

1941.

NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

(ANNUAL REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1941.

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.

Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, 22nd July, 1941.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Department for the year ended 31st March, 1941.

I have, &c.,

J. W. HEENAN, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. W. E. Parry,
Minister of Internal Affairs.

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REPORT.

I. NEW ZEALAND CENTENNIAL, 1940.

A. GENERAL ORGANIZATION.

(1) *National Centennial Celebration.*

On 20th April, 1940, a national celebration was held at Akaroa to commemorate the visit on 28th May, 1840, of Major Bunbury of H.M.S. "Herald" to secure signatures to the Treaty of Waitangi, the first exercise of British sovereignty in the South Island by Captain Stanley of H.M.S. "Britomart" on 10th August, 1840, and the arrival of the French settlers on 13th August, 1840. The celebration took the form of a re-enactment of the first exercises of sovereignty and the arrival of the settlers.

(2) *National Centennial Exhibition of New Zealand Art.*

During the year this Exhibition, which from the standpoint of the country's cultural activities and as a visual historical record proved to be one of the most important and educative of the National Centennial observances, was shown at Dunedin, Invercargill, Christchurch, Timaru, Auckland, Whangarei, Hamilton, New Plymouth, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Napier, Masterton, Nelson, and Wellington, all the sessions being well attended by the art-loving public. The thanks of the Government are due to the art galleries, museums, and private owners of works whose co-operation made the assembling of the works possible.

(3) *Centennial Memorials.*

Notwithstanding the intervention of the war, which caused a number of Centennial Committees to abandon their Centennial memorial projects, the final list of memorials which were approved by the National Centennial Council as at 31st March, 1941, and which have been or are to be erected shows a total of 225. These are classified as follows:—

Tree-planting, parks, play areas	59
Plunket and rest rooms	31
Historical publications	27
Public halls	17
Swimming baths and pools	14
Maori meeting-houses	14
Memorial gates	10
Beacons, cairns, obelisks	5
Motor camps	4
Community centres	4
Miscellaneous (libraries, rest-rooms, &c., scholarships, tennis-courts, &c.) ..	40

	225

Of this number, 95 have been completed and officially opened.

(4) *Centennial War Canoe.*

The large Maori war canoe which was paddled by one hundred men during the national Waitangi Centennial celebrations in February of last year has been handed by the Ngapuhi, Te Rarawa, Aupouri, Ngatikahu, and Ngatiwatua tribes of the North Auckland Peninsula to the Waitangi National Trust Board for custody and control. It is to be placed in a building to be erected by the Government close to the National Maori Centennial memorial carved meeting-house on the Waitangi Estate.

(5) *Centennial Tree-planting.*

As one method of effectively marking the Centennial of New Zealand, local bodies and other institutions and persons were encouraged to plant trees, and the success of this effort during the years 1939-40 is evidenced by the fact that some 220,000 trees were planted for this purpose. In addition, large numbers of trees were planted by educational institutions, beautifying societies, and other public-spirited organizations and by many thousands of private citizens.

(6) *Centennial Subsidy.*

The Centennial subsidy was granted on a basis of £1 for £3 in respect of amounts raised locally, and the total amount paid over as at 31st March, 1941, was £83,039 0s. 6d. (1939-40, £32,637 11s. 1d.; 1940-41, £50,401 9s. 5d.; total, £83,039 0s. 6d.). It will be evident, therefore, that approximately £332,156 is being expended on projects to commemorate the National Centennial.

(7) *New Zealand Centennial News.*

The fifteenth and final number of the *Centennial News* was published on 6th February, 1941. The series provides a valuable addition to the country's historical records and will be invaluable to those whose responsibility it will be to organize our sesqui-centennial observances.

B. NATIONAL CENTENNIAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

The chief work of the historical section of the Centennial Branch has been that associated with the publication of the two series of Centennial historical surveys.

The following surveys were published during the year :—

- “ New Zealand in the World,” by F. L. W. Wood.
- “ Government in New Zealand,” by Leicester Webb.
- “ New-Zealanders and Science,” by S. H. Jenkinson.
- “ Letters and Art in New Zealand,” by E. H. McCormick.
- “ The Farmer in New Zealand,” by G. T. Alley and D. O. W. Hall.

The “ Making New Zealand ” series of pictorial surveys has been completed, the following numbers appearing during the 1940–41 year :—

- 14. Bread.
- 15. Manufacturing.
- 16. Tracks and Roads.
- 17. The Railways.
- 18. Sea and Air.
- 19. Communications.
- 20. Houses.
- 21. Public Buildings.
- 22. Furniture.
- 23. Dress.
- 24. Defence.
- 25. Recreation.
- 26. Summer Sports.
- 27. Winter Sports.
- 28. Racing.
- 29. Polynesians.
- 30. The Changing Land.

The “ Dictionary of New Zealand Biography,” in two volumes, edited by Dr. G. H. Scholefield, was published during the year. This authoritative publication has already established itself as a major work of reference, indispensable to historical workers.

The “ Centennial Atlas ” continues as an important research project. However, war conditions are having their effect in that difficulty is being experienced in securing the services of draughtsmen and in obtaining paper of the requisite type. Therefore early publication of the atlas cannot be anticipated.

During the year the staff rendered a good deal of assistance to members of the Government requiring historical information, to provincial Historical Committees, and to private persons undertaking research work. The series of historical articles sent out each month to newspapers was continued until the final issue in November, 1940.

The typing of original unpublished manuscripts of historical interest was continued, and copies will be placed in the main libraries of the Dominion.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS.

Among the responsibilities of the Department in the constitutional field were the following :—

- (a) The arrangements for the swearing-in of His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir Cyril Louis Norton Newall, on his assumption of office on the 22nd February, 1941 :
- (b) The promulgation of the emergency regulations and orders following on the declaration of war on Italy :
- (c) Action by the Under-Secretary, as Clerk of the Writs, in connection with the issue and return of the writs for the by-elections in Auckland West and Waipawa Electoral Districts. The elections were held on the 18th May and 16th November, 1940, respectively :
- (d) The issue of regulations postponing the date for the observance of the King's Birthday holiday and the promulgation of the Order in Council for its subsequent observance.

III. LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

A. GENERAL ORGANIZATION.

(1) Counties.

The Ashley, Mount Herbert, and Mangonui County Councils passed special orders under the Counties Amendment Act, 1931, abolishing the system of separate riding finance in their respective districts. This made a total of sixty-nine County Councils to avail themselves of that legislation. The boundaries between the Awatere and Kaikoura Counties were altered. The boundaries of six counties were redefined in accordance with law. Certain powers of Borough Councils with respect to the supply of water were conferred on the Waipa County Council. The Manawatu County Council passed a special order dissolving the Rongotea Town Board and merging the town district in the county. By special orders made by the Akaroa County Council, the Okain's Bay and the Le Bon's Bay Road Districts were abolished and merged in the County of Akaroa. The Makara County Council passed a special order altering riding boundaries and fixing representation therefor. An irregularity in making the general rate by the Mackenzie County Council was validated by Order in Council. The Bay of Islands County Council was authorized to fix water charges according to the quantity used.

(2) *Boroughs.*

The question of effecting the union of the New Brighton Borough with the City of Christchurch has been before the Department for many years. The outstanding difficulties were successfully settled during the year, and a poll taken in New Brighton on the proposal resulted in favour of the union. The Proclamation effecting the union and making other necessary arrangements was duly executed so as to come into effect on 1st April, 1941.

The annual Municipal Conference was held in Auckland. The Conference was opened by the Minister of Internal Affairs (Hon. W. E. Parry), and this Department was represented throughout the proceedings. An event of singular importance was a confidential address delivered to the delegates by the Prime Minister (Right Hon. P. Fraser) on New Zealand's part in the war effort.

The last annual report contained reference to the case of an adjustment of assets and liabilities arising out of an alteration of boundaries between the Ashburton County and Ashburton Borough. Following on the recommendations of the Commission to inquire into the matter, an award was made by His Excellency the Governor-General, pursuant to the Municipal Corporations Act, 1933, making certain adjustments on outstanding matters between the two local authorities.

