

WANGANUI PRISON.
(Gaoler, Mr. E. CHING.)

During the year there were received into the prison 91 males and 4 females, a decrease of 27 males and 8 females from the figures for the previous year. The daily average in the prison for the past year was 18.4.

At the commencement of the year there were 21 males and no females in custody, and at the end of the year there were 26 males and 1 female in custody.

The conduct of the prisoners on the whole has been very good, only very minor offences being recorded.

In view of the fact that nearly all the inmates of this prison are old and infirm men, the general health of the prisoners can be regarded as very good. There were two men sent to the Public Hospital during the year for treatment, both men suffering from long-standing complaints.

The Medical Officer visits regularly, and all prisoners are given an opportunity to see him on each visit.

The food-supply has been of good quality, there being almost an entire absence of complaints.

The prisoners who are able to do a little work are employed in the kitchen, garden, prison-grounds, laundry, &c., while one or two are able to carry out small repairs to buildings. The kitchen garden still provides the institution with all the vegetables required, and, as the ground around the institution is of a sandy nature, the results obtained are surprising.

Again I have to thank the many religious bodies in the city for holding services in the prison.

At Christmas the local Presbyterians sent into the institution a large supply of cake for the prisoners, the St. Vincent de Paul Society a supply of tobacco, and the Church of Christ gave to all prisoners a first-class tea and afterwards provided a concert which was much appreciated. We have also to thank the Cosmopolitan Club for a very considerable number of library books and other reading-matter supplied during the year.

Many thanks are due to the members of the staff for their loyal co-operation during the year.

WELLINGTON PRISON.
(Superintendent, Mr. J. DOWN.)

There were in custody at the commencement of the year 104 males. During the year, 859 males were received and 863 were discharged, leaving in custody on the 31st December 100 men. The greatest number in confinement at any one time during the year was 124 males, and the least number 80. The daily average number in prison during the year was 103.93.

The conduct of the prisoners, on the whole, has been very good, and much energy has been expended in carrying on the works in the different fields of industry. The prison laundry has been very busy during the year doing washing, starching, and ironing for the New Zealand Railways Department and for the s.s. "Maui Pomare." A considerable amount of work has been done considering that our plant is very small.

The printing and bookbinding industry continues to give every satisfaction both in output and quality.

The breadmaking, floorpolish, sandsoap, leadhead nail, and tin-making industries have been busy, and the work is being carried out very satisfactorily.

In the farm and garden sections the usual seasonal work has been carried out as required.

Throughout the year the various denominations have held their regular services. Our thanks are due to the Roman Catholic clergy, the minister and laymen of the Anglican churches, and to the officers of the Salvation Army for their ministrations. Concerts were given by the Presbyterian Women's Social Service, the Salvation Army, and the Justice's Association, which were greatly appreciated by all.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Chatfield, J.P., Mr. W. P. Sommerville, Mr. Norman Aitken, and Mr. Lowe for Christmas cheer supplied to the prisoners.

Good work has been done in the prison V.D. clinic, and a number of badly affected patients have been successfully treated.

The conduct of the staff has been very satisfactory, and they attended to their duties in an efficient manner.

WI TAKO PRISON, HERETAUNGA.
(Superintendent, Mr. T. E. LOWE.)

At the commencement of the year the muster at this institution was 56, made up of 45 hard-labour and 11 reformatory-detention prisoners.

Admissions during the year were 121, whilst discharges totalled 127, made up as follows: Discharged on expiration of sentence, 59; released on probation, 24; discharged on remission, 32; transferred to other institutions, 12. The muster at the end of the year was 50, comprising 25 hard-labour and 25 reformatory-detention prisoners.