

INFORMATION SERVICE

The importance of a central source of information on recreational matters is fully realized and steady improvement has been made in the provision of this service.

A bulletin averaging twenty-five pages was distributed monthly to every officer, the purpose of this bulletin being to unify Branch policy and aims among scattered district officers and to serve as a medium for conveying general trends and information on recreation, both in New Zealand and overseas, through the Physical Welfare Officers to the community. The following booklets dealing with specific aspects of recreation were published and distributed to interested persons among the general public: Measurements for Sporting Facilities (Indoor and Outdoor); Athletics; Community Centres; Table Tennis; and Canoeing. Further publications are planned and will be published as staffing arrangements permit.

Contact has been established with recreational organizations in England, Australia, America, and Canada and arrangements made for inter-change of information. A library of books, stencilled material, and photographs and films has been set up and is now in use, primarily by Physical Welfare Officers, but also by approved organizations and individuals.

Posters of a general publicity nature were designed in co-operation with the Health Department and 10,000 of these are to be distributed.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER STATE DEPARTMENTS

This co-operation has always existed, but during the past twelve months steps were taken to place it on a more organized basis, with mutually beneficial results.

An interdepartmental committee composed of representatives of the Education, Housing, and Internal Affairs Departments drafted a booklet on community centres which will be published shortly. A similar committee drew up recommendations for gymnasiums which will form an appendix to the community centre booklet and which, in cyclostyled form, has already been widely distributed.

A committee composed of members of the Physical Education Branch of the Education Department and the Physical Welfare Branch of the Internal Affairs Department formulated plans for publication of standard specifications for gymnastic equipment which will be published during this year. The same committee is to meet periodically to discuss other types of recreational equipment. Liaison was established between Branch officers and officers of the Maori Affairs Department and the Labour and Employment Department with a view to assisting the recreational activities of Maoris and immigrants respectively.

The Branch is also working in close co-operation with the Publicity Branch of the Health Department both in producing publicity material of joint interest and in placing health publicity among groups not normally reached by the Health Department.

RECREATION FOR FIRMS' EMPLOYEES

Employees of industrial and business firms in Christchurch, Dunedin, Auckland, and Wellington were assisted in recreational matters. The Christchurch Firms' Recreation Association is now a firmly established and accepted factor in the recreational