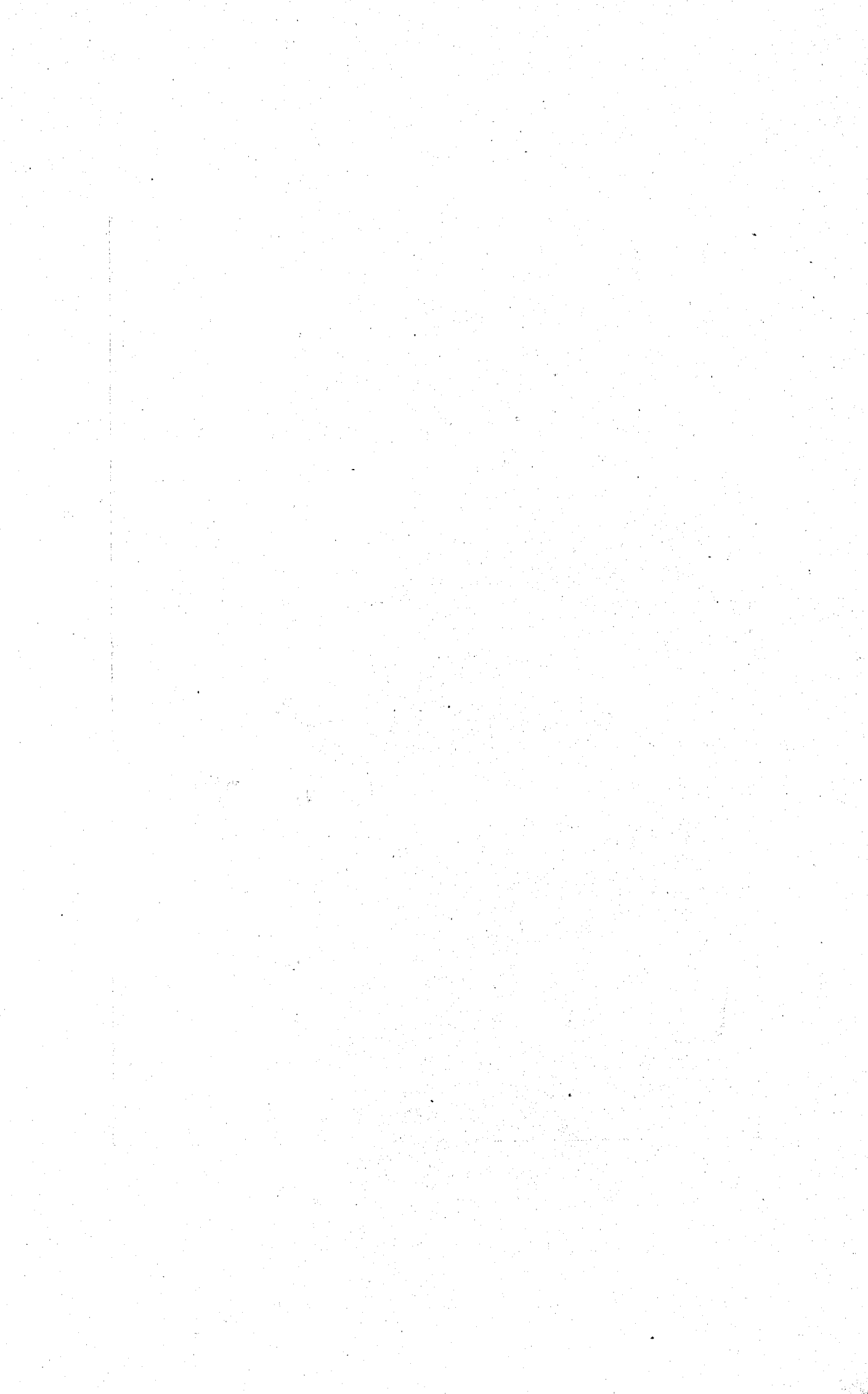


RIGHT HON. W. F. MASSEY (MINISTER OF LANDS) AND STAFFS OF HEAD OFFICE AND WELLINGTON DISTRICT OFFICE, LANDS AND SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

*Frontispiece.*



1915.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY  
(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*

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# ANNUAL REPORT.

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The UNDER-SECRETARY FOR LANDS to the Right Hon. the MINISTER OF LANDS.

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 1st June, 1915.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Department for the year ended 31st March, 1915.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MACKENZIE,

Under-Secretary for Lands.

The Right Hon. W. F. Massey, P.C., Minister of Lands.

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## REPORT.

### FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT.

It is not generally known that the various duties and functions of the Lands and Survey Department have steadily increased of late years, and that they embrace a very large field of activities apart from the primary duties appertaining to the survey and settlement of Crown land. They may be briefly summarized as follow:—

I. *Lands Branch*, which deals with—

- (a.) The settlement and administration of ordinary Crown lands;
- (b.) Settlement and administration of land-for-settlements estates acquired for closer settlement;
- (c.) Leasing and administration of the national-endowment lands;
- (d.) Leasing and administration of educational-endowment lands;
- (e.) Administration of public reserves; supervision of public domains and cemeteries;
- (f.) Preparation and issue of publications relating to land, &c.

II. *Survey Branch*, which deals with—

- (a.) Surveys of Crown land for settlement purposes;
- (b.) Surveys of land-for-settlement estates;
- (c.) Surveys of Native land for Native Land Court and Maori Land Board purposes;
- (d.) Surveys of roads and lands to be taken under the Public Works Act;
- (e.) Triangulation and standard surveys;
- (f.) Magnetic survey and the taking of magnetic observations at Christchurch and elsewhere wherever necessary;
- (g.) Computation of tidal observations and revision of coast survey;
- (h.) Examination of surveyors under the Surveyors Board;
- (i.) Checking and revision of land-transfer and every other class of survey relating to titles to land.

III. *Land-drainage Branch*, which deals with—

- (a.) The drainage and reclamation of the Hauraki Plains under the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908;
- (b.) Drainage and reclamation of the Rangitaiki Plains under the Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act, 1910;
- (c.) Inspecting, reporting, advising, and, where necessary, supervising the numerous drainage, reclamation, river works, water-boring, and irrigation schemes throughout the Dominion on Crown and other land; general construction works;
- (d.) Expenditure of subsidies on roads, &c., to local bodies.

IV. *Forestry Branch*, dealing with—

- (a.) The conservation, supervision, and sale of Crown timber in the Crown and State forests of the Dominion;
- (b.) Establishment and operation of State nurseries and plantations in various parts of New Zealand, with the object of ensuring future forests for commercial purposes to meet public and private requirements;
- (c.) Encouragement and assistance to farmers in planting trees on their holdings.

V. *Scenery-preservation Branch*, dealing with—

- (a.) The inspection, reporting on, and acquisition of areas of land suitable for scenery-preservation under the Scenery Preservation Act, 1908 ;  
 (b.) Supervision and administration of scenic reserves after acquisition.

VI. *Kauri-gum Industry Branch*, dealing with—

- (a.) Supervising and advising on the kauri-gum industry, purchasing gum from the diggers, and working of kauri-gum fields by the Crown. This branch was established by the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914.

Every year a greater strain is thrown upon the officers of the Department in consequence of their extending duties and responsibilities, and it may be mentioned that no less than fifty Acts of the General Assembly deal with the work undertaken by the Department, and that the provisions of such Acts need to be carefully studied and known by officers. Each year there are presented to Parliament from ten to twelve reports on various phases of the work, so as to comply with statutory requirements, and a perusal of these reports will show the extent of operations and the thorough manner in which they have been carried out.

## GENERAL REPORT ON SETTLEMENT.

In the interests of settlement and for general information after such an exceptionally dry season, I give a short *résumé* of the conditions that have prevailed throughout the Dominion during the past twelve months, so as to show how settlers have been affected as regards weather-conditions, and the consequent effect on grazing, cropping, and dairying operations. This information has been culled from reports by the Commissioners of Crown Lands, surveyors, rangers, foresters, inspectors, &c.

## AUCKLAND.

The weather-conditions of the past season have proved exceptionally trying to farmers, especially in the northern and central portions of the district. The usual spring growth was largely checked by want of rain and by high cold winds, following which came one of the driest summers experienced for a considerable time. As a result many of the white crops were practically failures, and were fed off, not being worth harvesting. Root and fodder crops were also to a very large extent failures, and in many parts had to be prematurely fed off. The shortage of water and feed has been very severe on dairy stock, and considerably curtailed the milking season. Fortunately the serious prospects for the coming winter have been very materially lightened by warm early rains, which have brought away a good growth of pasture. The high price of grass-seeds is a serious drawback to many farmers, who have obtained good burns during the drought, but to whom the increased cost of sowing will involve a considerable financial strain. Graziers and sheep-farmers have, on the whole, experienced a favourable season, as, although the carrying-capacity of their holdings was diminished, this was largely counter-balanced by the enhanced prices obtained for stock, while the high prices and strong demand for all classes of farm-produce have to a large extent compensated the farming community for the disadvantages arising from the abnormal season.

## HAWKE'S BAY.

*Northern Portion of the District.*

Dairying: In May, 1914, the Poverty Bay district experienced a very heavy flood, but thereafter the rainfall was below the average, the winter being unusually fine and mild. This was followed by a dry spring, and, as the summer was practically rainless, the farming community suffered from light crops and loss of pasture. Farther inland at Otoko, Rakauroa, Matawai, and Motu the drought was not felt so much, and the milk-supply all through the season compared very favourably with the previous years.

The dry season was apparently very suitable for lucerne, as it did remarkably well, and the splendid results of this fodder have been an object-lesson to the farmers who go in for dairying, and undoubtedly will result in its being very extensively grown all over the district.

Wool: Owing to the dry weather, the clip generally was light in condition and relatively lighter per fleece. Local sales were made in the early part of the season at 9d. to 9½d. per pound. Later, the competition being keener, the prices went up to 11d. per pound.

Frozen meat: Though the season was very dry, sheep and lambs fattened fairly well; the principal difficulty was want of shipping-space. The season all through has been very bad for cattle. In the early part of the season many farmers consigned, and the returns now being received show very remunerative prices—mutton, 5¾d. to 6¼d. per pound; lamb, up to 7½d. per pound; and beef, 6d. per pound.

The local stock values were fairly well maintained till well into the summer, but since then there has been very little doing either in buying or selling; but as the wool and meat prices are still well maintained, values must improve as feed becomes more plentiful.

Cropping: Crops generally were light as the result of the dry season, but prices have been abnormally high. In former seasons practically all the oats grown were converted into chaff for local requirements, but during the past season the high price obtainable for the grain induced many settlers to thresh. The following are the ruling prices for the crops raised this year: Grass-seed (farmers' dressed), 7s. 6d. per bushel; oats, 5s. to 6s. per bushel (usual price, 2s. 5d. to 3s. 3d.); maize, 6s. per bushel (usual price, about 2s.); chaff, £8 10s. (usual price, about £4 10s.); Cape barley, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. (usual price, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d.) per bushel.

*Southern Portion of the District.*

The abnormally dry season experienced during the year in Hawke's Bay has seriously interfered with farming operations of all descriptions, and accelerated the falling-off of the milk-supply of the various factories throughout the district. Late frosts were experienced, and considerably damaged many orchards in the early stages of fruiting. Stock (principally sheep and cattle), owing to the shortage of grass and rough cattle-feed, of which latter there is usually an abundance to meet winter conditions, are not expected to winter well, and the death-rate will be considerable. The returns for the season will probably show a substantial decrease in the output of butter and cheese compared with previous years.

The Dannevirke district is steadily coming into prominence as a dairying centre, and the industry is spreading in all directions.

The settlement of the Otawhao Block, near Takapau, has been followed by great activity and enterprise. Originally dense bush, the land has been cleared, and the area is carrying a wonderful growth of grass, notwithstanding the considerable damage done through bush-fires in the summer months. An adjoining area will be opened for closer settlement in the near future as dairy farms, and the increased acreage and number of settlers should be the means of establishing cheese and butter factories on a large scale.

Owing to the shortage of pasture, stores (either cattle or sheep) do not meet with ready sale. Fat stock, on the other hand, are eagerly sought after, fat bullocks being known to bring 6d. per pound live weight.

Wool, butter, and cheese have considerably advanced in prices. With crossbred wool reaching 1s. 5½d. per pound, dairy butter 1s. 2d., and cheese 8d. per pound, wheat 8s., barley 6s., and oats 5s. per bushel, with oaten sheaf chaff as high as £10 and meadow hay £6 per ton, the cost of living has very appreciably risen, and will no doubt seriously affect many members of the community.

TARANAKI.

Generally speaking, this is mainly a grazing and dairying district, and on the land occupied by Crown tenants, and indeed throughout the whole district, the growing of crops is as a rule only undertaken for the supply of winter feed for stock, and in the rougher parts scarcely sufficient of that is done. A settler on any bush selection can only do so at a reasonable expense, when the stumps on his land become rotten enough for easy removal. In the northern end of the district the Ranger reports that for this season more land than usual has been broken up for root crops, but less than in the previous season for oats and chaff. In the King-country on the open fern land the plough is being largely used for breaking up the land prior to sowing down grass, and quite steep land is being ploughed. In a few years a great improvement will be noticeable in this respect. On the bush selections any settlers who are thrifty seem to rely chiefly on hay as a standby. On the rougher parts of the southern end of the district flat or easily ploughable land is scarce, and on many selections there is enough bush land for felling to obtain a crop of turnips with the sowing of grass-seed on new burns. On the older settled parts turnips, mangolds, and hay seem most in evidence, though a small amount of maize, oats, and lucerne is grown and ensilage used. Grass looks fairly well in the Ohura district, but not up to the usual elsewhere.

The ruling prices for stock as gathered from sale reports average as follows: Fat bullocks, £8 to £12; fat cows, £6 to £8; forward store cows, £5; dairy cows, £7 to £10; dairy heifers, £5 to £7; two-year heifers, £3 to £4; yearling steers, £1 15s. to £2; two-year steers, £5 to £6; calves, £1 5s. Sheep: Good fat sheep, £1; good store sheep, 15s.; good fat lambs, 15s.; ordinary lambs, 10s.; old ewes, sound mouth, in lamb, 15s.; fat and forward ewes, 17s. Pigs:

Weaners, 4s. to 6s. 10d.; stores, six months, 12s. 6d. to 16s.; stores, twelve months, £2 10s. Wool: Fleece wool, 11½d. to 1s. 3¼d.; pieces and bellies, 8½d. to 10¼d.; locks and stained, 5½d. to 6¼d.

Butter-fat averages about 1s. 2d. per pound to the farmer, and from the same milk the equivalent for cheese is about 1s. 6d.

#### WELLINGTON.

Grazing: The season has been exceptionally dry in most parts, but on the whole it has been a fair average season. The East Coast suffered most, owing to the small amount of rainfall in the spring, and most of the settlers had to seek grazing elsewhere. These conditions will cause rather a bare feed-supply for grazing in several parts of the district, but in other parts feed is coming on well again. Generally, stock did very well, and more than the average number of fats were marketed, both in mature sheep and lambs.

Prices of Stock: Prices for all classes of farm stock have been good, and farmers generally have experienced a very successful season, notwithstanding the dry year. The average ruling prices for stock were as follows: Fat bullocks, £12 to £18; fat cows, £8 6s.; three-year bullocks, £4 to £8 15s.; two-year bullocks, £5 9s.; yearling bullocks, £4; mixed weaners, £1 10s.; dairy cows, inferior, £4 15s.; heifers, £3. Sheep: Fat wethers, £1 8s. 6d.; four and six tooth, £1; ewes, £1; other sheep, 17s. 6d.; lambs, 16s.; lambs, inferior, 8s. 6d.

Farmers in some of the dry areas were unable to fatten more than one or two drafts of sheep owing to feed-scarcity, and were compelled to dispose of good store lambs and sheep at low figures.

Cropping: On the East Coast, on the whole, the crops have not been up to the average in the dry portions—oats, wheat, turnips, &c. In the more northern part of the district there is not much cropping done, but a larger area of wheat was put in this year than in former years, and the crops were very good indeed. The oat-crops were also good. In the Wairarapa cereal crops were light, and harvested early, while root and rape crops were in most parts a failure. The oat-crop generally was short and light, while the market price at present is nearly 100 per cent. in advance of the average for past years.

Dairying: The dairying industry still increases, and new factories both for the making of butter and cheese are constantly starting in different localities. Dairy-farmers have had a particularly good season, as prices both for butter and cheese have been ruling very high. In fact, prices for all farm-produce has been good. In the more newly settled districts the factory returns show some 50-per-cent. increase in the output. In some parts, owing to early frosts and dry weather, the season has been somewhat shortened, while in other parts more dairying would be carried on but for the roughness of the country; but it is noticeable that as roads are improved and conditions are at all suitable, more and more cows are being handled.

Pigs: In some localities pigs are still a very neglected line, although farmers when spoken to on the subject seem to be thoroughly alive to the possibilities of good profits, and no doubt when increase of dairying and cropping warrant it, pork will rise to be a staple product.

Taking all the factors into consideration, settlers during the past year have, on the whole, had a very satisfactory season, the dry season being more than counterbalanced by the increased prices of farm-products.

#### NELSON.

During the past year the drought in other parts of the Dominion has not been felt in this district to any great extent, therefore the settlers, both freeholders and leaseholders, have had a most prosperous season, grass being plentiful and green crops having been sown to a great extent, whilst both sheep and cattle have done well. The prices obtained for wool and stock—the former from 9d. to 1s. 4d. per pound, sheep 12s. to £1 6s., and cattle from £1 15s. to £2 per hundredweight—have been the highest yet received in this district, whilst high prices have also been obtained for all kinds of crops, which were of a fair average quality.

There have been no new developments of any kind in the timber industry throughout the district—in fact, a general depression in the case of the export trade. Many of the mills are not working to their full capacity, and the prospect is not too good for the coming year. But this could hardly be otherwise at such a stressful time.

#### MARLBOROUGH.

As regards the northern portion of the district the pastures in the bush portion were good throughout the year, but those in the open country suffered badly from the drought. These



conditions affected the market price of sheep, which at the beginning of the year were as high as £1 6s. for breeding-ewes, and towards the end could be bought for 13s. Cattle were a good price throughout the year, dairy cows ranging from £6 to £10. The dairy factories were kept busy during the year, the output of butter and cheese showing an increase on former years. There was a considerable increase in the area of crops sown, particularly in wheat, which in the majority of cases was a failure owing to the drought. Fortunately, the high prices realized for grain somewhat compensated the farmers for their light crops.

The southern portion of the district, which is principally open country, suffered severely from the drought—probably the worst that has been experienced for forty years—consequently feed during the latter part of the year has been very scarce, and the outlook for the winter as far as grazing is concerned is serious. There was a larger area of crops sown, which in most cases were failures. The dairying industry, which is not carried on to any great extent in the southern part of the district, was also affected by the drought. Fortunately the high price of all produce has compensated in a measure for this.

#### WESTLAND.

On account of the moistness of the climate and the uncertainty of successful harvesting, no cropping is done except for the purpose of providing winter feed for stock. The weather-conditions that have prevailed during the past year have been very favourable to the growth of grass, but the dairying stock has felt the effect of the excessive amount of rain, which during the five months ended 31st March, 1915, reached a total of 70 in. distributed over 103 days. The average milk-yield per cow shows a shortage as compared with previous years, but in the case of those factories that did not enter into a contract for disposal of their season's output at a fixed figure the enhanced prices ruling for butter and cheese will counterbalance the shortage in supply.

The prices ruling for fat stock fluctuate in sympathy with those in other centres, and generally compare very favourably with them. During the winter the supply of fat stock is somewhat limited, owing to the greater length of time required to fatten, on account of the adverse weather-conditions. The prices paid for butter-fat by the butter-factories averaged 11½d. per pound, and by cheese-factories 10½d. per pound, while it is anticipated in the case of two of the latter that a bonus of 3d. per pound will be paid.

During the past year there has been a considerable increase in the number of fat cattle and sheep raised. It is estimated that upwards of five thousand head of fat cattle and ten thousand fat sheep were sold by public and private sale. These figures are the actual production of the Coast, and that they will show a marked increase in the future can be gauged by the fact that an additional three thousand head of store cattle from Canterbury were imported into the province during the last summer months. It has been proved beyond all doubt that dry seasons in Canterbury and Nelson force growers and dealers to export their surplus stock to the Coast, where there is a certain rainfall and always abundance of feed, and the quality of fat stock has been of an exceptionally high standard. The climate favours the Hereford breed of cattle, and they thrive remarkably well. On some stations there is a preference for the Shorthorn, and the Hereford-Shorthorn cross, but for beef the Hereford is preferred.

In the far south, difficulty confronts the growers in getting fat stock away from these parts, and the long drive of over two hundred miles militates against delivering cattle at the fat-stock sales in finished condition. It is probable that in future the stock-growers in the far south will specialize in the raising of forward stores and selling at Wataroa, which has now become a saleyard centre. The progress of the southern district may be gathered from the fact that permanent sales are now being held at Waitaha, Harihari, and Wataroa. Throughout the province the dairying strains of cattle are yearly improving, and the herds now compare favourably with most other parts of the Dominion.

There has been a marked improvement in the quality of the Romney sheep raised in the district, as is clearly demonstrated by the fact that at the wool-sales in January, February, and March of this year clips from the West Coast topped the New Zealand market at each sale, the excellent price of 1s. 5½d. per pound being obtained for one lot. Much more attention is now being devoted to wool-growing, and farmers are keen to improve the strain, a number of pedigree flock ewes having been imported last season. The latest returns show that in the Grey County there are 28,197 sheep, and in the Westland County 31,516 sheep. These figures denote a steady increase.

## CANTERBURY.

In North Canterbury, from April to June, 1914, normal conditions prevailed, and there was little movement in the conditions or values for stock and produce. The light rainfall during the spring months, averaging on the plains only 5 in., threatened shortage of pasture and cereal crops; luckily 2½ in. of rain fell during December, which gave an impetus to the pasture-growth and filled out the grain, but was too late to stimulate the hay, which was very light. As most of our dairy farms are located on the heavy coast soils, the milk-supply did not fall much, except on the Peninsula farms, the volcanic character of these lands being more susceptible to a reduced supply of moisture. Sheep-feed on the central plains became scarce. The December moderate rains averaged 2½ in. The farms along the foothills benefited from the north-west showers, and some of the best crops were there harvested. The December rain was sufficient to fill out the grain, and, although the straw was short, the threshing-mill returns exceeded expectations, and a general average of 29 bushels of wheat and 42 of oats was successfully won. There should be very little discoloured or damaged grain in the market.

Settlers in the South Canterbury district have experienced one of the most trying seasons on record, and only the exceptionally high prices of sheep and cereals, the result of the war, have saved them from a most serious financial position. Up till December the conditions were about normal, and the season promised to be a good one. Since then, however, hardly any rain has fallen, and, in addition, there have been more than the ordinary share of nor'-westers, thus leaving the country in a more parched condition than it has been for the last seven years.

Turnip and rape crops are practically a failure, so that the wintering of stock has become a very serious problem to settlers, and the difficulty is increased by the limited steamer space available for getting off their hands what fat stock they have. For patriotic and other reasons many settlers desire to put down an additional area in cereals, but the ground in places is so hard that the breaking-up of grass lands will prevent their doing so, unless a good downpour of rain occurs within the next few weeks.

War conditions rapidly affected the market values, both for cereals and stock. The buyers operated rapidly, so much so that wheat rose from 4s. 2d. per bushel in August to 7s. 2d. in March, oats for the same period from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 2½d., flour from £11 per ton to £17 10s., potatoes from £3 to £5 10s., and chaff from £3 10s. to £7 5s. Cheese was not so much affected, 7d. per pound being maintained. Butter rose from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d. per pound. During the autumn months the rainfall was much below the average, and the stores' and breeding flocks' winter feed was encroached upon. Grass on the plains again suffered, and there is a serious outlook for our flockmasters for feed during the coming winter. The trouble has been accentuated by the difficulties of disposing of fat animals through the absence of sufficient storage and bottoms. Stores stock fell rapidly in market values, in March some holders having to boil down. Every ton of straw will be needed for the winter. The rainfall on the plains for the whole year averaged only 22½ in. The wool returns were satisfactory both in quality and quantity; the prices obtained were higher than for many years.

On the whole our farmers have little to complain about, and the land-values show no sign of depreciation.

## OTAGO.

Grazing: Owing to an exceptionally long winter there was little real growth until the early part of December. High cold and drying winds kept back the pastures, and when they came away the lack of sufficient rain was detrimental to growth.

Cropping: Grain and root crops suffered in the same way as grass. After coming through the ground little progress was made; then the warmer weather brought them on, but the growth was not maintained. The southern districts did not suffer so badly, and there are some very good yields. In the north and central districts there is a big shortage of winter feed.

Dairying: It is only in the more favoured localities, where the land is good and there is a better rainfall, that dairying is carried on to any extent. The winter prospects are not particularly bright, as the pastures are not good and the necessary winter feed is lacking.

Ruling Prices of Stock: The price of stock has been well maintained. Owing to the difficulty experienced in getting away lambs at the usual time, many farmers had to sell at a lower price than usual. They go in for producing fat lambs, and depend on getting them off at a given time. Therefore any circumstances arising to interfere with their arrangements put farmers in a serious position, as they make no provision to carry surplus stock.

## SOUTHLAND.

Generally speaking, the weather-conditions during the autumn and winter months were good, and all classes of stock thrived well. The spring was far from satisfactory, cold winds prevailing, which retarded all growth, up to the end of December, after which the weather-conditions were much more favourable, and both grass and cereal crops came away with a rush, with the result that large numbers of fat lambs, sheep, and cattle were frozen during January, February, March, and April. Fat cattle, sheep, and lambs realized good prices, cattle averaging from £1 14s. to £2 3s. per 100 lb., sheep £1 to £1 13s. each, and lambs 6½d. per pound. In sympathy with these prices, all classes of store stock sold well, more especially forward store cattle, wethers, and lambs. Breeding-ewes were also in good demand, selling from 15s. to £1 5s., according to age and breeding.

The lambing returns on the farms and lower country averaged from 80 to 120 per cent., but on the higher country and pastoral runs the percentage was far from satisfactory, being in most cases only 50 to 70 per cent.

Mainly owing to the increased demand caused by the outbreak of war, wool has realized exceptionally good prices, averaging from 8d. to 1s. 3d. per pound.

The cold and backward spring militated against the dairying industry, and the returns from cows up to the New Year were far from satisfactory; however, as the season advanced matters improved, and this, with the good prices realized for cheese, it having brought up to 8½d. per pound, has compensated for the bad spring.

The cereal crops, which in the spring were most disappointing, eventually improved in an incredible way, and averaged out at from 40 to 50 bushels, and in some instances reached as high as from 90 to 130 bushels to the acre.

In contrast to many other parts of the Dominion, feed this summer and autumn has been plentiful, and, as the turnip-crops are all fairly good, ample feed for the winter is assured.

## RECENT LAND LEGISLATION.

While some of the amendments made under the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1914, are of a general nature, several very important amendments relating to the administration of ordinary Crown lands and settlement lands were made to the existing law. The following is a short account of the more important amendments:—

Section 5, for the purposes of limitation of area of holdings, enacts, in respect of land not classified under the Land Act, that land of an unimproved value of £8 per acre or upwards shall be first-class land; land of an unimproved value of between £4 and £8 per acre, second-class; and land of an unimproved value of less than £4 per acre, third-class land. Further, timber is not included in the unimproved value of timber land. Formerly land of an unimproved value of £4 per acre and upwards was deemed to be first-class; and land of an unimproved value of between £2 and £4, second-class; and land of an unimproved value of less than £2, third-class. It was ascertained in practice that the former law relating to unclassified lands was too restricted and not in the best interests of settlement.

Section 8 provides for the subdivision of Crown pastoral land consisting principally of high country, and disposal of the same to holders of sufficient low-lying land to profitably work the whole.

Sections 17 and 18 allow of the holders of leases in perpetuity of ordinary Crown land and settlement land to acquire the fee-simple of their holdings in all cases.

Section 21 provides for the acquisition of the fee-simple of part only of a small grazing-run in cases where the area of the whole run is greater than the limit allowed.

Section 27 provides that where a pastoral run is subdivided at the expiry of the license the licensee has the right to acquire a new pastoral license over one of the subdivisions, irrespective of the tenure on which the lands are offered. Formerly the tenant only had the right to a subdivision if the lands were leased under the pastoral-license tenure.

Section 28 allows of the granting of leases of settlement land without competition to persons who have been continuously employed on estates purchased for a period of at least five years immediately preceding the acquisition, subject to ordinary area limitations.

Sections 32 and 33 (subject to limitations of holding) permit of the exchange of pastoral licenses to small-grazing-run leases, and small-grazing-run leases to renewable leases respectively.

Section 36 allows of the sale of sand-dunes and other worthless lands at such price as may be deemed advisable, but certain improvements have to be effected before certificates of title can issue.

Sections 42, 43, and 44 allow of the exemption of lessees from conditions as to cropping, the postponement of rent of pastoral runs, and the postponement of rent of small grazing-runs respectively. It was deemed advisable to enact such legislation owing to the European war.

## LANDS OPENED.

More than double the area of land was opened during the year than during the preceding twelve months, and the attached table shows the areas offered in each district under the various tenures.

*Land opened during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.*

District.	Optional System.	Renewable Lease.			Sale at Auction for Cash or on Deferred Payment.	Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Small Grazing-runs: Ordinary Crown Land.	Pastoral Runs.		Total.
		Ordinary Crown Land.	National-endowment Land.	Land for Settlements.					Ordinary Crown Land.	National-endowment Land.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	67,556	..	10,397	8,535	*630	†358	379	7,150	..	..	95,005
Hawke's Bay ..	4,285	132	..	867	57	..	1	13,640	5,328	..	24,310
Taranaki ..	18,381	649	5,809	129	85	..	69	..	..	..	25,122
Wellington ..	21,624	11	5,309	1,703	64	..	277	2,397	..	..	31,385
Nelson ..	22,389	22	11,309	10,124	1	..	72	..	14,800	..	58,717
Marlborough ..	4,302	..	..	11,785	†155	..	99	..	143,000	..	159,341
Westland ..	..	..	814	..	1	§9,155	78	..	544,790	102,870	657,708
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	¶7,284	¶330	..	**866	..	..	47,900	56,380
Otago ..	2,888	593	537	4,177	200	..	25	7,748	23,450	..	39,618
Southland ..	4,040	5	41	434	424	..	194	..	..	..	5,138
Totals ..	145,465	1,412	34,216	45,038	1,947	9,513	2,060	30,935	731,368	150,770	1,152,724

\* Includes 12 acres land for settlements. † Ordinary Crown lands. ‡ Includes 7 acres land for settlements. § National-endowment lands. ¶ Includes 14 acres, Cheviot Estate. \*\* Includes 43 acres land for settlements, and 7 acres Cheviot Estate. \*\* Includes 270 acres land for settlements, and 1 acre Cheviot Estate.

In addition an area of 49,536 acres of educational and other endowment lands was opened for selection, making the grand total of 1,202,260 acres opened during the year under all classes.

## LANDS TO BE OPENED.

During the current year it is expected to place in the market the following areas of land in the Dominion, some of which comprise pastoral runs subdivided and reopened for selection:—

	Acres.
Auckland District ..	107,676
Hawke's Bay District ..	121,376
Taranaki District ..	56,840
Wellington District ..	59,000
Nelson District ..	90,000
Marlborough District ..	13,000
Westland District ..	16,300
Canterbury District ..	33,200
Otago District ..	460,000
Southland District ..	12,000
Total ..	969,392

In addition, Surveyors have as "work on hand" a considerable area which it is hoped to survey, subdivide, and place on the market later.

## LANDS SELECTED.

During the year the total area selected was 957,049 acres by 1,880 selectors. Of this about two-thirds comprised ordinary Crown land, the balance being made up of land-for-settlement holdings and national and educational endowments. This shows a marked increase over the previous year's figures of 503,737 acres, and it is hoped that the coming year will show an equally satisfactory area added to settlement. Full details of the selections, giving the various tenures, will be found in Table 3 published in the appendix.

## LANDS MADE FREEHOLD.

The lands made freehold under the Land Laws Amendment Acts of 1912, 1913, and 1914 aggregated 93,547 acres, held by 494 selectors, the purchase price being £174,412. From the date of passing of the Amendment Act of 1912 up to the 31st March, 1914, a total of 628

settlers had acquired the freehold of 110,760 acres, at a price of £118,264, so that the total purchases under these Acts up to the 31st March, 1915, represented 204,307 acres made freehold by 1,122 settlers, at a cost of £292,676.

