

Wardens

69. The job of Wardens appointed under the Act is to stamp out mischief before it develops into crime. They have fairly wide powers regarding the control of drinking and can take steps to prevent fighting and disturbances in public places. There are heavy penalties for persons, Maori or otherwise, obstructing or hindering them in the execution of their duties.

70. Thirty-two Wardens have been appointed, and a further 95 are awaiting appointment.

Women's Organization

71. During the past year 180 Maori Women's Welfare Committees have been formed. These Committees are really the counterpart of the Tribal Executives and Committees and have as their aim the fostering of homecraft and mothercraft. Home life has a great influence on the life of a person, and if the benefits of a happy and comfortable home can be impressed upon the children, their future well-being will be more secure.

72. It is intended to form a dominion body of this organization comprising delegates nominated from the districts.

Subsidies

73. In previous years the greater proportion of the annual appropriation has been unexpended, as the Executives and Committees were in the formative stages and were concerned more with organization than the application of funds towards the general well-being of the Maori people. Now that the organization has been completed, many projects have been undertaken and total eligible applications for subsidy for the year under review were £71,711. Of this amount, subsidies totalling £44,485 were approved and applications for £27,226 were held over for consideration later.

Summary of Cases Handled

74. With the Tribal Executives and Committees functioning soundly, many problems are overcome without reference to the Maori Welfare Officers, and consequently the cases handled by them have decreased.

Accommodation	912	Maori Land Court	877
Child welfare	1,185	Moral	398
Domestic disputes	443	Placements	281
Education	966	Police and Court	833
Employment	1,251	Rehabilitation	938
Factory visits	373	Social security	1,694
Health	1,578	Social and recreational	897
Hospital visits	617	Tribal matters	380
Housing	5,746	Vocational guidance	133
Interviews and advice	25,343	Miscellaneous	14,212
Maternity	27		
Meetings—		Total	62,090
Tribal Committee	1,053		
Others	1,953		

Welfare Staff

75. Additional Welfare Officers—one male and one female—were appointed during the year to cope with the increased work. It is intended to appoint District Welfare Officers at certain centres to co-ordinate the work of Welfare Officers operating in the district.