

During the year 12 girls received their home nursing and 10 their first-aid certificates.

Handwork has included pottery, spinning, weaving, fancywork, toy-making, and knitting.

A refugee sewing club was organized in each house during the winter and the clothes and toys were sent to the Red Cross for forwarding.

To send food to Britain the girls have contributed from their pocket-money and earned extra money by clearing the hostel area of lupin and poplar saplings.

Twenty-one girls have earned their swimming certificates during the year.

We have been fortunate in having visit the centre concert parties arranged by various drama groups and friends in the community. This has encouraged the girls to arrange their own concerts, which have been well attended by outside visitors.

Dr. Field, as Psychological Adviser, has visited the centre fortnightly, interviewed the more unstable and difficult girls, and given advice regarding treatment . . . His advice to the staff is much appreciated and his interviews with girls give noticeable results.

In spite of epidemics in this district, the health of the girls at the centre has been extremely good.

Boys' Training Centre, Levin.—(a) Senior Section: This institution for older boys is a counterpart of the Girls' Training Centre at Burwood. The age for admission ranges from fourteen to nineteen years approximately and the period of training varies from six to eighteen months according to the needs of the individual boy. During the twelve months ended 31st March, 1946, 65 boys were admitted and 54 were placed out. Of the latter, 48 were either placed in employment or returned to relatives or friends, 1 was admitted to a mental hospital, and 5 were transferred to a Borstal institution. At the 31st March there were 57 boys in residence.

The scheme of training includes farming in various branches, woodwork, and a certain amount of instruction in mechanics.

A well-planned programme of leisure-time occupations, including cultural and recreational activities, is directed towards the social readjustment of the individual boy.

(b) Hokio Training School: The Hokio Section of the Training Centre, situated a few miles from the Senior Section, is a residential school for boys of primary-school age who prove too difficult for continued residence in or admission to a boys' home. While attached to the Training Centre for administrative purposes, provisioning, &c., this unit, as far as possible, has a separate entity, with a training scheme suitable for younger boys and distinct from that operating in the Senior Section.

There were 17 boys in residence at the school at the 31st March.

Extracts from the report of the Manager of the Training Centre are as follows:—

During practically the whole period the accommodation at the Senior Section has been fully taxed, but at no time has there been any great difficulty experienced in securing suitable placements for those due to leave.

I am pleased to be able to report that many members of the staff who have been on active service during the war are now returning to duty at the centre.

An analysis of the family conditions existing in the homes from which were drawn the last hundred admissions to the centre shows the following position:—

Broken Home Relationships.				Previously residing with Both Parents.			
No parents	..	..	5	Mother bad character	..	..	2
Father dead	..	..	17	Father bad character	..	..	3
Mother dead	..	..	20	Control weak	..	..	6
Parents separated	..	..	10	Congested area	..	..	2
Parents divorced	..	..	11	Normal (including 4 Maori homes)	..	..	9
Father overseas	..	..	2	Mother working	..	..	3
One parent an invalid	..	..	10				
			75				25

Information about the last hundred boys discharged from the centre discloses the following position:—

Good	..	..	68	Other institutions	..	..	1
Unsatisfactory	..	..	19	Readmitted	..	..	4
Unknown	..	..	3	Missing	..	..	1
Mental hospital	..	..	2	Deceased	..	..	2