## REVENUE.

During the year the revenue received was in excess of last year's figures by £96,631. The amount collected in each land district was as follows:—

	£
Auckland .. .. .	205,384
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	176,673
Taranaki .. .. .	64,808
Wellington .. .. .	170,128
Nelson .. .. .	37,168
Marlborough .. .. .	51,482
Westland .. .. .	19,430
Canterbury .. .. .	237,025
Otago .. .. .	135,218
Southland .. .. .	65,811
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>£1,163,127</b>

Analysing the revenue under the various sources, the following figures are of interest:—

	£
Cash sales and purchase of freeholds .. .. .	240,871
Deferred-payment instalments .. .. .	36,924
Perpetual-lease rents .. .. .	2,501
Occupation-with-right-of-purchase rents .. .. .	110,604
Lease-in-perpetuity rents .. .. .	228,022
Renewable-lease rents .. .. .	135,759
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations: Rents ..	3,258
Small-grazing-run rents .. .. .	86,600
Mining districts land-occupation leases: Rents .. .. .	1,347
Pastoral-run rents .. .. .	78,487
Educational and other endowments .. .. .	114,309
Other leases and licenses and miscellaneous receipts .. .. .	124,445
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>£1,163,127</b>

## EXPENDITURE.

*Summary of Expenditure approved during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.*

Vote No.	Name of Vote or Account.	Amount voted (Net).	Expenditure (Gross).	Recoveries.	Expenditure (Net).
<i>Consolidated Fund.</i>					
68	Lands and Survey .. .. .	£ 168,046	£ 206,851	£ 47,744	£ 159,107
69	Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous .. .. .	52,683	52,190	6,662	45,528
111	State Forests Account .. .. .	31,609	30,386	68	30,318
113	Scenery-preservation Account .. .. .	11,163	7,966	79	7,887
114	Land for Settlements Expenses .. .. .	12,437	4,796	..	4,796
<i>Public Works Fund.</i>					
109	Improved-farm Settlements .. .. .	16,000	15,005	2,796	12,209
110	Lands, Miscellaneous .. .. .	7,390	1,675	..	1,675
	<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>299,328</b>	<b>318,869</b>	<b>57,349</b>	<b>261,520</b>
	Special Acts, Deposit Accounts, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	5,343	..	5,343
	Land for Settlements Account .. .. .	.. .. .	18,206	..	18,206
	Hauraki Plains Settlement Account .. .. .	.. .. .	17,009	400	16,609
	Rangitaiki Land-drainage Account .. .. .	.. .. .	15,572	..	15,572
	National Endowment Account .. .. .	.. .. .	5,550	..	5,550
	Native Land Settlement Account .. .. .	.. .. .	93,795	..	93,795
	Kauri-gum Industry Account .. .. .	.. .. .	4,993	..	4,993
	<b>Totals.. .. .</b>	<b>.. .. .</b>	<b>160,468</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>160,068</b>
	<b>Grand totals .. .. .</b>	<b>.. .. .</b>	<b>479,337</b>	<b>57,749</b>	<b>421,588</b>

## POSTPONEMENT OF RENT.

During the year 188 tenants took advantage of section 13 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, and secured postponements of rent amounting to £9,785. The total transactions under this section of the Act up to the 31st March, 1915, are shown in the following statement:—

System.	Postponements granted during Year ended 31st March, 1915.		Total Postponements granted up to 31st March, 1915.		Rental remaining postponed at 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Selectors.	Amount.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Ordinary Crown lands ..	72	£ 3,094	196	£ 9,582	151	£ 8,130
Land for settlements ..	76	5,247	154	13,103	85	6,293
National-endowment lands ..	40	1,444	49	1,719	44	1,613
Totals .. .. .	188	9,785	399	24,404	280	16,036

The provisions of this section of the Act have been found very beneficial in cases where settlers have suffered through loss of stock, fires, &c., and require assistance to tide over a period of financial stress.

## REVALUATION OF CROWN LEASEHOLDS.

In accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, 250 tenants have secured revaluation of their holdings, with the result that extensive reductions in rental and capital value have been made. The following is a summary of the transactions to date:—

Number of holdings revalued up to the 31st March, 1915 .. .. .	250
Capital value .. .. .	£582,879
Annual rental .. .. .	£26,893
Capital value as reduced by revaluation .. .. .	£456,518
Annual rental as reduced by revaluation .. .. .	£21,041
Applications received but not dealt with at 31st March, 1915 .. .. .	53

The statutory provisions governing this class of transaction have now been amended by the passing of section 14 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1914, which provides that the consent of the Minister of Lands must be obtained before the application is granted, and, further, that an applicant must be in occupation of the land for not less than three years and not more than six years immediately preceding the date of the application. From a financial standpoint this amendment of the law was found to be necessary.

## LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT.

The following table shows the estates opened for selection during the year under the Land for Settlements Act. As usual, there has been a keen demand for the bulk of the estates.

Land District.	Name of Estate.	Number of Holdings offered for Selection.	Area opened for Selection.
Auckland .. .. .	Otway .. .. .	17	Acres. 1,614
.. .. .	Waitakaruru .. .. .	15	2,299
.. .. .	Parahi .. .. .	9	2,120
Wellington .. .. .	Falloon .. .. .	6	1,031
Nelson .. .. .	Lake .. .. .	7	10,124
Canterbury .. .. .	Hillboro .. .. .	3	691
.. .. .	Copland .. .. .	2	611
.. .. .	Teschemaker .. .. .	11	3,625
.. .. .	Finlay Downs .. .. .	5	2,113
Otago .. .. .	Waitahuna 1 and 2 .. .. .	10	4,035
Totals .. .. .	.. .. .	85	28,263

Appendix II of the report shows (on pages 35 to 39) full details of the estates acquired under the Act, and the purposes for which they are utilized. A large number of the settlers have already taken advantage of the right to acquire the freehold, and consequently some of the settlements are not now occupied by Crown tenants, but are privately owned in the same manner as they were before the Government acquired them for closer settlement, with this difference: that in place of one or two owners the estates are now occupied by a number of independent freeholders, who have already made a thorough success of their holdings.

#### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT.

At the close of the year the area included within the national endowment was 8,619,341 acres, of which an area of 6,374,628 acres was occupied, at an annual rental of £103,556. The gross revenue collected during the year in respect of this endowment was £108,574, being an increase of £5,303 over the previous year's figures.

#### INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The area covered by the Rangers in the course of their statutory inspections was 3,327,322 acres, comprised in 8,364 properties. The value of improvements required by the Act was £1,412,112, and the amount actually effected was £2,863,499. Full details regarding each district will be found in Table 32 of the appendix.

#### KAURI-GUM LAND SETTLEMENT.

In order to provide, on easy terms, small holdings in kauri-gum reserves or Crown land, provision was made in section 20 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, for the disposal of allotments not exceeding 25 acres in area either on the occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure or on deferred-payment license, at the option of the selector. During the year five sections in Rodney County, containing 116 acres, were opened for selection; and further areas of 800 acres at the Wade, comprised in thirty-seven sections, and 900 acres near Mercer, were prepared for settlement. Additional areas of 9,000 acres in Mangonui County, 1,000 acres in Otamatea County, and 2,000 acres in Hobson County were also surveyed; whilst 5,000 acres in Mangonui County and 12,000 acres at the Bay of Islands were inspected preliminary to their survey into areas of from 250 acres to 600 acres. The subdivision of these lands is well advanced, and plans will soon be available so as to enable the areas to be placed on the market. The total area of kauri-gum lands nearing completion for settlement purposes is 30,700 acres.

#### KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY.

The Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, was passed for the purpose of affording relief, and for fostering the kauri-gum industry during the crisis following on the declaration of war. It authorizes the Minister of Lands to—

- (a.) Work any Crown lands situated within a kauri-gum district, and drain and generally improve any such lands for future close settlement, fruit-growing, &c., by gum-diggers and others:
- (b.) Purchase and sell kauri-gum, and advance to the vendors of gum a proportion of the estimated value of the gum purchased.

A special report showing the operations undertaken under this Act is being laid before Parliament as a separate parliamentary paper (C.-12), and shows what has been achieved in assisting the industry and the diggers at a time when a large body of workers were feeling the effects of war-conditions on their means of livelihood.

#### LAND-DRAINAGE BRANCH.

Details of the works carried out by this branch are set forth in the attached report of the Chief Drainage Engineer. The major works comprise the reclamation of Hauraki Plains, Rangitaiki Plains, and Waihi Swamp, representing some 190,000 acres altogether. The operations of the branch are extending each year, and the services of the Chief Drainage Engineer are in request throughout the Dominion, in connection with similar projected works, as the success of reclamation-works carried out by this Department has demonstrated the potentialities of swamp lands in general. Particulars relating to Hauraki Plains and Rangitaiki Plains are to be found in papers C.-8 and C.-11 respectively.

## SCENERY-PRESERVATION.

The work of the Department in connection with scenery-preservation has been satisfactorily carried on during the year, and a total of 274,061 acres has now been set apart under the Scenery Preservation Act, and is now administered by the Department. Further areas of Crown land suitable for scenic preservation, but more or less unfitted for settlement purposes, may be added from time to time to the area proclaimed, thus maintaining the scenic beauty of the Dominion.

Full particulars of operations under the Scenery Preservation Act will be found in paper C.-6.

## CONFERENCE OF OFFICERS.

During the year a conference of officers was held for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting on the administration of District Land Offices, also with the view of generally promoting the efficiency of the clerical branch of the Department. It was composed of the following officers: Mr. F. T. O'Neill, Assistant Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington (chairman); Mr. H. M. Bannister, Chief Clerk, District Office, Wellington; Mr. C. E. Archibald, Chief Clerk, New Plymouth; Mr. F. T. Sandford, Chief Clerk, Hokitika; Mr. A. C. Turnbull, Chief Accountant, Wellington; Mr. J. H. O'Donnell, Receiver of Land Revenue, Auckland; Mr. A. D. Macfarlane, Receiver of Land Revenue, Invercargill; Mr. S. Gambrill, clerk, Head Office, Wellington; Mr. N. Fleming, clerk, District Office, Wellington; Mr. H. Hawthorn, Officer in Charge Pay and Revenue Branches, Treasury Department, Wellington; Mr. P. D. N. Verschaffelt, Sub-Inspector, Public Service Commissioner's Office, Wellington.

The conference opened on the 4th May, 1914, in the Government Buildings, Wellington, and presented its report on the 12th June, 1914.

The following is a short synopsis, together with remarks relative to the recommendations of the conference under the main headings:—

*Records and Correspondence.*—It was ascertained that the system of recording in District Offices varied, and a recommendation was made for the adoption of the series system of record as indicated in parliamentary paper H.-14, 1913, amended to suit the requirements of Land Offices. The recommendation was approved, and the system as outlined established in the various offices.

*Returns.*—The recommendations of the conference in respect of returns were with the view of doing away with all unnecessary returns, the preparation of others by carbon process, and the elimination of duplication of work and tables in the annual statements. The recommendations have generally been given effect to, and this year's annual returns are compiled from a set of tables revised in terms of the suggestions of the conference.

*Accounts.*—The conference recommended the extension of the multiple system of collecting and accounting of land revenue in all District Offices, the adoption of carbon process in connection with all revenue-work, and the revision of all forms, paying special attention to the introduction of compound forms wherever practicable. Recommendations were also made for the alteration and simplification of accounting for revenue received in the Gisborne office; also for the reduction of work in connection with refunds of deposits, &c., refunds being now made by cheque payable to order.

*Land Board Work.*—The conference reported that it had ascertained that various systems were in force in the different offices regarding the carrying-out of Land Board work, and recommended the introduction of a uniform system. As recommended, a uniform system has been introduced which allows of the preparation of the order paper by two or more officers, and by the use of carbons and the noting of resolutions on the order paper. All unnecessary transcription has been eliminated from Land Board work.

*Books, Forms, and Cards.*—The conference reviewed all books, forms, and cards in the various offices, and made recommendations as to the adoption of standard sets. In connection with forms, special attention was given to the introduction of compound forms wherever practicable.

*Rangers' Duties.*—A recommendation was made relative to the introduction of a new system for the carrying-out of Rangers' duties, and such system is in the direction of reducing all Rangers' clerical work to a minimum. The system as outlined by the conference will be introduced as soon as the necessary loose-leaf field-book covers are available.

*General.*—The conference made several valuable suggestions and recommendations for the better working of Land Offices; and it is generally recognized that the holding of the conference will do much in the way of establishing uniformity of practice in the various offices, and, while simplifying the work of the Department, the efficiency thereof will be maintained, if not placed on a higher standard.



## DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES.

*Obituary.*

It is with extreme regret that I have to chronicle the deaths of Messrs. A. A. Seaton, W. H. Bentley, A. C. Clarke, and J. L. Dickie.

The late Andrew Archibald Seaton was an authorized surveyor, and was first appointed to the service in 1878, but retired on compensation in 1884. He rejoined the Department in October, 1889, as a temporary surveyor, became a permanent officer in terms of the Public Service Classification Act, 1907, being subsequently appointed to the position of District Surveyor. He had been in failing health for some time prior to his death on the 21st April, 1915. When in good health Mr. Seaton carried out his field duties in a highly satisfactory manner; his work was very thorough and complete from every point of view.

The late William Henry Bentley was appointed a clerk in the Auckland office in April, 1894, previous to which he was employed for some years in the Public Works Department. He was retired on superannuation in March, 1909, but was subsequently temporarily re-employed from time to time until his death in March last. The late Mr. Bentley was an enthusiastic and willing worker, and carried out the duties allotted to him in a very satisfactory manner.

The late Arthur Clarkson Clarke was appointed a clerk in the New Plymouth office on the 9th December, 1897, and became a permanent officer in 1907. Owing to ill health he was transferred to the Auckland office in June, 1914, but the change did not prove beneficial, and whilst on leave of absence his death occurred on the 24th October last on board the s.s. "Makura" when proceeding from Auckland to Sydney.

The late John Lamb Dickie joined the Department as a surveyor for the Wellington District on the 1st October, 1892, being transferred to the Nelson office as Computing Draughtsman in January, 1898. He was appointed Land Transfer Draughtsman, Invercargill, in September, 1904, which position he held up to the time of his death on the 12th November, 1914. Mr. Dickie was one of our ablest professional officers either in the field or office, and, in addition, was a most conscientious, industrious, and intelligent officer, and his loss was much felt by his brother-officers and those surveyors and the public with whom he came in contact.

*Retirements.*

The following officers tendered their resignation or were retired from the service on superannuation:—

Mr. John Charles Mackley, Crown Lands Ranger for Southland, retired from the service on superannuation on the 30th June, 1914, after over eleven years' service. He was first employed as a clerk in the Invercargill office, being appointed a Ranger in August, 1908.

Mr. John Ammunson, Timber Expert and Crown Lands Ranger, Wellington District, was appointed in 1901, and retired on superannuation on the 30th June, 1914, having reached the age-limit. He was a zealous and conscientious officer, with good local knowledge of the Awarua and Waimarino districts.

Mr. Walter Sanderson Curtis, Land Transfer Draughtsman, Nelson office, having completed forty years' service, tendered his resignation and retired on superannuation as from the 31st January, 1915. His exemplary good conduct coupled with zeal and ability gave him a fine record in the service.

Mr. William Francis Gordon, having reached the age-limit, was retired on superannuation on the 31st May, 1914. He joined the Post and Telegraph Department on the 17th February, 1873, and was transferred to the New Plymouth office of this Department in January, 1883, as a draughtsman. He was an able and hardworking officer.

Mr. Robert Alexander Johnston, Chief Clerk and Secretary to the Land Board, in the Dunedin office, retired from the service on superannuation on the 30th June, 1914, having completed over forty years' service. For many years Mr. Johnston was Secretary to the Otago Land Board, and in this connection, while carrying out his duties in a very able manner, also rendered much valuable assistance to the Crown tenants of the district. In February, 1909, he was appointed to the position of Chief Clerk, and up to the date of his retirement held the dual position of Chief Clerk and Secretary to the Board. Mr. Johnston was in indifferent health for some time prior to his retirement, and it is hoped that a well-earned rest from official duties will have the effect of restoring him to a satisfactory state of health.

Mr. Thomas William Hughes, District Surveyor, Auckland, was retired as medically unfit on the 31st August, 1914. He was appointed to the service on the 11th November, 1889, and had therefore completed nearly twenty-five years' service up to date of retirement.

Mr. Colin Macandrew, clerk in the Dunedin office, who formerly held the position of Secretary to the Otago School Commissioners for many years, was transferred to this Department on the 1st April, 1911, after the abolition of the School Commissioners. He was retired on superannuation on the 7th November, 1914.

Mr. Henry Taiporutu Mitchell, District Surveyor, Rotorua, joined the Department on the 1st November, 1894, resigning on the 31st January, 1915. He had also been a member of the Waiariki Maori Land Board, and carried out extensive surveys around Rotorua.

Mr. John Pollock, Chief Clerk in the Nelson office, joined the Department on the 24th November, 1873, retiring on superannuation on the 31st August, 1914, having completed over forty years' continuous service. He served as a draughtsman during the greater part of the period, succeeding Mr. Redgrave as Chief Clerk in 1908. He possessed an intimate knowledge of the Nelson District, and was of great assistance as Secretary to the Land Board.

Mr. Henry Travers Twiss, Crown Lands Ranger, Taranaki District, was first appointed as a temporary draughtsman to the Wellington office on the 17th January, 1906, and was promoted to the position of Crown Lands Ranger, Taranaki, in May, 1908. He resigned from the service on the 31st July, 1914, in order to accept private employment in the Hawke's Bay District.

Mr. Henry Albert Vollemaere was appointed as a clerical cadet in the Nelson office on the 6th June, 1905, and was afterwards transferred to the Auckland office. Having qualified as a solicitor, he resigned from the service on the 31st May, 1914.

#### Promotions.

Consequent on vacancies in the ranks of the Department, the following promotions took place:—

Position to which promoted.	Officers promoted, and late Position.	Date.
Kauri-gum Superintendent .. ..	R. P. Greville (Inspector of Surveys) ..	1 Aug., 1914.
Inspector of Offices .. ..	A. C. Turnbull (Chief Accountant) ..	1 Nov., „
Chief Accountant .. ..	J. H. O'Donnell (Receiver of Land Revenue, Auckland)	8 Jan., 1915.
Chief Draughtsman, Christchurch ..	F. E. Greenfield (Chief Draughtsman, Nelson)	18 April, 1914.
Chief Draughtsman, Nelson .. ..	A. D. Burns (Chief Draughtsman, Blenheim)	22 June, „
Chief Draughtsman, Blenheim .. ..	J. D. Thomson (District Surveyor, Nelson)	8 Sept., „
Chief Draughtsman, Hokitika .. ..	A. N. Harrop (District Surveyor, Westland)	1 June, „
Chief Clerk, Dunedin .. ..	C. E. Archibald (Chief Clerk, New Plymouth)	2 July, „
Chief Clerk, New Plymouth .. ..	W. J. Munro (Clerk, Auckland) .. ..	21 „ „
Chief Clerk and Receiver of Land Revenue, Nelson	A. D. Macfarlane (Receiver of Land Revenue, Invercargill)	10 Aug., „
Chief Clerk and Receiver of Land Revenue, Hokitika	F. T. Sandford (Chief Clerk, Hokitika) ..	16 Sept., „
Land Transfer Draughtsman, Dunedin	W. T. Morpeth (Draughtsman, Auckland) ..	1 April, „
Land Transfer Draughtsman, Invercar- gill	O. G. Goldsmith (Draughtsman, Invercargill)	11 Jan., 1915.
Land Transfer Draughtsman, Nelson ..	J. R. Strachan (District Surveyor, Welling- ton)	25 „ „
Clerk, Wellington .. ..	J. P. Lane, (Clerk, Auckland) .. ..	10 Aug., 1914.

#### EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

The following officers of the Department have responded to the Empire's call and enlisted in the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces. Some of them are now at the front, whilst the others are members of the reinforcements, or are waiting to be called to camp.

*Surveyors.*—V. Blake, Wellington; R. F. Burgess (cadet), Wellington; W. M. Gray, Hawke's Bay (Main Force); L. W. B. Hall (cadet), Auckland; T. R. Hancock (cadet), Taranaki; R. F. Mackenzie, Auckland; N. A. Middlemas (cadet), Auckland (Main Force); G. Pirritt, Auckland; L. J. Poff (cadet), Auckland; S. T. Seddon, Nelson (Main Force); W. S. Thompson, Hawke's Bay; F. W. Watson, Auckland; W. B. de L. Willis, Auckland (Main Force); T. S. McMillan (cadet), Thames.

*Draughtsmen.*—G. J. B. Cairnie, Auckland; F. Coleman (cadet), Auckland; R. J. Cornwell, Canterbury (sergeant, C Company, 5th Reinforcements); T. S. Couch, Marlborough (Main Force); R. J. Crawford, Head Office; M. W. Haworth, Auckland (6th Reinforcements); T. H. Hudson (cadet), Taranaki; E. A. Ingram, Westland (Sergeant); J. A. Montgomerie, Taranaki; F. C.



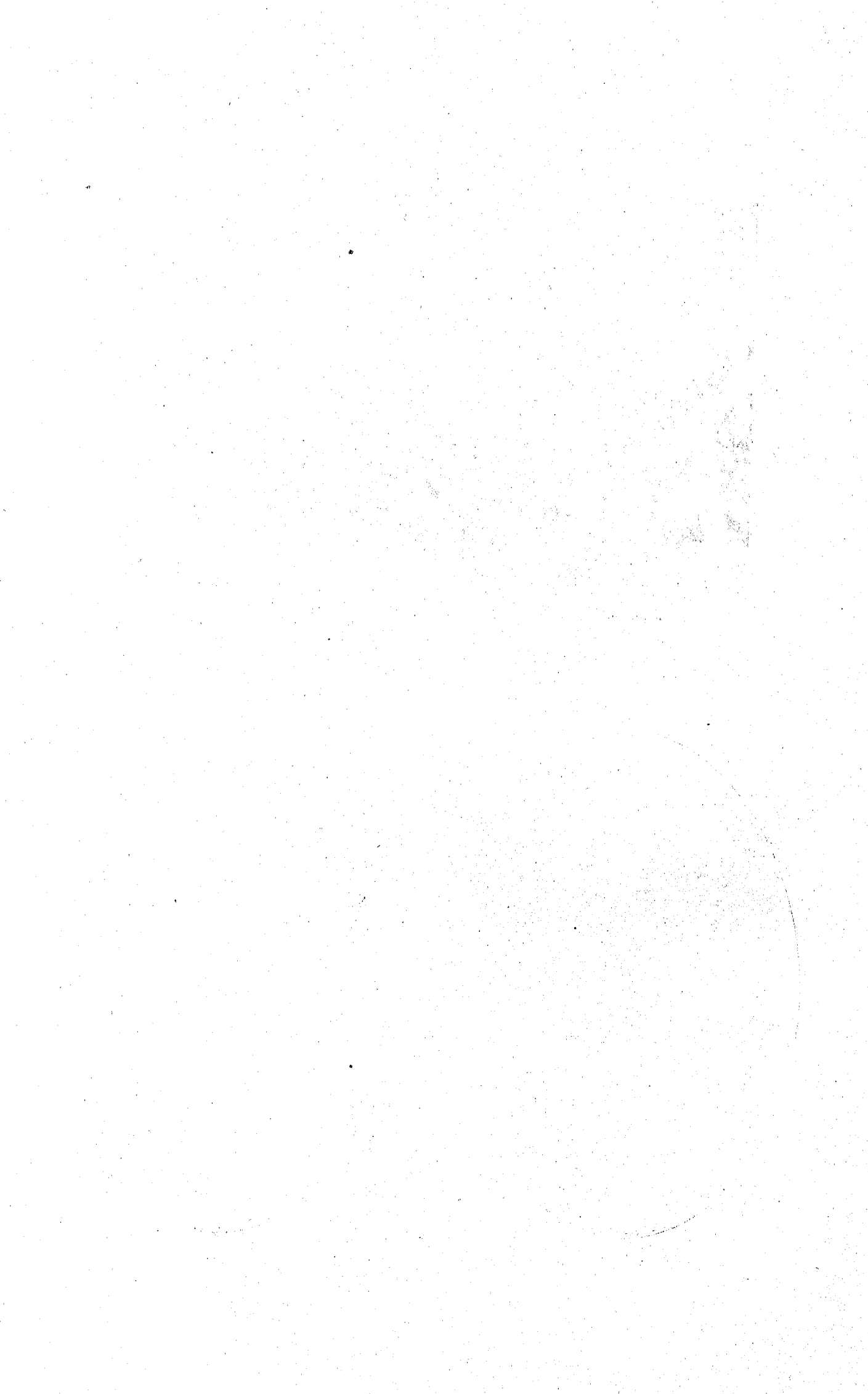
MESSEURS. W. B. DE L. WILLIS, F. W. WATSON, G. PIRRET, AND S. T. SEDDON.



MR. H. B. RANDREP.



MR. G. J. B. CAIRNIE.



O'Reilly, Wellington; C. L. Purdie, Wellington; H. B. Randrup, Auckland; W. Rochfort, Christchurch (Hospital Ship, New Zealand Medical Corps); H. L. Wake (cadet), Hawke's Bay (6th Reinforcements); E. H. Whiting (cadet), Wellington (Main Force); J. Pegram, Napier; A. C. M. Sicely, Napier; J. D. Clapperton (cadet), Auckland; A. D. Folley, Hokitika; T. G. Phillipps, Invercargill.

*Clerks.*—R. W. Cooper, Head Office (Samoan Expeditionary Force and 5th Reinforcements); W. H. Ellis, Auckland; C. S. Girdlestone, Wellington (Samoan Expeditionary Force); T. J. Lang, Head Office (Sergeant, 2nd Reinforcements); W. B. Quennell, Otago; H. P. Secker (cadet), Head Office (Signal Corps, Main Force); W. N. Sievers, Wellington (Samoan Expeditionary Force and Sergeant, 6th Reinforcements).

*Crown Lands Ranger.*—D. M. McDonald, Canterbury (Sergeant, Mounted Regiment, Main Force).

*Forester.*—W. A. Fraser, Tapanui.

In addition to the above, numerous members of survey parties and other employees have responded to the Empire's call.

#### *Casualties.*

Mr. William Brian de Laval Willis, a son of Archdeacon Willis, of Cambridge, who died of wounds sustained at the Dardanelles, was a young and promising officer of the Lands and Survey Department. He was educated at St. John's Collegiate School, Auckland, joined the Department on the 1st February, 1906, as a draughting cadet, and became a member of the College Rifle Volunteers. Two years later he was transferred to the field under District Surveyor R. S. Galbraith, and three years later joined the staff of Mr. J. Langmuir, Inspector of Surveys. After obtaining the necessary experience he sat for and passed the examination of the Federated Surveyors' Boards of Australia and New Zealand in March, 1912, and was then promoted to be an Assistant Surveyor as from the 1st May, 1912. Since that time he has been carrying out surveys in the Auckland District, and, in common with many other officers of the Department, volunteered for service with the Expeditionary Forces. Unassuming, hardworking, and conscientious in the performance of his duties, the late Mr. Willis was a young officer of much promise, and his death is a loss not only to the Public Service, but to the Dominion.

Holger Bro Randrup, Draughtsman, in the Auckland Office, was reported as killed at the Dardanelles on the 8th May. The late Mr. Randrup joined the Department as a draughting cadet on transfer from the Post and Telegraph Department on the 1st November, 1906. At first he was stationed in the Wellington District Office, but was transferred to Auckland on the 1st August, 1911. During his official career he proved himself to be an energetic, capable, and trustworthy officer, who was most favourably reported on by his superior officers, and was highly thought of by all with whom he came into contact. Unassuming in his demeanour, honourable in his conduct, and reliable in his official capacity, his loss will be much felt by all his brother-officers.

Messrs. S. T. Seddon, T. S. Couch, N. A. Middlemas, and E. A. Ingram have been reported as wounded, and Mr. G. J. B. Cairnie has been reported as missing.

#### HEAD OFFICE.

*Correspondence:* During the year 25,443 letters, telegrams, &c., were received, and 27,744 letters, telegrams, &c., despatched, being a gross total of 53,187. The correspondence has been steadily on the increase, and during the last three years has risen from 42,590. This mass of correspondence has necessarily thrown great strain on the records, correspondence, and, in fact, every branch in the Head Office.

*Cemeteries:* At the present time there are under departmental control 522 cemeteries, there being five new ones added for the year. Two cemeteries were vested in local bodies during the year, and forty-one warrants issued for existing cemeteries.

*Domains:* The number of domains now administered by the Department amounts to 561, there being an addition of twelve for the year. A report on their progress will be found in a separate parliamentary paper.

*Land Guides:* Four quarterly issues of the Land Guide were published, there being 7,000 copies printed for distribution. These guides form a very valuable reference to the lands opened for selection, and are available for reference at all prominent centres and institutions.

*Land-sale Posters:* To illustrate and afford the necessary information regarding the Crown lands opened for selection during the year, 169 sale-plan posters were issued, no fewer than 112,650 copies thereof being printed and distributed widespread throughout the Dominion for

the information of intending applicants. In addition, twelve monthly posters containing a summary of the Crown lands opened for selection were prepared, and 31,800 copies issued for exhibition in suitable localities.

The attached summary gives details of other work undertaken in the Head Office.

*Summary showing the Number of Proclamations, Orders in Council, Warrants, and Notices prepared and issued during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.*

	Proclama- tions.	Orders in Council.	Warrants and Notices.	Total.
Under the Land Act and the Land for Settlements Act	61	20	512	593
Under the Public Reserves and Domains Act ..	..	150	85	235
Under the Scenery Preservation Acts .. ..	30	..	4	34
Under the Native Land Act .. .. .	4	..	..	4
Under the Education Reserves Acts and Public Bodies' Leases Act	..	2	33	35
Under the State Forests Act .. .. .	1	1	3	5
Under the Reserves and Other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Acts, 1912 and 1913	4	2	3	9
Under the Cemeteries Act .. .. .	..	..	43	43
Under the Timber-floating Act .. .. .	..	..	1	1
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	1	3	4
Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1908 .. .. .	..	..	5	5
Totals .. .. .	100	176	692	968

#### CONCLUSION AND VALEDICTORY

The year that has passed has been a strenuous one to most of our officers, and the response of many of them to the Empire's call has increased the labours of those left behind. This applies both to those in the office as well as in the field. Notwithstanding this, the area placed in the market is double that of last year, whilst at least 1,000,000 acres is in an advanced state for offering during the current year, with a considerable area well in view for perhaps a somewhat later period. The various other branches of our great Department, as will be seen by the different reports which are being placed before you, have received the fullest attention.

During the year, as occasion permitted, I visited more than once (with the exception of Nelson and Westland) every land district of the Dominion, and inspected in detail the operations of all the various branches under my control. On the whole I am entirely satisfied with the manner in which our multifarious operations are being carried out, and also with the zeal and efficiency of the officers, numbering about 600.

This being the last annual report that I shall be able to lay before you for presentation to Parliament in connection with the working of the important Department which I have been privileged to control, after nearly half a century's service spent in it, and embracing during that long period work in its technical, professional, and administrative branches, I wish to place on record my high appreciation of the loyal support, assistance, and efficiency of those who have worked with me in the years that have gone; and particularly is this so with regard to the band of men and women now connected with me in my administrative work, and with whom I will shortly be parted by reason of my retirement from the Service on account of reaching the age-limit.

JAMES MACKENZIE,  
Under-Secretary for Lands.

## APPENDICES.

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### APPENDIX I.—SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS ON  
SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS WHICH ENDED ON  
THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

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#### AUCKLAND.

(H. M. SKEET, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

##### LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

At the beginning of the year the total area of Crown land lying open for selection within the district under the various tenures was 242,389 acres; and during the year a total area of 97,634 acres was opened, of which 49,506 acres were placed on the market for the first time, and 48,128 acres had been offered previously. The principal blocks of land offered for the first time included three portions of Hauraki Plains reclaimed swamp, totalling 10,369 acres, in fifty-three sections; 1,008 acres of worked-out gum land at Swanson, a few miles from Auckland, divided into eighty-six sections; 4,966 acres near Kawakawa, divided into eleven sections; two land-for-settlement estates, totalling 4,418 acres, in twenty-four allotments; and 1,836 acres near Otorohanga, subdivided into twelve sections.

Notwithstanding the unusual conditions that have existed during the greater part of the year, the inquiry for land has continued keen, and the applications for all favoured classes of land, especially dairying country capable of being brought into early profit, have been numerous. At the ballot for an area of Hauraki Plains land, held on the 31st March, there were 1,814 applications for thirty-three sections of land, ranging from 68 acres to 594 acres, and as each application covered a considerable number of sections the aggregate number of applications for the whole of the sections exceeded 12,000—probably a record in ballots.

The total area of land taken up during the year was 117,894 acres, by 727 selectors.

##### THE VARIOUS TENURES.

The occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure still maintains its position as first favourite amongst selectors in the district, as is evidenced by the fact that out of 49,159 acres taken up under the optional system, 46,293 acres were selected under this tenure, which numbered at the close of the year 2,959 holders, occupying 799,248 acres, considerably over one-third of the number and area of all Crown holdings in the district.

The lease-in-perpetuity tenure holds second place, with 1,570 holders occupying 351,878 acres. This tenure has lost considerably during the year from acquisitions of freehold either for cash or on deferred payment.

