

The balances of deposits, &c., at the credit of the Ordinary Deposit Account of the Receivers of Land Revenue were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Auckland	3,858	13	8
New Plymouth	303	2	0
Hawera	32	1	0
Napier	167	2	11
Gisborne	126	0	10
Wellington	671	5	6
Blenheim	529	8	8
Nelson	707	12	2
Reefton	60	1	3
Westport	99	18	4
Hokitika	567	18	1
Ahaura	12	8	0
Christchurch	1,694	7	6
Dunedin	673	3	6
Invercargill	517	12	8
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	£10,020	16	1

This is an increase upon last year's total of £1,337 13s. 6d., the offices of Auckland, Blenheim, Nelson, Christchurch, and Invercargill being responsible for the increase.

The total amount passed through the above account for the year was £84,023 1s. 10d., being an increase of £4,979 12s. on the previous year.

In the course of the past year I personally inspected the following District Offices and audited the accounts of the Receivers of Land Revenue: viz., Gisborne, Napier, New Plymouth, Wellington, Blenheim, Nelson, Auckland, Christchurch, Invercargill, Dunedin, Westport, Reefton, and Hokitika. On my return to the Head Office I furnished special reports and balance-sheets of the transactions of each office.

The staff of my office have always plenty of work before them. The work of audit and examination of the various Receivers' cash-books has to be assiduously kept going, each officer having certain cash-books to audit, and cash appearing there to credit on the selectors' cards whenever the books are received from the Treasury. Besides the work of audit, all the cards and Commissioners' returns received are carefully examined, and a check applied whenever it is possible by comparing the details with pamphlets and posters: and in connection therewith 2,118 new cards were received; 1,050 Commissioners' returns; 1,465 queries despatched; 412 memos written; 343 memos received; 66 refund vouchers examined and certified to; and 104 parcels despatched. The errors and omissions disclosed by queries, &c., for the year were 1,206.

Table No. 1. — Comparative Statement of Receipts on Account of Territorial Revenue for the Financial Years 1901-2 and 1902-3.

Land District.	1901-2.			1902-3.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	44,649	6	2	40,802	2	11	...	...	...	3,847	3	3
Taranaki	17,194	14	9	14,005	12	5	...	...	...	3,189	2	4
Hawke's Bay	14,478	1	3	15,788	13	10	1,310	12	7	...	...	...
Wellington	29,757	11	9	34,596	4	11	4,838	13	2	...	...	...
Marlborough	8,874	1	9	9,675	7	4	801	5	7	...	...	...
Nelson	8,899	14	9	7,962	13	4	...	...	...	937	1	5
Westland	5,614	8	5	4,385	10	8	...	...	...	1,228	17	9
Canterbury	53,447	6	7	58,954	11	2	5,507	4	7	...	...	...
Otago	52,567	8	6	54,084	19	1	1,517	10	7	...	...	...
Southland	14,136	7	7	12,021	19	5	...	...	...	2,114	8	2
	249,619	1	6	252,277	15	1	13,975	6	6	11,316	12	11
				249,619	1	6	11,316	12	11			
Net increase	2,658	13	7	2,658	13	7			
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Actual receipts	252,277	15	1		
Estimated receipts	230,000	0	0		
Excess	£22,277	15	1		