

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

SUSTENANCE BRANCH,
GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM BUILDINGS,
GISBORNE STREET,
MELBOURNE, C.2

Folder 4
(2nd)

13th March, 1934

Dear Sir,

SUPERVISION OF WORK PERFORMED IN RETURN FOR SUSTENANCE

On the 22nd November, 1933, the Honorable the Assistant Minister in Charge of Sustenance issued a Circular (37/33) directing attention to the necessity of obtaining a reasonable efficiency from men working in return for sustenance and pointing out that men who do not give a fair return for wages paid should not continue to be worked. The Honorable the Minister also brought under notice the fact that the success of the system of work in return for sustenance was being jeopardised by the lack of supervision and consequent low percentage of efficiency.

Recent investigations disclose that in some areas there has been very little improvement in respect of the efficiency of men working in return for sustenance and it has been distinctly demonstrated that this absence of efficiency is due to employing bodies not providing sufficient supervision. It is pointed out that where men are simply called up for work and no action is taken to see that they perform a reasonable day's work, money received from the taxpayers is in a great measure being wasted and in the interests of all concerned it is undesirable that such a state of affairs should continue.

The Honorable the Minister, therefore, again makes an urgent appeal to all employing bodies to take steps to ensure that proper supervision is exercised over persons working in return for sustenance. Where it can be definitely proved that such necessary supervision is not being provided the Honorable the Minister will seriously consider the question of withdrawing from the municipality concerned the authority to call upon men to perform work in return for sustenance.

Yours faithfully,

