

TRAINING OF AUXILIARY WORKERS

A scheme for the training of auxiliary workers in the engineering industry was introduced in 1940 in anticipation of an extended demand for the manufacture of munitions. Pursuant to this, the training of machinists was undertaken in the technical colleges at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, while in Wellington instruction was also given in welding. Sixteen weeks' full-time instruction was given in each case, the trainees being paid a maintenance grant meantime on the basis of the minimum wage for general labourers.

Subsequently there were introduced classes for the training of clickers for the footwear trade, these operating for a period in the technical colleges at Wellington and Christchurch. In Auckland, however, a school operating on the basis of a footwear-factory was opened and instruction has been given in the clicking, machining, and making sections of the trade.

Schools for instruction in carpentering and house-building have been commenced at Miramar (Wellington), Petone, Auckland, Christchurch, and Rotorua, the latter being exclusively for members of the Maori race. In these schools a workshop course extending over eighteen weeks is given, instruction of trainees being undertaken on bench work, including the care and use of tools, the working of timber, elementary joinery, &c., also workshop mathematics, draughtsmanship, and the principles of building-construction as applied to cottage-building. Following the workshop course is an eighteen weeks' course of instruction involving the actual building of houses to the Housing Construction Department's standard plans. The houses constructed by the trainees have proved to be equal to those constructed by experienced carpenters.

Workers trained under the scheme to 31st March, 1943, were: Engineering, 349 (Auckland, 51; Wellington, 191; Christchurch, 83; and Dunedin, 24); footwear, 162 (Auckland, 132; Wellington, 17; and Christchurch, 13); and carpentry 91 (all Wellington). An additional 248 workers were undergoing training as at 31st March, 1943—viz., engineering, 58 (Auckland, 12 welders; Wellington, 22; Christchurch, 24); footwear, 27 (all Auckland); carpentry, 163 (Miramar, 46; Petone, 47; Auckland, 46; and Christchurch, 24). Of the workers referred to above, 92 of those trained and 110 of those undergoing training were ex-servicemen. The framework of the training schemes can be adopted for the training of ex-servicemen, and they are being developed so as to provide training for such men to the fullest extent that may be found necessary.

EXPENDITURE DURING THE YEAR

Salaries and allowances (including salaries of nominated members, Court of Arbitration, Waterfront Control Commission), temporary assistance and agents' remuneration ..	£ 81,227
Fees, travelling-expenses, &c., in connection with work of Conciliation Councils and the Court of Arbitration, Compensation Court, Industrial Emergency Council, and Emergency Disputes Committee	8,093
Printing, stationery, office requisites and equipment, rent, cleaning, heating, and lighting of offices, advertising, postage, telegrams, telephones, &c.	14,506
Travelling-expenses, &c., of Inspectors, including cost of bicycles, motor-vehicles, &c. ..	3,733
Law-costs incurred in Court cases conducted by Inspectors	717
Waterfront Control expenditure, including office furniture, printing, rent, travelling-expenses, &c.	3,367
Weights and measures equipment	19
Miscellaneous expenditure	35
	111,697
Immigration expenditure—	
Disbursements of amounts collected on behalf of Imperial and other Governments, &c.	£ 95
Portion of salaries and other expenditure, High Commissioner's Office, London	730
	825
	112,522
Less recoveries—	
Salaries	8,496
Law-costs	110
Sales publications	111
Fees, &c., Conciliation Councils, &c.	250
Printing, &c.	90
Inspector's travelling-costs	1,021
Services to other Departments	90
Waterfront Control Commission expenses	1,509
Miscellaneous	..
Immigration	42
	11,719
	£100,803

The above figures do not include items provided elsewhere than the Labour Department's vote—*e.g.*, salaries of Judges of Court of Arbitration.