

An offer has been made of a subsidy of £150 per annum for a reasonable period if a suitable man can be obtained to settle at Owaka (Catlin's district), on condition that he will visit Papatowai once weekly.

A subsidy of £50 has been granted to a doctor residing at Preservation Inlet, the money to be paid quarterly upon the certificate of the chairman of the medical committee of the district.

TERRITORIAL AND OTHER REVENUE.

The moneys collected by the department during the year ended the 31st March last were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Territorial revenue	273,799	7	4
Government loans to local bodies (interest and sinking-fund) ...	13,255	17	2
Land for Settlements Acts	38,804	10	2
Cheviot Estate	17,043	8	1
State forests	5,844	6	6
Endowments	15,117	18	4
North Island Main Trunk Railway lands	11,282	19	8
Thermal springs	1,351	13	6
Lake Ellesmere and Forsyth lands	1,740	8	11
Survey and other costs recovered	2,512	12	5
Crown-grant fees	1,228	12	0
Hanmer Sanatorium and baths	1,172	11	7
Miscellaneous	1,990	15	1
	£385,145	0	9

In the territorial revenue there was an increase of £10,503 5s. 1d., and an increase on the total sum collected of £26,058 7s., largely due to the new estates offered for selection under the Land for Settlements Acts. The following table will show a comparison between the territorial revenue of last year and the previous one:—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of TERRITORIAL REVENUE for the Years 1897-98 and 1898-99.

Land District.	1897-98.			1898-99.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	30,889	19	2	29,182	2	0	...	...	...	1,707	17	2
Taranaki	21,407	12	5	26,066	14	10	4,659	2	5	...	...	...
Hawke's Bay	14,512	16	1	17,765	18	2	3,253	2	1	...	...	...
Wellington	49,284	8	4	48,751	3	10	...	...	...	533	4	6
Marlborough	13,689	16	7	9,903	18	11	...	...	...	3,785	17	8
Nelson	15,134	11	4	15,553	16	2	419	4	10	...	...	...
Westland	1,159	18	1	1,313	4	10	153	6	9	...	...	...
Canterbury	47,503	4	6	54,518	13	4	7,015	8	10	...	...	...
Otago	55,286	13	10	56,525	6	3	1,238	12	5	...	...	...
Southland	14,427	1	11	14,218	9	0	...	...	...	208	12	11
	263,296	2	3	273,799	7	4	16,738	17	4	6,235	12	3
	...	...	...	263,296	2	3	6,235	12	3	...	...	...
Net increase ... ..	...	...	...	10,503	5	1	10,503	5	1	...	...	...

The cash balances at credit in the different Receivers of Land Revenue's Deposit Accounts amounted to £51,195 6s. 6d., as against £6,031 5s. 9d. at the same date the previous year. The great increase this year is due to the large amount of deposits on account of applications for the Waikakahi Estate, the selection of which only took place a few days before the close of the financial year.

The balances to the credit of local bodies, derived from "thirds" and "fourths," was £33,423 18s. 11d., a large sum, much of which might have been spent advantageously by the local bodies on roads, &c., had they submitted their schemes of expenditure to the Land Boards somewhat more promptly. The total amount paid to local bodies during the past year from this source was £33,099 8s. 2d.

ARREARS.

Details under this heading will be found in the Appendix, but the following table shows a comparison for several years past. It includes all classes of lands on which rents, &c., are paid, but excludes endowments:—

	No.	£
31st March, 1890	3,755	selectors owing 52,891
" 1891	3,548	" 37,341
" 1892	2,612	" 25,256
" 1893	3,382	" 28,875
" 1894	3,104	" 32,205
" 1895	3,594	" 37,514
" 1896	1,673	" 15,708
" 1897	1,464	" 12,807
" 1898	1,546	" 14,437
" 1899	1,451	" 16,994