

1934.
NEW ZEALAND.

PRISONS DEPARTMENT

(REPORT ON) FOR THE YEAR 1933-34.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The Hon. the MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT to His Excellency the GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Wellington, 30th August, 1934.

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the report of the Prisons Department for the year 1933-34.

I have, &c.,

JOHN S. COBBE,

Minister in Charge of Prisons Department.

The CONTROLLER-GENERAL OF PRISONS to the Hon. the MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—

I have the honour to present the annual report of the Prisons Department for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1934, together with extracts from the reports of Controlling Officers, and the criminal statistics for the calendar year ended 31st December, 1933. The institutional reports have been abridged on account of the need for economy.

PRISON STATISTICS.

The statistical tables appended to this report show that at the beginning of the year there were 1,583 persons in custody. The "receptions" during the year 1933 totalled 4,157, as against 5,198 in 1932—a decrease of 1,041, or just over 20 per cent.—and at the end of the year there remained in detention 1,442 prisoners.

As was pointed out in last year's report, the number of commitments that year was abnormally high, because of the relatively large number of persons (102) who were involved in the riotous disturbances which took place in 1932, but even if this inflation is allowed for, the decline in 1933 in the total number sentenced to imprisonment is most marked, and it is pleasing to observe that the totals are now back to those of the pre-depression period.

The position is all the more satisfactory when it is borne in mind that in all countries authorities recognize that during time of industrial depression the tendency is for crime and prison populations to increase. The latest reports from England and Australia bear evidence of this.

There is no doubt that the drafting of young men to unemployment relief camps has been a contributory factor in so far as the falling-off in commitments to prison is concerned. Several Controlling Officers and Probation Officers have commented on the fact that the unemployed schemes have been a boon, in that the removal of a large number of men from the temptations that inevitably follow in the wake of idleness in the towns has deflected many from drifting into some form of criminal pursuit.

In another way also the unemployment authorities have relieved the burden of crime in that the agencies of the Board have co-operated with Probation Officers and have enabled men released from prison to be placed in work, thereby saving a relapse, which so often follows where a man discharged from prison has no job to go to. The Prisoners' Aid Societies and Probation Committees have also helped in this connection.

More care is also taken by the Prisons Board in so far as Borstal dischargees are concerned, in seeing that arrangements are made for the placement of these lads before they are released. A large number are absorbed on farms, as the majority acquire a good general training in farm work. So far as women are concerned, the small percentage who return is due to the well-organized after-care. The Courts also have recognized more the inability under existing circumstances of many offenders to pay fines, and time has been allowed to enable payment to be made by instalments.

The number of distinct persons received into prison is always less than the figure for "receptions," as many offenders are received more than once into prison during the year. This applies chiefly to that stage army of petty recidivists embracing vagrants, inebriates, and minor offenders whose lapses are more in the nature of nuisances than crimes, but who inflate the prison statistics.

The number of distinct prisoners received during 1933 was 2,731, as compared with 3,401 for 1932, a drop of 670 persons, or just under 25 per cent.

The daily average also showed a decline, the figure for 1933 being 1,542, as compared with 1,669 for the previous year. There is no fixed ratio between the number of receptions and the daily average, as this is influenced as much by the length of sentence as by the number of persons received. In New Zealand the average is definitely affected by the length of sentence, as the tendency is for the Courts to impose salutary terms of reformatory detention and borstal detention. That this policy is efficacious is evidenced by the small percentage who offend again after release from these methods of treatment.

The ratio of distinct persons committed to prison during 1933 to each 10,000 of the general population was 17.75, which is also substantially down on the figure 22.29 for 1932. It has been stated by critics that the prison population in New Zealand is three to four times that of England on a population basis. It is difficult to draw exact comparisons, and it must be borne in mind in a country such as New Zealand with a comparatively small population and an efficient police system the percentage of undetected crime is relatively small, but it is interesting to observe that according to the latest statistics the ratio in the Dominion to each 10,000 of the general population is within just three units of that of England, and it has to be borne in mind that in the Dominion statistics all receptions, even those at police lock-ups for twenty-four hours, are included, whereas in England, since the passing of the Criminal Justice Administration Act, 1914, following which a remarkable decline in prison commitments was witnessed, a great many short-sentence prisoners are not included in the prison statistics. Sections 12 and 13 of that Act provide for dealing with petty offenders summarily, and the latter section provides that no person shall be sentenced to imprisonment by a Court of summary jurisdiction for less than five days, but that such Court may, in lieu of imprisonment, order detention in a suitable place such as police cells, bridewells, or other approved place of detention.

In an address given last year by the Chairman of the English Prison Commission, the following statement appears: "The Prison Commissioners in their reports pointed out that the decline in prison population was not due to a decrease in crime, but was due partly to a decrease in minor offences such as drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and partly due to the fact that a smaller proportion of the persons found guilty of crime were sent to prison and a larger proportion being dealt with by alternative methods such as fines and probation . . . actually the statistics show that crime has increased substantially."

It is the crime statistics and not the prison population that are the true criteria as to whether the methods utilized in the administration of criminal justice reasonably fulfil their function in protecting society. In England it has recently been officially stated that crime against property has increased to a point where the pre-war level had been reached and passed, and that the policy of leniency had to be considerably modified in an effort to "stem the tide of crime." In the latest report of the Prison Commissioners, the following significant paragraph appears: "The increase in the number of larger sentences (five years and upwards) indicates a tendency which, if it continues, will be reflected in a greatly increased male convict population in after-years."

New Zealand, despite the inevitable increase in the number of offences against property symptomatic of the times in recent years, through the pursuance of a cautious policy in dealing with its criminals, has witnessed a drop in its prison receptions since the immediate pre-war years from 31 per 10,000 of the general population, to 17.75 for 1933, and, except for temporary variations reflective of industrial conditions, this decline has been steady and definite, and is indicative of a diminution in crime as well as in the prison population, because those dealt with by way of fine and probation have also diminished. The following comparative table shows the receptions, number of distinct persons, the daily average, and the ratio to population in New Zealand for the past five years:—

Year.	Total Offenders received.	Total Distinct Offenders.	Daily Average in Custody.	Ratio to 10,000 of Population.
1933	4,157	2,731	1,542.86	17.75
1932	5,198	3,401	1,669.17	22.29
1931	5,340	3,203	1,634.39	21.17
1930	4,909	2,864	1,466.02	19.19
1929	4,357	2,596	1,438.26	17.62

Hereunder is set out a table showing the offences classified in three main groups, for the immediate pre-war quinquennium, as compared with the past five years. It will be observed that there has been no increase in crime against the person, and a steady decline under the heading of miscellaneous

offences including drunkenness, vagrancy, &c. The offences against property are higher than in pre-war years, but it is satisfactory to observe that the number of offences of this class last year showed a decrease on the number for the previous year by 20 per cent. :—

Year.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness, Vagrancy, and other Offences.	Total.
1909	181	727	2,251	3,159
1910	238	772	2,232	3,242
1911	153	587	2,137	2,877
1912	153	598	2,272	3,023
1913	220	685	2,324	3,229
1929	196	854	1,546	2,596
1930	194	968	1,703	2,864
1931	216	1,155	1,832	3,203
1932	194	1,313	1,893	3,401
1933	196	1,048	1,487	2,731

A similar comparison, with offenders classified under age groups, is shown in a further table. It will be observed that whereas in pre-war years the greater incidence of crime was among offenders of thirty years and upwards, in recent years there has been a tendency for more crime among younger persons, particularly among the groups falling between the ages of twenty and thirty. This has been sometimes characterized as the "reckless age." In England this phenomenon has been regarded as a reaction from the influence of the war, but it is more probably symptomatic of the times, the lack of restraint and discipline, the difficulty in securing suitable vocational outlets, and the facilities afforded by cars, &c., for "pulling off jobs."

Notwithstanding the upward movement in recent years so far as these younger age groups are concerned, it is pleasing to note that there was a drop last year, particularly amongst those in the groups under twenty and twenty-five years of age. A sympathetic fall has also been observed in the cases dealt with in the Children's Courts. The general position in the Dominion is thus exceedingly gratifying.

Ages of Distinct Persons received (Comparative Table).

	During Pre-war Quinquennium.					During Past Five Years.				
	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Under 20	98	100	85	130	119	181	164	203	222	175
20-25	342	356	291	256	349	350	429	555	559	459
25-30	497	535	436	464	505	400	426	488	504	403
30-40	897	972	902	947	1,071	594	716	822	903	747
40 upwards	1,325	1,279	1,163	1,120	1,185	1,064	1,118	1,129	1,207	937
Not stated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	7	11	6	6	10
Totals	3,159	3,242	2,877	2,917	3,229	2,596	2,964	3,203	3,401	2,731

A further table is included showing the receptions for the past five years classified on a nationality basis. It will be observed that there has been a fall of nearly 350 in the number of persons born in New Zealand committed to prison last year as compared with the previous year. In my report for last year I referred to the disquieting increase in the amount of crime amongst Maoris, and it is satisfactory to note that during 1933 there were 253 commitments of Maoris as compared with 316 for the previous year.

Nationality of Prisoners received.

Year.	New Zealand-born (excluding Maoris).	Maoris.	British and Foreign.	Total.
1933	1,604	253	874	2,731
1932	1,941	316	1,144	3,401
1931	1,779	271	1,153	3,203
1930	1,576	184	1,104	2,864
1929	1,383	173	1,040	2,596

Escapees.

Eleven prisoners and six Borstal detainees escaped during the year, and all were recaptured. Five made unsuccessful attempts to escape. It is satisfactory to be able to record that every prisoner who has escaped during the past ten years has been accounted for. The last one outstanding who escaped from Mount Eden some two years ago has recently been located in a penitentiary in Los Angeles.

It is recognized that under the present method of dealing with prisoners, particularly at the camps, opportunities for escaping are bound to exist. Experience shows that the reposing of trust within practical limits is an essential element in any scheme of reformation, as it contributes in no small measure in the building-up of self-esteem, and it is exceedingly satisfactory that so few violate the trust placed in them. In the Dominion the likelihood of avoiding detection is undoubtedly remote, and the futility of escaping is gradually being realized by the inmates themselves, but many prisoners are creatures of impulse. Whenever prisoners who are placed in positions of trust betray the confidence reposed in them and escape from custody the Department usually presses for a salutary penalty, because an escape not only involves serious inconvenience to the authorities by dislocating the routine of the institution, but the escapees in their short period of freedom usually leave a trail of crime in their wake.

Capital Offences.

There were three persons convicted on capital charges during the year, all of whom were executed—one at Mount Eden and two at Wellington Prison.

Health of Prisoners.

The general health of prisoners during the year has been particularly good, the daily average number on the sick-list (26.60) being the lowest recorded over the past seven years. There is no doubt that the regular life, the plain and wholesome diet, and liberal vegetable ration in recent years have contributed to an improved standard of health in our penal establishments. The majority of prisoners put on weight and improved in general physique.

Most of the sickness amongst prisoners is due to causes existing prior to their committal to prison. The health of those who are received in a physically fit condition usually continues satisfactory during their detention. Venereal disease is still more prevalent than in past years, but no prisoner is released until certified as non-infective.

The total number of inmates transferred to public hospitals for treatment during the year was 124. There were no outbreaks of any of the common epidemic diseases at any of the institutions during the year.

There were twenty-two inmates transferred to mental hospitals either upon certification or for observation as to mental condition before being finally dealt with by the Courts.

It is certainly desirable that the Courts should be aware of a person's mental condition before dealing with him where there is any doubt on the matter, as this has definite relation to the question of responsibility, but there is also the matter of the protection of society. Where an offender is certifiable no difficulty arises, but there are many who are abnormal and who could be regarded as socially defective but are not certifiable. These, in the interests of themselves and the community, must be sentenced to imprisonment, as there is no other appropriate place of custody. The need for the establishment of a suitable institution for the detention of this type of case is becoming year by year more apparent, and is at present under consideration by the Director-General of Mental Hospitals. A typical case illustrates the problem:—

“A” was found guilty on a charge of indecent assault on a female child aged five years; on a similar charge in respect of a female child aged six years; on a charge of common assault on another little girl of tender years; and on a charge of assault on a woman with intent to do bodily harm. The trial Judge, in passing sentence, stated that the prisoner had been examined by two competent medical men who testified that although he was a degenerate he was not insane. The Judge considered that the prisoner should be put out of harm's way for a substantial period and sentenced him to a total of eleven years' imprisonment. During detention the prisoner has been examined from time to time by mental specialists who have expressed the opinion that he is a social defective of the “schizoid type,” but is not certifiable as insane, and therefore cannot be committed to a mental hospital. He is subject to strong perverted sexual impulses, and does not inhibit them but prefers to follow their dictates. He knows, however, that the acts he committed were wrong, but, like many of this type, prefers to gratify his desires than to control them. He is recognized to be a dangerous man to be at large, and according to medical opinion there is not likely to be any improvement in his mental condition. A fixed term of sentence is obviously not appropriate to such a case, because when such term expires he will be a potential menace. Permanent segregation would seem to be the only course in such cases for the protection of the community.

BORSTAL INSTITUTIONS.

The foregoing statistics include committals to Borstal institutions established under the Prevention of Crime Act, 1924.

There are three Borstal institutions in the Dominion, one for lads under twenty-one years of age at Invercargill, and one near Te Awamutu (Waikeria) for young men under twenty-five years of age. There is also an institution for young women at Point Halswell, Wellington.

Although the New Zealand system was based on the principles laid down by the founder of the English system, Sir Evelyn Ruggles-Brise, in New Zealand provision is made for a higher age group than is the case under the English Prevention of Crime Act, which restricts admission age to twenty-one years.

During the year under review 112 (168) lads, and 24 (35) young women were committed to Borstal direct by the Courts; and 15 (40) youths and 1 girl were transferred from other institutions to Borstal for training and discipline. The figures for the previous year are shown in parentheses. The reduction in numbers is sympathetic with the decrease in commitments referred to earlier in this report in connection with the general statistics.

