

(10) The scholarship stipends are payable half-yearly in advance, but £50 is reserved from the final payment until a satisfactory final report is received. Payments may be suspended if the statements and reports required under clauses (7) and (8) are not forthcoming or if any report is unfavourable. Scholars shall also forward with the reports required under clause (8) certified statements of emoluments received for any work done during the half-yearly period.

(11) Applications must be made in writing to the Registrar, University of Otago, by the 1st of November in the year prior to that in which it is desired to take up the scholarship. The applications must be accompanied by statements of the training and practical work the candidates propose to undertake if awarded a scholarship.

(12) Before they become entitled to any payment, scholars must enter into an agreement with the Mines Department defining their obligations and rights. The agreement will provide, *inter alia*, that, immediately after the termination of the scholarship, scholars shall accept employment with the New Zealand Mines Department, if called upon to do so, at a salary or emolument to be determined by the Public Service Commission. The period of employment shall not be less than two years, exclusive of any other obligation the scholar may have entered into—*e.g.*, obligation under a coal-mining bursary.

COAL-MINES COUNCIL

The work of the Coal-mines Council continued during the year and 103 separate decisions were issued, mainly in connection with the settlement of industrial disputes and the determination of working-conditions in the industry.

I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for their valuable service during the year.

RESCUE STATIONS

Rescue stations at Dobson, Ohai, Rotowaro, and Granity were in full operation during the year and continued to render valuable service to the coal-mining industry.

Full details of the operations of these stations will be found in the annual report of the Superintendent which is published as an annexure to this Statement.

HOUSING

During the financial year 1948–49, housing loans were granted to twenty-eight employees to a total amount of £18,247. Eight loans were for the construction of new houses, seventeen for the purchase of existing houses, and three for repairs and renovations. The locations of the houses are: Runanga, 5; Dunollie, 3; Dobson, 1; Blackball, 3; Hector, 1; Waimangaroa, 1; Stockton, 3; Millerton, 1; Ohura, 1; Ngaruawahia, 7; Ohai, 2.

The following table gives details of loans granted for the last ten years:—

Year Ended.	Erection of New Houses.		Purchase of Existing Houses.		Repairs and Renovations.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
31 3/40 ..	9	£ 5,225	..	..	1	£ 250	10	£ 5,475
31 3/41 ..	16	10,221	..	..	3	909	19	11,130
31 3/42 ..	14	9,088	..	..	1	120	15	9,208
31 3/43 ..	6	5,500	11	6,230	1	495	18	12,225
31 3/44 ..	10	10,335	15	6,788	3	1,025	28	18,148
31 3/45 ..	4	4,549	7	3,925	1	395	12	8,860
31 3/46 ..	2	2,000	7	2,748	2	560	11	5,308
31 3/47 ..	3	4,160	14	7,195	6	1,062	23	12,417
31 3/48 ..	11	11,380	11	4,355	..	..	22	15,735
31 3/49 ..	8	10,670	17	6,907	3	670	28	18,247
Totals ..	83	73,128	82	38,148	21	5,486	186	116,753