

1910.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

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

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A N N U A L R E P O R T .

The UNDER-SECRETARY FOR LANDS to the Right Hon. the MINISTER OF LANDS.

SIR,—

Department of Lands, Wellington, 30th April, 1910.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Department of Lands for the year ended 31st March, 1910, which also shortly touches upon its subsidiary branches, the full reports on which will be laid before Parliament as usual.

I have, &c.,

WM. C. KENSINGTON,

Under-Secretary for Lands.

The Right Hon. Sir Joseph G. Ward, P.C., K.C.M.G., Minister of Lands.

Before entering upon the statistical portion of the annual report of the Lands Department it may be useful to state, in the forefront, that the number of new settlers for the past year, of all classes, amounted to 2,582, who, with their families, may be estimated at 8,000 souls. The total area opened during the year for all classes of applicants amounted to 2,326,037 acres, and the total area disposed of in like manner was 2,431,143 acres. There are at present under survey by the survey staff 1,354,048 acres of Crown land, and also in furtherance of the decision of the Government that all Native-land surveys are to be carried out by the Lands and Survey staff, there are under survey 156,837 acres of Native land, chiefly for the various district Maori Land Boards, for settlement purposes under the Native Land Act, 1909. The subjoined tables set forth the matter in concrete form. Many references have appeared from time to time in the public Press, apparently drawing attention to what they are pleased to style as the dilatory opening of Crown lands in certain parts of the Auckland District—notably in the Counties of Kawhia, Waitomo, West Taupo, and Awakino. The subjoined schedule will show what areas—only recently purchased by the Crown from the Maori owners—are available for settlement, and how they are being dealt with in order to open them for selection as speedily as possible.

Kawhia County.—Area, 8,816 acres. Of this area, 2,717 acres are under survey by Mr. T. Carroll, who has also 12,495 acres under survey for the Maori Land Board. The area under survey by Mr. Carroll is good soil, limestone country, with heavy bush.

Waitomo County.—Area, 37,748 acres. Of this area, 6,691 acres are under survey by Messrs. Edgecumbe and Newton. One-half is open country, and the balance bush. The soil is good, but area cannot be opened until roads are surveyed for long distances through adjoining Maori lands.

West Taupo.—Area, 116,674 acres. This area lies north of the source of the Mokau River, and 24,800 acres of it will be taken in hand shortly by Mr. Galbraith on completion of his present work, but roads of access must be obtained through adjoining Maori lands.

Awakino County.—Area, 10,881 acres. Of this area, 4,000 acres will be taken in hand by Mr. A. D. Newton next spring, as the block is very difficult of access in winter time.

It must be borne in mind that when lands are purchased from the Maori owners they cannot be secured, as a rule, in large consecutive blocks, but each area purchased is more or less isolated from its neighbour. Then, there are no roads of access, and these have to be first explored for, and then surveyed through tracts of land still owned by Maoris. The necessary work of laying off sections for opening depends upon the securing of such suitable roads, which are taken under Governor's Warrant or by Proclamation. No effort is being spared by the field staff to loyally co-operate with the several Commissioners of Crown Lands in preparing land for settlement purposes, and the results are highly creditable to the Surveyor-General and the Chief Surveyors and their staffs. The total number of surveyors employed on salary by the Department amounts to 86, outside of those employed at contract rates for the survey of Crown and Maori lands.

The following table shows the lands opened during the year under the various tenures :

Table A.—Land opened during the Year 1909–10.

District.	Optional System.	Renewable Lease.			Im- proved Farm Special Settle- ments.	Cash by Auc- tion.	Lease by Auc- tion and Appli- cation.	Village Allot- ments.	Small Grazing- runs.	Pastoral Runs.		Totals.
		Ordinary Crown Land.	National Endow- ment.	Land for Settle- ments.						Ordinary Crown Lands.	National Endow- ment.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	53,426	3,266	24,980	11,970	12,941	127	636	85	..	64,126	116,016	287,573
Hawke's Bay ..	6,414	..	856	28,929	..	83	..	47	..	24,845	..	61,174
Taranaki ..	22,134	..	12,320	67	19,985	45	36	..	..	..	..	54,587
Wellington ..	45,791	..	6,142	828	13,866	526	7,517	130	3,970	..	1,760	80,530
Nelson ..	7,935	18,737	215,765	5,285	..	15	..	..	..	10,000	..	257,737
Marlborough ..	..	..	4,981	75	..	..	154	..	5,577*	76,166	..	86,953
Westland ..	..	29,477	11,198	..	..	41	159	1	..	348,520	53,160	442,556
Canterbury ..	564	272	..	29,100	..	1	509	..	..	3,824	..	34,270
Otago ..	3,860	1,457	..	13,731	..	85	..	..	289,734†	304,574	246,460	859,901
Southland ..	12,359	3,737	..	2,905	..	501	..	..	..	141,254	..	160,756
Totals ..	152,483	56,946	276,242	92,890	46,792‡	1,424	9,011	263	299,281	973,309	417,396	2,326,037

* National endowment lands.

† Includes 210,554 acres national endowment lands.

‡ Includes 5,847 acres national endowment lands (Taranaki, 4,897 acres, and Wellington, 950 acres).

LANDS UNDER SURVEY AND BEING PREPARED FOR SETTLEMENT.

On the 31st March, 1910, the Lands Department had under survey, and being prepared for opening for settlement, an area of 1,510,885 acres, made up as follows :—

Ordinary Crown lands (chiefly under optional system and as small grazing-runs)	Acres.	929,266
National endowment (renewable lease and small grazing-runs)	..	424,782
Native lands (chiefly for Maori Land Boards, Native-land settlement)	..	156,837
Total	..	1,510,885

The areas given above are distributed in the following proportions :—

Land District.	Crown Lands.	National Endow- ment.	Maori Lands, chiefly for Settlement.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	122,540	73,790	78,190
Hawke's Bay	37,618	13,570	18,270
Taranaki	104,750	16,840	17,177
Wellington	60,000	Nil	18,500
Nelson	18,873	16,110	Nil
Marlborough	7,184	27,150	..
Westland	Nil	20,000	..
Canterbury	5,395*	Nil	..
Otago	553,506	257,322	..
Southland	19,400	Nil	24,700
Totals	929,266	424,782	156,837

* Land for settlements.

The area given above is composed mostly of blocks actually in the hands of the surveyors being surveyed into subdivisions for settlement. It should, however, be explained that the Otago figures include 679,000 acres, the major portion of which has already been selected by tenants.

LANDS SELECTED UNDER ALL TENURES.

The total selectors for the past year do not equal those of the previous year by 21, but the area taken up, which includes lands selected under pastoral lease, both ordinary Crown lands and national endowment lands, totals 2,431,143 acres, or 1,514,622 acres in excess of last year. The subjoined table gives the complete details of the year's transactions, and it will suffice to notice that included in the above, and under the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act, 1908, and amendment of 1909,

there were 308 selectors, who have taken up between them 89,206 acres, against 288 selectors of 95,698 acres last year. It is also of interest to note that at the close of the year the Crown tenants totalled 26,498, holding 18,722,779 acres, and paying an annual rental of £577,693.

Table B.—Return showing Selections during the Year, together with the Total Number of Crown Tenants, the Net Area held, and Annual Rental payable at 31st March, 1910.

Tenure.	Selections during the Year.			Net Area held at 31st March, 1910.			Annual Rental payable.		
	Number.	Area.		Number of Selectors.	Area.				
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands,—</i>									
Cash lands	356	A. 8,618	B. P. 3 8	..	A. ..	B. P. ..	£ ..	s. d. ..	
Deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	31	14,238	3 24	740	1 10	
Perpetual lease .. .. .	..	..	..	475	82,378	0 17	2,903	15 5	
Occupation with right of purchase	307	108,151	3 36	4,948	1,691,014	2 34	76,890	17 3	
Lease in perpetuity	4	1,011	1 8	5,082	1,483,312	1 6	46,613	1 9	
Renewable lease, town and rural	34	8,553	2 28	127	19,697	3 14	1,352	3 8	
Agricultural lease .. .. .	..	..	..	16	521	1 29	22	13 3	
Mining districts land occupation leases	60	2,067	2 27	591	23,515	3 2	1,391	18 0	
Village settlement, cash	8	12	0 2	..	..	..	..	..
" deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	8	163	1 6	18	11 0	
" perpetual lease .. .. .	..	..	..	98	1,450	1 10	197	13 8	
" occupation with right of purchase	1	0	1 0	32	62	3 14	14	12 6	
" lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	1,082	22,795	1 12	3,995	5 4	
" renewable lease	12	115	3 16	121	800	1 29	473	4 0	
Village-homestead special settlement .. .. .	..	..	..	605	13,455	3 24	1,663	0 1	
Special-settlement associations .. .. .	..	..	..	663	115,452	1 5	6,214	15 6	
Improved-farm special settlement	220	33,605	0 0	795	104,334	3 19	5,873	10 9	
Small grazing-runs	2	2,867	0 0	255	468,307	3 12	17,956	15 9	
Pastoral runs	68	1,057,602	2 11	463	6,944,768	2 23	35,105	19 4	
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	26	5,083	3 31	215	39,143	0 29	809	3 8	
Miscellaneous leases	558	89,555	3 26	3,514	663,010	3 38	14,431	0 1	
Totals	1,656	1,317,245	3 33	19,121	11,688,424	3 27	216,668	2 10	
<i>Cheviot Estate,—</i>									
Cash lands	1	0	1 0	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	118	24,387	2 2	6,424	7 6	
Village homestead .. .. .	..	..	..	92	2,480	1 0	870	10 4	
Grazing-farms .. .. .	..	..	..	49	45,782	0 7	6,840	5 2	
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1,642	0 0	193	3 8	
Miscellaneous leases	2	153	1 0	49	1,269	3 20	229	17 5	
Totals	3	153	2 0	309	75,561	2 29	14,558	4 1	
<i>Land for Settlements,—</i>									
Cash lands	16	254	1 28	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	3,600	663,364	1 25	194,096	16 8	
Renewable lease	274	88,430	2 29	655	247,233	0 0	49,220	19 6	
Village lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	46	438	1 28	333	12 8	
" renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	2	9	2 16	8	15 6	
Special-settlement associations .. .. .	..	..	..	11	2,114	1 9	162	7 8	
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	..	..	..	111	204,308	0 33	26,739	4 4	
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	2	953	2 38	121	13 0	
Miscellaneous leases	18	520	3 36	205	6,723	0 22	1,401	15 3	
Totals	308	89,206	0 13	4,632	1,125,144	3 11	272,085	4 7	
<i>National Endowment Lands,—</i>									
Renewable lease	303	81,052	0 1	720	196,783	1 28	9,122	10 5	
" village settlement	32	352	1 21	107	1,003	0 21	244	17 0	
Improved-farm special settlement	39	6,399	1 30	48	7,745	2 14	75	14 7	
Small grazing-runs	43	295,627	0 0	460	1,413,016	0 27	25,702	14 1	
Pastoral runs	44	604,818	2 34	227	4,009,840	2 37	35,065	11 8	
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	45	6,861	3 30	152	25,256	1 17	536	2 8	
Miscellaneous leases	109	29,426	0 25	416	173,945	3 15	1,475	2 2	
Totals	615	1,024,537	2 21	2,130	5,827,591	0 39	72,222	12 7	
Thermal springs, Rotorua .. .. .	..	..	..	306	6,057	0 2	2,158	16 4	
Grand totals	2,582	2,431,143	0 27	26,498	18,722,779	2 28	577,693	0 5	

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT AREA.

The total area within the national endowment, in terms of section 258 of the Land Act, 1908, amounts to 8,202,845 acres. The selectors for the past year numbered 615, the area selected being 1,024,537 acres, and the amount of revenue received for the past year totalled £78,408.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

In order to meet the urgent applications for land by a class of persons comparatively without means, but who were anxious to obtain small areas, the Government determined on a vigorous policy of opening for selection very considerable areas of Crown lands in the Auckland, Taranaki, and Wellington Districts, as near the Main Trunk Railway line as possible, the result being that 46,792 acres were made available, and distributed amongst 258 heads of families. The intention of the Government was to open under the improved-farm-settlement conditions some 60,000 acres of land, and thus provide for four hundred selectors. It was found, however, that land of sufficiently good quality, and reasonably near the Main Trunk Railway line, could not be obtained to meet the full requirements of the Government's decision. The total number of selectors and holders of improved-farm-settlement sections number 843 heads of families, holding a total area of 112,080 acres, the total improvements to the 31st March being valued at £207,828. Further particulars are available in the reports by the several Commissioners of Crown Lands published in the Appendix.

VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS.

A few additional areas near Dannevirke and elsewhere were opened to workers during the past year. The total selections numbered fifty-three, and the area taken up was 480 acres. The total number who hold at present under this tenure—which gives the right to certain advances—amounts to 2,193 selectors, the total area so held being 42,659 acres.

INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The total number of Crown Lands Rangers employed on the necessary, though often thankless task of insuring that Crown tenants are fulfilling their improvement and residential conditions, is divided as follows: North Island, 19—viz., Auckland, 8; Hawke's Bay, 2; Taranaki, 3; Wellington, 6. South Island, 19—viz., Nelson, 3; Marlborough, 2; Westland, 2; Canterbury, 4; Otago, 4; Southland, 4.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 9,547; the total area inspected amounted to 2,589,587 acres; the total value of the improvements actually made being £3,240,955.

The following table gives the details:—

Table C.—Return of Number of Inspections made by the Rangers for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.		Value of Improvements.				Number of Defaulters.				Total.		
				Required.		Actually made.		For Deficient Improvements only.	For Non-residence only.	For Non-residence and Improvements.	For other Reasons.			
		A.	R. P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.					
Auckland ..	1,751	430,380	0 0	169,426	0 0	505,509	0 0	112	183	120	..	415		
Hawke's Bay ..	1,173	508,668	2 18	285,931	18 11	863,926	10 9	27	61	15	..	103		
Taranaki ..	297	160,256	3 13	57,111	0 0	124,005	0 0	35	19	4	..	58		
Wellington ..	1,743	289,331	0 0	99,188	0 0	363,165	0 0	84	72	5	..	161		
Nelson ..	253	138,278	0 0	21,585	0 0	44,659	0 0	40	22	13	..	75		
Marlborough ..	587	296,427	2 37	126,066	8 8	287,899	12 2	28	44	7	2	81		
Westland ..	531	76,272	3 4	31,633	17 9	91,772	9 0	..	45	..	..	45
Canterbury ..	1,709	324,545	2 25	334,253	3 5	560,246	15 4	100	10	..	..	110
Otago ..	888	234,836	3 32	151,247	12 10	259,572	9 2	102	22	5	..	129		
Southland ..	615	130,589	2 22	72,570	8 9	140,198	18 8	14	3	5	2	24		
Totals ..	9,547	2,589,587	0 31	1,349,013	10 4	3,240,954	15 1	542	481	174	4	1,201		

GRASS-SEED SUPPLIED TO SETTLERS.