The third most important tenure is the renewable lease, numbering 846 holders of 205,649 acres.

The other tenures do not call for any special remark, but as evidencing the growth of settlement in the mining districts of the Hauraki Peninsula it is satisfactory to note that the area under occupation has increased during the year from 84,556 acres, held by 482 lessees, to 102,422 acres, occupied by 523 selectors. The roading to give access to these pastoral leases will be heavy, and in many instances steep grades only can be provided.

##### ACQUISITION OF THE FREEHOLD.

The total area of Crown land alienated under freehold title for cash during the year was 70,090 acres, the number of purchasers being 439, and the price realized £70,181. In addition to these, 111 other holders, occupying 25,987 acres, commenced the acquisition of the freehold by the deferred-payment system, under which there were at the close of the year 199 selectors, holding 29,893 acres. Since the commencement of the war there has been a considerable falling-off in freehold transactions.

##### GENERAL CONDITION OF SETTLEMENT.

The weather-conditions of the past season have proved exceptionally trying to farmers, especially in the northern and central portions of the district. The usual spring growth was largely checked by high cold winds and want of rain, following which came one of the driest summers experienced for a considerable time. As a result many of the white crops were practically failures, and were fed off, not being worth harvesting. Root and fodder crops were also to a very large extent failures, and in many parts had to be prematurely fed off. The shortage of water and feed has been very severe on dairy stock, and considerably curtailed the milking season. Fortunately the serious prospects for the coming winter have been very materially

lightened by warm early rains, which have brought away a good growth of pasture. The high price of grass-seeds is a serious drawback to many farmers, who have obtained good burns during the drought, but to whom the increased cost of sowing will involve a considerable financial strain. Grazing and sheep farmers have on the whole experienced a favourable season, as, although the carrying-capacity of their holdings was diminished, this was largely counterbalanced by the enhanced prices obtained for stock, while the high prices and strong demand for all classes of farm-produce have to a large extent made up for the disadvantages arising from the abnormal season.

An examination of the reports received from the Rangers show that a generally satisfactory condition as regards fulfilment of conditions still prevails, and it must be remembered that the Rangers' reports apply to holdings in the earlier stages of settlement, when the initial difficulties of inferior access and breaking in new country afford a good deal of excuse for slight shortcomings of fulfilment. The number of defaulters is a comparatively small percentage of the whole, while in many cases the reports show an amount of compliance and substantial improvements effected that indicate the energy and persistence displayed by settlers. In this connection it may be again pointed out that a number of cases of default arise from the mistaken practice that obtains to a very large extent of applying for land without seeing it, notwithstanding the warning published on all sale plans. In the case of well-situated lands of good quality the practice may produce no bad effects, but with less favoured localities or inferior lands it frequently follows that the settler is disappointed, and either requests cancellation of his title or allows it to lapse by default in fulfilment of conditions.

Meanwhile the general development of the district, the extension of railway and roading facilities, of telephone communication, and of schools are not only improving the lot of the back-block settler, but are bringing into demand lands which were formerly neglected, but which under the application of modern methods of farming, and with facilities for conveyance of manures at reasonable cost, can be successfully brought to productivity. Of such classes are the poor gum lands of many parts of the northern district and the light pumice lands of the central area. The former are being found to be not only very suitable for fruitgrowing, but also for general farming under suitable methods, with results hitherto unsuspected. The development of the pumice lands will be largely dependent upon improved railway facilities and the carriage of manures thereon at minimum rates.

Considerable areas of bush have been felled during the season, and exceptionally good burns were obtained, the sowing of which will greatly enhance the stock-carrying capacity of the district, though the high prices of seed are a serious drawback to the grassing of new lands. In many parts of the district roadworks have been pushed on, and settlers frequently tax themselves to improve their facilities in this respect.

The Hauraki Plains lands have shown very marked progress during the year, and are being recognized as likely shortly to develop into one of the finest dairying districts of the Dominion. Many farmers from other parts, especially Taranaki, are seeking after these lands, with the usual result of a very substantial increase in goodwill.

Numerous applications for leave of absence and exemption from conditions have been made to the Land Board by Crown tenants desirous of joining the Expeditionary Forces. All such applications have received the fullest sympathy and ready acquiescence from the Board, which feels that those who volunteer to serve their country at the front are deserving of the utmost consideration.

The cases of other settlers who fail to fulfil the required conditions receive individual consideration from the Board, which endeavours, by timely leniency where necessary, to encourage due compliance, recognizing that to the *bona fide* settler a reasonable extension of time is frequently all that is needed to secure the desired results. There is, of course, another class who need different treatment, as their evasion of legitimate requirements would only retard the settlement of the district. Generally speaking, it may safely be said that the present condition and prospects of the settlement of the district are very satisfactory.

#### TRANSFERS, FORFEITURES, AND SURRENDERS.

Although there was a noticeable falling-off of transfers shortly after the commencement of the war, there has been a considerable recovery, and the total number of cases dealt with during the year, 644, is very little short of the total for the preceding period. Out of the number quoted, 620 were approved after the fullest investigation and consideration, and twenty-four were refused.

The total number of forfeitures and surrenders during the year was 129, representing an area of 36,945 acres. These figures show an increase on those for the previous year, due mainly to the practice before referred to of selecting Crown lands without prior inspection, with a frequent after-result of disappointment and consequent forfeiture.

#### IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

Satisfactory progress is still being made by the three improved-farm settlements—Rangitoto Nos 1 and 2 and Korakonui—which, with the assistance of the dairy industry, are in a thriving condition and well advanced towards independence of further assistance from the State. Fourteen of the settlers have obtained their licenses during the year, and only fourteen are still holding under the original agreements.

#### KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY.

The climatic conditions of the past season have been favourable to the working of swamp gum lands. The following were the numbers of licenses issued during the year: 336 ordinary, 1,812 special, 205 gum-buyers', and 317 residence-area licenses; the total amount of fees received being £1,345 17s.



The lifting of the reservation from an aggregate area of about 71,000 acres, as recommended by the Gum Lands Commission of last year, will have a considerable effect on the settlement of the North Auckland district. While a good deal of this is no doubt not of the best quality, there is much that can be profitably utilized either for fruitgrowing or general farming, while the fact that most of the northern lands are within comparatively easy reach of water carriage should enable the necessary artificial manures to be placed on the ground at a reasonable cost. The surveys of these lands are being pushed forward with expedition, so as to enable as large an area as possible to be opened at an early date.

#### FLAX INDUSTRY.

There is very little activity in this industry at present, the conditions experienced having inflicted a severe, but, it is hoped, only temporary, check upon its development.

#### SETTLEMENT OF PUMICE LANDS.

During the year a careful examination has been made of an area of about 700,000 acres of the pumice lands between Rotorua and Taupo, and reports have been submitted thereon, while surveys are already in progress near Taupo. Portions of the land can probably be successfully utilized for afforestation purposes, and thus produce a crop that will be a valuable asset to the Dominion, besides probably having a beneficial effect upon the climate of the district and adding to the quality of the soil for future use. There are also considerable portions that can be successfully occupied in suitable areas, provided artificial manures, which are essential to success, can be placed on the ground at a reasonable cost, which will necessitate minimum rates of carriage. In any case, this land will require the expenditure of a fairly substantial amount of capital to make it reproductive, and it cannot be regarded as poor man's country.

#### LANDS TO BE OPENED.

The area of Crown land open for selection within the district at the close of the year was 250,753 acres. I anticipate that a further total area of 107,676 acres will be placed on the market and selected during the ensuing year; this estimate is made after making due allowance for conditions that may tend to limit financial transactions and thus reduce the number of persons who may be able to take up land. The area of land that will be opened in the North Auckland district will in all probability form a considerable proportion of the total, the removal of kauri-gum reservations and other conditions indicating a likelihood of a substantial advance in land-settlement in that portion of the district.

#### DEPARTMENTAL AND GENERAL.

Twelve ordinary and eight special meetings of the Land Board were held during the year, the latter including meetings at Whangarei, Dargaville, Te Aroha, Paeroa, and Te Awamutu. During the early stages of the war there was a considerable falling-off in the business transacted, especially as regards applications for transfer, but the amount of business coming forward is resuming normal proportions.

The volume of departmental work, both in correspondence and by personal inquiry, has, however, been well maintained throughout the year, as an indication of which it may be mentioned that the aggregate inward and outward correspondence totalled 126,317 pieces of mail-matter, an increase of about 5,000 over the previous year.

The work involved in the collection of the revenue for the year may be indicated by the fact that 15,288 revenue-receipts were issued, in addition to which 2,400 receipts were issued for moneys paid into deposit account, amounting to £51,889. The sum of £12,602 was paid into Local Bodies' Deposit Account, from which disbursements totalling £15,171 were made to sixty-eight local bodies. In the expenditure section the disbursements represented by the vouchers passed amounted to £103,939, dealt with in 3,600 vouchers, as against 3,150 vouchers representing £97,010 during the preceding year.

The staff has been handicapped during practically the whole of the year by building alterations and rearrangement of offices, but, notwithstanding the difficulties and discomforts involved, has kept up the work in a satisfactory manner.

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#### HAWKE'S BAY.

(W. H. SKINNER, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

#### THE SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

The total area offered for sale or selection during the year ended the 31st March was 24,519 acres.

The lands placed on the market comprised mainly—Portions of the Manawaangi Block (2,092 acres): four sections; open country, consisting mostly of low hills, well grassed. Kaitoki Block (450 acres): Good sheep country. Mangaoporo Survey District (1,182 acres): Two sections, all in English grasses; good soil resting on papa. Kaiwaka Block (13,640 acres), subdivided into five small grazing-runs, two of which were selected and three remain open for selection: Broken and undulating pastoral country; soil generally light and pumiceous; well watered. In addition, scattered sections in various parts of the district were offered and selected.

Sales by auction were made of sections in Te Puia, Tarawera, and Mahia Townships, and the Borough of Gisborne.

## LANDS TO BE OPENED.

It is anticipated that an area approximating 121,376 acres will be made available for settlement for the coming year.

## TENURES.

Owing to the few holdings offered for selection during the year and to the great number of holdings made freehold, there is a small decrease in the number of tenants on the books. The total is now 1,939.

## INSPECTIONS AND RANGERS' REPORTS.

During the year the two Rangers made 435 inspections of leases held by Crown tenants under the several tenures, besides 275 miscellaneous inspections. The area of holdings inspected amounted to 258,652 acres. Improvements required, £195,667; improvements effected, £528,062. Defaulters number forty-nine—namely, twenty-seven for deficiency in improvements, eleven for residence, nine for both improvements and residence, and two for other reasons.

The Poverty Bay district experienced a very heavy flood in May last, but thereafter the rainfall was below the average, the winter being unusually mild. This was followed by a dry spring, and, as the summer was practically rainless, the farming community suffered from light crops and loss of pasture. Some anxiety was felt as to the winter prospects, but it is pleasing to be able to report splendid rains from the 18th to the 26th March of the present year, and an abundance of feed during the coming winter is already assured. The district has benefited, so far as prices of products are concerned, by the war, and the season, though dry, has been one of the most prosperous, from the producer's point of view, the district has ever enjoyed. I think I am right in saying that the prices of products in this district have never been so high as at present.

As touched on in last year's report, the Whakatu Freezing-works is now in full swing. The Hawke's Bay Fruitgrowers' Association is well established at Hastings. A tobacco-growing concern at Clive has been formed into a company and appears to find favour with the public.

Drought and bush fires have to some extent retarded the progress of the district generally during the dry season. In the case of the Otawhao settlers, who suffered very severely from both causes, assistance was rendered in the way of grass-seed supplied, which, owing to the high market-price of seed, made it a difficult matter for the settler himself to arrange for without help from the Government. Should the prices now obtaining for stock and produce continue, the farming community may look forward to a prosperous year in front of them.

## PURCHASE OF FEE-SIMPLE.

Owing to the liberal terms introduced by the recent amendments to the Land Act, the tenants have shown their appreciation of same by taking advantage of the offered opportunities, and no less than fifty tenants have made their selections freehold, the total area comprising 19,628 acres, and the purchase-money paid £35,529. In addition, there are twenty-three tenants who are acquiring an area of 12,456 acres under the deferred-payment system.

## FORFEITURES, SURRENDERS, AND TRANSFERS.

There were only five forfeited or surrendered holdings during the year, comprising 5,470 acres.

The total number of applications to transfer submitted to the Land Board during the year was 148, of which nineteen were declined.

## LAND REVENUE AND ACCOUNTS.

The revenue received for the year was £176,673. This is an increase of £23,444 over the previous year. The revenue receipts dealt with numbered 4,388, and provisional titles prepared 57.

Rebates amounting to £9,292 were granted to 1,167 tenants.

The total received on account of survey liens was £3,398, which shows a further increase on last year's figures. £8,551 was paid into the Local Bodies' Deposit Account and £7,464 was paid to local bodies. The sum of £11,811 was received into the ordinary Deposit Account, the disbursements amounting to £11,977.

The numbers of vouchers dealt with increased to 1,108, which represents an amount of £30,609.

## EXPENDITURE OF "THIRDS," "FOURTHS," AND "HALVES."

Seventeen proposals for expenditure of the sum of £7,464 were submitted by eleven local bodies, and approved of by the Land Board. The amount at credit at the end of the financial year was £7,693.

## LAND BOARD.

Twelve ordinary meetings of the Land Board were held during the year at Napier, and four at the local Lands Office at Gisborne. Special meetings of the Board were held at Waipawa in connection with land ballot, and at Dannevirke in connection with an inquiry into a charge of alleged dummyism.

Mr. A. J. Cameron, whose term as nominated member expired, was reappointed. Mr. L. McKay was appointed to replace Mr. T. Hyde, whose term had expired.

## APPLICATIONS FOR REVALUATION UNDER PART I OF THE LAND LAWS AMENDMENT ACT, 1913.

Applications were received from sixty-three tenants under the above Amendment Act for a revaluation of their holdings. In every case but five the Valuer-General reduced the existing values,

and in many cases by substantial amounts. The following gives the totals of original and revised values: Number of holdings, 58; original valuation, £182,479; revised valuation, £152,522; reduction, £29,957. The total reduction in the annual rental amounted to £1,404.

#### BUSH AND GRASS FIRES, AND ADVANCES FOR REGRASSING.

A severe drought has been experienced throughout the land district during the past year, but most fortunately this was broken during the last week of March by a steady fall, which has had a magical effect on reviving the pasture. Throughout middle Hawke's Bay practically no rain had fallen from the 18th May, 1914, to the 18th March, 1915, and the result has been disastrous to the man on the land. The lack of rain, together with the continuation for extended periods of dry, hot, westerly gales of wind, created a condition of things highly dangerous to the settler. The whole country was parched and in a highly inflammable state. In the Otawhao Settlement, near Takapau, a heavy westerly gale started into being a fire which in an incredibly short time swept the settlement, destroying six newly built homesteads, besides sheds, fencing, and pasture. In the Ngapaeruru Block, near Dannevirke, two homesteads were burnt with many miles of fencing and large areas of pasture, but the heaviest loss here was stock, over eight thousand sheep having been destroyed. Assistance has been given to these settlers in the way of remission of rent and advances for the purchase of grass-seed to resow their holdings.

#### GENERAL REVIEW.

The transactions for the year show an increase on previous years, notwithstanding the war. At the outbreak of hostilities it appeared as if all transactions in land would be brought to a standstill, but confidence was soon regained, and the good prices secured during the latter part of the year for the staple productions of the district has had the effect of creating an ever keener demand for land, if that were possible, than in former years.

The settlers, taken as a whole, are in a sound condition. Those who took up their selections last season or early in this season have suffered severely by the drought referred to above. In these cases the granting of postponements and remissions of rents will enable them to recover their position in due course.

#### DEPARTMENTAL.

The number of letters, &c., received during the year amounted to 15,362, and 26,360 were despatched. An all-round increase in the business of the office has been experienced, which has been dealt with by the staff in a most capable and efficient manner, and I have great pleasure in again testifying to the unfailing loyalty and industry of all the members of the clerical division of my staff.

### TARANAKI.

(G. H. BULLARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

#### CROWN LAND OPENED FOR SELECTION AND LANDS SELECTED.

During the past year an area of 27,325 acres was offered for selection, a decrease on the figures for the preceding year, due partly to the staff surveyors having to overtake work in connection with lands previously offered under provisional survey, and also to the loss of the services of one of the field staff.

The lands made available comprised principally Aukopae, Makino, and Omona Blocks, and a few sections in Spotswood Settlement; also a number of forfeited sections in Aria, Mahoe, Mapara, Ohura, Totoro, and Waitara Survey Districts.

During the year various ballots and auction sales were held at the principal office, and the ballot for Aukopae Block (Piopotea West, Ohura, and Heao Survey Districts), comprising thirty-two sections of 6,419 acres, was held at Taumarunui in November last.

The number of applications dealt with during the year amounted to 902, and the area selected under all tenures comprised 34,184 acres, by 132 selectors.

#### DISPOSAL OF REMAINING CROWN LANDS.

It is proposed to offer for sale or selection during the year 1915-16 a total area of 56,840 acres.

#### PROGRESS AND PRESENT POSITION OF TENANTS.

The progress made by tenants having access to their holdings for wheel traffic has been generally satisfactory, and on land fit for dairying the prospects for the right stamp of small settler were never better in the history of the district. Sheep- and mixed-grazing farmers have had a splendid season, and have also done well on account of the high prices realized for stock of all kinds.

In the case of new selections good burns were obtained, except in a few cases where settlers state that, in spite of drought experienced elsewhere, they were not able to get four or five successive days of fine dry weather, and consequently their bush is still lying unburned. In the back country the amount of bush felled last year scarcely came up to that of the preceding year, mainly owing to the difficulty in obtaining suitable labour and also the financial stringency that has prevailed for the past six or eight months.

The fact that a great deal of the rough back country alienated in recent years is held by men of small means has prevented progress to the extent that would have been possible had the settlers in question possessed more capital.

The number of defaulters during the year for non-residence and deficient improvements combined amounted to fifty-one, an increase on last year's figures; but it is satisfactory to note that the value of improvements effected by Crown tenants over and above actual requirements totals £58,351.

It is correctly pointed out by one of the Crown Lands Rangers that the lack of proper road access only leads to discontent on the part of selectors, and later to applications for reductions of valuation of their holdings, and moreover makes increasingly difficult the work of those officers entrusted with valuations of Crown sections and the duty of seeing that the State gets a fair price for the land it disposes of.

There are a few localities in this district where sections have been held as long as from six to ten years under the various leasing tenures of the Act and are still isolated from wheel traffic, but are prosperous considering such a heavy handicap. In the case of one district it is interesting to note how settlers in that position, by the exercise of a little ingenuity, are able to get narrow four-wheeled wagons to and from their holdings when the tracks are dry, and by this means get their wool out and supplies in.

#### CONVERSION TO FREEHOLD UNDER THE LAND LAWS AMENDMENT ACTS OF 1912 TO 1914.

In this matter the results of the year's transactions have not come up to the expectations forecast in the estimate of twelve months ago. This is due possibly to the stringency of the money-market arising out of war conditions, and as soon as that eases it is reasonable to suppose that selectors will exercise their right to freehold more freely, more especially in view of the extension of the period on deferred payments to nineteen years under the 1913 Act, and to the fact that in the case of lease-in-perpetuity settlement lands the right of conversion will, under the present law, end in November, 1918.

#### TRANSFERS OF HOLDINGS.

Since the amendment of the law in regard to payment of stamp duty the number of transfers by way of exchange has dropped somewhat in this district. During the year the Board, after careful investigation of each case, declined a few applications on the grounds of aggregation. In the case of some of the rougher lands where aggregation appeared to be aimed at, a few were recommended by the Board for approval after a special report had been received from the Crown Lands Ranger, more especially in those cases where the transferors had apparently become involved and were unable to carry on or find a landless transferee.

Generally speaking, the consideration-moneys paid for transfer of the rougher class of lands have been reasonable. The Board hitherto has not raised the question of aggregation in the case of applications received for the transfer of education leases, but in view of one of the Crown Lands Rangers having reported that in some cases where education reserves are held and worked in conjunction with other property, their condition is not so satisfactory as in the case of those sections which are worked independently, it may be desirable to consider this aspect of aggregation more than in the past, and some amendment of the law appears worthy of consideration.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATION RESERVES.

The leases of many education reserves are beginning to fall in, and arbitrations with regard to new rentals, so far as this district is concerned, have been placed by the Board in the hands of arbitrators entirely outside the Department. So far the results show that the new rentals fixed for renewal leases and also areas for reoffering are considerably in excess of the old rentals paid on the former leases.

In some of the older parts of the district a great difficulty has been experienced in getting occupiers to pay proper attention to the eradication of noxious weeds on their land. Inspection of these holdings in the past must have been rather lax in that respect, and Crown Lands Rangers have increased difficulty in seeing that the conditions of the lease in regard to the eradication of noxious weeds are properly complied with.

It is a question worth considering whether future education-reserve leases should not be brought more into line with some of the general conditions relating to Crown leases.

#### IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

With regard to improved-farm settlements in this district, the position of some of the Tangitu settlers ought to be more satisfactory, having regard to the help afforded by the Government in the way of advances for stock under bills of sale, &c., and also the relief given in the past by way of postponement of collection of rent. Proportionally, there are a larger number of these settlers in default with rental payments than selectors under ordinary settlement conditions who have had no special assistance.

On the other hand, it is satisfactory to state that the value of improvements on these holdings is well up to requirements, though many of the sections have not yet access for wheel traffic, thereby hampering holders in getting their cream to the market.

#### CONCLUSION.

The staff has worked well throughout the year, and I am pleased to be able to record my appreciation of their loyal and cordial co-operation at all times.

## WELLINGTON.

(T. N. BRODRICK, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

## LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING THE YEAR.

The area offered was 31,489 acres. This added to the area remaining open for application on the 1st April, 1914—viz., 11,225 acres—made a total of 42,714 acres available for selection during the year.

The lands placed on the market comprised principally the Gorge Block, 3,198 acres; Kaipare Block, 1,505 acres; Haurangi Block, 12,814 acres; Hurupi Block, 3,556 acres; small grazing-run, Momahaki Survey District, 2,397 acres; six lots in Falloon Settlement, 1,031 acres; one lot, Hikawera Settlement, 632 acres; and other lots in Karioi, Makotuku, Hunua, Whirinaki, Puketoi, Mount Cerberus Districts, Hawtrey and Heatherlea Settlements, &c. Auctions were held of lots in Mawaihakona, Pohangina, Kakahi, and Pongaroa Townships.

During the year a total area of 37,728 acres was selected by 161 applicants. The keen demand for land is shown by the fact that 1,558 formal applications were received.

## LANDS TO BE OPENED.

It is proposed to offer for sale or selection during the current year over 250 lots, having an area of about 59,000 acres.

Steps are now being taken to offer for cash by public auction about 5 acres of the Wilford Settlement, Petone, in fifty-three lots; 1,233 acres of the Normandale Settlement, Lower Hutt, in eight lots; and 69 acres of the Hawtrey Settlement, Johnsonville, in fifty-six lots. It is hoped that the reduction of prices proposed under provisions of section 43 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, in the case of the last two settlements, may result in the disposal of lots for which there is no demand at the rents hitherto fixed.

Of the areas mentioned above, the survey of about 35,000 acres has been completed, and the sections are ready for offering to the public.

## SALE OF TIMBER.

Fourteen lots of milling-timber, comprising 98,775,700 superficial feet, situated near Raetihi, Horopito, and Pokako, were offered at upsets aggregating £52,011. For twelve of the lots no bids were received, probably owing to the depression in the timber industry caused by the war. These twelve lots remain open for sale, and doubtless will be taken up when this industry revives. Two lots of timber in the Raketapauma Block, comprising 4,869,200 superficial feet, were also offered by auction and disposed of. In addition to a number of timber-cutting licenses granted over small areas, one lot comprising 9,903,600 superficial feet, situated near Horopito, was disposed of at a royalty of £5,137; another to the south of Owango, comprising 4,107,500 superficial feet, at a royalty of £1,602 15s. 7d.; and the Railway Department was granted the right to mill 13,303,592 superficial feet on an area of about 736 acres north-east of Ohakune at a royalty of £7,466 4s. 3d.

In connection with a proposal which is now under consideration for the exchange of milling-timber on Crown lands for the freehold of about 4,500 acres near Rangataua Township, portion of which is suitable for settlement, estimates have been made of the milling-timber on 1,250 acres of the Rangataua North Block and 2,280 acres of the Rangiwaia No. 1 Block. The quantity of timber on the former area is found to be 10,557,000 superficial feet, estimated royalty £3,384, and on the latter area 19,673,550 superficial feet, royalty £4,918. A proposal to set aside part of the Rangiwaia Block along the railway-line as a scenic reserve will reduce the exchangeable area in this block to 1,585 acres, the timber on which is valued at £3,422.

An appraisalment has been made of the milling-timber on an area of about 1,053 acres south of Owango, west of railway. There is here a quantity of 18,864,000 superficial feet, the royalty on which is estimated at £9,386. This timber can now be dealt with in whatever manner may be decided upon.

## EXEMPTION FROM RENT AND RATES.

A matter that has received a great deal of consideration during late years was the reiterated complaint by the settlers in part of the North Waimarino and Retaruke Blocks that their rents were so high as to prevent the profitable working of their holdings. In September last these lands, which comprised sixty lots, having an area of 54,400 acres, were brought under the operation of section 127 of the Land Act, 1908, and exempted from payment of rent and rates for one year under the special power given by section 25 of the Reserves and other Lands Disposal, &c., Act, 1911, which provides that this concession may be granted to Crown tenants in cases where, owing to exceptional circumstances over which they have no control, they are prevented from occupying their holdings profitably. This resulted in a remission of rents to the amount of £4,179 15s. 6d. It was also decided, under the power given by section 13 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, and its amendments, to postpone payment of any rents in arrear after deduction of the amounts remitted. These concessions appear to have settled satisfactorily a long-standing grievance.

In order to give other settlers advantages enjoyed by tenants in their vicinity, steps are now being taken to bring also under the operation of section 127 of the Land Act, 1908, under the special power mentioned above, the Waipapa Valley Block, in South Waimarino, offered in April, 1913, which comprises an area of 5,417 acres in ten lots, giving an exemption for a period of three years; also two sections in Mangatiti and Morinui Blocks, having an area of 2,038 acres, one with exemption for two years and the other for four years. This remission of rent will amount to £2,103 10s.

With a view of encouraging a demand for five unsold sections in the Whakaihūwaka Block, having an area of 5,391 acres, which have now been open for selection for a considerable time, it is proposed to reoffer them with exemption from rent for a period of four years.

#### CONDITION AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The reports of the Crown Lands Rangers show that on the whole the farmers have had a very successful year, the returns for wool and fat stock being unprecedented. The dry summer affected the dairy industry to some extent and reduced the output from the factories, but the prices obtained for dairy-produce probably fully compensated for the losses so sustained. No doubt the abnormal prices ruling for produce and stock may be attributed to the increased demand for our productions owing to the war closing many of the ordinary channels of supply and creating extra demand for our staple products. The pasture suffered on light lands for want of rain, but on the papa country the feed held out, especially where the land was stocked moderately. Fair-sized creeks and streams were completely dried up, but timely autumn rains made the outlook brighter for winter feed. The Wairarapa districts suffered more than those of the west coast, and especially favoured were the northern lands, where heavy dews kept the pasture fresh.

Concessions in the way of postponement and remissions of rent, and increases in the holding-area, have been the means of helping some settlers to retain their holdings, and are greatly appreciated.

Improvement and residential conditions on recent selections are being satisfactorily performed, and access is now obtained to most holdings by good roads, the larger part of them open for dray traffic, and the others by bridle-roads in gradual process of conversion to dray-roads. It is evident that the difficulties of transit in newly settled districts are not nearly so great as they used to be. The area of bush felled was not so large as in past years, but burns were good, and the grass and turnips have taken well.

There is still an unsatisfied demand for land of suitable nature at a price which an average selector can work with a small margin of profit. Small areas of good land are always more satisfactory from a settlement point of view than poor and unsuitable lands, which require more capital than the average settler possesses to work them, and this is often the cause of dissatisfaction to himself and loss to the Crown.

#### IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

The North Waimarino Improved-farm Settlement contains approximately 10,961 acres, on which eighty settlers were placed under the Lands Improvement Regulations. Those who have obtained their licenses, numbering twenty-nine, have made most extensive improvements, some having obtained further assistance from the State Advances Department. The other settlers have, wherever possible, taken advantage of an amendment of the regulations authorizing advances up to a limit of £400.

Five settlers are unable to reside on their sections owing to sawmillers not having removed sufficient timber to enable occupation to commence.

The majority of the settlers engage in dairying, a few sell milk in the township near their holdings, and the rest supply the Kaitieke Dairy Factory at Piriaka, which this year had an output of 60 tons of butter, as against 40 tons last year.

Seven sawmills are still operating in the settlement, but by the end of this year nearly the whole of the milling-timber should be removed, and the progress of the settlers will no longer be retarded by the rights granted to the millers. In this connection I may explain that the original intention of the settlement was to place people without any means at all on the land. To this end they were granted holdings of 100 to 150 acres each, on which they were allowed to clear about 15 to 20 acres for a home-stead-site; they had then to await the milling of the bush on the remainder of their sections before further clearing could be done, and in the interval they were supposed to make their living by working at the mills and on the roads. They were allowed advances for work done on their sections, the sums so advanced being added to the capital value of the land when they finally acquired their leases. They were also receiving credit up to £200 royalty for timber when such has actually been cut off their land. The natural wish of such people to bring the whole of their area into pasture as soon as possible and become independent of outside work has caused friction and discontent at delays in cutting off the timber. Every effort has been made to help them to attain the object of their desires, but it would be wrong to suppose they have been badly treated by the delay. On the contrary, they will shortly come into full possession of valuable properties such as they were unlikely to have been able to acquire by any other means.

Improvements effected at the settlers' own cost during the year average about £30 per settler, and from the commencement of settlement to date a total average of £498 per settler.

A considerable area of bush has been felled during the year, and in almost every instance the burn has been satisfactory; the new grass is already showing very well. The majority of the settlers are on a fair way to make a good living, but a few are having a hard struggle, due to their want of knowledge of how to make the best use of their holdings.

#### PURCHASE OF FEE-SIMPLE OF LEASEHOLD LANDS.

There has not been so much activity during the year in the purchase of the freehold of ordinary leases in perpetuity, as is shown by the returns, for the last two years during which the provisions of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, were in operation. Up to the 31st March, 1914, conversions numbered 169, and during the year just ended only eighty-nine conversions were completed. In settlement lands the purchases have increased from four to nineteen. The falling-off is, I think, easily attributed to the tightness of the money-market consequent upon the war.

Under the provisions of section 50 of the Reserves, &c., Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act, 1913, the holders of renewable leases in Ohakune Village Settlement were given the right to acquire the fee-simple, and twenty-three tenants have taken advantage of the concession, twenty of them selecting the deferred-payment system. Similar concessions were granted to the holders of renewable leases in the Rangataua and Manunui Village Settlements under sections 46 and 48 of the Reserves, &c., Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act, 1914. Up to the present only one tenant has given notice.

Under the provisions of section 31 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, eleven small grazing-runs have been purchased, eight under the deferred-payment system and three for cash. Had it not been for the causes above mentioned the number would no doubt have been larger.

#### TRANSFERS.

During the year the transfers of ordinary Crown lands totalled 190, covering an area of 39,618 acres. On settlement lands the total was thirty-three, with an area of 3,645 acres; while thirty-eight education reserves, with an area of 9,454 acres, were similarly dealt with.

#### FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

In all thirty leases were forfeited during the year, representing in area 3,497 acres and £352 in annual rent. Included in this total are sixteen miscellaneous licenses and two primary-education reserves.

The surrenders numbered four, with an area of 21 acres and an annual rental of £15.

As these particulars show no increase over last year's figures, the position may be regarded as satisfactory.

#### LAND BOARD.

The Land Board held twelve ordinary meetings, and there were also held five special meetings in connection with ballots at Palmerston North, Hunterville, Martinborough, Masterton, and Ohakune.

Mr. W. McLennan retired from the Board in April last, having entered into a land-agency business, and the Board recorded its appreciation of his services during his term of office. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Mr. Charles McIntyre, of Rangiwhahia.

#### ARREARS OF RENT.

Compared with the corresponding period of last year the amount in arrear is £81 in excess, while the number of selectors in default is 237, an increase of thirty-nine. This may be accounted for by the fact that no pressure has been put on tenants during the last eight months, in consideration of the alleged scarcity of money, which has proved to be only temporary; but with the high prices being obtained for wool and dairy-produce there is no reason why active measures should not now be taken to enforce payment, and I accordingly propose to take more active measures to get the arrears reduced forthwith.

