

THE BALNEOLOGIST, ROTORUA.

The Balneologist reports that there has been an increase in the revenue from out-patients', consultation, and massage fees, and a slight decrease from Sanatorium fees. There has also been a decrease in revenue from the bath fees, particularly from the swimming-pools. This latter decrease has been mainly due to the war period and the restriction in petrol.

The Sanatorium.—The daily number of patients in the Sanatorium was forty-five. During the year the work in our institutions has been increasingly difficult owing to the shortage of nursing and domestic staff. There is a long list of patients awaiting admission.

The number of baths and special treatments given to patients in the Sanatorium during the year were: Baths, 10,323; massage and special treatments, 8,157. The general therapeutic results were excellent.

The Main Bathhouse.—Since the introduction of the social security benefits the work in our treatment establishment has increased enormously, to such a degree that in some cases special treatments have had to be rationed. This is because the number of baths is limited, our massage staff is inadequate, and the treatment-rooms can only work to capacity. The Department has only been able to obtain the services of two extra masseurs and two extra masseuses. Additional massage-rooms have been built within the available spaces of the main bathhouse.

Massage and Physiotherapy.—New apparatus installed comprises three Schalls combined galvanic and faradic units, one portable Bristowe, and one portable galvanic set. These have been in service for some time past and are of great value in carrying out physiotherapy treatments.

MANAGER, WAITOMO CAVES AND HOTEL.

While there was a natural falling off in the numbers of visitors to Waitomo during the year, detailed figures disclose that approximately 5,472 people inspected the caves and 2,872 stayed at the hotel. This is considered to be a very satisfactory return when the general travel position is taken into account. There were five special parties during the winter in addition to the usual flow of visitors.

MANAGER, LAKE HOUSE, WAIKAREMOANA.

The Manager reports that war conditions had led to a definite falling off in the numbers of visitors to the resort. Those arriving, however, had taken full advantage of the many interesting excursions to be made to various points along the lake shore. Huts at the camping-ground were all occupied over the Christmas and Easter holiday periods. The tracks and grounds were in good order.

THE CHATEAU, TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK.

The Manager advises that the year just passed has been a record one for visitors and revenue. A factor in this result has been the proximity of the armed forces to the Chateau. No new works have been undertaken, with the exception of the erection of a new reservoir which is now nearing completion. This will hold 40,000 gallons of water and will solve the matter of water-supply for some considerable time to come.

The golf-course has been kept in good condition in spite of exceptionally adverse weather conditions experienced during the summer season. The annual Easter golf tournament was cancelled chiefly on account of this. The ski-ing season and snow sports held in July and August attracted a record attendance. Snow conditions were generally good with early falls, the access road to the Chateau being blocked in June, a most unusual occurrence. The postal branch experienced a big increase in business.

QUEENSTOWN.

The tourist season for the year proved an exceptionally quiet one, as was to be expected, travel being seriously affected owing to the general conditions prevailing. The gardens have been well cared for and have presented a most attractive appearance. Most of the visitors arriving were short-distance travellers, the absence of overseas visitors being very marked in contrast to usual conditions at the resort.

THE MANAGER, MILFORD TRACK AND HOTEL.

The Manager reports that the Milford Track has experienced a very disappointing season owing to the petrol and travel restrictions. Prior to the restrictions being imposed we had record bookings. These were mostly cancelled. The track closed on the 10th February.

The Hotel Milford has been reasonably well patronized during the past twelve months. Access through the Homer Tunnel makes it possible for tourists to visit Milford Sound at almost any time during the year. Quite a number of visitors arrive during the winter months and stay for a week or ten days.

The work in the tunnel has been stopped for the duration of the war; the tunnel is quite passable. The road to Milford Sound is to be kept open and maintained, and should result in a fair amount of patronage, providing transport is available.

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