The moneys repaid during the past year amount to £6,800, and the total repaid to date is £9,979. Only comparatively few of those who were helped in this way have asked that the time mentioned in their promissory notes be extended.

REVENUE.

The total gross revenue received by the several Receivers of Land Revenue amounted to £674,907, or £15,893 over the estimated gross revenue, which was set down as £659,014. This, however, falls short of last year's gross receipts by £21,468. The territorial revenue showed a reduction of £22,743. below the estimate, as the total amount received was only £201,257, against an estimated revenue of £224,000. This is entirely accounted for by the diminution of cash sales to the amount first mentioned. Table D, hereunder, furnishes the details, and shows the amounts credited in each district to territorial revenue.

Table D.—Revenue received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Territorial Revenue.	Non-territorial Revenue.	Total Revenue.
	£	£	£
Auckland	43,739	64,306	108,045
Hawke's Bay	31,340	67,651	98,991
Taranaki	11,923	18,336	30,259
Wellington	27,326	52,322	79,648
Nelson	6,555	23,264	29,819
Marlborough	11,549	26,027	37,576
Westland	3,843	9,478	13,321
Canterbury	24,917	113,972	138,889
Otago	28,736	76,523	105,259
Southland	11,329	21,771	33,100
Totals	201,257	473,650	674,907

REBATES OF RENT.

The lessees of ordinary Crown land have received rebates of rent to the amount of £9,688, and the tenants under the Land for Settlements Act and Cheviot Estate to a total of £22,149. It is open to doubt whether the system of granting rebates of rent for prompt payment is based upon sound business principles. It is not carried out by private persons, and, considering the low rentals paid as a rule by ordinary Crown tenants, and, moreover, taking into consideration the fact that in regard to another class of tenants under the Land Act, 1908—viz., pastoral licensees—where the Act directs that a fine shall be imposed if the rent, when due, is not promptly paid, it seems difficult to understand why differential treatment should be meted out to the ordinary Crown tenants.

PAYMENTS OF "THIRDS" AND "FOURTHS" TO LOCAL BODIES.

The various local bodies have had paid over to them, in accordance with the provisions of the Land Act, 1908, no less a sum than £29,727, the several Land Boards having approved of the roadworks upon which this money is to be spent.

TIMBER AND FLAX ROYALTIES.

Owing to the falling-off in the amount of timber available for sale from ordinary Crown lands, and also to the demand for such timber having abated considerably during the past year, and further, in the case of flax, on account of the lesser production thereof, local bodies have only received "halves" amounting to £9,456. It is not expected that any large amount will be either received or payable during the coming year.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN SPARSELY SETTLED DISTRICTS.

The Lands Department has continued its contributions in the form of subsidies to assist the medical clubs in sparsely settled districts to maintain medical men, and the amounts so paid are set forth in the following table:—

Name of Medical Society.	Amount of Subsidy.	Amount paid 1909-10.
	£	£ s. d.
Clevedon	25	12 10 0
Kaitiaki	50	50 0 0
Kawakawa	50	50 0 0
Kawhia	50	50 0 0
Little River	50	50 0 0
Ohura	100	100 0 0
Owaka	150	150 0 0
Preservation Inlet	50	50 0 0
Raetihi	100	100 0 0
Raglan	50	50 0 0
Morrinsville	30	22 10 0
Taumarunui	50	50 0 0
Tinui	50	37 10 0
Tolago Bay	75	75 0 0
Waiau	25	25 0 0
Wanaka	100	.. .. .
Weber	50	50 0 0
Whangaroa	0	50 0 0
	£1,105	£972 10 0

LAND FOR SETTLEMENT ESTATES.

The table appended below gives the position and prospects of each estate purchased and opened for settlement. Seven additional estates have been opened for selection. In the North Island the area offered amounted to 28,600 acres, and comprised estates at Tongoio, near Napier; Clydebank, at Wairoa; and Ngatapa, in the Gisborne district. These were divided into sixty farms, for which there was keen competition. In the South Island the area acquired and opened for selection amounted to 31,226 acres, and comprised estates in the Canterbury and Southland Districts, for which there was also keen competition.

Table E.—Summary of the Settlements established upon Estates acquired and dealt with, under the Provisions of the Land for Settlements Act, up to the 31st March, 1910.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Selectors.	Residences.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilised.	Progress during Year.	Present Position.	Prospects.
Auckland—						
Bickerstaffe ..	33	25	Grazing and dairying ..	Fair ..	Fair ..	Doubtful.
Fencourt ..	37	36	Dairying ..	Substantial ..	Satisfactory ..	Bright.
Karapiro ..	18	12	" ..	Satisfactory ..	" ..	Hopeful.
Mangapouri ..	10	9	" ..	Fair ..	" ..	Bright.
Mangawhero ..	18	18	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Matamata ..	183	159	" ..	Satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Okauia ..	8	8	Grazing ..	Fair ..	" ..	Hopeful.
Opouriao ..	92	77	Dairying ..	Excellent ..	Excellent ..	Excellent.
Rangiata ..	20	18	" ..	Satisfactory ..	Satisfactory ..	Hopeful.
Rewi ..	1	1	Grazing ..	Unsatisfactory ..	Unsatisfactory ..	Doubtful.
Selwyn ..	107	57	" ..	Fair ..	Satisfactory ..	Hopeful.
Tautari ..	25	15	" ..	Poor ..	Unsatisfactory ..	Discouraging.
Teasdale ..	58	16	Residential ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Bright.
Waimana ..	25	15	Dairying ..	Satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Whitehall ..	11	10	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Hamlets—						
Craddock ..	13	12	Residential ..	Good ..	Sound ..	Bright.
Hetana ..	66	39	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Kitchener ..	12	10	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Methuen ..	30	24	" ..	" ..	" ..	Hopeful.
Plumer ..	17	15	" ..	Very good ..	" ..	Bright.
Waari ..	14	6	" ..	Fair ..	Fair ..	Doubtful.
	798	582				
Hawke's Bay—						
Argyll ..	62	60	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Satisfactory ..	Prosperous ..	Good.
Clydebank ..	23	..	" ..	Only recently selected.	Prosperous ..	Good.
Elsthorpe ..	48	27	Pastoral ..	Very satisfactory ..	Prosperous ..	Good.
Forest Gate ..	29	26	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Hatuma ..	76	62	" ..	Very satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Kanakanaia ..	7	7	Pastoral ..	Fair ..	" ..	"
Kumeroa ..	15	14	Pastoral and dairying ..	Satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Lindsay ..	68	61	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Very satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Mahora ..	34	32	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture ..	Ditto ..	" ..	"
Manga-a-toro ..	26	25	Pastoral ..	" ..	" ..	"
Mangatahi ..	23	21	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Ngatapa ..	24	..	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Only recently selected.	selected.	"
Pouparae ..	9	9	Agricultural ..	Very satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Pourerere ..	6	5	Pastoral ..	Fair ..	" ..	"
Raumati ..	30	27	Dairying ..	Very satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Raureka ..	19	17	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture ..	Ditto ..	" ..	"
Te Arai ..	53	49	Agricultural and pastoral ..	" ..	" ..	"
Te Mata ..	9	8	Fruit-culture ..	Fair ..	" ..	"
Tomoana ..	13	12	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture ..	Very satisfactory ..	" ..	"
Tongoio ..	12	..	Pastoral ..	Only recently selected.	selected.	"
Waimarie ..	18	16	Agricultural ..	Very satisfactory ..	Prosperous ..	Good.
Waipuka ..	1	..	Pastoral ..	Only recently selected.	selected.	"
Wigan ..	17	19	" ..	Very satisfactory ..	Prosperous ..	Good.
Willows ..	22	16	Agricultural ..	Ditto ..	" ..	"
	644	513				
Taranaki—						
Clandon ..	6	5	Dairying and sheep ..	Unsatisfactory ..	Not too good ..	Not too good.
Huinga ..	10	10	" ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Spotswood ..	13	13	Grazing ..	Better ..	Unsatisfactory ..	Indifferent.
Tokaora ..	13	13	Dairying ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
	42	41				

Table E.—Summary of the Settlements established upon Estates acquired and dealt with, under the Provisions of the Land for Settlements Act, up to the 31st March, 1910—continued.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Selectors.	Residences.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilised.	Progress during Year.	Present Position.	Prospects.
Wellington—						
Aorangi ..	37	38	Dairying ..	Good ..	Excellent ..	Good.
Carrington ..	29	27	Dairying and grazing ..	Satisfactory ..	Good ..	Fair.
Dyer ..	36	36	Grazing, dairying, and cropping	Excellent ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Epuni ..	42	42	Residential, market gardening, &c.	Satisfactory	Good ..	Fair.
Hawtrey ..	9	3	Not yet established.			
Hikawera ..	3	3	Grazing ..	Very good ..	Good ..	Excellent.
Langdale ..	29	24	" ..	Steady ..	" ..	Good.
Linton ..	5	5	Dairying and cropping ..	Good ..	Excellent ..	" ..
Longbush ..	7	6	Grazing and dairying ..	" ..	" ..	Very bright.
Mahupuku ..	8	8	" ..	" ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Mangawhata ..	7	7	" ..	Satisfactory	Good ..	Favourable.
Maungaraki ..	21	19	Residential and farming ..	" ..	" ..	Fair.
Normandale ..	34	32	Residential, poultry-farming, &c.	Indifferent	Good as to residential	Uncertain on larger areas.
Ohakea ..	17	15	Dairying and cropping ..	Good ..	Excellent ..	Good.
Paparangi ..	36	36	Residential, poultry and dairy farming	Satisfactory	Good ..	"
Tablelands ..	9	9	Grazing ..	Very good ..	" ..	Excellent.
Tawaha ..	24	24	Dairying and cropping ..	Satisfactory	" ..	Fair.
Te Matua ..	13	12	Dairying ..	Good ..	Excellent ..	Good.
	366	347				
Nelson—						
Braeburn ..	14	9	Principally pastoral ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very encouraging.
Wangapeka ..	14	11	Agricultural and pastoral..	"	" ..	Ditto.
	28	20				
Marlborough—						
Blind River ..	17	12	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Fair ..	Good ..	Good.
Flaxbourne ..	118	89	Ditto ..	Good ..	Fair ..	"
North Bank ..	7	6	Grazing ..	" ..	Progressing ..	Hopeful.
Omaka ..	13	13	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Fair ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Puhipuhi ..	2	1	Grazing ..	Very little ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Rainford ..	11	11	Dairying ..	" ..	Good ..	Very good.
Richmond Brook ..	11	10	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Fair ..	" ..	"
Starborough ..	192	105	Ditto ..	Good ..	" ..	Excellent.
Waipapa ..	4	4	Grazing ..	Fair ..	Fair ..	Fair.
	375	251				
Westland—						
Kokatahi ..	8	7	Dairying and grazing ..	Good ..	Highly satisfactory	Good.
Poerua ..	22	14	" ..	" ..	Ditto ..	"
	30	21				
Canterbury—						
Albury ..	75	58	Mixed farming ..	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Annau ..	48	41	Partly pastoral, partly mixed farming	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Ashley Gorge ..	10	12	Partly pastoral, partly dairying	Steady ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Braco ..	14	14	Residential and market-gardening	Steady ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Buddo ..	6	"	Ditto ..	Selected in	March, 1910.	
Chamberlain ..	20	22	Partly pastoral, partly mixed farming	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Culverden ..	44	42	Pastoral and mixed farming	"	Very good ..	Good.
Eccleston ..	4	4	Mixed farming ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	"
Epworth ..	2	1	Small farm ..	Steady ..	" ..	"
Fyvie ..	5	5	Mixed farming ..	Good ..	Good ..	"
Hekeao ..	15	13	" ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very good.
Highbank ..	76	58	" ..	" ..	Excellent ..	"
Horsley Down ..	26	21	" ..	" ..	Very good ..	"
Kaimahi ..	12	11	Market gardening ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Kapua ..	12	12	Small farming and dairying	Steady ..	" ..	"
Kapuatohe ..	12	11	Workmen's homes ..	Good ..	" ..	"
Kereta ..	4	3	Dairying ..	Steady ..	" ..	"
Kinloch ..	30	27	Pastoral ..	Good ..	Fairly satisfactory	Improving.
Kohika ..	15	15	Mixed farming and dairying	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Lyndon (No. 1) ..	8	8	Pastoral ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Lyndon (No. 2) ..	9	9	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Marawiti ..	13	12	Mixed farming ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very good.
Maytown ..	11	11	Small farming and dairying	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Mead ..	21	19	Mixed farming ..	" ..	" ..	"
Mills ..	21	21	Dairying and small farming	" ..	" ..	"

