

The appended table summarizes the position of afforestation as at the close of the financial year. Further information under this head will be found in the Appendix to the report.

TABLE 4.
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN PLANTATIONS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1935.

Plantation.	Year of Establishment.	New Area planted, 1934.	Total Net Area	Gross Area of
			planted.	Plantation.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Waipoua	1925	246	1,057	12,600
Puhipuhi	1904	31	871	1,558
Riverhead	1926	29	11,029	11,956
Maramarua	1928	18	12,299	14,087
Tairua	1930	587	10,515	54,400
Whakarewarewa	1898	..	7,591	10,076
Waiotapu	1901	..	7,051	7,974
Kaingaroa	1913	9,429	242,600	327,931
Erua	1930	169	2,518	4,267
Karioi	1927	18	16,033*	33,689
Golden Downs	1927	1,424	19,181	22,527
Westland	1922	..	3,017	8,006
Hanmer	1901	..	7,737	10,243
Balmoral	1916	..	20,652	24,000
Eyrewell	1928	97	18,152	19,266
Dusky	1898	..	4,368	6,829
Conical Hills	1903	..	3,551	3,765
Naseby	1900	..	3,308	4,032
Pukerau	1915	..	565	628
Blue Mountains	1925	20	8,752	9,647
Pebbly Hills	1930	8	4,341	5,330
Minor Areas	1875-1934	135	991	4,340
Totals	12,211	406,179*	597,151

* 1,163 acres direct sown in 1932 excluded.

6. PLANTATION CLEANING AND THINNING.

Rotorua Region.—In Whakarewarewa and Waiotapu Plantations minor operations were carried out. In the latter plantation utilization thinning was proceeded with, and 194 cords of firewood and 187 poles were obtained. In the same plantation 64 acres of *P. Laricio* were underscrubbed, 44 acres of which were also lightly thinned, and dead and suppressed trees were removed.

Utilization thinning by two contractors in Whakarewarewa Plantation produced 33,317 mine-props, 8,745 of which were thinned from eucalypts and the remainder (24,572) from *P. austriaca*; twenty-six *E. tasmanica* power-poles were supplied to the Tourist Department. Other poles obtained from thinnings and used for various purposes numbered ninety-eight. Approximately 1,986 cords of firewood were obtained from various sources for fuel at plantation camps.

Canterbury Region.—At Hanmer Plantation 88 acres of the old stands were thinned, 42 acres being thinned for the first time. The trees thus removed produced 2,175 cords of firewood, 322 posts, 237 poles, 602 rails, and 5,463 ft. board measure sawn timber. The Health Department acquired 1,049 cords of this firewood for use at Queen Mary Hospital, Hanmer Springs, and large quantities were also taken by the Unemployed Relief Camp on Lewis Pass Road. Pruning was carried out over an area of 50 acres, the selected trees being cleaned to a height of 16 ft. to 20 ft.

At Balmoral Plantation 32 acres of the older age classes were thinned and yielded 322 cords of firewood, which was used at the tree-planting camps.

Pruning was effected over a total area of 64 acres, the branches being removed to a height of 4 ft. to 6 ft.

Southland Region.—The major silvicultural operations were conducted at Dusky Plantation, where heavy thinning and extraction for milling-purposes was completed over an area of 73 acres. The average degree of thinning was 54 per cent. of the original stand, 1,300 trees per acre being reduced to approximately six hundred. Light thinning for camp-fuel purposes was carried out on 16 acres in the same plantation. Similar treatment was accorded 138 acres at Conical Hills and 119 acres at Naseby; at the latter station the work was done by relief labour.

The material thinned from Dusky is being utilized for boxmaking by a sawmilling company, and 81,289 cubic feet were extracted during the year; in addition, 102 cords of firewood were sold to the Railway Department.