 069	10.66	13 578	36 149	2.66	21 414	4 885	
1978-79	.....	34.46	60.47	57	1 155	12 580	10.89	12 075	32 043	2.65	26 083	9 362	
1979-80	.....	38.82	57.26	68	1 373	14 212	10.35	13 759	31 142	2.28	31 580	5 484	
1980-81	.....	40.31	58.42	69	1 447	14 714	10.16	9 450	30 202	3.19	32 821	6 912	

STATISTICS OF DISTRICT NURSING CENTRE

Hospital Number	In-Patients					
	In-Patients			Out-Patients		
	Admitted	Discharged	Deaths	Admitted	Discharged	Deaths
1	1	1	0	1	1	0
2	1	1	0	1	1	0
3	1	1	0	1	1	0
4	1	1	0	1	1	0
5	1	1	0	1	1	0
6	1	1	0	1	1	0
7	1	1	0	1	1	0
8	1	1	0	1	1	0
9	1	1	0	1	1	0
10	1	1	0	1	1	0
11	1	1	0	1	1	0
12	1	1	0	1	1	0
13	1	1	0	1	1	0
14	1	1	0	1	1	0
15	1	1	0	1	1	0
16	1	1	0	1	1	0
17	1	1	0	1	1	0
Total	17	17	0	17	17	0

Year	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81
In-Patients	17	17	17	17	17
Out-Patients	17	17	17	17	17
Total	34	34	34	34	34

TABLE 7

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR CARE OF AGED INVALIDS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

					Approved Nursing Home Beds						
					Other Accommo- dation	Beds Available	Bed Days		Daily Average	Per Cent Occupancy	
							Ordinary	Ordinary With Extensive Care Benefit			Total
Cosgrove Park	....	....	....	....	136	144	27 452	22 324	49 776	136.37	94.70
St John's Park	....	....	....	....	20	555	91 673	71 393	163 066	446.75	80.49
Spencer Home for the Aged	....				....	54	1 822	12 720	14 542	39.84	73.77
Mersey Nursing Home	....	....			....	67	3 566	19 841	23 407	64.12	95.71
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	156	820	124 513	126 278	250 791	687.09	83.79

TABLE 8

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

Municipality	Salmonella	Hepatitis	Shigella	Typhoid	Hydatids	Leptospirosis	Malaria	Total
Beaconsfield	7	1						8
Burnie	3	3	1					7
Circular Head		1						1
Devonport		2						2
Esperance		1						1
Evandale		1						1
Flinders Island	1							1
Gladstone	1							1
Glenorchy		1						1
Hobart	4	7			2		1	14
Huonville	2							2
Latrobe	1	1						2
Launceston	4	9			1			14
Longford	2	1						3
New Norfolk	1	1						2
Ouse	1							1
Penguin	1							1
Ross	1							1
Scottsdale	1							1
Wynyard			1	2		1		4
TOTAL	30	29	2	2	3	1	1	68

TABLE 9

INFANT MORTALITY

Causes of Death in the First Year

Causes	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
<i>Disease of Early Infancy—</i>										
1. Immaturity	10	6	12	8	4	13	2	3	4	6
2. Birth Injury	4	1	1	....	....	1	....	1	1	1
3. Conditions of Pregnancy and Labour	24	13	12	28	32	23	13	7	10	3
4. Anoxia	15	16	15	20	19	15	17	17	22	27
5. Other	4	4	2	6	1	2	2	4	4	5
Total	57	40	42	62	56	54	34	32	41	42
Congenital Malformations	18	14	24	20	18	22	8	15	20	18
Respiratory Diseases	31	45	49	28	8	12	6	5	3	3
Digestive System	3	3	5	2	2	2	1	2	....	....
Nervous System	2	4	4	1	1	2	....	3	1	....
Neoplasms .....	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....	....	....
Accidents and Violence	2	6	3	4	1	1	1	2	2	1
Sudden Death .....	....	....	....	13	33	25	24	37	28	30
Other	3	2	....	6	3	10	3	2	2	1
Total	116	114	127	137	123	128	77	99	97	95
Rate, per cent	14.2	13.7	16.2	18.7	16.6	18.3	11.5	14.7	14.3	14.1

1979: In the age group 1-4, twelve children died, five due to accidents.

Twenty-eight children aged 5-14 died, seventeen as a result of accidents and five from neoplastic disease.