Table E.—Summary of the Settlements established upon Estates acquired and dealt with, under the Provisions of the Land for Settlements Act, up to the 31st March, 1910—continued.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Selectors.	Residences.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilised.	Progress during Year.	Present Position.	Prospects.
Canterbury—contd.						
Morice ..	30	27	Dairying and grass-seeding	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Orakipaoa ..	27	22	Small farming ..	Steady ..	" ..	"
Otaio ..	9	8	Small farming and dairying	" ..	" ..	"
Otarakaro ..	7	7	Residential and market-gardening	Good ..	" ..	"
Papaka ..	9	9	Mixed farming ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very good.
Pareora (No. 1) ..	28	24	Small farming and dairying	Steady ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Pareora (No. 2) ..	32	32	Mixed farming and dairying	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Patoa ..	4	1	Grazing ..	Steady ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Pawaho ..	25	25	Workmen's homes ..	Good ..	" ..	"
Peaks ..	12	2	Mixed farming ..	Steady ..	" ..	"
Pubuka ..	10	10	Workmen's homes ..	Good ..	" ..	"
Punaroa ..	17	17	Mixed farming and dairying	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Raincliff ..	1	1	Pastoral ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Rakitairi ..	22	17	Mixed farming and dairying	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very good.
Rapuwai ..	5	5	Pastoral ..	" ..	" ..	"
Rautawiri ..	6	6	Small farming ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Roimata ..	27	26	Residential and market-gardening	Steady ..	" ..	"
Rosebrook ..	14	13	Small farming and dairying	" ..	" ..	"
Rosewill ..	154	145	Partly pastoral, partly mixed farming	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Studholme Junct. ..	4	2	Small farming and dairying	Steady ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Takitu ..	5	5	Pastoral ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Very good.
Tamai ..	39	40	Workmen's homes ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Tarawahi ..	28	28	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Tripp ..	24	..	Partly pastoral, partly mixed farming	Selected in	March, 1910.	"
Waiapi ..	15	14	Mixed farming ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Waikakahi ..	182	159	Partly pastoral, partly mixed farming	Very good ..	Excellent ..	Very good.
Wharenui ..	26	26	Workmen's homes ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Homestead-sites, &c.	9	4	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Miscellaneous occupation licenses	44	..	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
	1,323	1,125				
Otago—						
Alredale ..	12	11	Grazing and dairying ..	Good ..	Good ..	Good.
Ardgowan ..	66	53	Dairying and general ..	" ..	" ..	"
Barnego ..	24	20	Grazing and dairying ..	" ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Duncan ..	7	4	Grain-growing and dairying	Poor ..	Not good ..	Poor.
Earnsoleugh ..	13	8	Fruit-growing ..	Very fair ..	Satisfactory ..	Good.
Elderslie ..	34	24	Grain-growing and general	Good ..	Good ..	"
Greenfield ..	41	40	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Janefield ..	21	19	Dairying and residential ..	Fair ..	" ..	"
Kauroo Hill ..	39	29	Grazing and general farming	Good ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Kurow ..	14	13	Dairy farming and general farming	" ..	Good ..	Good.
Maerewhenua ..	75	57	Grain-growing and general	" ..	" ..	"
Makareao and Makareao Extension	35	20	Grazing and dairying ..	" ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Meadowbank ..	8	7	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Momona ..	14	13	Dairying ..	Very fair ..	Very sound ..	Very good.
Otekaiki ..	66	52	Grain-growing and dairying	Good ..	Good ..	Good.
Plunket ..	18	18	Dairying and general farming	" ..	" ..	"
Pomahaka ..	26	14	Grain-growing and general	Fair ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Puketapu ..	11	8	Dairying ..	Good ..	Good ..	Good.
Steward ..	47	42	Grazing and general ..	Fair ..	" ..	"
St. Helen's ..	3	3	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
Tahawai ..	8	8	Dairying ..	Good ..	" ..	"
Taumata ..	9	9	Grain-growing and general	" ..	Fair ..	"
Teaneraki ..	23	15	Dairying ..	Fair ..	Good ..	"
Tokarahi ..	78	44	Grazing and general ..	Good ..	" ..	"
Totara ..	27	25	Dairying and general farming	Not good ..	Fair ..	Fair.
Windsor Park No. 1	37	23	Grazing and general ..	Fair ..	Good ..	Good.
Windsor Park No. 2	10	8	" ..	" ..	" ..	"
	766	587				
Southland—						
Beaumont ..	19	7	Farming and grazing ..	Fair ..	Satisfactory ..	Encouraging.
Edendale ..	145	123	Farming, dairying, and grazing	Very good ..	Very good ..	Excellent.
Ermedale ..	9	..	Only selected 31st March, 1910.			
Glenham ..	35	41	Farming, dairying, and grazing	Good ..	Good ..	Very good.
Merrivale ..	49	40	Grazing and dairying ..	Very good ..	Very good ..	Good.
Otahu ..	8	5	Farming and grazing ..	Good ..	Satisfactory ..	"
Ringway ..	8	8	Grazing ..	Fair ..	" ..	Fair.
	264	224				
Grand totals ..	4,636	3,711				

REPORTS ON OTHER WORKS AND SERVICES CONTROLLED BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

Hauraki Plains.

The statutory report which will be laid before Parliament in accordance with the provisions of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908, will give full particulars of the successful carrying on of the drainage operations. This has resulted in an area of 17,500 acres (including town and suburban areas for auction, and areas of roads and reserves) being ready for handing over to the Auckland Land Board for disposal at the close of the financial year, the land being scheduled for opening in May. For drainage purposes the total moneys raised from the Government Loans to Local Bodies Account under the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908, is £31,000; and since the coming into operation of the New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (sections 84 to 86), a further sum of £10,000 has been obtained, making the total sum £41,000. The expenditure from the 20th October, 1908, to the 31st March, 1910, is £33,907, leaving a balance of £7,093 still to credit. It is expected that the opening of the area for selection in May, the sale of the Town of Pipiroa and suburban lands, and the sale of about 550 head of cattle, will place a considerable sum to the credit of the Hauraki Plains Account for further works. It is a matter for congratulation that the value of the 16,398 acres to be opened for selection has been fixed by competent valuers at £75,660. Since the beginning of August, 1909, the general and local charge of the drainage-works and surveys has been under the direct supervision of Mr. J. B. Thompson, District Surveyor, Mr. George Purchas having charge of the drainage operations, and the whole of the operations being generally directed from the Head Office. I must congratulate Mr. J. B. Thompson, and those working with him, upon the enthusiastic and able manner in which all details have been carried out. I anticipate that it will take five years to complete the drainage of the 90,000 acres and the completion of the great canal fifteen miles long, but of the ultimate reclamation of the whole area, and its settlement with a thriving class of settlers, I have no manner of doubt. The details are now all settled as to the manner in which the works shall be carried out from year to year, and every six months areas ready for opening for selection should be available. The next opening of areas for selection will be in November, 1910.

Whangamarino Swamp.

As a fitting corollary to the previous paragraph on the drainage of the Hauraki Plains comes the question of the possibility of draining the considerable area of Crown lands known as the Whangamarino and Maramarua Swamp, Lower Waikato. In order to obtain a reliable basis from which to gauge the possibilities of reclamation, Mr. Breakell, who lately retired from the Hauraki Plains works, was engaged to make a preliminary investigation, and to furnish a report. This report will be found published in full as an appendix. After fully reviewing the whole of the conditions which have led to the formation and retention of the swamp area, Mr. Breakell proceeds to deal with the cause and cure for the above conditions—viz., the congestion of the Waikato River below Mercer. After dealing with the obstructions between Mercer and Tuakau, Mr. Breakell states, "Between Tuakau and the Heads there is a long low flat, about three miles in length, where the river spreads to a width of, I should say, two or three miles, with many small and varying channels. The river here requires restricting, so as to create one definite channel. This could be done by low training or wing walls 15 chains apart, so as to confine the scour; the method of forming these being loose rubble deposited on given lines to the height of, say, 1 ft. above low-water level at spring tides. Beyond this latter-mentioned work I think very little else would be required other than a little dredging from Port Waikato to the point where high-water neap tides reach up the river. From this latter point up to the mouth of the Whangamarino River dredging would be required, and I apprehend that if a channel of, say, 3 chains wide were dredged, and the work hereinbefore proposed lower down the river were performed, the river would gradually scour itself to its original sole, and, with a little assistance, to its original width. If the work as above proposed were performed, the Whangamarino and Maramarua Rivers would be enabled to perform their natural functions." Mr. Breakell states, as will be noted at the end of his report, that a suitable dredge and gear for dredging the Waikato River would probably cost £15,000. Taking the report as a whole, it appears that any sum from £50,000 upwards would be ultimately required, and, as the total area of the swamp is only 19,500 acres, and, moreover, as the principal works required to be undertaken are many miles away from the swamp itself, and the initial cost of dredging and erecting training-walls will be so heavy, the scheme should be put in hand by a specially constituted Drainage Board, subsidised by the Government as far as its own area of Crown swamp is concerned.

Crown Purchases from Maori Owners.

The land-purchase operations during the past year have resulted in additional lands to the extent of 15,588 acres being obtained, the officer who has charge of the operations being Mr. R. A. Paterson,

who was recently gazetted as Land Purchase Officer. The details will be given in a separate report. The coming into operation of the Native Land Act, 1909, has necessitated different machinery from that formerly in vogue, and all purchases of Native lands by the Crown will now be by and through the Board specified in section 361 of the Native Land Act, 1909, the direct purchase by the Lands Department automatically ceasing.

Crown and State Forests.

The usual special report upon the progress made with reforestation, and the work done under the direction of the Superintending Nurserymen for the North and South Islands, will be laid before Parliament in due course. It is sufficient to say that the work has been vigorously prosecuted, and that the results have exceeded the most sanguine expectations. So well have the trees grown at Waipa (Rotorua) and Waiotapu (on the way from Rotorua to Taupo) that it has been decided to set apart a large area of, say, 20,000 acres, on the Waiotapu-Galatea Road, upon which a central camp-site will be selected, and from which planting operations can be conducted for five or six years without a further removal of the prison headquarters. Trial boring for water is now being conducted, as that is one of the first considerations when selecting a camp-site. The exhaustive general report dealing with forestry in New Zealand—foreshadowed in last year's annual report—was duly laid before Parliament during last session. It has been well received and most favourably reviewed in many publications in Great Britain, the Continent of Europe, and America.

Scenery-preservation.

This work, though carried out by the Lands Department, is under the control of a separate Minister, and will appear in the usual report. The surveys in progress in connection therewith have been principally along the Main Trunk Railway line and on the banks of the Wanganui River.

Domains.

The recreation reserves brought under Part II of the Public Reserves and Domains Act, 1908, now number 510. Special grants were appropriated by Parliament towards the purchase of domains in several centres, and these have been paid over in every case where the areas purchased have been in the name of the King. Grants towards improvements, fencing, &c., have been paid to the amount of £1,869.

Cemeteries.

The additional cemetery-sites out of Crown land set apart during the year numbered five, and towards the clearing and fencing of cemeteries already vested in trustees sums totalling £149 have been granted.

DEPARTMENTAL AND GENERAL.

Amongst the names of those who, having reached the age of retirement under the Public Service Superannuation Act, 1908, and its amendment, have retired, or are on leave of absence previous to retirement, I would single out for honourable mention Mr. G. J. Roberts, who lately retired from the position which he had so ably filled of Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief-Surveyor, Westland, and who in his earlier days conducted most of the triangulation and topographical surveys of the Southern Alps in Canterbury and Westland, a most arduous and trying work, and one which left its legacy of impaired health at a comparatively early age. Mr. G. J. Roberts was a keen geologist and a most enthusiastic officer. His equal will be hard to find. Mr. J. W. Davis, formerly Chief Draughtsman in the Head Office, was obliged to retire early this year, owing to failing health. He was an old and valued officer. To the list of other valued officers in their special branches must be added the following names, viz.: Mr. H. P. Kavanagh, Chief Timber Expert, Auckland, formerly a Crown Lands Ranger in the Wellington District; Mr. Kavanagh's knowledge of New Zealand timbers was unequalled. Mr. T. M. Taylor, Receiver of Land Revenue, Auckland, was also retired, at his own request, after long and faithful service both under the Auckland Provincial and General Governments. Also Messrs. J. Cumine and W. C. O'Neill, surveyors, and Messrs. J. S. Welch, William Darby, H. G. Rodger, and Edward Frissell, draughtsmen. With regard to Mr. Frissell, it may be mentioned that he was a partner with Mr. Todd when the latter was shot by the Maoris whilst both were engaged on the survey of the Karamu and Pirongia Blocks for the Crown in the Auckland District, in 1865. Mr. J. Cook, clerk in the Receiver's office, Auckland, and Mr. J. M. McKay, Crown Lands Ranger, in the Whangarei District, North of Auckland, also retired.

PROMOTIONS.

Owing to the vacancies caused by the retirements mentioned both in last year's report and in the preceding paragraph, the following principal officers have been promoted: To the position of Surveyor-General (rendered vacant by the retirement of Mr. Thomas Humphries), Mr. John Strauchon, Mr. Eric Gold Smith being transferred from Canterbury to Auckland as Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor in Mr. Strauchon's stead. Owing to Mr. David Barron's retirement, Mr. E. H. Wilmot was transferred from Southland to Otago; Mr. F. W. Flanagan was transferred from Nelson to Canterbury; Mr. T. N. Brodrick was promoted from being Inspecting Surveyor and Land Officer at Gisborne to the position of Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for the Hawke's Bay District; Mr. R. T. Sadd was promoted from being Chief Draughtsman and Surveyor, Nelson, to be Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for that district; Mr. H. M. Skeet was promoted from the position of Chief Draughtsman and Surveyor, Westland, to Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor, Southland; whilst Mr. G. H. M. McClure, Chief Draughtsman and Surveyor, Christchurch, was promoted to the position of Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor, Westland, in place of Mr. G. J. Roberts.

EXPENDITURE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The following is a summary of the expenditure of the Department for the year ended 31st March, 1910:—

Vote No.	Name of Vote or Account.	Amount voted (Net).	Expenditure (Gross).			Recoveries.			Expenditure (Net).		
		£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
73	Lands and Survey	170,887	177,125	11	1	17,027	0	9	160,098	10	4
74	Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous	84,887	52,865	11	11	7,426	1	9	45,439	10	2
106	Immigration	10,000	30,702	19	3	13,700	10	5	17,002	8	10
113	Improved-farm Settlements	22,800	1,935	18	6	1,030	15	2	905	3	4
114	Lands, Miscellaneous	4,944	3,569	19	9	...	...	...	3,569	19	9
115	Irrigation and Water	5,000	224	14	6	1	1	4	223	13	2
116	Purchase of Native Lands	30,000	31,454	9	8	887	18	9	30,566	10	11
117	State Forests	23,335	22,266	17	7	79	17	1	22,187	0	6
119	Scenery Preservation	10,425	5,828	17	1	53	3	7	5,775	13	6
	Totals	362,278	325,974	19	4	40,206	8	10	285,768	10	6
	Consolidated Fund, Unauthorised Account		6,527	5	0	6,157	5	0	370	0	0
	Special Acts Deposit Accounts, &c. ...		47,398	6	7	19	0	0	47,379	6	7
	Land for Settlements Account (including Votes Nos. 120 and 121)		514,046	2	0	...	...	...	514,046	2	0
	Cheviot Estate Account		8,951	9	8	...	...	...	8,951	9	8
	Maori Land Settlement Act Account (including Vote No. 122)		437	11	8	...	...	...	437	11	8
	Totals		577,360	14	11	6,176	5	0	571,184	9	11
	Grand totals		903,335	14	3	46,382	13	10	856,953	0	5

CONCLUSION.