Since the Waikeria and Invercargill Institutions have been established, 4,290 young men have passed through them, and of this number just a fraction over 14 per cent. have again come in conflict with the law after release.

The results in regard to young women are even better, although in most countries it is recognized that the rehabilitation of young women offenders is more difficult than in the case of men. From Point Halswell Borstal 185 young women have been released since its inception, and only 20, or barely 11 per cent., have subsequently made an appearance before the Courts.

As stated in my report last year, considering the difficulties associated with existing economic conditions in the way of rehabilitation, the results speak for the efficacy of the system and bear ample evidence of the success attending the work of those responsible for both the in-care and the after-care of these young people. Sympathetic oversight after release is more and more becoming recognized as of equal importance to the matter of training whilst in custody.

The Department is specially indebted to the Women's Borstal Association for its unflagging interest in the girls at Point Halswell and its care for them when released; also to its associates throughout the Dominion who are performing a most valuable public service.

The Voluntary Probation Committees, despite increasing difficulties, have continued to co-operate with Probation Officers, and members of Rotary and the Justices' Association have also assisted the Department.

The Borstal system is an integral part of the prisons system, and whilst reclamation and the protection of society should be the primary objective of all modern penal methods, the distinction drawn between the treatment of young and old offenders is that under the Borstal system the problem of delinquency is dealt with in the incipient stages in order to arrest anti-social tendencies before they become established habits—the Prevention of Crime Act features discipline and training rather than punishment—whereas with older and more experienced offenders punishment and deterrence necessarily loom more largely in the scheme of treatment.

At the Borstals the curriculum embraces a balanced round of work, education, and recreation. The indefinite and irregular time factor in regard to the term of detention makes it impracticable to embark upon any system of apprenticeship, nor does the Department pretend to turn out fully fledged journeymen tradesmen from the Borstals. What is aimed at is to inculcate habits of industry and to equip a lad in a practical way so that he can take up an honest calling on release. "Training in orderly and industrial habits is of higher value than the teaching of a special trade." (English Committee report.) All phases of farming are carried on, and New Zealand, being mainly a primary-producing country, this calling affords the most ready avenue for absorption of lads when released. The Department has received many expressions of satisfaction from farmers who have taken lads into their employ as to the practical value of the training given at Borstal. There are special tradesmen instructors on the staff who teach the inmates in such handicrafts as carpentering, bricklaying, blacksmithing, bootmaking, tailoring, painting and sign-writing, plumbing, plastering, cooking and baking, gardening, and wool-classing.

On the recreational side, besides regular physical drill, the various seasonal outdoor sports are indulged in, and in these activities inmates compete regularly with outside teams. The inculcation of the team spirit and the breaking-down of individualism is an important step towards socialization.

Educational facilities are provided through the medium of regular classes conducted by qualified teachers, and, in addition, special talks by visiting lecturers are given on cultural subjects calculated to develop a sense of civic and social responsibility.

The small percentage who relapse after release is an indication of the community value of the borstal system, but more positive and more gratifying is the definite knowledge of the large number who, after what might be regarded as a brief post-adolescent lapse, again settle down and become useful law-abiding citizens. It is sometimes stated that many who are sent to Borstal should have been dealt with by probation, but experience shows that one of the most important factors in correcting these characterial deviations is a complete removal from the surroundings and influences associated with the criminal conduct that has been the cause of the downfall of the young person concerned.

INDUSTRIES AND DEVELOPMENT.

For a number of years the development of primary and secondary industries to supplement the less adequate domestic industries and to eliminate useless task labour has been a special feature in the administration of our prisons and borstal institutions. This policy is not only a partial remedy for the difficulty of providing work for all inmates, but has enabled a variety of suitable vocational occupations to be provided, and has had the benefit of equipping many prisoners to take up some useful occupation on release. It is essential always to keep in mind that prisoners will return to a life of liberty. The pursuance of this policy has also assisted materially in keeping down the cost of prison maintenance to the general taxpayer.

For the past four years activity in the secondary industries has been substantially curtailed on account of the lack of demand for saleable products, and, of course, farming results have suffered severely on account of the drop in the prices for primary produce.

The total proceeds from all sources of activity in the prisons and borstal institutions dropped steadily year by year from the peak of £83,806 for the year 1929-30, to £52,412 for the year 1932-33, but it is pleasing to note that the last twelve months witnessed a slight revival and the revenue for the year 1933-34 amounted to £54,823, an increase of approximately £2,400 on the previous year. Contributory factors to this was the improvement in wool prices, which assisted the farming revenue, and a slight fillip in the quarrying industry. Conditions generally, nevertheless, have been exceedingly difficult from a prison industrial point of view.

During periods of depression and unemployment, with the resulting keen competition, there is a very natural public demand for all State activity in business to be curtailed. For the past four years this has been specially demanded of the Prisons Administration, and it stands out in marked contrast with the policy pursued in other countries.

The moral and physical benefits of keeping prisoners in useful employment is universally recognized and cannot be too strongly defended. It follows that if prisoners are to be usefully employed the products of their labour must be afforded some outlet, and the avenue likely to prove least irksome to private enterprise is to confine this largely to the supplying of departmental requirements. As the Government pays a considerable sum by way of earnings for the maintenance of dependents of prisoners, this alone, to a large degree, justifies this course. It is recognized that on account of the general industrial conditions prevailing that care should be taken to avoid adding to the difficulties of private industrialists, or to pursue activities likely to aggravate civil unemployment problems. For this reason the Department has slowed up on its manufacturing activities and has concentrated more on the work of its farms.

In connection with the utilization of prison labour, it is interesting to note the following extracts from a report of a special committee set up in England last year by the Right Hon. Herbert Samuel to consider the problems of employment of prisoner:—

“Continuous and useful employment must be regarded not as a punishment, but as an instrument of discipline and reformation. In order that this idea might be achieved the first requirement is that useful and suitable work should be provided, and that there should be plenty of it.”

“The committee was of opinion that very considerable additions might be made to the orders given to prisons by Government Departments.”

“In 1923 a circular was issued by the Treasury drawing the attention of Government Departments to the importance of placing orders wherever possible with the Prisons Department, and we recommend that a further circular should be issued impressing on Departments the great importance of this question in the interests of both national economy and of the reformatory work of the prisons.”

“Scottish prisons sell to outside consumers a greater proportion of their output than is the case in English prisons.”

The evidence of representatives of the Trades-union Congress to the committee was as follows:—

“They admitted that industrial labour was morally and physically beneficial to the prisoners, and agreed that it ought to be found. They urged that direct competition with outside labour should not be allowed at ‘cutting’ prices. They approved of industrial training of prisoners and bearing in mind that the products of prison labour go to reduce the costs of prisons, they have no objection to the sale of prison-made goods, provided they are not sold below market prices, and providing that consideration is shown to the special circumstances of particular industries to avoid undue interference with wages and the employment of free labour.”

Details of the industrial activities at the various institutions during the year are set out in the institutional reports of the Controlling Officers appended hereto. These comprise mainly farming, quarrying, gardening, mailbag repairs, tailoring, bootmaking, and minor work incidental to the domestic requirements of institutions. An innovation has been the growing and manufacture of tobacco for our own requirements. Previously the annual cost of tobacco (exclusive of excise and Customs duties) was £1,250. It is pleasing to be able to report that the results of the first year’s experiment were so satisfactory that, instead of there being a charge against the vote for the tobacco supplied to inmates, last year the Department was actually in credit on the sale of its surplus leaf. Apart from the cash economy, this industry has provided useful employment both in the field and in the factory.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The annual accounts and balance-sheet are shown in the appendix to this report, Table B.

In considering the monetary cost to the taxpayer of maintaining prisons it is important to distinguish between the actual cash or vote cost, which is the amount required to be provided by Parliament from taxation, and the nominal cost after providing for interest and depreciation on buildings and equipment representing capital expenditure in previous years. In making comparisons with other Administrations, it must be noted that these charges are not usually included in governmental accounts. From an accountancy standpoint, and in conformity with Treasury’s present method of producing departmental balance-sheets, these fixed charges must be included. A large proportion (approximately half) of the capital expenditure represents capital disbursements from loan-moneys from Public Works Fund, which, although not directly charged against the vote, is undoubtedly a real charge; but a proportion of the total charge for interest in the annual accounts of the Department represents interest on capitalized prison labour and natural increment. This debit for interest and depreciation represents approximately two-fifths of the total departmental expenditure. The net

cash cost from the administrative vote last year amounted to £83,370, or an annual cost of £56 per prisoner, whereas the expenditure, after adding interest and depreciation charges as aforesaid, amounted to £133,517.

The following statement shows a comparison of the cash cost of maintenance over the past ten years. It is interesting to observe that the gross cash expenditure for the financial year just passed was £4,800 less than in the previous year, and the net cash cost was down by £7,200, the total figure being lower than it has been for seven years past. The *per capita* cost has shown a slight increase, but this was to be expected in view of the substantial decrease in the daily average number of prisoners in custody.

Summary of Cash Payments and Receipts of Prisons Vote 1924 to 1934.

Year.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Gross Expenditure.		Credits.		Net Expenditure.	
		Total.	Per Head.	Total.	Per Head.	Total.	Per Head.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
1924-25 ..	1,227·81	144,484	117·67	68,118	55·56	76,366	62·11
1925-26 ..	1,340·13	152,794	114·00	79,099	59·02	73,695	54·98
1926-27 ..	1,397·25	148,766	106·47	70,915	50·76	77,851	55·71
1927-28 ..	1,489·62	161,199	108·21	66,979	44·95	94,220	63·26
1928-29 ..	1,501·82	163,451	108·83	73,994	49·27	89,457	59·56
1929-30 ..	1,425·54	172,248	120·83	83,806	58·87	88,442	62·04
1930-31 ..	1,525·32	171,382	112·36	70,669	46·33	100,713	66·03
1931-32 ..	1,641·51	152,581	92·93	55,867	34·03	96,714	58·90
1932-33 ..	1,661·29	142,940	86·04	52,412	31·84	90,528	54·49
1933-34 ..	1,487·90	138,193	92·88	54,823	36·77	83,370	56·11

Since 1926 capital expenditure has been steadily curtailed, and last year the total expenditure out of Public Works Fund was only £1,036, which was mainly on farm-development work.

Set out hereunder is a statement showing the steady decline in expenditure from loan-moneys:—

Year.	Expended.	Year.	Expended.
	£		£
1923-24	27,259	1929-30	8,205
1924-25	25,279	1930-31	2,504
1925-26	24,196	1931-32	2,621
1926-27	22,812	1932-33	2,026
1927-28	22,359	1933-34	1,036
1928-29	12,572		

REFORMATIVE DETENTION AND HARD LABOUR.

A fairly common misconception seems to exist regarding the nature of the sentences of “reformatory detention” and “imprisonment with hard labour.”

Briefly, reformatory detention was introduced under the provisions of the Crimes Amendment Act, 1910, to require the Courts to have regard to the offender, his personality and criminal tendencies, rather than to the offence itself, in the fixation of the period of incarceration, and it was a departure from the then existing criminal code the underlying idea of which was making the penalty fit the crime.

From time to time experienced criminals, with an obvious objective, plausibly suggest to the Court when appearing for sentence that they may be given “hard labour” in preference to a sentence of “reformatory detention.” In point of fact, there is no such thing as hard labour, as was originally implied under this form of sentence. Our earlier criminal code was based on the dictum laid down in no uncertain terms by the Committee of the House of Lords in 1863, that the object of imprisonment was deterrence; that “hard labour, hard fare, and hard bed” were the proper elements of a prison regime, and the foundations of such a system must be separate confinement and the crank. In course of time the dehumanizing and degrading effect, and the harmful reactions to such methods of treatment came to be appreciated, particularly with the development of a better understanding of human psychology, and these methods have long since all been abolished in our prison system. As far as practicable prisoners are placed at useful work which is likely to stimulate their interest and self-respect, and develop habits of industry. Every prisoner now has a comfortable bed with mattress, blankets, and sheets, and the ration is liberal and well balanced. The protection of society and the reclamation of the prisoner has displaced the purely punitive idea, and present-day conditions are so ameliorated that the consensus of opinion among all authorities is that short sentences of hard labour merely habituate an offender to prison conditions and minimize the deterrent influence, and lessen the whole-some dread and repugnance of prison to those who have never experienced it.

The futility of short sentences has been repeatedly stressed by the highest judicial authorities, and by the English Prison Commissioners. It is thus somewhat surprising to observe, quite recently in this country, where a persistent offender, on appearing before a Magistrate and plausibly entering into a solemn discussion of the merits of reformatory detention as opposed to hard labour, was granted a short sentence of hard labour. In passing sentence the Magistrate is stated to have observed: “It is really farcical to impose reformatory detention.” The offender explained that he had not been before

the Courts for the past six years, and that previously he had been granted no remission by the Prisons Board off the periods of detention. The facts were, the prisoner had been released on probation less than three years previously. His record showed that he has been a badly conducted prisoner whilst serving his last term and had escaped from custody. The prisoner had been convicted on no less than eleven charges previously, including theft, repeated forgery and uttering, and false pretences, all extending over the past twelve years, and after having initially been granted probation, had served no less than six terms of imprisonment, thus having well qualified to be declared an habitual criminal.

It was just to meet such cases, to protect society from the constant predations of these professional criminals, that the Crimes Amendment Act, 1910, was passed, to empower the Courts to impose substantial terms of detention to induce these offenders to change their ways.

Arising out of a recognition of the ineffectiveness of short sentences, a special committee was set up in England in 1931 to deal with the problem of persistent offenders, and this committee recommended the utilization of a new form of sentence to be called "Detention," which provided for custodial care for substantial terms up to a maximum of ten years where it appears to the Court that by reason of the offender's criminal habits or mode of life, his detention for a lengthened period is expedient for the protection of the public.

