

V. WOOLLEN COMFORTS

The following table shows cumulative number of woollen goods made and issued :—

*Cumulative Return of Woollen Goods made and issued, including Year ended
30th September, 1944*

	Balaclavas.	Gloves (pairs).	Mittens (pairs).	Pullovers.	Scarves.	Seaboot Stockings.	Socks (pairs).	Miscellaneous.	Rescue Kits.
Army	25,023	860	20,860	3,142	60,270	..	59,081	1,720	..
Air Force Relations	40,718	5,397	46,420	66,140	54,464	..	9,673	7,285	..
Navy League and patriotic issues	32,012	5,905	26,649	20,203	26,514	8,725	29,129	6,633	..
Overseas (Army, Navy, and Air Force)	225,966	4,833	146,544	17,384	175,155	2,569	48,328	13,876	293
Totals ..	323,719	16,995	240,473	106,869	316,403	11,294	146,211	29,514	293
Stocks on hand—									
Army	15,693	30	17,653	344	21,789	..	5,831	222	..
Navy	1,492	137	1,014	791	1,936	615	2,004	635	104
Air Force ..	4,634	15	7,454	1,385	6,667	5	43	5,153	..
Grand totals ..	345,538	17,177	266,594	109,389	346,795	11,914	154,089	35,524	397

Hussifs—Made and issued: Army, 130,817; Navy, 7,926; Air Force, 29,107. Stocks on hand: Army, 587; Navy, 81.

Unknitted wool issued to servicemen and servicewomen in lieu of garments: Army, 114 lb.; Navy, 480 lb.; Air Force, 8 lb.

NOTE.—During the year stocks of khaki woollens were returned to the Board from Army camp in New Zealand; the net local issues were reduced accordingly. These stocks were later exported and are now shown under the heading "Overseas."

The Board wishes to express its appreciation of the work performed by thousands of women throughout New Zealand in helping to maintain the supply of woollen comforts to our servicemen and servicewomen in all parts of the world.

The Board wishes particularly to record the outstanding services rendered by the Navy League branches and by Mrs. J. Sutherland Ross (Dunedin), Mrs. L. Wyatt (Christchurch), and Mrs. A. A. Stichbury, Wellington, who, with Mr. R. Darroch, Hon. Secretary, New Zealand Navy League War Council, worked in close association with the Board in supervising the knitting and provision of naval woollen comforts in these respective centres. The Board also wishes to thank Commander Palmer for similar work performed in the Auckland area.

Similarly, the Board records its appreciation of the able voluntary services rendered by Mrs. L. M. Isitt (Chairwoman) and Miss Constance Morice (Hon. Secretary), Air Force Relations, and the numerous band of helpers who arranged the knitting of Patriotic Air Force woollens for issue in New Zealand and overseas.

The work of knitting khaki woollen comforts for Army personnel was supervised, for the most part, by the Mayoress in each centre, under the control of Provincial Patriotic Councils. The Board expresses its thanks to all who assisted.

Mrs. William Deans, of Darfield, in association with the Canterbury Federation of Women's Institutes, continued the work of supervising the collection of sheep-skins and making them into sheep-skin jackets for the North Sea patrol and for airmen overseas.