

In the carpenter's shop a number of cabinets were manufactured for Government Departments, and maintenance for the local Courts has been carried out as required. A large number of filing-cabinets were manufactured for the Magistrate's Court. A number of the sanitary pans have been replaced. In the female division the cells have been relined, strengthened, and painted. One officer's cottage has been completed and occupied in the Prison Reserve, Boston Road, while two other cottages are partly erected at Clive Road, and the sites for four others have been marked out. Progress with the foundations has been slow on account of the solid rock formations.

The laundering section has laundered a large number of blankets for the Army and Air Force, also blankets and towels, &c., for the Central Police-station.

For laundry and institutional work, 1,188 bars of soap were manufactured. Owing to the difficulty in obtaining fat and caustic soda, the usual quantity of soap has not been manufactured.

The manufacture of tobacco has been satisfactory and institutional requirements have been supplied as required. The greater portion of the leaf used was grown at Waikeria Borstal Institution. The leaf purchased from Wills and Co. is of a very light grade and used only for blending purposes and breaking down the strength of the Waikeria leaf.

The cultivation of the prison garden has resulted in the production of a large quantity of vegetables used at this institution. We have only a limited amount of garden, and with the erection of a cottage and a single officer's cottage the space for the garden is considerably reduced. On account of the reduced area we have had to fall back on Waikeria institution and on the open market for our supplies.

The food supplied to the inmates of this institution has been of excellent quality and has been up to the contract conditions. All bread consumed has been made in the prison bakehouse, with the exception of a short period while the oven was receiving major repairs. The bread is of a high standard and would compare favourably with any baked outside.

The institutional school has been continued during the year under the direction of Dr. Dale, with the assistance of Mr. Warner, and Deputy Principal Warder Carson, of the prison staff. A large number of the inmates have also been taking various courses with the Education Department's Correspondence School, and a number have received very good reports from their teachers. This is a splendid idea, as it keeps a prisoner's mind fully occupied and assists in giving a brighter outlook on life. Another bright aspect is the large number of up-to-date books received on loan from the Country Library Service, Wellington. These books are changed at three-monthly periods and are much appreciated by the inmates.

Owing to the physical-drill instructor being absent through sickness, these classes have not been carried out.

The various social organizations have again been very considerate in supplying Christmas cheer in the way of cake, tobacco, and sweets, and this is greatly appreciated by all prisoners. Apart from the above, the Society of Friends has managed to bring a bunch of flowers each Sunday throughout the year for the women inmates.

The spiritual welfare of the prisoners has been looked after by the various denominations, including the Maori Methodist, who has again been able to take up this work.

With regard to the female division, Mrs. Webster and her assistant from the Red Cross Society have conducted classes weekly for the benefit of the inmates.

The conduct of the staff generally has been satisfactory and a satisfactory standard of discipline has been maintained under adverse conditions, owing to the frequent changes of new staff, who do not all settle to this class of employment.

In the industrial activities the officers responsible have maintained a satisfactory standard of industry.

The clerical and store staff have dealt with their portion of institutional matters in an efficient manner.