"The length of the sentence of detention will not be limited by the nature and the facts of the specific offence. If the specific offence is such as to warrant only a comparatively short sentence of imprisonment or penal servitude, but the habits of the offender are such that his prolonged detention is necessary for the protection of the public, it will be open to the Court to order such detention up to a limit of ten years." (Extract from Committee's report.)

It will be seen that the rationale of the idea favoured by the committee of experts in England is similar to that underlying the system of reformatory detention introduced in New Zealand under the Crimes Amendment Act, 1910.

This Act laid down the principle that, instead of having regard entirely to the particular offence for which a prisoner stood arraigned, and for which previously a maximum term of imprisonment had been prescribed, the Court in sentencing him should have regard to the prisoner's "conduct, character, associations, nature of the offence, and any special circumstances."

The Act empowers the Supreme Court to impose detention for reformatory purposes up to ten years, and the Magistrates' Court up to three years, according to what seems requisite for the training of the offender, and the protection of society. To ensure that these lengthened terms shall not be imposed without due judicial care, the Act does not permit such forms of sentence to be imposed by Justices.

It was not the intention of the Legislature to introduce a system of special privileges to a particular section of prisoners, or to make prison conditions pleasant, as many people erroneously seem to imagine, that the system was introduced. Reformatory detention, if anything, implies even greater effort by the prisoner in the way of industry and good conduct to satisfy the Prisons Board that he merits consideration for release. He must give definite evidence that he has realized the folly of his ways, and that he is striving to lead an honest life. As a recent English writer has stated, this re-orientation, repentance, change of outlook or whatever one understands by "reform" is not a thing of definite standards. It is, as the writer states,—

"A matter of rather delicate individual touch. Reform will come to the offender in different shapes and by different methods, but it must come from something within the man. It is not a panacea which can be prescribed by the chaplain, or by the medical officer from the pharmacopœia. One man is reached by a message from the Gospel, another needs only a friendly hint, a sympathetic touch. In one case it is necessary to prick a bladder of conceit, in another patiently to build up self-respect; for some the mere withdrawal for a time from the circumstances leading to the offence will serve, for others complete re-education is required."

Reformation is not a thing that can be brought about by any definite system or routine. The methods to be employed must be almost as varied as the natures to be dealt with, and it will be obvious that no hard-and-fast rule can be laid down. What is required is a good practical understanding of human nature by those in charge of prisoners, coupled with a fair and firm system of discipline and well-ordered conditions. Every prisoner is encouraged to play the game, and the conditions are such that every inmate is afforded ample opportunity of making good. The fact that approximately 75 per cent. respond to such treatment surely bears evidence of its success.

It has been commented on that hard-labour prisoners are sometimes placed with reformatory detention prisoners. From the point of view of practical administration this is occasionally unavoidable, but due regard is always had to the avoidance of the risk of contamination. The turpitude of many hard-labour prisoners is no greater than that of many persons undergoing terms of reformatory detention. The degree of intermingling of prisoners cannot be governed entirely by the class of sentence imposed, as any practical basis of classification of offenders must be according to age, character, and physical and mental fitness, and not on such artificial or arbitrary distinctions as might be indicated by the form of sentence. Section 23 of the Crimes Amendment Act provides, *inter alia*: "Reformatory detention shall be deemed to be imprisonment with hard labour within the meaning of the principal Act, the Prisons Act, 1908, and all other Acts referring to or relating to imprisonment." Although no legal distinction is made, in actual practice the majority of persons sentenced to reformatory detention are transferred to prison farms or camps where such course is compatible with public safety.

There is statutory provision for, and the Courts frequently impose, what is termed a "head sentence" of hard labour to be followed by a period of reformatory detention. It depends largely

on the character and trustworthiness of prisoners so sentenced whether they serve the whole of their term at a camp or in a central prison. The imposition of the initial head sentence implies that that portion of the sentence is definite, but that the portion of reformatory detention is subject to such remission as may be recommended by the Prisons Board.

It will be seen from the foregoing that under reformatory detention the offender more than the nature of the offence is considered. His period of detention depends to a larger degree than under a sentence of hard labour, upon the prisoner's reaction to his treatment, and if he shows promise of mending his ways the Prisons Board is empowered to recommend an early release. The Board can review a sentence of reformatory detention at any time, whereas hard-labour sentences are impliedly more definite and punitive in character. They are not reviewed until half the term has expired, and it is not customary for substantial remissions to be recommended.

The fixation of the nature and quantum of penalty is generally admitted to be one of the most difficult problems the Courts have to determine. It is not practicable to lay down any scale or tariff, as each case must be dealt with, subject to certain well recognized principles, according to its own particular circumstances.

The criminal code, as outlined in the Crimes Act, gives some guide as to the relative seriousness as between one class of crime and another, *e.g.*, a distinction is drawn between theft by day and theft by night, or simple theft and theft as a servant, but the Courts have to weigh up all the facts surrounding the crime, and determine what form of sentence most appropriately fits the case. The Crimes Amendment Act, 1910, allows the necessary latitude to enable the Courts to deal with variable human factors in addition to the offence itself, and for this reason is a most useful part of the machinery of our criminal law.

In *The King v. Casey* ([1931] N.Z.L.R. 594) the Court of Appeal laid down certain rules which are distinctly apropos in this connection :—

“ The Court should always be careful to see that a sentence of a prisoner who has been previously convicted is not increased merely because of those previous convictions. If a sentence were increased merely on that ground, it would result in the prisoner being, in effect, sentenced again for an offence which he has already expiated. We agree that the sentence passed ought to bear some relation to the intrinsic nature of the offence and gravity of the crime. But it by no means follows that the previous convictions must be ignored. It is necessary to take them into consideration, because the character of the offender frequently effects the question of the nature and gravity of the crime, and a prisoner's previous convictions are involved in the question of his character. Further, the previous convictions of a prisoner may indicate a predilection to commit the particular type of offence of which he is convicted, in which case it is the duty of the Court, for the protection of the public, to take them into consideration and lengthen the period of confinement accordingly. We think that the learned Solicitor-General put the matter fairly and accurately when he submitted that the previous convictions may be looked at for the purpose of establishing the prisoner's character and assisting to determine the punishment that is appropriate to the case of a man of that character for the particular offence for which he is to be sentenced. . . .

“ Primarily, and as far as possible, regard must be had to the intrinsic nature and gravity of the offence on which the prisoner is to be sentenced. Without attempting to lay down any rigid rule, we think that where by reason of a man's character, as evidenced wholly or partly by previous convictions, it is thought that the punishment should be increased, the better course is, speaking generally, to add to the term of imprisonment a term of detention for reformatory purposes rather than lengthen the term of imprisonment with hard labour. That, after all, seems to accord more with modern conditions and modern ideas. However many times a man may have been previously convicted, there may still be a possibility of his reformation, and the opportunity of reformation should be afforded him as far as possible. No harm to the public is done by adopting this course, because the Prisons Board is not likely to release the prisoner during his term of reformatory detention unless his conduct warrants his release. It may be said in the present case that the prisoner, in 1926, had this opportunity given to him, inasmuch as he was then sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and thereafter to two years of reformatory detention. True. But the answers are two: Firstly, the present sentence is for offences of a class for which he has not been previously convicted, except in one isolated case; secondly, for the reason already given, it is better to give another opportunity for reformation, which, if availed of, will be beneficial to both the prisoner and the State.”

CONCLUSION.

The Department again has pleasure in acknowledging its indebtedness to the large body of voluntary workers and organizations that have assisted both in in-care and after-care work, to which detailed reference is made in the reports of the Controlling Officers of Institutions attached hereto.

Thanks are extended to the clergymen of the various religious denominations and officers of the Salvation Army who have regularly ministered to the spiritual well-being of prisoners.

These voluntary services are greatly appreciated by the inmates, and are an overt indication that society against whom they have sinned is ever ready to lend a helping hand to redeem them.

The Department is also indebted to the Visiting Justices, Visiting Committees, and Official Visitors for their continued interest and assistance in the administration of the various institutions.

To the staff for their enthusiastic co-operation, I also desire to express my gratitude.

B. L. DALLARD,
Controller-General of Prisons.

THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF PRISONS AND BORSTALS TO THE CONTROLLER-GENERAL.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the year ended 31st March, 1934, concerning the inspection of the various institutions under the control of the Department.

During the past year the larger institutions were frequently visited and the camps and certain police-gaols at intervals when found practicable. On the occasion of these visits inmates were given the usual facilities to interview me and discuss any matter which concerned them. The institutional buildings and general accommodation were also inspected and invariably found to be clean and in good order. Comparatively few complaints were made by inmates concerning their treatment and none at all was of a serious nature. The food supplied at the institutions is of good quality and, as a general rule, is well cooked. The bedding, footwear, and wearing-apparel are kept in a reasonably good state of repair, and complaints regarding inadequate clothing are very rarely heard. Inmates are provided with the usual additional bedding during the winter months and men in detention at camps or other country institutions are supplied with whatever extra clothing the Medical Officer recommends in individual cases. The innovation in respect of the supply of sheets is decidedly more sanitary and may prove more economical as it should lessen the frequency of the laundering of the blankets.

The usual high standard of industry among the inmates of institutions has been well maintained and, despite the rapidly diminishing prisons and borstal population, considerable progress has been made in the various undertakings during the past year.

The institutional libraries have been examined at intervals, and arrangements made, where necessary, for supplies of additional books. Special attention has been given to the libraries at the Borstal institutions, and an effort has been made to provide the right class of literature for the inmates. The library at the Invercargill Institution was thoroughly overhauled during the past year, and at present there are over two thousand books on the catalogue. An adequate supply of suitable magazines and illustrated weekly papers is also provided.

The officers at the prison institutions exhibit a keen and intelligent interest in their duties, and, while maintaining a reasonable standard of discipline, due attention is given to the training of those under their charge for the inevitable struggle which, under the present economic conditions, they are likely to encounter on release. Borstal officers, as a whole, show a commendable spirit of enthusiasm in giving effect to the Department's policy in connection with the training and general welfare of the inmates. The papers submitted by the candidates at the Probationary and Principal Warders Examinations are an indication that the officers are applying themselves diligently to the study of their work and keeping abreast of current ideas in penal treatment. The "house" system of Borstal administration which you established originally at Point Halswell and subsequently at Invercargill has proved an unqualified success. The inter-house competitions at Invercargill under the leadership of the Housemasters has given a stimulus to the social life of the Institution. The Institution orchestra, under the guidance of a Housemaster, experienced in the teaching of vocal and instrumental music, is making good progress and many of the inmates show considerable musical talent. The teaching of retardate pupils has also been resumed and classes are held on four afternoons each week at the farm buildings.

D. A. MACKINTOSH,
Chief Inspector.

VISITING JUSTICES TO PRISONS.

Addington Women's Reformatory : H. A. Young, S.M. ; E. D. Mosley, S.M. ; H. P. Lawry, S.M.
Auckland Prison : Wyvern Wilson, S.M. ; F. K. Hunt, S.M. ; W. R. McKean, S.M. ; J. H. Hannan, J.P. ; J. H. Bradney, J.P.
Hautu Farm Camp : John Cullen, J.P. ; John J. Ross, J.P.
Napier Prison : A. M. Mowlem, S.M. ; James P. Thomson, J.P. ; A. E. Bedford, J.P.
New Plymouth Prison : W. H. Woodward, S.M. ; C. E. Belbringer, J.P. ; Walter C. Weston, J.P. ; Charles H. Burgess, J.P.
Paparua Prison : E. D. Mosley, S.M. ; H. A. Young, S.M. ; H. P. Lawry, S.M. ; J. Leslie, J.P. ; George Maginness, J.P. ; William T. Franks, J.P.
Rangipo Farm Camp : John Cullen, J.P. ; John J. Ross, J.P.
Waikune Prison Camp : John Cullen, J.P. ; W. H. Sandford, J.P.
Wanganui Prison : J. H. Salmon, S.M. ; J. Driver, J.P.
Wellington Prison : A. Longmore, J.P. ; D. H. Edgar, J.P. ; W. G. Riddell, J.P.
Wi Tako Prison : Peter Robertson, J.P. ; W. Greig, J.P. ; J. A. Strang, J.P. ; A. Longmore, J.P. ; D. H. Edgar, J.P.

BORSTAL VISITING COMMITTEES.

Invercargill : E. C. Levvey, S.M. (Chairman) ; W. Macalister ; W. A. Ott, J.P. ; R. M. Strang, J.P. ; M. N. Hyndman.
Point Halswell : George C. Edwards, J.P. (Chairman) ; Mrs. R. Glover ; Mrs. M. H. Chatfield, J.P.
Waikeria : Francis Quin, J.P. (Chairman) ; G. Empson, J.P. ; Fred J. Gilbert ; William Jeffrey, J.P. ; F. W. Bevin.

PRISONS AND PENAL INSTITUTIONS: EPITOME OF REPORTS OF CONTROLLING OFFICERS.

AUCKLAND PRISON.

(Superintendent, Mr. J. DICKISON.)

At the commencement of the year there were 386 males and 19 females in custody. During the year 1,200 males and 59 females were received, whilst 1,257 males and 62 females were discharged or otherwise disposed of, leaving in the prison on the night of the 31st December, 1933, 329 males and 16 females.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the receptions in 1933 totalled 1,259, as against 1,661 in 1932, a decrease of 402. A factor which has been largely responsible for such a marked decrease in the one year is that quite a goodly percentage of the individuals who in recent times have been received on more than one occasion in the one year to undergo short terms in respect of minor breaches of the law—viz., drunkenness, breach of prohibition orders, idle and disorderly, &c.—were drafted during the current year to various country unemployment camps, and have been apparently content to remain away from the city.

