

Women's Health Leagues are really the counterpart of Tribal Committees, and with the two bodies working in close co-operation much lasting good will result.

The Janet Fraser Memorial Guest House was completed during the year and officially opened last August. The guest house is doing excellent work in accommodating relatives of Maori patients who are in hospital, as well as catering for the travelling public, both Maori and pakeha. From August until 31st March, 1949, over eight hundred persons were accommodated.

It is pleasing to note that the guest house is self-supporting.

#### GENERAL

During the year ended 31st March, 1949, Welfare Officers moving in and out amongst the Maori people handled 70,194 (38,690) cases, which were almost as varied as they are extensive. The organization itself seeks to interpret the provisions of the Act in a practical way, and the following record of twelve months' working indicates how this is being done. Last year's figures are shown in parentheses :—

*Accommodation*, 849 cases (570).

The needs of the travelling Maori public are catered for, but the main objective is the provision of good permanent accommodation for Maori youths who are drawn to the main centres of population and industry from outside districts. A good house and home life tend to lessen the need for these young people to turn elsewhere for amusement and reduces the tendency to mix in undesirable associations. The problem of accommodation is regarded as an urgent one. "Pendennis" Maori Girls' Residential Club in Wellington has been designed as a "home away from home" and is doing good work in providing suitable accommodation for forty young Maori women resident in the city.

*Child Welfare*, 1,610 cases (1,138).

Maori Welfare Officers, especially the lady officers, work in very close co-operation with the Child Welfare Officers and jointly handle cases that come before the Children's Courts. Maori Welfare Officers also arrange foster-parents for Maori children and arrange to see that children are properly cared for. The Women's Health Leagues are also interested in this aspect of child-welfare.

*Education*, 1,519 cases (1,291).

The Maori people are daily becoming more appreciative of the benefits resulting from a good education. Children are now able to remain at school much longer than previously, and this has meant that they are now to be seen in the better classes of occupation or continuing their education at University. Welfare Officers and Tribal Committees, aware of the advantages of a good education, try to encourage parents to allow their children to remain at school as long as possible. Truancy is also checked. The first Maori kindergarten in New Zealand was recently established at Hastings through the efforts of the local Welfare Officers.

Special adult education for Maoris has been commenced in Wellington with the assistance of Tribal Committees and Welfare Officers. Maoris enrolled for classes as hereunder :—

|                   |    |    |    |    |    |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Dressmaking       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 24                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Physical Training | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 25                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Orchestral        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Choral            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 30                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Maori Carving     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Maori Culture     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> 11 adults.<br/>27 children. </div> </div> |