

berths allocated have been taken up by children. Sponsored berths for fare-paying passengers during this period (September, 1946, to March, 1948) have been allocated as follows :—

Men	444
Women	336
Children	218
Total	998

(3) It is estimated that during 1948 some 4,500 berths will be available to the Department for all purposes, and during 1949, some 10,000 berths. This latter estimate is subject to the continuation of the present agreement with the shipping companies.

(4) The improvement in the shipping position and the probability of a further improvement in the near future, coupled with other factors such as the lesser availability of certain female categories and the very large response from men willing to undertake unskilled work, has enabled an extension to be made in the occupational categories and a nomination scheme to be introduced.

(5) Consideration has been given to the question of the introduction of a scheme of child migration, and it is expected that arrangements will soon be finalized for the bringing to New Zealand at Government expense of a number of British children who will, in the first instance, be under the guardianship of the Child Welfare Department. The children selected will be between the ages of five and seventeen years and will be placed with New Zealand families anxious to receive them. Guardianship may be transferred to the approved foster-parents after a period of six months. It is unlikely that many of the children will be available for adoption.

(6) The free and assisted-passage schemes have to date resulted in an addition to our labour force of 606 young men and 695 young women. The vast majority of these young people have settled down to life here and are giving every satisfaction as new settlers and as workers. The numbers who had arrived by 31st March, 1948, are tabulated below (details of departures from and arrivals in New Zealand during 1947–48 will be found in Appendix I, Table VIII) :—

Females.		Males.	
Category.	Number.	Category.	Number.
Shorthand-typists	57	Postal staff	4
Maternity nursing trainees	7	Compositors	27
Nurse aids	42	Letterpress machinists	21
General nursing trainees	52	Other printing tradesmen	3
Hospital domestics	71	Labourers	179
Hospital cooks	13	Cooks	4
Hostel domestics	47	Kitchen hands	3
Hotel domestics	23	*Farm workers	1
Home aids	33	Timber-workers	92
Mental hospital nursing trainees	240	Forestry workers	22
Mental hospital cooks	19	Footwear operatives	14
Physio-therapists	2	Coal-miners	79
Trained maternity nurses	9	Cable-jointers	4
Footwear operatives	6	Tradesmen for State hydro-electric construction projects	43
Clothing operatives	39	Sheet-metal workers	5
General factory workers	20	Coppersmiths and other engineering tradesmen	3
Printing operatives	3	Fitters and turners	61
Woollen-mill operatives	12	Floor-moulders	16
		Blacksmiths	3
		Boilermakers	22
	695		606

* This category is a recent addition to the scheme.