

period. Each specialises in one topic in which they take a group of ten children of the visiting class. We noticed that the subjects under study when we called were: How birds live; volcanoes in action; the life of the bee; a trip to the Great Barrier Reef; the Maori war canoe; Maori warfare and Maori hand-crafts.

#### Their Own Clubs

For group-study, children are offered the opportunity of joining a "club," of which there are five, specialising in Maori life, insects, animals, life in the past, and life in other lands. A school party on arriving at the Museum at 9.0 a.m. breaks up into groups for club work. The first thing a child receives is a folder into which he can put pictures and notes, and build up a booklet about the subject he has chosen. Club work takes about an hour, and is followed by a lecture.

Every possible use is made of visual aids to extend the child's experience. The Museum has three film-strip projectors, one silent 16-mm. motion-picture projector, and one 16-mm. sound projector. Studies on bees and volcanoes, for example, are followed up by two sound-films, and after the Great Barrier Reef talk comes a colour film of the Reef and the life on it.

Formerly the Dominion Museum had a rota of school visits. With the exception of two, all the Wellington schools took part, paying visits on a regular schedule. With the restricted space available in war-time, it was impossible to cope with the number of child visitors—as many as 350 a day—and the system was abandoned. Now the schools are invited to book visits at times to suit them, and the demand is so great that very rarely is a period unfilled, even in the worst weather.

#### Branch Museums Formed

After some years of experiment on the circulation of school museum exhibits to country schools, the Museum decided on decentralisation. Blocks of school show-cases were established at centres like Palmerston North, Nelson, Napier, Masterton and Wanganui—in some instances permanently, and in others till the local controlling authority wishes them replaced. Every now and then Museum officers inspect the cases and service them. Already between 20 and 30 cases have been sent to the Palmerston North Municipal Library, Nelson Institute and Museum, and the Hawke's Bay Art Gallery and Museum at Napier.

The Wellington loan collection is available to schools on a library basis. At the beginning of each year schools receive a list and then apply for what they want, for three-week periods over the whole term. A Public Service van takes out the exhibits and collects them, and exhibits are, of course, accompanied by leaflets and general information. On their return, the exhibits are re-sorted and sent out again next day.

Some of the show-cases are lit with electric strip-lighting, which can be connected with any light point in a classroom. Animal models are made out of plasticine, and are displayed against true-to-life backgrounds. Birds are generally the real thing, with a background of coloured photographs of regions they inhabit. These cases are made up by members of the Museum's educational department.

So now there is no need for Tommy to ask his parents how he can identify a tadpole, or for little Mary to worry them about the diet of the vegetable sheep. The Museum supplies the answers.

## FOR COUGHS & COLDS always get **WOODS' Great** PEPPERMINT CURE

W. E. WOODS LTD., LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON



## All feminine again

*With peace and security, time for femininity!  
Put away your uniform and get yourself a  
Berlei. You have one! My dear,  
have two—have three. All new! The old  
strategy's dated; new figure tactics now!  
You want a Berlei—oh but definitely;  
You want a bosom—tilted up serenely;  
You want a line . . . all these a Berlei gives you.  
A Berlei's built to fit (and how!) every  
whimsy of your figure type: it's as typically  
yours as your thumb print!  
Lose no time . . . no time to lose . . .  
put your curves into Berlei's tender care!*