Before bringing this report to a close, I would like to place on record my warm appreciation of the manner in which the several Commissioners of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyors, and the officers working under them, have carried out their duties. Again I can say that the discipline of the whole Department has been good, and that the survey staff, from the Surveyor-General downwards, have used their utmost efforts to assist the several Commissioners in opening the lands for selection. Most of our Crown lands in the North Island—and for the most part also in the South Island—are in broken forest country difficult of access, and where progress must necessarily be slow. Experience has also proved that to throw the land open for immediate application before survey only leads to endless trouble and irritation. In the Head Office I have been assisted by a willing staff, who, under the direction of the Chief Clerk, have carried out their duties in a manner worthy of all praise. Much of the time of Mr. R. A. Paterson, the Chief Accountant, has been occupied with the purchase of Maori lands, and his assistant, Mr. Sinel, has displayed a promptitude and an aptitude for work which is greatly to his credit.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.—SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS ON SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS WHICH ENDED ON THE 31st MARCH, 1910.

AUCKLAND.

THE SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

The demand for Crown land in this district has continued unabated during the past year, as evidenced by the number of sales and ballots held—viz., thirty-seven—and the large total of 5,920 applications dealt with. To endeavour to satisfy that demand, the office has had on hand and available for selection in the Land Guide at the end of each month under all classes of tenure areas varying from 326,000 acres to 424,000 acres, and, in addition, has put on the market from month to month during the year a total of 287,573 acres.

So far as the total of 287,573 acres offered afresh to the public is concerned, all was selected except 19,754 acres. Herein is shown what the newspapers refer to as the “land hunger of the north.” This latter area, however, is exclusive of the five pastoral runs opened, and aggregating 115,000 acres, which, generally speaking, are lands of indifferent quality, and suitable only for men who have the means to develop it in large areas.

The new legislation giving preference to landless applicants, and the power which exists to examine applicants as to their suitability as selectors, have had a very marked effect in the settlement of the lands. The Land Board has taken a firm stand in the rejection of those who are not landless, and, as a result, there has been an increase in the number of applications made under sections 129 and 138 of the Act, granting land to adjoining holders without competition. There are many cases where Crown lands adjoin the homes of settlers who have very small areas and wish to extend their holdings, but would be barred from a ballot through being not landless. In such cases the Board has not hesitated to grant additional areas under the clauses referred to.

Although the land laws are framed with a view to the settlement of people on the land rather than with the object of revenue, the large sum collected in this district, as shown in the tables, is worthy of note. In summing up the position, therefore, it must be admitted that the Department has rendered a very large area available to meet the demand of would-be settlers, and has facilitated the acquisition of land by *bona fide* applicants.

CONDITIONS AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

As will always be the case, the degree of progress in the development of settlement is governed very largely by the nature of road-access. From the very initial stages, when stores are being taken in prior to bushfelling operations, up to the time when a market must be found for produce, the proportion of expense varies with the nature of the roads. Notwithstanding the drawbacks incidental to indifferent roads, bad tracks, or entire absence of access, there has been a great deal of work done in the development of new country, and the progress made shows that those who have tackled pioneer work are of the right stamp. A very large area of bush has been felled, which, besides providing employment for bushfellers, means that there will be a large increase in the stock returns for the district. Of the area felled, it is satisfactory to note that over a third was chopped on lands taken up during the year. From this it is fair to assume that the new settlers are energetic men, determined to lose no time in making their selections render a return.

Taking the selectors as a whole, the fact that three times the amount of improvements required have been effected is a sufficient indication that operations are being conducted on a very extensive scale.

In the far north there has been considerable increase in dairying during the year, and the ready money which it circulates benefits all classes of the community. The progress of this industry is specially encouraging in view of the fact that a great deal of the land is not of first-class quality. In addition to dairying and general farming, gum-digging and timber work continue to give employment to a large section of the population. There are signs everywhere that the attention which is being directed to the far North is resulting in the general advancement of that portion of the land district.

Coming further south, but still within the operations of the kauri timber and gum industries, there is similar evidence of activity, and there has been a slight revival in flax-production. Considerable attention has also been given to the development of coal prospects, with very encouraging results. In connection with both timber and gum there is one feature which has become more apparent of late—namely, the demand and attention which is now given to a class of timber and kauri-gum which in former years would not have been looked at. Timbers which were considered of no marketable value are now being milled and kauri-gum collected which would formerly have been left untouched.

In the North of Auckland the land offered for selection has for the most part consisted of scattered areas, only one block of any magnitude having been put on the market.

In the Coromandel district a great impetus to settlement has taken place. A new butter-factory has been erected at Whitianga, and, although started late in the season, has been very successful. The timber industry has also been very brisk in the Thames and Coromandel districts, and with the recent floods, large quantities of timber have been delivered to the booms, thus providing a good deal of employment in the district.

Again, taking the Waikato district, the erection of creameries, the development of coal properties, and the keen demand for land show that great progress is also being made.

The Bay of Plenty lands continue to be sought after, and the excellent crops produced and the increase in stock are ample evidences of the desirability of this district for the carrying-on of farming pursuits. The settlers look forward with great hope to the pushing-through of a railway.

In the southern portion of the land district a good proportion of splendid country has been selected, and the settlers are, with very few exceptions, men of the right stamp. The difficulties of access are gradually being overcome, and new dairy factories are being established all over the district. The demand for land is also very keen, and few of those who are successful in securing sections ever let them go by default. The principal feature was the disposal of Te Akau Block. This area attracted applicants from all over the Dominion.

Three improved-farm-settlement blocks were also opened for allotment, and a very satisfactory class of settler has acquired the land. Although only a few months have expired since allotment, and many of the sections are not yet provided with access, a number of the settlers have started improvements, and are living on their sections. The success of the settlements seems assured.

In reviewing the condition and progress of settlement generally, it will be found that, with improvements in access, erection of bridges, construction of railways, establishment of schools and creameries, and the increase of stock, there are evidences of distinct progress and increased prosperity throughout the country.

RANGERS' REPORTS.

There was a much greater area covered by the Rangers' inspections than in the previous year, more than 300 additional selectors being visited. But although this was the case, it is satisfactory to note that there was a reduction in the proportion of defaulters to selections inspected. The inspections and reports of a miscellaneous nature continue to constitute a formidable amount of work, the number reaching as high as 809. When it is remembered that in most cases considerable distances separate localities that have to be visited, and a great deal of time is taken up in travelling, it will be seen that the work has been energetically carried out.

FORFEITURES.

Under this heading there has been a very large increase in the number of those who have been relieved of their holdings as compared with previous years. In former times a considerable period was allowed in cases of default before the Crown resumed possession. But when the demand for land increased, the Land Board determined that areas should not be locked up unimproved and neglected, to the detriment of the progress of the district. Action was therefore taken promptly to get rid of the indolent and make room for those energetic settlers who were only waiting the opportunity to secure suitable holdings. In no case has a selector been deprived of his holding where his default has been due to absolute misfortune. In cases such as this the Board has exercised the greatest leniency, and has thereby helped struggling settlers to tide over times of financial stress.

ARREARS OF RENTAL.

Although what is known as an air of prosperity may pervade a district, the absolute fact that it exists could not be determined were it not that proof is available in support of the belief. For wherever selectors have effected improvements far in excess of what the law demands they demonstrate clearly that funds have been available, so also have they by prompt payment of rent indicated that a certain amount of ready money is at hand to meet such liabilities. Notwithstanding the fact that a considerable number of new selectors were placed on the books during the year, the number in arrear with rent was twenty-five below that of the previous year. In taking action against the defaulters, the Board has exercised discrimination, in order not to inflict hardship on those who have met with extreme difficulties in the arduous work of pioneer settlement.

TRANSFERS.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of holdings that have changed hands during the year. Five hundred and five applications to transfer were approved, and seven were refused. These transactions are no doubt another indication of the demand which exists for farming land. This has created values which are very tempting to settlers, and many take a profit notwithstanding the disqualification which they thereafter have to bear in terms of section 109 of the Act. The Board, in dealing with such applications, exercises its judgment and tries to prevent speculative transfers, but cannot, as has often been suggested, refuse a transfer simply because the vendor is making apparently a large profit.

CONVERSIONS OF TENURE TO RENEWABLE LEASE.

There were fifteen applications during the year, all by selectors within mining districts, to change their leases to renewable lease. This makes a total of thirty-five applications since the power was provided. The operations of clause 193 of the Act have resulted in a large increase in the number of Hauraki pastoral lease and mining district land occupation applications.

PURCHASE OF FEE-SIMPLE OF LEASE IN PERPETUITY.

Since the coming into operation of the Act there have been forty-three applications for purchase of the fee-simple. It is difficult to understand how the acquisition of the fee-simple on an increased value can be a satisfactory financial transaction when money costs at the very least 5 per cent., as against 4 per cent. on the lease-in-perpetuity tenure. During the year there were no objections to the valuations made under this system.

"THIRDS," "FOURTHS," AND "HALVES."

There has been an increase in the amount of "thirds" paid over to local bodies, but a falling-off in the amount of "fourths" and "halves." As noticed in previous reports, the bulk of the money paid to local bodies for roadwork is utilised for maintenance, very little new roadwork being undertaken. There have been few complaints by settlers as to the expenditure of their "thirds," the local bodies appearing, as a rule, to give satisfaction in the work that is accomplished with such moneys.

LAND BOARD.

There were nineteen meetings of the Board during the year. In addition to meetings held in Auckland, the Board visited the district from Thames, through Coromandel, Mercury Bay, down to Katikati, Tauranga, and Rotorua, and made recommendations in regard to dealing with Crown lands in those localities. A visit was also paid to the Matamata Settlement, and it gave the members much pleasure to witness its prosperous condition. The Tokatoka Swamp was also visited, and recommendations were made in regard to the drainage. The Board was present at Ngaruawahia at the ballot for sections in Te Akau Block.

LAND REVENUE.

In the Receiver's branch there were 10,591 revenue receipts issued and 143 provisional titles. The Deposit Account transactions totalled £25,708 1s. 9d., and there were 1,832 receipts issued. There were 2,400 transactions and operations on the Deposit Account, amounting to £25,663 4s. 9d.

OFFICE-WORK.

From the foregoing it will be readily seen that such large transactions necessitate considerable office-work. In catering for the requirement of settlers, over 18,000 posters were sent out. There were thirty-seven distinct sales of land, and there were thirty-two ballots. The total number of applications lodged was 5,290, of which 105 were rejected from the ballots. There was an increase in the number of letters, &c., received, but a falling-off in the number despatched, although the total reached the very large number of 75,119. In addition to duties associated with the disposal of land, much time is taken up with the numerous questions which arise in the administration of the Acts which cannot be set out in a quotation of figures.

CONCLUSION.

I have to acknowledge the assistance which has been rendered me by the Chief Clerk and all the officers of this branch of the Department.

ERIC C. GOLD SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

HAWKE'S BAY.

THE SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

The transactions for the year under this heading may be considered satisfactory. All the allotments offered were well competed for by a good class of settler, and the demand for land still continues. At the present time there are only seven sections available for selection in this land district, four of which are village allotments, and there is every indication that as much land as we can offer will be readily taken up during the coming year. The system recently adopted of the examination by the Land Board of all selectors, whether original or transferee, tends to keep out speculators and undesirables, and will, it is thought, assist in the genuine permanent settlement of the country by the people who really want to live by farming.

The last of the deferred-payment holdings has been converted into fee-simple, but conversions from lease in perpetuity and occupation with right of purchase are not numerous, considering the number of holdings under those tenures.

The revenue for the year was £98,991, an increase of £21,039 over last year. Of this, £1,506 13s. 11d. was from increased rents on renewed small grazing-run leases, and most of the remainder from increased settlement.

DISPOSAL OF REMAINING CROWN LANDS.

It is proposed to offer for sale or selection during the current year an area of 94,813 acres. The following are brief descriptions of the principal blocks:—

Wakarara and Makaretu (8,400 acres): Hilly bush land, varying in altitude from 1,500 ft. to 3,500 ft. The land is particularly well watered, soil good, and healthy sheep country.

Tamaki No. 4 Block (1,815 acres): Mixed forest country, the bush being principally mahoe, tawa, rata, rimu, tawhero, &c. Most of the land is flat or undulating, and will be ploughable when cleared and stumped. The soil on the hills is fair to good, the flats chiefly rich alluvial deposit overlying shingle.

Ngatapa Run, No. 47 (19,649 acres): All hilly, about 14,000 acres covered with forest, which when cleared will make good sheep-farming country. The remainder is open grass land of fair to good

quality. All will be readily taken up. The Gisborne-Rotorua Railway is now formed through one end of this block, and will probably be open for traffic at an early date.

Tutamoe (7,570 acres): Undulating country, covered with mixed bush; formation generally papa and clay; good soil, suitable for sheep and cattle. Access for last few miles by pack-track only.

Kaweka, Pohui, and Kuripapangu (33,510 acres): High, broken, pastoral country; altitude from 2,000 ft. to 5,000 ft. above sea-level; soil light and stony on steeper portions; open and manuka country, with scrub and black-birch in gullies; well watered.

Ngatapa Survey District (4,600 acres): Mixed bush of tawa, kahikatea, &c., with birch on the top of ridges; well watered; soil light.

Hangaroa Run, No. 48 (3,147 acres): Hilly and undulating land of good quality, part still manuka fern, and bush, remainder in English grass; well watered.

Tuahū and Waikaremoana (6,000 acres): Mixed bush land with thick under-scrub; well watered; soil varies from inferior to fair; sandstone and papa formation.

Waitara (5,326 acres): Open fern and manuka land; portions in native and self-sown English grasses; light pumice soil.

INSPECTION AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the northern or Poverty Bay portion of the district reports that he inspected 395 holdings, with a total area of 262,789 acres. The value of improvements required to be effected was £169,330, while those effected were valued at £596,814. Of these selectors, only nine were in default for non-residence. Twenty-three special inspections were also made, covering an area of 13,620 acres; they comprised reports on timber, mineral, quarry reserves, and river accretions, &c. The area of bush felled on Crown lands taken up since 1908 was 2,471 acres, and on lands taken up in previous years 7,122 acres, making a total of 9,593 acres felled and grassed last season.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the southern portion of the district reports that he inspected and reported on 778 holdings, school-sites, &c., and, in addition, supervised and managed the construction of the Lindsay Settlement River protective works. He also attended to his duties as a member of the Ikaroa District Maori Land Board. The total area inspected was 245,879 acres, the area of bush felled 890 acres, the value of improvements required to be effected £116,601, value of improvements effected £267,112. On the holdings inspected, the tenants were depasturing 1,212 horses, 121,299 sheep, 7,609 cattle, and 967 pigs.

ARREARS OF RENT.