#### CLERICAL.

Since the abolition of the outward-letter book in March, 1914, which comprises extra carbon copies of the letters despatched in addition to those kept on the files, there has been no record by which the volume of correspondence could be ascertained, and the register of inward letters having been rejected by the conference of clerical officers in May last, that means of keeping tally of the correspondence was also lost. These books did not account for all the documents handled, such as rent-notices, posters, &c. It may be said, however, that the infrequent reference to these books did not justify their preservation; and, so long as the time of officers is fully employed in dealing with the work of each day, it is sufficient to denote that the volume of correspondence is maintained. There are now two officers employed on records and despatch work, in place of three as formerly, and their time is fully occupied.

The "series" system of record was introduced in February last, but it is too soon to pronounce upon its effects.

A Burroughs adding-machine was installed and connected with electric current, which has greatly facilitated the work in the Revenue Office. Alterations in the forms of cash-books, accounts, and returns suggested by the conference referred to have appreciably reduced the labours of the office staff.

I have again to advise you that all the officers in this division have performed their duties in a most efficient manner.

#### NELSON.

(F. A. THOMPSON, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

At the beginning of the year now past the effects of the previous year's strike had practically disappeared and things had returned nearly to normal. The outbreak of the war in August, however, somewhat dislocated settlement, first by drawing away as recruits a great and steadily increasing number of excellent prospective settlers and backblock bush and road men, and secondly by temporarily disturbing the equilibrium of finance. The untoward and unwonted situation, however, by creating enhanced demand for the products of the soil, may now be considered to have restored equanimity and enterprise to the better class of settlers. The outlook is therefore decidedly bright for solid progress in settlement.

## ARREARS OF OLD SELECTIONS.

The surveys have now been completed of arrears of selections under scheme survey, with the exception of a few sections in Karamea which are now well in hand.

The system of selection before survey does not work well for this district, as it does not provide properly for homestead-sites and for roads, and the non-definition of boundaries tempts selectors to evade proper occupation and working of their sections, thus militating against a true nucleus of settlement and interior community of interest.

## LAND ALREADY OFFERED.

The various blocks of Lamb Valley, Station Creek, Howard, and Rotoiti, together with the Lake Settlement, did not, for reasons previously mentioned, attract other than a moderate number of selectors, although admirably suited for ready working. The success of these blocks, however, is only a matter of time, as the high prices for stock realized at the local sales must have the effect of bringing about a demand for further land.

Portions of Wai-iti Hills were also readily disposed of as soon as each block of milling-timber was cut out. The bulk of the land offered during the year has been either on renewable lease or pastoral license under the regulations for mining districts.

## LANDS TO BE OFFERED.

During the current year it is proposed to offer areas aggregating 90,000 acres in various parts of the district.

The surveys of some 10,000 acres of good dairying and pastoral land at Karamea are approaching completion.

It is hoped that the improved road access from Westport to this hitherto isolated district, together with more regular sea service, will render more commercially workable the undoubtedly splendid land in that locality.

An engineering survey now in progress will, there is every reason to hope, shortly result in the establishment of a most serviceable route for interchange of stock between Karamea and the railway system at Tadmor, thus utilizing the different climatic conditions of the two coasts.

Although the steady and persistent opening-up of these back-country roads and stock-routes in the numerous localities served will for a time tax the resources both of the General and the local Government, yet the venture is a thoroughly sound one now that farming and market transport are rapidly proceeding on scientific lines.

## CROWN TENANTS.

The number of Crown tenants on the books is 2,607, practically the same as last year; the new tenants about balance those who have exercised their right of purchase.

## FRUIT INDUSTRY.

The fruit industry, which is now an assured success, with sound commercial connections, continues to increase. Four canning-factories are kept busy, and the trade with the outside world is extending.

## EDUCATION ENDOWMENT LANDS.

There is nothing specially worthy of mention under this heading, but the tenants in all cases are showing a strong disposition to come under the new Act in order to obtain more equitable protection for their improvements. The tenure of twenty-one years and the right of renewal at revaluation at the end of the term seem to give every satisfaction.

## FOREST-CONSERVATION.

Various areas are being set aside from time to time as the land suitable for settlement becomes occupied.

## DAIRYING INDUSTRY.

There are now nine butter-factories and two creameries. The value of the industry is about £70,000 per annum, and the number of cows in the district in connection with factories is eight thousand. The general tendency of the industry is in the direction of concentration and good steady progress.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORDS.

The volume of correspondence shows an increase all round, and the improved system of records enables it to be dealt with with facility and despatch.

## LAND BOARD AND OFFICE CHANGES.

The usual monthly meetings were held at Nelson, and in addition there were three special meetings at Westport, Reefton, and Murchison. The Land Board also paid several visits of inspection to the outlying districts, an arrangement which appeared to give the settlers considerable satisfaction.

During the year the Department lost the services of Mr. Andrew Sinclair, whose experience and judgment rendered him a most valuable member of the Board.

## SPECIAL DISTRICTS FOR ROADING.

There has so far been no applications under this head, but it is possible there may be one or two localities that may deem it desirable to take advantage of this section of the Act.



### COAL INDUSTRY.

There is a fair improvement upon last year's output, which was seriously affected by the strike.

### INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The three Rangers in their respective districts have kept their inspections up to date. These show that the settlers' improvements are in most cases well in advance of the statutory requirements. The number of defaulters, considering the stress of times, is not unreasonably large.

### GENERAL.

Successful agricultural and pastoral shows in the more westerly districts, which until recently have been considered almost solely mining centres, are evidence of the progress of settlement from a land point of view, and form encouraging evidence of increasing prosperity. Taken generally, the tenants have every reason to take heart from the year's progress, although in some instances bad burns, due to wet weather, have gone against them. There is every evidence from the Rangers' reports that the improvements effected far outweigh the bare statutory requirements.

I desire to thank both the field and office staff for the zealous discharge of their duties.

### MARLBOROUGH.

(H. G. PRICE, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The total area opened for sale or selection during the year was 159,341 acres, of which 148,398 acres were taken up; in this is included four pastoral runs, four land-for-settlements sections, and the balance ordinary Crown lands.

### LANDS TO BE OPENED.

There will be an area of about 6,500 acres of Crown lands in the Opouri and Tunakino Valleys opened about July. This is part of a State-forest reserve from which the reservation has been up-lifted, as all the available milling-timber has been removed. Judging by the number of inquiries it will be keenly competed for at the ballot.

### RANGERS' INSPECTIONS AND REPORTS.

During the year the Crown Lands Rangers made 539 inspections; the improvements required by the Act being £135,964, and those actually effected £350,228. They report that owing to the exceptionally dry season the settlers have had a bad year, except those in the bush district, where the drought was not felt so much.

### REVENUE.

The total revenue received for the past year amounted to £51,482, being an increase of £6,708 over the previous year. The arrears of rent, exclusive of current half-year's rent, is £955.

### REBATES OF RENT.

Rebates for prompt payment of rent totalling £2,643 were granted as follows: Ordinary Crown lands—Number, 360; amount, £377. Land for Settlements—Number 359; amount, £2,219. National-endowment land—Number, 79; amount, £47.

### CONVERSIONS TO FREEHOLD.

The number of conversions to freehold were—nine for cash, area 4,817 acres, amount £7,458; and on deferred payments four, area 4,277 acres, annual instalments £892.

### FLAX INDUSTRY.

The past year has been quite a normal one as regards this industry.

### MINING INDUSTRY.

With the exception of the Golden Bar Mine at Wakamarina, from which the returns of gold and scheelite continue satisfactory, there is very little going on in the district.

### NOXIOUS WEEDS.

The eradication of noxious weeds is being dealt with as far as funds will allow, but the foxglove and blackberry are both a serious menace in several parts of the district, and as the former is not classified as a noxious weed in the Nelson District, consequently the work done near that boundary in this district is of little avail, as it spreads again from the Nelson District.

### LAND BOARD.

The Land Board held twelve ordinary meetings and two special ones. Two tours of inspection were made to different parts of the district.

## GENERAL.

The phenomenally dry season has been a serious drawback to the settlers, a considerably large area having been planted in wheat and barley which turned out in the majority of cases a failure, consequently the supply of grain from local sources is much below the average, which means a higher cost to the settler for seed for the coming season, which is to be hoped will be a good one to compensate for the one just past; but in spite of this the settlers are generally contented and hoping for better times.

## CONCLUSION.

I have to thank the staff for their assistance and co-operation at all times.

## WESTLAND.

(H. D. M. HASZARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The crisis through which the Dominion, in common with other parts of the Empire, is passing has not had the effect of retarding the progress of settlement in this district; in fact, in the matter of selections the area dealt with was in excess of the estimate made at the beginning of the year when peaceful conditions existed. The revenue anticipated under headings other than timber has been realized to within £50. The total receipts have fallen short of the estimate by £1,960, over £1,900 of this shortage being due to the restriction of sawmilling operations resulting from a temporary decrease in the demand for timber on the outbreak of war and the lack of steamers for freightage to Australia.

As a result of the high prices ruling for stock and produce the position of the settlers has made very satisfactory improvement, despite the somewhat adverse climatic conditions that existed during the spring and summer. The continuous wet weather had the effect of reducing the milk-yield, and, although there was an abundance of grass, attempts to save hay for winter feed were generally unsuccessful. Owing to the excessive rainfall, which militates against haymaking operations, it is surprising that more attention is not given to the making of ensilage, as settlers would be amply recouped for the outlay required to install the necessary plant by the certainty of having winter feed for their stock and the consequent increase in the carrying-capacity of their holdings, which is to a very large extent dependent upon the number that they are able to winter. The output of the butter and cheese factories was very satisfactory, and, in the case of those factories that did not enter into contracts for the sale of their products at a fixed price, very much enhanced returns will result from increased prices ruling for butter and cheese.

The first purchase of land in this district under the Land Settlement Finance Act was completed during the year by the Harihari Land Settlement Association, which acquired a property adjacent to the Harihari Dairy Factory. The whole of the members of this association come from the Taranaki District, where they have been engaged in dairying; and, as they have brought with them a herd of 140 cows from good milking strains, their advent to the district will result in material benefit to the cheese-factory. Should their venture meet with success, of which they are very sanguine, I anticipate that further operations under the Land Settlement Finance Act will follow.

In the early part of the year operations in the direction of disposing of new lands were restricted in anticipation of amendments to the statutes that were likely to result from the report of the Commission that was appointed to inquire into the conditions affecting tenures available in this district. As the report was not, however, dealt with by Parliament last session, the lands that had been subdivided for settlement were offered for selection under the tenure provided by the Karamea and Westland regulations. Although this tenure does not meet with very general approval, on account mainly of the absence of right to acquire the freehold and the refusal of the State Advances Department to accept the titles as security for advances, the number of applications received discloses a keen demand for land suitable for dairying.

The action of the Government in appointing a Commission with a view to devising a process by which the position of settlers as regards the tenures of their holdings might be improved was very much appreciated, and future developments are now awaited with interest.

The whole of the unoccupied pastoral runs in the district which had been withheld from selection for some time were offered for lease by auction, and nine runs, containing a total area of 153,260 acres, were disposed of; the remaining runs will be open for selection by public application early in the coming year. The right of renewal conferred upon holders of pastoral-run licenses by the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, has so improved the tenure as to create a keen demand for the more easily accessible of these runs, and numerous inquiries are now being received for them from persons in other districts.

Hitherto the land in this district has been dealt with very largely by free selection under the regulations for the occupation of pastoral lands in Karamea and Westland Mining Districts, this course being rendered necessary, as conflicting oil-boring, mining, and timber rights prevented the offering of blocks of any dimensions. These difficulties have now to some extent been overcome, especially in regard to oil-boring rights, and several blocks of land were offered for selection by public application during the year, while others will be available at an early date. The preparation of lands for selection and also the issue of titles to unsurveyed areas granted by the Land Board are seriously retarded owing to the reduction in my survey staff. In the matter of areas that have hitherto been granted as temporary grazing licenses, more permanent tenures not being then available on account

of mining, the principle must be continued of allowing those holders who have effected improvements to acquire better titles from time to time as the objections on account of mining are removed; but with the increasing demand for land the time has now arrived when free selection should give place to competition by ballot.

There have been no transactions in education endowment reserves during the year, but the subdivisional surveys are now in hand of two reserves from which the sawmilling-timber has been removed. The land comprised in both of these reserves is of very fair quality, and the proposed dealings will result in enhanced revenue being derived.

The proposals for dealing with new lands during the coming year include the leasing of several cattle-resting reserves under the Public Reserves and Domains Act. These reserves in their present unimproved and unfenced state are of no value as resting-places for stock, and it is therefore proposed to offer them for lease for terms of sufficient length to justify the lessees in effecting improvements, and to provide in the leases that accommodation must be provided for travelling stock at a fixed rate. The areas, ranging from 100 acres to 200 acres, are far in excess of the requirements for the purpose for which they were set apart; but, in view of the fact that they are situated in localities where reserves for other purposes, such as sites for townships, may in the future be required, I do not consider it advisable to uplift the reservations.

Probably the most important industry at the present time is coal-mining; six mines, including the two State mines, being in active operation. The large number of men employed in these mines provides a good local market for produce, and maintains a large population, the Runanga Township, adjacent to the State coal-mines, itself accounting for a population of twelve hundred, while Blackball and Brunner, two other towns, are wholly dependent upon coal-mining. The whole of the output of coal, except that required for local consumption, passes through the Port of Greymouth, and accounts for a large proportion of the shipping: the total exported during the year ended the 31st December, 1914, was 436,351 tons, which is 30,000 tons in excess of any previous year. The coal raised by companies operating on Crown lands produces a revenue in royalties of some £3,000 a year.

The flax industry has been at a standstill for the past few years, as the prices offering for hemp were too low to allow of operations being carried on at a profit. The recent improvement in the market, which promises to be maintained, has already had the effect of inducing flax-millers to reopen their mills.

The reports of the Crown Lands Rangers on 244 properties visited show an excess of £30,589 in value of improvements effected over the actual requirements under the conditions of the leases. A large area of bush was felled during the year, but unfavourable weather-conditions prevented a number of settlers from getting a satisfactory burn, with the result that the whole season has been lost, and the undergrowth will require to be cleaned up against next season, thus adding to the cost of clearing. On many holdings the flats have now been wholly cleared, and attention is being devoted to clearing the sidelings, which were formerly regarded as practically valueless: results have proved that the value of these sidelings has been very much underestimated. The most frequent breach of conditions is in the matter of residence; but in dealing with such cases due consideration must be given to the circumstances, as in localities where there are no dairy factories the rigid enforcement of residence-conditions on small holdings not yet very largely improved, acquired by men of no considerable means, would entail severe hardship on them: reasonable time to bring their holdings into a sufficiently advanced state of profit to provide them with a living is always allowed, provided that satisfactory progress with improvements is being made.

The clearing of noxious weeds on Crown lands is carried out by this Department, special attention being paid to ragwort and Californian thistle; but a little more energy might be applied in this direction with advantage by owners of freehold and lessees of Crown land, as the tendency of both these weeds has been to increase during the last few years. The worst menace, and one with which no attempt has been made to cope, is blackberry. This pest now exists to such an extent that the outlay of a very large sum of money will be required to produce any appreciable beneficial effect. The recommendations of the West Coast Settlement Commission, that experiments should be carried out by the Crown for the purpose of discovering the best means of eradicating blackberry, is worthy of very careful consideration. The cost of dealing with large areas of blackberry under any of the methods at present known is so high as to be beyond the means of the majority of private owners and lessees, but it is surprising to see the number of properties upon which no attempt whatever is being made even to check it.

My best thanks are due to the staff for their steady application to the work of the office.

## CANTERBURY.

(C. R. POLLEN, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

### LANDS OFFERED FOR DISPOSAL.

During the past financial year the Land Board disposed of, under the Land for Settlements Act, under renewable lease, 7,097 acres to twenty-four new tenants. Three sections offered under the same tenure failed to find an applicant. There were disposed of by public auction thirteen sections in townships to seven new tenants. Two pastoral runs, comprising an area of 14,300 acres, in the Ashburton district, were disposed of by public auction, with compulsory residence, under section 54, Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913. These failed to find a bidder at a previous auction. A pastoral run in the Geraldine County, comprising 33,600 acres, failed to find a bidder at auction; later it was

offered at a reduced upset and was disposed of. Six reserves, comprising 864 acres, were disposed of by public auction to six tenants. Two education reserves, comprising 103 acres, were disposed of by public auction for a term of fourteen years, and four were not disposed of at auction. These latter are now being reduced in upset price, and are to be reoffered by tender. Four reserves, comprising 1,160 acres, were disposed of by tender. 260 acres of Crown land were disposed of to four purchasers. In the Cheviot Settlement, three sections of an area of 14 acres were disposed of to one tenant, under renewable lease, and one section of 7 acres was sold at auction.

#### LAND REVENUE.

The total revenue for the past year amounted to £237,025, being an increase of £30,970 on last year's figures.

#### FREEHOLD.

Three perpetual-lease holders acquired the freehold of 368 acres, to the value of £864. Four occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenants acquired 826 acres for the sum of £833. Under the legislation of 1912, two perpetual-lease holders acquired an area of 51 acres, realizing £215, and twenty-three tenants of lease in perpetuity of Crown land acquired 4,059 acres, to the value of £5,885, and thirty holders of lease in perpetuity of lands for settlement acquired 1,331 acres, representing £11,458. Four holders of lease in perpetuity of Crown land, comprising 114 acres, converted to deferred payments, the annual instalments amounting to £14. Nineteen lease in perpetuity of lands for settlement converted to deferred payments 969 acres, the annual instalments amounting to £536; and one small grazing-run of lands for settlement, comprising 978 acres, was converted to deferred payments, the annual instalment amounting to £77.

#### FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS, AND TRANSFERS.

Seven miscellaneous leases were forfeited, comprising an area of 604 acres, annual rent £225; and five leases under the lands for settlement were dealt with, comprising 90 acres, annual rent £117. The number of transfers approved was 273, and eleven were declined.

#### CHEVIOT ESTATE.

This settlement continues in its successful state generally. The Cheviot farm lands have now increased in the public appreciation, as shown in the goodwill paid when transfers are effected. The settlement suffered in common with the rest of Canterbury in the disposal of fat stock, through the shortage of storage capacity at the freezing-works, and limited number of ships available to receive freights of carcase mutton, owing to the war. The dry autumn increased the trouble, as feed was not available for keeping the stock in condition, and the crops of turnips for winter supply to the breeding-flocks were utilized. All straw, even to the solid Tuscan, will be required for winter fodder.

To such an extent has the want of storage capacity been felt that many of the larger stockholders are contributing to the new company forming to establish a new freezing-works at Waipara Junction, the site for which is under negotiation, to be purchased out of the recently acquired settlement land of Glenmark Estate.

The cereal crops were satisfactory, the average being about 30 bushels of wheat and 40 bushels of oats per acre, and all the grain was well harvested. The high prices of these crops will induce the farmers to increase the area to be devoted to grain-growing during the coming season.

The population of the district remains about the same. Twenty-six grazing-farm leases, expiring in 1916, were extended for twelve months, and will have to be dealt with in the coming year.

#### EDUCATION-RESERVE LEASES.

The leases of a number of these reserves expired during the year, and were relet, after revaluation, to those tenants whose working of the land in the past indicated their fitness to be given an opportunity for a new lease under more favourable conditions than those of the expired lease, the present form conferring the right to renewal on revaluation at the expiry of the term. Where the conditions of their holdings indicated carelessness in husbandry the reserves were put to public competition, either by auction or tender. The Education funds have benefited by the increased rents, and the lands by a careful selection of tenants. The general appearance of the education reserves in this district is satisfactory.

#### PASTORAL RUNS.

The runs of larger area, chiefly in the high country, have had a successful year. There were very few losses from snow in the winter; a fair lambing percentage in the spring, and a fair wool crop, with excellent prices, obtained. Shortness of feed in the high country was not experienced, most of the lands receiving the benefit of warm westerly showers.

The Mackenzie County has experienced another good winter, and in consequence is looking exceedingly well. The plantations, reported on for the first time last year, have, with few exceptions, done well. The general experience of settlers is that three-year-old trees do better than any others, and the varieties which appear to thrive best are larch, *Pinus muricata*, and *Pinus ponderosa*. The older plantations in this district are also looking well.

#### LANDS HELD UNDER PART III, LAND ACT, 1908.

Few new leases under this Part of the Act were issued during the year, there being very little Crown land, apart from the pastoral country, left for disposal. All the other settlements at Oxford,

Waikari, Lake Ellesmere, and mid-Canterbury are well established. They suffered from the abnormal season like the rest, but benefited by quality and high prices obtainable, disadvantages thus being neutralized. Small areas of Crown land, useless as separate holdings, were disposed of by auction and realized satisfactory prices.

#### LAND LAWS AMENDMENT ACTS, 1912, 1913, and 1914.

There were no applications under the provisions of section 27, Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, for an extension of licenses on account of loss of stock through heavy falls of snow.

Section 13, Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, which provides for the postponement of rent, has not been taken so much advantage of this year as in the past, thirteen selectors only having taken advantage of this clause of the Act. There is no doubt that the administration of this clause is beneficial in a number of cases where a tenant is waiting payment for his crops, so enabling him to get the rebate on his rent.

During the year applications for revaluation of their holdings under section 13, Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, were received from many selectors of the more recently acquired estates. These were duly forwarded to the Valuer-General, and in all cases the rents were reduced, and in some cases considerably reduced.

Before the war started the number of inquiries showed that a good many tenants intended to take advantage of purchasing their freeholds under these Acts, but they apparently found difficulty in finding the necessary capital. The applications since the war have been mostly confined to small sections in the vicinity of towns.

#### DEPARTMENTAL.

The total number of ordinary meetings of the Land Board was twelve, and there were two special meetings during the year.

All officers of the clerical staff have worked capably and efficiently during the past year.

#### OTAGO.

(ROBERT T. SADD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The year ending the 31st March, 1915, has been characterized by the great inquiry and demand for land, especially for pastoral country suitable for sheep and areas suitable for fruit-farms. The demand for the former is being met by the subdivisions of pastoral runs as the licenses expire when the country is suitable, and for the latter by cutting up portions of pastoral runs in Central Otago which can be ploughed and irrigated.

Arrangements have been made with the licensee of the Earnsclough Run to relinquish over 7,000 acres, parts of which are very suitable for fruit-farms, after irrigation. During the year the Omarama Pastoral Runs, 182,900 acres, were subdivided into twelve subdivisions, for which there are many inquiries.

The Benmore Runs, containing over 300,000 acres, are also being subdivided for settlement in anticipation of the expiry of licenses in 1916; the survey of Puketoi Run, 21,360 acres, has been let by contract; the Galloway Runs, of 130,000 acres, are also under survey into pastoral runs and fruit-farms.

The provisional survey of several small estates purchased at Beaumont, containing about 5,000 acres, together with the Bellamy Runs, containing about 32,000 acres, has been completed, and these lands will be ready for ballot in May. The surveys of about 700 acres between Alexandra and Clyde have been completed by contract, in areas from 11 to 80 acres, for fruit-farms and general settlement.

The total area now held by 4,896 lessees from the Crown is 5,510,321 acres. The revenue received for the year just ended was £135,218, showing an increase of £5,109 over the previous year's receipts.

Generally speaking, the Crown tenants have had a good year, due to the good prices obtained for stock and farm-produce.

The winter, though not very severe, was a long cold one, and up to the end of November cold, windy weather was experienced. Matters improved somewhat by the end of December, but want of sufficient rain was against the growth of some of the crops, especially root crops, and the autumn growth has not been good through absence of sufficient moisture.

#### CONVERSIONS TO FREEHOLD.

During the year thirty-four tenants acquired the freehold of their sections, the area comprising 6,079 acres. The leaseholds so converted were made up as follows: Perpetual lease, 14; lease in perpetuity, 8; occupation with right of purchase, 4; lease in perpetuity (land for settlements), 3; village homestead on perpetual lease, 3; and deferred payment, 2.

#### REBATES OF RENT.

For prompt payment of rent, rebates amounting to £679 were granted to 701 tenants on Crown lands, £5,135 to 746 tenants on settlement lands, and £78 to 138 tenants on national-endowment lands.

## ARREARS OF RENT.

Excluding current instalments payable in advance, the total amount of rent in arrear is £1,581. The number of tenants whose rents were postponed is fourteen, and the amount involved £467. The amount of rent postponed to date and still unpaid is £1,394.

## FORFEITURES, SURRENDERS, AND TRANSFERS.

The number of tenants whose leases were declared forfeited (exclusive of miscellaneous leases) amounted to twenty-two, with an area of 2,637 acres. There were seven leases surrendered, covering an area of 992 acres. The number of transfers brought before the Land Board was 227, of which seven were declined.

## EDUCATION ENDOWMENT RESERVES.

There are 482 tenants in this district holding 231,828 acres, with an annual rental of £11,319. Of this number 427 tenants hold lands formerly administered by the School Commissioners of Otago. Practically all the reserves are let; those that are not comprise some scattered areas of very indifferent quality.

## CONCLUSION.

Owing to the numerous changes in the staff and to the fact that it was short-handed for a time, the officers have had a strenuous time during the past year, and I wish to express to them my hearty thanks for the willing and satisfactory manner in which they have performed their various duties.

## SOUTHLAND.

(G. H. M. McCURE, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The total number of tenants under all tenures at the close of the year was 3,032, and the total area held 2,173,368 acres, while the annual rental amounted to £47,200. This last amount is some £1,800 more than the figures at the close of the previous year. The gross revenue received for the year now under review was £65,809, showing an increase of £6,741 over last year's receipts.

## LAND OPENED FOR SELECTION.

The total area of land opened under all tenures during the year was 46,947 acres, 2,000 acres of which were offered for the first time. Education-endowment land included in the above total amounts to 41,809 acres. This area consists for the most part of expired leases which were reoffered at auction.

## LAND TO BE OPENED FOR SELECTION.

During the coming year I expect to place about 12,000 acres of new land in the market. The survey of part of this area is near completion, and I hope to have the balance surveyed in time to have the land offered this year. Most of the area is worked-out sawmill country situated in Aparima, Jacob's River, Oreti, Lillburn, Waimumu, Waikawa, and New River Districts. Apart from these figures a number of expiring education leases will be offered at auction.

## ARREARS OF RENT.

The arrears at the close of the year amounted to £312 owing by fifteen tenants. This amount represents only a little more than one-half per cent. on the total annual rent payable, and may be taken as an assurance of the prosperity of the tenants generally.

## FREEHOLD TITLES.

Compared with last year there was a slight falling-off in the number of freeholds acquired. The legislation of 1912 and 1913 offered further facilities to the tenants to acquire the fee-simple of their holdings, and under such legislation forty-two tenants converted their holdings to the freehold. The area thus acquired (including land for settlements) amounted to 8,501 acres, and the purchase-money paid to £12,595. Apart from these figures, nine lessees exchanged to deferred payment during the year and are purchasing their sections under that tenure.

## TRANSFERS.

During the year 169 transfers were approved.

## COAL LEASES.

Increased activity has been shown in the matter of applications for leases and licenses under the Coal-mines Act, and several leases have been granted during the year. The land comprised in such leases is mostly education-endowment land in the Wairio District. If railway communication be extended so that the lessees are able to comply with the output conditions of their leases, the result will mean that the education-endowment revenue will be considerably augmented.

I have also, as Commissioner, granted several leases over endowment land administered by the local High Schools Board.

## EDUCATION ENDOWMENTS.

In this district the work entailed in the administration of education endowments is considerable. At the 31st March there were 780 tenants holding an area of 339,772 acres, and paying an annual rent of £15,570. From the tables it will be seen that there were a number of expiries, renewals, selections, &c., during the past twelve months, and similar transactions will recur each year. The work in dealing with these endowment lands is somewhat exacting, but I am pleased to be able to report that all dealings are up to date.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

It is gratifying to be able to report the continued prosperity of the selectors in this district. On account of unfavourable weather during the spring the growth of all crops was retarded, and on this score operations were from five to six weeks late. However, from the New Year onward the climatic conditions have proved to be exceptionally favourable for the cereal crops, as is evidenced by the fact that they have produced fully 20 bushels to the acre more than last year. Speaking generally, the root crops have not been so successful, but the grass is well up to the average. The dairying industry reports successful progress. It is worthy of note that a sugar-of-milk factory has been established at Edendale during the year, and the directors of the institution estimate that the value of the output for the initial year will amount to £22,000. This factory is said to be the first of its kind in the Dominions and the second in the Empire, the only other factory being in Ireland. Last year I had to report that the prices of farm-produce were universally high, but, in common with the whole of New Zealand the ruling prices this year in Southland have broken all previous records.

## DEPARTMENTAL.

This report would be incomplete without a fitting expression of appreciation from me concerning an efficient and capable staff, all of whom have rendered willing service and have performed their various duties in a most satisfactory manner.

## APPENDIX II.—LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS.

SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Name of Estate.	Sele- tions.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Auckland—</i>			
Balachraggan ..	24	Dairying .. .. .	Good.
Bickerstaffe ..	46	Grazing .. .. .	"
Cradock .. ..	9	Homes and orchards .. .. .	"
Ecclestone No. 2 ..	5	Homes .. .. .	Fair.
Fencourt .. ..	40	Dairying .. .. .	Good.
Hetana .. ..	46	Homes and orchards .. .. .	"
Karapiro .. ..	16	Dairying .. .. .	"
Kitchener .. ..	9	Homes and orchards .. .. .	"
Mangapouri .. ..	11	Dairying .. .. .	"
Mangawhero .. ..	20	" .. .. .	"
Matamata .. ..	191	" .. .. .	"
Methuen .. ..	17	Homes and orchards .. .. .	"
Ohauti .. ..	14	Grazing .. .. .	"
Okauia .. ..	13	Dairying .. .. .	"
Opouriao .. ..	91	" .. .. .	"
Otway .. ..	17	" .. .. .	New estate.
Parahi .. ..	2	Dairying and grazing .. .. .	"
Plumer .. ..	10	Homes and orchards .. .. .	Good.
Prescott .. ..	1	Grazing lease .. .. .	"
Rangiatea .. ..	19	Dairying .. .. .	Good.
Rewi .. ..	10	" .. .. .	"
Selwyn .. ..	122	Grazing .. .. .	"
Tautari .. ..	40	" .. .. .	Fair.
Teasdale .. ..	63	Business and homes .. .. .	Good.
Waari .. ..	23	Orchards and homes .. .. .	"
Waimana .. ..	25	Dairying .. .. .	"
Waitakaruru .. ..	7	Dairying and grazing .. .. .	New estate.
Whitehall .. ..	13	Dairying .. .. .	Good.
Total .. ..	904		

SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Selections.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Hawke's Bay—</i>			
Argyll .. ..	61	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	Good.
Clydebank .. ..	22	Pastoral .. ..	"
Elsthorpe .. ..	47	" .. ..	"
Forest Gate .. ..	27	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	"
Hatuma .. ..	76	" .. ..	"
Kanakanaia .. ..	7	Pastoral .. ..	Very good.
Kumeroa .. ..	14	Dairying, agricultural, and pastoral .. ..	Good.
Lindsay .. ..	67	" .. ..	"
Mahora .. ..	31	Dairying, agricultural, and fruit-culture .. ..	Very good.
Manga-a-toro .. ..	26	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Good.
Mangatahi .. ..	23	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	Fair.
Ngatapa .. ..	27	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Very good.
Pouparae .. ..	8	Agricultural and dairying .. ..	"
Pourerere .. ..	6	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Fair.
Raumati .. ..	30	Mostly pastoral and dairying .. ..	Very good.
Raureka .. ..	16	Dairying and fruit-culture .. ..	"
Sherenden .. ..	21	Mostly pastoral and dairying .. ..	Fair.
Springhill .. ..	17	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	"
Te Arai .. ..	52	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying .. ..	Very good.
Te Mata .. ..	9	Fruit-culture .. ..	Good.
Tomoana .. ..	11	" .. ..	Very good.
Tongoio .. ..	12	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Good.
Waihau .. ..	22	" .. ..	Fair.
Waimarie .. ..	18	Agricultural and dairying .. ..	Very good.
Waipuka .. ..	1	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Good.
Wigan .. ..	15	Pastoral .. ..	Excellent.
Willows .. ..	22	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Very good.
Total .. ..	688		
<i>Taranaki—</i>			
Clandon .. ..	7	Dairying .. ..	Very fair.
Huinga .. ..	10	" .. ..	Good.
Spotswood .. ..	43	Homesteads .. ..	"
Tariki .. ..	8	Dairying and grazing .. ..	Very good.
Tokaora .. ..	12	Dairying .. ..	Excellent.
Total .. ..	80		
<i>Wellington—</i>			
Aorangi .. ..	33	Dairying and fruit-growing .. ..	Excellent.
Carrington .. ..	34	" .. ..	Fair.
Dyer .. ..	37	Grazing, dairying, and cropping .. ..	Excellent.
Epuni Hamlet .. ..	39	Market-gardening, residence .. ..	Very good.
Falloon .. ..	6	Reports not yet due.	
Hawtreys .. ..	30	Residential, &c. .. ..	Fair.
Heatherlea .. ..	26	Dairying, poultry, bees .. ..	Good.
Hikawera .. ..	4	Grazing sheep and cattle .. ..	Excellent.
Langdale .. ..	29	Grazing .. ..	Good.
Linton .. ..	5	Dairying and cropping .. ..	"
Longbush .. ..	6	Grazing and dairying .. ..	Excellent.
Mahupuku .. ..	8	" .. ..	"
Mangawhata .. ..	2	" .. ..	"
Maungaraki .. ..	20	Grazing, pigs, poultry, &c. .. ..	Good.
Normandale .. ..	31	" .. ..	Fair.
Ohakea .. ..	11	Dairying, cropping, and grazing .. ..	Excellent.
Paparangi .. ..	34	Residence, pigs, poultry, &c. .. ..	Good.
Poroporo .. ..	17	Reports not yet in.	
Tablelands .. ..	9	Grazing sheep and cattle .. ..	Very good.
Tawaha .. ..	24	Grazing, dairying, and cropping .. ..	Satisfactory.
Te Matua .. ..	12	Dairying and grazing .. ..	Sound.
Grazing licenses .. ..	3		
Total .. ..	420		



SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Sele- ctions.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Nelson—</i>			
Braeburn .. ..	22	Dairying and grazing .. ..	Good.
Lake .. ..	3	" .. ..	Fair.
Wangapeka .. ..	15	" .. ..	Very good.
Total .. ..	40		
<i>Marlborough—</i>			
Blind River .. ..	18	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Fair.
Flaxbourne .. ..	124	" .. ..	"
Hillersden .. ..	46	Sheep-farming .. ..	Satisfactory.
Hillersden Bush .. ..	1	" .. ..	"
Lynton Downs .. ..	11	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Doubtful.
North ank .. ..	11	Sheep-farming .. ..	Satisfactory.
Omaka .. ..	13	Sheep-farming and light cropping .. ..	Sound.
Puhipuhi .. ..	2	Grazing .. ..	Satisfactory.
Rainford .. ..	11	Dairying .. ..	Good.
Richmond Brook .. ..	12	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Fair.
Starborough .. ..	185	" .. ..	"
Waipapa .. ..	4	Grazing .. ..	"
Total .. ..	438		
<i>Westland—</i>			
Kokatahi .. ..	8	Dairying and grazing .. ..	Highly satisfactory.
Poerua .. ..	23	" .. ..	"
Total .. ..	31		
<i>Canterbury—</i>			
Albury .. ..	79	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Excellent.
Allanholme .. ..	8	" .. ..	Good.
Annan .. ..	43	Part pastoral, part mixed farming, part business sections	Established and prosperous.
Ashley Gorge .. ..	10	Part pastoral, part agricultural .. ..	Well established.
Ashwick .. ..	8	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Good.
Avenel .. ..	16	" .. ..	Fair.
Avenel Extension .. ..	11	" .. ..	Indifferent.
Aylesbury .. ..	6	Agriculture .. ..	Fair.
Bourndale .. ..	7	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	"
Braco .. ..	11	Market-gardening .. ..	Well established.
Buddo .. ..	14	Market-gardening and workers' homes	Fair.
Chamberlain .. ..	21	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Excellent.
Clandeboye .. ..	10	Dairy-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Fair.
Clandeboye No. 2 .. ..	6	" .. ..	"
Claremont .. ..	11	Sheep, dairy-farming, and grain-growing	"
Copland .. ..	2	(New settlement).	
Culverden .. ..	58	Agricultural, pastoral, and commercial	Very good.
Douglas .. ..	31	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Indifferent.
Drayton .. ..	20	Agricultural .. ..	"
Eccleston .. ..	4	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Good.
Epworth .. ..	..	Dairy-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Now freehold.
Finlay Downs .. ..	5	(New settlement).	
Four Peaks .. ..	8	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Good.
Fyvie .. ..	5	" .. ..	Bad.
Hekeao .. ..	13	Dairy - farming, sheep - farming, and grain-growing	Well established and pro- sperous.
Highbank .. ..	78	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Ditto.
Hillboro .. ..	3	(New settlement).	
Hornby .. ..	21	Market-gardening and workers' homes	Fair.
Horsley Downs .. ..	24	Agricultural .. ..	Well established and pro- sperous.
Kaimahi .. ..	13	Market-gardening .. ..	Satisfactory.
Kapua .. ..	12	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.

SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Sele- ctions.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Canterbury—continued.</i>			
Kapuatohe .. ..	13	Market-gardening and workers' homes	Satisfactory.
Kereta .. ..	4	Dairying .. ..	Good.
Kinloch .. ..	32	Pastoral, agricultural, dairying, and grass-seeding	Satisfactory.
Kohika .. ..	17	Mixed farming .. ..	Very good.
Kohika No. 2 .. ..	4	" .. ..	Fair."
Ladbrooks .. ..	14	Dairying and agriculture .. ..	Fair.
Lansdown .. ..	10	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Good.
Lyndon .. ..	9	Mixed farming .. ..	Well established and pro- sperous.
Lyndon No. 2 .. ..	9	Mixed farming and pastoral .. ..	Prosperous.
Marawiti .. ..	13	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Well established.
Maytown .. ..	11	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Mead .. ..	22	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Prosperous.
Meadows .. ..	14	" .. ..	Fair.
Mills .. ..	21	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Morice .. ..	31	Dairying, grass-seeding, grazing, pas- toral, and agricultural	Satisfactory.
Mount Nessing .. ..	11	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Very good.
Orakipaoa .. ..	27	Dairy - farming, grain - growing, and market-gardening	Well established.
Otaio .. ..	9	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Otarakaro .. ..	6	Market-gardening .. ..	"
Papaka .. ..	9	Mixed farming .. ..	Very good.
Pareora .. ..	28	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Pareora No. 2 .. ..	33	Sheep-farming and grain-growing] .. ..	Excellent.
Patoa .. ..	3	Mostly pastoral .. ..	Satisfactory.
Pawaho .. ..	22	Workers' homes .. ..	"
Peaks .. ..	12	Mixed farming .. ..	"
Puhuka .. ..	10	Workers' homes .. ..	Well established.
Punaroa .. ..	17	Dairy - farming, [sheep - farming, and grain-growing	Excellent.
Raincliff} .. ..	1	Grain-growing and sheep-farming .. ..	Well established.
Rakitairi .. ..	22	" .. ..	Good.
Rapuwai .. ..	5	" .. ..	Well established.
Rautawiri .. ..	6	" .. ..	"
Roimata .. ..	24	Workers' homes .. ..	Satisfactory.
Rosebrook .. ..	14	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Rosewill .. ..	160	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Very good.
Ruapuna No. 2 .. ..	15	" .. ..	Good.
Scargill .. ..	8	Agricultural .. ..	Indifferent.
Sherwood Downs .. ..	26	Grain-growing and sheep-farming .. ..	Fair.
Stoke .. ..	7	Agricultural .. ..	Good.
Strathmore .. ..	3	Grain-growing and sheep-farming .. ..	Very fair.
Studholme Junction .. ..	4	Small farming and dairying .. ..	Good.
Takitu .. ..	5	Sheep-farming .. ..	Excellent.
Tamai .. ..	38	Workers' homes .. ..	Satisfactory.
Tara .. ..	8	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Very good.
Tarawahi .. ..	25	Workers' homes .. ..	Satisfactory.
Teschemaker .. ..	11	(New settlement).	
Timaunga .. ..	17	Mixed farming .. ..	Fair.
Timaunga Extension .. ..	7	" .. ..	Good.
Tripp .. ..	25	Sheep-farming and grain-growing .. ..	Fair.
Valverde .. ..	11	" .. ..	Indifferent.
Waiapi .. ..	13	" .. ..	Good.
Waikakahi .. ..	197	" .. ..	Excellent.
Waimate .. ..	34	Sheep-farming, grain and fruit growing .. ..	Good.
Wharenui .. ..	26	Workers' homes .. ..	"
Winchester .. ..	10	Sheep - farming, grain - growing, and dairying	Fair.
Homestead-sites .. ..	10		
Total .. ..	1,701		

SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Selec- tions.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Otago—</i>			
Airedale .. ..	12	Mixed farming .. ..	Good.
Ardgowan .. ..	65	General and dairying .. ..	"
Aviemore .. ..	1	Pastoral .. ..	Very good.
Barnego .. ..	24	General and dairying .. ..	Good.
Clareview .. ..	5	" .. ..	Fair.
Conical Hills .. ..	42	General and farming .. ..	"
Duncan .. ..	6	General and dairying .. ..	"
Earnsclough .. ..	14	Fruit-growing .. ..	Very satisfactory.
Elderslie .. ..	37	General and mixed farming .. ..	Good.
Elderslie No. 2 .. ..	16	" .. ..	"
Greenfield .. ..	44	" .. ..	"
Janefield .. ..	21	Dairying and fruit .. ..	Sound.
Kauroo Hill .. ..	42	General and farming .. ..	Good.
Kurow .. ..	13	Grazing and dairying .. ..	"
Maerewhenua .. ..	76	General and farming .. ..	"
Makareao .. ..	32	" .. ..	"
Makareao Extension.. ..	4	" .. ..	"
Matakanui .. ..	3	Mixed farming .. ..	Very good.
Meadowbank .. ..	11	" .. ..	Fair.
Momona .. ..	13	Dairying and farming .. ..	Very good.
Otanomomo .. ..	15	Dairying and grazing .. ..	Good.
Otekaike .. ..	64	General farming .. ..	"
Plunket .. ..	18	General and grazing .. ..	Fair.
Pomahaka .. ..	27	General and dairying .. ..	Good.
Puketapu .. ..	11	" .. ..	"
Rugged Ridges .. ..	1	Pastoral .. ..	"
Steward .. ..	49	General farm and little dairying .. ..	"
Spottis Creek .. ..	1	Pastoral .. ..	"
St. Helens .. ..	3	General farm and little dairying .. ..	"
Tahawai .. ..	8	Dairying .. ..	"
Taumata .. ..	9	General farming .. ..	"
Te Aneraki .. ..	23	Dairying .. ..	"
Te Puke .. ..	4	General farming .. ..	Fair.
Tokarahi .. ..	79	" .. ..	Good.
Totara .. ..	27	" .. ..	Fair.
Waitahuna No. 1 .. ..	3	Recently selected : no report yet made.	
Waitahuna No. 2 .. ..	7	" .. ..	
Windsor Park No. 1.. ..	37	General and dairying .. ..	Good.
Windsor Park No. 2.. ..	10	" .. ..	"
Total .. ..	877		
<i>Southland—</i>			
Ardlussa .. ..	3	Pastoral .. ..	New settlement; fair.
Beaumont .. ..	10	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	Fair.
Edendale .. ..	136	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying .. ..	Excellent.
Ermedale .. ..	13	Pastoral and dairying .. ..	Fair.
Fortification Hill .. ..	5	Pastoral .. ..	New settlement; good.
Glenham .. ..	40	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying .. ..	Good.
Knowsley Park .. ..	9	Pastoral .. ..	New settlement; fair.
Maori Hill .. ..	14	Dairying and pastoral .. ..	Good.
Merrivale .. ..	47	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying .. ..	Very good.
Otahu .. ..	7	Agricultural and pastoral .. ..	Good.
Ringway .. ..	7	" .. ..	"
Waiarikiki .. ..	7	Pastoral .. ..	New settlement; fair.
Total .. ..	298		
Grand total .. ..	5,477		

## EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

## AUCKLAND.

(H. M. SKEET, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

## NEW SETTLEMENTS.

Two new settlements have been opened up during the last two months of the year—namely, Parahi Settlement, in the Otamatea County, consisting of 2,120 acres divided into nine sections varying from 59 to 387 acres, and the Waitakaruru Settlement, adjoining the Hauraki Plains, and comprising 2,299 acres divided into fifteen sections varying from 67 to 268 acres. In neither case was there much demand for the land, and portions of both settlements remain unselected at the close of the year.

## NUMBER OF TENANTS, ETC.

The number of holders of settlement lands on the books at the close of the year was 904, occupying an area of 175,190 acres, and paying £24,562 per annum. Notwithstanding the new selections during the year, the total number shows a net decrease of fifty-five holders and 10,308 acres, the loss being, of course, due to a large number of holders acquiring the freehold.

## CONDITION OF ESTABLISHED SETTLEMENTS.

The Rangers' reports show that the old-established settlements in the district are generally in a prosperous condition, with comfortable homesteads and substantial improvements, and every indication of permanent and successful settlement. In some of these settlements a fair amount of subdivision is going on, with good results. Most of the settlers carry on dairying, for which good facilities in the form of creameries exist; the amount of cropping done is therefore very limited, although probably more might be done in the way of growing root and fodder crops with advantage.

The Balachraggan and Otway Settlements, situated in the Thames Valley, which were established during the preceding year, have made good progress; the lessees are complying with conditions in a satisfactory manner, and there is every prospect of success. The Ohauti Settlement, near Tauranga, however, has encountered difficulties, and although some of the lessees are complying and working hard on their holdings, their position is not yet assured.

The small suburban settlements near Auckland are doing well; many of the lessees are acquiring the freehold of their sections and are subdividing into smaller areas for building purposes.

## HAWKE'S BAY.

(W. H. SKINNER, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The settlers holding land under the Land for Settlements Act in the northern portion of the district have had a fairly successful year, considering the very dry spring and summer we have just experienced.

The settlers on Wigan, Ngatapa, Kanakanaia, Clydebank, and a large majority of the Te Arai settlers, go in principally for sheep-farming, breeding and fattening cattle.

The prices received this season for wool, beef, and mutton have been a record for the district.

The settlers who go in exclusively for dairying have in most cases a few acres of lucerne, which has been invaluable during the dry summer. The splendid result of this fodder has been an object-lesson to others, and undoubtedly will result in its being grown more extensively all over this district.

One of the Ngatapa settlers tried a 10-acre paddock of wheat, which threshed close on 30 bushels to the acre. Taking into consideration the very dry season, this must be considered very satisfactory.

On account of the very dry spring there was not so much cropping as usual, and the crops generally were not so good; but the very high prices ruling for chaff, oats, barley, maize, &c., more than make up for the difference.

There are now nineteen settlements in the southern portion of the district.

Owing to a prolonged drought experienced in Hawke's Bay, and extending from Ormondville northwards, settlers have been severely handicapped, and those engaged in dairying pursuits have felt the pressure acutely. To counterbalance this to some extent, prices for butter and cheese have been considerably above the average.

Tongoio Settlement: A marked improvement is to be seen in the way settlers are dealing with the blackberry trouble, and the Natives are also showing some practical work in the clearing of this pest on adjoining lands.

Taking the unfavourable season into consideration, our settlement settlers might have fared worse than they have done, and may reasonably look forward to better results this year.

## TARANAKI.

(G. H. BULLARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The total area of the five settlements in this district is only 5,331 acres. The sections are all occupied, chiefly for dairying purposes, and the rental arrears, I am glad to say, is small.

The whole of Spotswood Settlement has now been disposed of, and is held for homesteads. The prospects in the case of the five settlements are distinctly good, and in the case of the Tariki Settlement, the latest purchase, I am quite satisfied with the manner in which the settlers have developed their holdings and controlled the noxious weeds. In the case of Tokaora Settlement, the present-day value of the land is very much above the Crown values.

It is quite anticipated that a fairly large number of the lessees in these settlements will avail themselves of their freehold rights during the current year, especially under the easy time-payments offered by the deferred-payment system of purchase.

## WELLINGTON.

(T. N. BRODRICK, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Only one new settlement, the Falloon, was offered during the year. It is situated between eight and nine miles north-west of Masterton, and comprises six sections, having a total area of 1,031 acres. These were offered on the 18th December, 1914, and all were selected. Some of the selectors are already in occupation.

In the Poroporo and Heatherlea Settlements, disposed of in the previous year, the settlers have made substantial progress. The other rural settlements are in a satisfactory position, and where transfers have taken place the purchasers have paid substantial amounts for the goodwill of the leases.

## NELSON.

(F. A. THOMPSON, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

There are three settlements in this district; two—namely, the Wangapeka and Braeburn—are in a most satisfactory condition, and with few exceptions the settlers are well satisfied with their holdings. The crops and stock have done well during the past year; in fact, the former better than in any other part of the district, whilst the latter topped the market at the local stock sales.

The Lake Settlement has just been offered, therefore nothing of any notice can be reported.

## MARLBOROUGH.

(H. G. PRICE, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Only one new settlement—the Wither—has been acquired during the year, the ballot for which takes place on the 13th April, and I anticipate a fair demand for the sections.

The settlers on Hillersden and Lynton Downs Settlements—that were acquired last year—have been handicapped by the phenomenally dry [season that we have experienced; old residents say there has been nothing like it for forty years;] but in spite of this, the settlers are hopeful, and should with an ordinary season make satisfactory progress. The settlers on the old-established settlements are all doing fairly well.

## WESTLAND.

(H. D. M. HASZARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

There are only two settlements in this district, both of which were acquired some years ago. Good progress has been made by the whole of the lessees, and the establishment of dairy factories has resulted in very material increases in the unimproved values; but, notwithstanding large goodwill offering, no sales whatever have taken place during the year. At the time of purchase of these estates only parts of the areas had been cleared, but practically the whole of the bush has now been felled, and more cultivation is being done. Although the growth of grass has been very good, the wet season has had the effect of decreasing the milk-yield, but this shortage will be made good by the enhanced prices ruling for butter.

## CANTERBURY.

(C. R. POLLEN, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Four new settlements were opened for selection under renewable-lease tenure during the year, as follows: Hillboro', three sections; Copland, two sections; Teschemaker, thirteen sections; Finlay Downs, five sections. All were disposed of.

All the settlements acquired previous to 1910 show steady progress, and their prosperity is assured. It was noticed when making cursory inspections during the year that the houses, buildings, yards, &c., were continually being augmented and kept up in good condition.

The crops were lighter than usual, owing to a dry spring, but quality and unusual high prices made up for deficiency in quantity.

Cropping restrictions were suspended, but very little overstepping of the conditions was apparent.

The reports on some of the recently acquired estates, the soil of which is of a light character, did not indicate such a satisfactory state of affairs. The unusual dryness of the spring and autumn months acted disastrously on these lands, which the porous nature of the soil renders susceptible to climatic influence. Improvements on these estates were not in all cases quite up to legal requirements, the greater part of the permanent additions being in the direction of those promising immediate profit.

The lands in the upper Ashley are being subdivided for disposal, the road giving access via the Ashley Gorge having been completed.

Residence conditions were well complied with. (The remarks made with regard to the Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912, 1913, and 1914, in Appendix I, apply to these lands.)

## OTAGO.

(ROBERT T. SADD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

During the spring and summer the past season in Otago was very dry, and in consequence some of the crops in the district were very poor, especially root crops. Feed was also scarce; but owing to the high prices obtaining for stock and crops the bulk of the settlers are fairly prosperous. In northern Otago fairly good crops have been successfully harvested, consisting chiefly of wheat and oats, and owing to the high prices occasioned by the war the fortunate growers are making very large profits. Unfortunately, the area under crop is not nearly so large as it should be.

During the year one new settlement (Waitahuna, 4,035 acres) was opened for selection, in ten holdings, which were all selected at the ballot or immediately afterwards.

The Otanomomo Settlement is now doing better, and some more sections have been taken, and the balance are being reoffered at a reduced valuation; several settlers made application for a revaluation, and this has greatly reduced the price. Boring operations are being prosecuted on the settlement to try to obtain a better water-supply. The settlers are forming a co-operative company to start their own butter-factory.

The older-established settlements are on a sound basis and most of the settlers are doing well. The high prices obtainable for all classes of farm-produce, owing to the war, will go a long way towards putting all these settlers in a good sound position.

## SOUTHLAND.

(G. H. M. McCURE, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

There are now twelve settlements in this district, the area under lease being 69,521 acres held by 298 lessees. During the year thirteen lessees took advantage of the legislation of recent years and purchased the freehold. The area thus acquired was 3,824 acres, and the amount received £9,501.

No new settlements were acquired during the past twelve months, but the remaining sections in Fortification Hill, Knowsley Park, and Waiarikiki Settlements were selected during the year. The remaining sections in the Ardlussa Settlement are being readvertised, and will be opened shortly. Altogether the settlements have been very successful, and the tenants continue to make satisfactory progress. It is instructive to note that the total improvements effected exceed the value of those required by £67,508.

## APPENDIX III.—REPORT ON SAND-DUNE RECLAMATION.

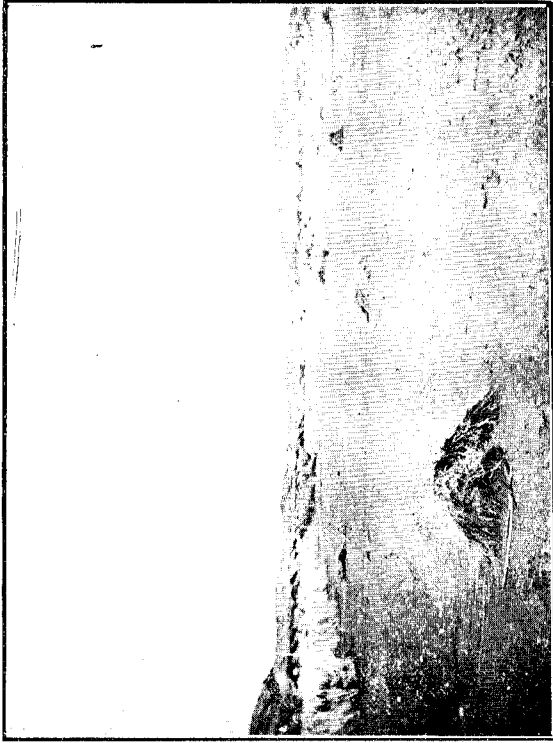
[By E. PHILLIPS TURNER, F.R.G.S., Inspector.]

### RUN 24, RANGITIKEL.

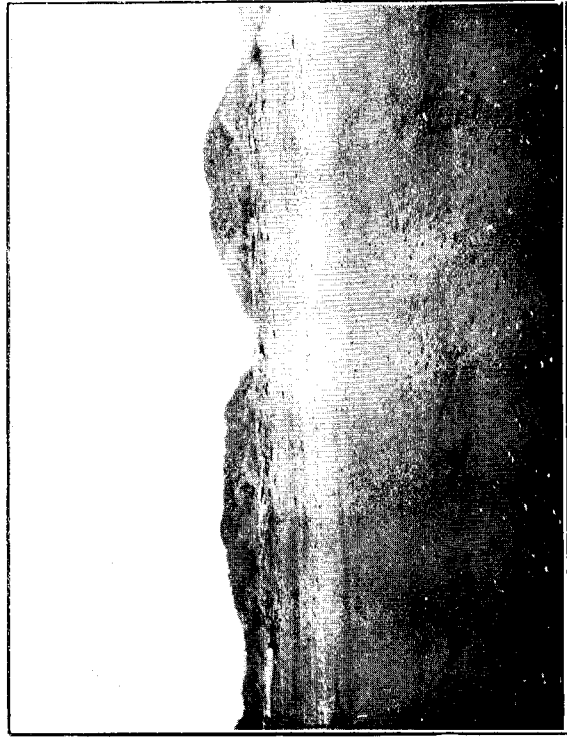
In the spring of 1913 a contract to plant with marram a belt of 6 chains wide and 210 chains (126 acres) along the coast was entered into with Mr. James McKelvie, the lessee of this run. The bunches of marram were to be set 2 ft. apart (10,900 to the acre), and the price per acre £3, or a total of £378. Owing to dry weather starting early only 50 chains were done the first year. Last winter Mr. McKelvie resumed operations, but owing to the extreme difficulty he had in getting men to stick at this kind of work he threw up the contract in the spring, after completing 154 chains (92½ acres) of the original contract of 210 chains. Though Mr. McKelvie had the advantage of having carts and horses near the ground and a foreman who has had many years' experience with planting marram, yet he states that the planting cost him £6 per acre, and that he has lost heavily on the work. The sand in this locality is of a very light nature, and a very slight wind moves it, and this with other disagreeable factors connected with living on the dunes causes men to throw up the work after two or three days' experience. Though up to the middle of spring the marram that was planted looked as though it had taken well, the abnormal drought, accompanied by constant high westerly winds in the summer, caused such a continuous movement of the sand that quite two-thirds of the total marram planted



1



2



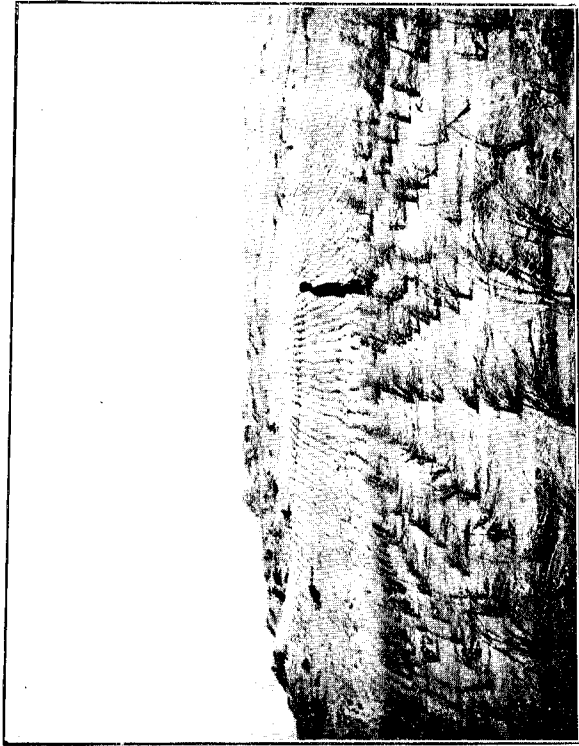
3



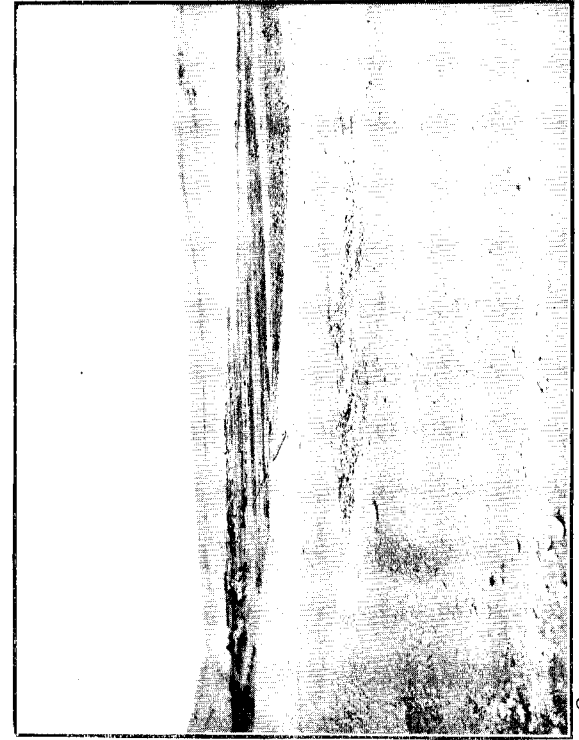
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RANGITIKI SAND-DUNES.

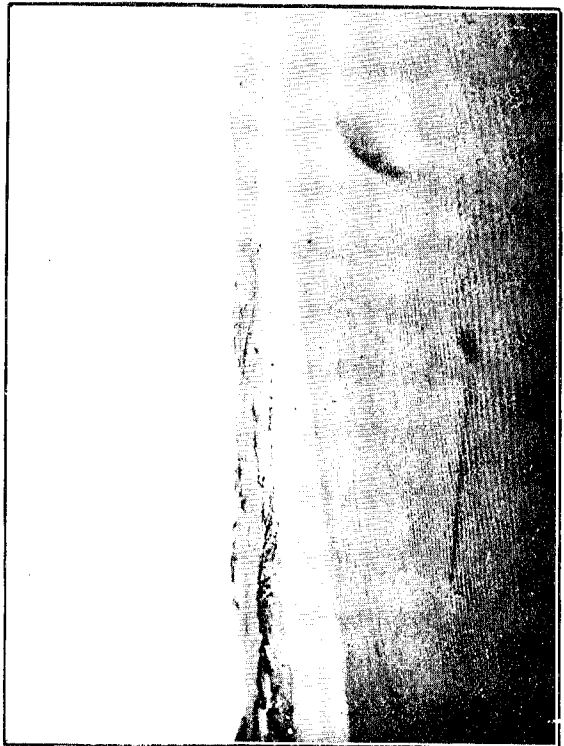
1.) Looking northerly from South Head; *Scirpus trondosus* and Planted Marram; 2.) A Gravelly Basin about 6 Chains inland, Newly Planted Marram on left; 3.) Looking inland from Beach; Logs at High-water Mark; on Mounds *Scirpus trondosus* and *Spartina*; 4.) Looking seaward towards Point from which (3) was taken—a Single-basin.



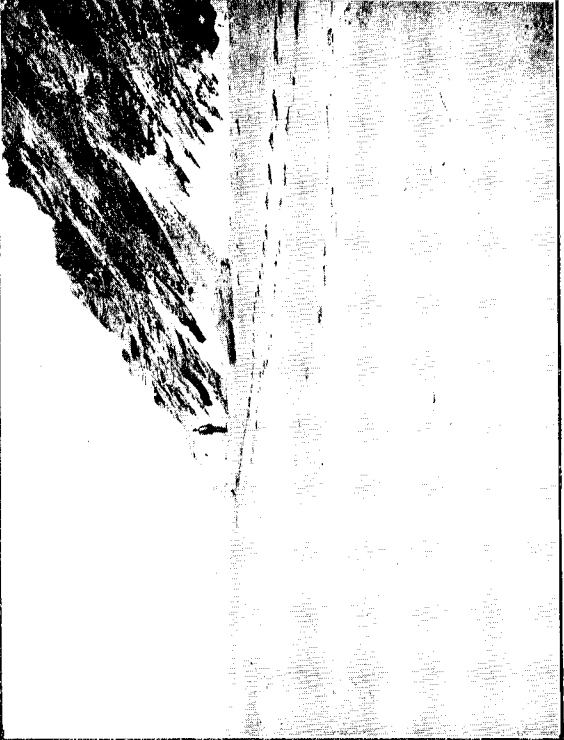
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6



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8

SAND-DUNES AT WAIKATO HEADS.

5. Looking northward; Marion, painted last Spring. 6. About 50 Chains inland from Beach-Moai; Hollow strewn with Shells and Pumice.  
 7. A Shelly Beach, looking southward; *Scalpus* Mounds, now planted. 8. Natural Fortalice at Mouth of Waikato, now planted, being underent by Sea.



here has been killed; so if this work is to be persevered with it will be necessary to replant the area where the grass has failed. It may be stated that private planters in this district have had the same misfortune.

#### WAIKATO HEADS.

During the last winter a belt 1 mile long and 6 chains wide (48 acres) was planted with marram at the north Waikato Head. The contract was let to Mr. J. H. Herrold (who was the only one who tendered) for £300. The bunches of marram were planted 2 ft. apart, or about 10,900 to the acre. It must be stated that in this case all the marram had to be carted about twelve miles along the beach from Waipipi.

Though this dune is reported to be one of the worst in New Zealand, it is pleasing to say that the marram has taken very well there. This is probably largely attributable to the fact of the sand having a higher specific gravity than that at Rangitikei; and also the rainfall is greater. However, though the grass has taken very well, the heavy gales of the spring caused the sea to undercut the bank just at the mouth of the river, and though a rough kind of retaining-wall of manuka-boughs was built to protect the bank, and a short groyne of stout manuka poles erected down to low-water mark, they have proved ineffective, and the erosion on my last visit was still going on. Protection at this point could be ensured if a pile groyne were built about 60 chains up the river from the mouth, so as to deflect the current to the south side of the Heads, but it would cost more money than the circumstances warrant, so it has been decided not to attempt to stop the erosion, but to run the chance of the current reverting to its former course on the south side. Whether this occur or not, reclamation-work may be continued up the coast and to the rear of the belt planted.

#### PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE.

##### *Run 24, Rangitikei.*

All authorities insist on starting reclamation at the source of the sand-supply. Owing to the lesser expense involved it was decided to treat this dune according to the method adopted in Holland and Belgium—that is, planting marram on the natural surface along the shore. Owing to the occurrence of drought with high winds this treatment has not proved a success at Rangitikei. The surface of the land near the shore is very irregular, being a succession of high mounds. It is now proposed to make sand-catching fences to hold the sand between these mounds and establish a fairly uniform foredune along the coast. As there is no material near at hand with which to build these catching-fences, the operation will be expensive; but this seems better than running the risk of another dry season destroying any grass that might again be planted on the natural surface.

Having effectively held the sand at the shore-line, the planting of marram on the interior can be made much wider, with a consequent lessening of the cost. It is proposed to send down from the Rotorua Nursery a competent man to act as foreman, and he will have under him a small gang of men to start building up the foredune and planting marram to the rear. At the same time a small area in a place secure from sand-drift will be fenced in with rabbit-proof fencing, and some trees sent down from Rotorua Nursery to test their respective merits for growing under local conditions.

