

'Mission Completed' At Brixton

"A magnificent example of co-operative effort. A fine effort of which residents can justly be proud and one which shows marked courage and confidence. A fitting memorial to the fallen of the Second World War."

These were some of the glowing tributes paid to those responsible for the erection of the new war memorial hall at Brixton, which was officially opened by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. W. A. Bodkin, yesterday.

About 500 packed the hall to overflowing for the ceremony, which included the unveiling of a memorial plaque inside the hall and a special dedication service. Money and hundreds of working hours were provided by residents of the district, who number only about 40, to complete the hall. Yesterday they all proudly attended the first official function in the hall, which is the only one in the district.

"I wish to congratulate all those who have assisted in the completion of this

fine building—it is a wonderful achievement," said Mr. Bodkin. "Naturally your thoughts are with those men from this district who made the supreme sacrifice during the Second World War." Today the people were commemorating the memory of these men, and the hall was a fitting memorial which would remind residents of those who served and sacrificed their all.

Maori Welcome

"I feel the knowledge of this service and sacrifice was the driving force behind the great work done by the people of this district," the minister added. The work of the Internal Affairs Department was infinitesimal compared with that of the residents and the voluntary labour done.

Mr. Bodkin also referred to the welcome given him on behalf of the Maori race by Mr. G. Koea. This, he said, was unique. It was the first time he had been welcomed at such a function by someone who spoke on behalf of the Maori people. "Apparently Maori and pakeha have co-operated splendidly in the building of this fine memorial for the district," he added.

Thanks to the men of the district who had worked hard in the construction of the hall, to the women's committee that had been responsible for the raising of most of the funds and to all those who had helped with the memorial was expressed by the chairman of the hall committee, Mr. O. Hoskin.

The mayor of Waitara, Mr. W. R. Yardley, said he had been "agreeably surprised" when he walked into the hall for the first time that afternoon. He congratulated residents and added that it was a splendid effort.

"Superlative Effort"

The raising of £1500 by the district's 40 residents was a superlative effort, said the member of Parliament for New Plymouth, Mr. E. P. Aderman. To have a hall at a cost of about £5000, taking into account a subsidy and voluntary labour, was a tribute to the people of Brixton. "There were many people in New Zealand who would like to have a building of this type for the same cost," he added.

Residents had shown marked courage and confidence, said the chairman of the Taranaki County Council, Mr. L. D. Hickford; courage because they had built the hall near a thriving town and within easy distance of a city, and confidence that the people of the district would patronise it. He congratulated those who had worked towards such a fine objective, adding that the building would perpetuate the names of those who had sacrificed their lives.

The president of the New Plymouth Returned Services Association, Mr. N. J. Turner, who unveiled the memorial plaque, said the hall would serve a dual purpose in the district. It would be a memorial to those who had served their country at a time of need and it would serve the needs of the district. Of 64 men from the district who had served during the Second World War, six had not returned. He referred to the comradeship between men who served in time of war and said that the construction of the hall typified this comradeship.

The New Plymouth City Band attended the ceremony as well as a parade of ex-servicemen from the district.

Outstrip

In spite of commonly held views that "money is tight" and that the Government is being needlessly cautious and frugal, the figures, says the writer of the accompanying article, prove that, quite to the contrary, capital investment throughout New Zealand has never been greater. Money is not scarce or tight, and it is being invested more substantially than ever before. It is only that the demands of a rapidly-developing country in prosperous times have outstripped the supply of money available.

position. Bank advances in April, 1953, were £144,000,000, compared with £186,000,000 in April, 1952, and £135,000,000 in April, 1951. The high total for 1952 was largely due to the necessity to finance imports during the hectic period when a flood of imports was coming into the country. Most of these advances have now been repaid, and the figures are abnormal. Discounting the 1952 figures, it will be seen that bank advances are running at substantially higher levels than two years ago.

Analysis

An analysis of bank advances shows that there has been a decrease in industries allied to primary production. This may merely mean that advances have been repaid, but it is also noteworthy that there has been a slight increase in advances to manufacturing industries, which may indicate a slight expansion in capital.

Another significant change in bank advances is that there has been a decrease in advances to merchants, particularly importers. This is also paralleled by a decrease in advances to