

PART IV—OTHER DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

SECTION 1—ACCOUNTS SECTION

The accounting functions of the Department have continued to cover both the departmental accounting and that relating to the clearing-up of Ministry of Supply activities. As a consequence of the closing of the office of the Food Controller, this Department assumed the remaining accounting tasks.

Because details of expenditure arising from ordinary departmental functions are published in the estimates, it is not thought necessary to restate them here. Payments under subsidies administered by this Department but charged against vote "Stabilization" included amounts on account of bacon, £52,434; sugar, £118,184; and tea, £96,114.

Transactions in other categories have included imports from overseas under Government orders, sales of goods from Ministry of Supply stocks, reductions of debtors' balances, as well as transactions relating to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Appeal for Children.

In the year 1948-49, consignments valued at £2,686,905 were received on 73 vessels, compared with consignments valued at £1,472,896, received on 110 vessels in the previous year. The greater part (£2,346,507) of the 1948-49 imports embraced goods of the type of canned and dried fruit, desiccated coconut, and tea received to the order of the Food Controller. Receipts on this account totalled £2,670,631. Other imports handled by the Department included ingot tin, tinplate, black steel sheet, and sisal to the value of £1,162,034. Receipts totalled £1,697,278. In both instances the excess of receipts over payments was due to sales of stocks and clearance of debtors' accounts. As from November, 1948, when the Marketing Department (Extension of Powers) Regulations 1948 were enacted, the accounting for transactions under these heads was assumed by the Marketing Department.

Transactions during the year which exhausted the New Zealand Government's contribution of £5,200,000 to UNRRA included the transfer of £93,000 to the London office of that Administration and of the balance to the local UNICEF account.

In addition to the balance transferred from the UNRRA account funds for UNICEF were made available to the extent of £391,553 by public subscriptions to the United Nations Appeal for Children and to the extent of £350,000 by Government grant. To 31st March, 1949, £314,622 had been spent from moneys thus provided in the manner set out below:—

	£
Canned cheese and macaroni cheese	90,706
Milk powder, evaporated milk, and malted milk	43,800
Canned meats	40,711
Laundry soap	6,973
Fish-liver-oil capsules	64,994
Scoured wool	35,812
Freight and other charges	31,626
	£314,622