##### *Waikato Heads.*

To the rear of the marram already established here it is proposed to plant a belt of tree-lupin, and if sufficient marram can be procured at a reasonable cost in the district the belt will be extended up the coast. As the land here rises to an elevation of about 300 ft. it would be too exposed for tree-planting. An attempt, however, will be made to establish suitable grasses on the reclaimed area.

##### *Other Places.*

On the Kaipara Coast near Waimauku £100 is going to be spent in aiding the Motutara Domain Board to reclaim a bad part of their grounds.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the Government undertakings in connection with this matter are already fairly considerable, and they are being proceeded with as extensively as finances will permit.

## APPENDIX IV.—LAND-DRAINAGE OPERATIONS.

[By J. B. THOMPSON, Chief Drainage Engineer.]

THE Land-drainage Branch has been busily engaged during the past year in attending to matters pertaining to land-drainage and river-protective works generally.

Special inspections, reports, and estimates were made in connection with the following schemes: New River Estuary reclamation; Waikiwi River improvement; river-protective works affecting the Grey, Hokitika, and Kokatahi Rivers, Clandeboye and Barnego Settlements; Poukawa Lake drainage, and Lets Valley Swamp drainage.

Inspections, &c., were made in connection with Tokatoka, Hungahunga, Kawa, Eureka, Upper Mangapiko, Whangamarino, Tuatua-Moana, and Ody's Swamps; Waimatuka River, Kaitangata Lake drainage; water-supplies of Otanomomo and Mamaku; and many other minor works and schemes.

A good deal of work was done by the respective officers in inspecting works performed by local bodies out of Government grants. Plans and specifications for these works were also examined, for approval or otherwise. Vouchers of a total amount of £5,326 8s. 9d. were prepared and certified to for payment to the local bodies through the Treasury.

Hereunder is a short report on works that have been carried out under my control, in connection with the various grants, &c. :—

*Hauraki Plains, Construction of Roads and Drains on Crown Land adjoining.*—Some 50 chains of road has been formed, and further work is now in hand. The expenditure during the year was £121 1s. 2d.

*Hauraki Plains: Orchard East Road Extension.*—This work connects the Orchard Road with Turua-Netherton Road, thus providing a direct outlet for the proposed Orchard Bridge. Some 75 chains of road was completed, 60 chains cleared and grubbed, and further works are now in hand. The expenditure during the year was £289 18s.

*Hauraki Plains: Waikaka Tramway Road.*—This is a grant to assist in the construction of Patetonga (Waikaka) Tramway Road. The road has been fascined and ballasted throughout, and is now being widened so as to be used for vehicular purposes. The expenditure during the year was £1,250 9s.

*Hauraki Plains, Metalling Roads in.*—The work done under this heading has been given in detail in the report on Hauraki Plains operations. The total length metalled to date is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Metal is principally obtained in Kaueranga Stream, Thames, and barged over to the plains by our own plant. We have also obtained metal from the Auckland Shingle Company. During the year the following roads were metalled: Pipiroa-Waitakaruru, 100 chains; Kopuarahi-Turua, 180 chains; Kopuarahi-Kopu, 180 chains. The expenditure during the year was £4,229 6s. 5d.

*Hauraki Plains: Maintenance completed Works, Drains, &c.*—This vote is for maintaining drainage-works on the settled portion of the Hauraki Plains until such time as the rating clauses become operative. Roads and drains have been generally maintained during the year, the expenditure being £1,332 18s.

*Hukerenui Swamp Drainage.*—Some 2 miles of levels were run, and contracts let for drains approximating this distance. Payment was also made for drains completed last year. The expenditure during the year was £129 17s.

*Kopu Ferry Road to Hauraki Plains.*—This is for road to connect Hauraki Plains with contemplated ferry near Kopu. Some 40 chains of road were completed, but the work is held up until such time as the local bodies concerned decide on the western terminal of such ferry. The expenditure was £98 12s.

*Morrinsville-Waitakaruru Road.*—Some 20 chains of road-formation was completed, at a cost of £64 18s. 6d. The formation will be proceeded with immediately the balance of road is legalized.

*Ngarua Road and Canal.*—This canal leaves the Piako River where the Ngarua Creek joins it. It has been cut for 125 chains, some 79,707 cubic yards being taken out. A dam had to be constructed, so that the dredge would not be liable to tidal influences. The cost for the year was £449 8s. 6d.

*Patetonga South Road.*—This road, 65 chains in length, has now been completed. The expenditure for the year was £175 12s., including compensation.

*Piako and Waitoa Rivers Improvement.*—This has been mainly widening of the Piako River between Kerepehi and Waikaka Canal by the two Priestman dredgers. The good effect of the work done was apparent during the heavy rains in March, when the Piako River only rose a few feet at Kerepehi. During the year some 21,026 cubic yards were dredged; at Patetonga Landing the approaches to the wharf were deepened, some 12,730 cubic yards being taken out. The cost for the year was £1,044 15s. 4d. During the coming year it is proposed to dredge portion of the Waitoa River, south of its junction with the Piako River.

*Rangitaiki Drainage District: General Road-construction.*—A distance of 6 miles 24 chains was completed during the year, and a further distance of 11 miles is now well in hand. The expenditure was £1,163 9s. 8d.

*Waikato River: Engineering Surveys.*—The engineering survey of the Waikato River was continued under the local charge of Mr. Allan Morpeth, Land-drainage Engineer's assistant. The larger part of traversing done was swamp-edges and islands in the vicinity of the Whangamarino Swamp, some 70 miles having been completed. Levelling mainly consisted of lines run through the swamp area to locate the fall in various parts, and to find out what proportion of the land was drainable, not being subject to normal floods. Some 25 miles of levelling was done. Cross-sections of the river were taken from Mercer to Rangiriri, some thirty-eight being taken in that distance. Cross-sections were also taken at various places near the groynes put in by the Waikato River Board, and compared with those taken in 1913, to show result of groyne-work. The tide-gauges established last year were read at various times. Inspections of the Waikato River from Cambridge to Ngaruawahia, and of the Waipa from Pirongia to Ngaruawahia, were also made. In addition, inspection was made of the small tributaries of the Waikato River near Mercer. The field-work has now been completed, and plans will be finished early in May. The expenditure during the year was £590 8s. 8d.

*Waitoa River: Snagging.*—This river has now been snagged as far south as the Te Aroha-Morrinsville Railway. During the year some 4 miles 9 chains of river was snagged, and 5 miles weeded. The expenditure for the year was £887 1s. 10d.

*Opouriao Protective Works, to prevent Encroachment of River.*—All the old works have been kept in repair and are in good order. New works during the past year consisted chiefly of the erection of boom groynes, some 2,794 ft. being constructed; 150 ft. of wire-netted stone groynes were also put down; and some 85 chains of the river-bank has been fascined and protected with willows. The past season was unfavourable for the successful planting of willows, or more of this work would have been done. The expenditure during the year was £1,071 9s. 10d.

*Waimana River Protective Works.*—The works completed last year have been maintained. Three boom groynes of a total length of 528 ft. have been erected. The proposed new channel through Section 19 was laid off and cleaned ready for scooping. The land required to be resumed for same was surveyed, and willows planted to protect the proposed new channel. The expenditure was £262 11s. 10d.

*Waihi Swamp (Maketu) Drainage.*—A field party has been in operation on this work since December last, getting the necessary levels, &c., so that works could be proceeded with. Some 2 miles 43 chains of the Kaikokopu Stream was levelled up, 10 miles of swamp-edge defined, and check levels taken, and a magnetic survey made of the islands and channels in the Waihi Estuary. A Priestman dredger was ordered from England, and should arrive in the Dominion in May. Plans were prepared for construction of pontoon for the dredger. This pontoon will be constructed on the ground, and will be completed by the time the dredger arrives. The expenditure during the year was £294 19s. 8d.

*Monovale Swamp, Cambridge.*—The engineering survey of the Monovale Swamp was completed during the year, some 19 miles of levels being taken, and also soundings over 10,000 acres of swanip area. The expenditure was £150 4s.

*Waitakaruru Loan Block.*—This is for roading, Waitakaruru Loan Block, and also Waitakaruru Settlement (Land for Settlements Account). It was decided to give road access to all the sections before offering for selection. To date some 15 miles of road has been formed (9 miles of 14 ft. road and 6 miles of 12 ft. road), 6 miles 40 chains of drains formed, and 70 chains of stop-bank and drain. The Waitakaruru Loan Block comprises 9,382 acres, and Waitakaruru Settlement 2,350 acres, and the survey of this 11,732 acres was completed during the year. The whole area was offered for selection in February, and practically the whole of it was applied for. The expenditure during the year out of Loan Block was £1,440 17s. 8d., and Waitakaruru Settlement (Land for Settlements Account) £274 5s.

*Ballachraggan Settlement (Land for Settlements Account).*—Some 130 chains of drains were completed and eight bridges constructed in this settlement for the year, at a cost of £274 5s.

*Otway Settlement (Land for Settlements Account).*—In this block improvements to existing drains have been laid out, as well as to existing roads. In addition, over 2 miles of roads have been levelled and will be formed at once.

*East Taieri, Waipori River.*—An engineering survey party commenced operations in March, and during period traversed 9 miles 66 chains on Waipori River and Meggott Burn Stream, and also roughly located on ground the line of a possible channel through Lake Waipori.

The following large schemes were carried out by this branch, and of course comprise the major portion of the works: (1) Hauraki Plains drainage-works; (2) Rangitaiki drainage-works. These works are treated in separate reports, to comply with the respective Acts governing each.

*Engineering Surveys.*—Some 139 miles of engineering surveys have been made in connection with the various works.

The schedule hereunder shows the principal works carried out during the past year, covering all our operations. Of course, there are many works of minor importance that it is impossible to summarize:—

Double drain and road formation .. .. .	2 m. 50 ch.
Deepening and widening drains .. .. .	71 m. 28 ch.
Drain and road formation .. .. .	1 m. 46 ch.
Road drains formed .. .. .	2 m. 13 ch.
Outlet drains formed .. .. .	25 m. 75 ch.
Clearing and cleaning drains .. .. .	163 m. 68 ch.
Drain and stop-bank formed .. .. .	2 m. 10 ch.
Strengthening stop-bank .. .. .	4 m. 15 ch.
Removing heavy timber from drains .. .. .	7 m. 52 ch.
Snagging river .. .. .	2 m. 30 ch.
Weeding river .. .. .	4 m. 40 ch.
Disking roads .. .. .	27 m. 0 ch.
Forming roads .. .. .	20 m. 24 ch.
Clearing road-line .. .. .	3 m. 60 ch.
Fences erected .. .. .	10 m. 64 ch.
Bridges erected .. .. .	22
Wharf erected .. .. .	1
Flood-gates erected .. .. .	2
Roads metalled .. .. .	5 m. 40 ch.
Canals cut .. .. .	4 m. 44 ch.
Rivers widened and dredged .. .. .	7 m. 32 ch.
Spoil lifted by dredgers .. .. .	444,686 cub. yd.
Timber groynes erected .. .. .	3,322 lin. ft.
Wire-stone groynes erected .. .. .	150 lin. ft.
River-bank fascined .. .. .	85 ch.
Artesian bores sunk .. .. .	22
Engineering surveys, levelling .. .. .	139 m.

*Office.*—The total expenditure certified to for payment during the year was £55,610 1s. 1d. Of this amount direct Treasury payments amounted to £15,991 9s. 11d., payments through Thames and Whakatane Imprest Accounts £39,335 16s. 1d., and payments through Post Office to £282 15s. 1d.

Some 190 piecework and three special contracts were in operation.

Inward correspondence amounted to 1,800 letters, and 1,920 outwards, and some 1,630 vouchers were prepared and passed through the books. A considerable number of engineering, road, survey, and other plans were made, and tracings for photo-lithos and other purposes prepared. The expenditure quoted represents the amounts actually expended on the various works, but will not necessarily agree with the figures shown in the tables for the year as submitted to Parliament, as a portion of the expenditure was not brought to charge before the end of the year.

I have to express my appreciation of the very efficient services rendered by my staff during the year.

Table 1.—RETURN SHOWING (APPROXIMATELY) POSITION OF LANDS IN THE DOMINION AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Total Area sold and held on Freehold.	Total Area granted under Acts without Money Payment or reserved for Public Purposes from Foundation of Dominion.	Total Area of Crown Lands leased under all Tenures (exclusive of Reserves leased by Crown).	Total Area open for Selection.	Total Area of Native Land.	Estimated Area of Barren and Worthless Country not already included under any of the other Headings.	Estimated Area occupied by Roads, Rivers, Lakes, &c.	Total Area remaining for Future Disposal, exclusive of Land shown in Preceding Columns.	Total Area in Land District.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	2,413,678	3,640,930	1,872,223	253,953	3,545,599	..	658,795	1,140,362	13,525,540
Hawke's Bay	2,421,581	437,223	956,931	20,018	1,385,506	..	150,140	137,501	5,508,900
Taranaki	500,108	713,805	606,073	6,663	317,909	..	66,906	193,036	2,404,500
Wellington	3,226,715	890,639	858,771	6,956	1,617,509	36,500	195,110	218,800	7,051,000
Nelson	586,520	311,421	795,100	59,321	41,148	1,573,000	60,000	1,288,490	4,715,000
Marlborough	782,734	222,445	1,460,573	13,023	..	131,447	100,367	57,411	2,768,000
Westland	140,198	308,545	1,616,141	49,362	..	750,000	154,171	845,461	3,863,878
Canterbury	3,636,071	1,369,047	3,915,935	191	..	233,650	444,780	4,371	9,604,045
Otago	1,993,102	591,999	5,504,238	3,515	..	520,000	263,300	92,846	8,969,000
Southland	1,592,288	3,554,257	1,722,636	22,664	..	626,479	140,502	223,543	7,882,369
Totals	17,292,995	12,040,311	19,308,621	435,666	6,907,671	3,871,076	2,234,071	4,201,821	66,292,232

**Table 2.**—LANDS OPENED FOR SALE AND SELECTION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	SALE AT AUCTION FOR CASH OR ON DEFERRED PAYMENT.			Optional System.	Renewable Lease.	Small Grazing-Runs.	Pastoral Runs.	Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.	Lease by Auction and Application and Miscellaneous.	Totals.
	Town.	Suburban.	Rural.							
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland .. .. .	156	73	389	67,556	..	7,150	..	358	379	76,061
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	7	50	..	4,285	132	13,640	5,328	..	1	23,443
Taranaki .. .. .	8	28	49	18,381	649	..	..	..	69	19,184
Wellington .. .. .	39	..	25	21,624	11	2,397	..	..	277	24,373
Nelson .. .. .	..	1	..	22,389	22	..	14,800	..	72	37,284
Marlborough .. .. .	4	..	144	4,302	..	..	143,000	..	99	147,549
Westland .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	544,790	..	78	544,869
Canterbury .. .. .	..	20	260	..	..	..	..	..	595	875
Otago .. .. .	21	178	1	2,888	593	7,748	23,450	..	25	34,904
Southland .. .. .	..	86	338	4,040	5	..	..	..	194	4,663
Totals .. .. .	236	436	1,206	145,465	1,412	30,935	731,368	358	1,789	913,205
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>										
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	7	..	14	..	..	..	1	22
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>										
Auckland .. .. .	3	..	9	..	8,535	..	..	..	..	8,547
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	867	..	..	..	..	867
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	129	..	..	..	..	129
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,703	..	..	..	..	1,703
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,124	..	..	..	..	10,124
Marlborough .. .. .	7	..	..	..	11,785	..	..	..	..	11,792
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	34	..	9	..	7,270	..	..	..	270	7,583
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4,177	..	..	..	..	4,177
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	434	..	..	..	..	434
Totals .. .. .	44	..	18	..	45,024	..	..	..	270	45,356
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>										
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,397	..	..	..	..	10,397
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5,809	..	..	..	..	5,809
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5,309	..	..	..	..	5,309
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	11,309	..	..	..	..	11,309
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	814	..	102,870	9,155	..	112,839
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	47,900	..	..	47,900
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	537	..	..	..	..	537
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	41	..	..	..	..	41
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	34,216	..	150,770	9,155	..	194,141
Education endowments .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*49,498
Grand totals .. .. .	280	436	1,231	145,465	80,666	30,935	882,138	9,513	2,060	1,202,222

The following shows the Land Districts in which these lands are situated: Auckland, 9,629 acres; Hawke's Bay, 209 acres; Taranaki, 2,203 acres; Wellington, 91 acres; Nelson, 776 acres; Canterbury, 1,537 acres; Otago, 241 acres; and Southland, 41,809 acres. With the exception of 12,083 acres opened on pastoral-run tenure (Southland), these lands were offered for selection under the Public Bodies' Leases Act, 1908.

Table 3.—RETURN OF LANDS SELECTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Tenure.	Number of Selectors.	Average Holdings of Selectors.						Total Area selected during Year.
		Number of Selectors, under 1 Acre.	Number of Selectors, 1 to 50 Acres.	Number of Selectors, 51 to 250 Acres.	Number of Selectors, 251 to 500 Acres.	Number of Selectors, 501 to 1,000 Acres.	Number of Selectors 1,001 Acres and over.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>								
Cash lands .. .. .	277	91	158	24	3	1	..	Acres. 5,711
Deferred payment .. .. .	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
Occupation with right of purchase .. .. .	428	..	100	181	87	41	19	110,729
Renewable lease .. .. .	19	12	3	..	1	3	..	2,704
Mining districts land occupation leases .. .. .	29	..	20	9	..	..	..	1,285
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. .. .	67	..	6	25	15	21	..	27,398
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	3,767
Pastoral runs .. .. .	20	..	1	2	2	..	15	283,780
Miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	472	62	282	75	14	18	21	207,484
Totals .. .. .	1,315	165	571	316	122	84	57	642,863
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>								
Cash lands .. .. .	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	7
Renewable lease .. .. .	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	14
Totals .. .. .	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	21
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Cash lands .. .. .	10	3	7	..	..	..	..	24
Deferred payment .. .. .	17	7	10	..	..	..	..	22
Renewable lease .. .. .	139	4	30	55	27	15	8	39,445
Miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	21	1	18	1	1	..	..	652
Totals .. .. .	187	15	65	56	28	15	8	40,143
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>								
Renewable lease .. .. .	166	1	51	54	28	21	11	46,237
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. .. .	47	..	5	25	17	..	..	9,553
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	4	..	..	..	..	1	3	11,036
Pastoral runs .. .. .	8	..	..	..	..	..	8	130,558
Miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	37	1	10	20	2	..	4	43,477
Totals .. .. .	262	2	66	99	47	22	26	240,861
Thermal springs districts leases .. .. .	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Educational-endowment Lands—</i>								
Primary .. .. .	93*	36	34	13	2	3	5	32,798
Secondary .. .. .	18	10	7	..	1	..	..	362
Totals .. .. .	111	46	41	13	3	3	5	33,160
Grand totals .. .. .	1,880	228	748	484	200	124	96	957,049
Other endowment lands .. .. .	13	4	7	..	2	..	..	827

\* Includes one cash sale of 1 acre.

Table 4.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SELECTORS AND LANDS SELECTED UNDER SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Year ending 31st March,	Cash.		Perpetual Lease* and Deferred Payment.†		Lease in Perpetuity.		Renewable Lease.		Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Agricultural Lease.		Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.		Small Grazing-runs.		Education Endowments.		Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.		Totals.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
1906	268	11,172	1*	127	810	160,240	..	393	158,020	..	..	30	1,194	34	68,587	..	..	94	21,382	1,630	420,722	
1907	462	20,377	..	..	654	156,517	..	451	220,061	..	..	26	1,044	51	114,854	..	..	79	14,391	1,723	527,244	
1908	407	28,522	..	..	499	100,669	183	70,643	360	188,212	3	84	73	3,047	64	226,757	..	..	57	7,876	1,646	625,810
1909	382	42,194	..	..	193	106,184	860	219,172	382	128,116	..	..	36	1,490	10	28,989	..	..	83	14,743	1,946	535,888
1910	381	8,886	..	..	4	1,011	694	184,904	528	141,757	..	..	60	2,068	45	298,494	..	..	71	11,946	1,783	649,066
1911	274	9,547	..	..	15	1,877	612	124,268	498	136,007	..	..	73	2,687	22	128,764	..	..	106	27,421	1,600	430,571
1912	409	6,096	..	..	..	..	628	187,082	388	132,869	..	..	55	1,426	23	144,617	18	5,061	192	53,114	1,713	530,265
1913	352	4,625	..	..	..	..	585	207,606	362	104,935	..	..	36	773	10	37,749	142	6,847	121	28,606	1,608	391,141
1914	312	5,948	..	..	..	..	539	213,402	489	117,366	..	..	61	2,398	4	14,691	59	3,340	145	28,037	1,609	385,182
1915	288	5,742	18†	27	..	..	325	88,400	428	110,729	..	..	29	1,285	6	14,803	102	20,948	114	36,951	1,310	278,885
Totals ..	3,535	143,109	{ 1* 18†	{ 127 27	2,175	526,498	4,426	1,295,477	4,279	1,433,072	3	84	479	17,412	269	1,078,305	321	36,196	1,062	244,467	16,568	4,774,774

**Table 5.**—LANDS SOLD FOR CASH DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Town.			Suburban.			Rural.			Totals.		
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	34	29	1,051	16	95	364	58	1,957	2,908	108	2,081	4,323
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	6	4	261	9	54	567	5	374	1,354	20	432	2,182
Taranaki .. .. .	2	2	46	2	25	144	6	36	111	10	63	301
Wellington .. .. .	12	7	585	..	..	..	4	47	408	16	54	993
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	921	674	6	921	674
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	1	4	45	7	294	668	8	298	713
Westland .. .. .	2	1	75	..	..	..	8	101	246	10	102	321
Canterbury .. .. .	1	20	100	..	..	..	4	258	1,128	5	278	1,228
Otago .. .. .	22	12	357	28	115	823	12	522	418	62	649	1,598
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	15	74	594	17	759	1,481	32	833	2,075
Totals .. .. .	79	75	2,475	71	367	2,537	127	5,269	9,396	277	5,711	14,408
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>												
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	1	7	160	..	..	..	1	7	160
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	2	1	222	..	..	..	4	13	119	6	14	341
Canterbury .. .. .	1	½	30	..	..	..	2	5	72	3	5½	102
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	75	1	5	75
Totals .. .. .	3	1½	252	..	..	..	7	23	266	10	24½	518
<i>Educational Endowment (Primary)—</i>												
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	18	1	1	18
Grand totals .. .. .	82	76½	2,727	72	374	2,697	135	5,293	9,680	289	5,743½	15,104
<i>Other Endowment Lands—</i>												
Wellington .. .. .	5	3	139	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	139

**Table 6.**—RETURN OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT LANDS, UNDER THE LAND ACTS, 1877 and 1885, AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1915, including Capitalized Holdings.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.	Freehold acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments and Interest payable.		Number of Purchasers	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Auckland .. .. .	..	Acres.	£	£	..	Acres.	..	Acres.	..	£
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46,003	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91,324	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	159,479	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	219,491	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150,467	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,682	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	7	132	17	14	..	..	..	100	1	..
Otago .. .. .	4	700	16	162	2	629	..	4,572	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	643	..	..
Totals .. .. .	11	832	33	176	2	629	9,521	30,278	1	1
							1,237	193,165	..	..
							1,586	196,916	..	..

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and special-settlement lands.



**Table 7.—RETURN OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT LANDS HELD UNDER THE LAND LAWS AMENDMENT ACTS, 1912 AND 1913, AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.**

District.	Selections during the Year.			Conversions from other Tenures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	..	Acres.	£	27	Acres.	£	51	Acres.	£
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	3	12,499	329	9	17,006	470
Taranaki .. .. .	1	5	50	2	6,652	495	11	11,359	759
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	39	201	35	61	2,200	228
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	3	9,873	1,130	14	13,440	1,526
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	750	15	..	3,514	80
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	2,497	62
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	4	114	14	4	114	14
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	2	254	17	4	784	47
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	6	84	35	28	2,203	163
Totals .. .. .	1	5	50	86	30,427	2,070	191	53,117	3,349
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	10	13	63	82	11,319	1,579	148	12,887	2,082
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	20	5,804	2,117	24	6,461	2,437
Taranaki .. .. .	7	9	27	6	722	681	16	760	761
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	5	539	196	5	414	119
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	1	947	100	2	1,816	273
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	4	4,277	892	4	4,277	892
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	20	1,947	613	22	1,975	792
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	5	2,469	435	6	2,865	561
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	3	189	76	5	190	78
Totals .. .. .	17	22	90	146	28,213	6,689	232	31,645	7,995
Grand totals .. .. .	18	27	140	232	58,640	8,759	423	84,762	11,344

District.	Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.	Freehold acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.	
		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>								
Auckland .. .. .	£ 1,577	3	Acres. 928	6	Acres. 1,224	£ 1,174	4	£ 19
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	1,831	2	599	2	599	959	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	466	1	165	1	165	243	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	2,387	3	1,030	4	1,207	1,537	7	11
Nelson .. .. .	876	3	1,893	4	2,438	986	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Westland .. .. .	132	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	41	..	..	..	..	..	2	28
Otago .. .. .	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland .. .. .	675	6	421	10	492	540	..	..
Totals .. .. .	8,005	18	5,036	27	6,125	5,439	14	59
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Auckland .. .. .	7,118	28	1,345	38	1,380	4,996	11	42
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	7,582	2	56	2	56	529	5	47
Taranaki .. .. .	4,283	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	1,970	1	130	1	130	1,744	1	1
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	1,636	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	4,811	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. .. .	481	..	..	..	..	..	1	46
Southland .. .. .	862	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	28,743	31	1,531	41	1,566	7,269	18	136
Grand totals .. .. .	36,748	49	6,567	68	7,691	12,708	32	195

Table 8.—RETURN OF PERPETUAL-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realized.
Auckland .. .. .	1	Acres. 48	£ 5	..	Acres. ..	£ ..	..	Acres. ..	£ ..	16	Acres. 2,382	£ 1,153
Hawke's Bay .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	465	390
Taranaki .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	35	106
Wellington .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	412	565
Nelson .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	199	202
Canterbury .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	419	1,079
Otago .. .	..	..	..	2	37	3	2*	277	10	17	3,321	2,392
Southland .. .	5	46	8	1	19	2	..	..	..	12	205	697
Totals .. .	6	94	13	3	56	5	2	277	10	59	7,438	6,584

District.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915 (exclusive of Amount from Perpetual Leases made Freehold).	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Auckland .. .	585	Acres. 170,499	£ 80,684	158	Acres. 22,196	£ 572	£ 527	12	£ 19
Hawke's Bay .. .	313	135,635	104,060	3	1,214	48	65	..	..
Taranaki .. .	407	101,973	94,856	7	3,012	146	157	..	..
Wellington .. .	828	311,436	278,615	36	2,080	116	148	2	3
Nelson .. .	32	10,137	3,499	5	666	14	11	1	5
Marlborough .. .	9	1,698	786	15	466	26	27	1	1
Westland .. .	9	682	685	4	381	19	17	..	..
Canterbury .. .	139	17,273	26,253	95	2,730	324	301	12	37
Otago .. .	225	37,445	30,453	197	21,250	858	854	4	14
Southland .. .	189	26,032	22,027	123	7,500	410	394	..	..
Totals .. .	2,736	812,810	641,918	643	61,495	2,533	2,501	32	79

\* These leases were again renewed during the year, the annual rental being £12.

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and special-settlement lands.

Table 9.—RETURN OF OCCUPATION-WITH-RIGHT-OF-PURCHASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount received.
Auckland .. .	260	Acres. 46,293	£ 5,852	55	Acres. 17,882	£ 894	..	Acres. ..	£ ..	124	Acres. 28,745	£ 20,890
Hawke's Bay .. .	8	2,816	1,235	1	121	12	..	..	..	12	9,953	9,485
Taranaki .. .	70	25,408	2,407	7	4,815	340	..	..	..	7	3,875	2,823
Wellington .. .	39	24,464	2,887	5	3,405	288	..	..	..	46	15,841	20,107
Nelson .. .	5	2,564	122	1	412	5	..	..	..	11	1,398	526
Marlborough .. .	17	3,806	327	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	236	165
Canterbury .. .	1	74	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	826	833
Otago .. .	13	1,651	107	9	1,457	39	1	207	7	4	476	201
Southland .. .	15	3,653	117	8	1,243	63	..	..	..	20	3,494	1,729
Totals .. .	428	110,729	13,074	86	29,335	1,641	1	207	7	230	64,844	56,759

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount received during the year ended 31st March, 1915 (exclusive of Amount paid for acquiring Freehold).	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Auckland .. .	971	Acres. 218,138	£ 124,222	2,959	Acres. 799,248	£ 49,023	£ 42,303	228	£ 3,446
Hawke's Bay .. .	152	76,581	70,308	362	142,832	21,828	19,921	8	219
Taranaki .. .	130	48,497	45,190	701	315,664	19,873	17,188	35	749
Wellington .. .	515	149,329	174,252	845	335,358	27,763	23,616	50	1,230
Nelson .. .	84	14,471	5,880	213	66,303	1,365	1,203	20	135
Marlborough .. .	23	6,320	5,837	64	19,525	1,148	1,009	1	10
Westland .. .	22	4,131	2,558	86	14,661	478	412	1	7
Canterbury .. .	23	3,146	3,821	25	3,932	458	399	..	..
Otago .. .	51	8,067	4,530	311	55,015	1,663	1,376	23	117
Southland .. .	133	28,245	15,561	464	94,933	3,488	3,177	..	..
Totals .. .	2,104	556,925	452,159	6,030	1,847,471	127,087	110,604	366	5,913

NOTE.—This table includes village settlement and improved farm settlement lands.

Table 10.—RETURN OF LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Conversions to Deferred Payment during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental payable.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realized.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	1	930	9	..	..	..	14	3,344	71	65	16,388	12,139
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	600	14	15	4,715	5,764
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	201	23	14	2,830	4,192
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,177	107	89	13,910	23,283
Nelson .. .. .	4	987	40	..	..	..	3	750	11	9	1,692	723
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,966	1,369
Westland .. .. .	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	206	115
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	114	9	23	4,059	5,885
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	254	12	8	1,338	1,547
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	38	2	20	4,212	2,371
Totals .. .. .	6	1,918	50	..	..	..	38	7,478	249	252	51,316	57,388
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	7,626	1,199	67	8,035	20,134
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	432	460	15	2,538	14,561
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	722	681	2	184	4,531
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	539	196	15	1,512	18,415
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	3	1	3	..	..	..	2	1,333	343	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	969	557	30	1,331	11,381
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2,469	435	3	315	3,838
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	184	71	10	1,781	6,146
Totals .. .. .	3	1	3	..	..	..	103	14,274	3,942	142	15,696	79,006
Grand totals .. .. .	9	1,919	53	..	..	..	141	21,752	4,191	394	67,012	136,394

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland .. .. .	238	52,678	42,385	1,100	255,007	7,330	6,780	45	154
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	50	15,589	19,925	291	91,261	5,456	5,153	2	10
Taranaki .. .. .	48	10,621	15,122	772	211,854	9,865	9,107	34	258
Wellington .. .. .	278	37,176	57,550	1,324	202,696	11,832	11,451	38	220
Nelson .. .. .	93	34,874	16,285	423	149,243	2,637	1,895	33	341
Marlborough .. .. .	30	9,761	6,641	321	137,324	3,282	2,986	4	185
Westland .. .. .	69	16,545	8,243	386	45,008	1,179	945	17	35
Canterbury .. .. .	47	7,319	12,013	426	77,144	4,772	4,452	8	43
Otago .. .. .	52	8,896	7,437	861	193,447	5,819	5,276	11	53
Southland .. .. .	155	26,124	20,657	503	77,692	2,319	2,146	1	1
Totals .. .. .	1,060	219,583	206,258	6,407	1,440,676	54,491	50,191	193	1,300
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	97	11,407	24,400	470	96,871	15,621	15,185	24	706
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	17	2,602	16,047	415	116,717	37,859	34,750	5	337
Taranaki .. .. .	4	368	8,774	27	2,927	2,122	2,891	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	19	1,857	23,194	270	36,078	13,088	13,179	11	203
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	13	4,097	823	889	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	282	52,999	11,877	10,977	10	177
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	28	4,988	538	467	1	8
Canterbury .. .. .	30	1,331	11,381	1,074	164,209	57,840	53,031	26	444
Otago .. .. .	3	315	3,838	559	106,304	33,979	30,689	10	252
Southland .. .. .	14	2,397	6,754	220	45,632	10,178	9,146	6	219
Totals .. .. .	184	20,277	94,388	3,358	630,822	183,925	171,204	93	2,346
Cheviot Estate, Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	210	26,866	7,294	6,627	6	20
Grand totals .. .. .	1,244	239,860	300,646	9,975	2,098,364	245,710	228,022	292	3,666

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement, special-settlement, and improved-farm settlement lands.