The boundaries of the City of Christchurch were altered on three occasions, once by the inclusion of certain lands in respect of which there were no electors, and on two occasions by the inclusion of land previously under control of the Heathcote and Waimairi County Councils. The boundaries of three boroughs and two town districts were altered by the inclusion of lands previously under County Council control, and the boundaries of the Boroughs of Featherston and Foxton were altered by the exclusion of certain land. The boundaries of five boroughs were redefined in accordance with law. The New Plymouth and Te Aroha Borough Councils were authorized to use portion of a closed street for the purposes connected with their electrical undertakings. The Christchurch City Council was authorized to purchase certain land on the instalment system.

Certain matters affecting Lower Hutt were prominently before the Department. Upon attaining the necessary population qualification the borough was declared to be a city. At the same time the question of changing the name of the new city was raised, and the Department was consulted frequently in regard to procedure and suggested new names. Eventually the Council decided not to proceed with the proposal in the meantime. A Commission of inquiry was also set up to consider a petition of the Council for the inclusion of further lands in the borough. The Commission heard considerable evidence from all parties concerned, and recommended the inclusion of certain areas in the borough totalling approximately 1,800 acres. These areas were accordingly added to the borough by Order in Council.

(3) *Land Drainage and River Districts.*

The Orahiri Drainage District was abolished. The boundaries of the Christchurch Drainage District were altered on three occasions by the inclusion of certain areas of land, and the boundaries of the Mangapu Drainage District were similarly altered on one occasion. The results of the elections of the trustees of five drainage districts were gazetted. The Kaipara and Makarewa-Hedgehope River Districts were abolished.

(4) *Local Elections and Polls.*

The Christchurch Tramway Board election, which was due to be held on the 23rd November, 1940, was postponed to coincide with the municipal elections. Application was made for the postponement of several elections to fill extraordinary vacancies, but these were not agreed to.

(5) *Rating Act.*

The Ellesmere and Rangitikei County Councils were authorized to levy rates on a uniform scale.

(6) *Urban Farm Land Rating.*

The resignation of a member of two Assessment Courts and appointment of a member of four Assessment Courts were gazetted in accordance with law.

(7) *By-laws of Local Bodies.*

The by-laws of one local authority were confirmed under the By-laws Act, 1910.

(8) *Designation of Districts.*

The name of the Township of "Pembroke" was changed to "Wanaka." The name of "Linden" was assigned to the northern portion of Tawa Flat.

B. LEGISLATION.

(1) *Statutes Amendment Act, 1940.*

Section 3 has reference to by-laws of local authorities. Under this section a local authority that is empowered to make by-laws relating to the issue of licenses may provide therein for the licenses to expire on a specified day and for a proportionate part of the appropriate fee to be charged where the period is less than twelve months. The purpose of the section is to make provision for the licenses to be made to expire on the 31st day of March in any year and thus suit the administrative convenience of the local authority. Under recent Court decisions this would not have been possible without section 3.

Sections 54 and 55 relate to town-planning.

Under section 54 a local authority is authorized to withdraw or modify any of the provisions of a town-planning scheme after an award of compensation has been made. The idea is to give the local authorities power to reconsider the provisions of a scheme in the light of the compensation awards, and thus abandon any of the relative provisions if a local authority feels that it is unable to face the compensation involved or that it would be inexpedient to do so.

Section 55 authorizes any local authority to raise a loan without a poll for the purpose of meeting any claim for compensation for which the local authority is liable under any of the provisions of the Town-planning Act.

Section 44 is intended to complete the scheme of fire control visualized by the Municipal Corporations Amendment Act, 1938.

Section 44 enables a Borough Council to appoint an Inspector of Buildings for fire-control purposes, whether or not the borough is within a fire district, and gives such Inspector adequate powers of entry into buildings to see whether sufficient fire-protective facilities are provided in such a building.

Section 45 is intended to assist Borough Councils in having dangerous and deserted buildings demolished.

Section 45 provides that in those cases where the Borough Council itself takes action to demolish such a building, the moneys expended by it are to be a first charge on the land concerned.

(2) *Finance Act (No. 2), 1940.*

Section 17 authorizes and validates expenditure by local authorities in connection with visits by warships to New Zealand ports.

(3) *Local Legislation Act, 1940.*

Sixty-two applications were considered, and of these thirty-nine were included in the Bill as finally passed. As usual, the Act dealt with a wide range of local-government matters.

(4) *Local Acts.*

Six local Bills were submitted to the Department by the Local Bills Committee for examination and report. Representatives of the Department appeared before the Committee and gave evidence on these Bills. All six Bills were, after amendment, passed into law.

C. MATAKAOA COUNTY.

The term of office of the Matakaoa County Commissioner (Mr. C. H. Bull) was again extended, for a period of three years until May, 1944.

The Department maintained the usual close contact with the Commissioner in the administration of this county. Periodical reports were received from him, and these reports revealed in interesting form the progress of the county towards re-establishment. The comparatively high percentage of rate collections was continued, particularly in regard to lands held by Europeans. It is also pleasing to be able to record the fact that Native rate collections were maintained at a satisfactory level. Thanks are due to the Native Department for its assistance in bringing about this result.

The overdraft borrowing limits for the county were fixed by the Minister of Internal Affairs in accordance with section 10 of the Local Legislation Act, 1932-33.

Mr. A. G. Harper again made a tour of inspection of the county in company with the County Commissioner. Meetings were then held with the Matakaoa County Council and with a number of the settlers, and a close inspection made of the roads and other county facilities. This revealed the fact that administration is at a high standard. With the assistance given by the Main Highways Board, Public Works Department, and Employment Division, together with other concessions granted the county, a sound policy of maintenance has been pursued, and every effort is being made to prevent the roads and other facilities from deteriorating.

D. THAMES BOROUGH.

Matters relating to the Borough of Thames were again prominent, and perhaps the year was one of the most important in the history of Thames.

The principal result of the year's activities in that connection was the passing of the Thames Borough Commissioner Amendment Act, 1940. At the beginning of the year the debt of Thames in round figures was £234,000 for the borough loans, and £60,000 for the harbour loans, which were also a liability of the borough. The normal rate of interest on the borough debt averaged $4\frac{5}{8}$ per cent., and on the harbour debt $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. These rates of interest had for a number of years been reduced by temporary legislation, in the case of the borough loans to an average rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and in the case of the harbour loans to $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. The passing of temporary legislation granting these concessions, whilst serving a most useful purpose in lessening the immediate burden of rates on the people of Thames, was nevertheless unsatisfactory from the angle of the ultimate rehabilitation of Thames. There was a general feeling that in the interests both of the borough itself and of the debenture-holders some permanent stability should be brought about. With this object in view, discussions were held with a large number of the debenture-holders, and they were all subsequently communicated with and a proposition put up to them that they should agree to a permanent conversion of the whole of the debt of Thames at a rate of interest of 3 per cent. repayable over a maximum period of forty years. This proposition received very substantial support from the debenture-holders. In the case of the borough loans, 82.7 per cent. of the debenture-holders accepted the proposals without reserve, 2.1 per cent. withheld their acceptance but offered no objection, and 1.9 per cent. failed to make any reply whatever. Negotiations were not completed in regard to 11.6 per cent. of them, these particular ones being resident outside the Dominion. Actual objection to the proposed conversion scheme was made by only 1.7 per cent. of the debenture-holders.

In the case of the harbour loans, the figures were substantially the same, as follows : 81·5 per cent. accepted without reserve, 6·8 per cent. withheld acceptance but offered no objection, and 10·2 per cent. failed to reply. Actual objection to the proposals was made by only 1·5 per cent.

On the basis of these figures, the matter was then put before responsible representative bodies in Thames, and also fully explained to a public meeting of citizens. In so doing, it was pointed out to them that these proposals would mean that the maximum the people of Thames would have to provide annually by way of loan charges would be £12,000. General accord was given in Thames to the proposals.

Other matters discussed throughout the proceedings were the desirability of continuing the system of Commissioner control, the further extension of the period of operation of the special valuation roll, and the election of the Mayor and Advisory Committee. The last-mentioned point was quite a prominent one in the proceedings. Whilst the Mayor and Councillors of Thames are largely shorn of their powers while the Commissioner is in office, nevertheless the people of Thames were feeling somewhat restive at the fact that they had not had a vote on the election of their representatives for some eight or nine years. It was thus felt desirable to give them the opportunity in the future of electing the Mayor and Advisory Committee for Thames.