I feel convinced that the avenues of employment offered under the camp system, and the consequent break from unsuitable environments, is going a long way towards the rehabilitation of quite a number of the men concerned, who previously were speedily drifting to the stage when their type becomes incorrigible.

Eighteen habitual criminals (male), 20 reformatory detention (male), 1 reformatory detention (female), 29 hard labour (male), and 9 hard labour (female) were released during the year on the recommendation of the Prisons Board.

Two prisoners were concerned in the only escape effected from the institution during the year. Both were subsequently recaptured by the police and returned to prison.

The extreme penalty of the law—the sentence of death—was carried out in one instance only during the twelve months under review.

The previous splendid standard of health has been well maintained during the year, a fact which is readily confirmed by the figures from the daily sick muster, which read: Daily average of males sick, 6.304; females, 0.167.

With a daily average of 387 prisoners in custody, and the reception of 1,259 individuals during the twelve months, the low rate of sickness clearly demonstrates the attention which is given to the all-important matter of the prisoners' health during confinement. Quite a number of individuals are in a frail state of health on admission, and in many instances require extended medical treatment to restore them to a proper state of fitness. Allowing further for the number of minor injuries sustained on the works, the low daily average on the sick muster leaves no doubt that the general health of the inmates has been excellent. May I again express my appreciation of the co-operation of the Medical Superintendent of the Auckland Mental Hospital in the matter of expeditiously dealing with mental defectives.

The prison school is held on three nights weekly and continues to be directed by Mr. L. Grice, M.A. The annual examination results as already submitted to you, were again very pleasing, and showed the marked progress made by the majority of the prisoners in attendance, as the result of the tuition afforded them. The percentage of prisoners finding progress difficult was again very small, and the Schoolmaster commented upon the fact that the men concerned had showed very commendable interest and application in the endeavour to improve a somewhat limited knowledge.

Breaches of the regulations numbering one hundred and fifty were dealt with by Visiting Justices during the year, whilst a number of minor offences were dealt with by myself. Quite a number of the prisoners concerned were dealt with on more than one occasion, and when allowance is made for the class of prisoner in this institution, and the fact that the daily average for the year was 387 it will be admitted that the conduct of the inmates has, on the whole, been of a very satisfactory standard.

Evening drill has been continued three nights weekly under the instruction of a prison officer, the prisoners participating in the exercises benefiting considerably therefrom, particularly as they are employed indoors daily.

The whole of the requisite maintenance of the prison buildings has been effected during the year with prison labour, a good deal of the work being executed around the prison proper, whilst the upkeep of the prison officers' cottages has received adequate attention.

The prison garden continues to be a valuable asset, the whole of the institutional requirements of vegetables, with the exception of potatoes, being supplied from our own garden area.

Bootmaking has continued to furnish a very satisfactory return, and the orders placed by other Departments, as well as our own departmental requirements, have been ably and expeditiously handled throughout the year.

The output from the tailoring shop has been well maintained, and, in addition to our own requirements, those of other Departments have been readily met, and the returns have been well up to the standard of previous years.

Mail-bag repairing is carried on in conjunction with the tailoring, and, as in past years, the whole of the annual demands of the Post and Telegraph Department have been expeditiously handled.

With the exception of blankets, the whole of the prison laundering and the repairs to socks, continues to be executed by female labour, and the small cost to the Department is a pleasing reflection upon the administration of this division. Soft laundering has also been performed as required for the Police, Public Trust, Internal Affairs, and Defence Departments during the year.

Although the trade conditions referred to in my last report have not improved to any noticeable extent, I am pleased to be in the position to advise that the revenue derived from the prison quarry during the twelve months under review, has not fallen off, and the total income is practically identical with that obtained in 1932. A further favourable factor is that the cost of running and maintaining the plant during 1933 has been considerably reduced.

The quarry faces are all in good order, except perhaps for what is known as the No. 4 Quarry in which area most of the clean rock has been worked out. However, there remains an average of approximately 20 ft. of stripping, which work will absorb a goodly proportion of our surplus labour, and we will later have the benefit of working at a lower level.

Although during the major portion of the past year we have had only one crusher in commission, the whole of the plant has been kept in first-class condition by the Engineer, and at the moment is practically equal to new. Our stocks of crushed products are not disproportionate with the business expected in the near future, and as we are getting a number of valuable orders from contractors working on subsidized building contracts we are confident of maintaining our present volume of output until the end of the current financial year.

Under the arrangement by which the whole of our meat-supplies continue to be drawn from the Waikeria Borstal Institution, we have been assured of sufficient tallow to continue the soapmaking industry. During the twelve months the output amounted to 4,074 bars, equal to 8,725 lb., and this supply proved adequate to meet all the requirements of this large institution, as well as the needs of some of the other prisons. Unconsumed stocks of tallow have also been sold periodically to considerable advantage to the Department.

Although in past years we have always manufactured a sufficient quantity of floor-polish to meet the annual requirements of this prison, as well as those of the Waikeria Borstal Institution, operations were extended this year to embrace a contract for supply to the Auckland and Tokanui Mental Hospitals. The total quantity manufactured was 6,198 lb.

Last year's report made reference to the fact that all requisite preparatory work had been completed in readiness for the manufacture of tobacco at this institution as from the beginning of 1933. The industry was duly commenced, and, as is the case with all innovations, many minor difficulties presented themselves during the first few weeks of our operations. However, with the practical assistance of Mr. C. Lowe, Tobacco Instructor of the Department of Agriculture, these defects were readily overcome, with the happy result that we have been able to meet the full requirements of all institutions throughout the Dominion during the year. Credit is due to the printing branch of the Wellington Prison for the efficient service rendered in the matter of the supply of the whole of the printed wrappers from which the cartons were made and filled in the packing department of our factory. From the figures covering the first year of operations, the factory has already indicated its value to the Department, and with the year's experience behind us, we are confident of maintaining an excellent standard of service in the future. With this end in view, arrangements are already in train for the production of plug tobacco.

A party of twenty prisoners, under the supervision of two officers, has been working continuously at Rangitoto Island since November, 1925.

Improvements effected up to 31st December, 1933, include the following, viz. : Roads formed and re-dressed—Summit Road via Beacon, 4 miles 62 chains; Islington Bay Road, 3 miles 27 chains; Summit Road via Islington Road, 1½ miles. Footpaths formed and dressed with ash—Rangitoto to Summit, 1½ miles; Rangitoto Ferry Wharf Road, 1 mile 4 chains; Rangitoto to Harbour Board quarries, widened to 4 ft.; Islington Bay, 1 mile 21 chains; Islington Bay to Harbour Board quarries, 1 mile. Sports areas at Rangitoto and Islington Bay levelled and top-dressed; 2,000 yards of rock shifted in this work, and stone wall built round sides. New bridge built over lagoon on Beacon Road. Swimming-pool, 36 ft. by 99 ft. with diving-platform completed. Wharf constructed of blue-metal rock at Harbour Board quarries. Stone abutment built with dressed stone and concreted 36 ft. long 12½ ft. wide and 12½ ft. high. Lowered remaining part of wooden wharf. Foreshore at Rangitoto cleared of rocks and new wall built. Harbour for boats formed with scoria at Islington Bay. Approximately 2,400 dressed-stone kerbs cut for diving-platform.

Concerts have been held periodically at the prison, the excellent programmes presented being keenly enjoyed by the inmates. Thanks are due to Anglican Prison Chaplain (the Rev. G. E. Moreton), who, in conjunction with other social workers, maintain a sympathetic interest in the welfare of the inmates. The Salvation Army has also contributed entertainments of merit, and the various theatrical interests have at all convenient times shown readiness to assist at the concerts arranged.

Lectures under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association have continued to be given monthly, and have proved both instructive and enjoyable. Mr. N. M. Richmond, Director of the Workers' Educational Association, has been mainly responsible for the arrangement of this form of entertainment, and his efforts are deserving of much appreciation.

The several social organizations and business firms which in past years have provided additional comforts for the inmates during the festive season again contributed freely, with the result that each individual prisoner received an adequate supply of "extras" during Christmas and New Year. Such practical sympathy was deeply appreciated by the inmates, and those responsible for the gifts may be assured that their efforts were well worth while.

Throughout the year the various religious denominations arranged for services each Sunday, and sincere thanks are due to the interested parties who spare no effort to make these services enjoyable as well as beneficial to the inmates.

The Rev. G. E. Moreton, Secretary to the Prisoners' Aid Society, has again been most assiduous in attending to the needs of prisoners, both during confinement, and subsequent to discharge, and there is no doubt that his efforts have resulted in many a discharged prisoner having an increased chance

of making good—in fact, quite a number have been placed in employment shortly after release. Mr. Moreton spares no effort in giving sympathetic consideration to the many and varied calls which are made upon his services throughout the year. Staff Captain Holmes, of the Salvation Army, has also at all times shown readiness to assist the prisoners, and has done much good work in this direction. Other social workers have, of course, contributed their share of assistance, and their efforts are likewise to be commended.

The conduct of the staff has been excellent, and consequently a high standard of discipline has been maintained throughout the year, enabling the various industrial activities, as well as the general prison routine work, to be executed as smoothly and economically as possible. The call made by the Department for the continuance of the practice of economy in every possible direction met with a ready response, and the officers directly in control of the several prison industries are to be commended for their co-operation. The clerical work of the institution has been dealt with efficiently by the office staff.

GISBORNE PRISON.

(Gaoler, Mr. H. N. RICHARDSON.)

At the beginning of the year there were 5 males in custody; during the year 110 males and 4 females were received, and during the same period there were discharged, or otherwise disposed of, 114 males and 4 females; leaving 1 male in custody at the end of the year.

Two prisoners escaped together during the year, but were recaptured within thirty-six hours and returned to the prison. These men were sentenced later at the Supreme Court and received twelve months hard labour in each case.

The health of the prisoners has been good, very few cases requiring the attention of the Medical Officer. No prisoners were sent to hospital during 1933. The garden has supplied vegetables for prison rations throughout the year, with the exception of potatoes.

The men were employed during the year at gardening, laundry work, repairing clothing and blankets, &c.

I wish to thank local people who have helped me to place discharged men in employment during the year.

GREYMOUTH PRISON.

(Gaoler, Mr. H. ROBINSON.)

At the commencement of the year there were 3 males in custody. During the year 80 males were received and 79 males were discharged or transferred, leaving 4 males in custody at the end of the year. The daily average being 3.23.

The health of the prisoners has been good and there was no case of serious illness during the year.

The quality of the rations for prisoners' use has been very good, and good wholesome food has been provided during the year.

The prisoners have been employed during the year keeping the prison clean, washing and repairing clothing, and general work about the prison and prison garden.

Owing to the incessant rainfall and thunderstorms during the month of November and also December the prison vegetable garden has suffered considerably, there being very little growth, and the young plants were cut down by the hail.

The conduct of the prisoners has been very good.

HAUTU PRISON.

(Officer in Charge, Mr. T. BANKS.)

At the commencement of the year there were in custody 92 males. During the year 76 were received, 65 were discharged, and 11 transferred to other institutions, leaving a total of 92 in custody on 31st December, 1933. The daily average number in custody during the year was 85.14.

The health of the prisoners has been very good, there being no cases of serious illness. Two prisoners were sent to hospital for treatment.

The conduct and industry of the prisoners has been, on the whole, satisfactory, the men taking an intelligent interest in their work. There were no escapes during the year.

The spiritual welfare of the prisoners has been well attended to by the local ministers of the different denominations.

The vegetable garden has again been a success, maintaining both camps with ample supplies of fresh vegetables throughout the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year: 867 acres stumped of tutu and manuka and cleared of fern ready for ploughing; 697 acres ploughed, 480 acres sown down in permanent pasture; 150 acres sown in turnips; 40 acres in oats and 4 acres in potatoes; 100 acres of grass was mown for hay; 3,151 acres of pastures were top-dressed; 80 chains of new drains were dug; 240 chains of new fencing erected; 70 chains of road formed; 4,940 posts were split and carted out of the bush. During the year the farm was systematically poisoned and approximately 28,000 rabbits destroyed.

The conduct of the staff has been very satisfactory.

NAPIER PRISON.

(Gaoler, Mr. T. STOCKER.)

At the beginning of the year there were 17 males in custody. During the year 197 males and 5 females were received, while 203 males and 5 females were discharged or transferred, leaving 11

male prisoners in custody at the end of the year. The daily average number in custody during the year was 16, which is 4 lower than last year. Probably this may be accounted for by the fact that the unemployment camps have drawn all single men out of town, in addition to the town being back to normal after the exodus of men who were here during the building boom.

One prisoner awaiting trial escaped during the year but was retaken within a few minutes. He was afterwards sent to the district hospital and eventually sent to the mental hospital for observation. There were no other admissions to the public hospital, the health of the prisoners being very good.

The conduct and industry of the prisoners was very satisfactory.

Owing to the necessity for strict economy, very little expenditure was incurred in maintenance of the prison buildings, although everything has been kept in a state of repair with the means available.

Our vegetable garden continues to supply sufficient vegetables for our requirements. We have a larger area than usual planted with potatoes, and, owing to a favourable season, should have sufficient potatoes for a considerable time, in addition to supplying the requirements of Gisborne Prison. Our onion crop is again very successful, and we anticipate having sufficient to last until the next season's crop is ready.

The quarry continues to absorb practically all our labour and is our main source of revenue, although our sales have dropped considerably due to the fact that restoration of the buildings in Napier is now practically complete and the streets and pavements are all relaid. In addition, the slip on the Bluff Hill has provided the Council with certain classes of material which they have used in building operations. We have made sufficient soap for our own requirements in addition to supplying a quantity to Gisborne Prison. Breadmaking has been continued very successfully, and the bread has been of good quality.

Divine services were conducted by ministers of the various denominations weekly, and the Salvation Army band visited once a month throughout the year.

