

The farm is the largest field for training purposes, and boys can there learn all sides of farm work. The up-to-date blacksmithy gives scope for a certain number of boys to learn such work as is carried on there—shoeing horses, repairing and overhauling tools and implements, &c.

In the carpentry shop there is a power-driven multiple wood-working machine, and a few boys learn carpentry work. Others are attached to the painting shop, and some to the plumbing shop.

The bakehouse provides tuition, and several boys are turned out each year able to take part in that trade. The same applies to the boot shop.

As well as the practical work, inmates are also offered instruction in the theoretical side by tradesmen officers.

Social Life, Entertainments, &c.—As the inmates are still only boys it is necessary to give them amusements for spare time, and not expect them to be learning school lessons all the time. To this end various outside parties interested in the social work attend to give concerts and addresses. There is also a periodical visit of the Department's movie-talkie picture representative.

Talks and addresses were given on such subjects as follows: "Sawmilling"; "Trip to Rotorua"; "Essentials of a Healthy Personality"; "Illustrated Lecture on Life in Fiji"; "A Trip Through the North Island"; "Under Japanese Rule in China"; "Importance of Character"; "Why We Behave like Human Beings"; "The Story of a Japanese Prisoner of War"; "Life in America"; "American Games and Pastimes"; "Trip to Queensland"; "From Japanese Internment to Liberty"; "To England by Troopship"; "Experiences in India"; "Experiences in Two World Wars"; "Experiences in the Middle East"; "Deer Stalking"; "Moving Picture—Life in China"; "Swords and Their Use"; "A Visit to Bombay"; "Life in the Solomon Islands under the Japanese"; "The Art of Learning"; "A Trip to Russia"; "Experiences in the Italian Campaign"; "The American Attack on Saipan"; "London in War Time."

It will be noticed that practically all these talks are of personal experiences, told by travellers themselves, and chiefly by soldiers returned from the present war.

There were numerous concerts, by local artists and parties, musical evenings with gramophone records, &c., illustrated lantern lectures, and moving pictures.

On one evening there was a demonstration by members of the Southland Wrestling Association.

Borstal took full part in the cricket and football competitions arranged by the local unions. Tennis and basketball are also played, but basketball does not seem to be taking on to any great extent. Two new asphalt tennis-courts were laid down and are very much used.

Special sports meetings were held during the year, on special holiday occasions, such as New Year's Day.

Special services were held on Anzac Day and Christmas Day.

As usual, the city well-wishers were generous in providing cakes, &c., while numerous cash donations enabled us to buy sweets, cigarettes, extra cake, &c. In many cases parents sent parcels, so it was arranged that every inmate had something for Christmas Day. A special pudding and an appropriate dinner are always features on that occasion.

For reading-matter the inmates rely greatly upon the institution library. There are not, of course, the donations from outside sources that there were before the war. The Country Library Service van makes periodical visits, from which fresh books are drawn.

Physical drill instruction is part of the routine instruction, and classes are held regularly in the gymnasium, by an instructor from the staff of the Southland Boys' High School.

Religious and other Services.—Regular attention is paid to the spiritual needs of the inmates. The conduct of Divine services weekly is arranged for by the Ministers' Association for the several denominations which they represent, by a representative from the Roman Catholic Church, and by an officer from the Salvation Army.

The visiting hours on Saturday afternoons are fully availed of. Many parents or relations or friends come from north, and facilities are always offered them to enable them to see the boys if outside the usual visiting day.

The members of the Hon. Ladies' Borstal Committee (Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Campbell) paid, as a rule, a visit weekly. They distributed sweets and gave opportunity for a quiet talk with boys individually if desired.

The Borstal Visiting Committee attended the institution to hold meetings as required for the purpose of considering cases with a view to making recommendations to the Parole Board as to release of particular cases.

Various Works, &c.—At the farm new concrete sheep-yards were constructed, and add considerably to the value of the property. The work of concreting the lower part of the rifle range wall is being pushed on, and should be completed in 1945. The levelling of paddock 16 is also being carried on as weather permits.

The work of the farm was carried on as usual, as reported month by month.

Staff.—I have to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation of the members of the staff during the year. The Farm Manager, Mr. P. McMillan, was transferred to Waikeria in October, 1944. His place is being taken by Mr. J. A. Christie, of the local staff.

WAIKERIA BORSTAL INSTITUTION (THE AWAMUTU)
(Superintendent: Mr. D. DUNLOP)

In the Borstal section there were 36 inmates in custody on 1st January, 1944, and 35 at the end of the year, while in the reformatory section there were 101 on 1st January and 99 at the end of the year. Little significance is discernible in the figures beyond a reflection of our fluctuating demand for labour and a slight tendency towards shorter sentences.