The Thames Borough Commissioner Act was prepared on the above basis, and was in due course passed by Parliament. The provisions contained in the Act are as follows :—

- (1) Power for the conversion of the whole of the debt of Thames at 3 per cent. over a maximum period of forty years ;
- (2) Extension of the term of office of the Thames Borough Commissioner for six years until May, 1947 ;
- (3) Provision for the election of the Mayor and Advisory Committee ;
- (4) Extension for six years until 31st March, 1947, of the period of operation of the special valuation roll for Thames ;
- (5) Validation of the payment of interest at reduced rates for a further temporary period ;
- (6) Provision for the establishment of a Public Works Reserve Fund to be available for carrying out those urgent public works which may become necessary at any time ;
- (7) Miscellaneous matters of an administrative nature relating to special orders and municipal buildings.

The passing of this legislation can be regarded as a real landmark in the history of Thames, and it is confidently hoped that it will be the final major process in bringing about the ultimate complete rehabilitation of the borough.

E. POSTPONEMENT OF LOCAL-BODY ELECTIONS.

On account of war conditions consideration was given to the question of postponing the local-body elections due to be held in May, 1941. As a preliminary step in the consideration of this matter the Minister of Internal Affairs consulted by letter with the various local-body associations and other interested organizations. As the consensus of opinion expressed by these organizations was in favour of the elections being held, the Government concluded that the elections should be held.

F. ABOLITION OF WAITARA HARBOUR DISTRICT.

An interesting development during the year was the abolition of the Waitara Harbour District. The Waitara Harbour Board had functioned since about 1876, and had done good work in developing the district. With changing times, improved transport, and diminishing shipping returns, the authorities rightly decided that there was no longer any necessity for a separate Harbour Board for Waitara. The bulk of the trade went through New Plymouth, and the New Plymouth Harbour Board, with its modern facilities, was better able to handle the produce which formerly went over the Waitara wharves. There was general agreement on the part of all concerned that the Waitara Harbour Board should go out of existence and that its functions should be taken over by the New Plymouth Harbour Board.

There was some dispute over the disposition of revenues from the Board's endowments. The Waitara Harbour Board possessed a number of valuable endowments, and the annual returns from these endowments was largely instrumental in keeping the Board going and particularly in keeping the Waitara River clear. Some of the parties wanted these endowments to go to the New Plymouth Harbour Board to be devoted towards harbour purposes, whilst others wanted them to remain in Waitara to be used for purposes connected with the Waitara River. As the parties were unable to reach any agreement on the point, the Minister of Internal Affairs was called upon to adjudicate. His decision, in general terms, was that the revenues from these endowments should in the meantime remain in Waitara and should be used for the general purposes of protection and clearing of the Waitara River.

The Waitara Harbour Act, 1940, gave effect to the aforementioned decisions to abolish the district and utilize the endowment revenues in the manner indicated. The abolition of this district was another step towards the goal of having one harbour authority for the whole of the Taranaki District.

IV. TOWN-PLANNING.

There has been no appreciable slackening in town-planning activity during the year. Five meetings of the Town-planning Board were held, and the agendas covered a wide range of town-planning activities. Final approval was given to the Matamata and New Lynn Borough Town-planning Schemes, and provisional approval accorded the Christchurch City Scheme. Permission was granted to the Dannevirke Borough Council to bring down a scheme in terms of section 23 of the Town-planning Act modifying the scheme now in operation.

The most important development during the year was the unanimous decision of the local authorities in the Auckland metropolitan area to prepare a comprehensive scheme of development for the combined areas, with special reference to land uses and communications. The scheme will serve as a guide for the co-ordination of the separate town-planning schemes within the metropolitan area. In view of this decision, the Town-planning Board decided to postpone further consideration of the Auckland City Town-planning Scheme pending the completion of the metropolitan scheme.

In view of the representations made to the Board as to the difficulty experienced by certain local authorities in securing competent technical assistance in the preparation of their plans and surveys, arrangements were made with the Department of Lands and Survey whereby the Chief Surveyors have been authorized to undertake such work at cost for districts having a population of three thousand and under.

As a result of the circular referred to in last year's report, it has been ascertained that, in addition to the schemes in operation or which have been submitted to the Town-planning Board for approval, there are thirty town-planning schemes and twelve extra-urban planning schemes in course of preparation, many of which are approaching completion.

To meet difficulties which have arisen in the administration of a number of schemes, two amendments to the Town-planning Act, 1926, were included in the Statutes Amendment Bill during last session of Parliament and were placed on the statute-book. One of these enables a responsible authority to raise a loan without a poll of ratepayers to meet payments in connection with claims for compensation for injurious affection, and the other enables a responsible local authority to avoid the payment of compensation by giving notice within one month of the date of an award of its intention to modify its scheme.

The report of the Hutt Valley Development Scheme, which was completed during the year, was printed and published. Unfortunately, owing to the need to economize in the use of paper, a limited number of copies of the report in an abridged form only could be printed. It is satisfactory to note that the major proposals embodied in the scheme have been accepted by the various local authorities concerned as a basis of future planning and development in the valley.

V. LAND-AGENTS.

Seven hundred and four licenses were issued and 7 transfers granted, as compared with 721 licenses issued and 11 transfers for the previous year. One case of a defaulting land-agent came before the Department, and it was still under investigation at the end of the year.

VI. AUCTIONEERS.

Four hundred and ninety licenses were issued and 4 transfers granted, and 114 changes of endorsement of seller made, as compared with 460 licenses, 4 transfers, and 158 changes of endorsement for the previous year.

VII. RECEPTION OF BRITISH CHILDREN DURING WAR.

As the result of offers of suitable accommodation by the Dominions the British Government early in 1940 decided to send out parties of children between the ages of five and fourteen years for safe keeping during the war. In New Zealand the general direction of the scheme was entrusted to the British Children's Reception Committee, and the detailed administration was undertaken by the Department of Internal Affairs in co-operation with the Department of Education. Local bodies throughout the Dominion promptly accepted the invitation by the Government to co-operate in carrying out the detailed work involved in the scheme.

Numerous offers of assistance were received from societies, associations, and private individuals who wished to help in the organizing work. The various religious bodies and many other organizations having a particular interest in the care of children gave their whole-hearted and practical support to the scheme.

With this far-ranging assistance there was quickly set up an organization capable of placing, at short notice, 10,000 children with private families throughout the Dominion.

The response of the people to the call for temporary foster-parents was truly remarkable. Indeed, it required only one day's appeal by the Minister of Internal Affairs through the air and the press to bring in far more offers than were requested. At the outset the New Zealand share of children was to be 2,500, but the offers of homes went speedily beyond 10,000.

Unfortunately, the scheme had barely begun when enemy action checked its continuance. Only two parties of children, 89 and 113, were landed in New Zealand and were placed in suitable homes. On 2nd October, 1940, it was announced that in consequence of the sinking of the "City of Benares" by enemy action at the height of a severe storm, with the loss of many lives, the British Government had decided to reconsider the whole position. Consequently, the transport of further parties of children overseas was postponed.

When the Children's Overseas Reception Board in Great Britain closed the roll on 5th July, 1940, the number of children entered under the scheme exceeded 200,000, of whom about 20,000 had indicated a preference for New Zealand.

The organization set up in New Zealand can be revived at short notice should it be decided to proceed with the scheme at a later date.

VIII. LOSS OF SHIPS BY ENEMY ACTION.

During the year advice was received of the loss of certain ships through the operations of enemy raiders in the Pacific and the consequent detention of the passengers and crews thereof. Unfortunately, some fatal casualties occurred as a result of the enemy operations. The Internal Affairs Department was called upon to handle those aspects of the matter which concerned passengers belonging to the Dominion and members of the mercantile marine who signed on in this country.

This involved in the first place the despatch of telegraphic and other advice to the next-of-kin or near relatives in every case informing them of the circumstances. Subsequently, when information was received of the landing of survivors on Emirau Island, messages were despatched to the next-of-kin of the survivors informing them of the position. Messages of condolence were also forwarded to the next-of-kin of those persons who lost their lives.

The New Zealand survivors were landed in Australia, and, in consultation with the Commonwealth authorities, New Zealand Trade Commissioner in Sydney, and the shipping companies affected, arrangements were made for them all to be supplied with necessary clothes, lodging, money, and with medical and hospital treatment in certain cases.