Thanks are due to the following gentlemen for their help in assisting prisoners on discharge: Captain Squires, of the Church Army; Adjutant Goffin, of the Salvation Army; and the Rev. Mr. Olds; as well as members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The Rev. Mr. Olds and members of the Napier Brotherhood entertained the men with community sings and talks fortnightly throughout the year which were much enjoyed and always well attended. Frequently I provided wireless broadcasts of the football matches from Wellington and elsewhere, in addition to broadcasts of other programmes.

The thanks of the Department are due to Mr. Magill, of the Gospel Hall, and to Mr. J. P. Thomson for their gifts of cakes, &c., to the prisoners at Christmas, also to Mr. Husheer for his gift of tobacco.

During the year Mr. A. E. Bedford, J.P., was appointed a Visiting Justice to the prison in place of Mr. C. J. Steevens, who has left the district.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the behaviour and help of the staff throughout the year.

NEW PLYMOUTH PRISON.

(Superintendent, Mr. W. DINEEN.)

There were 57 prisoners in custody at the beginning of the year, 150 were received, 96 were discharged, and 47 were handed to the police, leaving in custody at the end of the period 64 prisoners. The daily average number for the year was 62.52, the greatest number in confinement at any one time was 71, and the least number in confinement at any one time was 52.

The health of the prisoners has been good. The Medical Officer has made regular visits not less than once a week, and all prisoners who desire to consult him are free to do so. One man was received suffering from serious locomotive disability as the result of an accident prior to arrest. He had been in hospital and discharged requiring the help of crutches and an iron aid to his leg. On the recommendation of the Medical Officer the man was transferred to the public hospital at New Plymouth for operative treatment, and it is pleasant to be able to report that, as result of an unusual and skilful operation, he is now practically restored to his normal health, and walks around without artificial aids. During the year one man died. He was serving his second life term, and was very old and feeble.

The conduct of the great majority of the prisoners has been excellent, and the necessity of calling in the aid of the Visiting Justice has been confined to one or two agitators, and for comparatively minor prison offences. There were no escapes or attempted escapes during the year.

Work in the quarry has continued, but the sale of metal to the New Plymouth Borough Council has somewhat diminished in comparison with previous years. The prison garden has provided useful and beneficial work for many men. Full and plentiful supplies of vegetables have been made available for the prison rations, and the surplus amounts have been sold by auction.

It has been deemed advisable to continue the efforts to counteract the feeling of restless depression that is apt to prevail among men subject to the temptations, and mental instability, such as are the type of men at New Plymouth Prison. With this end in view and with the assistance and co-operation of many citizens, lectures and concerts have been frequent occurrences. The Rotary Club have appointed a special committee, with Mr. W. H. Hamilton as convener, to assist in this work, and they have provided two nights entertainment each month. Mr. Stainton, Official Visitor, has continued to take an active part in these activities, and he can always be relied upon to give willing assistance in organizing entertainments, &c. Mrs. Eason has also continued her weekly motherly visits; she has always been a means of much assistance to every one.

The physical-culture class has been continued under the leadership of one of the prisoners, and has been a very great benefit to all who take part in it.

The spiritual welfare of the men has been cared for by the different denominations. Divine service is held on each Sunday, and, in addition to this, the Salvation Army hold a weekly Bible class.

PAPARUA PRISON.

(Superintendent, Mr. W. T. LEGGETT.)

At the commencement of the year there were 156 males in custody. During the year 601 males were received, and 603 males were discharged or otherwise disposed of, leaving 154 males in custody at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners was 151·94 as against 173·14 in the year 1932. The greatest number of prisoners in custody at any one time during the year was 169 males and the least number 135 males.

The health of the prisoners has been good, there being few cases of illness and no deaths occurring in the prison. There were seven males received into custody suffering from venereal disease, these cases requiring segregation and lengthy curative treatment. There were seven cases requiring treatment in the public hospital, and, of these, three were suffering from disabilities evident on reception. Of the others, one suffering from kidney trouble was the only one of a serious nature and he has since made a good recovery.

The conduct of the prisoners has again been good, there being no escapes or attempted escapes during the year. Disciplinary punishment by Visiting Justices was necessary in eighteen cases of a minor nature and disciplinary correction by loss of privileges was necessary in eleven cases dealt with by the Superintendent. The prisoners, with few exceptions, have worked well and have mostly been employed at farming pursuits, gardening, road forming and maintenance, manufacture of concrete products, and the production of sand and gravel. In co-operation with the Paparua County Council 76 chains of road were formed to give shorter access to the prison from the Main South Highway, thereby effecting a saving of two miles and a half for the return trip to Christchurch for the police and prison vehicles.

Market-gardening and poultry-raising have been continued, giving ample supplies of vegetables, eggs, and poultry for inter-departmental use.

In connection with farming operations the Farm Manager (Mr. H. J. S. Wilson) reports having experienced this year the worst of a series of dry seasons, but, nevertheless, reasonably good progress and results have been shown. The Corriedale sheep flock of 1,100 produced an average of 10·6 lb. per fleece, as against 12·5 lb. in the previous years. The lambing percentage was 107, and, as in previous years, special attention has been given to early lambs for the market. This year these realized top prices up to 32s. 10d., this being the highest price obtained in the market for the season. The cereal crops harvested were exceptionally good, the oats yielding 70 bushels per acre, wheat 53 bushels, and peas 54 bushels. Drought conditions accounted for a poor yield of potatoes and the root crops were also adversely affected and not up to the usual standard. The pig section has been kept down to a minimum owing to poor prices for porkers and baconers, and latterly young stock have been disposed of as weaners, this being considered the most profitable method. In cultivation a further 100 acres of light shingly land has been sown in lucerne, and this policy is being pursued with an additional 40 acres during the coming season.

The spiritual welfare of the prisoners has received the close attention of visiting clergymen of the various denominations. Regular Sunday services have been held and individual visits given. The monthly Mission service has also been continued during the year. Concerts have been given monthly by Mrs. J. C. Holmes and friends, and these have been fully appreciated by the men. The Workers' Educational Association have again arranged the Saturday evening lectures during the winter months, and these have proved both interesting and instructive. The work of the institutional school under the direction of Mr. R. G. Hampton, M.A., is giving good results.

In conclusion, I desire to mention that the officers of the prison as a body have performed their duties very satisfactorily, the keen interest of the officers in charge of sectional work giving excellent results. While maintaining strict discipline, it is owing to their fair and conscientious treatment, tact, and judgment in dealing with their charges that so few punishments have been necessary.

RANGIPO PRISON.

(Officer in Charge, Mr. A. BANKS.)

At the beginning of the year there were 44 males in custody; during the year 38 were received, 29 discharged, and 9 transferred to other prisons, leaving 44 males in custody on the 31st December, 1933. One man escaped twice, but was recaptured on each occasion. Two men attempted to escape and were transferred to Auckland Prison.

The general health of the prisoners has been good, and their conduct and industry satisfactory.

The spiritual welfare of the prisoners was provided for by the Rev. G. A. G. Griffin, Rev. Father Langerwerf, Rev. J. Loughton, and Mr. Moffatt.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year: 333½ acres of virgin country cleared of fern, stumped of tutu and manuka, and made ready for ploughing; 193½ acres ploughed and harrowed; 425 acres sown down in permanent pasture; 124 acres of temporary pasture converted to permanent pasture; 50 acres of turnips and 20 acres of oats sown; 2,216 acres top-dressed; 246 chains of fencing erected; and 7,000 posts split for fencing.

The vegetable garden has been a success, sufficient vegetables for prison requirements being grown.

The officers carried out their duties in a most satisfactory manner.

WAIKUNE PRISON (ROADMAKING CAMP), ERUA.

(Officer in Charge: Mr. P. McGRATH.)

At the commencement of the year there were 74 male prisoners in custody. During the year 99 were received, whilst 79 were released or otherwise disposed of, leaving in custody on the night of the 31st December, 1933, 94 male prisoners. The daily average throughout the year was 91·72 males.

The health of the prisoners was satisfactory throughout the year. There were no admissions to hospital through sickness. It was, however, found necessary to remove one prisoner to hospital to receive treatment for a facial injury sustained when accidentally struck by a piece of falling timber. The injury was slight, and after a fortnight in Raetihi Public Hospital the prisoner was returned to custody fully recovered.

A fatal accident occurred on the 7th October whilst the men were excavating at the Wairehau Bridge site. The District Engineer of the Public Works Department examined the trench and reported that every reasonable precaution had been taken to safeguard the men. The District Coroner held an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the accident and found that no blame was attachable to any one.

The conduct of the prisoners was satisfactory during the year. Five prisoners escaped, but were recaptured after brief liberty. They were later brought before Court and sentenced to further terms of imprisonment. Disciplinary punishment for breaches of the regulations was administered by the Visiting Justice in forty-five cases, being mostly of a minor nature.

Medical treatment was provided by the Medical Officer, Dr. W. J. Feltham, who made frequent visits to the institution and carried out his duties in a painstaking manner. Facilities for adequate dental treatment were provided as usual.

Religious services were again provided during the year by visiting chaplains from Ohakune and Taumarunui.

The food-supplies were of very good quality. Vegetables (with the exception of potatoes) were obtained from the prison garden. The issues were ample and varied. Good-quality beef was obtained from stock killed at Rangipo Prison, and, with a view of further varying the diet of the inmates, a number of pigs were slaughtered at Waikune for subsequent issue as rations. Bread-supplies continue to be made at the prison bakery where a high-grade loaf is manufactured. It is most noticeable that during the past few years complaints from the prisoners regarding the quality or the inadequacy of the present scale of ration are very rare indeed.

As in past years our industrial activities are mainly in connection with roadworks. The financial state of the country has not, as yet, permitted the resumption of capital expenditure of roadworks to any great extent with the result that our activities are now mainly on road-maintenance. At the present time approximately seventy-one miles of highway is being maintained by prison labour and motors supplied from this prison. The roads were kept in good order during the year. The roads were widened at many points and improvements were effected at some of the bad bends. These improvements were of great benefit to the users of the road and, although traffic over the roads in this district has increased considerably during recent years, I am pleased to report that during the year just ended there were no collisions or mishaps which could be attributed to road faults. Work involving capital expenditure is carried on at Otukou deviation on a restricted scale. Four and a half miles of road was formed and pumiced at this point; a bridge of substantial size was erected over the Wairehau Stream, and many culverts were put in. The progress made on this job was quite satisfactory. Greater progress could be made by employing more labour on this work, but at present we are greatly handicapped through being restricted to a limited amount of funds each quarter. Another item of capital expenditure was the erection of a bridge over the Whakapapanui Stream on the Bruce Road section. Towards the close of the year 1932 a start was made with the formation and metalling of a road leading to Scoria Flat. Good progress was made on this job—approximately three miles of road was formed and two miles of road metalled. The second section of our industrial activities is motor transport work. At the present time we have ten motor-driven vehicles in commission. They were kept busy throughout the year transporting goods to the prison farms in the Taupo district, coal and general merchandize to the Chateau Tongariro, miscellaneous cartages for other prison institutions and Government Departments and our own roadwork and institutional transport work.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the staff for their co-operation in carrying out the works undertaken from this institution.

WANGANUI PRISON.

(Gaoler, Mr. E. CHING.)

At the commencement of the year there were in custody 31 males and no female prisoners. During the year 108 males and 5 females were received and 115 males and 4 females were discharged or otherwise disposed of, leaving 24 males and 1 female in custody at the end of the year.

The conduct of the prisoners as a whole has been good. A few minor offences were committed but nothing of a serious nature. Three prisoners only were dealt with by Visiting Justices.

The general health of the inmates has been good. Two old men who were suffering from long-standing complaints on reception were transferred to the public hospital where they subsequently died.

Prisoners who are able to do a little work are employed in the vegetable garden repairing buildings and in keeping the prison grounds in good order. As only prisoners who are old or physically unfit are detained in this institution, the usual prison industries cannot be undertaken.

Thanks are due to the clergymen of the various denominations who visit the prison and conduct divine services, which are much appreciated by the men.

At Christmas, entertainments and a special tea were provided by the Church of Christ and Presbyterian Churches. A special gift of tobacco was also provided by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. These gifts and entertainments were greatly enjoyed by the inmates.

I have to thank the members of the staff for their kindly co-operation during the year.

WELLINGTON PRISON.
(Superintendent, Mr. J. DOWN.)

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the Wellington Prison for the year ended 31st December, 1933.

There were in custody at the commencement of the year 157 males. During the year 916 males were received and 944 were discharged, leaving in custody at 31st December, 129. The discharges were as follows: On expiration of sentence—Hard labour or simple imprisonment, 458; special remission hard labour 25, imprisonment 2, reformatory detention 2 (total 29); executed, 2; released on the recommendation of the Prisons Board—hard labour 23, reformatory detention 15; debtors 29; transferred to Mental hospital, 3; acquitted after remand, 20; transferred to another prison or to the police and on probation, 358; released on bail, 7; total, 944. The greatest number in confinement at any one time during the year was 163 and the least 116. The daily average number in prison during the year was 139.09. The number of cases of sickness, greatest at any one time was 19, and the number of admissions to the public hospital during the year was 7.

The officer in charge of the clinic reports as follows: twenty-two men were received suffering from venereal disease. The syphilis cases were taken to the clinic at the public hospital and received injections once a week. The gonorrhoea patients were treated at the prison clinic and were taken to the public hospital once a month for examination by the Medical Officer and in some instances for a blood-test. One gonorrhoea patient was transferred to the public hospital with badly affected eyes.

Thanks are due to the Medical Superintendent of the Public Hospital for his assistance in dealing with prisoners when transferred to that institution, also to the mental hospital authorities.

The conduct of the prisoners on the whole has been very good. Owing to the necessity for strict economy, all work when possible is carried out by our own staff. The electrical work has grown to some extent on account of more electrical plant being needed. A considerable quantity of repairs and rewiring was done at the Borstal Institution at Point Halswell, also repairs to the pumping-plant and the hydro-extractor. The extractor requires attention twice a week.

