



## CENTRAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

Victoria Place,

Adelaide, 3rd March, 1939.

The Vice-Chancellor,  
University of Adelaide,  
North Terrace,  
Adelaide.

Dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor,

Re Diploma in Public Health

The Committee appointed by the Council has met on several occasions during the past three months to discuss the question of the desirability and practicability of instituting a course of lectures and examinations for the Diploma in Public Health in the University of Adelaide.

This Diploma is granted by a large number of Universities throughout the Empire. The course of study is that laid down by the General Medical Council in England, and in outline is as under:

The examination consists of two parts. Legally qualified medical practitioners of two years standing may take it, subject to having satisfied the course requirements.

PART I. - Before examination, the candidate must have had practical instruction with demonstration in:-

- (a) Bacteriology, Parasitology and Entomology (180 hours).
- (b) Chemistry as applied to Public Health (100 hours).
- (c) Physiology, Bio-Physics and Bio-Chemistry as applied to Public Health (100 hours).

These studies must occupy at least five months.

PART II. - Before examination, the candidate must have had:-

- (1) instruction in:-

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- (a) The Principles of Public Health and Sanitation (30 hours).
  - (b) Epidemiology and Vital Statistics (20 hours).
  - (c) Sanitary Law and Administration including Public Medical Services and Administrative Control of Diseases (20 hours).
  - (d) Sanitary Planning and Building Construction (10 hours).
  - (e) Meteorology and Climatology in relation to Public Health (10 hours).
- (2) Clinical instruction at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.
  - (3) Practical instruction and experience in Public Health Administration.
  - (4) Practical instruction in the duties associated with Special Public Health services, e.g., infant welfare, school medical inspections, etc.

The subjects for examination are:-

For PART I.-

- (a) Bacteriology Entomology and Parasitology.
- (b) Chemistry as applied to Public Health.
- (c) Physiology Bio-Physics and Bio-Chemistry as applied to Public Health.

For PART II.-

- (a) Aetiology Diagnosis and Prevention of Disease.
- (b) General Hygiene including Meteorology and Climatology.
- (c) Sanitary Planning and Building Construction.
- (d) Administration Sanitary Law and Vital Statistics.
- (e) Sanitary Investigation and Reporting.

Our enquiries convinced us that suitable lecturers and demonstrators were available in Adelaide to conduct such a



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course of study as above outlined, and that the facilities generally were adequate. In our early discussions, we agreed that it would be practicable to arrange the course in Adelaide on a part-time basis, so permitting medical men in practice to undertake it. Preliminary enquiries also indicated that it was likely that a sufficient number of candidates would be forthcoming under such conditions.

Our further discussions have been influenced, however, by the fact that important amendments in the D.P.H. course have recently been introduced by the General Medical Council. The details of these amendments have been published in "The Lancet" and the "British Medical Journal". The relevant alteration is that candidates must devote at least three months to the whole-time study of the subjects comprised by Part I (see above).

This new requirement is now in force in England, and we are informed that the University of Sydney has also adopted it. No doubt it will be followed by all the Empire Universities who grant the Diploma.

We do not consider it likely that sufficient candidates in this State would be prepared to devote the necessary period to whole-time study. Further, we would not recommend that any arrangements not conforming to the requirements of the General Medical Council should be made by the University of Adelaide.

Under the circumstances, we do not recommend that any plans be made for instituting a course for the Diploma in Public Health at the present juncture.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. Southwood (Chairman)

A. E. Pratt

A. Killen Macbeth