

28. Owing to the international situation in the Mediterranean, H.M.S. "Achilles" was placed at the disposal of the Government in Great Britain, and was ordered to join the Second Cruiser Squadron, Home Fleet. She sailed from Spithead on 26th April and joined the flag of Vice-Admiral Commanding Second Cruiser Squadron, Home Fleet, at Gibraltar on 1st May.

29. H.M.S. "Achilles" carried out working-up practices and served with the Fleet until its dispersal on 15th July. During this period very valuable experience was gained by the New Zealand personnel.

30. The ship was docked at Gibraltar between 12th and 16th July, and sailed for New Zealand on Friday, 17th July.

31. Passage out was made via Jamaica, Balboa, Nukuhiva (Marquesas Islands), Christmas Island, Fanning Island, and Phoenix and Union Groups; the ship arrived at Auckland, joining the broad pendant of the Commodore Commanding New Zealand Station on Sunday, 6th September.

32. Leave was given to the New Zealand ratings who had left New Zealand in H.M.S. "Diomedé" in October, 1935.

33. H.M.S. "Achilles" sailed from Auckland on 5th November for a cruise to Wellington, Lyttelton, Akaroa, Dunedin, and New Plymouth. She returned to Auckland on 3rd December to give Christmas leave and to dock.

34. The broad pendant of the Commodore Commanding New Zealand Station was transferred from "Dunedin" to "Achilles" on 5th January, 1937, Captain I. G. Glennie, A.D.C., R.N., remaining as Flag Captain. On 25th January, 1937, the ship sailed for Wellington, and the crew carried out their annual musketry course at Trentham Camp.

35. "Achilles" sailed from Wellington on 1st March for a cruise to Marlborough Sounds, Picton, Russell, and Auckland. She returned to Wellington on 22nd March.

On 31st March "Achilles" sailed for a strategical exercise with Royal Australian Navy, who were on passage from Hobart (Tasmania) to Wellington.

36. On 1st April, 1936, H.M.S. "Dunedin" (broad pendant of the Commodore Commanding New Zealand Station) was at Wellington. The crew was carrying out the annual musketry course at Trentham Camp.

37. H.M.S. "Dunedin" sailed from Wellington on 27th April in company with the escort vessels, and returned to Auckland on 29th April to give Easter leave, and to dock.

38. An exercise programme was carried out from 1st to 3rd June. The ship then sailed for the Pacific Islands cruise on 15th June. She visited the Kermadec Islands, Niue, Vavau, Suva, Nukualofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Bora Bora, and Rarotonga, and returned to Auckland on 28th August.

39. The biennial refit was carried out between 31st August and the end of October.

40. Sailing from Auckland on 3rd November, H.M.S. "Dunedin" visited Picton, Dunedin, Akaroa, Lyttelton, and Wellington, and returned to Auckland on 9th December to give Christmas leave. This was H.M.S. "Dunedin's" last visit to New Zealand ports after nearly thirteen years' service on the Station.

41. On the transfer of the broad pendant of the Commodore Commanding to "Achilles" on 5th January, Commander B. R. Willett, D.S.C., R.N., assumed command of "Dunedin."

42. H.M.S. "Dunedin" sailed for the United Kingdom at 1000 on 15th February. Passage was made via Papeete, Nukuhiva (Marquesas Islands), Balboa, and Kingston (Jamaica). The ship arrived at Portsmouth on 29th March, where she is preparing for her transfer to the Royal Navy.

SECTION VII.—PROCEEDINGS (H.M. ESCORT VESSELS).

43. On 1st April, 1936, H.M.S. "Leith" (Captain O. Bevir, R.N.) was at Wellington, where her crew was carrying out annual musketry course at Trentham Camp.

44. The ship sailed from Wellington on 27th April, and arrived at Auckland on 29th April to prepare for her annual cruise to the Pacific Islands.

45. H.M.S. "Leith" sailed for the Pacific Islands on 17th June. She visited ports in the Tongan Group, Suva, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Ocean Island, ports in the Phoenix Group, Suva, ports in the Solomon and New Hebrides Islands, Noumea, and Norfolk Island. She returned to Auckland on the 2nd October.

46. Refit was carried out in November, and the ship sailed for Wellington on 30th November. She recommissioned there on 16th December. Captain L. C. P. Tudway, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N., relieved Captain O. Bevir in command.

47. The ship returned to Auckland for Christmas, and sailed for service with the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific on 20th January. She returned to Auckland on 2nd March.

48. During March she visited Lyttelton, Akaroa, and Wellington, and took part in the strategical exercise with the Royal Australian Navy on 30th March.

49. On 1st April, 1936, H.M.S. "Wellington" (Commander J. B. E. Hall, R.N.), was also at Wellington for the annual musketry course. The ship sailed from Wellington on 27th April and arrived at Auckland on 29th April. She remained there until 17th June, when she sailed for the Pacific Islands.

50. Ports visited in the Pacific were in Fiji and Tongan Groups, Pago Pago, Cook Islands, Papeete, and ports in Society Islands, the Niue Islands, Christmas and Fanning Islands, Jarvis and Danger Islands, Nukunono, Suva, and Nukualofa. The ship returned to Auckland on 2nd October.

51. During the remainder of the year H.M.S. "Wellington" visited New Zealand ports, including Gisborne, Napier, Lyttelton, Timaru, Marlborough Sounds, Dargaville, Akaroa, and Wellington.

52. Commander G. N. Loriston-Clarke relieved Commander J. B. E. Hall in command in January, 1937.

53. H.M.S. "Wellington" sailed in company with H.M.S. "Leith" for a strategical exercise with the Royal Australian Navy on the 30th March.