

(2) The staff of hostels and camps shows no significant increase. Towards the end of the year decentralization from Head Office to district offices of hostel accounting was completed, and the former now maintains only a general control of these operations through control accounts in Head Office and visits by inspecting officers. During the year practically all supervisory positions in hostels and camps, previously filled by temporary officers, were made permanent in accordance with the general Public Service policy.

(3) A new development was the formation of an Organization and Methods Committee in Head Office. Its functions are to review the procedure, systems, and clerical machinery of the Department and generally to foster the development of the most efficient methods and the deletion or prevention of unfruitful routine. A number of very useful suggestions has been received from the staff for the saving of labour or the more efficient performance of work, and the Committee of its own volition has been able to effect a number of worthwhile improvements.

(4) The following tables analyse the staff employed at the date of this report :—

LOCATION OF STAFF EMPLOYED AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1949

	Males.	Females.	Total, 31st March, 1949.	Total, 31st March, 1948.
Head Office	95	44	139	138
District offices	423	146	569	542
Secondments to London	10	1	11	10
London staff recruited in Great Britain	7	27	34	30
Courts and Tribunals	5	3	8	10
Camps and hostels, including domestic staff (but excluding caterers' staffs and staffs of hostels operated by Y.W.C.A.)	55	84	139	137
Home Aids	..	55	55	60
Totals	595	360	955	927

GROUP ANALYSIS OF STAFF EMPLOYED AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1949

Nature of Work.	Males.	Females.	Total, 31st March, 1949.	Total, 31st March, 1948.
Inspectors of Factories	120	7	127*	105*
Inspectors of Weights and Measures	23	..	23*	20*
Inspectors of Scaffolding	12	..	12*	8*
Fair rents	14	2	16*	16*
Apprenticeship	18	..	18*	16*
Surveys, statistics, monthly and other returns	24	6	30*	35*
Research, library, and investigation	13	3	16	13
Accounts and stores	53	10	63*	61*
Shorthand-typists	1	93	94	98
Records	30	26	56*	60*
Immigration—				
Total, London staff	17	28	45	40
Total, New Zealand staff	19	2	21	18
Home Aids	..	55	55	60
Hostels—				
Supervisory	16	19	35	31
Domestic, cooking, and cleaning	39	65	104	106
Administrative, supervisory, and general clerical, including placement and employment staff	196	44	240	240
Totals	595	360	955	927

* Includes only officers engaged substantially full time on these duties.