TABLE 10

CASES OF VENEREAL DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

Age	Under 1 Year		1-14		15-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-49		50-59		60-65		Over 65		Age not Stated		Totals	Grand Total	
Sex	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Gonorrhoea	1	3	40	28	39	23	19	11	7	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	119	70	189
Syphilis
Total	1	3	40	28	39	23	19	11	7	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	119	70	189

TABLE 11

NURSES' REGISTRATION BOARD

Training Category	Students				Examinations				
	No. of Training Schools	Com-menced	Resigned	In Training	Candi-dates	Passed	Failed	No. Held	Com-pleted
General	5	230	49	588	190	176	14	3	166
Midwifery	4	89	1	99	100	97	3	3	88
Child Health	1	17	....	10	19	19	....	2	19
Psychiatric	1	33	3	63	23	3	....	1	23
Psychiatric Auxiliary	1	27	3	26	6	5	1	1	5
General Auxiliary	4	125	28	125	139	107	32	2	103
Post Basic —									
Geriatric	1	23	3	21	13	13	....	1	13
Psychiatric	1	6	....	6	4	4	....	2	4
Totals .....	....	550	87	938	494	444	50	15	421

TABLE 12
REGISTRATIONS

<i>Nurses Registered at 30 June 1981</i>								<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nurse	....	....	....	..	....	....	....	4 577	290	4 867
Auxiliary 2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	475	34	509
Auxiliary 1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	627	40	667
TOTAL								5 679	364	6 043

Details of New Registrations for the Year

								<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Total</i>
General	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	413	25	438
Midwifery	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	82	1	83
Psychiatric	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18	36	54
Geriatric	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
Child Health	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	....	4
Mental Deficiency	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	3	5
								520	66	586
Auxiliary General	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	104	4	108
Auxiliary Psychiatric	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	3	5
								106	7	113
TOTAL								626	73	699

TASMANIAN PUBLIC HOSPITALS—1969-70 TO 1980-81
Comparison of Operating Expenditure and Income, Expressed as a Percentage

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Operating Expenditure						
Consumables	2.70	3.74	3.61	4.78	7.40	9.40
Staff Costs	64.75	68.70	67.60	67.97	67.80	70.60
In-Patient Fees	27.40	27.04	26.30	26.78	26.57	27.00
Out-Patient Fees	0.10	0.13	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.14
Other	5.25	6.40	5.32	6.25	10.24	12.24
Total Expenditure	100.20	106.01	105.00	105.00	104.01	119.38
Income Exceeding Staff Costs	35.45	31.30	36.37	36.99	32.40	26.70
Operating Income						
Auditors' Fees	40.00	72.21	55.00	72.20	36.00	81.70
Permanents	5.00	5.50	5.11	4.72	4.00	5.70
Interim	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.60	5.10	5.70
Deposits and Sundry	0.10	0.20	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Special	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	52.20	112.01	77.11	113.62	75.10	103.40

TABLE 13

Analytical tests conducted 1 July 1980 to 30 June 1981

Soils	1 195
Water	800
Biochemical specimens	650
Water (pollution)	575
Plant materials	550
Dangerous drugs	468
Water (fluoride)	460
Pesticide residues	413
Sewage	407
Blood alcohol (breathalyzer)	368
Food	300
Crime exhibits	287
Blood alcohol (ordinary)	283
Toxicology	218
Trade wastes	117
Poppy materials	95
Industrial hygiene	57
Animal poison	52
Seepage	48
Building materials	35
Textiles	33
Corrosion	25
Feeding stuff	14
Lime	12
Petroleum fuels	12
Air pollution	11
Polishes	11
Paint	10
Disinfectants	8
Drugs and medicines	7
Fertiliser	7
Industrial chemicals	6
Pesticide	5
Toys	5
Drugs (Road Safety Act)	3
Soap	2
Oil (essential)	1
Miscellaneous	52
	7 602