A comparison of the arrears of rent this year with the past one shows that last year's amount is exceeded by £1,395 9s. 3d. This increase is largely due to concessions granted by the Land Board to settlers by extending time for payment in the Raumati and Piripiri Settlements, owing to the delay in the construction of roads hampering them for a time, and preventing them sending their milk to the factories. All are in good order now, and no doubt the arrears will soon be paid off.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

Exclusive of miscellaneous leases, only eight holdings were resumed and six surrendered during the year, and most of these were small holdings. The district appears to be fortunate in the class of settler it has obtained. Most of them seem to be good capable farmers.

TRANSFERS.

One hundred and forty transfers were approved by the Land Board and seventeen rejected. The Board exercised much care in dealing with applications for transfer, and examined all proposed transferees as to their financial positions, &c.

SMALL GRAZING-RUNS.

The term of the leases of twelve small grazing-runs expired during the year. The aggregate area of these was 39,003 acres, formerly let at annual rental of £294 16s. 7d. All were renewed for a further term of twenty-one years at greatly advanced rentals, which now total £2,801 10s. 6d. per annum.

LAND BOARD.

Twenty-three ordinary and special meetings of the Land Board were held during the year. The members paid special visits of inspection to Raumati and Ngatapa Settlements, and meetings were held in Gisborne, Wairoa, and Dannevirke to examine applicants for various settlements.

The second election by Crown tenants of a member of the Land Board was held on the 5th April, 1910, and Mr. Eustace Lane was again returned.

DEPARTMENTAL.

It is my pleasant duty to be able to report that I have found the officers in this district to be a most capable and energetic body of men, with whom it has been a pleasure to work, and I take this opportunity of thanking them for greatly lightening the difficulties I had to contend with in taking up my duties in a strange district.

The business transacted continues to increase from year to year. During the period under review 32,981 letters and 641 vouchers were dealt with, in addition to the usual notices and despatches of all kinds. The steady increase of settlement naturally brings increased office-work, but there is every reason to believe that the staff will be able to cope with it.

T. N. BRODRICK,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS

The supply of land available for offering for selection greatly exceeded that of the previous year, and it is gratifying to be able to report that it met with a ready disposal. Twenty-four allotments in different parts of the land district were dealt with in this manner. Of new land, eight allotments in Ohura, Rangī, and Piopioea West Survey Districts were disposed of under ordinary conditions, the preference being given to the occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure. In addition, twenty-two allotments of national endowment land in Mahoe and Pouatu, Rangī, and Piopioea West Survey Districts were selected on renewable lease. Two forfeited allotments were also taken up under this tenure, one being national endowment land. In the Spotswood Settlement, one allotment, comprising 67 acres, was reoffered and selected, and four new selections were also made in that settlement, in which there are still twenty-six allotments, comprising an area of 148 acres, open for application. One section in the Huinga Settlement was selected.

In the Towns of Manaia and Mangaroa sixty-one allotments were offered and fifty-seven disposed of, at very satisfactory prices. Of the twenty-three allotments offered in the Matire Village nine were sold.

The revenue maintains a steady increase, and the receipts from all sources amounts to £4,305 in excess of last year's return: but £1 360 of this amount represents a refund by incoming tenants of valuations for improvements on expired leases of small grazing-runs paid by the Crown under section 214 of the Land Act, 1885.

Two selectors have converted their leases in perpetuity to freehold, and four others have given notice of intention to purchase.

CONDITION AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The Ranger for the north-eastern portion of the land district reports that a general advancement is indicated by the extent of the improvements effected on the various holdings inspected by him during the year. Settlers, more particularly those who were allotted land under in the improved-farm-settlement conditions, are realising that they must give more attention to fencing and other necessary work before they can expect to make a reasonable livelihood from their sections. The question of stocking the land is becoming one for more consideration by many of the settlers having a considerable area of grass, who have in past years sold off their stock on the rise of prices in the spring, and have not replaced them until late in the autumn or in the winter, which has allowed the grass to grow too rank. The dairy factories established about three years ago have not realised expectations, largely due to lack of support, particularly perhaps from single men or men with families too young to assist with the milking. The expense of running these factories is very high, and this makes the dairying anything but a remunerative business. New schools have been built, and others are contemplated, and the attendance at those in existence is very satisfactory. Those holdings which are not used for dairying operations are being worked for the raising of stock and cattle.

The improved-farm settlements that were established some six years ago continue to make good progress; most of the sections now have dray-road access.

Most of the settlers devote their energies to dairying, the results of which I have already mentioned, and growing field produce. Some depend on roadworks during the summer months, but the present lack of this employment may have the effect of turning their attention more to the working of their sections. It may safely be said that the assistance given to these improved-farm settlers in years past is fully justified by the progress made.

The settlements lately established in the Toroto and Mapara districts are referred to in a later paragraph.

The Ranger for the western, central, and southern portions of the district, which embraces the older and more settled localities, reports that the past year has been a prosperous one for the majority of the farmers, and the most of them have done exceedingly well. Prices for staple products have maintained their high standard, and the prospects for all classes of farming in this district are good. A considerable area of bush has been felled during the year, notwithstanding the fact that the high price for felling is maintained. Generally speaking, settlers have made improvements on their holdings in excess of requirements, and they all seem desirous of getting as much of their sections under grass as possible. By the rapid advancement of the Stratford-Ongarue Railway towards Whangamomona, which is at present the centre of a large and prosperous district devoted to dairying, wool, and stock-raising, it is hoped that by the time the winter sets in settlers will be able to travel and have their goods carried by rail. Several new factories and creameries have been opened during the year, and all of them are running up to their capacity, which points to the fact that the dairying industry is apparently getting on a better footing in this district every year, and it seems that the time is not far distant when all the land suitable for dairying purposes will be cut up into small holdings, and, through scientific farming, will be made to carry a cow to the acre.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED.

Two blocks of land were set apart for application by landless married men and others under the Improved-farm Settlement Regulations, preference being given to retrenched Civil servants and men discharged from road and railway works; and a ballot for thirty-four sections in the Totoro Survey District was held at New Plymouth on the 29th September, when all the sections were allotted. Another ballot was held at Taumarunui on the 27th October for eighty-eight sections in the Mapara and Tangitu Survey Districts, and all the sections were allotted, but only 112 selectors in both settlements completed their applications. They have made a good start, considering the lateness of the

season during which the sections were allotted. The Ranger in charge of these settlements reports that sixteen out of thirty-one selectors in the Mapara Settlement have already effected improvements in the way of bushfelling or grassing the fern land, and eleven are residing with their families in camps or rough dwellings.

In the Tangitu Settlement seventeen out of eighty-one selectors have commenced improvements; two having built dwellings, and are residing. Twenty-nine others are employed on roadworks leading to the settlement, and in many cases are camped with their families near the works; consequently they will be ready to make a start with bushfelling this winter.

GRASS-SEED.

The promissory notes for repayment of advances for grass-seed made to the settlers during 1908 are being fairly well met. Out of thirty-six notes given for a total amount of £383 16s. 2d. payable during March, 1910, fifteen have been met, representing £193 8s. 3d.; but early payment of a still further amount is assured. In addition, twelve others have paid £115 11s. during the year. A number of these notes mature in March, 1912.

ARREARS OF RENT.

Taking into consideration the fact that the number of settlers has increased, and the annual rent payable has risen by about £2,000, the increase of the arrears from £256 last year to £473 this year may not be regarded as very serious, but, in my opinion, more than should be owing, and action is being taken to recover them. The principal increases are in the lease-in-perpetuity and renewable-lease tenures. I may, however, mention that the position of these rents is much more satisfactory than was the case about three or four years ago, when the number of selectors was smaller.

EXPENDITURE OF "THIRDS" AND "FOURTHS."

Twenty-three proposals were submitted by local bodies for the expenditure on roadworks of accrued "thirds" and "fourths" of rents, which received the approval of the Land Board. The total amount paid over was £2,648 8s. 1d.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The areas of the sections forfeited for non-improvement or abandonment by the selectors vary from 400 to 1,600 acres, and are generally bush country. As might be anticipated, the reasons leading up to such forfeiture or surrender are various. In some cases want of reasonable capital may be the cause; in others, the selector, owing to lack of training, was totally unfitted to encounter the everyday little difficulties of backblock life. Again, it may be the inability of the selector to secure the services and company of other men, or he is perhaps a labouring-man who is depending upon his earnings for a living, and has no capital to spare for the development of a bush section. All this points to the desirability of having a careful selection of the persons who are to break in these rough bush sections to profitable account, and the inquiry that now may be made into the circumstances of applicants tends to the securing of a more desirable class than were formerly admitted to ballot.

DISPOSAL OF THE REMAINING CROWN LANDS.

In the Heao Survey District there are 3,840 acres of the Opatu Block almost ready to be offered, which form part of the national endowment. The following blocks are also being surveyed for settlement, and portions of them will be completed during the coming year:—

Whakaihūwaka B Block, about 16,700 acres, intersected by the provincial boundary, and extending from the Rawhitiroa State Forest to the Wanganui River, a portion of this block being in the Wellington Land District.

Whatitokarua Block, 17,900 acres, lying to the north-west of Ongarue Railway-station, and extending in that direction to the Ohura Road.

Aratawa, Mangapukatea, and Raoraomouku Blocks, about 13,400 acres, and *Whakaihūwaka A Block*, about 20,300 acres, in Omara and Taurakawa Survey Districts, adjoining the Wanganui River, and running westerly towards the settled country.

Taumatamahoe 2B No. 2A Block, about 17,400 acres, abutting on the Wanganui River, and extending westward to the surveyed country in the Mahoe Survey District.

Also about 2,000 acres adjacent to the sections in the Tangitu Improved-farm Settlement, Mapara Survey District.

With the exception of portions of the Whatitokarua and Opatu Blocks, which are partially open lands, all the foregoing blocks comprise bush-clad country suitable for subdivision into farms which will be adapted to the rearing of sheep and cattle.

OFFICE-WORK.

The volume of business has been heavy, the correspondence inwards and outwards, circulars, applications, parcels, &c., totalling 24,298; cheques drawn for wages, &c., 880; vouchers dealt with, 869; transfers recorded, 213; receipts for rents, refunds, &c., 3,513; provisional titles issued, 52; total 29,825, an increase of 3,367 on the previous year's work.

FRANCIS SIMPSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WELLINGTON.

CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS OF SETTLEMENT.

The year just closed shows no diminution in the demand either for Crown lands that may be in a virgin state or those more or less improved that may be acquired under the Land for Settlements Acts. Would-be settlers all seem to recognise that whatever the State offers in the way of land inspires confidence, showing that the sole object is *bona fide* settlement and the providing of holdings for those without them. Hence the rush for all the Crown lands that are advertised for selection. Unfortunately, our available ordinary Crown lands suitable for settlement every year is diminishing in quantity, and is, in this district, mainly confined to the balance of the Waimarino Block, of about 70,000 acres, over a third of which (excluding the 35,184 acres opened this year) it is hoped to place on the market this coming season. There will, of course, be other isolated areas, but unless further Native or private lands are acquired the present supply will be exhausted in a very few years.

LANDS OPENED FOR SALE OR SELECTION.

The total area of Crown land offered publicly during the year was 66,664 acres, exclusive of 13,866 acres offered under improved-farm conditions, which, added to the area standing open on the 1st April, 1909—viz., 2,490 acres—made a total of 69,154 acres available for selection. Of the area of 66,664 acres placed in the market, 58,508 acres was offered for the first time.

The total area of land selected under all tenures, including the improved farms referred to in the last paragraph, but excluding renewals of small-grazing-run leases, was 68,717 acres.

The number of new selectors under all tenures during the year was 399, being an increase of fifteen over last year's figures. After deducting forfeitures, surrenders, titles, &c., from last year's total, the addition of this year's figures makes a grand total of 3,631 tenants on the books.

The principal operations during the year were as follows: Portion of the South Waimarino Block (Riariaka Mangatiti) subdivided into thirty-eight lots, and comprising an area of about 35,184 acres, was offered on the optional system, with exemption from rent and rates for a period of four years, under section 127 of the Land Act, 1908.

The Rangitatau Block, on the Waitotara River, comprising an area of 9,964 acres, on portions of which the unemployed felled the bush last winter, was also offered on the optional system, subdivided into fifteen lots. The selectors of most of the felled and grassed allotments in this block are being allowed seven years in which to pay for the improvements by instalments of principal and interest.

Portion of Tauakira No. 1 Block near the Wanganui River, comprising an area of 3,654 acres, now in the national endowment, was offered in three lots on renewable lease. An area of 3,970 acres, comprising Section 2, Block II, Ruahine, and Section 2, Block XVI, Mounahaki, was offered on the small-grazing-run system. A pastoral license of 1,760 acres of open land in the Rangiwaea Block and the leases of three lots of open land in the Rimutaka State Forest, comprising 7,253 acres, were offered by public auction and disposed of.

Auction sales were also held of lands in City of Wellington, Waitotara Township, Pohonui, and Mowhanau Villages, and near Porirua Harbour; also in the following towns and villages along the North Island Main Trunk Railway line, most of which were offered for the first time: Ninia, Waimarino, Kaitieke, Raurimu, Owango, Kakahi, and Raketapauma. The Hawtrey Settlement, originally offered in December, 1908, was reopened for selection at reduced rentals, with the result that there is a likelihood of a fair number of allotments being selected in the near future.

During the year the expiring leases of eleven small grazing-runs, comprising an area of 7,895 acres, were renewed for a further term of twenty-one years under section 209 of the Land Act, 1885, at new rentals aggregating £608 5s., as against £173 19s. 4d. previously paid.

THE NORTH WAIMARINO IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENT.

In conformity with the Government's directions to place married unemployed persons on the land, preferably those whose services had been dispensed with through the Civil Service retrenchment, as well as men who had previously been working on the North Island Main Trunk Railway construction-works, it was decided to set aside for this purpose an area of about 13,900 acres, lying westerly of Raurimu, Owango, Kakahi, and Piriaka, situated on the North Island Main Trunk Railway line, and subdivided into 102 sections, each 200 acres or under.

The land was balloted for in October last; 590 persons lodged formal applications for the 102 lots, but as the ballot gave preference to unemployed married persons, there were very few sections available except for this class.

As there is a considerable amount of milling-timber on many of these holdings, all the successful applicants were required to enter into a special agreement which prevented the destruction of the timber fit for milling, and gives the Commissioner absolute control of the milling operations, thus benefiting the State and the selectors, who will receive credit up to a certain amount as a set-off against their advances, rentals, &c., for the timber removed from their holdings for milling.

