

24. Normal Easter leave was given to the ship's company during May, and H.M.S. "Achilles" sailed on 12th June for the Pacific Islands, visiting Sunday Island, Nukualofa, Danger Island, Manahiki, Rakahanga, Penrhyn, Malden Island, Starbuck Island, Christmas Island, Fanning Island, Honolulu, Phoenix Group, Nukunono and Suva, returning to Auckland on 27th August.

25. During the period 27th August to 3rd November the ship underwent her biennial refit at Devonport and was docked.

26. On 3rd November H.M.S. "Achilles" left for a cruise. She visited Lyttelton, Akaroa, and Wellington, and then, with H.M. Ships "Leander," "Leith" and "Wellington" in company, carried out a programme of exercises, returning to Auckland on 8th December to give Christmas leave to the ship's company.

27. On 20th January, 1938, H.M.S. "Achilles," with H.M.S. "Leander," in company left for Australian waters to represent New Zealand at the sesquicentennial celebrations of New South Wales at Sydney from 25th January to 7th February. H.M.S. "Leander" parted company on 22nd January and rejoined at Jervis Bay on 9th February.

28. From 7th February to 15th February an intensive gunnery and torpedo exercise period was carried out in company with the Royal Australian Navy. This was followed by a strategical exercise from 15th to 17th February.

29. H.M.S. "Achilles" then visited Melbourne for a week before returning to New Zealand to visit the West Coast Sounds, Stewart Island, Bluff, Dunedin, Auckland and Russell.

30. On 30th March, H.M.S. "Achilles" left Russell for Wellington to enable her ship's company to undergo the annual musketry course.

H.M.S. "Leander."

31. H.M.S. "Leander," commissioned at Devonport, England, for service in the New Zealand Division on 30th April, 1937. She represented the Dominion at the review of the Fleet on the occasion of His Majesty's Coronation. Two of her officers and 48 New Zealand ratings (including one R.N.V.R. officer and four ratings) took part in the Coronation procession.

32. After attachment for training to the Second Cruiser Squadron, Home Fleet, H.M.S. "Leander" left England on 2nd July for New Zealand, coming out by way of Jamaica, Balboa and Pitcairn Island (which she was the first warship to visit for twenty-six years), and arriving in Auckland on 18th August, 1937.

33. After giving leave to her ship's company during September, H.M.S. "Leander" left for her first cruise to New Zealand ports on 4th October. She visited Napier, Dunedin, Bluff, West Coast Sounds, New Plymouth, Lyttelton, Akaroa and Wellington, returning to Auckland on 27th November.

34. A programme of exercises, in company with H.M.S. "Achilles," was carried out during the period 29th November to 4th December, and the ship then returned to Auckland to dock and give Christmas leave.

35. On 20th January, H.M.S. "Leander," in company with H.M.S. "Achilles," sailed for Australian waters. She visited Melbourne, and later took part in the exercise period at Jervis Bay and in the strategical exercise with the Royal Australian Squadron.

36. From 18th February to 24th February H.M.S. "Leander" represented New Zealand at the Hobart Regatta Centenary celebrations.

37. H.M.S. "Leander" returned to Auckland on Monday, 28th February, and arrived in Wellington on 4th March for the annual musketry course at Trentham Camp.

SECTION VII.—PROCEEDINGS, H.M. ESCORT VESSELS AND H.M.S. "ENDEAVOUR."

38. H.M.S. "Leith" (Captain L. C. P. Tudway, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.) was at sea on 1st April, 1937, taking part in the strategical exercise with ships of the Royal Australian Navy. The ship returned to Auckland on 28th April to prepare for the annual cruise to the Pacific Islands.

39. H.M.S. "Leith" represented the Royal Navy at the Coronation celebrations held at Napier and sailed for the Pacific Islands on 7th June, visiting Suva, ports in the New Hebrides and Solomon Islands, Nauru and Ocean Islands, and ports in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Samoa and Tongan Group, returning to Auckland on 18th September.

40. During the remainder of the year the ship has visited the following New Zealand ports: Whangarei, Tauranga, Gisborne, Picton, Timaru, Oamaru, Dunedin, Port Chalmers, Bluff, Stewart Island, West Coast Sounds, Nelson and Wellington for the annual musketry course at Trentham Camp.

41. H.M.S. "Wellington" (Commander G. N. Loriston-Clarke, R.N.) also took part in the strategical exercise with ships of the Royal Australian Navy, and returned to Auckland on 16th April to prepare for her annual cruise to the Pacific Islands.

42. H.M.S. "Wellington" sailed from Auckland on 4th May, and represented the Royal Navy in the Coronation celebrations at Suva. She then visited ports in Phoenix Group, Tokelaus, Samoa, the Society Islands, and Cook Group, returning to Auckland on 3rd August.

43. H.M.S. "Wellington" arrived in Wellington on 23rd August to recommission with a new crew who arrived from England on 25th, and during the remainder of the year 1937 has visited the following New Zealand ports: Coromandel, Port Fitzroy, Mangonui, Whangaroa, Russell, Picton, Nelson, New Plymouth and Wellington for the annual musketry course at Trentham.

44. On 4th January, 1938, H.M.S. "Wellington" proceeded to Suva for service with His Excellency, the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, returning to Auckland on 3rd February.