

General Remarks: During the year, as compared with the previous year, films in which excisions were made were 85, as against 93; the number recommended as more suitable for adults was 154, as against 151, and the number considered to be definitely unsuitable for children was 28, as against 17.

Miniature films increased—viz.: 95, as against 83 in the previous year—while certificates totalling 287 were issued for 16 mm. prints, copies of standard films (features and featurettes) which had been previously released. Last year 324 certificates were issued, and this particular phase of the work continues to increase.

British quota films submitted for censorship during the year showed an increase—viz., 65, as against 54 in the previous year—while foreign quota films also showed a slight increase—302, as against 298 in the previous year.

It was noticeable that films of the “gangster” type were not very much in evidence, and those that were submitted were not quite so lurid in theme and treatment as those examined in previous years.

During the year a Parliamentary Film Inquiry Committee investigated matters relating to this censorship and the members were shown samples of eliminations made from films of all types.

Publicity matter relating to 340 films (features) was examined during the year, as against 308 films in the previous year. Only minor amendments were found necessary.

B. LICENSING OF CINEMATOGRAPH OPERATORS

One hundred and thirty-six new applications for provisional and assistant operator's licences were considered, as compared with 104 for the previous year.

Forty-four new provisional licences and 92 new assistant operator's licences were issued.

Since the coming into force of the Cinematograph Operators Licensing Regulations 1938, 1,434 operators and 1,058 assistant operators have been licensed.

X. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The most distinguished people who came to New Zealand last year were Lord Listowel, Minister of State for the Colonies, and Mr. W. A. C. Mathieson, M.B.E.; Right Hon. Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P., Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and Commander A. H. P. Noble, D.S.O., R.N., Member of Parliament for Chelsea; Lieutenant-General Sir Willoughby Norrie, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Governor of South Australia, Lady Norrie, and party; Mr. E. M. Hanlon, Premier of Queensland, and party; Sir Peter Buck, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.D., Ch.B., D.Sc., Lady Buck, and Mrs. E. A. R. Ross; Queen Salote Tufou, G.B.E., H.R.H. Prince Tugi, Hon. Ulukalala, Governor of Vavau, and the Hon. Tuna Ulukalala; Mr. Eamon de Valera, ex Premier of Eire, and Mr. F. D. Aicken, ex Minister of Finance of that country.

Other distinguished visitors were Lord Rowallan, M.C., T.D., D.L., British Empire Chief Scout, and Mr. Peter Cooke, Secretary, Imperial Headquarters, London; Right Hon. Lord Beveridge, K.C.B., and Lady Beveridge; Lord Douglas, G.C.B., M.C., D.F.C., late Marshal of the Royal Air Force and present Director of British Overseas Airways Corporation; Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. A. H. Dennett, M.L.A., Minister of Agriculture and Forests, Victoria, Mrs. Dennett, and Miss D. Dennett; His Eminence Cardinal Spellman, His Grace Archbishop Bergin, His Lordship Bishop Walsh and party; Mr. Arthur Blenkinsop, M.P., Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Pensions, Miss S. Cox, Deputy-Secretary to the Ministry of Pensions; Hon. R. S. Richards, Leader of the Opposition, South Australia; Mr. T. G. Moore, M.P., Isle of Man; Mr. Albert V. Thompson, M.H.R., Federal Parliament of Australia, and Mrs. Thompson; Mr. T. W. Mitchell, M.L.A., Victoria; Hon. F. Bethem, M.L.A.,