As November was too late to start bushfelling, and as I was purposely conserving the millable timber till sold, the settlers coming in, to the number of seventeen families, who are in residence, were confined to the open or scrub sections, and have made improvements to the value of £264. Sixteen other settlers are, however, employed on roadworks in the settlement, the improved-farm settlers having the preference in regard to employment.

Notwithstanding the fact that retrenched Civil servants had a certain amount of preference, only some thirty-five applied, whilst some of those successful declined to take up their sections, and at the present there are only four retrenched Civil servants on the settlement. Of the 102 successful applicants, twenty-nine, for various reasons, either declined to take up or would not comply with the preliminary

conditions. These vacant sections are being allotted or balloted for chiefly amongst men with families who were unsuccessful originally, and who are now resident along the railway-line. A little later on, as the sections being milled by the Railway Department become cleared, they will be opened. I have every confidence in the settlement being a success eventually. Some further remarks concerning the settlement appear under the heading of "Inspections and Rangers' Reports."

INSPECTIONS AND RANGERS' REPORTS.

During the year the Rangers in the east coast district made 925 inspections, the area being 142,371 acres. This is an increase on last year's figures of both inspections and area. The amount required to be spent on improvements was £50,299; the amount actually spent, however, was £207,704, being the large sum of £157,405 in excess of requirements.

In the west coast district the number of inspections made was 818, covering an area of 146,960 acres, being an increase over last year's figures. The improvements required to be effected equalled £48,889, whereas the amount actually expended was £155,461, being again a substantial increase of £106,572 over requirements.

The total amount expended over that actually required by law in the whole land district amounted to the large sum of £263,977.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the eastern portion of this district reports that settlement is making steady progress, and settlers generally seem to be contented. The past season has been one of the best of years for grass, and prices for stock and produce have been good. Settlement has been established some years, and most of the improvements have been effected far in excess of requirements. Where bush has been felled, settlers are burning off logs so as to bring land into full profit. The dairying industry still flourishes, and is the principal source of income, especially on lands between Eketahuna and Woodville. In the Pongaroa district it is falling off, and is being replaced by wool. Every year sees improvements in the roads, 6 ft. tracks being replaced by dray-roads and clay-roads by metalled ones.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the west coast districts generally north of Palmerston North and the Steward of improved-farm settlements report that settlers in their districts have enjoyed a good year, feed being plentiful, and good prices ruling for produce and stock. Farmers are cheerful, though more cautious in expending money. Older-settled blocks are being well improved. The new village settlements along the North Island Main Trunk Railway are making fairly good progress, noticeably Rangataua, which has grown into a good-sized town in about a year. In Ohakune some of the settlers have sold their timber to sawmillers, and this somewhat retards the settlement, but prevents waste, and the settler gets the benefit. In Horopito and Owhango not so much has been done, but mills are about to start in the former, which will improve the state of affairs. Excellent progress continues in the land-for-settlement blocks, and future prospects are bright. The same applies to the improved-farm settlements, especially Manunui and Raketapauma.

In the new North Waimarino Improved Farm seventeen settlers have taken up residence, five in houses on their sections, the rest in tents pitched on the roadside, or on natural clearings. There are thirty-nine souls on the land. Sixteen other settlers are employed on roadworks in the block. Little in the way of improvements has been done this year, except in clearing fern and light scrub, and in a few cases the erection of cottages. About 200 acres have been cleared of bush, scrub, and fern, at a cost of £125, and five houses have been built, improvements to the value of £264 being effected. As the first of the settlers did not arrive on the land until the end of November, it was then too late to fell any heavy bush, as it would not have dried sufficiently to ensure a burn, but it is expected that a good bit will be cut down during the coming winter. The settlers have had meetings to discuss the question of starting dairy factories, and it is probable that within a few years several factories will be under way. It was arranged with the Public Works Department that the improved-farm settlers should have preference on roadworks. Contracts were kept for some of the settlers who had written prior to proceeding to the block, but, notwithstanding this, they did not appear, and, therefore, now only men actually on the land are given roadwork. Two miles and a half of bridle-tracks have been made and half a mile is in hand.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the south east and southern portion of this land district reports that generally the selections in his district are under lands-for-settlement and village-settlements conditions. With the exception of the larger areas on the Normandale Settlement and the Petone workers dwellings, all are making excellent progress. Tawaha Settlement is now on the fair way to success, the dairy factory being well established, with a milk-supply from some 450 cows. Carrington Settlement has made good progress during the year, all the settlers are residing, and express themselves freely as being satisfied. The year has been a successful one, there being abundance of feed and good prices ruling for stock and produce. Practically the whole of his district has been brought into effective use, dairying and grazing being the mainstays, and the improvements are far in excess of requirements. Roads are good and access to railway and centres easy. The residential settlements in close proximity to Wellington are, generally, successful, and serve their purpose admirably.

The marked success of the settlements has created a desire in many landless men to obtain an area of land.

"THIRDS," "FOURTHS," AND "HALVES."

The allocation under the Land Act, 1908, of [the proportion of rent from Crown lands [under various tenures, and of timber and flax royalties, has been made, and the sum of £5,299 10s. 11d. has been paid to the respective local bodies for expenditure on approved proposals for roadworks and under hypothecation certificates.

On the 31st March, 1910, the sum of £11,625 2s. 1d. was in the Receiver of Land Revenue's Deposit Account at credit of various local bodies in the Wellington Land District. An effort is being made to reduce this amount.

REBATES OF RENTAL.

For prompt payment of their rental, rebates amounting to £2,441 were granted to 2,285 settlers on ordinary Crown lands, and on land-for-settlement estates an amount of £1,278 was granted to 265 tenants.

Compared with last year's figures, this year's statistics show that the tenants of both ordinary Crown land and land-for-settlement estates are taking fuller advantage of the concession granted them in being up to time with their payments.

ARREARS OF RENTAL.

Although the arrears at the close of the year show an increase over the previous year's amount, it must be borne in mind that the former includes an amount of £3,400 owing by settlers in the North Waimarino. Had this latter amount been paid, the arrears would not have been higher than usual.

CONVERSIONS.

During the year six village-homestead settlers applied for and obtained conversions of their leases to renewable leases, thus securing the benefit of lower rentals; and four lessees in the Tawaha Settlement exchanged their leases in perpetuity for renewable leases with similar advantage.

PURCHASE OF FEE-SIMPLE.

Six settlers in village settlements and one on ordinary Crown lands availed themselves of the right conferred by section 177 of the Land Act, 1908, and purchased the fee-simple of their leases in perpetuity. The area thus made freehold was 349 acres, the price paid being £763.

TRANSFERS.

The number of transfers completed during the year was 200, of an area of 43,311 acres on ordinary Crown lands; and twenty-three, of an area of 4,026 acres, on land-for-settlement estates, the figures being made up as follows:—

	Number of Settlers.	Area.		
		A.	R.	P.
Ordinary Crown lands—				
Lease in perpetuity	128	18,751	2	23
Renewable lease	5	60	3	9
Occupation with right of purchase	55	18,819	1	12
Small grazing-runs	3	5,637	$\frac{7}{8}$	0
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	9	42	2	4
	200	43,311	1	8
Land for settlements—				
Lease in perpetuity	23	4,026	2	14

LAND BOARD MEETINGS.

During the year under review twelve ordinary meetings and nine special meetings of the Land Board in connection with the land-sales, &c., were held. In several cases the meetings extended over two days.

LAND BOARD ELECTION.

The first election by the Crown tenants of a member to the Wellington Land Board, under the amending Land Act of 1907, was held during the year. Nine candidates were duly nominated by the tenants. The number of selectors entitled to vote was 2,703, and the total number of votes polled was 1,451, of which eighty-four were rejected as informal, showing that about 53½ per cent. of the selectors voted. The voting-papers were opened on the 3rd June, 1909, when it was found that Mr. T. H. Ellingham, of Horoeaka, had received the greatest number of valid votes—viz., 350—and he was duly declared elected.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

These amounted to eleven forfeitures and eight surrenders, of a total area of 3,142 acres. A number of the surrenders were made so that new leases with increased areas could be obtained. In addition to these figures, fourteen of the dwellings in the Heretaunga Settlement were vacated during the year, but six of these were relet to new tenants.

RECEIVER OF LAND REVENUE.

In the Receiver's office 7,061 ordinary revenue receipts and 148 provisional titles were issued, covering a gross revenue of £79,647 18s. 1d. In the Deposit Account 972 receipts, for the sum of £13,626 4s. 11d., and 311 cheques, &c., for refunds and disbursements, were issued. The sum of £6,630 14s. 8d. was paid into the Local Bodies Deposit Account, and fifty-eight payments, amounting to £5,299 10s. 11d., were paid to twenty-four local bodies.

CLERICAL.

The number of letters, &c., received during the year was 18,682, the number despatched being 45,300, the grand total being 63,982. There were 1,016 cheques drawn on the Imprest Account for £11,050, and 1,466 vouchers were dealt with, amounting to £35,574.

JAMES MACKENZIE,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

CONDITIONS AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The area of land disposed of during the past year is not nearly so large as the average for the previous three or four years, owing partly to the bulk of the easily accessible lands having already been opened, and partly that a lesser area of land has been made available for selection. The Rangers report that the conditions as to improvements and residence are well complied with, and the majority of the settlers are prosperous and contented.

The two great requirements in these back bush blocks are improved road-access and an increase of capital, the former being gradually proceeded with, and the employment of the settlers on the road-works helps to furnish the latter.

The exemption from the payment of rent in heavy forest country is very necessary to the struggling settler with a small capital. It takes quite two years before the bush can be felled, burnt, and the area grassed so as to depasture stock and give a return. During that time the settler must have means to provide a living, and also to help clear his land.

During last winter and spring the inquiries for land abated somewhat, but lately the demand has increased to a large extent. The large blocks opened in the Central Buller are being rapidly cleared, and as the railway is being extended to Glen Hope, thus avoiding the haulage by wagon over the watershed, not only will the cost of living be lowered, but Nelson will be within marketable distance for sheep to be supplied to the freezing-works, and provide an outlet for the butter from the recently established dairy factory at Murchison. Large areas of flat land in the valleys of the tributaries of the Central Buller are suitable for dairying, and with improved roads these lands will be able to supply produce in the shape of butter and cheese. On the West Coast the demand for land has increased considerably during the past year, and nearly all the available country extending from Seddonville to Karamea has been selected by a good type of hard-working settler.

LAND PROPOSED TO BE OPENED DURING 1910-11.

It is proposed to offer for selection during the coming year an area of 41,000 acres of unsurveyed land and 1,250 acres of surveyed land. The following are the blocks to be opened:—

Howard Block (28,000 acres, of which 25,000 acres are ordinary Crown lands and 3,000 acres are national endowment).—Land well adapted for pastoral purposes. Situated in the valley of the Howard River and its tributaries, and within eight miles of the Hope Junction, on the main coach-road Nelson to Westport, and within fifteen miles of the proposed terminus of the railway-line now being constructed.

Waimea Block (about 5,000 acres, ordinary Crown lands).—Situated at the head-waters of the Miner and Serpentine Rivers, about twenty-three miles from the City of Nelson. Chiefly limestone formation, and well adapted for sheep-grazing when felled and grassed.

Matiri Block Extension (about 8,000 acres, national endowment).—Situated on the right-hand branch of the Matiri River. Excellent land of calcareous formation, with fair amount of flat, and good slopes for pastoral purposes.

Maruia North Block Extension (1,250 acres, ordinary Crown lands).—Hilly country, limestone formation. Situated on the slopes of the Buller River. This land is suitable for sheep-grazing when cleared and sown.

INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the northern portion of the district reports having inspected 253 holdings, comprising an area of 138,278 acres. The value of improvements required was £21,585, and the value affected £44,659. Forty selectors have not complied with the improvement-conditions, twenty-two were not resident, and thirteen have failed to comply with both improvement and residence conditions. Selectors to the number of 103 are exempt from residence for the period of four years, exemption on heavy bush land not yet having expired. This Ranger has also made ninety-one miscellaneous inspections, and reports for the information of the Land Board and Warden respecting land, timber, flax, and reserves.

Generally, the improvement and residence conditions of Crown tenants are being well maintained, and the majority are prospering, and satisfied with their selections. The past winter and spring were very mild and wet, and, in consequence, there was abundance of feed, so that stock were ready for market much earlier than usual. The wet season proved a drawback on account of the difficulty in burning felled bush, and in many instances caused serious loss to the settlers. The Crown lands in this district are chiefly hilly land under heavy forest, and only suitable for pastoral purposes when cleared and grassed. When the bush is felled and burned the grass takes readily, and large areas are being rendered suitable for stock-grazing year by year. With the extension of the railways and the construction of better roads, the prospects of the backblock settler are becoming much brighter, and in a few years most of them will be in very good circumstances.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the Buller and Inangahua Counties reports that the demand for land for settlement purposes has been very keen in the Buller County, and that the settlers are of a good hard-working type, but are hampered for the want of necessary capital to make a home in heavy bush country. A considerable area of bush has been felled, but the wet season has prevented good burns, and in some cases the settlers have failed to get a burn at all. Owing to the Ranger having to take charge of the Inangahua County as well as the Buller last year, his time has been fully occupied making inspections and reports for the information of the Land Board and the Wardens at Westport, Lyell, Reefton, and Ahaura. These inspections numbered 133 for the Land Board and 116 for the Wardens, and entailed a very large amount of travelling, which extended from Cape Foulwind, to Karamea in the Buller County, and from Westport to the extreme south of the Inangahua County.

NOXIOUS WEEDS.

The eradication of noxious weeds on Crown lands and reserves has received attention in the northern part of this district, but the Ranger did nothing in regard to this matter in the Buller and Inangahua Counties, as it would be very little use unless a combined effort were made by the local bodies and other authorities, the whole district being more or less overrun by noxious weeds. The Inangahua Valley, in particular, is in a very bad state.

CROWN TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS.

During the past year an area of 6,725 acres has been felled and grassed on lands held by Crown tenants, and this does not include the Buller and Inangahua Counties. A rough estimate of the area felled in these counties is an additional 1,200 acres.

TENURES.

Nearly the whole of the Crown lands available for settlement are situated either within the national endowment area or in a mining district, so that the tenures are chiefly renewable lease and leases under Part VIII of the Land Act, 1908, or pastoral licenses.

ARREARS.

The total arrears amount to £1,089 14s. 9d., and of this amount £543 7s. 8d. is owing on land-for-settlement lands, chiefly on the Wangapeka Settlement. The balance of arrears is distributed amongst the other tenures, and excluding the rent owing on land for settlements, the payment of rent is fairly satisfactory.

