

Recently a rehabilitation expert toured a typical Wellington furnishing warehouse to examine stocks and study prices. The following should give an accurate picture of conditions that may be expected and current prices:—

The Soft Furnishing Department was visited first, for essential "accessories" such as lampshades, curtains, bedspreads, quilts, etc. Lampshades, (required in most cases for dining room, hall, bedrooms and lounge) varied in price from 5/6 to 65/—. Materials for bedspreads, curtains, loose covers and quilts were brocades and damasks of various colours, (prices per yard) 19/6 to 57/6; chintzes with patterns and designs 3/6 to 4/11; velours and velvets (especially acceptable when used as living room and lounge curtains), prices in single and double widths 18/6 and 37/6; linens suitable for both curtains and loose covers from 12/9 to 45/— per yard. There was a sufficient variety of fabrics to meet all needs and satisfy every individual taste.

The Carpet Department stocked a comprehensive range of colourful Indian carpets, prices ranging according to size as follows: 6ft×3ft fireside rugs, L6.10.0; 9ft×6ft. squares, L19; 10ft. 6in×9ft. squares, L33 to L36; 12ft.×9ft. squares, L34 to L39. To add to these is Feltex, to-day being manufactured in New Zealand in both plain and mottled colours, civilian purchases being confined to the plain colours,

while the entire output of the mottled is reserved for ex-servicemen and women to the extent of 30 square yards for each home. Prices: plain 21/— per yard and mottled 26/6 per yard. For both squares and Feltex, underfelt was procurable at 7/6 per yard. Coir matting and New Zealand flax matting, excellent for both kitchen and passage-way were obtainable from 6/6 to 9/— per yard and linoleum, expected in small quantities soon although for a long time unprocurable, L3 to L4-10-0 per square.

An interesting and varied selection of occasional furniture was seen in the next department, including both modern and period designs. Small bedroom chairs, upholstered in tapestries, damasks and linens ranged in price from L5-10-0 to L15-15-0, bedroom stools of Queen Anne and other designs from L4-10-0 to L8-10-0, and bedside tables in various woods and designs were priced from L3-10-0 to L9-0-0. For the dining room and lounge, china cabinets in beech and tawa in attractive designs were priced from L10-10-0 upwards, and bureaux in rimu, beech and veneered walnut in stock designs, or original, from L14-10-0. Fireside chairs upholstered in tapestries and uncut moquettes ranged from L7-17-6 to L13-13-0. Also on display were tables, bookcases and service wagons.

The selection of dining room furniture was varied and original, the majority