Arrangements were made in Australia for the repatriation to New Zealand of the survivors who were desirous of returning here, and several parties of them arrived at different times. Officers of the Department met them on arrival in order to attend to their general welfare, and this action was much appreciated by the survivors. The Government, with the aid of certain voluntary assistance, provided the necessary transport, accommodation, and meals at the port of arrival and the subsequent transport of the survivors to their destination. These facilities were arranged by the departmental officers concerned.

IX. PHYSICAL WELFARE AND RECREATION.

During the past year there has been considerable expansion of the activities of the Department in this field, particularly directed towards the physical training of the Home Guard and the Women's War Service Auxiliary. To cope with this new development some new male officers were appointed, and then, together with existing male officers, were given a fortnight's concentrated training in Wellington. The Department's responsibility is to train group physical-training leaders, who in turn instruct the various Home Guard units. The women Physical Welfare Officers are also active with the Women's War Service Auxiliary.

Although the above duties necessarily take up most of the working time of men and women officers, they are also continuing to give helpful service in the promotion of various recreational activities, and the range of the Department's service for the community other than for war purposes is seen in the following summary of the principal activities: The conduct of physical-training classes for business men; recreation camps; sports coaching, especially for beginners; the conduct of demonstrations and assisting with displays; a comprehensive scheme for the recruitment of pupils leaving school into physical activities; the promotion of new recreation bodies; advice and assistance to private recreation organizations; experimental work in general education for the healthful use of leisure time.

X. PATRIOTIC PURPOSES.

A. PATRIOTIC PURPOSES BRANCH.

Six meetings of the National Patriotic Council, an advisory body which advises the Hon. the Minister of Internal Affairs, the National Patriotic Fund Board, and the eleven Provincial Patriotic Councils in regard to all patriotic matters, were held during the year, and two conferences of the National Patriotic Council, National Patriotic Fund Board, and the Provincial Patriotic Councils were also held.

The Secretary of the National Patriotic Fund Board and the National Patriotic Council are members of the Department of Internal Affairs, which is charged with the duty of administering the regulations to the satisfaction of the Audit Department. In addition, the Department is responsible for forwarding all knitted gifts and gift parcels from the Dominion to men of the armed Forces overseas. The patriotic funds are not in any way administered or expended by the Government, but by the elected representatives of public bodies in their district and by the National Patriotic Fund Board.

The Patriotic Purposes Regulations, as amended from time to time to meet the exigencies of an expanding organization, have worked smoothly and efficiently, and it is evident that they are being more widely understood and are fulfilling the purposes for which they were designed. The administration expenses of the National Patriotic Fund Board for the year ended 30th September, 1940, were 0.15 per cent. of donations, and the average percentage of administration expenses to donations throughout New Zealand was 0.7 per cent.

With the increase in the number of men being sent overseas, it is anticipated that this Branch will be called upon to expend its activities during the forthcoming year.

B. RAFFLES FOR PATRIOTIC PURPOSES.

Under clause 38 of the Patriotic Purposes Emergency Regulations 1939, permission was given to raffle gifts of real or personal property for the funds of either the National or any Provincial Patriotic Council, and a special system of licensing of these raffles was instituted in May, 1940. Between that date and 31st March, 1941, 484 licenses were issued by the Department. For the first three months of this period all patriotic raffles were licensed directly by the Department, but owing to the increase in the number of small local raffles, secretaries of Provincial Patriotic Councils and their zone secretaries were permitted to authorize raffles where the prize did not exceed £5. Strict control is maintained over all raffles for patriotic purposes, so as to guarantee that all the moneys find their way ultimately into the funds of the Patriotic Council concerned.

Returns to hand indicate that the gross proceeds as a result of the licenses which were directly issued from the Department were approximately £186,000. The expenses involved in raising this sum were approximately £6,000, and thus approximately £180,000 was paid to the funds of the Patriotic Councils.

XI. CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRES.

A. FILM CENSORSHIP.

During the year, 1,693 films of all classes, totalling 4,597,730 ft., were examined. Of this number, 4 were rejected outright, 6 were deferred for the time being as unsuitable for exhibition owing to the war situation, 125 were passed subject to excisions, 187 were passed with recommendations that they were more suitable for adult audiences, and 18— for various reasons— were passed with the caution that they were not suitable for children. Appeals were lodged against 3 rejections; 2 were dismissed and 1 was allowed. An appeal was also lodged against some proposed excisions from a film in which certain incidents were regarded as likely to be disturbing to young children. This film was, however, passed by the Board of Appeal without alteration.

An analysis of the work shows—

Origin.	Quota or Long Films.		Non-quota or Short Films.	
	Number.	Length.	Number.	Length.
		Ft.		Ft.
British	40	292,500	400	393,690
Foreign	420	3,157,790	833	753,750
Totals	460	3,450,290	1,233	1,147,440

Quota Films: The countries of origin of the quota or feature films examined were as follows: Great Britain, 37; Australia, 3; United States of America, 413; France, 3; Russia, 3; Austria, 1 (made before the Anschluss).

Rejections: Of the 4 films, 3 were "quota" or long films originating in the United States of America, and 1, a miniature 16 mm. "short" feature, was also made in the United States of America.

General Remarks: During the year under review, as compared with the previous year, the number of rejections was 4, as against 6; the number of films requiring amendment was 125, as against 127; the number of films recommended as more suitable for adults dropped from 229 to 187; while the number considered to be definitely unsuitable for young people was 18, as compared with 13 in the previous year. As anticipated, there was a considerable drop in the number of British films of all classes examined during the year (440, as against 650 in the previous year), due no doubt to production difficulties on account of the war.

It is noticeable that the influence of the war is very marked on many of the films produced both in Great Britain and the United States of America, pictures of this type combining a skilful blending of anti-Nazi propaganda with varied entertainment. In this connection, some excellent "short" feature films dealing with Britain's war effort and the activities of the fighting Services were received here for free distribution to the theatres; and recently films from South Africa and Australia have also been made available for public exhibition. New Zealand, too, has endeavoured to show the people something of what is being done for the national war effort in this country, a recently-made film depicting interestingly the work and training of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. This film, with others to follow, will, it is understood, be shown also in other parts of the British Empire.

A number of miniature films (52) were presented during the year, but these were mainly for exhibition to schools, colleges, &c. Industrial or advertising films were, however, conspicuous by their absence.

Posters and Press-sheets: There has been a great improvement in the advertising matter submitted for examination, and little or no exception can be taken to it.

B. LICENSING OF CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS.

Further satisfactory progress was made during the year in connection with the licensing and examination of cinematograph operators. A large number of cinematograph operators passed the examinations set by the Cinematograph Film Operators' Licensing Board and were issued special grades of licenses according to their qualifications. In addition, a large number of assistant operators were licensed, and many provisional licenses were issued to assistants who, apart from the usual replacements, were required to relieve the shortage of experienced operators on account of enlistments for military service. One hundred and nineteen new applications for provisional and assistants' licenses were considered and the appropriate licenses were issued, as compared with 101 similar applications for the previous year. This made a total of 698 operators and 228 assistants licensed since the inception of the Cinematograph Operators' Licensing Regulations 1938.

C. STANDARD FORM OF FILM-HIRING CONTRACT.

The Standard Form of Film-hiring Contract, which is the statutory document governing all agreements made by film-renters and the motion-picture exhibitors for the supply of film, was, after submission to the Film Industry Board, almost completely revised, and the enacting instrument duly gazetted.

D. EXHIBITORS' AND OTHER LICENSES.

The following licenses under the Cinematograph Films Act were issued for the year ended 30th September, 1940: Exhibitors, 448; circuit exhibitors, 37; renters, 22; storage, 12; miscellaneous, 35.

XII. ANIMALS PROTECTION AND GAME.

A. GENERAL.

(1) *Bird-life.*

As stated in previous reports, there is every indication that tuis and bell-birds are increasing and spreading. With departmental officers engaged on deer-destruction in high country, it has been possible to have more ranging undertaken in the interests of our native birds.

(2) *Shooting Seasons.*

In last year's report it was stated that there would be a close season for all waterfowl in connection with the 1941 shooting season. As the result, however, of the short open season of a fortnight only in 1940, which not only meant the killing of less birds but also a larger natural increase, it was decided to again declare short seasons in May, 1941. In a number of acclimatization districts evidence is in the direction that the black swan is unduly competing with the grey duck, and the daily bag limits have either been increased or removed.

