

radios; rowing-boats; electric irons; fishing lines and nets; writing-paper and envelopes; football and hockey jerseys, shorts, and boots; and numerous varieties of sports and other equipment.

Annual Conference of Patriotic Bodies

The annual Dominion Patriotic Conference was held in November, 1944, for the purpose of surveying the work of the year and co-ordinating and planning future activities in the light of the changing war situation. The Conference decided, among other things, to set aside a Welfare Fund of up to £2,000,000 for the Dominion and to adopt a uniform policy in the disbursement of same.

Woollen Comforts

The work of providing Navy, Army, and Air Force woollen comforts was continued under the supervision of Mrs. A. A. Stitchbury (Navy), Mrs. D. M. McRae (Army), and Miss C. Morice (Air Force). Large quantities of woollen comforts were knitted and received in the Board's store and Air Force Relations depot, for issue in New Zealand and for despatch overseas. To facilitate issues to naval personnel, 1 lb. of knitting-wool was issued in lieu of garments where naval men could arrange for relatives and friends to knit the wool.

Servicewomen in cold stations were issued with $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. wool, and in special cases where drafts were sent overseas, or to cold stations in New Zealand at short notice, some garments were issued. On the cessation of hostilities repatriated prisoners of war and returning servicemen were issued with woollens where necessary, and after maintaining a reserve for future requirements the balance of knitted garments and wool was made available for the relief of distress overseas.

The following table shows the cumulative number of knitted garments made up and issued to 30th September, 1945:—

*Cumulative Return of Woollen Goods made and issued during Year ended
30th September, 1945*

	Balaclavas.	Gloves.	Mittens.	Pullovers.	Scarves.	Seaboot Stockings.	Socks.	Miscellaneous.
Army	29,881	911	29,620	4,334	70,273	..	63,677	1,720
Air Force Relations ..	43,525	7,156	52,223	74,942	62,207	..	9,948	10,588
Navy League and patriotic issues	32,232	5,928	26,747	20,203	26,514	8,725	29,129	6,633
Overseas (Army, Navy, and Air)	244,922	6,503	164,192	26,594	193,722	3,978	64,650	16,954
Totals	350,560	20,498	272,782	126,073	352,716	12,703	167,404	35,895
Stocks on hand								
Army	1,938	15	2,472	675	5,978	..	4,087	81
Navy	1,747	854	2,435	2,793	2,556	286	4,526	261
Air Force	5,828	380	6,093	4,447	5,840	2	3,206	3,458
Grand totals ..	360,073	21,747	283,782	133,988	367,090	12,991	179,223	39,695

Hussifs—Made and issued: Army, 134,165; Navy, 8,971; Air Force, 36,846; rescue kits, 483; sheep-skin jackets, 1,749 (exported).

Unknitted wool issued to servicemen and servicewomen in lieu of garments: Army, 90½ lb.; Navy, 1,155 lb.; Air Force, 24 lb.

NOTE.—During the year stocks of khaki woollens were returned to the Board from Army camps in New Zealand. The net local issues were reduced accordingly. These stocks were later exported and are now shown under the heading "Overseas."