

MEETINGS OF LAND BOARD.

During the year the Land Board held eighteen meetings and paid eight visits, making inspections in the following districts: Wairarapa, Eketahuna, Rangitikei, Hutt, Nukumarū, and Martinborough.

PRESENT POSITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.

From the foregoing and from my personal observation when visiting the outlying portions of the district where settlement is principally taking place, as well as from the visits of inspection made by the Land Board, and the frequent and lengthy reports furnished from time to time by the various Crown Lands Rangers, I have no hesitation in saying that the condition and future prospects of settlement in this district are eminently satisfactory not only in regard to the ordinary Crown lands as dealt with under "The Land Act, 1892," &c., but also in regard to that taking place under the Land for Settlements Acts.

LANDS TO BE OPENED DURING THE COMING YEAR.

The following lands will probably be placed on the market during the coming year: Two homestead sections in Longbush and Tablelands Settlements, 920 acres; the Mahupuku Settlement, 4,831 acres; Hikawera Settlement, 1,753 acres; Dyer Settlement, 16,450 acres; and the Waddington, Heretaunga, Hall-Jones, Wilford, Pitt, Melling, and Hawtrey Settlements, which have been acquired subject to the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act and "The Workers' Dwellings Act, 1905": also the Kawhatahi (North Kaitieke) Block, 20,000 acres; the Te Maire, Kirikau, and Retaruke Blocks, 48,000 acres; Rangitatau Block, 9,000 acres; and probably a number of forfeited sections. It is also proposed to hold sales of township sections in Ohakune, Raetihi, Waiouru, Taihape, Mangaweka, &c.

CLERICAL BRANCH.

The number of letters received during the year amounted to 13,285, and those despatched to 15,792. Including letters, rent-notices, parcels, &c., a total of 59,577 letters, &c., were received and despatched during the year. Six hundred and twenty-five cheques were drawn on my Imprest Account for a total of £5,651; the number of vouchers dealt with being 916, representing a total of £22,632.

JOHN STRAUCHON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

SUMMARY OF LAND TRANSACTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1905-6.

System.	Transactions during the Year.			Area under Lease at 31st March, 1906.			Revenue received during the Year.				
	Number.	Area.		Number.	Area.						
		A.	R.	P.		A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.
Cash	20	4,704	3	4	...	...	...	...	1,884	13	5
Deferred payment ... ..	...	...	...	...	123	11,803	1	4	866	1	5
Deferred payment made freehold	46	4,851	0	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Perpetual lease ... ..	...	...	...	...	12	2,017	3	14	33	0	11
Perpetual lease made freehold	2	302	0	0	...	...	...	...	113	5	0
Occupation with right of purchase	3	626	2	28	193	37,940	3	3	985	18	2
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	1	100	0	0	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
Lease in perpetuity ...	53	16,468	0	27	279	78,261	3	13	2,193	2	6
Mining districts land occupation	6	372	1	13	27	1,398	3	27	117	18	6
Small grazing-runs ...	...	...	...	...	6	8,556	0	0	102	3	11
Pastoral runs	6	6,500	0	0	60	237,909	0	0	535	0	4
Miscellaneous leases and licenses, including coal and timber royalties	273	13,152	0	6	560	83,615	0	15	2,699	6	8
Other sources ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	471	16	4
Totals	410	47,077	0	33	1,260	461,502	2	36	10,032	7	2
Endowments.											
Village - homestead special settlement	...	...	...	...	20	100	3	7	15	0	6
Mining districts land occupation	3	13	2	0	79	1,497	2	11	77	19	9
Miscellaneous leases ...	3	0	1	13	297	5,480	2	26	837	1	5
Royalty on coal and timber ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,222	18	1
Grand totals	416	47,091	0	6	1,656	468,581	3	0	24,185	6	11