

The previous figures show a marked increase over those for the previous year, and with respect to deer are the greatest since 1939-40. The main contributing factors were—

- (a) The resumption of operations in Central Westland, where heavy reinfestation had developed following a cessation since before the war necessitated by shortage of hunters.
- (b) Increased use of air transport. This made more effective operations in the more remote and rugged regions.
- (c) Increased availability of hunters, enabling extension of operations.

#### (7) Personnel

All officers have had a strenuous year and the efficiency of their work under difficult conditions is most commendable.

#### (8) Accidents

While employed with a deer party in the Burke Valley, Southern Lakes District, a promising young hunter, Mr. B. F. Grady, was accidentally killed. The Department's sympathy is extended to his bereaved relatives in their loss in this unfortunate accident.

### E. ROTORUA ACCLIMATIZATION DISTRICT

#### (1) The 1948-49 Fishing Season

Many limit bags of excellently conditioned fish were taken during the season, more especially in the Taupo Fishing District, where fishing was particularly good at the mouths of the main rivers and streams. Good fishing was also to be had in the Rotorua Fishing District. Again large numbers of anglers visited both districts, and as compared with the previous season there will again be a marked increase in the number of licences sold.

In all, for the 1947-48 season 6,251 licences were sold for the Rotorua Fishing District and 8,801 for the Taupo Fishing District. An analysis of the sales was made according to the angler's address given on the licences. The extent to which anglers from neighbouring acclimatization districts visit the Rotorua Acclimatization District is shown by the following table:—

ROTORUA FISHING DISTRICT			TAUPO FISHING DISTRICT		
Place of Residence, by Acclimatiza- tion Districts.		Number of Licences Sold.	Place of Residence, by Acclimatiza- tion Districts.		Number of Licences Sold.
Auckland .. ..	..	2,735	Wellington .. ..	..	2,948
Rotorua Fishing District ..	..	1,953	Auckland .. ..	..	2,137
Tauranga .. ..	..	390	Hawkes Bay .. ..	..	1,225
East Coast .. ..	..	332	Waimarino .. ..	..	539
Wellington .. ..	..	321	Taupo Fishing District ..	..	489
Hawkes Bay .. ..	..	208	Rotorua Fishing District ..	..	282

Numbers of excellent conditioned fish were taken, as will be evident from the following records of fish for both districts:—

(a) TAUPO				(b) ROTORUA			
Weight. lb.			Numbers of Fish Recorded.	Weight. lb.			Numbers of Fish Recorded.
9	..	..	37	10	..	..	8
10	..	..	29	12	..	..	10
11	..	..	36	16	..	..	2
12	..	..	17	18½	..	..	1
13	..	..	4				
14	..	..	3				
15	..	..	2				