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

This industry is in a very flourishing condition, and is capable of still further development as the flat lands in the back country are brought under grass and the road-access is improved. At present there are five butter-factories at work, situated in the Waimea, Takaka, and Collingwood Counties, one in the Buller, and one in the Inangahua County, and two cheese-factories in the Collingwood district. A butter-factory was established at Murchison during the year, and is a great success. The output of butter for the season was 356 tons, and of cheese 160 tons, with a total value of £39,000.

THE TIMBER INDUSTRY.

In the northern portion of the district this industry is on the decline, owing to the bulk of the available timber on Crown and freehold lands being cut out. Most of the mills are small, so as to be easily removed from one part of the district to another to cut small areas of bush left in previous years. There are forty-five mills working in this part of the district, of which forty are cutting on freehold land, four on Crown land, and one on Native land. The yearly output was 6,442,000 ft. of mixed timbers. In the southern part of the district, in the Buller and Inangahua Counties, there are still large areas of timber available. There are thirty-two mills in these districts, of which twenty-seven are working on Crown lands and five on freehold. The output for the year was 7,250,000 ft. The industry is not in a flourishing condition, and the total quantity of timber cut was 13,692,000 ft., showing a decrease of nearly 2,000,000 ft. on last year's return.

THE FLAX INDUSTRY.

This industry has been at a very low ebb for a considerable period, owing to the low price of fibre. In the northern portion of this district there are seven mills, and these only produced 140 tons last year, valued at £2,800. In the southern part of the district there are six mills working in a small way, with the hope of a rise in the price of fibre. There are no large areas of flax in the Nelson District, the growth being limited chiefly to the sea-coast and river-frontage and some small swamps, and the industry can never grow to any great extent.

THE COAL INDUSTRY.

In the northern portion of the Nelson District very little development has taken place during the year, and, although a considerable area is known to be coal-bearing, very little has been done to place this product on the market. Prospecting operations have been carried on to a large extent, and two good seams have been found within three miles of the port at Collingwood, and with a fair outlay of capital should give satisfactory results. Seams have also been found five miles from Belgrove and two miles from Nelson, in the Brook Street Stream, and operations are now in active progress to enable the coal to be placed on the market. The Puponga Mine—about thirteen miles from Collingwood—is the only mine producing coal at present. In the Buller County this industry has assumed very large proportions, and Westport—the shipping port—is in a very flourishing condition. There are four large mines in active operation—Denniston and Millerton Mines, owned by the Westport Coal Company; the State mine, at Seddonville; and the Westport-Stockton Company's mine. The latter company began operations only last year, and is just beginning to make headway after erecting a most complete plant, all worked by electricity. The prolonged strike in New South Wales enabled these mines to dispose of very much larger quantities of coal, and the output exceeded last year's by 100,000 tons. These mines give employment to over fifteen hundred men. The mines are all connected by railway with Westport, and the Westport Harbour is capable of berthing steamers of 4,000 tons. The sum of £200,000 is to be expended shortly to give increased wharfage and dock accommodation. The output of coal from Westport for the year was 718,419 tons. Large deposits of coal exist in the Inangahua district, in the vicinity of Reefton, and will no doubt in time be worked to advantage. The output from the many small mines was 4,000 tons, mainly used for household purposes.

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY.

The northern portion of the Nelson District is famed for its orchards, and the industry is increasing very rapidly. During the year a further area of 600 acres has been planted, principally with apples. Motueka and Riwaka and the lands between Nelson and Wakefield are the principal fruit-growing districts. Motueka and Riwaka have established a direct trade with Wellington, and steamers make several trips a week during the fruit season. It has been found that the clay lands on the Moutere Hills are admirably adapted for the growth of apples, the fruit keeping better and being of a better flavour than that grown on the richer flats. There are several thousands of acres of this class of country in the Nelson District, and with the prospect of a payable market a very large extension of this industry will take place within a few years. A trial shipment of 5,000 cases of apples has been sent to the Home market in the cool-chamber of an ocean steamer, and a favourable result will give a great impetus to fruit-culture. There are five canning and preserving factories in the district, four at Motueka and one at Nelson, and the establishment of several more is contemplated. A moderate estimate of the value of the fruit from an acre of orchard in full production is £40, so that in the event of a good market being found for an unlimited supply it is certain that there is a great future for this industry.

LAND BOARD.

During the year the Land Board sat eleven times at the District Office, and held two special meetings, one at Westport and the other at Reefton. The meetings at Westport and Reefton were taken advantage of by the settlers to a large extent to interview the Board. It also gave the members an opportunity of seeing different parts of the district, and obtaining a local knowledge very useful in dealing with applications, &c.

DEPARTMENTAL.

Owing to the large areas of land opened and selected during the last few years, the work in the office has largely increased. The number of selectors on the books has increased to 2,250, and the correspondence with the tenants on various subjects entails a large amount of work. The number of letters and telegrams received and despatched during the year was 12,639. The number of vouchers passed through the books for the year was 762, representing a sum of £17,253 17s. 1d.

I wish to express my thanks to the members of the office and field staffs for the assistance they have given me, and for the manner in which they have carried out their duties.

ROBT. T. SADD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

I have to report that the year just ended has been devoid of any special feature which would call for a long report.

Owing to the very limited extent of Crown lands within this district suitable for settlement purposes—on account of its inferior quality—but little progress has been made in settlement this year. What land was offered was keenly competed for by a large number of applicants. In this respect it is hoped there will be better results next year, as it is expected that about 35,000 acres will be ready for selection. This is generally hilly bush country, of rather poor quality, situated up the Wakamarina, Pelorus, Heringa, and Tinline Rivers. It is anticipated that, although of rather inferior quality, much of it will, in the absence of anything better, be taken up.

So far only two persons have taken advantage of section 177 of the Land Act to acquire the fee-simple of their lease-in-perpetuity holdings. There are, however, three more persons who have decided to accept the Land Board's valuation of their land for this purpose.

The climatic conditions of the past year, although very favourable to the pastoral interests, have been apparently detrimental to the agriculturists, presumably from the fact that, although a fairly large rainfall was experienced, it probably did not fall at the right time for the crops. The result is that crops have been generally very disappointing; whereas, owing to the abundance of feed, good prices for wool, and fair prices for fat sheep and lambs, it has been a good graziers' year; and, although the crops have been disappointing, taking one thing with another, the year has been fairly prosperous for the Crown tenants throughout the district.

F. STEPHENSON SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

The revenue received during the past year shows a decrease of £1,887, as compared with the previous year; but this is more than accounted for by the decrease in timber royalty (£1,000), and the decrease in ordinary endowment revenue (£1,700), wholly due to the closing of the Tyneside Proprietary Coal-mine. The amounts received from leases exceed the amounts received during the previous year on every class of tenure. When framing the estimates of revenue, the slump in the timber trade was not anticipated, and the actual receipts from timber were £2,000 short of the estimate; also, it was thought that the Paparoa and North Brunner Coal-mines would be in full work; but both of these mines raised very little coal before the end of the year, and there is therefore a deficiency of upwards of £2,000 under this heading.

The new selections on permanent tenures (including pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations) were 11,939 acres by 122 selectors, and under miscellaneous leases and pastoral licenses 398,025 acres by 274 selectors. A large proportion of the area leased on permanent tenures is dealt with by free selection, which entails a considerable amount of work, as it is necessary to obtain reports and consider each application on its merits, giving due consideration to the special circumstances that surround each case. This course must necessarily be adopted to a large extent in this district, on account of the complications arising through timber and mining rights, which in most instances prevent blocks of any dimensions from being offered to the public. The special regulations for dealing with land in this district are of great assistance to settlement, as they permit of the land being dealt with on a tenure under which the lessees are justified in effecting improvements, while the right of the timber is reserved to the Crown, and mining rights are protected. The selections under miscellaneous leases include large areas of land situated in the different river-beds which have hitherto provided free grazing for the public. A considerable amount of revenue is now received from these lands; but, unfortunately, the destructive nature of the rivers, combined with the fact that most of the land is auriferous, prevents permanent tenures from being given, under which much higher rentals could be obtained, as these river-beds comprise some of the best grazing-land in the district.

The improvements of the means of access, more especially in the southern district, is proving of great benefit to settlers, and their prospects are much more encouraging. Upon completion of the bridge over the Wanganui River, the contract for which was been let, communication for upwards of a hundred miles south of Hokitika will be uninterrupted in ordinary weather, and access to the market for their produce will be practically devoid of the danger and delays that have hitherto existed.

The prospects of the timber industry are more encouraging than at the beginning of the year, and, although the sawmills are not yet all in full work, there has lately been a decided improvement in business. The area of bush worked during the year is less than for several years previously, and this has its effect upon settlement, as, until the timber rights are extinguished, the land cannot be opened for selection.

There is undoubted demand for land within reasonable distance from the centres, and I anticipate that the area to be placed on the market will be largely in excess of that offered for some years. The subdivision of blocks in Mawheranui, Brunner, and Waiho Survey Districts are now in hand, and were it not for overlapping sawmill rights, the whole of the areas could shortly be made available for selection. I am now approaching the sawmillers with the object of getting their rights extinguished over all areas that have been worked out.

The settlers, more especially those in the southern part of the district, have been importing pedigree stock with the idea of improving their herds; but the only market at present available to them is very limited, and, until the railway is completed to give them easy access to the Canterbury markets, they will not reap the benefit they deserve for this enterprise.

Settlement is progressing satisfactorily all over the district; but in the extreme south the distance from the market by road, and the infrequent communication by steamer, are a severe handicap. There were 531 properties visited by the Crown Lands Ranger, and in every case the improvement-conditions had been complied with; the excess of improvements effected over the amount required was upwards of £60,000. Forty-five lessees were not in residence, but in nearly every case were residing on freeholds or leaseholds adjacent, and they have been exempted from residence. The butter and cheese factories at Arahura, Kokatahi, and Inter-Wanganui are all well established, and are proving of very material assistance to settlement. There has been an abundance of grass all over the district, and the turnip-crop has produced very good results, but the potato-crop was ruined by the blight.

On account of the mining district and the auriferous nature of a large proportion of the area, the permanent tenures available are limited to renewable lease, pastoral licenses under special regulations, and mining districts land occupation leases. Intending selectors have therefore practically no option, as they must accept whatever tenure can be permitted, on account of the situation of the land and its proximity to gold-workings or known or probable gold-deposits. The tenants as a whole seem satisfied to accept whatever tenure is available at the time, be it only a temporary license to occupy, and to await an opportunity of improving the tenure at a later date.

The steady increase in the number of leases held during the past few years has resulted in a proportionate increase in work, and my thanks are due to the clerical staff for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties.

G. H. M. McCURE,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

CANTERBURY.

GENERAL PROGRESS AND STATE OF LAND-SETTLEMENT.

Land-settlement in this district for several years past has been confined to areas on the plains and downs acquired from private owners under the Cheviot Estate Disposition Act and the Land for Settlements Act. The spread of close settlement has therefore not been as rapid or as extensive as in other districts of the Dominion. There is, indeed, practically no Crown land in Canterbury left available for disposal except such areas as may from time to time revert to the Crown either by surrender, or by forfeiture, or by the expiration of existing leases, such as pastoral runs, and the latter, owing to their high elevation, configuration, and climatic characteristics, are in the main suitable for sheep-grazing only. The progress made in close settlement in this district since 1892—the date of the passing of the first Land for Settlements Act—is a remarkable record.

There have been purchased and subdivided fifty-three properties, now held by 1,322 tenants, and carrying 4,997 souls. No one who travels through these settlements can fail to observe the unmistakable evidences there are of prosperity, nor can he help being convinced that the occupation of arable lands in living areas is the policy which makes for national development on sound and progressive lines.

That the Crown tenants, generally speaking, are drawn from a good class is beyond doubt. They are observing the conditions of their leases, and it is pleasing to note that systematic crop-rotation is observed by them. They find that it is an important factor in their returns from the land. Here and there a selector may fail, as in every other walk of life.

The frequently repeated assertion that the Land Board is placing on the land as selectors tradesmen and others who were not brought up to agricultural pursuits, and that these men are doomed to failure, has nothing in it. Many of the most successful tenants are drawn from these classes. In farming, as in other callings, brains and industry are the chief factors of success.

The year now closed has, broadly speaking, been one of prosperity throughout the Dominion. In no part of the Dominion has that prosperity been enjoyed more than in Canterbury. The season has been one of the best possible. The wool-clip was good, the lambing was good, dairying excellent, and, although the yields of wheat and oats were below the usual standard in some districts owing to premature ripening and unfavourable harvesting weather, a payable average will have been maintained. Good values have been obtained from wool, lambs, dairy-produce, and wheat. This prosperity is, of course, shared by the Crown tenants, and there is every prospect that the winter can be faced with confidence.

LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING THE YEAR.

With the exception of the three estates, Fyvie, Tripp, and Buddo, which have been acquired and offered for closer settlement during the year, and to which special reference is made in my report under the Land for Settlements Act, the area of the land offered for disposal in this district during the past year has been extremely limited. The areas offered have included one section of 564 acres near Hanmer Springs, offered for optional selection, and taken up under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system; two pastoral runs, aggregating 3,824 acres, near Mount Somers and Lake Ellesmere; two allotments, totalling 272 acres, situated at Motunau, in North Canterbury, offered under the renewable lease system only; and miscellaneous reserves, comprising a total area of 499 acres, offered for lease by public competition for various terms.

LAND-TENURES.

There has been little change in the areas of lands held under the various tenures. The total area of land alienated from the Crown under the freehold tenure has been only 47 acres 1 rood 25 perches, out of which 24 acres is excess area on previous alienations, and 17 acres represent the acquisition of freehold of lands held under the deferred-payment, perpetual-lease, and occupation-with-right-of-purchase systems, in respect of which the holders exercised their statutory rights of fulfilment of the occupation-conditions required of them.

The number of holders under the renewable-lease tenure has been augmented by the new selections of land offered under the Land for Settlements Act, and by some exchanges of similar lands previously selected, from lease in perpetuity to renewable lease, under section 192 of the Land Act, 1908, the object being to secure the reductions of rent arising from the revaluations provided by the Act.

The total number of tenants of all classes on the books of the Department for the Canterbury District on the 31st March, 1910, was 3,286, occupying a total area of 4,130,514 acres and 18 perches, and paying an annual rental of £151,300 2s. 3d.

REVENUE AND PAYMENT OF RENT.