TABLE 14

Sources of Samples

Government Departments and Instrumentalities —	
Forestry	1 274
Police	1 140
Coroner	430
Rivers and Water Supply Commission	361
Metropolitan Water Board	245
Hydro-Electric Commission	214
Agriculture	149
Health	120
Environment	118
National Parks and Wildlife	93
Consumer Affairs Council	80
Housing and Construction	70
Mines	26
Fisheries Development Authority	20
Supply and Tender	20
Commonwealth	12
Education	9
Prisons	9
Inland Fisheries	8
Main Roads	3
College of Hospitality	2
Industrial Development	2
Lands	2
Tas. Govt. Insurance Office	2
Fire Brigades Commission	1
Public	1 031
Local Authorities	773
Hospitals	743
University of Tasmania	387
Firms	258
	7 602

TABLE 15

FINANCING OF RECOGNISED HOSPITALS AND CENTRAL SERVICES UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH AND STATE HOSPITAL SERVICES AGREEMENT ACT (MEDIBANK) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1981

Gross operating costs of recognised hospitals amounted to \$94 571 448. Added to this figure in order to derive total gross operating costs were Central Services, that is all Head Office payments made on behalf of recognised hospitals.

						\$
Gross Operating Costs of Recognised Hospitals						94 571 448
Add Central Services —						
A. Salaries and Wages —						\$
Hospital Section Personnel	....	....	....	....	....	183 733
Medical Officer, Sessional	....	....	....	....	....	26 423
Public Health Personnel	....	....	....	....	....	21 877
						232 033
B. Other Head Office Payments —						
Cancer Institute	....	....	....	....	....	820 000
Furniture and Equipment	....	....	....	....	....	546 112
Works and Services	....	....	....	....	....	163 822
						1 529 934
C. Other Central Services —						
State Laboratory	....	....	....	....	....	60 628
Central Medical Store	....	....	....	....	....	130 457
P.A. Management	....	....	....	....	....	65 000
Superannuation	....	....	....	....	....	779 618
						1 035 703
Total Gross Operating Costs						\$97 369 118
Less Revenue						14 290 738
Net Operating Costs						\$83 078 380

Total Net Operating Costs for Medibank was therefore \$83 078 380 and with the 50/50 cost share arrangement in operation, the equal contribution by the Commonwealth and State Governments is \$41 539 190.

TABLE 16

TASMANIAN PUBLIC HOSPITALS — 1969-70 TO 1980-81

Components of Operating Expenditure and Income Expressed as a Percentage

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
RECEIPT ITEMS —						
Commonwealth	9.70	8.74	8.81	8.39	7.49	6.96
State Grant	64.54	66.52	63.63	63.99	67.90	73.64
In-Patient Fees	23.40	21.99	25.86	26.33	23.57	18.65
Out-Patient Fees	2.10	2.13	1.37	1.03	0.80	0.54
Other	0.26	0.30	0.33	0.25	0.24	0.21
TOTAL RECEIPTS	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Income Excluding State Grant	35.48	33.48	36.37	36.00	32.10	26.35
EXPENDITURE ITEMS —						
Salaries and Wages	69.88	72.21	72.05	73.88	76.55	81.31
Provisions	5.98	5.56	5.11	4.72	4.46	3.39
Domestic	7.86	7.53	7.41	6.44	5.18	3.73
Dispensary and Surgical	9.38	8.48	8.69	8.38	7.50	5.88
Administration	4.58	4.36	4.46	4.47	3.79	3.40
Repairs	1.80	1.66	2.00	1.75	2.08	1.38
Special	0.59	0.20	0.28	0.37	0.44	0.41
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

TASMANIAN PUBLIC HOSPITALS — 1969-70 TO 1980-81 — continued
Components of Operating Expenditure and Income Expressed as a Percentage

