anything worse than that if we use it properly. The 15 pages written by Dr. A. D. G. Blanc are admirably clear, simple, intelligent, courageous—especially about licensed prostitution. It is unfortunate that no one can tell us how much venereal disease there at present is in New Zealand, but A. Martyn's chapter shows how dangerously figures can be misread.

OUR OWN WRITING

NEW ZEALAND NEW WRITING. Edited by Ian A. Gordon. Kiwi Books. Progressive Publishing Society (Printed by Whitcombe and Tombs).

T is pleasant to think that in the worst crisis in our history some one has found time to assemble and edit a selection of New Zealand writing and some one else found paper on which to print it. The Kiwi may or may not become as famous a bird as the Penguin - it is not likely ever to be so numerous-but at this early stage we are concerned with its prospects of survival. Is there enough new and good writing in New Zealand to justify a little library of its own? Professor Gordon is careful to point out as editor that New Zealand New Writing is an experiment in publishing rather than in writing. New Zealand has not so far been inarticulate, but it has not talked to itself. Now it proposes to do so. If the public welcome the first Kiwi, others will follow, but the publishers are optimistic if they think that authors will work for glory only. Perhaps they don't think that, but have withheld payment in order to have a bigger distribution of royalties a little later. Whatever the situation is, they have secured a fine display of talent for the opening number: Isobel Andrews, Cynthia Aston, Marie Bullock, Allen Curnow, A. R. D. Fair-burn, A. P. Gaskell, G. R. Gilbert, Ian A. Gordon, A. Jackson-Thomas, J. R. Hervey, M. H. Holcroft, Anna Kavan, John O'Shea, Frank Sargeson, Grenville Texidor, Anton Vogt.

This leaves some worthy names out, but not many. It is a distinctly better than average representation of the Dominion's writing talent, and the publishers have not made the mistake of going to a cheap printer. If Christmas buying is over, this is an excellent suggestion for the New Year.

CAMP JOURNALISM

THE DRAGON. Official Publication of the New Zealand Tank Brigade, Vol. 1, No. 1. THIS is not the best camp magazine we have seen this war, but it is the best to look at. The cover page, with a two-colour design by Russell Clark, is really arresting, and since art paper has been used throughout, the half-tones inside are as clear as the linedrawings. If the type had been as well chosen as the illustrations, and the top margin been a little more generous, the effect as a whole would have been even better than it is, but it is still very good. It is a score also to have a full-page cartoon by Minhinnick. The reading matter no doubt appeals to those for whom it was prepared, but will hardly tempt outsiders—unless in cases like this: "Have you heard of the latest German gun? It is so big that the recoil takes back the dead and wounded and brings up the reinforcements."

"The Dragon" is edited by Trooper Owen Fletcher, who is assisted by an editorial committee of 10. R. Steele is responsible for some outstanding photographs.

NEW ZEALAND LISTENER, DECEMBER 24

SMALL LOADS make BIG STACKS



The PUBLIC TRUSTEE

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