Throughout the year the various denominations held their services. Our thanks are due to the ministers and laymen, Salvation Army officers, and the Roman Catholic clergy for their ministrations.

Concerts have been given by the Presbyterian Women's Social Service, the Salvation Army, the Justices Association, and Mrs. Chatfield, J.P., which were thoroughly appreciated by the men. Each of these different organizations also gave Christmas cheer. The following also gave Christmas contributions: Mrs. Chatfield, Mr. W. P. Sommerville, Mr. Norman Aitken. A Christmas allowance of tobacco was granted by the Department. Many thanks are due to Mr. W. P. Sommerville for giving concessions in dental services to inmates.

With the extensive dry season the crops of mangolds are light and the hay will not be so plentiful this year, but with careful management we should have sufficient to carry on. With regard to the vegetable garden the dry weather has had a bad effect on these. Several sales were made at the auction and to the staff. The dairy cows are doing well and keeping up a fair supply of milk. Our method of disposing of our produce is as follows: Milk to the prison, Borstal Institution, and staff. All surplus cream is made into butter and disposed of to the prison, Borstal Institution, staff, and the balance sold at auction.

The pig-breeding industry has been carried on successfully during the past year. The prisoners who are employed on the farm section take considerable interest in their work, and are attentive to the live-stock under their care.

Many improvements have been made to the grounds at the Massey Memorial, 450 yards of terrace has been formed, and the banks built up in the form of rockeries and planted with different rock plants.

The printing and bookbinding industry has been continued with satisfactory results. With the new printing-machine a better class of work is now produced and a greater number of men are employed in the work.

Breadmaking by prison labour is being carried on and the product is of a high standard. Other industries are as follows: Floor-polish, staples, tin containers for floor-polish, sandsoap; manufacture of soap for sandsoap and common soap for laundry purposes, &c., lead-headed nail making. The galvanizing of nails for lead-head nail making was found expensive on account of a second machine being required to put on the lead head. To get over this difficulty and to have good results we have galvanized a portion by dipping the nails in a mixture of oils during the process of making and a splendid result is maintained and a much cheaper job is effected.

On my inspection of the brickworks and machinery at Wi Tako, I found the buildings in fair order. There were indications that there were a few leaks in the brick sheds. The brick machines were in good order, all well oiled, also the engine.

The conduct of the staff has been excellent and the prison routine work has been carried on as smoothly as possible. The clerical work has also been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

WI TAKO PRISON, HERETAUNGA.
(Superintendent, Mr. D. BLAIN.)

At the commencement of the year the muster at this institution was 76. The muster at the end of the year was 74, comprising 52 hard-labour and 22 reformatory-detention prisoners.

The general health of the prisoners has been good, there having been no really serious cases of sickness and only one admission to hospital on account of accident. No venereal disease cases have been reported at this institution during the year.

The conduct and industry of the prisoners have been satisfactory.

The following work was carried out during the year : Thirty-seven acres of leasehold and 4 acres of freehold were sown down in pasture ; 99 chains of new fences were erected, and all the existing fences were maintained in good repair ; the necessary posts, battens, and brush being obtained from the Prison reserve ; 17 chains of new drains were dug, and all existing drains kept cleared. One new bridge was erected. A new sheep-dip was completed and proved entirely satisfactory. The dairy and cow-yards were remodelled to enable milk to be sent to the city supply, and this method of disposing of the surplus milk has proved very satisfactory. The rifle ranges were cleared and put in order for the National Rifle Meeting.

The year's farming operations were fairly successful and the Public Account benefited to the extent of approximately £2,376. The institution has also been self-supporting in vegetables, meat, and firewood. There has been no work done at the brickworks during the year, but sales have been made from existing stocks and 88,750 bricks have been sold during the period under review.

Divine services were conducted throughout the year by the Rev. Mr. Hunt, Rev. Mr. Kendrick, Father Kelly, and officers of the Salvation Army. We have to thank the Rev. Mr. Harding, Salvation Army, Rev. Mr. Hunt, and the Upper Hutt Male Voice Choir and the Silverstream Men's Club for providing entertainments, and the Salvation Army for providing Christmas cheer.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the staff for their loyal co-operation.

ADDINGTON REFORMATORY PRISON (WOMEN).

(Superintendent, Miss E. M. HUNT.)

At the beginning of the year there were 25 inmates in custody, 71 were admitted during the year, 54 were discharged on expiration of their sentences, 5 were released on the recommendation of the Prisons Board, 4 fines paid, 2 transferred to mental hospital, 7 handed to police, 3 released on remission of their sentences, leaving a total of 21 inmates in custody at the 1st January, 1934.

The inmates' work consists of laundry-work for the different Government Departments, domestic duties, and general outdoor work—gardening, &c.

The Rev. Mr. Revell, Father McKoen, officers of the Salvation Army, and Sisters of Charity have helped the discharged prisoners whenever they have applied to them for assistance.

The institution has been well supplied with books, papers, and gramophone-records. Miss Haywood, Sisters of Charity, and concert parties have come regularly during the year. The Salvation Army gave a high tea at Christmas and an evening party at New Year which were very much appreciated.

Religious services were conducted by the Rev. P. Revell, Father McKoen, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of the Mission.

INVERCARGILL BORSTAL INSTITUTION.

(Superintendent, Mr. C. G. L. POLLOCK.)

Inmates in detention at the commencement of the year numbered 194. The number received during the year was 91, whilst 118 were released and 8 removed to other institutions, leaving 159 in the Institution at the end of the year. The daily average number in detention throughout the year was 181.31. The conduct of the general body of inmates has been very good and the standard of industry has been well maintained.

There were two escapes during the year ; two inmates making a breakaway just as the company was about to come in from the recreation-ground on the Saturday afternoon. One of the escapees was recaptured within five minutes while the other was apprehended within five hours. Both were brought before the Court and ordered to be detained for a further period of two years in the Borstal Institution.

There were no epidemics during the year, and the health of the inmates has kept at a high standard. In the case of eleven inmates admission to the Southland Hospital was found necessary. All of them returned to the Institution after their discharge from hospital. There were no deaths during the year.

In May, 1933, the Minister of Justice, the Hon. J. G. Cobbe, paid a visit to this Institution. The Minister made an inspection of the buildings and the farm and was afterwards present at an entertainment given in his honour by the lads who acquitted themselves creditably.

During the month of March, 1933, the annual conference of the New Zealand Justices' Association was held in Invercargill, delegates from all parts of the Dominion attending. In the course of their stay an opportunity was given for the visitors to make themselves acquainted with the various activities carried on in the Institution and on the farm. The Justices expressed their cordial appreciation of the various phases of the training provided by the Borstal.

The long-established Saturday morning classes in agriculture and wool-classing have been continued with unabated zeal by Mr. T. Mathews, Agriculture Instructor to the Southland Education Board. Mr. Mathews reports as follows on the year's work :—

“The two classes in the above courses of instruction were continued throughout the year, and I have to report that despite the limited time available the students made satisfactory progress. It is gratifying to note that members of the classes continue to display a deep interest in their work, fully appreciating the opportunity afforded them for gaining a knowledge of these branches of farming which should prove of inestimable value to them later in life. Term examinations were held in both courses of instruction and prizes awarded to the three most successful students in each subject. Once again we have to thank the trustees of the Mackinnon Trust for their continued interest in our work amongst the lads and for donating a sum of money to provide the class prizes.”

The special class which is conducted under the auspices of the Southland Branch of the Workers' Educational Association met regularly during the winter months under the capable direction of Mr. J. Stobo, M.A., who reports as follows:—

“This class met at the Invercargill Borstal on Friday evenings during the months of May, June, July, and August. The work of the evening usually consisted of a short lecture by the tutor, followed by a prepared debate on a series of lecturettes by the class members, following a syllabus drawn up at the commencement of the session. Variety was provided on occasions by two play-readings (one in costume), a travel talk illustrated by lantern views given by Mr. G. Hill, M.A., a gramophone evening, and a concert.”

We are again indebted to the Southland Branch of the League of Nations Union for arranging a course of lectures during the winter. The lecturer, Mr. A. R. Dunlop, M.A., secured the intelligent interest of his class; he reports as follows:—

“The Invercargill Branch of the League of Nations Union conducted a class in the Borstal Institution during the winter session of 1933. The course of lectures extended over eight evenings and books were supplied to the boys. The average attendance was about forty-five. At the end of the course an examination was held and the work handed in showed that the boys had been interested in the subject and many had carefully studied their books and notes. Ten prizes in the form of carefully chosen books were distributed to the boys who had handed in the best papers.”

The evening school classes have been held regularly throughout the year under Mr. J. S. McGrath, B.A., assisted by Messrs. L. J. Clapp and T. McFarlane.

The Institution band continues under the capable direction of Mr. A. R. Wills. The band instruments which were second-hand when purchased many years ago, have now reached a condition when their replacement will have to be considered.

Mr. J. Page, Physical Director to the Southland High Schools' Board, continues to direct the physical education of the lads. Their response, under his capable lead, gives high value to the training in which all share. Whenever called upon, Mr. Page's Borstal pupils can give an exhibition which compares favourably with the best that is done elsewhere in free gymnastics.

The house system, inaugurated here in May, 1932 has now had time to manifest its values. In the various departments of sport its stimulating influence has been notable. Thus, in respect of numbers alone, 100 players took an active part in football during the 1933 season, 70 lads took up cricket, swimming showed corresponding accessions, there being 120 entries at one of the carnivals held during the warmer months, while tennis, fives, and volley-ball attracted smaller bands of keen votaries. In general athletics the inter-house emulation lent a fine zest to the numerous events contested at our sports meetings, which were held on the 18th February, 25th March, Labour Day, and Boxing Day. The number of entries ranged up to 66 for a single event. The Champion Cup for the highest aggregate in all branches of sport went to Wakatipu House.

Borstal entered two teams, third and fourth grade respectively, for the Southland Rugby Union contests. Of its 13 games the former team won 9, lost 3, and drew 1, scoring an aggregate of 138 points, as against 87, and finishing up third among the competing teams. The latter, playing 12 matches, won 7, lost 4, drew 1, and won fourth place with 157 points against 87. The lads are under a great obligation to Mr. E. C. Kelly for his untiring services in coaching the teams.

In cricket the inter-house matches brought into the game, to their advantage, a number of lads who had not previously caught its fascination. A series of games arranged with outside teams, which included some leading players, added greatly to the interest of the season while also furnishing profitable examples to our less-experienced cricketers. That victory rested with the Borstal in ten out of thirteen games thus played, evidences a satisfactory standard of attainment.

Visiting experts likewise lent fresh zest and purpose to the swimming practices and carnivals. The Oreti Life-saving Club, at one of these carnivals, gave an instructive display in the art of swimming and life-saving.

The eighth Annual Summer Camp, which was held on the usual spot at Otatara, evoked the happy co-operation of all the campers. For fourteen days the lads enjoyed the freedom that camping out permits and returned fit and well. Our best thanks are due to the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. for lending the large marquee and providing the cinematograph machine, both of which proved invaluable. Special mention must be made of the kind services of Mr. R. M. Brasted, the National Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. At the conclusion of a sports programme the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by the Chairman of the Visiting Committee, Mr. E. C. Levvey, S.M.

The spiritual welfare of the lads has been well attended to by the ministers of the various denominations.

On Anzac Day a special service was held when addresses were given by Reverend C. J. Tocker, and Mr. George Agnew, representing the Returned Soldiers' Association.

A special Easter service was held on Good Friday, the speaker being the Reverend J. Chisholm and Reverend L. P. Bryan. On the occasion of the visit to Southland of the Maori Mission party a service for the Maori lads was conducted in their native tongue by a member of their own race in the person of the Reverend Teura Te Uira Taetueao. Other distinguished visitors who conducted special meetings for the lads were the Reverend S. Varcoe Cocks, Youth Director, Methodist Church of New South Wales, and Commissioner John Cunningham, of the Salvation Army. The services at the Ranch have been held regularly on Sunday afternoons, while weekly Bible classes have been conducted by Archdeacon Lush, Adjutant Tong, and Mr. Sampson. Among much appreciated voluntary helpers must be mentioned Mr. H. Dobbie, who has again officiated as organist.

The library continues to be made good use of by the inmates. During the year a very extensive overhaul of the books was undertaken, and to date 350 books have been neatly rebound in the Institution. There is still a large number under repairs which will be completed when the material comes to hand.

The Visiting Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. E. C. Levvey, continues to take an active interest in the welfare of the lads. During the year the Committee arranged an entertainment to be given by the lads in aid of a new wireless for the Institution. The concert was worthwhile in its quality and its proceeds; we are now in possession of a first-class radio.

Acknowledgment must be made of the gifts provided for the lads at the festive season by the Patients' and Prisoners' Aid Society, the Invercargill Rotary Club, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the many friends of the Institution.

The Invercargill Rotary Club continues its helpful service every Thursday evening when members come along and hold meetings with the Kiwi Club. These visits of outsiders are a source of great pleasure to the members, and are eagerly looked forward to.

The number of cows milked on the Institution farm was 120. Owing to a large number of heifers having been brought into the herd, there was a reduction in the average butterfat production, the average per cow being a little under 250 lb. Sixty calves have been reared this season, and with thirty-six heifers to come in during the year it is hoped to build up the herd considerably.

A large number of pigs, mostly baconers, have been sold during the year at prices which are considered to be quite satisfactory. Alterations and improvements have been carried out at the piggery, and it is very pleasing to note that there has not been, for a considerable time, any pigs condemned after slaughter.

A hundred and fifty tons of hay were harvested in good order during January and February. Of this quantity 133 tons were pressed, 92 tons of this being sold, and the balance used for the stock on the farm. Over 100 acres have been closed up for hay for this season.

