

Australia

In Sydney the organizations mentioned in last year's report continued their good work in extending hospitality to New Zealanders.

A club was opened in Melbourne in association with the New Zealand Association there and was staffed by the Haeremai House Committee.

Major L. M. Graham, the New Zealand Army Liaison Officer, Perth, was appointed the Board's representative in West and South Australia to care for the welfare of New Zealand Forces *en route* to and from New Zealand.

Africa

The Australian and New Zealand Association of Africa—Capetown, Durban, and elsewhere—continued rendering sterling service caring for New Zealand Service personnel visiting Africa. The main point of contact with the Board was Mr. Frank Jempson, Hon. Secretary, Durban, whose interesting bulletins recorded the valuable work performed by the Association. The Board regrets to record the passing of Mr. Jempson, and pays a tribute to the outstanding work he has performed. Mr. Alan Gorrie, who succeeded the late Mr. Jempson, continues to keep the Board advised of activities in his sphere.

Far East

Following the victory over Japan, large quantities of cigarettes, as well as supplies of razors, razor-blades, handkerchiefs, shaving-brushes, toothbrushes, toilet soap, toothpaste, &c., were provided for prisoners of war repatriated from Singapore. Flying Officer R. Knowles, the Board's honorary Commissioner in the Far East, who had been held prisoner since the fall of Singapore, was released, but had not returned to New Zealand by the end of the Board's year.

VI. DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Overseas

With the prospective collapse of Germany, the Board's Secretary, Mr. G. A. Hayden, made a comprehensive tour of the United Kingdom, Northern Europe, Italy, Greece, Egypt, and India in connection with the winding-up of the Board's activities and the disposal of its assets, and to make final arrangements for the provision of comforts, &c., for our troops before repatriation.

It was arranged that all the Board's assets, with the exception of band instruments, would be sold locally.

New Zealand

In New Zealand an Assets Realization Committee was set up and the assets disposed of by tender or public auction throughout the Dominion or sold direct to ex-servicemen on the recommendation of the Rehabilitation Department.

Disposal of assets to the sum of £155,410 during the year has entailed a considerable volume of work.

VII. CONSTITUTION OF BOARD

The constitution of the Board was altered during the year to allow each Provincial Patriotic Council to have a direct nominee on the Board, and new appointments were made accordingly.