Table 11.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Conversions to Deferred Payment during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Fur-chasers.	Area.	Amount real-ized
<i>National Endowment—</i>																		
Auckland ..	79	Acres. 14,801	£ 1,039	11	Acres. 1,340	£ 54	26	Acres. 8,892	£ 363	£ ..	Acres. ..	£ ..	Acres. ..	£ ..	..	Acres. ..	£ ..	
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki ..	13	6,668	448	..	..	..	2	630	61	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington ..	7	6,165	737	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson ..	22	11,864	379	7	1,037	38	19	3,986	74	6	6,090	25	..	..	..	..	..	
Marlborough ..	9	2,674	133	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Westland ..	10	1,192	51	10	973	46	7	1,569	38	1	261	17	..	..	..	..	..	
Canterbury..	2	85	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Otago ..	17	1,957	128	6	287	12	1	3	2	1	55	1	..	..	..	..	..	
Southland ..	7	831	40	..	..	..	2	51	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Totals ..	166	46,237	2,976	34	3,637	150	58	15,132	542	8	6,406	43	..	..	..	..	..	
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>																		
Canterbury..	1	14	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																		
Auckland ..	51	6,844	1,905	..	..	..	9	1,906	326	..	..	28	3,693	307	17	1,184	2,625	
Hawke's Bay ..	2	1,391	359	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	992	328	1	1	39	
Taranaki ..	1	129	77	..	..	..	1	129	77	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	199	
Wellington ..	11	1,711	781	..	..	..	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	90	
Nelson ..	6	7,640	425	..	..	..	..	..	2	2,701	114	1	947	45	..	..	..	
Marlborough ..	4	1,628	260	..	..	..	5	1,623	260	1	10,162	572	..	..	1	103	1,090	
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Canterbury..	33	7,185	4,183	..	..	..	1	5	5	2	47	74	..	..	..	..	..	
Otago ..	15	4,326	1,193	..	..	..	6	1,127	320	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Southland ..	16	8,591	1,727	..	..	..	1	1,790	292	3	1,625	315	1	5	5	2	385	
Totals ..	139	39,445	10,910	..	..	..	25	6,581	1,286	8	14,535	1,075	36	5,637	685	23	1,677	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																		
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hawke's Bay ..	2	1,132	231	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki ..	1	649	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington ..	16	923	101	..	..	..	5	1	11	4	21	15	20	119	73	3	8	
Totals ..	19	2,704	384	..	..	..	5	1	11	4	21	15	20	119	73	3	8	
Grand totals ..	325	88,400	14,283	34	3,637	150	88	21,714	1,839	20	20,962	1,133	56	5,756	758	26	1,685	

Table 11.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915—continued.

District.	Freeholds acquired to 31st March, 1915.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>National Endowment—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Hawke's Bay .. .. .		..	..	594	157,928	7,769	5,220	84	907
Taranaki .. .. .		..	..	61	20,688	4,078	3,759	3	24
Wellington .. .. .		..	..	138	54,550	4,084	2,651	5	93
Nelson .. .. .		..	..	79	21,042	2,258	1,642	3	597
Marlborough .. .. .		..	..	402	171,650	3,782	2,010	47	1,294
Westland .. .. .		..	..	99	18,289	648	588	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .		..	..	331	43,027	1,294	956	16	64
Otago .. .. .		..	..	17	6,590	510	440	..	..
Southland .. .. .		..	..	226	31,450	1,163	965	5	17
		..	..	176	21,901	930	823	3	6
Totals .. .. .		..	..	2,123	547,115	26,516	19,054	166	3,002
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury .. .. .		..	..	14	659	509	431	2	25
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	60	16,102	12,749	240	45,454	6,462	6,082	21	528
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	1	1	39	222	82,538	28,855	25,449	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	2	4	234	36	1,208	1,048	934	1	8
Wellington .. .. .	1	1	90	121	17,674	6,807	5,187	13	613
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	25	21,738	1,419	1,699	5	728
Marlborough .. .. .	1	103	1,090	75	86,715	9,865	4,557	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	519	247,012	59,659	48,421	102	2,082
Otago .. .. .	1	227	1,600	204	95,424	20,495	17,050	16	937
Southland .. .. .	3	385	793	61	22,465	5,098	3,217	1	19
Totals .. .. .	69	16,823	16,595	1,503	620,228	139,708	112,596	159	4,915
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	12	2,267	380	392	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	22	6,607	1,966	1,371	1	68
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	9	1,532	113	989	4	68
Wellington .. .. .	3	8	155	259	6,210	1,015	926	27	90
Totals .. .. .	3	8	155	302	16,616	3,474	3,678	32	226
Grand totals .. .. .	72	16,831	16,750	3,942	1,184,618	170,207	135,759	359	8,168

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and improved-farm settlement lands.

Table 12.—RETURN OF AGRICULTURAL-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Expiries during the Year.			Renewals during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1915.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Auckland .. .. .	..	Acres	£	..	Acres	£	..	Acres.	£	£	67	Acres.	£	..	£
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	279	489	..	..
Otago .. .. .	2	32	1	1	23	1	16	541	23	27	1,326	131,297	131,581	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	6,570	6,570	..	..
Totals .. .. .	2	32	1	1	23	1	16	541	23	27	1,475	140,896	139,230	..	..

**Table 13.**—RETURN OF MINING DISTRICTS LAND OCCUPATION LEASES UNDER PART VIII OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures and Surrenders during the Year.			Exchanges to Renewable Lease during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland ..	17	942	43	1	100	2	10	551	32	213	10,368	532	464	22	98
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	188	6	33*	1,469	58	62	13	40
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	481	16	14	1	8
Westland ..	3	23	4	..	..	..	2	32	5	85	762	122	125	4	2
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	8	271	16	3	110	6	7	287	12	303	9,967	512	508	8	13
Southland ..	1	49	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	57	1,924	185	174	..	..
Totals ..	29	1,285	66	4	210	8	21	1,058	55	696	24,971	1,425	1,347	48	161

\* Includes one selector, area 12 acres, annual rental £1, national-endowment land.

**Table 14.**—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES IN MINING DISTRICTS UNDER SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Rent paid during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number.	Amount.	
		Acres.	£		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	£	£		£	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																
Auckland ..	..	53	23,902	695	11	4,498	3	1,520	1	200	281	86,005	2,170	1,584	47	445
Nelson ..	..	11	2,887	72	3	338	..	..	4	1,547	138	25,119	526	552	20	170
Westland ..	..	3	609	13	2	172	2	282	2	400	80	11,149	266	161	3	16
Totals ..	..	67	27,398	780	16	5,008	5	1,802	7	2,147	499	122,273	2,962	2,297	70	631
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>																
Auckland ..	..	2	510	17	2	335	3	392	..	..	29	6,049	129	128	5	13
Nelson ..	..	14	2,665	74	3	519	1	167	3	2,145	133	28,386	755	430	27	584
Westland ..	..	31	6,378	168	6	769	3	489	2	168	199	33,691	781	403	8	29
Totals ..	..	47	9,553	259	11	1,623	7	1,048	5	2,313	361	68,126	1,665	961	40	626
Grand totals ..	..	114	36,951	1,039	27	6,631	12	2,850	12	4,460	860	190,399	4,627	3,258	110	1,257

Table 15.—RETURN OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>															
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	2	3,767	318	1	891	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	10	19,225	1,205	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	2	9,404	220	2	9,404	254	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	2	3,767	318	13	29,520	1,469	2	9,404	254	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>															
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	4	2,797	461	4	2,797	824	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	2	8,808	35	2	8,808	116	..	..	..	2	4,272	107
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	3	6,042	94	3	6,042	1,046	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	2	3,288	205	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	6	2,651	33	6	2,640	59	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	4	3,900	158	15	25,120	2,559	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. .. .	2	7,748	480	27	39,928	1,019	27	39,928	1,175	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	12	31,323	432	12	31,304	686	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	4	11,036	685	54	92,652	1,771	65	113,842	5,641	..	..	..	2	4,272	107
Grand totals .. .. .	6	14,803	1,003	71	124,969	3,701	71	126,043	6,719	..	..	..	2	4,272	107

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Freeholds acquired to 31st March, 1915.*			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Amount of Rent received during the Year.	Arrears on 31st March, 1915	
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchases.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	1	5,000	44	2	3,990	2,756	2	17,374	639	732	1	69
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	2	6,052	235	1	1,301	3,885	47	111,923	7,856	8,005	1	19
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2,786	46	153	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	8	7,576	308	3	3,267	6,055	67	57,899	3,354	3,003	10	258
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	5,172	119	112	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	22,541	1,579	2,319	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	85	197,197	5,498	5,867	..	..
Totals .. .. .	11	18,628	587	6	8,558	12,696	224	414,892	19,091	20,191	12	346
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>												
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	45,021	6,787	6,034	6	833
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	2	4,997	1,479	4	18,512	167	165	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	4	4,380	877	..	..	..	12	15,283	3,561	3,325	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	9,127	1,795	1,435	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	2	2,944	465	1	2,748	4,999	28	49,150	6,809	7,521	2	189
Canterbury .. .. .	1	978	49	..	..	..	43	81,452	10,989	9,547	4	177
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10,953	1,615	1,456	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1,658	2,582	1	1,150	77	58	..	..
Totals .. .. .	7	8,302	1,391	4	9,403	9,060	105	185,627	25,013	23,507	6	366
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	50,803	439	382	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	52	172,993	4,148	3,566	2	197
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7,870	152	59	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	11,898	481	414	1	27
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	16,758	109	120	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	213,456	3,068	3,266	8	228
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	216,038	9,153	8,348	1	237
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	283	999,876	19,346	19,781	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	66,531	1,033	932	..	..
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	528	1,756,223	37,929	36,868	12	689
Grand totals .. .. .	18	26,930	1,978	10	17,961	21,756	891	2,401,763	88,820	86,600	36	2,234

\* These freeholds were all acquired during the year.

**Table 16.—RETURN OF PASTORAL RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.**

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.				Forfeiture-s during the Year.		Expiries during the Year.		Renewals during the Year.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>													
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	1	5,326	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Marlborough	..	5	139,100	840	..	..	..	3	75,743	1	1,143	..	
Westland	..	5	109,950	77	..	..	..	15	125,821	11	107,700	..	
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	59,710	13	55,893	..	
Otago	..	7	30,980	320	..	..	..	20	56,423	12	14,851	..	
Southland	..	3	3,750	18	..	..	..	4	4,700	1	950	..	
Totals	..	20	283,780	1,255	..	..	1	5,326	55	322,397	38	180,537	
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>													
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Westland	..	4	43,310	49	..	..	..	2	17,100	2	30,050	..	
Canterbury	..	3	47,900	1,140	..	..	1	33,600	1	4,300	1	4,300	
Otago	..	1	39,348	320	..	..	..	8	442,109	3	189,410	..	
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7,300	1	7,300	..	
Totals	..	8	130,558	1,509	..	..	1	33,600	12	470,809	7	231,060	
Grand totals	..	28	414,338	2,764	..	..	2	38,926	67	793,206	45	411,597	

District.	Surrenders during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.				Rent paid during the Year	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area (approximately).	Average Holdings.	Annual Rental.		Number.	Amount.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>										
Auckland	..	Acres.	15	75,733	Acres.	5,049	£	£	£	
Hawke's Bay	..	..	11	58,102	..	5,282	221	71	3	
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	854	892	..	
Wellington	..	..	4	100,813	25,203	1,814	1,815	..	..	
Nelson	..	..	2	165,829	82,914	330	180	1	150	
Marlborough	..	1	88,000	551,246	16,213	3,237	3,285	..	..	
Westland	..	2	64,170	952,532	16,423	667	647	3	34	
Canterbury	..	..	72	1,878,398	26,088	15,924	17,295	2	30	
Otago	..	1	600	2,291,130	13,477	15,378	15,307	3	67	
Southland	..	..	64	680,894	10,639	2,747	2,766	..	..	
Totals	..	4	152,770	430	6,754,677	15,709	41,172	42,258	12	303
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>										
Canterbury	..	..	1	1,619	1,619	190	190	..	..	
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>										
Canterbury	..	..	..	725	..	42	..	..	..	
Otago	..	..	4	805	201	83	133	..	..	
Totals	..	..	4	1,530	382	125	133	..	..	
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>										
Auckland	..	..	9	92,935	10,326	155	133	5	12	
Hawke's Bay	..	..	1	186	186	12	12	..	..	
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington	..	..	14	28,219	2,016	712	1,033	..	..	
Nelson	..	..	1	10,000	10,000	34	..	..	..	
Marlborough	..	..	15	311,140	20,743	1,380	1,275	..	..	
Westland	..	*	1,730	274,050	12,456	300	255	3	38	
Canterbury	..	..	58	1,256,184	143,309	21,824	21,554	2	38	
Otago	..	..	51	1,136,306	22,281	8,532	9,578	2	6	
Southland	..	..	28	669,070	23,895	2,154	2,066	..	..	
Totals	..	1,730	199	3,778,090	19,059	35,103	35,906	12	94	
Grand totals	..	4	154,500	634	10,535,916	16,645	76,590	78,487	24	397

\* Included under Ordinary Crown Lands.



Table 17.—RETURN OF MISCELLANEOUS LEASES AND LICENSES NOT OTHERWISE ENUMERATED AT 31st MARCH, 1915.

District.	Transactions during Year ended 31st March, 1915.										Total Amount received during the Year.*	Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1915.			Selectors in Acrear on 31st March, 1915.			
	Coal and Mineral.		Timber-cutting, &c.		Flax-cutting.		Miscellaneous.		Number	Area.		Annual Rental.	Number	Area.		Annual Rental.	Number	Amount.
	Number	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number	Area.	Total Amount received.	Number	Area.										
<b>Ordinary Crown Lands—</b>																		
Auckland	2	2,300	102	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Canterbury	1	100	5	2	250	480	3	4	37,992	98	38,394	553	123,761	885	32	47	186	
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Southland	2	234	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Totals	5	2,634	110	5	767	27,634	5	417	203,666	9,724	207,484	4,580	880,396	25,187	237	1,081	..	
<b>Cheviot Estate—</b>																		
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Land for Settlements—</b>																		
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>National-endowment Lands—</b>																		
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	1	2,000	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	1	19	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	2	2,019	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	7	4,653	119	5	767	41,493	5	417	245,776	10,131	251,613	5,463	1,117,249	30,156	310	1,516	..	..

\* Includes coal and timber royalties and receipts from State forests.

Table 18.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Tenure.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands, &amp;c.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash lands .. .. .	4,197	1,691	301	1,141	674	713	321	1,258	1,597	1,920	13,813
Perpetual lease made freehold (Land Act, 1885)	920	390	106	366	..	..	164	864	2,304	254	5,368
Perpetual lease made freehold (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1913 and 1914)	233	..	..	199	..	..	38	215	88	443	1,216
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	20,890	9,485	2,823	20,107	526	..	165	833	201	1,729	56,759
Lease in perpetuity made freehold .. .. .	12,139	5,764	4,192	23,283	723	1,369	115	5,885	1,547	2,371	57,388
Renewable lease made freehold .. .. .	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Pastoral licenses in mining districts made freehold	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs made freehold .. .. .	2,756	3,885	..	6,055	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,696
Deferred payment (Land Acts, 1877 and 1885)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	162	..	176
Deferred payment (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912, 1913, &c.)	1,577	1,831	466	2,387	876	..	132	41	20	675	8,005
Perpetual lease .. .. .	527	65	157	148	11	27	17	301	854	394	2,501
Occupation with right of purchase .. .. .	42,303	19,921	17,188	23,616	1,203	1,009	412	399	1,376	3,177	110,604
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	6,780	5,153	9,107	11,451	1,895	2,986	945	4,452	5,276	2,146	50,191
Renewable lease .. .. .	392	1,371	989	926	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,678
Agricultural lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	..	27
Mining districts land occupation leases	464	..	..	..	62	14	125	..	508	174	1,347
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	1,584	..	..	..	552	..	161	..	..	..	2,297
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	732	8,005	153	3,003	..	112	..	2,319	5,867	..	20,191
Pastoral runs .. .. .	71	892	..	1,815	180	3,285	647	17,295	15,307	2,766	42,258
Coal and mineral leases and royalties .. .. .	468	..	..	..	264	..	124	23	494	599	1,972
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. .. .	3,878	61	651	7,012	645	196	3	114	133	847	13,540
Flax-cutting .. .. .	84	..	..	..	52	1	46	..	..	7	190
State forests .. .. .	8,648	..	1	580	..	3,053	..	366	170	1,276	14,094
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	3,538	8,996	607	2,739	543	1,062	850	4,135	1,406	1,156	25,032
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908	..	..	..	572	..	..	..	..	..	..	572
Miscellaneous .. .. .	1,875	397	356	30	294	..	..	967	125	16	4,060
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>114,056</b>	<b>67,907</b>	<b>37,097</b>	<b>105,585</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>13,827</b>	<b>4,265</b>	<b>39,481</b>	<b>37,462</b>	<b>19,950</b>	<b>448,130</b>
<i>Land for Settlements.</i>											
Cash lands .. .. .	341	..	..	36	..	..	..	102	..	75	554
Lease in perpetuity made freehold .. .. .	20,134	14,561	4,531	18,415	..	..	..	11,381	3,838	6,146	79,006
Renewable lease made freehold .. .. .	2,625	39	199	90	..	1,090	..	..	..	773	4,816
Small grazing-runs made freehold .. .. .	1,479	..	..	..	..	4,999	..	..	..	2,582	9,060
Deferred payments .. .. .	7,118	7,582	4,283	1,970	..	1,636	..	4,811	481	862	28,743
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	15,185	34,750	2,891	13,179	889	10,977	467	53,031	30,689	9,146	171,204
Renewable lease .. .. .	6,082	25,449	934	5,187	1,699	4,557	..	48,421	17,050	3,217	112,596
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	165	3,325	..	1,435	..	7,521	..	9,547	1,456	58	23,507
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133	..	133
Coal and mineral leases and royalties .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	25	..	30
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. .. .	31	4	..	134	..	..	..	..	28	..	197
Flax-cutting .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	187	453	4	1,000	..	262	2	470	962	24	3,364
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,400	..	..	1,400
Miscellaneous .. .. .	8	369	..	20	44	216	..	462	2	656	1,777
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>53,355</b>	<b>86,532</b>	<b>12,842</b>	<b>41,466</b>	<b>2,632</b>	<b>31,258</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>129,630</b>	<b>54,664</b>	<b>23,539</b>	<b>436,387</b>
<i>Cheviot Estate.</i>											
Cash lands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..	40
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,627	..	..	6,627
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	431	..	..	431
Grazing-farms .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,034	..	..	6,034
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	190	..	..	190
Coal and mineral leases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flax-cutting .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	330	..	..	330
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>13,652</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>13,652</b>
<i>National-endowment Lands.</i>											
Cash lands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Renewable leases .. .. .	5,220	3,759	2,651	1,642	2,010	588	956	440	965	823	19,054
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	128	..	..	..	430	..	403	..	..	..	961
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	382	3,566	59	414	120	3,266	..	8,348	19,781	932	36,868
<b>Carried forward .. .. .</b>	<b>5,730</b>	<b>7,325</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>2,056</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>3,854</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>8,788</b>	<b>20,746</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>56,883</b>

Table 18.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915—continued.

Tenure.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
<i>National-endowment Lands—continued.</i>											
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Brought forward .. ..	5,730	7,325	2,710	2,056	2,560	3,854	1,359	8,788	20,746	1,755	56,883
Pastoral runs .. ..	133	12	..	1,033	..	1,275	255	21,554	9,578	2,066	35,906
Coal and mineral leases .. ..	..	..	..	..	497	..	455	..	..	..	952
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. ..	3,165	..	296	..	1,554	..	8,594	..	..	53	13,662
Flax-cutting .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	8
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. ..	71	15	..	49	179	..	519	149	179	..	1,161
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Totals .. ..	9,099	7,352	3,007	3,138	4,791	5,129	11,190	30,491	30,503	3,874	108,574
<i>Educational-endowment Lands.</i>											
Primary .. ..	3,945	8,703	5,405	9,393	500	468	304	22,088	4,110	15,864	70,780
Secondary .. ..	1,492	1,869	961	2,563	117	89	209	135	723	164	8,322
Totals .. ..	5,437	10,572	6,366	11,956	617	557	513	22,223	4,833	16,028	79,102
<i>Other Endowment Lands.</i>											
Cash lands .. ..	125	..	..	140	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Perpetual lease made freehold .. ..	53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold .. ..	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations made freehold .. ..	193	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	193
Deferred payments .. ..	76	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
Perpetual lease .. ..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	274	..	282
Occupation with right of purchase .. ..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Lease in perpetuity .. ..	15	..	..	..	80	..	..	1,498	89	..	1,682
Renewable lease .. ..	1	..	..	..	61	..	..	..	..	..	62
Mining districts land occupation leases .. ..	..	..	..	..	73	..	..	..	..	..	73
Small grazing-runs .. ..	54	..	..	275	..	..	..	..	1,539	270	2,138
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. ..	56	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Pastoral runs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,878	1,228	6,106
Coal and mineral leases .. ..	..	..	..	..	18,958	..	2,638	..	..	..	21,596
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. ..	..	..	..	..	212	..	39	..	..	35	286
Flax-cutting .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. ..	110	2	854	19	1,152	..	9	50	19	71	2,286
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	744	2	854	434	20,536	..	2,686	1,548	6,799	1,604	35,207
Thermal springs districts leases .. ..	1,881	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,881
Survey liens on Native land .. ..	15,815	3,398	1,972	4,745	10	56	..	..	..	..	25,996
Miscellaneous .. ..	4,997	910	2,670	2,804	82	655	307	..	957	816	14,198
Grand totals .. ..	205,384	176,673	64,808	170,128	37,168	51,482	19,430	237,025	135,218	65,811	1,163,127

**Table 19.**—REBATES OF RENT GRANTED UNDER SECTION 116 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AND SECTION 55 OF THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1908, DURING THE YEAR ENDED THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Tenants who have been granted Rebate.	Amount of Rebate granted.	District.	Number of Tenants who have been granted Rebate.	Amount of Rebate granted.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>			<i>Land for Settlements—contd.</i>		
Auckland .. .. .	5,734	£ 3,904	Otago .. .. .	746	£ 5,135
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	494	2,329	Southland .. .. .	242	971
Taranaki .. .. .	1,307	2,263	Totals .. .. .	4,948	28,984
Wellington .. .. .	2,000	3,024	<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>		
Nelson .. .. .	330	108	Auckland .. .. .	595	377
Marlborough .. .. .	360	377	Hawke's Bay .. .. .	57	493
Westland .. .. .	385	132	Taranaki .. .. .	79	218
Canterbury .. .. .	492	356	Wellington .. .. .	60	111
Otago .. .. .	701	679	Nelson .. .. .	97	35
Southland .. .. .	766	512	Marlborough .. .. .	79	47
Totals .. .. .	12,569	13,684	Westland .. .. .	..	..
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>			Canterbury .. .. .	12	46
Canterbury .. .. .	304	715	Otago .. .. .	138	78
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>			Southland .. .. .	128	94
Auckland .. .. .	1,061	1,661	Totals .. .. .	1,245	1,490
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	616	6,470	<i>Grand totals</i> .. .. .		
Taranaki .. .. .	62	277	19,066	44,882	
Wellington .. .. .	300	1,779	<i>Other Endowment Lands—</i>		
Nelson .. .. .	26	133	Nelson .. .. .	16	4
Marlborough .. .. .	359	2,219	Westland .. .. .	200	73
Westland .. .. .	24	49	Canterbury .. .. .	115	152
Canterbury .. .. .	1,512	10,290			

**Table 20.**—ARREARS OF RENT DUE TO THE CROWN AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Selectors.	Amount in Arrear, exclusive of current Half-year's Payment.	District.	Number of Selectors.	Amount in Arrear, exclusive of current Half-year's Payment.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>			<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>		
Auckland .. .. .	406	£ 4,336	Auckland .. .. .	98	£ 1,005
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	19	400	Hawke's Bay .. .. .	5	221
Taranaki .. .. .	86	1,164	Taranaki .. .. .	5	93
Wellington .. .. .	174	1,904	Wellington .. .. .	6	646
Nelson .. .. .	128	1,211	Nelson .. .. .	106	2,018
Marlborough .. .. .	14	346	Marlborough .. .. .	8	228
Westland .. .. .	61	142	Westland .. .. .	44	161
Canterbury .. .. .	66	297	Canterbury .. .. .	4	333
Otago .. .. .	62	299	Otago .. .. .	7	23
Southland .. .. .	1	1	Southland .. .. .	3	6
Totals .. .. .	1,017	10,100	Totals .. .. .	286	4,734
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>			Thermal springs (Rotorua) .. .. .		
Canterbury .. .. .	15	924	40	194	
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>			<i>Education Endowments—</i>		
Auckland .. .. .	59	1,277	Primary .. .. .	152	1,749
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	11	389	Secondary .. .. .	27	141
Taranaki .. .. .	1	8	Totals .. .. .	179	1,890
Wellington .. .. .	27	822	<i>Grand totals</i> .. .. .		
Nelson .. .. .	5	728	1,829	25,671	
Marlborough .. .. .	12	366	<i>Other endowment lands</i> .. .. .		
Westland .. .. .	1	8	76	292	
Canterbury .. .. .	137	2,757			
Otago .. .. .	32	1,236			
Southland .. .. .	7	238			
Totals .. .. .	292	7,829			

**Table 21.**—STATEMENT SHOWING PAYMENTS TO LOCAL BODIES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915, FROM "THIRDS" OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT, PERPETUAL-LEASE, OCCUPATION-WITH-RIGHT-OF-PURCHASE, RENEWABLE-LEASE, AND LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS, "FOURTHS" OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS, AND "HALVES" OF TIMBER AND FLAX ROYALTIES.

District.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, Occupation-with- right-of-purchase, Renewable-lease, and Lease-in- perpetuity Lands.	"Fourth," Small Grazing-runs.	"Halves," Timber and Flax.	Total Payments.
	£	£	£	£
Auckland .. .. .	13,816	67	1,288	15,171
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	7,029	410	25	7,464
Taranaki .. .. .	6,653	2	32	6,687
Wellington .. .. .	7,411	..	192	7,603
Nelson .. .. .	2,050	20	1,007	3,077
Marlborough .. .. .	750	423	128	1,301
Westland .. .. .	783	..	3,291	4,074
Canterbury .. .. .	427	1,011	5	1,443
Otago .. .. .	876	3,130	111	4,117
Southland .. .. .	1,423	19	356	1,798
Totals .. .. .	41,218	5,082	6,435	52,735

**Table 22.**—RETURN SHOWING PAYMENTS OF CAPITAL VALUE UNDER SECTION 191 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

System and Tenure.	Amount deposited during the Year.			* Total Payments made to 31st March, 1915.				
	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Amount deposited.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Original Annual Rental payable.	Total Payments made on Account of Capital Value.	Annual Rental now payable as reduced by such Payments
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£	£
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	9	799	572	22	3,550	155	1,781	97
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	2	1	5	52	3
Totals .. .. .	9	799	572	24	3,551	160	1,833	100
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>								
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	1	107	56	999	6
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	3	467	1,400	5	621	379	5,482	106
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	2	822	23	220	13
Totals .. .. .	3	467	1,400	7	1,443	402	5,702	119
Grand totals .. .. .	12	1,266	1,972	32	5,101	618	8,534	225

\* Deposits aggregate 33 or more per cent. in every case.

**Table 23.**—RETURN OF FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915, SHOWING UNDER EACH TENURE THE NUMBER OF SELECTORS WHO HAVE FORFEITED AND SURRENDERED THEIR HOLDINGS, AND THE AREA AND RENTAL OF SUCH HOLDINGS.

Tenure	Forfeitures.			Surrenders.		
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>						
Perpetual lease .. .. .	3	Acres. 56	£ 5	..	Acres. ..	£ ..
Occupation with right of purchase .. .. .	86	29,335	1,641	1	207	7
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	6	1,918	50	..	..	..
Renewable lease .. .. .	5	1	11	4	21	15
Mining districts land occupation leases .. .. .	2	110	3	2	100	5
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. .. .	5	1,802	50	7	2,147	61
Pastoral runs .. .. .	1	5,326	33	4	152,770	328
Miscellaneous .. .. .	155	11,653	512	26	4,007	138
Totals .. .. .	263	50,201	2,305	44	159,252	554
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	3	1	3	..	..	..
Renewable lease .. .. .	25	6,581	1,286	8	14,535	1,075
Miscellaneous .. .. .	7	57	48	3	25	6
Totals .. .. .	35	6,639	1,337	11	14,560	1,081
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease .. .. .	58	15,132	542	8	6,406	43
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. .. .	7	1,048	32	5	2,313	41
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	..	..	..	2	4,272	107
Pastoral runs .. .. .	1	33,600	675	..	1,730	1
Miscellaneous .. .. .	26	12,585	60	8	38,464	383
Totals .. .. .	92	62,365	1,309	23	53,185	575
<i>Education Endowments—</i>						
Primary .. .. .	16	86	71	18	4,023	610
Secondary .. .. .	8	48	149	11	997	97
Totals .. .. .	24	134	220	29	5,020	707
Grand totals .. .. .	414	119,339	5,171	107	232,017	2,917

**Table 24.**—RETURN SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTORS, WITH AREA OF CROWN LAND SELECTED OR HELD, THE YEARLY RENT PAYABLE, AND THE AREA MADE FREEHOLD AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Tenure.	Total Number of Selectors.	Total Area held.	Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.	Total Area made Freehold.	
				Number of Purchasers.	Area.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	13,164,651
Deferred payment (Land Acts, 1877 and 1885)	11	832	33	9,521	1,096,367
Deferred payment (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912 and 1913)	191	53,117	3,349	27	6,125
Perpetual lease .. .. .	643	61,495	2,533	2,736	812,810
Occupation with right of purchase .. .. .	6,030	1,847,471	127,087	2,104	556,925
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	6,407	1,440,676	54,491	1,060	219,583
Renewable lease .. .. .	302	16,616	3,474	3	8
Agricultural lease .. .. .	16	541	23	1,475	140,896
Mining districts land occupation leases .. .. .	695	24,959	1,424	..	..
Homestead .. .. .	..	..	..	525	80,453
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	499	122,273	2,962	..	..
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	224	414,892	19,091	6	8,558
Pastoral runs .. .. .	430	6,754,677	41,172	..	..
Miscellaneous leases .. .. .	4,580	880,396	25,187	..	..
Totals .. .. .	20,028	11,617,945	280,826	..	16,086,376
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>					
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6,855
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	210	26,866	7,294	..	..
Renewable lease .. .. .	14	659	509	..	..
Grazing-farms .. .. .	34	45,021	6,787	..	..
Pastoral runs .. .. .	1	1,619	190	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	53	1,184	295	..	..
Totals .. .. .	312	75,349	15,075	..	6,855
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>					
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	539
Deferred payment (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912 and 1913)	232	31,645	7,995	41	1,566
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	3,358	630,822	183,925	184	20,277
Renewable lease .. .. .	1,503	620,228	139,708	69	16,823
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	105	185,627	25,013	4	9,403
Pastoral runs .. .. .	4	1,530	125	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	275	10,607	2,332	..	..
Totals .. .. .	5,477	1,480,459	359,098	..	48,608
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>					
Renewable lease .. .. .	2,123	547,115	26,516	..	..
Mining districts land occupation leases .. .. .	1	12	1	..	..
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	361	68,126	1,665	..	..
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	528	1,756,223	37,929	..	..
Pastoral runs .. .. .	199	3,778,090	35,103	..	..
Miscellaneous leases .. .. .	555	225,062	2,342	..	..
Totals .. .. .	3,767	6,374,628	103,556	..	..
Thermal springs (Rotorua) .. .. .	315	4,053	2,090	..	..
<i>Education Endowments—</i>					
Primary .. .. .	3,117	764,822	71,146	—	—
Secondary .. .. .	369	38,517	8,415	—	—
Totals .. .. .	3,486	803,339	79,561	..	..
Grand totals .. .. .	33,385	20,355,773	840,206	..	16,141,839
Other endowment lands .. .. .	816	376,486	15,443	—	—

SUMMARY SHOWING TOTAL LAND HELD IN EACH LAND DISTRICT.