The turnip crop turned out very satisfactorily and with the hay, again provided ample feed to bring the stock through the winter in very good condition. Unfortunately the oat crops were considerably damaged by heavy wind and hail showers just before they were ready for reaping. A hundred and thirty bags of oats were threshed and 90 tons of oaten sheaves stacked for chaff. Fifty acres have been sown in oats this year and promises to be a very fair crop.

The potato crop was a very satisfactory one, the total yield from 17 acres being about 150 tons. It was noticeable that where a certified seed was sown the yield was larger and the tubers cleaner. A much larger area is being sown in certified seed this season, and it is hoped in future to have sufficient certified seed to plant the whole crop. Approximately 15 tons of potatoes were sold and 25 tons forwarded to northern institutions.

The garden again provided more vegetables than were required for Institution use, and the surplus was disposed of on the local market.

All smithy work required by the Institution and farm has again been satisfactorily carried out in the blacksmith's shop at the Institution. This included the shoeing of horses, repairs to implements, plant, and tools, and repair work for the dredge.

In the bootmaker's shop the work has been mainly confined to repairs and the making of officers' boots for the South Island institutions. A hundred and five pairs of inmates' boots have, however, been made for northern institutions and 151 pairs for the inmates of the local Institution.

The following are some of the principal works carried out during the year: An embankment 5 ft. wide and 4 ft. high was constructed in the vicinity of the south boundary of the freehold property. About 13 chains of wall at No. 2 catchment area was raised 18 in. The deepening of the main drain to the pump-house has been carried on, and 36 chains of this work have been completed. Two thousand five hundred macrocarpa trees and 3,000 seedless gorse plants have been planted on the freehold area. Thirty-five chains of new drains were cut on the leasehold property at Otatara, and approximately seven miles of drains were cleaned during the year. Extensive repairs to the main farm bridge have been carried out. The front walls of the Institution were lowered in height from 9 ft. to 3 ft., and the iron grilles at the front of the Institution were removed and replaced by a concrete wall and steel window sashes. Twenty-five chains of the rifle-range wall have been repaired and fifty groyves erected for the purpose of strengthening the wall.

In terms of the agreement with the City Council the following works have been carried out: In pursuance of the drainage and roading work up to a certain value to be carried out for the Council a further 8 chains of drain was dug on Section 6 and a further 9 chains of road was formed, completing the road to the proposed aerodrome. The work of forming the road, Section 11, was further proceeded with and 16 chains of the road was formed. A double row of 4 ft. pipes were put in across the road, and 10 chains of fencing was erected alongside the road. A commencement was made with the work of forming a new road running from Spey Street to Stead Street; 9 chains of the road has been completed, and this portion has been fenced off in order to protect the formation. The building of the rock wall along the eastern bank of the Waihopai River has been continued, and the work is nearing completion; 25 chains of the wall has been completed during the year. Twenty-five chains of the western wall has been repaired. In connection with the proposal to stone-face and concrete portions of this wall a start was made with this work late in the year, and 5½ chains of the work has been completed. The materials for repairing the wall are being supplied by the Council. The dredge has been kept in operation during the year dredging a channel in the estuary for the City Council. This work should be finished early in the new year.

WAIKERIA BORSTAL INSTITUTION (TE AWAMUTU).
(Superintendent, Mr. D. DUNLOP.)

On the 1st January, 1933, there were in detention 107 Borstal inmates, and 62 were received during the year; the discharges were 5 on the expiration of sentences and 71 on probationary licenses, while 5 were transferred to other institutions, thus leaving 88 inmates in custody on the 31st December,

1933. The greatest number of Borstal inmates in confinement at any one time was 114, the least 88, the daily average being 98-713. In the reformatory section there were in custody at the beginning of the year 66 inmates, and 65 were received during the year: of these, 6 were discharged on the expiration of sentences, 18 released on probationary licenses, and 35 transferred to other institutions, leaving a total of 72 in custody on the 31st December, 1933. The greatest number of reformatory inmates in custody at any one time was 73, the least 46, the daily average being 66-626.

On the 8th February, 1933, three inmates escaped from the property, but were recaptured a few days later near Taumarunui. On the 17th November, 1933, another inmate escaped from the farm and was recaptured a few hours later only a few miles away from the Institution. All four inmates were charged with the offences and sentenced by the Courts to additional detention. In most cases an escape is the result of a foolish impulse or an act of larrikinism. It is necessary, as I pointed out in last year's report, that the need for adequate punishment of escapees should be fully recognized, both in the interests of the individual, who would not be so likely to succumb to the temptation, and in the interests of the community.

No deaths occurred during the year. Sixteen inmates were removed to the Waikato Public Hospital for treatment, the majority being cases of appendicitis. On the whole, the health of the inmates was very good. The Medical Officer, Dr. J. B. W. Robertson, made frequent visits to the Institution and gave every attention to inmates requiring treatment.

Full advantage was taken by the inmates of the usual facilities provided for dental attention.

One of the difficult problems is to find work for the young men discharged from the Institution. Those who are interested in the welfare of Borstal inmates can do no better work than that of finding them jobs on their discharge. Mr. F. Findlay, of Hamilton, deserves our thanks for the great amount of voluntary work he has done in this connection. The lack of reasonable prospects of obtaining congenial employment after discharge is serious for those who have to make a fresh start in life and wish to rehabilitate themselves.

At the Borstal and reformatory the routine provides for hard and useful work, discipline, and a reasonable amount of recreation. The food is plain and wholesome, and the hours regular. It is not surprising, therefore, to find a great improvement effected in the health of the inmates.

No serious offences occurred during the year, and discipline was maintained at a very high standard. There were the usual number of minor breaches involving damage to property and equipment for want of reasonable care. The Department is indebted to the Visiting Justice to the reformatory, Mr. W. Jeffrey, and to the members of the Borstal Visiting Committee, Mr. F. Quin, Mr. F. W. Bevin, Mr. G. A. Empson, and Mr. F. Gilbert for their helpful assistance to the activities of the Institution and for the sound judgment they displayed in dealing with disciplinary matters.

The usual facilities were provided for recreation. One of the problems in an Institution of this kind is to determine the limits of recreation. It is impossible to permit of conditions becoming too pleasant. On the other hand, it is recognized that a reasonable amount of recreation is essential, but in a Borstal it has to be treated as a form of privilege to the inmate. Adherence to the accepted standards of conduct and labour will qualify for the privilege. As at work, so at play judgment is required of the supervisor. Some latitude must be allowed, otherwise the relaxation, for which the recreation is intended, would not exist. It is not unusual, however, to meet cases where individuals, who excel at some form of sport, foolishly expect their abilities to condone any omissions on their part to observe the rules of conduct and industry. This, of course, could not be tolerated, and occasionally our competition teams are disorganized on this account.

Several concerts and interesting lectures were provided for the entertainment of the inmates by parties from Hamilton organized by Mr. F. Findlay, who is to be thanked for his interest and help in this part of our work. Thanks are also due to the members of the Otorohanga Band and the Te Awamutu Orphans Club for the excellent entertainments provided for the inmates.

The night-school class was conducted on 113 evenings, the average roll for the year being 56-2, and the average attendance 31-7. The work with a few minor exceptions was a continuation of the work of previous years, the inmates being classified into three divisions. Though so divided, the whole classes were taken together in various subjects and were as far as possible given a general grounding on the subjects requiring the most attention, especially English and arithmetic. Both these subjects were based on a common-sense and practical course which should be of some use in general life, while the other subjects taken were more of a general-knowledge type. At least once a week a lecturette or a debate was arranged, and these were keenly appreciated, more so than the usual routine lessons. Several inmates took special courses, and one or two of these made very good progress. In all cases as much individual attention as possible was given to induce interest and for encouragement.

For those doing indoor work and requiring physical development drill classes were held on two evenings each week.

In the field of sport the inmates were able to maintain their reputation for sportsmanlike play and irreproachable conduct. The Borstal team was successful in reaching the final for the senior-grade championship under the control of the Waipa Rugby Union, but was defeated in the match by 12 points to 6. The team was successful, however, in winning both the Insurance Cup, competed for between the second and third teams in the championship competitions, and the Ballistite Cup for the senior grade knock-out competition. Local competition games were also staged between teams representing different branches of the institutional activities and created considerable interest.

Although no actual competition games were played, the cricket team played a number of matches with visitors from Hamilton and Te Awamutu. These games were played in the true cricket spirit, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

Good conduct and industry enables inmates to qualify for membership of the special class which is permitted to indulge in appropriate games during the evenings.

Religious services were again provided during the year by visiting chaplains from Te Awamutu and Kihikihi and the Maori Mission parties.

During the year the Institution library was carefully overhauled and a large number of books rebound. There is ample reading-matter of all classes available, and donations of useful books come to hand fairly regularly.

The old power-house building was reconstructed into a four-roomed cottage and immediately occupied by a married officer. Other new buildings erected during the year were a butcher's shop, tobacco air-curing barn, implement-shed, farm store building and yard, and new pheasant runs and coops. All of these buildings were erected by inmates under the supervision of a tradesman officer, and together with usual maintenance work, provided ample useful work for all inmates skilled at the building trade. All buildings were completed to the satisfaction of the Inspector of the Public Works Department.

Footwear repairs continue to be executed in the bootshop. Repair work to the value of £140 10s. 11d. was carried out for the Tokanui Mental Hospital. Harness repairs were also attended to in the saddler's shop.

The activities on the farm continue to expand, and each year, as further areas are brought into cultivation, the need for increased attention to maintenance and for additional farm equipment becomes more pronounced. The various industries pursued on the farm are as follow: Dairying, raising of fat stock, sheep-farming, pig-raising, breeding of horses, cropping, market-gardening, orchard, apiary, tobacco-culture, and the rearing of pheasants and poultry. It will be evident, therefore, that ample productive work is available for the inmates committed to the Institution. There are now four dairies on the property at each of which over 100 cows are milked by hand. To enable the herds to be milked expeditiously it is essential to employ a large number of inmates at each milking-shed. This causes a heavy demand on the volume of available labour. With the exception of sheep, wool, and lambs which showed a substantial improvement towards the end of the year, prices for farm products remained at very low and unprofitable levels, making it impracticable to improve the revenue position. However, the prospects for the coming year appear definitely brighter, and higher price-levels will be welcomed owing to the need for additional finance to effect necessary improvements and re placements which have been deferred on the score of economy. An area of 253 acres was laid down in permanent pasture. Further subdivision of paddocks is essential before improved production on an acreage basis can be achieved, but before this can be done it is necessary to provide an adequate supply of water for each paddock. This matter is at present receiving the attention of the engineers, and it is anticipated that a report on the subject will be available at an early date.

A considerable amount of labour was again employed on the destruction of ragwort and 7 cwt. of sodium chlorate was used for the purpose.

Favoured with a good season, it has been possible to record a substantial increase in dairy production. During the season ended 31st July, 1933, an average of 454 cows were milked, resulting in a milk yield of 3,469,771 lb. at an average test of 4 per cent. The average factory cream test was 40.33 per cent., and the average estimated butterfat yield per cow was 294.66 lb. Compared with the previous season, there are increases of 118 in the number of cows milked, of 925,892 lb. in the milk-yield, of 33,046 lb. in the quantity of butterfat supplied to the factory, and 1.28 lb. in the average butterfat production per cow. A slight decrease of 0.03 per cent. in the average milk test is recorded.

A wool-clip of 25 bales, weighing 9,585 lb., was obtained from 1,024 sheep, and 849 lambs were reared.

During the year the supply of mutton and beef for ration requirements of Auckland Prison was continued with satisfactory results. Good prices were obtained for all hides, skins, and tallow disposed of through the auction-rooms.

An agreement was concluded between the Department and the New Zealand Co-operative Pig Marketing Association, Ltd., regarding the disposal of pigs, whereby the Institution would secure similar benefits to those enjoyed by private shareholders of the company. There were 532 pigs sold during the year and ten killed for rations.

The garden continues to show a substantial cash profit, notwithstanding the steady decline in value of sales. The growing crops during the current season were severely affected by severe late frosts. In the nursery section, ample supplies of young trees were grown for planting out on the farm for shelter and other potential requirements.

The tobacco crop was harvested in March, 1933, and 3,377 lb. of dried leaf was secured from an area of slightly under 3 acres. This leaf was sold and realized £239 8s. 6d. This industry promises to be extremely profitable to the Department. During the current season the area under cultivation was increased to 6 acres so as to provide sufficient leaf for the requirements of all institutions. Unfortunately, this crop was also affected by late frosts, but nevertheless it is looking very well and a good yield is assured.

For the season ended May, 1933, a yield of 1,965 cases of apples was obtained from the orchard, which, together with windfalls and other low-grade apples disposed of in sugar-bags, realized £363. The average price per case was 3s. 4d. The crop for the current season was almost completely destroyed by frost.

An increase in production from the apiary was recorded, and 2,674 lb. of honey was received for disposal.

During the year, the rearing of pheasants for the Internal Affairs Department was undertaken and the construction of suitable breeding and accommodation pens was completed. At the end of the year 104 pheasant chicks had been reared.

The following crops were harvested during the year: Ensilage, 475 tons; hay, 119 tons; oaten sheaves, 82 tons; maize (green feed), 720 tons; swede turnips, 1,850 tons; potatoes, 90 tons; horse-carrots, 30 tons; and barley, 234 bushels.

Several entries of live-stock and all classes of farm and garden produce were provided in the 1933 Show organized by the Te Awamutu Agricultural, Pastoral, and Horticultural Association, and the Institution was successful in gaining twelve first prizes and ten minor prizes. In the home industries section an exhibition of all kinds of farm and garden produce and samples of all classes of work which the inmates perform as part of their daily tasks was well received.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the staff for their loyal co-operation.

POINT HALSWELL BORSTAL INSTITUTION.

(Acting-Superintendent, Miss A. ESCOTT.)

