

PUBLIC SERVICES

The association between Commercial Broadcasting and public bodies extends through national to local bodies, and station Managers are encouraged to take part in committee work in the public interest. Commercial station time to the value of many thousands of pounds was made available free or at greatly reduced rates during the year to help worthy causes. Organizations assisted included Red Cross, National Savings, Food for Britain, Aid for Britain, War Amputees' Association, British Empire Cancer Society, British Sailors' Society, Free Kindergarten, School Jubilees, Repertory Theatres, Merchant Navy, Royal Society of St. George, Children's Health Camps, Competitions Society, automobile associations and local bodies with flood warnings, National Orchestra, Y.M.C.A., Police Department, Post and Telegraph Department, St. John Ambulance, Association for the Blind, Plunket Society, Victoria League, &c. Special appeals were made in connection with road safety, leper comforts, and prevention of forest fires, &c.

Commercial stations played an important part in the Royal Society of St. George Appeal, which took the form of a Miss New Zealand Quest, and also devoted considerable energy to the Aid for Britain Campaign. Special programmes have been presented in connection with various aspects of the campaign, highlights being progress broadcasts of the non-stop trip of the barque "Pamir" to England with supplies.

POLIOMYELITIS RESTRICTIONS

Poliomyelitis restrictions reduced the number of studio presentations from all stations. At the height of the epidemic North Island stations made special preparations for entertaining junior listeners, and some success was achieved in this field.

TECHNICAL

Recording facilities were improved, and each ZB station equipped with the latest portable tape recording machine which enabled stations to obtain much more "on the spot" material than previously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Audited accounts for the year will be published in parliamentary paper B.-1 [Pt. IV]. Summarized information is given below, with figures for the previous year shown in parentheses :—

NATIONAL DIVISION

Income for the year was £507,320 (£490,635), including radio licence fees, £478,274 (£459,515), and net profit on publication of the *New Zealand Listener*, £3,938 (£4,632).

Programme expenditure totalled £163,029 (£144,029), payments to members of the National Orchestra and other orchestras accounting for £70,958 (£45,491) of this amount. The total also includes £37,282 paid for talent and miscellaneous charges, £54,789.

General administrative and running expenses cost £190,641 (£172,283), and the total expenditure (including provision for depreciation) amounted to £380,417 (£334,728), leaving a surplus for the year of £126,903 (£155,907). Investments remain at £1,830,000.

COMMERCIAL DIVISION

Reductions in broadcasting hours throughout the year, due to power-restrictions, caused a reduction on sales of station time to £248,392 (£303,114). With the addition of miscellaneous revenue, £6,379 (£6,626), total income amounted to £254,771 (£309,740). Local and national community organizations were granted free announcements to the value of £2,461, and Government Departments and non-profit-making organizations were allowed rate concessions valued at £8,790.