An important step taken was to remove the godwit (*Limosa novae-zealandiae*) from the list of birds which could be shot under license, and this most interesting migratory bird now enjoys the full protection afforded to absolutely-protected birds under the Animals Protection and Game Act.

(3) *Opossums.*

Open seasons for opossum-trapping were observed in several acclimatization districts. The number of skins stamped was 171,933. Generally low prices for skins prevailed.

(4) *Sanctuaries.*

The Waikanae Centennial Park, Gisborne, the Opotiki Borough Council's water-conservation area, and the Whangarei Harbour were declared as sanctuaries. It was found necessary to revoke a sanctuary reservation in the Opotiki district, but this area and some adjoining land has been excepted from the operations of the game-shooting season.

(5) *North Island Vermin-control Scheme.*

The rates of bonus now are 1s. per pair of hawks' feet, 2s. per stoat and weasel tail, 4s. per stoat, ferret, or polecat skin complete with tail, and 6d. per hedgehog snout. During the year bonuses were paid on 23,325 hawks, 6,900 stoats, weasels, ferrets, and polecats, and 8,422 hedgehogs.

B. DEER, THAR, GOAT, AND CHAMOIS DESTRUCTION OPERATIONS.

(1) *Numerical results and Geographical Analysis for the Financial Year 1st April, 1940, to 31st March, 1941.*

During the financial year a total of 48,836 animals were destroyed; 12,160 deer-skins and 2,725 goat-skins were saved.

In addition, 173 wild sheep were destroyed in Marlborough, and 48 cats and 344 rats in Stewart Island.

The numbers of each species and localities in which taken are as follows:—

Locality.	Deer.	Thar.	Chamois.	Goats.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Total.
<i>North Island.</i>							
Urewera and Lake Waikaremoana ..	838	..	..	..	235	6	1,079
Kaimanawa, Kaweka, and ranges ..	1,553	..	..	..	..	..	1,553
Ruahine Range	3,141	..	..	162	..	..	3,303
Tararua Ranges	1,091	..	..	320	34	..	1,445
<i>South Island.</i>							
Marlborough. Canterbury (Wairau to Rangitata Rivers)	5,485	..	41	15,034	763	..	21,323
South Westland, Otago, and South Canterbury	11,825	195	291	..	..	..	12,311
Southland (Fiordland National Park) ..	3,306	..	..	..	14	..	3,320
Stewart Island	426	..	..	..	..	..	426
North Nelson (north of Buller River) ..	941	..	..	185	35	..	1,161
South Nelson, North Westland (Buller to Hokitika River)	2,748	..	71	96	..	..	2,915
Totals	31,354	195	403	15,797	1,081	6	48,836

(2) *Numerical Results and Geographical Analysis for Season 1st June, 1939, to 31st May, 1940.*

During this season a total of 47,187 animals were destroyed, as follows:—

Locality.	Deer.	Thar.	Chamois.	Goats.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Total.
Wairarapa	816	..	..	1,397	..	..	2,213
Tararua	111	..	..	98	3	..	212
Hurumui and Taramakau	127	..	..	..	..	..	127
South Westland - Otago - South Canterbury	985	..	..	..	..	..	985
Canterbury-Marlborough	17,825	10	466	1,001	12	..	19,314
Westland - South Nelson	10,399	..	195	322	14	..	10,930
Nelson (north of Buller River)	4,395	..	..	608	62	..	5,065
Urewera-Waikaremoana	534	..	..	..	72	9	615
National Park, Kaimanawas	7,253	..	..	..	..	..	7,253
Stewart Island	469	..	..	..	4	..	473
Totals	42,914	10	661	3,426	167	9	47,187

The remainder of this report refers to the financial year ended 31st March, 1940.

(3) *Sphere of Operations, Tactics employed, and General Progress.*

(a) *Urewera - Lake Waikaremoana Area.*—The operations of the permanent organization established in this area were continued. A residence for the field officer has been completed at Ruatahuna, and three men have been employed for the latter part of the year.

It is considered that progress so far has been maintained.

(b) *Kaimanawa and Kaweka Ranges.*—With the exception of two men's tallies on the Ngamatea Block, the results quoted above refer to the latter part of last season.

It was decided to place two good men with two horses on this block, which is on the north side of the Napier-Taihape Road. Fair results were obtained, and the country showed a marked improvement.

(c) *Ruahine Range.*—Both sides of the above range have been worked constantly from the head of the Waipawa River on the eastern side and the head of the Kawhatau on the western side, northward.

A track was cut during the winter months on to the main Ruahine tops from Mangaohane Station, and this has resulted in a considerable number of skins being saved, whereas previously only tails were saved.

(d) *Tararua Range.*—A permanent organization has been established here with a special party with dogs for dealing with the pests, and good results are being obtained. A four-roomed hut has been purchased at the Mangahao Power-station as a permanent base for stores and equipment. Three chairs have been erected over the Mangahao River, and tracks were cut out on to the tops during the winter. As previously reported, owing to the very dense bush and prevalence of fogs this country is very hard to deal with.

(e) *Marlborough and North Canterbury.*—The major part of the deer results was obtained during the latter part of last season, and these were reported on.

In the Marlborough District during the winter, large-scale operations were launched against the goats, approximately thirty men being engaged.

All the infested country on the south side of the Waiiau River was worked intensively, resulting in a very successful kill.

(f) *South Westland, Otago, and South Canterbury.*—During the winter season a party of six men commenced operations in the Haast Pass region, and three chairs were erected over the Landsborough River and a horse track cut for several miles up the river. This has resulted in the saving of a lot of heavy carrying by the men and enabled more skins to be brought out.

Parties for the main season commenced during October at the following points: (1) Mount Cook; (2) the head of Lake Ohau; (3) the head of Lake Hawea; (4) the head of Lake Wanaka; (5) in the Haast River watershed from a number of points. In all these places it has been found that the deer are not nearly so numerous, the country is improving, and the good results of past operations are definitely obvious and are being commented on very favourably by the runholders concerned.

Two men have been operating at Mount Cook shooting thar and chamois, and here again the beasts are down to a level where, if men are available, they should be easily kept in hand.

(g) *Southland (Fiordland National Park).*—A permanent organization consisting of two field officers has been established in the above area, the headquarters being at the foot of Lake Monowai, and good results have been obtained.

Six men were employed, and the Manapouri-Monowai Block was worked. A garage and living-room was built at the foot of the Monowai Lake, and a 12 ft. by 12 ft. hut built at the head of the lake with bush timber.

The two field officers, supplemented in the summer by casual shooters, will no doubt make good progress in this area.

(h) *Stewart Island.*—The permanent organization here is working splendidly, and an assistant for the Ranger was appointed there, but owing to family reasons had to leave. Another will take his place in the near future.

Good results have been obtained with snares, but owing to the war it appears that it is impossible to purchase any more suitable wire for this purpose.

Many more miles of tracks have been cut, and it appears that the pests are slowly but surely being brought under control.

(i) *North Nelson*.—The results quoted refer to portions of the operations in the areas which were conducted after the 31st March, 1940, and were dealt with in last year's report.

(j) *South Nelson and North Westland*.—The results quoted refer to closing stages of last year's operations.

(4) *Skins*.

The value of deer-skins is at present higher than at any time in the past, and special endeavours are being made to save every skin possible.

The number of deer-skins submitted by private persons for payment of bonus for the year ended 31st March, 1941, amounted to 6,053.

The Department disposed of 27,641 skins during the same period for exportation overseas.

(5) *Personnel*.

Although there have been a few minor injuries, it is pleasing to be again able to report the absence of any fatal accident or serious injury.

XIII. ROTORUA ACCLIMATIZATION DISTRICT.

A. THE FISHING SEASON.

Weather conditions were more favourable than experienced during the previous season. Thus fishing improved and very satisfactory catches were taken. In Rotorua, high temperatures brought the fish into the mouths of the cold streams and many limits were taken during January and February.

At Taupo there was a very marked improvement in the condition and weight of the rainbow. This can be credited to the introduction of the smelt and the policy of planting strong, vigorous fry.

