

- (e.) Is it advisable or not that lands granted on faulty surveys should be resurveyed prior to the completion of the triangulation?
- (f.) Should there not be periodical examinations held for the purpose of granting certificates of competency to surveyors; and should not a prohibition be made against any person practising the profession without such certificate of competency?

2. That each Chief Surveyor be requested to furnish a statement of the actual condition of existing surveys in his Province, to embrace the following heads:—

What area of land has been triangulated?—defining major triangulation from minor triangulation.

What area of land has been completed in sectional surveys, and what area still remains to be surveyed, of sold lands?

What sums of money have been placed on the Provincial Estimates during the past year for surveys, and whether such sums are adequate to the requirements of the service?

What is the acreage of granted lands—and also of sold lands in the Province?

3. That each Chief Surveyor be requested to furnish a return showing the total cost, cost per acre and relative cost in forest and open country, of the triangulation executed in his Province; and also the date of commencement of such survey, together with a statement as to whether such triangulation has been systematically applied to the connection, correction and determination of the true position of ordinary block and sectional surveys in his Province; and, if so, to what extent, in acres, in each, instance. Also, the number of Crown grants of erroneously surveyed lands, the defects in which have been disclosed and remedied by the aid of such triangulation.

4. That in the opinion of the Conference it is necessary, in order to insure greater accuracy in all future surveys, that the method of prosecuting them should be based upon an accurate system of triangulation—wherever the nature of the country admits of such a process being performed.

5. That wherever practicable, a careful system of major triangulation (the sides to average between eight and fourteen miles) should be undertaken over the whole area of the Colony—this work to be undertaken by the General Government at the cost of the Colony.

6. That minor triangulation, to be conducted under the direction of the Provincial Governments if practicable, ought to be based thereon, in so far, in such parts, and at such times as may be necessary to enable the boundaries of any land intended to be granted by the Crown, or heretofore granted, to be properly determined.

7. That to establish and secure certainty in the boundaries of all granted estates, it is essential that no Crown grant should in future be issued, until the survey of the land has been properly connected with the triangulation and the land delineated upon a record map. And to enable grants based on former faulty surveys to be gradually corrected, all areas of land, including lands so granted, ought to be triangulated, so that truly fixed points shall be accessible, in relation to which future surveys can be made, and the lands then delineated on the record map.

8. That where, from the densely wooded character and other physical obstacles of any part of the country, a minor triangulation is found to be impracticable, a system of main or circuit traverse, carefully connected with and executed from the meridian of one (at least) or more of the nearest previously triangulated points, should then in such cases be adopted.

9. That all sectional surveys of lands subject to the administration of the respective Provinces should, as heretofore, be carried out under the direction of the Provincial Governments.

10. That detailed rules should be prepared accurately defining a system for the conduct of minor triangulation where it may be required, and for connecting therewith, or in some cases with the major triangulations, the surveys of all lands comprised in or intended to be comprised in any Crown grant. Also, for the construction from the triangulation of record maps of uniform character, and for laying down thereon the survey of every parcel of land prior to the issue of a Crown grant thereof.

11. That such rules, after due consideration by the heads of the Survey Departments throughout the Colony, and after approval of the majority of them, should be made binding and imperative; and that thereafter no Crown grant ought to be issued until the land comprised in it shall have been surveyed and laid down on the record map in strict conformity with those rules, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary for Crown Lands.

12. That after the record maps hereinbefore referred to shall have been prepared, no land ought to be brought under the operation of the Land Transfer Acts until the map of the Crown grant in which it is contained shall have been correctly delineated on the record map by the proper local officer.

13. That, in the opinion of the Conference, a Board, to be comprised of Chief Surveyors or other qualified professional persons in the Colony, should hold periodical sittings for the purpose of examining candidates for diplomas in the profession.

14. That after a certain date no survey ought to be received as the foundation of a Crown grant, or for any public purpose, except it shall have been executed by a surveyor holding such a diploma from the Board.

15. That there should be two or more grades of surveyors, each grade to be required to have passed a separate examination before the Board; and that the number of different grades in the profession, and the degree of examination required to pass for each, should be determined upon by the above-mentioned Board of Examiners. But,

16. That the foregoing should not apply to Government staff surveyors, nor to any surveyor at present in possession of a diploma issued prior to the 1st January, 1873, and granted by the "Surveyors' Association of the Province of Auckland," or by any previous or existing Chief Surveyor, or other competent authority of any Province in the Colony: Provided that holders of such diplomas or certificates shall be required to forward the same for registration to the Board of Examiners, within a certain time, to be fixed by the said Board.

17. That, in the opinion of the Conference [with reference to the papers relative to preparation of Crown grants referred to it], it is advisable that every Crown grant—in addition to a distinct reference by number to the record map—should contain the fullest possible survey details