

EXHIBITIONS OVERSEAS.

During the year under review New Zealand has participated in two major exhibitions—the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow and the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto—while, in addition, the New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner in Toronto arranged a comprehensive display at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition in Halifax.

Empire Exhibition, Glasgow.—Bellahouston Park, Glasgow, is the site of a great Empire Exhibition which was opened by His Majesty the King on 3rd May, 1938. A comprehensive range of exhibits was forwarded to the High Commissioner for New Zealand in London, who is in charge of the Dominion's Court, and various produce Boards are also closely associated with the High Commissioner to ensure that products on view represent as wide a range as possible of the best that can be produced in New Zealand. In addition to dairy-produce, meat, fruit, wool, flax, hemp, tallow, and other primary produce, some of the products of our manufacturing industries such as rugs, canned goods (meat, fruit, fish, jams, &c.), and other specialty products are being displayed. Government Departments have co-operated with this Department in providing attractive exhibits illustrative of the progress made within the Dominion, while dioramas indicative of the wealth of scenic and sporting attractions in the Dominion are also displayed.

Canadian National Exhibition.—For the eighth successive year New Zealand arranged an exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition, held in Toronto in August and September, 1937. A most attractive display was arranged by the New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner stationed at Toronto from material supplied by the Department and also by representative New Zealand manufacturers. On the tourist and sporting side large dioramas depicting Milford Sound and Native life at Rotorua, together with Maori carvings, weapons, clothing, &c., and also other scenic attractions with mounted samples of trout and swordfish, were displayed. A range of New Zealand floor and travelling rugs excited considerable favourable comment, while other manufactured goods such as canned and bottled foods, rennet for commercial and household purposes, and a wide variety of jams were also shown. The average daily attendance of the public at the exhibition approximated ninety-six thousand, which gives some indication of the publicity value of participation in the leading annual exhibition in Canada.

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition.—An invitation was extended to New Zealand to participate in the Maritime Provinces Exhibition, held at Halifax, and for the first time New Zealand took advantage of this invitation to exhibit. The Trade and Tourist Commissioner at Toronto was enabled, with material in hand, to provide a most attractive exhibit, which was considered by many to be one of the most outstanding displays at the exhibition. It is hoped that as a result of the display the eastern provinces of Canada will absorb a greater portion of our products.

During the next two years New Zealand will be arranging for suitable displays at the Golden Gate International Exposition, to be held in San Francisco from 18th February to 2nd December, 1939; the New York World's Fair, to be held in New York from May to October, 1939; and for the ninth successive year at the Canadian National Exhibition, to be held in Toronto in August and September of this year. This year marks the diamond jubilee of this great annual event in Canada, and it is anticipated that a very special effort will be made on the part of the exhibition authorities to suitably mark the occasion.

STORES CONTROL BOARD.

As in past years, the Department is represented by an officer on the Advisory Committee of the Stores Control Board, and, in addition to the ordinary duties devolving upon him as a departmental representative, he looks to the interests of the New Zealand manufacturers in the matter of Government purchases of stores.

Arising out of increased costs to certain contractors for Government supplies, the Department has been called upon to investigate the extent to which these costs have affected these contractors. Following upon a consideration of such reports, the Stores Control Board has recommended relative increases in the contract prices as from stipulated dates.

MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

The Department has continued to co-operate with the manufacturers' associations in the four centres. The following notes summarize several features of interest in regard to each association.

The membership of the Auckland association, which last year stood at 525, has increased by 35 new members. Nineteen trade groups have been formed, which are linked with similar groups in other centres and co-ordinated through the federation for the purpose of providing an effective organization for representing the views of industry or affording any assistance which may be desired through the association. The annual Winter Exhibition, held in conjunction with the Auckland Agricultural and