

The publication of the new 1 mile to an inch topographical series has given opportunity for the Department to revise the spelling and naming of localities. Various authorities in the localities are communicated with in cases where the spelling of a place-name is in doubt.

SURVEY BOARD

Two examinations were held during the year, the results being as follows:—

*September, 1943.*—Seventeen candidates presented themselves for examination, two of whom were successful in passing the final examination, while the remainder obtained credits in various subjects:

*March, 1944.*—Ten candidates presented themselves for examination, seven of whom were successful in obtaining credits in various subjects.

The Survey Examination Regulations 1943 and the Surveyors Professional Regulations 1943 came into operation on 1st January, 1944. These regulations, which amended the Survey Examination Rules 1934, were drawn up in terms of the uniform regulations agreed on at a conference of reciprocating Boards held in Melbourne in 1940. They make provision for the conduct of the Surveyors' Examination, the registration of surveyors, and the taxation of charges made by surveyors for work carried out under the Survey Regulations 1940.

During the year the following students were registered as pupils:—

Lands and Survey Department .. .. .	3
Under articles of indenture to private surveyors .. .. .	11
Total .. .. .	14

One surveyor was dealt with by the Board for defective survey work.

STAFF

In closing, I wish to thank all members of the staff for the way in which they have loyally carried out their duties in the field and in the office during the year. The field and office staff engaged on topographical mapping have demonstrated their zeal and efficiency in the fine results produced. To a no less extent have the depleted staff engaged on routine work efficiently carried out their duties, the results of whose work are not so evident to the eye.

Mr. H. E. Walshe, who had held the office of Surveyor-General since April, 1929, retired after forty-four years' service on 31st December, 1943. We all wish him joy and happiness in a well-earned retirement after 14½ years of office as Surveyor-General.