

During the final two months of the trout-fishing season the condition of the trout, in Lake Rotorua particularly, was very fair. The improvement in the condition of the fish was freely commented upon by anglers. The fish in Rotoiti Lake were in good condition. The fishing in the other lakes was, on the whole, good.

The Waikaremoana hatchery was removed last year to a new site near Lake House. Provision is being made this year for further extension, to enable a larger quantity of ova to be hatched. In two years' time there should be a marked improvement in the number and condition of trout in this lake and the adjacent streams.

A schedule of the trout ova and fry liberated during the season is appended :—

	Quantity or Number.	Place of Liberation.
Ova	50,000	Boundary rivers on Hawke's Bay and Auckland district.
	200,000	Waikaremoana Lake and adjacent streams.
	25,000	Streams in Wairoa County portion of district.
Trout-fry	35,000	Taumarunui area in Wanganui and Ongarue.
	20,000	Rangitaiki, Runanga, and Upper Mohaka.
	4,000	Te Puke (outside our district, in coast rivers.
	4,000	Tauranga (Bay of Plenty).
	10,000	Rotoma, Tikitapu, Okareka, Rotoehu (divided).
Yearlings from Hamurana and Te Ngae	1,750	Lake Rotoma.
Quinnat salmon from Wellington Zoo . .	21	At present in experimental pond in Government Gardens.

WAITOMO CAVES.

The year at Waitomo has been most satisfactory, the revenue being £3,866, or £70 ahead of the record year—that of the Auckland Exhibition. The number of visitors was 4,612. All buildings, tracks, and fences were maintained in good order.

TE AROHA.

The revenue shows a slight falling-off at Te Aroha, being £84 less than the previous year, due largely to the influenza epidemic. The baths taken were 28,000, against 32,000. The baths, drinking-springs, various buildings, gardens, and playing-greens were all maintained in first-class order.

WAIKAREMOANA, TE PUIA, AND MORERE.

The East Coast resorts have been satisfactorily looked after, but the new hostel at Te Puia has not yet been erected. It will, however, be taken in hand immediately weather permits. The site has been selected and made ready. The new bath-house at Morere, and the ladies' swimming-bath, have been finished and opened, and a large amount of improvement work has been done to the tracks in the reserve. The business at Waikaremoana during the main part of the season has been good, but it was, unfortunately, necessary to close the building during the epidemic.

HANMER SPRINGS.

A good season was experienced at Hanmer, where the revenue showed an increase. The baths and playing-greens have been very largely used by the soldier inmates of the Queen Mary Hospital, and the majority of them have been treated by the Department's massage staff. Various improvements and additions were made to the Department's cottages and buildings.

TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK.

The road to the proposed new hut for visitors has been practically completed, and the timber for the hut is ready to be carted to the site as soon as weather permits. The necessary arrangements have been made to enlarge the park by the addition of the military training-area and other land.

HERMITAGE.

The result from a financial point has not been as good as the previous year, due mainly to the influenza epidemic, the absence of visitors from Australia, and the exceedingly bad weather experienced the first half of the season. However, the revenue has been quite up to previous years for the latter part of the season, and the accommodation has been sorely taxed. The total gross revenue for the year amounts to £4,529, as against £4,866 for last year, a decrease of £337. Guiding, equipment, and horse-hire amounts to £592 1s. 4d., as against £849 4s. 6d. for last year, a decrease of £257 3s. 2d.

Instructions have been given for considerable improvements and additions to the present building, the main one being the widening of the present closed-in veranda, which will enable a billiard-room and dancing-hall to be provided, and these will also be available for accommodation of an overflow of visitors. Mr. Parry, the former Chief Electrical Engineer, before leaving New Zealand made a complete report on the question of the electric lighting of the establishment, and this report is now under consideration of the Government. Various improvements to the tracks and huts are also in contemplation.

High ascents were quite out of the question in the early part of the season, and a number of climbers went away disappointed. The bad weather continued on through the season till the beginning of February, ending in a heavy flood. Six weeks of fine summer weather followed, and when the mountains were in climbing condition, with the exception of Mr. S. Turner, there were no other climbers wishing to make high ascents, so the guides' department takings suffered considerably. A considerable amount of repairing-work and other improvements were carried out, however, during the year. During May and June last a new and well-graded track was constructed connecting the Governor's Bush track with the Red Lake on Sebastopol. The heavy snowstorms of last winter did