

The conduct and industry of the prisoners have been satisfactory.

The following work was carried out during the year : Thirty-seven acres of leasehold and 4 acres of freehold were sown down in pasture ; 99 chains of new fences were erected, and all the existing fences were maintained in good repair ; the necessary posts, battens, and brush being obtained from the Prison reserve ; 17 chains of new drains were dug, and all existing drains kept cleared. One new bridge was erected. A new sheep-dip was completed and proved entirely satisfactory. The dairy and cow-yards were remodelled to enable milk to be sent to the city supply, and this method of disposing of the surplus milk has proved very satisfactory. The rifle ranges were cleared and put in order for the National Rifle Meeting.

The year's farming operations were fairly successful and the Public Account benefited to the extent of approximately £2,376. The institution has also been self-supporting in vegetables, meat, and firewood. There has been no work done at the brickworks during the year, but sales have been made from existing stocks and 88,750 bricks have been sold during the period under review.

Divine services were conducted throughout the year by the Rev. Mr. Hunt, Rev. Mr. Kendrick, Father Kelly, and officers of the Salvation Army. We have to thank the Rev. Mr. Harding, Salvation Army, Rev. Mr. Hunt, and the Upper Hutt Male Voice Choir and the Silverstream Men's Club for providing entertainments, and the Salvation Army for providing Christmas cheer.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the staff for their loyal co-operation.

ADDINGTON REFORMATORY PRISON (WOMEN).

(Superintendent, Miss E. M. HUNT.)

At the beginning of the year there were 25 inmates in custody, 71 were admitted during the year, 54 were discharged on expiration of their sentences, 5 were released on the recommendation of the Prisons Board, 4 fines paid, 2 transferred to mental hospital, 7 handed to police, 3 released on remission of their sentences, leaving a total of 21 inmates in custody at the 1st January, 1934.

The inmates' work consists of laundry-work for the different Government Departments, domestic duties, and general outdoor work—gardening, &c.

The Rev. Mr. Revell, Father McKoen, officers of the Salvation Army, and Sisters of Charity have helped the discharged prisoners whenever they have applied to them for assistance.

The institution has been well supplied with books, papers, and gramophone-records. Miss Haywood, Sisters of Charity, and concert parties have come regularly during the year. The Salvation Army gave a high tea at Christmas and an evening party at New Year which were very much appreciated.

Religious services were conducted by the Rev. P. Revell, Father McKoen, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of the Mission.

INVERCARGILL BORSTAL INSTITUTION.

(Superintendent, Mr. C. G. L. POLLOCK.)

Inmates in detention at the commencement of the year numbered 194. The number received during the year was 91, whilst 118 were released and 8 removed to other institutions, leaving 159 in the Institution at the end of the year. The daily average number in detention throughout the year was 181.31. The conduct of the general body of inmates has been very good and the standard of industry has been well maintained.

There were two escapes during the year ; two inmates making a breakaway just as the company was about to come in from the recreation-ground on the Saturday afternoon. One of the escapees was recaptured within five minutes while the other was apprehended within five hours. Both were brought before the Court and ordered to be detained for a further period of two years in the Borstal Institution.

There were no epidemics during the year, and the health of the inmates has kept at a high standard. In the case of eleven inmates admission to the Southland Hospital was found necessary. All of them returned to the Institution after their discharge from hospital. There were no deaths during the year.

In May, 1933, the Minister of Justice, the Hon. J. G. Cobbe, paid a visit to this Institution. The Minister made an inspection of the buildings and the farm and was afterwards present at an entertainment given in his honour by the lads who acquitted themselves creditably.

During the month of March, 1933, the annual conference of the New Zealand Justices' Association was held in Invercargill, delegates from all parts of the Dominion attending. In the course of their stay an opportunity was given for the visitors to make themselves acquainted with the various activities carried on in the Institution and on the farm. The Justices expressed their cordial appreciation of the various phases of the training provided by the Borstal.

The long-established Saturday morning classes in agriculture and wool-classing have been continued with unabated zeal by Mr. T. Mathews, Agriculture Instructor to the Southland Education Board. Mr. Mathews reports as follows on the year's work :—

"The two classes in the above courses of instruction were continued throughout the year, and I have to report that despite the limited time available the students made satisfactory progress. It is gratifying to note that members of the classes continue to display a deep interest in their work, fully appreciating the opportunity afforded them for gaining a knowledge of these branches of farming which should prove of inestimable value to them later in life. Term examinations were held in both courses of instruction and prizes awarded to the three most successful students in each subject. Once again we have to thank the trustees of the Mackinnon Trust for their continued interest in our work amongst the lads and for donating a sum of money to provide the class prizes."