

(C) *H.M. Trawler "Wakakura."*

H.M. Trawler "Wakakura" (Lieutenant Henry F. Edwards, Royal Navy) has carried out a very large amount of Royal Naval Volunteer training work during the year. From April till December she was employed in the Auckland District both for training purposes and in assisting H.M. ships in carrying out practices in the Hauraki Gulf by towing targets, &c. The Dunedin Division of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve were embarked in sections between 6th January and 15th February, and the Canterbury Division between the 19th February and the end of March.

(D) *R.F.A. "Nucula."*

During the year R.F.A. "Nucula" (Lieutenant Arthur W. Beardsall, Royal Naval Reserve) has been employed in bringing oil fuel from Richmond, California, to Auckland for the Naval oil-fuel tanks and for H.M. ships. In October she proceeded to Nukuhiva to oil H.M.S. "Diomedé" on passage to England, and in February to Western Samoa to oil H.M.S. "Dunedin."

When not employed in lifting cargoes or fuelling H.M. ships she has been paid off to save expense and investigations are at present being made into what further steps can be taken to effect greater economies.

VI. VISITS OF FOREIGN WARSHIPS TO THE DOMINION.

The German cruiser "Emden" (Captain von Arnauld de la Perrière) arrived at Auckland on 25th June, and proceeded into Calliope Dock the same day, remaining there until 28th June. She sailed for Wellington on 4th July, where she stayed until 12th July. The usual courtesies were paid by H.M.S. "Philomel" at Auckland; no other of H.M. ships were present during the visit.

The French cruiser "Tourville" (Capitaine de Vaisseau Abrial) visited Auckland from 29th July to 6th August, and Wellington from 8th August to 15th August. H.M.S. "Diomedé" was present at Auckland and H.M.S. "Dunedin" at Wellington.

VII. DRILLS AND EXERCISES.

Drills and exercises have been carried out on all possible occasions, and the efficiency of the personnel has been maintained at a satisfactory standard. The long period during which H.M.S. "Dunedin" was in Western Samoa was lost for training purposes. All available men were landed, and the remainder were fully occupied in keeping the ship clean and in running order. Competitive training and practices, which are so valuable, are at present, of course, at a standstill while there is only one cruiser on the Station.

Mention has already been made under "Proceedings" of the exercises carried out with Australian Squadron and the combined exercises with the Military at Auckland and Akaroa.

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GEOFFERY BLAKE,

Commodore Commanding New Zealand Station.

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