The following are the weights of some of the large fish taken during the season and coming under the notice of departmental officers :

Taupo Area.—11½ lb., 10¼ lb., 10½ lb., 11¼ lb., 10 lb., 10 oz., 11½ lb., 10 lb., 10½ lb., 12¼ lb., 10 lb., 11½ lb., 11¾ lb., 12 lb., 10 lb., 12¼ lb., 10½ lb., 10½ lb., 10 lb., 1 oz., 10 lb., 14 lb., 10½ lb., 10½ lb., 11 lb., 10 lb., 10½ lb., 10 lb., 10 lb., 11 lb.

Rotorua Area.—10½ lb., 10 lb., 10 lb., 11 lb., 12 lb., 11 lb., 11 lb., 14 lb., 14 lb., 17 lb., 17 lb., 12 lb., 10 lb., 10 lb., 10 lb.

The smelt have multiplied very rapidly, so much so that they are now established all over the lake in countless thousands.

B. GENERAL.

(1) *Fry and Ova*.

The additions and alterations to the Tongariro River Hatchery were completed and proved successful in every way. They allowed a record number of ova and fry to be handled during a shorter period than had previously been ~~possible~~.

Stripping operations were carried out at the Te Wairoa Stream, Lake Tarawera, at the Tongariro River Hatchery, and a small barrier was erected at the Mangamawhitiwhiti Stream. At the Ngongotaha Hatchery, 2,626,000 ova taken at Te Wairoa were handled, and at the Tongariro River Hatchery, 8,469,000, including a number of brown and rainbow ova, collected at Mangamawhitiwhiti. The hatchery at Waikaremoana successfully handled 800,000 ova. It was estimated that the rainbow stripped at the Tongariro River Hatchery averaged approximately 2 lb. heavier than the previous year. The fish stripped at Te Wairoa were equally as good as the year before, specimens up to 14 lb. being handled. The main runs at all barriers were during July and August.

Fry from Lake Tarawera eggs were planted in the Tongariro and Waitahunui Rivers, and from the former river in the various lakes and rivers in the Rotorua District.

Ova amounting to 1,780,000 was sold to New Zealand acclimatization societies, and 800,000 consigned to New South Wales and 50,000 to Hobart, while 100,000 fry were sold to the Tauranga Acclimatization Society and 15,000 to Waimarino; 150,000 ova were also consigned to Fiji.

The following are the numbers of fry planted in the various districts :

Rotorua, 1,304,000; Rotoiti, 1,145,000; Okataina, 452,000; Rotokakahi, 292,000; Rotoehu, 187,000; Rotoma, 178,000; Tarawera, 438,000; Rerewhakaaitu, 75,000; Okaro, 50,000; Waikato River, 270,000; Waipunga, 115,000; Okareka, 332,000; Taahunaaatara, 100,000.

Wairoa Area: Waikaremoana, 275,000; Ruakituri, 335,000; Waikaretahēhe, 80,000; Waiuu, 70,000; Waihi, 40,000.

Taupo District: Tongariro, 314,000; Waitahanui, 413,000.

Waikato, 200,000; Tauranga-Taupo, 224,000; Hatepe, 70,000; Waimarino, 63,000; Waiotoka, 45,000; Waipēhi, 55,000.

Western Bays, 369,000. Brown fry planted in streams flowing into Lake Taupo, 366,000.

Bay of Plenty: Pakahi and Wai-iti, 63,000; Waiōka, 407,000; Waimana, 260,000; Whakatane, 293,000; Tarawera, 59,000; Rangataiki, 60,000.

(2) *Inspections of Waters and Culling of Fish*.

Owing to the excellent condition of the trout very few were culled, the numbers at Tongariro River Hatchery being only seventy-four males and sixty-four females. At the Te Wairoa barrier only four males and eight females were destroyed.

During the winter months the usual inspections of streams were made, and in both districts it was found that there was no scarcity of spawning fish and both fry and fingerlings were in large numbers.

(3) *Tagging of Trout.*

No trout were tagged, owing to the fact that tags were not available and during the fishing season anglers did not return any tags.

(4) *Facilities for Anglers.*

The new road to Rangatira Point was continued for some distance, but has not yet been completed. It has, however, opened up a considerable area of fishing-water. Anglers availed themselves of this access, and the various bays and points were greatly patronized, particularly during westerly weather. The fishing was generally good.

(5) *Food-supplies for Trout.*

The transport of smelts to Taupo was discontinued on account of this fish being established. They have multiplied to such an extent that it was considered there was no necessity for further consignments. It was intended to endeavour to introduce the smelt into Waikaremoana, but owing to the necessity for economy and the shortage of staff the venture was abandoned for the time being.

(6) *Shags, Hawks, &c.*

Bonuses on 1,083 shags, 1,215 hawks, 97 stoats, 11 weasels, 64 hedgehogs, and 54 ferrets and polecats were paid. The Department's officers accounted for 54 shags and 50 hawks.

(7) *Scientific Operations.*

A certain amount of valuable scientific work was done by the officers attached to the Rotorua office.

The mortality amongst the toitoi during the summer was greater than the previous season on account of higher temperatures prevailing for longer periods. Post-mortems on trout showed that the nematode worm is not very prevalent. Reports from Waikaremoana state that the trout have improved in condition and the parasite is not nearly as prevalent as during the past few seasons.

(8) *Game Farm and Game Liberation.*

The grounds were kept in good order, but at times this work had to be reduced owing to the shortage of labour and the increased activities in connection with breeding.

A record number of pheasants and duck were reared. The total number of pheasants liberated was 1,302, and 471 mallard ducks were released in the district. The totals included culled stock birds and others released after the end of last financial year and the shooting season. All young hens are being held till after the coming shooting season. The majority of pheasants liberated were cock birds and culled stock hens. The number of pheasants reared during the season was 1,813; mallard ducks reared, 577.

(9) *Bird-life generally.*

The spring was noted for dry and warm conditions. This was conducive to natural production, and throughout the district there were good hatches of pheasants and ducks.

The mallards increased in the Rotorua area, this being very marked at Hamurana. Large numbers of grey duck and swans made an early appearance at Hamurana, and the latter are in greater number than last year.

Spoonbill are not so plentiful, and black teal do not appear to increase. This also applies to the paradise duck. About two hundred godwits wintered in the Ohope Harbour, but very few were shot during the open season. Grey teal do not appear to be on the increase, but a few have been reported on the small lakes at Reporoa.

Most of the native birds are fairly numerous in the Urawera country. Amongst those most plentiful are pigeon, tui, kaka, warbler, korimako (bell-bird), popokatea (white head), riroriro (grey warbler), mironiro (tomtit) are at times to be seen in fair numbers. Again the kiwi was heard in the vicinity of the Government Hostel and also near the Aniwaniva Falls.

(10) *Opossums.*

During the open season there were twelve licenses and three permits issued, the total number of skins stamped being 4,050.

(11) *Ranging.*

Owing to sickness and officers being called up for military duties, the ranging was somewhat curtailed. Nevertheless, numerous breaches of the regulations were reported by the available staff. The following is a list of cases taken and fines inflicted:—

	Rotorua.		Taupo.		Totals	
	Breaches.	Fines.	Breaches.	Fines.	Breaches.	Fines.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Animals Protection and Game Act ..	5	17 0 0	3	10 0 0	8	27 0 0
Fisheries Act	9	34 0 0	5	17 10 0	14	51 10 0
Total	14	51 0 0	8	27 10 0	22	78 10 0

XIV. WAR GRAVES.

Six hundred and one (601) notifications of deaths of returned soldiers were received during the year. Of these, 86 were accepted as war graves, the cause of death being attributed to disabilities sustained on or aggravated by war service. The total number of war graves in New Zealand at the close of the year was 3,676.

Temporary crosses were placed on 314 graves and headstones to the number of 85 were ordered.

Additional constructional work was carried out in the soldiers' cemeteries at Anderson's Bay (Dunedin), Omaka (Blenheim), Otaki, Karori (Wellington), Hamilton East, and Bromley (Christchurch).

All soldiers' cemeteries continue to be suitably maintained under arrangements made through the local controlling authorities. Veterans' graves continue to be attended to, and during the year renovations were carried out to graves at Tauranga, Opotiki, Mahoetahi, Normanby, and Tuamarina.

As far as has been humanly possible under existing world conditions, the Imperial War Graves Commission has continued to maintain New Zealand war graves and memorials overseas out of the income derived from the Endowment Fund of £5,000,000 to which the Imperial and Dominion Governments contributed in proportion to the number of graves of their respective dead.

