

1942.
NEW ZEALAND.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1925

(REPORT ON THE).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 109 of the Land for Settlements Act, 1925.

THE LAND PURCHASE CONTROLLER TO THE HON. THE MINISTER OF LANDS.

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 1st June, 1942.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit my report on the land-purchase operations for the year ended 31st March, 1942.

During the financial year 1940-41 the Dominion Land Purchase Board pursued an active policy of land-purchase, and twenty-one properties totalling approximately 31,000 acres were acquired with a view to further development for closer settlement. Unfortunately, the rapid deterioration in the supply position made a cessation of buying necessary. The Department was already facing heavy commitments in connection with the development and farming of the areas which had been acquired previously under the Land for Settlements Act, 1925, or which had been set apart for the purposes of the Small Farms Act, 1932-33, and it was felt that all available supplies of manure, &c., could be utilized to the best advantage in maintaining these assets. The increasing shortage of suitable labour was another factor which had to be taken into consideration.

The Board, nevertheless, continued to investigate any likely offers received, and it would not have neglected the opportunity of recommending the purchase of any eminently suitable property offered at the "right" price.

The only purchase during the year for general settlement was made from R. J. Mulligan, who offered 654 acres for inclusion in the block of properties near Ashburton (now known as the Valetta Settlement), taken over the previous year for development into irrigation units. The purchase-price was £2,500.

The other purchases shown in Table C to this report were made to provide additional land for establishing settlers or to square up boundaries.

I have, &c.,

R. G. MACMORRAN,

Land Purchase Controller.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

TABLE A.—NUMBER OF PROPERTIES CONSIDERED DURING YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1942.

Land District.	Number of Properties offered.	Total area offered.	Land District.	Number of Properties offered.	Total area offered.
North Auckland ..	7	6,011	Canterbury	8	4,546
Auckland	4	7,508	Otago	2	2,310
Wellington	6	3,684	Southland	3	2,958
			Totals	30	27,017

NOTE.— Offers which were obviously unsuitable were not referred to the Board.

TABLE B.—SUMMARY OF PRIVATE ESTATES ACQUIRED TO 31ST MARCH, 1942.

Land District.	Number.	Area.	Purchase-money.
		Acres.	£
North Auckland	56	51,845	480,682
Auckland	82	391,083	1,310,982
Gisborne	26	86,380	790,131
Hawke's Bay	59	264,783	1,714,292
Taranaki	27	31,959	376,031
Wellington	158	160,971	2,351,238
Marlborough	23	234,591	756,482
Nelson	14	48,821	150,473
Westland	3	6,032	14,062
Canterbury	195	463,461	3,592,100
Otago	82	336,803	2,036,023
Southland	35	96,609	534,780
Totals	760	2,173,338	14,107,276

TABLE C.—RETURN OF PRIVATE LAND PURCHASED AND PAID FOR DURING PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1941, TO 31ST MARCH, 1942.

Name of Owner.	Locality.	Mode of Acquisition.	Area.	Amount paid.
			A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Mrs. M. Stillborn	Whakataki ..	By agreement	125 1 28	600 0 0
R. J. Mulligan	Valetta Tinwald ..	„	653 3 18	2,500 0 0
Church Property Trustees ..	Woodbury ..	„	0 2 00	5 0 0
State Advances Corporation, as mortgagee in possession	St. Andrews ..	„	131 1 32	720 0 0
State Advances Corporation, as mortgagee in possession	Waimate ..	„	130 3 00	522 5 0
Lake County Council ..	Lake Wakatipu ..	„	0 0 12	5 0 0
Totals	1,042 0 10	4,352 5 0

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.

A statement of the moneys received into and paid out of the Land for Settlements Account during the year is included in parliamentary paper B. 1 [Part IV].

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