At the commencement of the year there were 41 inmates in the Borstal Institution, and 6 in the reformatory. During the year 25 girls were received into the Borstal, 30 were released on the recommendation of the Parole Board, and 2 were transferred to another institution, leaving 34 inmates in the Borstal at the end of the year. Fifty-nine women were received into the reformatory and 60 were discharged or transferred elsewhere, leaving 5 in custody at the end of December, 1933.

The general health of the inmates has been good throughout the year. School, drill, and games have been carried on as in the past. During the warm weather the girls were taken in parties for a swim at Shelly Bay. Most of them are good swimmers and they thoroughly enjoy this recreation.

Our industrial activities are being well maintained. These consist of light laundry-work, sewing, darning puttees and hose, cooking, housework, and poultry-keeping.

The vegetable garden and grounds are attended to by the inmates, the garden providing a daily supply of vegetables for the institution. The outdoor exercise has a wonderfully good effect on the health of those girls whose temperament and physical condition requires an open-air life.

The visiting Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. C. Edwards, J.P., has met regularly, and a keen interest is taken in the welfare of the inmates. It is with regret that I record the resignation of Mrs. P. Yeates from the Committee. The vacancy has been filled by Doctor Ada Paterson.

Religious services have been conducted regularly by Ministers of the various denominations, thus enabling each inmate to attend her own church.

The ladies of the Borstal Association continue their invaluable help in arranging for suitable situations for the girls to go to after they leave the institution, and providing clothing for needy cases; also, in arranging for entertainments and personal visits at various times. These visits afford great pleasure to the inmates and form a wonderful break in their general routine.

During the year parties were given by Mrs. Glover, of the Salvation Army, and the Justices of the Peace Association, on both of which occasions the inmates had a most enjoyable time.

Our grateful thanks are due to Her Excellency the Lady Bledisloe for again sending us two beautiful cakes for the inmates' tea on Christmas Day, to the Borstal Association for providing fruit, sweets, and cakes, also a gift for each inmate, and to other kind friends who sent us gifts of good cheer during the festive season: to Mrs. Sprott and members of the women's organizations of the Church of England for their annual concert and party on New Year's Day, and to the many people who have given us books, gramophone-records, &c., throughout the year.

Table A1.
TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF PRISONERS AT EACH PRISON OR INSTITUTION IN THE DOMINION DURING THE YEAR 1933.

Name of Prison.	Greatest Number in Prison at One Time.						Least Number in Prison at One Time.						Daily Average Number of Prisoners.						Sickness.					
	Greatest Number in Prison at One Time.			Least Number in Prison at One Time.			Daily Average Number of Prisoners.			(a.) Greatest Number ill at any One Time.			(b.) Admissions to Hospital during Year.			(c.) Number of Distinct Prisoners ill on One or More Occasions with Number of Occasions, Total Number of Separate Illnesses, Total Number of Days, and Daily Average on Sick-list.								
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	Once.	Twice.	Three Times.	Four Times.	Five Times.	Six Times Over.	Number of Separate Illnesses.	Total Number of Days ill.	Daily Average on Sick-list.			
Addington (Women's Reformatory)	..	32	20	..	20	25.56	..	26	..	4	4	9	..	5	..	..	..	..	19	105	0.29
Auckland	400	28	345	329	16	21.55	8	8	29	2	42	91	31	5	11	2	..	1	231	2,881	7.89			
Hautu (Tokaanu)	42	232	0.64			
Invercargill	18	..	6	6	..	11.08	2	2	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	127	0.35
Invercargill (Borstal Institution)	287	2,448	6.71			
Napier	7	40	0.11			
New Plymouth	64	528	1.45			
Paparua (Templeton)	75	575	1.58			
Pt. Halswell (Women's Reformatory)	1	4	0.01			
Point Halswell (Borstal Institution)	20	264	0.72			
Rangipo	33	250	0.69			
Waikeria (Reformatory)	98	533	1.46			
Waikeria (Borstal Institution)	153	744	2.04			
Waikane (Erua)	60	355	0.97			
Wanganui	6	40	0.11			
Wellington	107	328	0.89			
Wai Taki (Trentham)	25	159	0.44			
Minor prisons and police-gaols	23	92	0.25			
Police lock-up			
Totals	1,445.14	..	..	..	..	124	453	141	64	31	20	12	1,274	9,705	26.60				

Table B.
PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1934.

<i>Expenditure.</i>			£	s.	d.	<i>Income.</i>			£	s.	d.
To Rations			20,486	16	7	By Rents of departmental buildings			3,670	0	10
Clothing, footwear, and equipment			7,299	9	9	Sundry credits and recoveries			5,103	13	10
Earnings, wages, and gratuities, prisoners' and dependants			16,681	15	0	Value of prison labour capitalized on works ..			3,687	10	9
Hospital maintenance and medicines			1,358	11	7	Surplus on industry working			9,058	12	4
Transport and travelling expenses			4,908	9	5	Net cost, departmental upkeep			133,517	7	2
Maintenance, buildings and grounds			1,327	4	0						
Salaries and allowances			47,287	13	2						
Fuel, light, water, &c.			5,996	14	10						
Postage, telegrams, stationery, &c.			1,099	10	4						
Interest and depreciation			44,493	17	7						
Administrative expenses			4,097	2	8						
			<u>£155,037</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>				<u>£155,037</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1934.

<i>Liabilities.</i>				£	s.	d.	<i>Assets.</i>				£	s.	d.
Capital Account				989,170	0	0	Land, buildings, and improvements			868,513	8	0	
Depreciation Reserve				188,323	12	7	Farm, live-stock, implements, &c.			40,582	3	3	
Sundry creditors				5,820	1	7	Plant, machinery, equipment, and stores ..			96,546	10	4	
Accrued earnings				6,567	12	8	Sundry debtors			3,653	3	1	
Deposits				542	3	1	Deposits			1,594	1	5	
Writings-off in Suspense: Sundry stores and live-stock				1,483	11	2	Expenditure paid in advance			120	10	0	
							Writings-off in Suspense			1,483	11	2	
							Treasury Adjustment Account			42,167	16	9	
							Departmental cost for year—						
							Prisons and administration	133,517	7	2			
							Prisons Board and probation	3,728	9	11			
										137,245	17	1	
				<u>£1,191,907</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>				<u>£1,191,907</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	

G. O. HALL, A.R.A.N.Z., Accountant.

Table B1.
ANALYSIS OF VALUE OF ALL PRISON LABOUR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1934.

	Capital Works.				Industries.							Institutional.					Total.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Annual Value of Labour per Head.	
	Erection of Buildings and Plant.	Farm-develop-ment.	Boot Manu-facturing and Repairs.	Farms and Gardens.	Block and Tile Manu-factur-ing.	Quarries and Gravel-pits.	Road-works and other Con-tracts.	Miscel-laneous Industries.	Repairs and Main-tenance of Build-ings and Roads.	Domestic Clean-ing and Sanitary &c.	Domestic Launder-ing and Re-pairs to Cloth-ing.	Domestic Cook-ing, Baking, and Ration-ing.	Occupa-tional.	Total.						
														£	£	£				£
Addington	123	..	..	..	165	..	..	..	..	..	137	19	47	..	491	24.19	20.30
Auckland	..	796	..	80	..	..	1,070	..	243	..	..	..	..	1,363	508	282	..	8,579	368.93	23.25
Hauri	433	..	1,478	..	..	43	..	..	..	..	61	95	237	24	2,237	85.54	26.38
Rangipo	..	1,364	..	205	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	36	37	..	933	38.23	24.40
Invercargill	..	617	..	1,280	..	..	..	..	267	..	..	..	..	418	300	449	..	3,558	180.52	19.71
Napier	..	709	..	15	..	..	..	..	28	..	..	..	..	31	28	46	..	388	15.38	25.23
New Plymouth	193	..	..	..	..	195	..	..	..	..	227	154	182	..	1,880	65.15	28.85
Point Halswell	940	..	..	..	..	837	..	..	..	..	376	253	266	700	4,519	151.90	29.75
Waikeria	224	..	..	..	..	102	..	..	..	..	164	..	53	..	916	46.05	19.89
Waikane	3,141	..	..	..	..	589	..	..	..	..	474	276	274	..	4,987	163.27	30.54
Wanganui	30	..	..	..	..	79	..	..	..	..	72	170	404	..	5,527	94.37	58.56
Wellington	42	..	..	..	..	196	..	..	..	..	93	54	55	..	440	23.49	18.73
Wi Tako	206	..	..	..	..	232	..	..	..	..	500	216	174	1,566	2,986	133.93	22.29
Minor gaols	1,353	..	..	..	..	90	..	..	..	..	126	98	164	..	1,863	67.05	27.80
	5	..	..	..	..	122	..	..	..	..	70	..	..	..	197	29.90	6.59
Totals	929	2,758	878	8,270	38	3,451	4,673	1,774	3,043	4,148	2,207	2,670	4,682	39,521	1,487.90	26.56				

NOTE.—Since April, 1933, labour rates for industrial purposes have been reduced by approximately 40 per cent. to bring them into closer conformity with outside rates.

Table C.

TABLE SHOWING THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF DISTINCT CONVICTED PRISONERS RECEIVED INTO GAOL DURING THE YEAR 1933, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PRINCIPAL OFFENCES, BIRTHPLACE, AND AGE.

	Offences against the Person.				Offences against Property.				Miscellaneous.						Totals.	
	Convicted on Indictment.		Summarily convicted.		Theft and Deceit.		Mischief.		Drunkenness.*		Vagrancy.†		Other Offences.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Birthplaces—																
New Zealand	64	3	64	1	677	37	45	2	163	11	93	53	632	12	1,738	119
Australia	6	..	8	..	45	1	2	1	25	..	8	..	45	1	139	3
England and Wales	10	..	12	..	108	4	14	..	44	3	25	3	128	2	341	12
Scotland	2	1	7	..	41	2	5	..	33	..	4	1	31	1	123	5
Ireland	3	..	3	..	26	1	3	..	25	1	17	1	17	1	94	4
Other British countries ..	5	..	..	1	10	..	1	..	4	1	3	..	5	..	28	2
China .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	65	..
Other countries	3	..	3	..	17	..	1	..	6	..	8	1	14	..	52	1
At sea .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Not stated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	5	..
Totals	93	4	97	2	929	45	71	3	302	16	158	59	935	17	2,585	146
Ages—																
15 and under 20 years ..	13	..	4	1	97	1	7	..	2	..	7	12	30	1	160	15
20 .. 25	11	1	13	..	236	8	14	..	10	..	13	15	136	2	433	26
25 .. 30	13	..	13	..	170	9	16	..	23	..	11	1	146	1	392	11
30 .. 40	27	1	38	1	241	11	18	1	63	3	40	10	291	2	718	29
40 .. 50	10	2	14	..	109	9	10	2	91	9	34	13	183	6	451	41
50 .. 60	13	..	10	..	47	7	4	..	66	3	32	6	106	4	278	20
60 and over	6	..	5	..	24	..	1	..	46	1	21	2	40	1	143	4
Not stated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	10	..
Totals	93	4	97	2	929	45	71	3	302	16	158	59	935	17	2,585	146
Maoris included above ..	17	..	9	1	132	2	3	2	4	..	6	2	74	1	245	8

* It must be remembered that drunkenness is punished more by fine than by imprisonment, so that the figures in the gaol tables do not represent the full number of persons punished for that offence.

† Including importuning, consorting with rogues, &c.

Table D.

PRISONS—NEW ZEALAND BORN PRISONERS RECEIVED, 1933.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DISTINCT NEW ZEALAND BORN CONVICTED PRISONERS OF EACH SEX (INCLUDING MAORIS) RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1933, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGES AND OFFENCES.

Offences.	12 and under 15.		15 and under 20.		20 and under 25.		25 and under 30.		30 and under 40.		40 and upwards.		Not stated.		Totals.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Offences against the person—																	
Convicted on indictment	12	..	11	1	9	..	18	1	14	1	..	..	64	3
Convicted summarily	4	..	11	..	10	..	24	1	15	..	..	..	64	1
Offences against property—																	
Theft and deceit	89	1	196	8	119	7	168	9	101	12	4	..	677	37
Mischief	6	..	9	..	11	..	9	1	9	1	1	..	45	2
Drunkenness	2	..	5	..	21	..	34	2	101	9	..	..	163	11
Vagrancy*	7	10	13	14	5	1	27	9	41	19	..	..	93	53
Other offences	28	..	113	2	113	1	197	2	178	7	3	..	632	12
Totals, 1933	148	11	358	25	288	9	477	25	459	49	8	..	1,738	119
Totals, 1932	178	18	426	22	365	8	537	24	613	60	6	..	2,125	132
Totals, 1931	168	12	390	16	343	7	495	30	541	46	2	..	1,939	111
Totals, 1930	113	20	298	11	265	11	401	30	551	56	4	..	1,632	128
Totals, 1929	150	7	238	7	252	7	322	22	493	53	5	..	1,460	96

* Including importuning, consorting with rogues, &c.

Table E.

PRISONS.—MAORI PRISONERS RECEIVED, 1933.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER, AGES, AND OFFENCES OF DISTINCT CONVICTED MAORIS (MALE AND FEMALE) RECEIVED INTO THE VARIOUS GAOLS DURING THE YEAR 1933.

Offences.	12 and under 15.		15 and under 20.		20 and under 25.		25 and under 30.		30 and under 40.		40 and upwards.		Not stated.		Totals.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Offences against the person—																	
Convicted on indictment	9	..	..	..	1	..	6	..	1	..	..	..	17	..
Summarily convicted	1	..	3	..	2	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	9	1
Theft and deceit	35	1	44	..	13	..	29	1	9	..	2	..	132	2
Mischief	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	3	2
Drunkenness	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	4	..
Vagrancy	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	6	2
Other offences	12	..	20	..	15	..	17	..	8	1	2	..	74	1
Totals	60	1	69	1	33	..	55	4	24	2	4	..	245	8

