

Dobson Relief Fund.—The Public Trustee has agreed to act, without charge for his services, as trustee of the funds which have been raised by public contribution for the relief of those who have suffered through the disastrous explosion which occurred at the Dobson Coal-mine on the 3rd December, 1926. It is understood that the funds will amount to in the vicinity of £2,500, and it is proposed that the Public Trustee shall act in conjunction with an advisory committee comprising the Mayor of Greymouth and three other permanent residents of the district. The transfer of the fund to the Office is at present receiving attention.

Thomas George Macarthy Trust.—Probably the best known charitable and educational trust operating in New Zealand arises out of the will of the late Thomas George Macarthy, who died in 1912. This generous-hearted testator by his will, of which the Public Trustee is executor and trustee, directed that one-half of the net income from his estate is to be applied for such charitable and educational purposes or institutions in the Provincial District of Wellington in such manner and in such proportions as a special Board of Trustees named in the will shall decide, the decision of such Board being final. After the termination of certain annuities and life and other interests the whole of the income from the residuary estate will be available for the purposes of the trust. The estate is a very valuable one, the final balance for estate duty purposes being £389,689. By careful and judicious management in the years which have passed since Mr. Macarthy's death the assets have largely increased in value and are now worth probably over £500,000.

As the result of the past year's operations the sum of £13,600 was available for distribution amongst charitable and educational institutions. Thus during the fourteen years the trust has been in existence the large sum of £109,027 has been so distributed. The following table shows the sum allocated each year to date :—

£				£			
1913	..	..	2,530	1921	..	..	6,860
1914	..	..	7,325	1922	..	..	9,015
1915	..	..	7,070	1923	..	..	9,350
1916	..	..	6,880	1924	..	..	10,125
1917	..	..	5,790	1925	..	..	12,040
1918	..	..	5,112	1926	..	..	13,600
1919	..	..	6,545				
1920	..	..	6,785				