XV. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Many notable people visited New Zealand during the past year, among whom were the Hon. H. L. Anthony, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Minister for Commerce for the Commonwealth of Australia, and party; Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, K.C.M.G., C.B., High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Australia; Sir Harry Luke, K.C.M.G., Governor of Fiji; Mr. Noel Coward, London; Hon. C. E. Gauss, United States Minister to Australia, and Mrs. Gauss; and Hon. Tugi, Premier of Tonga.

A party of distinguished Americans headed by Mr. C. Whitney, and including Dr. E. Gruening, Governor of Alaska, Mr. T. H. Beck, of Collier Publishing Co., Mr. Malcolm Muir, of *Newsweek*, Mr. Fletcher Bowron, Mayor of Los Angeles, and Mr. Paul C. Patterson, of the *Baltimore Sun*, visited New Zealand in September, 1940; and another party of American journalists headed by Mr. Roy Howard, of the Scripps Howard Newspaper Syndicate, and including Mr. Harold Callender, of the *New York Times*, spent several days in Auckland and district in August, 1940.

A number of American journalists and cameramen, including Mr. Carroll Binder, of the *Chicago Daily News*, Mr. W. W. Waymack, of the *Des Moines Register and Tribune*, Mr. Wallace Kirkland, of *Life*, and Mr. Victor J. Jurgens, of the *March of Time*, visited this country.

Several of His Majesty's Australian ships visited New Zealand during the year, and hospitality was extended to officers and men of these vessels. We were honoured by a visit of a United States Squadron, comprising the cruisers "Brooklyn" and "Savannah" and the destroyers "Case," "Shaw," "Cummings," and "Tucker."

This section was also responsible for official farewell functions to members of the various echelons and reinforcements which left these shores for overseas.

The activities of this section have been greatly increased on account of the fact that a considerable number of the functions held and the visits of notable people from overseas were connected with the war effort.

XVI. RAFFLES AND ART-UNIONS UNDER THE GAMING ACT.

Two hundred and thirty-five licenses under authority of section 42 of the Gaming Act, 1908, were issued during the year. Of these, 161 were for works of art, 61 for small amounts of alluvial gold, and 13 for alluvial gold to the value of £5,000 each.

The following table sets out the results of the £5,000 gold art-unions:—

	£	s.	d.
Gross sales	220,960	5	0
Commission on sales	33,144	1	1
Expenses	32,838	1	9
Prizes	65,000	0	0
Net proceeds	89,978	2	2
Lottery duty	22,096	0	6
Net profit	67,882	1	8

Of the net profits, £42,000 was distributed to the various Mayoral or other recognized central relief funds established for the relief of distress, making a total of £418,000 made available for this purpose during recent years, whilst £25,300 was allocated to charitable and philanthropic organizations, including children's health camps.

XVII. FIRE BRIGADES ACT, 1926.

There are fifty-five Fire Boards in operation. Various phases of the activities of Fire Boards came before the Department for consideration, including approval of the estimated expenditure of each Board. The annual conference of Fire Brigades was held in Nelson, and the Under-Secretary and Inspector of Fire Brigades were present throughout the proceedings.

The annual report of the Inspector of Fire Brigades will, as usual, be published as a separate statement.

XVIII. CHARTERED CLUBS.

There are still forty-six clubs operating, and the reports of Inspectors of Chartered Clubs indicated that the clubs were being properly conducted and were fulfilling the conditions upon which their charters were granted, except in three cases where there were indications of the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. The clubs concerned were suitably warned.

XIX. MAORI ANTIQUITIES ACT, 1908.

Three warrants authorizing the export of Maori antiquities on an exchange basis with museums in the United States of America were issued.

XX. PASSPORTS AND EXIT PERMITS.

During the year 677 new passports were issued, compared with 2,186 last year; and renewals were granted to 165 passports, compared with 390 last year. The war has restricted foreign travel and accounts for the decrease shown.

All persons over sixteen years of age require a permit to leave New Zealand. The introduction of compulsory national service has added to the already heavy pressure in the passport section of the office. The Department acts in closest co-operation with the Department of National Service to ensure that no person leaves permanently if he is needed in the country from a man-power point of view. Approximately 11,000 permits to leave New Zealand were issued. Special arrangements are in force at Auckland to facilitate the transit of passengers travelling by the Pan-American Airways clippers.

XXI. FOREIGN CONSULS.

Twenty-three foreign countries have consuls in New Zealand. Two consuls-general *de carrière* and one consul *de carrière* left New Zealand. One honorary consul and one vice-consul died. The Government of Poland appointed an officer as consul-general in Wellington. Six new appointments were gazetted.

The duty devolved on the Department of making all the arrangements for the return to Italy of the Italian Consul and his entourage on the outbreak of war with Italy.

XXII. CHANGE OF NAME.

During the past year fifty-eight warrants of exemption from the provisions of the Change of Name Emergency Regulations were issued, and eleven applications refused. Careful inquiries have been made to ascertain whether the applicant is of enemy nationality or not, and whether there is any ulterior motive prompting the applicant's change of name, such as avoidance of military obligations. Exemption from the regulations is not granted to enemy aliens. The principal regulations were further amended to include a provision prohibiting enemy aliens engaged in trade or business from carrying on business under any name other than that by which they were known on the 4th September, 1939.

XXIII. NATURALIZATION.

Certificates of naturalization were granted to eleven aliens. In May, 1940, it was decided to suspend naturalization entirely during the war. Since then there has been one exception only, and that was in a case where the grantee had originally been a British subject by birth.

Naturalization was revoked in one case due to continued absence from this country. Another revoking order was made on the grounds of disloyalty and disaffection on the part of the naturalized person. Other cases are under review.

Three persons who at birth possessed dual—*i.e.*, British and another—nationality renounced British nationality by making declarations of alienage.

Fifteen wives of aliens becoming naturalized made declarations of desire to acquire British nationality. Twenty-two British-born women married to aliens made declarations to retain, while in New Zealand, the rights of a British subject.

XXIV. RACING.

Totalizator investments continue to show an increase. As in previous years, the Department had a representative at all totalizator race meetings. The following statistics relative to the racing year ended 31st July, 1940, are of interest (figures for the racing year 1939 in parentheses): Number of racing days, 319 (320); number of races, 2,499 (2,517); amount of stakes, £563,696 (£550,054); totalizator investments, £8,139,914 (£7,981,441); amount paid in dividends, £6,721,662 (£6,589,628); Government taxes, £768,654 (£673,856).

For the eight months ended 31st March, 1941, of the current racing year, totalizator investments have increased by £128,377 for 215 days racing, as against 232 days in the corresponding period, which included the Easter racing.

XXV. WAR FUNDS.

The patriotic organizations operating under the War Funds Act, 1915 (1914–18 world war), are recorded as possessing the following assets:—

	£	s.	d.
25 incorporated societies	350,527	9	11
7 Red Cross bodies	77,693	4	3
2 blind soldiers' and veterans' homes' funds	68,508	9	5
11 unincorporated societies	5,709	6	5
6 returned soldiers' clubs	22,320	18	4
1 National War Funds Council	95,672	5	3
	<hr/>		
52	£620,431	13	7

The Auckland Provincial Patriotic and War Relief Society, the largest, divided its remaining assets between the Auckland Veterans' Home and the National War Funds Council.

XXVI. ADVERTISING BRANCH.

The work of this Branch is summarized as follows :

Accounts.—The number of claims recorded, checked, and certified was 9,280, as compared with 12,742 the previous year. The reduction in number is due to claims being rendered monthly instead of day by day.

Expenditure.—The total recorded expenditure for Government newspaper advertising is £38,812 12s. 10d., an increase of £2,709 15s. 7d., attributable to war-time advertising.

Press Clippings.—Ministers of the Crown and Departments were furnished with an average of approximately 2,500 press cuttings weekly.

XXVII. EXPLOSIVES AND DANGEROUS GOODS.

During the year the following licenses were issued :

Explosives.—Importation, 26 ; conveyance, 224 ; sale, 616 ; storage, 439.

Dangerous Goods.—Storage, 2,400.

XXVIII. THE ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY.**HOLDINGS AND ACQUISITIONS.**

Despite the difficult times, the production of books has been little affected, and this is reflected in the steady growth of the library in the year past. The total number of books catalogued is now just over 60,000. New books catalogued numbered 2,300 and, in accordance with our policy of revising the cataloguing of earlier years, about 2,500 volumes have been recatalogued. These latter include sections on colonization, Pacific botany and zoology, English and French history, and non-Pacific anthropology.