District.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.
		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	7,814	1,958,420	106,387
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	1,938	1,047,818	138,459
Taranaki .. .. .	2,314	659,041	45,783
Wellington .. .. .	4,124	1,020,848	88,627
Nelson .. .. .	2,074	846,309	14,845
Marlborough .. .. .	1,324	1,497,150	44,399
Westland .. .. .	2,242	1,637,127	7,791
Canterbury .. .. .	3,694	4,298,858	225,636
Otago .. .. .	4,841	5,326,162	122,646
Southland .. .. .	3,020	2,064,040	45,633
Totals .. .. .	33,385	20,355,773	840,206

**Table 25.**—ENDOWMENT LANDS (OTHER THAN NATIONAL ENDOWMENT) TAKEN UP DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Nature of Endowments.	Sold for Cash.		Leased under Education Reserves and Public Bodies' Leases Acts.			Pastoral Runs.			Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.			Miscellaneous and other Leases.		
		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
	<i>Educational Endowments—</i>		Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	
Auckland ..	Primary ..	..	..	22	666	129	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
" ..	Secondary ..	..	..	12	306	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hawke's Bay ..	Primary ..	..	..	5	200	773	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Taranaki ..	" ..	..	..	2	571	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Wellington ..	" ..	..	..	4	68	101	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson ..	" ..	..	..	5	923	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
" ..	Secondary ..	..	..	1	54	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Marlborough ..	Primary ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Westland ..	Secondary ..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Canterbury ..	Primary ..	..	..	6	1,263	489	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Otago ..	" ..	..	..	10	394	218	..	..	..	..	..	2	30	3	
Southland ..	" ..	..	..	29	16,500	687	4	12,182	832	..	..	3*	..	80	
" ..	Secondary ..	..	..	4	1	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Totals ..	..	1	1	101	20,947	2,643	4	12,182	832	..	..	5	30	83	
Wellington ..	Wanganui Harbour Board	5	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Nelson ..	Westport Harbour Board	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	15	1	5	441	
Westland ..	Grey Harbour Board	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	280	
Canterbury ..	Lake Ellesmere	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	37	
Totals ..	..	5	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	15	1	7	758	
Grand totals..	..	6	55	101	20,947	2,643	4	12,182	832	1	15	1	12	788	

\* Leases under Coal-mines Act over area leased under Public Bodies' Leases Act.



Table 26.—RETURN OF EDUCATION ENDOWMENTS AT 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Total Area set apart.	Area opened for Selection during the Year.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.		
			Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>Primary Education.</i>											
	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	116,020	2,341	22	666	129	13	1,626	97	13	1,589	233
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	80,184	209	5	200	773	11	11,451	586	6	11,204	704
Taranaki .. .. .	51,120	2,203	2	571	18	2	3	17	4	16	47
Wellington .. .. .	94,698	94	4	68	101	14	793	167	3	696	173
Nelson .. .. .	9,412	775	5	923	59	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	1,120	..	..	..	..	1	36	16	1	30	21
Westland .. .. .	14,613	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	70,160	1,537	6	1,263	489	23	3,619	1,386	12	2,082	1,664
Otago .. .. .	45,520	241	12	424	221	33	2,792	133	20	2,401	226
Southland .. .. .	348,418	41,809	36	28,682	1,599	36	42,224	679	19	17,663	717
Totals .. .. .	831,265	49,209	92	32,797	3,389	133	62,544	3,081	78	35,681	3,785

<i>Secondary Education.</i>											
Auckland .. .. .	10,333	288	12	306	148	3	687	15	3	682	58
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	7,484	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	2,354	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	12,178	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	802	1	1	54	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	284	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	4,448	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	1,024	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. .. .	2,100	..	..	..	..	2	3	6	2	3	10
Southland .. .. .	579	..	4	1	15	1	1	2	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	41,586	289	18	362	169	6	691	23	5	685	68
Grand totals .. .. .	872,851	49,498	110	33,159	3,558	139	63,235	3,104	83	36,366	3,853

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1915.			Gross Amount received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1915.	
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number.	Amount.
<i>Primary Education.</i>												
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	523	68,379	3,925	3,945	45	226
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	209	80,014	8,953	8,703	10	54
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	1	7	2	351	49,414	5,819	5,405	26	244
Wellington .. .. .	2	5	9	..	..	..	500	92,709	9,780	9,393	29	361
Nelson .. .. .	2	1	3	2	213	8	86	5,320	420	500	10	76
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	3	1	4	40	1,120	450	468	4	15
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	51	13,478	311	304	4	66
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	218	69,862	22,132	22,088	11	619
Otago .. .. .	3	3	1	2	30	4	380	45,332	4,027	4,110	10	23
Southland .. .. .	9	77	58	10	3,772	592	759	339,194	15,329	15,864	3	65
Totals .. .. .	16	86	71	18	4,023	610	3,117	764,822	71,146	70,780	152	1,749

<i>Secondary Education.</i>												
Auckland .. .. .	8	48	149	..	..	..	161	8,596	1,361	1,492	16	99
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	7,483	1,889	1,869	4	7
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	2,297	921	961	2	27
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	12,177	-2,693	2,563	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	3	1	10	27	798	120	117	4	6
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	255	85	89	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	1	992	50	30	3,209	109	209	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,024	270	135	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	2,100	726	723	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	7	4	37	21	578	241	164	1	2
Totals .. .. .	8	48	149	11	997	97	369	38,517	8,415	8,322	27	141
Grand totals .. .. .	24	134	220	29	5,020	707	3,486	803,339	79,561	79,102	179	1,890

**Table 27.**—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1915.			Area made Freehold to date.		Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements up to 31st March, 1915.	Amount of Advances which have been repaid to 31st March, 1915.
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental payable, including Interest on Advances.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.		
			Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£
Auckland .. .. .	5	90	3,464	283	79	267	2,312	2,229
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	14	128	3,802	2,013	407	2,226	877	428
Taranaki .. .. .	3	16	74	12	439	3,151	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	57	716	11,789	2,717	618	3,495	6,893	5,709
Marlborough .. .. .	3	49	465	82	14	66	104	15
Westland .. .. .	2	16	129	19	20	85	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	42	347	10,253	1,766	757	5,246	2,580	1,510
Otago .. .. .	2	221	3,316	612	249	2,898	..	..
Southland .. .. .	39	309	4,566	519	1,011	9,156	1,106	428
Totals .. .. .	167	1,892	37,858	8,023	3,594	26,590	13,872	10,319
Ellesmere Endowment, Canterbury	5	57	1,419	282	..	..	10	10

**Table 28.**—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT-ASSOCIATION CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1915.			Area made Freehold to Date	
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.
			Acres.	£		Acres.
Auckland .. .. .	6	57	9,534	278	63	6,734
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	2	12	2,400	92	54	4,810
Taranaki .. .. .	9	86	15,604	838	2	400
Wellington .. .. .	50	396	71,422	4,225	869	89,677
Canterbury .. .. .	4	40	4,579	298	1	71
Otago .. .. .	1	14	2,765	121	..	..
Totals .. .. .	72	605	106,304	5,852	989	101,692

**Table 29.**—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1915.			Area made Freehold to Date.		Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements.
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.	
			Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	12	117	15,946	1,751	8	799	26,696
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	2	15	1,692	219	2	219	2,020
Taranaki .. .. .	19	343	48,562	5,315	14	1,075	44,754
Wellington .. .. .	19	236	30,332	3,252	109	10,857	35,082
Southland .. .. .	4	34	3,649	218	8	752	12,058
Totals .. .. .	56	745	100,181	10,755	141	13,702	120,610

**Table 30.—LANDS DISPOSED OF UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1915.**

District.	Net Area acquired, including ascertained Surplus.	Area occupied by Roads and Reserves unlet.	Area of Land unlet, including Land forfeited, surrendered, or resumed and not relet, and also Land not yet offered for Selection.	Total Area purchased for Cash or made Freehold to Date.			Total Lands leased at Date.		
				Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Price realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		£	£		Acres.	£
Auckland ..	288,882	7,499	72,182	264	34,011	49,660	904	175,190	24,562
Hawke's Bay ..	226,220	2,133	..	36	2,691	17,121	688	221,396	72,950
Taranaki ..	5,331	62	..	6	371	9,008	80	4,898	3,934
Wellington ..	71,815	784	4,298	30	2,002	25,609	420	64,731	22,348
Nelson ..	34,501	765	6,083	1	2	11	40	27,651	2,515
Marlborough ..	213,526	2,533	11,029	10	2,866	6,533	438	196,910	29,700
Westland ..	5,125	102	..	..	..	..	31	5,023	540
Canterbury ..	501,232	3,236	113	33	1,416	12,653	1,701	496,467	129,632
Otago ..	223,887	2,572	1,866	16	776	6,765	877	218,673	57,469
Southland ..	86,124	945	11,186	26	4,473	10,861	298	69,520	15,448
Totals ..	1,656,643	20,631	106,757	422	48,608	138,221	5,477	1,480,459	359,098

District.	Yearly Value of Unlet Land at 31st March, 1915.	Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements.	Rent and other Payments received during the Year.	Total Receipts from Inception to 31st March, 1915.	Arrears on 31st March, 1915.		Holdings inspected during Year ended 31st March, 1915.			
					No.	Amount.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.	Value of Improvements.	
									Required.	Actually made.
	£	£	£	£	No.	£		Acres.	£	£
Auckland ..	3,279	2,209	53,355	300,359	59	1,277	217	31,124	24,454	92,163
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	86,532	682,588	11	389	196	53,963	105,105	191,801
Taranaki ..	..	337	12,842	55,080	1	8	27	567	1,760	8,404
Wellington ..	1,494	2,510	41,466	252,901	27	822	26	10,836	5,573	20,905
Nelson ..	367	850	2,632	13,639	5	728	34	21,884	13,355	25,254
Marlborough ..	722	..	31,258	262,120	12	366	408	178,518	102,327	242,889
Westland ..	..	..	469	7,710	1	8	28	5,023	3,320	19,000
Canterbury ..	188	2,785	128,230	1,165,213	137	2,757	862	198,149	299,204	391,366
Otago ..	716	..	54,664	570,803	32	1,236	775	213,651	251,267	361,864
Southland ..	1,272	..	23,539	150,857	7	238	330	77,657	79,105	146,613
Totals ..	8,038	8,691	434,987	3,461,270	292	7,829	2,903	791,372	885,470	1,500,259
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..	..	..	1,400	5,702	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	..	..	436,387	3,466,972	..	..	..	..	..	..

**Table 31.—TRANSACTIONS IN BUSH, SWAMP, AND SCRUB LANDS UNDER SECTION 127 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.**

District.	Selections during the Year.			Total Area hold at 31st March, 1915.											
	Heavy-bush Land.			Heavy-bush Land.			Light-bush Land.			Scrub Land.			Totals.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted during the Year.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (re-mitted).	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (re-mitted).	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (re-mitted).	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (re-mitted).
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	2	2,827	198	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2,827	198
Wellington ..	..	..	..	62	58,135	4,403	..	..	..	..	..	..	62	58,135	4,403
Nelson ..	37	23,257	477	107	62,725	1,284	20	11,313	225	2	597	11	129	74,635	1,520
Totals ..	37	23,257	477	171	123,687	5,885	20	11,313	225	2	597	11	193	135,597	6,121

**Table 32.**—INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE RANGERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1915.

District.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.	Value of Improvements.		Number of Defaulters.				Total.
			Required.	Actually made.	For Deficient Improvements only.	For Non-residence only.	For Non-residence and Improvements.	For other Reasons	
		Acres.	£	£					
Auckland ..	1,178*	260,280	112,930	268,266	63	178	88	3	332
Hawke's Bay ..	435	258,652	195,667	528,062	27	11	9	2	49
Taranaki ..	270	127,421	65,316	123,667	18	17	16	..	51
Wellington ..	1,130	268,406	33,047	162,425	3	51	5	..	59
Nelson ..	881	378,776	132,614	212,277	106	88	60	..	254
Marlborough ..	539	499,402	135,964	350,228	13	21	1	..	35
Westland ..	273	63,729	29,853	76,922	5	4	1	..	10
Canterbury ..	1,086	733,475	328,585	473,000	156	16	4	..	176
Otago ..	1,070	437,850	278,505	431,423	122	39	..	..	161
Southland ..	1,502	299,331	99,631	237,229	31	15	16	..	62
Totals ..	8,364	3,327,322	1,412,112	2,863,499	544	440	200	5	1,189

\*In addition 1,479 miscellaneous inspections were made, covering an area of 1,080,619 acres.

**Table 33.**—RETURN OF LANDS ALIENATED UNDER ACTS WITHOUT MONEY PAYMENT, OR RESERVED BY THE CROWN FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES.

District.	During the Year ended 31st March, 1915.			Total Area granted under Acts without Money Payment, or reserved for Public Purposes, from Foundation of Dominion to 31st March, 1915.
	Crown Lands set apart for various Public Purposes.	Area granted under Special Acts.	Total Area thus alienated during the Year.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	1,815	..	1,815	3,640,930
Hawke's Bay ..	80	..	80	437,223
Taranaki ..	336	735	1,071	713,805
Wellington ..	1,589	..	1,589	890,639
Nelson ..	4,907	..	4,907	311,421
Marlborough ..	206	..	206	222,445
Westland ..	49,431	..	49,431	308,545
Canterbury ..	66	..	66	1,369,047
Otago ..	1,492	..	1,492	591,999
Southland ..	3,019	..	3,019	3,554,257
Totals ..	62,941	735	63,676	12,040,311

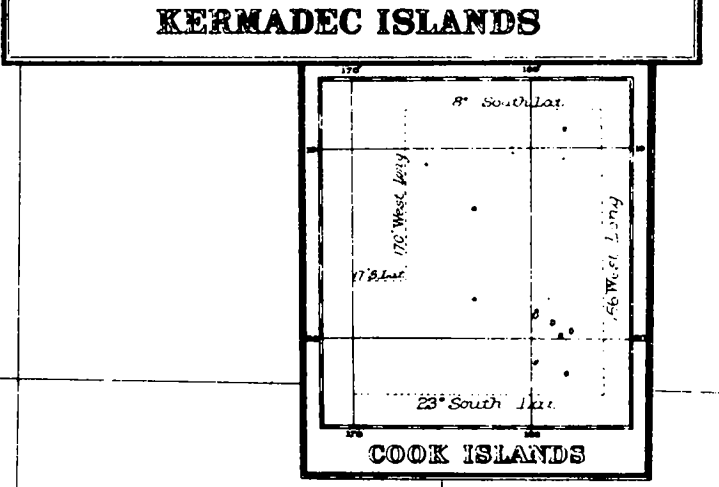
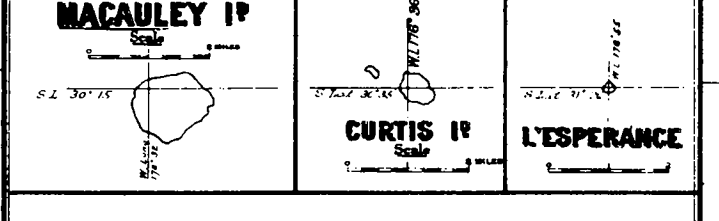
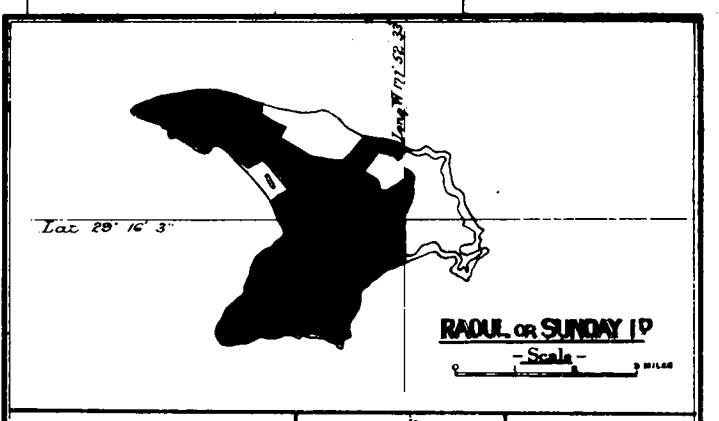
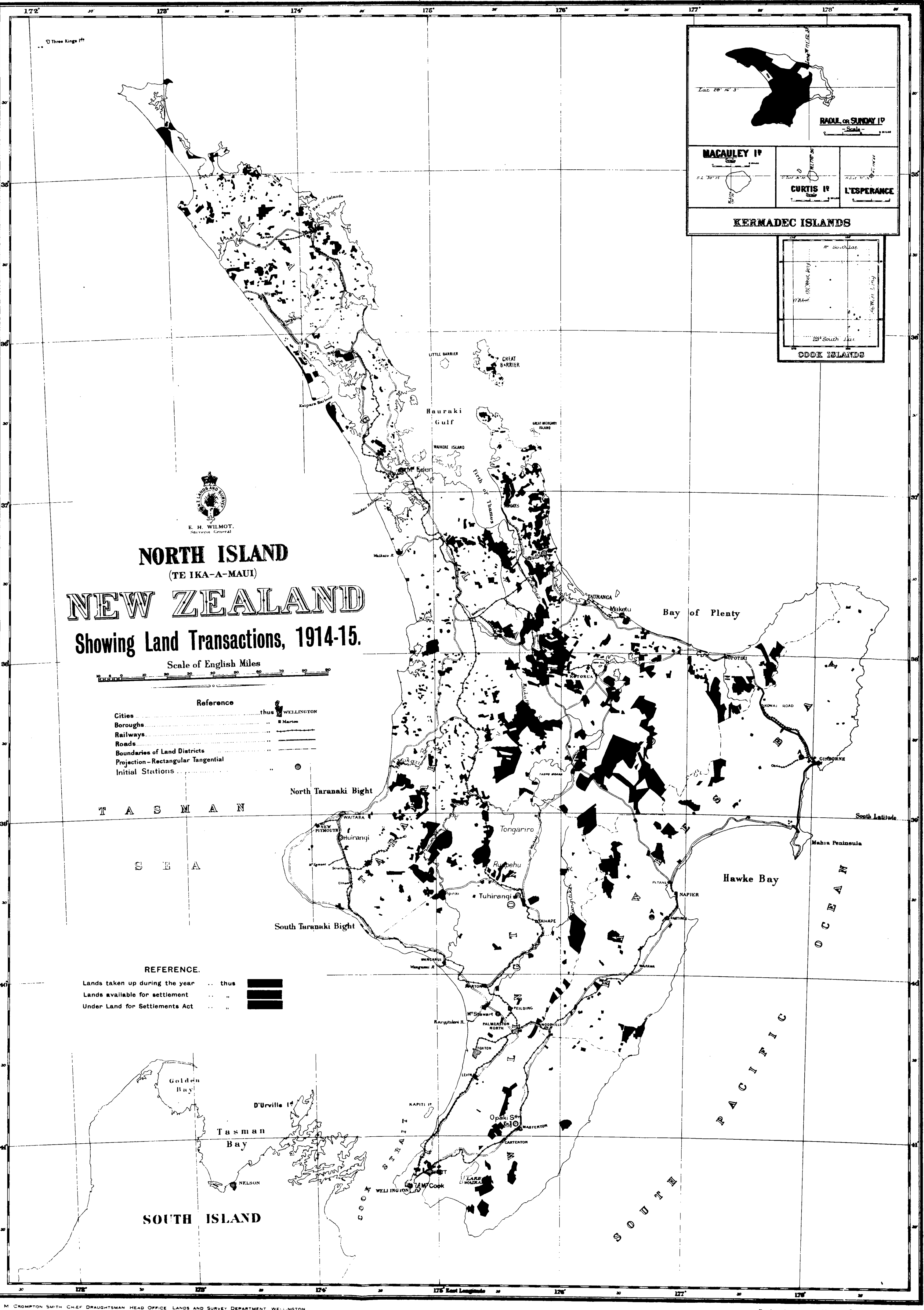
**Table 34.**—ADVANCES OBTAINED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADING CROWN LANDS, SHOWING THE AMOUNT BORROWED AND THE AMOUNT REPAID UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Land District.	Area.	Amount borrowed.	Amount repaid.
	Acres.	£	£
Auckland ..	1,336,869	319,591	130,829
Hawke's Bay ..	452,094	114,663	58,777
Taranaki ..	718,685	235,237	137,895
Wellington ..	769,645	264,429	184,489
Nelson ..	391,975	42,661	8,007
Marlborough ..	225,417	28,098	26,776
Westland ..	46,749	5,576	1,921
Canterbury ..	3,552	1,821	796
Otago ..	176,085	21,475	23,743
Southland ..	163,188	41,325	22,083
Totals ..	4,284,259	1,074,876	595,316

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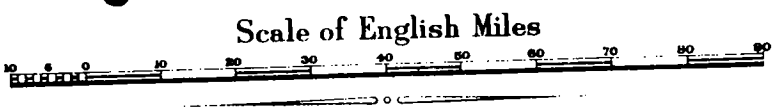


E. H. WILMOT,  
Surveyor General

# NORTH ISLAND (TE IKA-A-MAUI)

## NEW ZEALAND

### Showing Land Transactions, 1914-15.



- Reference**
- Cities ..... thus WELLINGTON
  - Boroughs ..... Marton
  - Railways .....
  - Roads .....
  - Boundaries of Land Districts .....
  - Projection - Rectangular Tangential
  - Initial Stations .....

T A S M A N  
S E A

- REFERENCE.**
- Lands taken up during the year .. thus
  - Lands available for settlement ..
  - Under Land for Settlements Act ..

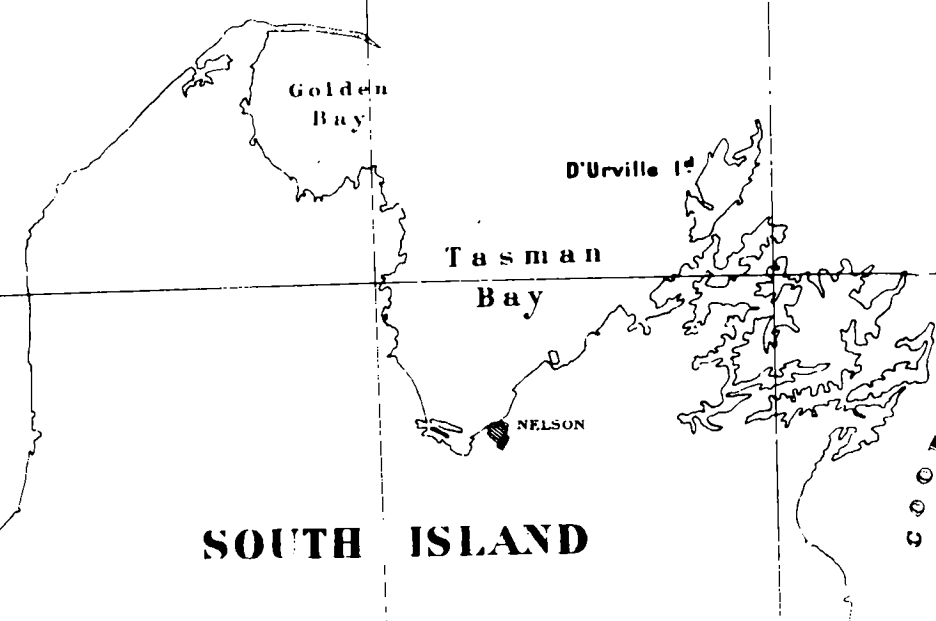


TABLE 1  
1972-73  
1973-74

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1972-73

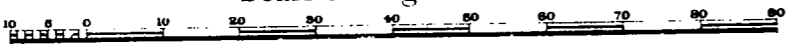
1973-74

**SOUTH ISLAND**  
(TE WAI-PONAMU)  
**NEW ZEALAND**  
Showing Land Transactions, 1914-15.



E. H. WILMOT,  
Surveyor General

Scale of English Miles



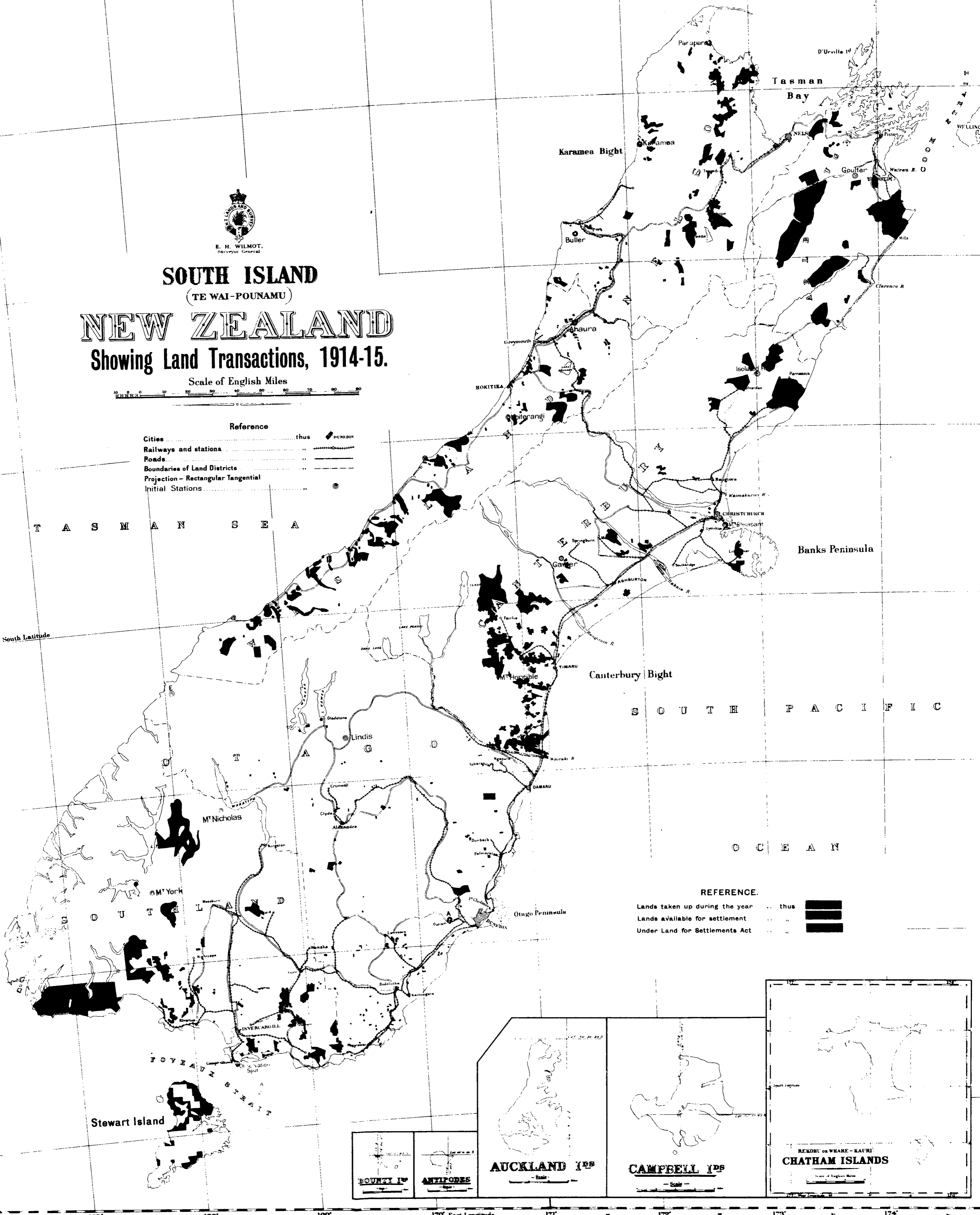
Reference	
Cities	thus
Railways and stations	thus
Roads	thus
Boundaries of Land Districts	thus
Projection - Rectangular Tangential	
Initial Stations	thus

T A S M A N S E A

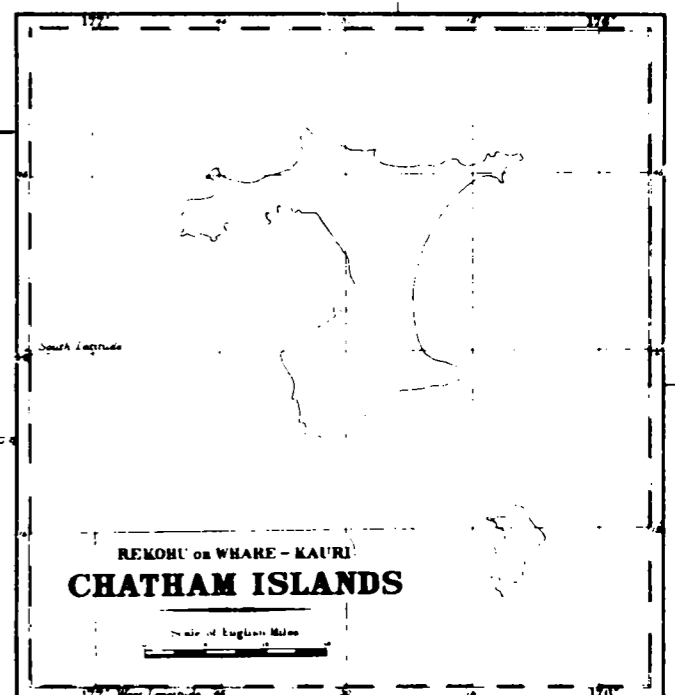
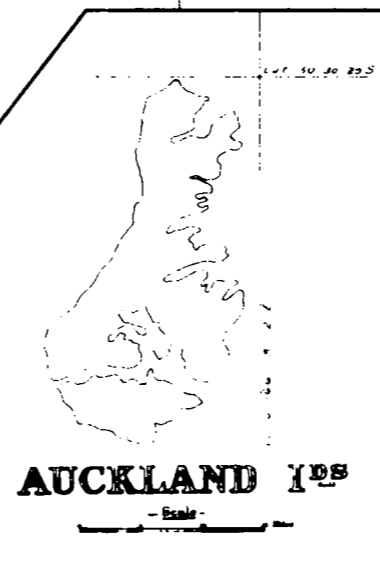
S O U T H P A C I F I C

O C E A N

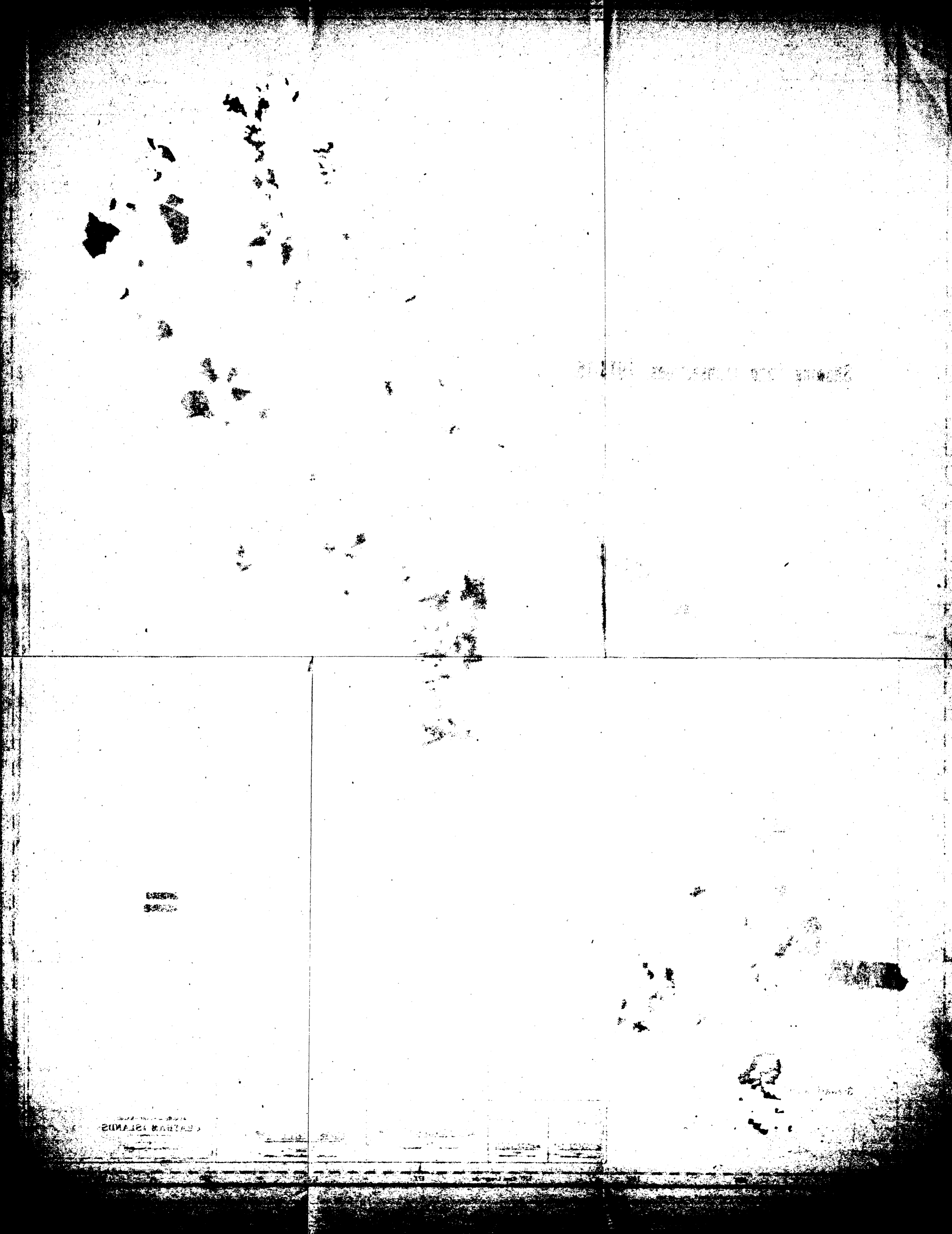
REFERENCE.	
Lands taken up during the year	thus
Lands available for settlement	thus
Under Land for Settlements Act	thus



Stewart Island







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