

Group Travel operations have had to be severely curtailed on account of travel restrictions and the war, but notwithstanding these difficulties the organization has been held together and developed in order to cater for post-war demands, and a really commendable number of parties have been handled with very satisfactory results.

Attention has been given to the question of developing community centres in New Zealand, and the Department is collaborating with other Departments interested. The development of such centres, including cultural and recreational activities, must have an uplifting effect on the physical welfare and morale of the community.

The National Council of Physical Welfare and Recreation has given consideration to the requirements of post-war recreation, and the work that will be necessary to satisfy the ever-growing demands of the community in this respect.

### VIII. PATRIOTIC PURPOSES

#### A. PATRIOTIC PURPOSES BRANCH

The work of the Patriotic Purposes Branch again increased considerably, particularly in view of the increased number of theatres of war in which New Zealand fighting Forces were stationed or engaged.

The year commenced with peak mobilization in so far as the Army was concerned, and during the year numerous readjustments necessitated increased office and store personnel, and accommodation to cope with the situation.

The following are figures of goods shipped overseas on behalf of the eleven Provincial Patriotic Councils :—

|                                                 |           |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Gift parcels .. .. .                            | 240,000   |
| Cigarettes .. .. .                              | 7,980,000 |
| Tobacco .. .. .                                 | 2,980 lb. |
| Tobacco parcels (Postal Tobacco Scheme) .. .. . | 53,160    |

Patriotic goods shipped to the Pacific area, the Middle East, United Kingdom, India, Canada, and elsewhere, including comforts for hospitals overseas and for troops on transports, occupied over 122,000 cubic feet of space. The major shipments were to the Pacific area, where 348 different lines of goods were shipped, and to the Middle East, where 169 different lines were shipped. In the Middle East and in the United Kingdom most of the comforts for Service personnel, other than gift parcels and woollen goods, are purchased overseas by the National Patriotic Fund Board's representatives.

The administration expenses of the National Patriotic Fund Board for the year were 2s. 1½d. per cent. of receipts, as compared with 2s. 8d. per cent. for the previous year. This is particularly accounted for by the fact that the office expenses and salaries continue to be a charge against the Internal Affairs Department vote. It is not generally realized that the National Patriotic Fund Board is subsidized by the Government by approximately £500,000 a year, which includes a payment for all goods purchased for prisoner-of-war food parcels.

A summary of the receipts and payments of the National Patriotic Fund Board and Provincial Patriotic Councils for the year ended 30th September, 1943, is set out below :—

#### Provincial Patriotic Councils

|                     | Receipts.                                |                    | Payments.                 |                         |                                             |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|                     | Balance on Hand as at 1st October, 1942. | Received, 1942-43. | Budget Payments to Board. | Miscellaneous Payments. | Balance on Hand as at 30th September, 1943. |
|                     | £                                        | £                  | £                         | £                       | £                                           |
| Auckland .. .. .    | 168,411                                  | 161,117            | 306,834                   | 112,130                 | 213,564                                     |
| East Coast .. .. .  | 33,078                                   | 28,722             | 24,117                    | 5,941                   | 31,742                                      |
| Hawke's Bay .. .. . | 41,232                                   | 85,977             | 38,073                    | 16,105                  | 73,031                                      |
| Taranaki .. .. .    | 61,075                                   | 44,566             | 30,353                    | 16,033                  | 59,255                                      |
| Wellington .. .. .  | 141,152                                  | 217,159            | 174,572                   | 75,445                  | 138,291                                     |
| Marlborough .. .. . | 14,759                                   | 16,606             | 9,899                     | 5,802                   | 15,664                                      |
| Nelson .. .. .      | 56,597                                   | 29,706             | 15,637                    | 6,123                   | 64,543                                      |
| Westland .. .. .    | 24,504                                   | 15,337             | 9,482                     | 4,247                   | 26,112                                      |
| Canterbury .. .. .  | 83,087                                   | 196,931            | 88,403                    | 62,534                  | 129,081                                     |
| Otago .. .. .       | 178,905                                  | 117,780            | 82,530                    | 18,519                  | 195,606                                     |
| Southland .. .. .   | 81,781                                   | 54,055             | 35,110                    | 14,037                  | 86,689                                      |
| Totals .. .. .      | 881,581                                  | 1,300,956          | 815,010                   | 336,916                 | 1,033,581*                                  |

\* A considerable proportion of this balance is money specially collected for post-war welfare work and cannot be used for general patriotic expenditure.

#### National Patriotic Fund Board

|                                                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                                                                 | £         |
| Balance as at 1st October, 1942 (cash and investments) .. .. .  | 437,893   |
| Receipts from Provincial Councils and all other sources .. .. . | 1,417,059 |
|                                                                 | 1,854,952 |
| Less payments .. .. .                                           | 1,250,771 |
| Balance at 30th September, 1943 (cash and investments) .. .. .  | £604,181  |