In the acquisition of books, a certain attention has been directed to the classes of modern poetry, drama, art, and Miltonic studies. A few items otherwise have been of interest in the literature shelves. A second edition of Richardson's "Pamela," 1740, in four volumes (Volumes 3 and 4 first edition), acknowledged to be the first English novel, was a good addition to the history of the novel. In the same category were first editions of Charlotte Brontë's "Shirley," 1849, and "The Professor," 1857. Several of Byron's poems in first and contemporary editions were also added, together with Cosmo Gordon's "Life" and other Byroniana. A set of "The Adventurer," 1752-54, in original issues, edited by Dr. John Hawkesworth, the famous first editor of Cook's voyages, was of interest not only for this reason, but also for its literary significance, for contributors such as Dr. Johnson and Joseph Wharton appeared frequently in its pages. The excellent series of the Malone Society was brought up to date, providing additional material for the study of early English drama. One of the early English historians was John Stow, whose monumental "Survey of London" is a classic. His "Annals of England" is an important chronicle which hitherto we had lacked. A copy of the 1606 edition was therefore a gratifying addition to the early histories.

USE OF THE LIBRARY.

The number of readers has been about three thousand, which is a decline approaching pre-Centennial figures.

The principal subjects studied have been as follows : Land endowments for education ; Maori medical lore ; history of Samoa ; history of administration in New Zealand ; evolution of culture in New Zealand ; Masonic history in New Zealand ; history of teacher-training in New Zealand ; gold-mining in Westland.

As usual, the art books and the fine collections of English literature have been used considerably, and many readers pay almost daily visits to the library to keep in touch with the new books and periodicals. It is especially pleasing to record the researches of Professor I. A. Gordon, of the English department of Victoria College, whose investigations into the manuscripts are proving illuminating, and disclosing some to be of importance. Results of certain studies have been made known through the *Turnbull Library Record*, and have provoked some interest overseas.

Photostats and photographs have been in steady demand.

EXHIBITIONS.

The celebration during 1940 of the five-hundredth anniversary of the invention of printing gave an opportunity for the library to display some of its treasures of early printing and fine modern printing. Nowhere else in this country could such a varied demonstration have been made, ranging from our earliest and finest example, a splendid copy of the Constitutions of Clement V (1471) printed on vellum by Peter Schoeffer, the son-in-law of Gutenberg's partner, Johann Fust. Much other material was shown, and an exhibit was also placed in the public library at Wellington. On another occasion an exhibition of modern fine printing was arranged for a meeting of the Wellington Club of Printing House Craftsmen. Anzac Day was noticed by a show of books and pictures illustrating New Zealand's part in the Great War of 1914-18. Other exhibitions included one on literary anniversaries of 1940, another on London. A special display on "Colonization of New Zealand" was arranged for a meeting of New Zealand Founders' Society, and a "Pageant of English Literature" for library assistants in Wellington.

COPYING OF MANUSCRIPT.

The papers of Bishops William and William Leonard Williams, formerly in the possession of the late F. W. Williams, have formed a most valuable addition to the manuscript resources of the library. These diaries and letters are most numerous for the period from 1860 onwards, and provide much detail on the troubled years of East Coast history from 1865-70, besides containing much of interest to the biographer and student of Church history. Through the courtesy of Mr. Algar Williams a start has been made in copying the important material in his possession relating to Archdeacon Henry Williams. A practically complete series of letters to the Church Missionary Society from his arrival in New Zealand in 1823 has been so far transcribed.

The Christchurch Diocesan Office kindly permitted some of the papers in their possession relating to early Canterbury to be copied. Through the good offices of Mr. Bradney Williams, of Tauranga, the copying of the letters of Archdeacon Brown has also been commenced.

Most interesting sidelights on New Zealand life during the first ten years of its history as a British colony are afforded by the letters of Miss Mary Swainson, the only daughter of Wm. Swainson, F.R.S., to her grandparents in England. These letters have been copied and donated to the library by Miss M. K. Marshall, of Marton, who has also permitted copies to be made of Miss Swainson's account of the voyage to New Zealand in 1840-41.

A highly important series of letters received by James Edward Fitzgerald from such men as Gladstone, E. G. Wakefield, Grey, Lords Norton and Lyttelton, and Walter Savage Landor has been donated by the Rev. O. Fitzgerald, of Christchurch. Selections from the Landor correspondence have already been published in the *Turbull Library Record*. The copying of the McLean papers continues. The arrangement of these papers in some provisional order has now been completed, and it is possible to refer to and assess material not yet transcribed.

INDEXES.

Indexes have been made of Buick's "Old Marlborough," Nicholas's "A Voyage to New Zealand," and Polack's "A Residence in New Zealand." The index to the "New Zealand Journal" has been carried down to the year 1844, and much of the manuscript copied has been similarly covered. More than half the McLean typescript has been indexed.

DONATIONS AND EXCHANGES.

This year finds our record of gifts no less extensive or significant than others. To all donors the library has reason to be grateful. Some of the more important items are of sufficient interest to notice.

From Harvard University Library was received a complete series of "Harvard Library Notes," full of excellent bibliographical and technical material. Mrs. J. Moffat, of Taupo, sent an almost complete set of *Te Waka Karaitiana*, a little journal circulating among the Maoris. In the January, 1941, issue of the *Record* was reported more fully the diary and sketches by Chevalier and his wife in New Zealand. These were given by Mrs. E. Laing and Mr. N. Chevalier, of England.

Most magnificent of all is the noble first edition of T. E. Lawrence's "Seven Pillars of Wisdom," 1926, presented by an anonymous friend in the South Island. A fuller note of this appears also in the *Record*. Of interest for its printing also is the extremely-well-produced "History of Printing in New Zealand," the joint effort of the printing trade, collaborating through the Wellington Club of Printing House Craftsmen. A sumptuously bound copy was presented by the club. "The Legend of Maui," privately printed by S. B. Maclean, deserves notice for its interesting and admirable quality. Through the courtesy of the printer the library received one of the few copies.

From a regular benefactor, Mr. Carl Pforzheimer, of New York, whose private library is famous among literary scholars, came the most recent, and what must be a complete and definitive, work on P. B. Shelley, by Newman I. White, in two large fine volumes which for their splendid production were placed by the Society of Graphic Arts among the fifty best books of the year in the United States. This is additional to his gifts of last year.

To botanists, an extremely important item is the large group of over two hundred engravings of New Zealand plants made from drawings by Banks, Solander, and Forster, associated with Cook's first and second voyages. These have been transferred from the Education Department for deposit here, where they will be more accessible to students.

Through the mediation of Mr. A. B. Taylor, of the Treasury, the library received from the Netherlands Indies Tourist Bureau a set of their superb publications descriptive of the Dutch colonies. These are excellent reference works and welcome to the Pacific collection.

Some interesting pictures by Barraud and one by H. S. Chapman were presented by Dr. Silvia Chapman. Sister Brandon, of Wellington, presented two carved Maori statuettes, and a Samoan kava bowl formerly the property of R. L. Stevenson. From Mr. Albert Morris was received the sextant of the "Jewess" and a lithograph of Gilfillan's picture "The Interior of a Native Village." The former was from Captain Moore's ship (his journal is already in the library) and the latter was lithographed at Captain Moore's expense.

Other donations of an appreciated nature have been received from friends who have interested themselves in the library. It is scarcely necessary to repeat that no donation is accepted unless it is of definite value in the collections. These are W. Juriss, Christchurch; Claremont Colleges Library, Claremont, California; Australian Council for Educational Research, Melbourne; New Zealand University Students' Association, Wellington; S. Wright, Khandallah; Miss M. Greig, Wanganui; Shaw, Savill, and Albion Co., Wellington; T. W. Brown, Wellington; Dr. A. H. Webb, Waipukurau; estate of Geo. Lambert, C.S.B., Wellington; New Zealand Shipping Co., Wellington; A. G. Stevenson, Auckland; Sir Arthur Du Cros, Craigwell-on-Sea, Sussex; T. D. Taylor, Wellington; Union Steam

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Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (525 copies), £25.

By Authority: E. V. PAUL, Government Printer, Wellington.—1941.

Price 9d.]