

from local druggists remembering that a condition was inserted that the drugs or medicines were not to be supplied until called for, and if not called for they were not, of course, paid for.

But what happens now? Requisitions come down here and the articles are packed into cases and shipped. These packages, weighing between four and five hundred pounds, have been even shipped as far as Prince George, and from there north, and I know for a positive fact that there is a considerable loss, as drugs and medicines deteriorate from forty to fifty per cent in many cases. Formerly the druggists in Prince George had the privilege of tendering and they could send these medicines north as required. That has been stopped. Moreover, these operations are contrary to the Pharmacy Act of the province. Even in the hop-picking area a miniature drug store has been set up with a matron in charge. I was in a small town where I called on the druggist and he pointed out to me one of these small stores three hundred yards away in a hop yard. A woman was in charge of it. She came to this druggist with a little bottle of crystals and said she had instructions to prepare an eye lotion of five to ten per cent strength. She did not know how to mix it and this druggist prepared the lotion for her. All these goods labelled "poison" came through from Ottawa and were put in charge of one with no knowledge whatever of dispensing and not qualified under the laws of the province.

I ask the minister to consider this carefully for more than one reason. I am sure he would save between four and five thousand dollars a year on the quantity shipped. I know that the druggists in the province never figured on more than ten per cent of a handling charge on all drugs supplied through the wholesalers, and the price is practically the same as it is down here. They have a right to the business.

There is another important matter I have to bring to the minister's attention, and I must lay some of the blame at his door. I refer to dental services. Before I left I received a complaint that a change was being made, and when I arrived here I put on the order paper a question, the answer to which was brought down as a return. I inquired as to the amount of money expended in dental services among the Indians, and particularly in the Indian schools. Everyone will agree, I think, that in every community those who are engaged in dental clinic work and in other health improvement activities among children are performing a public service that should be encouraged. This work among

the Indians should not be allowed to suffer, particularly in the Indian schools. I find that in 1934 the amount paid for dental services was only \$1,203, in 1935, \$961.50, and in 1936, \$984.75. That is not a large expenditure; in fact, it does not begin to touch the problem. In this inquiry I asked for a list of the dentists employed in the different schools. Prior to 1930 there were one or two dentists travelling throughout the province which was very unsatisfactory and the department saw fit a few years ago to appoint local dentists to do the work. They were modern, well-equipped dentists. One question I asked was "the tariff of fees allowed," and the department answered:

\$30 per day, dentist to furnish material. Very limited travelling expenses allowed; not to exceed the cost of travel from the nearest point where there is a dentist.

I do not know where this does apply, if it applies anywhere at all, but it certainly does not apply to these particular schools, and the department must have known perfectly well that this was not the schedule of charges. Since receiving this return I got in touch with these different points, and I have been informed that during the last four years the charge has been 25 cents per extraction and one dollar for filling. The instructions in the last two years having been to do no filling.

I asked whether this service would be supplemented and whether any change had been made in dental services to Indians in British Columbia. I also asked whether a dental survey had been made. Further, I am told that the services of the local men are to be dispensed with entirely, the work to be done by two dentists. In the return this statement appears:

Where local dentist not employed, Doctor A. R. Baker and Doctor Fred King, Vancouver, are under arrangement to provide dental services at the Squamish (North Vancouver) Kuper island, Schelt and at the Coqualeetza (Sardis) mission and Lytton schools, respectively.

The complaint I make is this. One of these dentists is an ex-game warden; he filled the post in British Columbia under Liberal government for a number of years. The other, a fine old gentleman, is a brother of an ex-Minister of National Health in the Liberal government; a really good Liberal. In fact, they are both good Liberals, and that no doubt is the reason they have been given this work. No doubt the minister from British Columbia said to his brother minister, "Here are two men I want you to look after," and the minister in charge of this department probably said, "All right; I will give them thirty dollars a day and travelling expenses." That is certainly looking after them.