

## HEALTH AND HYGIENE

For failure to perform the duties of county quarantine officer as required by law Dr. W. H. Furman, of Henderson, Vance county, was convicted last week in the recorder's court at Henderson. The regulations governing the county quarantine officers are contained in chapter 263, public laws of North Carolina. Dr. Furman had failed to perform practically all the duties therein prescribed, though he receives a salary of \$1,200 yearly for devoting a portion of his time to the work.

An inspection of his office last week by Dr. A. McR. Crouch, epidemiologist of the state board of health, revealed that Dr. Furman has kept no records at all of his work. Reports received from physicians and others of communicable diseases are not forwarded to the state board of health. Literature required to be sent to homes having certain diseases has not been sent, and teachers have not been notified of diseases among children in their schools. None of the teachers of the county have been supplied with disease census reports.

While he has served in the office for a number of months Dr. Furman pleaded ignorance of the regulations as his excuse for failing to perform the duties required. A plea of guilty was entered in court, and upon his promise to fully and carefully administer the duties of the office in Vance county in the future the case against him was dismissed upon payment of the costs.

Two other cases were prosecuted during the week, both of these being at Dunn against physicians who failed to report communicable diseases as required. Dr. O. L. Dunning and Dr. W. E. Coltrane were the offending physicians. Both pleaded guilty and were fined.

The state board of health now has three men in the field checking up the work of physicians and county quarantine officers in the state to see that the state quarantine laws are strictly enforced. Every case of violation of the regulations that is discovered will be prosecuted.