

X-ray films, which form part of a soldier's personal medical record, now number approximately 430,000.

Discharge Certificates.—The issue of final certificates of discharge is now nearing completion, a total of 61,600 certificates having been issued during the year. There still remains approximately 8,000 to be prepared for 2 N.Z.E.F. personnel and 7,000 for N.Z.T.S. and other home-service personnel.

Casualties.—The following casualties among 2 N.Z.E.F. (Japan) personnel were notified during the year: accidentally killed, 1; accidentally drowned, 1; died of sickness, 3; total, 5.

The only other 2 N.Z.E.F. casualties recorded were presumptions of death in the cases of 40 personnel previously classified as "Missing" in the Middle East and Central Mediterranean war theatres. There still remain 7 men officially posted as missing, these being in the main personnel who were known to be prisoners of war before the end of hostilities but about whom there has been no later information.

New Zealand Memorial Cross.—A commencement was made in January, 1948, with the engraving and distribution of the New Zealand Memorial Cross to the widows and mothers of deceased New Zealand servicemen, and to the 31st March 2,565 crosses had been sent to recipients by registered post. This total included 1,790 for Army personnel, 364 Navy, 374 Air Force, and 37 Merchant Navy. Engraving and distribution is continuing at the rate of approximately 1,000 Crosses per week.

New Zealand Memorial Scroll.—By Cabinet decision on 1st July, 1947, approval was given for the issue of a Memorial Scroll to the next-of-kin of deceased members of the New Zealand Armed Forces and Merchant Navy. The New Zealand Scroll is to be the same as that to be issued for deceased members of the British Imperial Forces. Fifteen thousand Scrolls, in blank, ordered from the United Kingdom, have recently come to hand.

The names and descriptions of the servicemen to be commemorated will be printed into the Scrolls by the Government Printing Office, and distribution will be carried out by each Service independently as the printing is completed.

ARMY EXPENDITURE

The expenditure brought to charge under War Expenses—Army during the financial year 1947–48 was £5,584,197, while miscellaneous receipts totalled £1,883,863, making a net expenditure of £3,700,334 for the year.

In addition, the sum of £719,076 was received through disposal of surplus assets by Army and £344,637 by War Assets Realization Board on account of Army, a total of £1,063,713.

The expenditure under Consolidated Fund vote "Army" was £3,470,245, with departmental receipts amounting to £202,419, a net expenditure of £3,267,826.

N. W. McID. WEIR, Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (648 copies), £22 10s.

By Authority: E. V. PAUL, Government Printer, Wellington.—1948.