

be included, the relative percentages are—number of tenants, 14 per cent. ; amount owing, 9 per cent. It must, I think, be conceded that under all the circumstances these percentages are strikingly small. The following is a comparative statement of arrears, exclusive of current half-year, for the last seven years :—

Year.			Number of Tenants in Arrear.	Area held by Tenants in Arrear.	Amount of Arrears.	Total Number of Tenants on Books.	Gross Annual Rent.
Ordinary Crown Lands.							
				Acres.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1900	...	...	159	50,834	988 0 5	2,490	51,015 9 2
1901	...	...	153	75,160	1,043 17 5	2,582	51,283 11 3
1902	...	...	120	67,398	922 9 3	2,598	51,409 7 1
1903	...	...	83	75,130	993 10 3	2,626	51,605 16 3
1904	...	...	40	22,413	296 13 10	2,745	51,091 12 6
1905	...	...	48	24,515	383 17 3	2,863	50,956 19 10
1906	...	...	54	20,488	310 8 0	2,912	50,437 11 11
Land for Settlements.							
1900	...	...	98	15,187	4,077 1 3	368	14,976 13 4
1901	...	...	104	16,972	4,076 19 10	389	17,145 9 6
1902	...	...	57	9,584	2,358 17 8	407	17,460 3 6
1903	...	...	51	10,349	1,654 16 11	462	20,194 16 8
1904	...	...	19	4,604	396 9 0	470	20,703 15 10
1905	...	...	22	3,418	572 4 5	475	20,974 10 2
1906	...	...	33	5,289	813 4 11	519	25,217 11 4

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The total of these were three more in number than for the previous year, 20,369 acres less in area, and £169 10s. 5d. less in respect of annual rental. Of 14 forfeitures, 8 were for non-payment of rent, and 6 for non-residence and abandonment, the latter six being occupation leases under the Mining Districts Land Occupation Act. For the ten surrenders there were various reasons, such as subdivision, grouping with other sections, reduction of capital value, ill health, mining, &c. The number, therefore, of forfeitures and surrenders in proportion to the number of holdings on the books is exceptionally small. The number of these transactions year by year for the last seven years is shown in the following return :—

Year.	Forfeitures.			Surrenders.			Total.		
	Number.	Area.	Amount of Rent.	Number.	Area.	Amount of Rent.	Number.	Area.	Amount of Rent.
1899-1900	61	A. 119,392 R. 1 P. 9	£ 918 s. 11 d. 6	63	A. 20,101 R. 1 P. 15	£ 790 s. 14 d. 8	124	A. 139,493 R. 2 P. 24	£ 1,709 s. 6 d. 2
1900-1 ..	51	160,852 2 11	205 13 2	31	9,602 2 25	336 16 6	82	170,545 0 26	1,542 9 8
1901-2 ..	22	4,630 0 18	120 8 2	23	21,775 3 4	210 14 0	45	26,405 3 22	331 2 2
1902-3 ..	34	48,195 3 27	365 17 3	18	26,205 1 25	301 8 8	52	74,401 1 12	667 5 11
1903-4 ..	41	117,005 2 12	248 7 8	17	6,131 0 9	201 1 6	58	123,136 2 21	449 9 2
1904-5 ..	10	5,646 3 20	139 0 4	11	26,711 1 5	351 0 2	21	32,358 0 25	490 0 6
1905-6 ..	14	10,981 2 8	234 0 4	10	1,007 2 2	86 9 9	24	11,989 0 10	320 10 1

TRANSFERS.

Transactions under this head are still very frequent, as may be gathered from the fact that there were altogether 199 transfers, covering an aggregate area of 275,296 acres, during the last year, the following being the respective numbers and acreages for the several tenures affected :—

	Number.	Acres.
Perpetual leases	13	1,814
Cash certificates	3	700
Occupation with right of purchase	11	1,949
Lease in perpetuity (ordinary Crown lands)	65	13,300
Lease in perpetuity (land for settlements)	45	5,624
Occupation leases (Mining Districts Land Occupation Act)	7	157
Small grazing-runs	23	51,227
Pastoral runs	9	176,524
Miscellaneous licenses	16	23,905
Wardens' leases	7	96

In 1904-5 the total number was 168, and the area dealt with 452,718 acres,