

Mr. W. L. Fitzherbert was nominated as second representative of the Wellington Harbour Board, in succession to the late Mr. Turrell.

Colonel A. Cowles retired from the Board of Trustees owing to ill health, and Mr. E. E. Muir was nominated by the Wellington War Memorial Carillon Society to take his place. The Board records its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Colonel Cowles during his term of office.

Mr. S. W. Fearn, representing the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects, was reappointed to the Board for a further term of three years from 11th November, 1943, and Mr. Ernest W. Hunt was also reappointed to the Board for a further term of three years from 27th November, 1943.

GENERAL

The Art Gallery and Museum Building is still being utilized for national purposes. The operations of the Art Gallery are being conducted in the temporary location in the D.I.C. Building, Lambton Quay, and the Museum is functioning in the restricted space allotted to it in the main building at Buckle Street. Despite this drawback, however, each institution has been carrying on active operations, as will be seen from the Management Committees' reports attached hereto. The appointment of a special Education Officer for the Art Gallery has proved very beneficial and has furthered the dissemination of knowledge of art amongst school-children and adults. Some notable gifts of pictures have been made to the Art Gallery, and a number of interesting exhibits have been donated to the Museum. The Board extends its grateful thanks to the donors. Purchases of pictures have also been made from the Board's funds and from a grant made by the T. G. Macarthy Trust, whose continued support for this and for educational purposes is much appreciated.

After a complete repair and renovation of the Carillon, recitals per medium of the automatic playing-apparatus have been regularly given.

The grounds have been maintained to the limit of the labour available, and it is hoped that it will be possible to give more attention to the whole area during the ensuing year.

In addition to the usual Government grant, contributions from the Wellington City Council, Wellington Harbour Board, and other local bodies in the Wellington District have been maintained, and the Board records its appreciation of this continued assistance, and also of the assistance received from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, the Royal Society, Wellington War Memorial Carillon Society, and others; and also to the press for valuable publicity.

The staff has rendered excellent service under difficult conditions. Some of the members are still on active service or on work connected with the war effort.

The reports of the Management Committees and of the Treasurer are appended hereto.

In addition to the usual provision of £1,000 for Repairs, Renewals, and Extensions Fund, appropriations have been made for educational purposes (£500), purchase of pictures and exhibits (£695), and a further £1,000 has been set aside for rehabilitation of the Museum and Art Gallery when the time arrives for resumption of occupancy of the main building.

P. FRASER, Chairman.

F. H. BASS, Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ART GALLERY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1944

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ART GALLERY

D. A. Ewen, Esq., M.B.E. (Chairman); Mrs. M. Murray Fuller; Messrs. A. D. Carbery, C.B.E.; Stanley W. Fearn, A.R.I.B.A.; G. G. Gebbes Watson, M.A., LL.B.; W. S. Wauchop, M.A.; Nugent Welch (Wellington); Richard Gross, C.M.G. (Auckland); and Archibald F. Nicoll (Christchurch).

SUB-COMMITTEES, NATIONAL ART GALLERY

Architectural.—Stanley W. Fearn (convener) and William Page.

Sculpture.—Richard Gross (convener) and F. H. Shurrock.

Educational.—W. S. Wauchop (convener), A. F. Nicoll, A. D. Carbery, and Mrs. M. Murray Fuller.

Hanging.—Mrs. M. Murray Fuller (convener), A. D. Carbery, and Nugent Welch.

Finance.—D. A. Ewen (convener) and Stanley W. Fearn.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Four meetings of the Committee were held during the year.

GENERAL

In last year's annual report reference was made to the taking-over of the National Art Gallery by the Government as a war measure and to the Committee's successful efforts to obtain temporary premises for an art gallery so that the work of the Gallery would not have to cease for the duration of the war. Owing to the continued use of the permanent National Gallery by the Government, the Gallery is still housed in its temporary premises in the D.I.C. Building, Lambton Quay, Wellington.

The Committee has continued its policy of endeavouring to maintain as many of its usual activities as possible, in spite of many difficulties and restrictions due to war conditions. In addition, it has increased its activities in the direction of educational work. An Education Officer has been appointed and an active educational programme is being carried out. It has been possible to have a continuous series of exhibitions of both originals and reproductions during the year, and the interest of the public has been well maintained.