

1 February 1966.

## CLINICAL SERVICES LETTER NO. 58

### TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Dear Doctor,

#### VISITING PRACTITIONER: DR WARWICK F. BENNETT

Dr Warwick Bennett has now taken up his appointment as Visiting Practitioner, based on Auckland. He will be visiting doctors in the northern parts of the North Island. Dr Peter McKinlay will continue to cover the Wellington, Hutt, Palmerston North, and Wanganui Health Districts\*, and the South Island.

The visiting practitioner calls on private practitioners by appointment in order to discuss prescribing problems, drug costs, and recent advances in therapy. He is closely associated with the Pharmacology and Therapeutics Committee, and has access to the latest information on new drugs.

The object of these appointments is to promote better standards of treatment, reduce unnecessary expenditure on drugs and to foster good relations between the Department and doctors in practice.

#### *No Disciplinary Function*

The visiting practitioner has no disciplinary function, and is not involved in inquiries of that nature.

Dr Bennett is a New Zealander who graduated at Otago in 1955. He has been in general practice at Westport and part-time Assistant Surgeon to the Buller Hospital, where for several months last year he was acting Medical Superintendent.

#### DRUGS FOR USE IN EMERGENCY

Proper procedures have been laid down for providing prescription drugs for emergency use in ships, aircraft, isolated areas, and for ski grounds, search parties, etc. Doctors who may be approached about the supply of drugs for such purposes should refer the inquirer to the local Medical Officer of Health.

Prescription poisons, restricted drugs, and dangerous drugs may be ordered by a doctor only "in the practice of his profession and for the treatment of a patient under his care".

\*See map, page 9, *Where Should I Practise?*

P.T.O.

DR JOHN M. TWHIGG, D.S.O.,

On the occasion of his retirement from active practice we would like to pay tribute to one of the leading figures in New Zealand medicine. Dr Twigg has served his profession and his country in many capacities, both civil and military. We wish to record our appreciation of the excellent work he has done on the Medical Services and the Pharmacology and Therapeutics Advisory Committees. He has been a member of both since their inception, and except when overseas has never missed a meeting.

For many years he has been the senior member of both committees, respected by his colleagues for his wisdom, experience, and judgment.

Few who have not served on these committees realise the demands they make on members. The background material for the pharmacology committee is often inches thick. It was clear from Dr Twigg's contributions to discussions that he had invariably studied every detail. In the past seven years he has also found time, usually at short notice, to read, criticise, and not infrequently redraft every issue of our Prescribers' Notes. We will always remember with gratitude his sound and kindly guidance.

Yours faithfully,

*A. W. S. Thompson*

(A. W. S. THOMPSON)  
Director,

Division of Clinical Services.

*T. L. Hayes*

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Assistant Director,