

The St. Vincent de Paul Society provided the inmates with a gift of cigarettes and tobacco.

Mr. Rogers, Visiting Justice, also made a donation of cake and cigarettes to be distributed on New Year's Day. Mr. Rogers also installed an extension loud speaker to the outer yard for use during the week-ends, which is very much appreciated.

The Wanganui Returned Services' Association made a gift of tobacco to each returned soldier in the institution.

WELLINGTON PRISON

(Superintendent: Mr. P. McGRATH)

At the commencement of the year there were 79 males in custody. During the year 788 males were received whilst 783 were discharged on otherwise disposed of, leaving in prison on the night of 31st December, 1949, 84 males.

The greatest number in confinement over night at any one time during the year was 114 and the least 67. The daily average number in prison during the year was 88.61.

The prison medical officer, Dr. Douglas Brown, F.R.C.S., has visited the prison regularly each week, examining new admissions, &c. The greatest number of cases of sickness at any one time was 7, and during the year 10 males were admitted to the hospital. During the year 5 males were received suffering from syphilis and 3 from gonorrhœa. None were serious, but were treated in the prison hospital.

For 30 breaches of the regulations during the year, 25 individuals were dealt with, 18 breaches by the Visiting Justices and 12 by myself, the latter being of a minor nature.

The dairy herd has been kept in excellent condition and production has been up to previous years. Supplies of milk and butter rations have been maintained as well as the daily milk-supplies to the staff. Surplus butter has been sold on the local market, and an excellent hay crop has again been harvested this year for winter feeding.

In the pig-raising industry 132 baconers were fattened and sold. Weaners transferred in from other institutions numbered 116.

General maintenance of the prison buildings was carried out during the year. New boilers have been installed in the cookhouse and a quantity of new electrical installation put in hand. At the old Borstal buildings a further flat has been finished, ready for occupation, leaving one more to be erected. A start has been made on the single-men's quarters at the rear of the prison, and it is hoped to have these ready early in the New Year. The manufacture of furniture for sundry Government Departments has been completed during the year. The dietary scale has been well maintained and the prison bakehouse continues to manufacture a good loaf of bread. Bread has also been supplied to the Arohata Borstal Institution and local staff. A regular supply of fresh vegetables has been supplied from the prison gardens.

The printing industry continues to furnish very satisfactory results and with the increased supply of paper, stocks of institutional forms, &c., have been maintained. Laundering for the Prime Minister's Department has been carried out during the period. At Arohata Borstal Institution 1 officer and 14 men have been regularly employed on general farm-work. The work in the prison nursery has been kept up to standard and continues to give good results. During the year 7,952 trees were sent out on behalf of the Wellington Beautifying Society for planting on Arbor Day, &c.

Christmas cheer was again provided by the various organizations including the Tory Street Mission, Wellington City Mission, Wellington branch of the Howard League for Penal Reform, who sent gifts of cake, tobacco, &c. Gifts of tobacco were also received from the Controller-General of Prisons. The National Library Service has maintained a regular supply of books during the year. Sound films of a good standard were shown at regular intervals throughout the year.

Throughout the year Church services have been held each week, and we are deeply indebted to the ministers of the Anglican, Presbyterian, and other Protestant Churches, Reverend Harry Squires, of the Wellington City Mission, and Fathers Uhlenburg and Ward of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, also the officers of the Salvation Army, who have visited us at various times.