



ABOVE: Repatriated Koreans being inoculated at Senzaki under New Zealand Army supervision. RIGHT: These New Zealand women with the Y.M.C.A. in Japan were quick to improvise home comforts. BELOW, RIGHT: Amenities of another kind are enjoyed in a recreation hut at Kure.

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if it is wished, Japanese counsel may appear. Children's sessions similar to those held in New Zealand have recently been held and here the aim is to reform rather than to punish.

Most of the charges heard in the Provost Court are the results of patrols, black-market raids, and inspections carried out by troops often working with civilian police (from whom the greatest co-operation has always been obtained).

Efficient Education Service

In an interview after a two-day inspection of Chofu and Yamaguchi units, their work, accommodation, and amenities, the Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant General H. C. H. Robertson, said that he considered the most impressive part of the New Zealand organisation was the Army Education Service; it was, he said, far ahead of that of the other components. It was a particularly gratifying tribute. The two relief drafts which in June and August of last year replaced the original force from Italy were made up of men of an average age of between 20 and 22 years; at the time of their enlistment many of them had not finished either their trade apprenticeships or their university courses, nor had they firmly established a basis for a lifetime career. For such men a comprehensive and efficient education service is especially important; and in the twelve months of its operation in Japan the A.E.S. has built an organisation well qualified to meet the needs of the force.

For occupation troops, Japan is a country with limited opportunity for leisure-time interests outside the army; contact with the civilian population is restricted by language difficulty, econ-

omic circumstances, and fraternisation directions; social life is practically nil; travel difficult. With the A.E.S., consequently, emphasis has been divided between formal and informal education: there are the university and trade courses, the practical instruction and personal tuition needed for examinations, and, equally important, the libraries, hobby huts, music classes, camera clubs, young farmers' clubs, and young businessmen's clubs. On the roll for formal education are nearly 1,500 names, a high proportion with a force of about 4,000; with the informal activities nearly every man in the force is concerned.

Perhaps greatest progress has been made with amenities. More than £8,000 has already been spent, a large amount for so small a force, but a start had to be made from scratch. Furniture has been installed, attractive canteens established, local summer camps organised, a New Zealand radio station opened,

six fine yachts built and a sailing club formed, theatres opened, and Y.M.C.A. huts and clubs made available. Large quantities of sports gear, ranging from ping-pong sets to skis, have been bought, and everything done to encourage the playing of sport both indoors and out. Canteen issues of Japanese goods, reasonably priced, have been made, and gift shops opened.

Opportunity to see something of the other areas of Japan is given to every man when his turn comes to spend a leave period at one of the first-class hostels—at Beppu, centre of Japan's most noted thermal area; Kyoto, old-time capital and present-day cultural and artistic centre; Nikkau, famed for its temples, shrines, and mountain scenery; Tokio, greatest city of Japan; and Kobe, a few miles from the city of Osaka. In addition, about 1,000 men have travelled to Tokio with the two guard

battalions, and in a month in which leave has been generous they have seen for themselves the first city of Japan and one of the greater cities of the world.

In the New Zealanders' first 12 months in Japan the inescapable routine of occupation has been enlivened by many events—some unexpected, others unwelcome. There was that almost unbearable summer with humidity often as high as temperature, with continual mosquitoes and countless inoculations as an accompaniment to the heat. There was a complete replacement of the whole New Zealand force. At times there have been shortages and the difficulties of meeting them. In September there was a typhoon warning and a "disaster plan" to meet it; fortunately the New Zealand area suffered only the lick of the tail of that high wind, with no damage except at the repatriation centre at Otake. In November came voting in the General Election, in which 4,029 personnel out of an estimated total of 4,500 (including the 14th N.Z. Fighter Squadron), filled in ballot papers (a fairly high percentage of the men were under 21 years, but had the right to vote because they were serving overseas; one man whose "army age" was 18 would not have been entitled to vote as a civilian in New Zealand until the election of 1952).

There was, too, the first Christmas in Japan for New Zealand troops; for most of the men their first Christmas overseas and their first celebrated in winter. And to end the Old Year with sensation was a major earthquake which, again fortunately, was no more than a shake in the New Zealand area and which caused no damage. There have been all the sports meetings and inter-unit matches, with the added interest of inter-component competition and rivalry. And in February the New Zealanders again travelled to Tokio for guard duty; for the second time our troops saw Tokio and Tokio saw them; the interest was mutual and equally keen.

The photographs which appear on these pages, and on our front cover, were supplied by the Information Section of the Prime Minister's Department.

