

SESSION II.
1906.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS: SURVEYS

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The ACTING-SURVEYOR-GENERAL to the Hon. the MINISTER OF LANDS.

SIR,—

Department of Lands, Wellington, 1st June, 1906.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report on the survey operations of the Department for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1906.

I have, &c.,

THOS. HUMPHRIES,

Acting Surveyor-General.

The Hon. T. Y. Duncan, Minister of Lands.

WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

The number of surveyors employed during the year ending the 31st March, 1906, was 107, consisting of 35 staff, 40 temporary, and 32 on contract, 76 of whom were employed in the North Island and 31 in the South. The amount of work in the different classes completed during the year, together with the cost, is as follows:—

Class of Work.	Area.	Cost per Acre.	Total Cost.		
	Acres.		£	s.	d.
Minor triangulation	355,072	1.13d.	1,666	14	6
Topographical	101,577	2d.	846	9	6
Topographical provisional settlement	244,093	4.05d.	4,119	3	7
Rural and suburban	605,425	1.63s.	49,532	10	1
Town section	939	18.25s. per section	1,531	1	0
Gold-mining surveys	4,191	4.12s.	863	14	4
Native Land Court	28,766	1.68s.	2,413	11	5
Roads and railways	307m.	£15.6 per mile	4,789	10	7
Miscellaneous work and other duties	10,419	9	5

The completed work returned in each class, with the exception of Native Land Court surveys, greatly exceeds that of the previous year, and the cost of the surveyors and their field parties is only £1,413 greater. The excess in area is in a measure due to the fact that some of the surveys enumerated above were partially executed during the previous year, but now, having been completed, they appear for the first time with the total cost, which includes that incurred prior to the 1st April, 1905. A comparison of the figures quoted above under the heads of "Minor triangulation," "Provisional settlement," and "Rural and suburban" surveys with those of the same classes for the preceding year shows the cost per acre for work returned this year to be considerably less in each case.