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81
MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS —						
Medibank —						
Salaries and Wages	77.93	76.64	76.24	75.85	75.11	74.90
Food Supplies	3.53	3.34	3.08	3.20	3.19	2.71
Medical and Surgical	5.70	5.59	5.97	5.77	6.10	7.15
Fuel, Light and Power	2.29	2.08	1.95	2.13	2.26	2.55
Domestic Charges	1.73	2.20	2.40	2.46	2.36	2.30
Renovations to Buildings	0.22	0.37	0.27	0.22	0.15	0.05
Additional Works and Services .....	.....	0.16	0.07	0.06	0.08	0.04
Replacement and Additional Equipment	0.74	0.87	1.01	1.16	0.95	0.38
Repairs and Maintenance	1.64	1.31	1.13	1.31	1.22	1.23
Administration Expenses	3.09	3.18	3.60	3.51	3.33	3.61
Other Expenses	0.34	0.60	0.26	0.44	0.38	0.72
Sub-total Hospital Payments	97.21	96.34	96.02	96.10	95.13	95.64
D.H.S. Loan Fund Payments	0.64	1.29	0.87	0.29	0.99	0.72
Total Medibank Payments	97.85	97.62	96.88	96.39	96.12	96.36
Non-Medibank —						
Visiting Services						
Home Nursing	0.74	0.77	0.84	0.88	0.89	0.72
Community Health	0.52	0.94	1.52	1.66	1.62	1.68
Home Care and Paramedical	0.56	0.56	0.69	0.85	0.97	0.84
Other	0.33	0.11	0.11	0.23	0.40	0.40
TOTAL PAYMENTS	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
MAINTENANCE RECEIPTS —						
Medibank Receipts						
In-patient Fees .....	.....	10.07	15.25	14.29	13.12	9.51
Out-Patient Fees .....	.....	0.38	0.46	0.42	0.77	0.71
Meals and Accommodation .....	.....	1.09	1.13	1.03	0.96	0.75
Other Hospital Revenue .....	.....	3.24	3.20	3.89	4.08	3.64
Medibank Sub-Total .....	.....	14.78	20.04	19.63	18.93	14.61
Visiting Services —						
Home Nursing .....	.....	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.36	0.32
Community Health Program .....	.....	0.84	1.40	0.06	0.08	0.09
Home Care and Paramedical .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Receipts .....	.....	2.97	0.16	0.21	0.31	1.12
State Grant .....	.....	81.15	78.11	79.84	80.32	83.86
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



TASMANIAN PUBLIC HOSPITALS—1969-70 TO 1980-81—continued
Components of Operating Expenditure and Income Expressed as a Percentage

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1976-77	1979-80	1980-81
Expenditure Payments						
Medicinal—						
Salaries and Wages	27.05	27.38	28.78	27.75	28.11	28.40
Food Supplies	2.78	2.54	2.68	2.26	2.18	2.15
Medical and Surgical	2.70	2.58	2.97	2.77	2.70	2.65
Fuel, Light and Power	2.29	2.68	2.77	2.43	2.36	2.30
Domestic Charges	0.05	0.15	0.21	0.22	0.15	0.05
Renovations in buildings	0.02	0.18	0.07	0.05	0.08	0.04
Additional Works and Services	—	0.04	0.07	—	—	0.03
Replacements and Additional Equipment	0.75	0.51	1.01	1.11	1.27	1.31
Repairs and Maintenance	1.08	1.51	1.15	1.11	1.27	1.31
Administration Expenses	0.05	0.10	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.02
Other Expenses	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Subtotal Hospital Payments	37.22	36.54	36.07	36.10	36.13	36.88
D.H.S. Local Fund Payments	0.04	1.29	0.87	0.25	0.99	0.72
Total Medicinal Payments	37.26	37.83	36.94	36.35	37.12	37.60
Non-Medicinal—						
Visiting Services	0.78	0.77	0.84	0.87	0.69	0.72
Home Nursing	0.80	0.84	1.37	1.61	1.62	1.58
Community Health	0.15	0.16	0.43	0.75	0.97	0.84
Home Care and Homebased	0.25	0.61	0.11	0.23	0.43	0.40
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Payments	38.04	39.70	38.62	37.00	38.81	39.30
Expenditure Receipts						
Medicinal Receipts						
Expenditure Free	—	10.07	13.25	13.29	13.72	14.51
Out-Patient Free	—	0.38	0.00	0.45	0.37	0.31
Major and Specialist Care	—	1.00	1.13	1.05	0.96	0.75
Other Hospital Receipts	—	2.25	2.20	2.38	2.43	2.04
Medicinal Sub-Total	—	13.69	16.58	17.17	17.48	17.61
Non-Medicinal Receipts						
Visiting Services	—	0.20	0.50	0.26	0.36	0.37
Home Nursing	—	0.64	1.40	0.96	0.76	0.80
Community Health Program	—	—	—	—	—	—
Home Care and Homebased	—	1.07	0.26	0.31	0.31	0.32
Other Receipts	—	0.15	0.11	0.04	0.12	0.06
Sub-Total	—	2.06	2.27	1.53	1.55	1.55
Total Receipts	—	15.75	18.85	18.70	19.03	19.16