The total revenue collected during the year from all sources was £138,888 13s. 1d., and the arrears of rent due on the 31st March, 1910, was £6,537 15s. 2d., owing by 132 tenants. This represents 4 per cent. of the total number of tenants, and about 4½ per cent. of the total annual rent-roll of the district. Out of the arrears mentioned, a sum of £4,672 is due by holders in the Kinloch Settlement alone, these tenants having, as a measure of relief, in consideration of losses sustained at the outset of their career, been allowed to postpone for three years the payment of two half-years' rent due in 1908 and 1909, the whole of these postponed payments being now counted as arrears. Excluding these special arrears, the remaining amount outstanding represents slightly under 1¼ per cent. of the total annual rental.

In a few cases the arrears somewhat exceed normal proportions, but with steady yet gentle pressure there is every prospect of these being reduced, for hardly any of them can be regarded as hopeless cases. The Crown, moreover, is fully protected, except in the case of leases under the Workers' Dwellings Act, by the value of improvements effected or paid for by the tenant on the Crown property.

REBATES OF RENT.

The aggregate amount of rebates granted during the year under section 116 of the Land Act, 1908, and section 55 of the Land for Settlements Act, 1908, was £8,118 18s. 4d. The number of Crown tenants who participated in this privilege was 1,857.

The question as to the extent to which the rebate of rent increases the amount paid for good-will of leaseholds is worthy of consideration. That some good-wills of leases include the capitalised value of rebates is beyond doubt—for instance, a leasehold has been offered, the advertised rental thereof being the rent reserved in the lease minus the rebate of one-tenth of each half-yearly instalment allowed

to the tenant for prompt payment. It is regrettable that a concession beneficial in its intent should be abused. It would seem that some modification of the privilege is desirable.

It is satisfactory to record that there have not been any cases of disaster or misfortune during the year such as to render any remissions of rent necessary.

TRANSFERS.

The total number of holdings occupied under settlement tenures which have been transferred during the year was 126, comprising a total area of 26,409 acres 3 roods 16 perches. The following are details respecting the principal tenures :—

			A.	R.	P.
Leases in perpetuity (all classes)	80	9,052	3	1	
Village homestead leases	29	765	3	36	
Small grazing-runs	8	16,395	2	0	
Perpetual leases, &c.	9	195	2	19	
	126	26,409	3	16	

In a large number of these cases the Department has assisted in the preparation and registration of the transfers, and the parties concerned have therefore obtained the benefit of this assistance, in addition to the work involved in submitting the applications to the Land Board, &c., for a net payment to the Department of 5s.

It may be a question for consideration whether, in view of the services rendered by the Department in such cases, a special charge proportionate to the amount of consideration involved should not be imposed.

It may not be inappropriate here to refer to the controversy which goes on intermittently in this district respecting transfers of Crown leases in perpetuity. To any person unacquainted with the land laws and administration it would appear, according to the sweeping statements which obtain currency, that the speculative phase of land-selection has assumed formidable proportions. It has been frequently asserted that it is customary for speculators to traffic in Crown lands by means of transfers—that the Land Board is powerless to check the iniquitous process, and that the only effectual cure for the evil is to abolish the right to transfer altogether.

It is not the function of my office to engage in a discussion on the ethics of transfers. I may venture, however, to affirm that there is very little of what is termed “trafficking in Crown lands” practised in the Canterbury Land District—and I write with special knowledge on the subject. There are attempts made at speculation, but they rarely succeed. No doubt the settled conviction in some quarters that the speculator flourishes is due to an imperfect understanding of the rigid restrictions imposed on transfers by the provisions of the Land Act and the Land for Settlements Act. Under these provisions, as you are aware, a transfer cannot be effected without the recommendation of the Land Board and the approval of the Minister of Lands. The Land Board is invested with very wide discretion, which it exercises in the public interest unflinchingly.

I doubt if so much would be heard of transfers were it not that the amount paid as consideration money is sometimes comparatively large. It is the big transaction which attracts the public attention to the subject. The amount paid is, however, no indication of the *bona fides* or the *mala fides* of the transferrer.

There may be several sound reasons submitted to the Board why a transfer involving the payment of a large sum as good-will should be approved, and quite as strong and convincing reasons why a transaction involving the payment of a small sum as consideration should be refused. In my opinion, there is no cause for alarm. The Crown tenants in this district show no undue disposition, generally speaking, to transfer their holdings. Comparing the number of transfers approved during the year just expired with the figures for the previous year, the former shows a falling-off of about one-fourth in number and nearly one-third in area, and the probable tendency will be to a further gradual diminution of transfers.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The policy of the Land Board is in all cases, by reasonable concessions and well-timed leniency under *bona fide* circumstances of temporary misfortune or embarrassment, to encourage Crown tenants to hold on to their selections. The number of holdings that have been forfeited and surrendered during the year is therefore small, being only eighteen, representing an area of 6,817 acres and 23 perches. Only seven of these, comprising an area of 6 acres, were held under the lease-in-perpetuity and renewable-lease systems; the balance was made up of one pastoral run lease of 6,600 acres and several temporary occupation licenses.

FORESTS.

It is again satisfactory to record the absence of any destructive fires on the limited areas of Crown forest remaining in this district.

The amount of timber-cutting done on Crown lands is very small, and confined to the Oxford district, where four sawmill licenses and a few hand-splitting licenses represent most of the timber industry still carried on in the district.

CROWN LANDS RANGERS' REPORTS AND CONDITION OF SETTLEMENT.

The reports received from the Crown Lands Rangers during the past season continue to show an amount of successful settlement and *bona fide* compliance with the requirements of the Land Acts that emphasizes still further what has been recorded in previous reports as to the success achieved by the policy of land-settlement in the Canterbury District.

The report of the Ranger for the North Canterbury district shows that, out of the fifty-four rural holdings under various tenures which have not yet been in occupation for ten years, forty holdings, comprising an area of 8,459 acres, have been inspected during the year. Out of these, seven have failed to effect improvements up to the value required by the terms of their leases, and one was not residing. In connection with the holdings around Lake Ellesmere, which are used to a considerable extent for dairying and pastoral purposes, the Ranger mentions that these lands, by reason of continual submergence by the brackish waters of the lake, have become so saturated with sea-salt that they require several years of freedom from lake-water before becoming fitted for cultivation or the laying-down into pasture with exotic grasses. The Ranger remarks that continual residence on the lowest-lying lands does not appear to be conducive to health. In the Oxford district the Ranger notes a progressive improvement of the light lands which are in occupation; good crops of roots, and in some places of cereals also, are grown. The unimproved value of the lands has advanced, and the conditions of the leases generally are satisfactorily fulfilled. The new holdings on the Hanmer Plains have also been inspected, and the lessees are residing and improving their lands.

In the Ashburton County and in South Canterbury generally the Crown lands holdings have passed the period of statutory inspection, and therefore need only general supervision. Here, also, a very satisfactory extent of compliance is found in most cases. There are instances, both on the light plain lands and also on some of the large pastoral leaseholds, where the improvements effected fall short of the full statutory requirements, the explanation generally being that the lessees have effected such reasonable improvements as are sufficient for the *bona fide* occupation and practical working of the holdings; and under such circumstances it would obviously be a hardship to a genuine and deserving class of tenants to insist upon literal compliance with requirements which the holdings by their quality or character are not fitted to bear.

In the village settlements throughout the district, many of which have now been in existence for over twenty years, slight improvements are evident from year to year, but these are practically equalised by the gradual depreciation of the older improvements. The occupants of these lands are of the class for whom such settlements were established—farm-workers and others needing small homes in localities where suitable employment can be found—and these have in most instances been benefited in their position in life.

WORKERS' DWELLINGS.

Seven new workers' dwellings, erected on an acquired block of land near the Railway Workshops at Addington, were opened for selection during the year, as well as one dwelling in the older settlement at Sydenham, the holder of which, owing to removal from the district, was unable to carry out his obligations. Although the total number of applicants was not as large as might reasonably have been expected, all the dwellings were disposed of at the first ballot.

With the exception of two or three cases where misfortune or intermittent employment has embarrassed the tenants, the rents are generally punctually paid, and the dwellings and surroundings generally are kept in good order.

The supervision of these dwellings and attention to minor repairs, &c., represent a by no means inconsiderable addition to the other duties of the Crown Lands Ranger.

PASTORAL-RUN CLASSIFICATION.

In March, 1911, the existing pastoral licenses over thirty-one runs, containing a total area of 1,413,000 acres, will expire. These runs include the whole of what is known as the Mackenzie Country, between Burke's Pass and Mount Cook, the greater portion of the back country in the Ashburton County between the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers, and a few runs in the highlands of the Selwyn and Amuri Counties, North Canterbury.

A Commission—consisting of Mr. James Stevenson, a member of the Canterbury Land Board; Mr. H. D. M. Hazard, Acting Chief Surveyor; and myself—was appointed in September, 1909, to classify and report on the runs in accordance with the provisions of section 225 of the Land Act, 1908. The work of inspecting the whole of these runs, and of framing proposals for dealing with them in the best possible way so as to promote alike the interests of the Crown and the advancement where practicable of suitable occupation in smaller subdivisions, proved to be of such magnitude as to render it impossible to deal with the subject in a thorough manner a year before the expiration of the existing licenses, and arrangements have therefore been made to allow the present tenants to continue in occupation for a further period of one year until the 28th February, 1912. The fresh leases of the country will be offered for disposal not later than February, 1911.

LANDS TO BE OPENED.

Exclusive of such properties as are now in hand, or may be acquired for subdivision and disposal under the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act, the only Crown lands at present in prospect for disposal during the coming year are the pastoral-run lands to which reference has just been made. These comprise an aggregate area of nearly a million and a half acres, and, although not adapted generally for any form of settlement occupation, they represent a portion of the Crown estate whose successful management by men of the right class has an important bearing on the welfare of the whole district.

DEPARTMENTAL.

During the year eighteen ordinary and special meetings of the Land Board have been held. The number of statutory applications for land received and considered was 522, and a very large volume of work, including numerous applications for transfer and other matters demanding close scrutiny and

careful consideration, is dealt with at each meeting of the Board. With the steadily increasing number of tenants, each of whom represents a certain amount of correspondence, besides numerous inquiries for land, &c., the quantity of general business transacted in the office shows a steady augmentation.

In the Receiver of Land Revenue's office, besides the 5,983 receipts issued for the revenue received during the year, amounting to £138,888 13s. 1d., a sum of £44,868 16s. 7d. was passed through the Deposit Account, against which 1,402 receipts, vouchers, and cheques were issued. A sum of £899 1s. 11d. was also paid into the Local Bodies Deposit Account, out of which £812 18s. 2d. was paid to eighteen local bodies for carrying out approved works to provide or improve the means of access to the lands from which "thirds" and "fourths" are derived.

In the Accountant's office 376 vouchers, representing a sum of £2,785 18s. 2d., were drawn against the Imprest Account, and 270 vouchers, representing a sum of £14,167 18s. 7d., were forwarded for pre-audit and payment.

I have to express my satisfaction and thanks to the Acting Chief Surveyor, the Chief Clerk, and the other officers of the Department in this district for the able and loyal assistance invariably accorded to me. One and all work with a will in the interest of the Department.

F. W. FLANAGAN,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

REPORT ON THE CHEVIOT ESTATE, CANTERBURY.

As regards the occupation of lands on the Cheviot Estate, there has been practically no change during the year. The Crown Lands Ranger states that the most noticeable feature on the estate during the past season was the comparatively large increase of the area on which wheat was grown. During the season of 1908-9 the area under crop of this cereal was only about 980 acres, whereas last season the area in wheat was approximately 2,030 acres; the yields were generally satisfactory, and it was anticipated that the threshing-returns, when completed, would show an average of about 38 bushels per acre, quite equal to the average of any other district in Canterbury. The wheat grown is principally of the Tuscan variety, and the grain is sound and well harvested. Oats were grown on about 2,660 acres. The yields varied greatly, owing to the partial destruction of some crops by high winds and caterpillars. Green and root crops were grown on about 4,280 acres. The turnips, and in some cases potatoes also, were blighted, but other crops were more satisfactory.

The Ranger notes with pleasure the almost complete absence of noxious weeds on the entire estate, a fact which is as much to the credit as to the interest of the settlers.

Throughout the year feed has been very plentiful. Over 85,000 sheep were wintered on the leaseholds, and the lambing averaged from 95 to 100 per cent. Flocks of fat lambs are sent off the estate for every market; about 43,000 have been sent, and further supplies are coming on, while store sheep are purchased from other parts of the district and fattened on the Cheviot farms. The number of cattle on the estate is approximately 1,300 head; of horses, about 1,180; and of pigs, about 300.

The Ranger estimates that about 25,000 acres are laid down with cultivated grasses, while the virgin land, principally on the grazing-farms, amounts to about 37,700 acres. The feed on the tussock lands is reinforced by surface-sown grasses, which have taken root and are spreading.

The buildings, fences, orchards, plantations, dips, drains, and other improvements on the estate are well maintained, and are added to as settlers' requirements necessitate and their means permit. The orchards are thriving, and are producing a very fine and abundant crop of apples. The estimated value of the improvements on the leaseholds is £112,000, and the permanently resident population is about 1,060 souls. The unimproved value of all the lands has increased very considerably, and the increase will be still further enhanced in the near future by the opening of the railway to Mina, which is in the centre of the estate, and by the construction of the Waiau Bridge, which will afford communication northwards with the east coast district towards Kaikoura and Blenheim.

The old dairy and cheese factory building, which was erected soon after the settlement of the estate, but which has for some time been unused owing to the settlers having turned their attention more to other branches of farming, has now been sold for removal. The Port Robinson landing service plant has been handed over to the Cheviot County Council, and has been dismantled, its usefulness having now passed away and been superseded by the more regular and reliable communication afforded by railway.

F. W. FLANAGAN,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

As was the case last year in this district, the revenue, £105,258 17s., has been up to the estimate, although the gross receipts show a shrinkage of £18,827 19s. 2d. on those of last year. This shrinkage is almost entirely due to the fact that in last year's return "cash sales" was credited with the price of Crown lands converted into land for settlements, the price being nearly £16,000.

The number of tenants has increased from 3,896 to 4,068.

The outstanding feature of this year's dealing with Crown lands has been the cutting-up and offering for sale of the Morven Hills, Kawarau, Matakaniui, Ida Valley, and Linnburn Runs, in Central Otago. These runs, formerly held under pastoral leases, have been cut up into areas of from about 1,000 acres to 33,400 acres. Fourteen of these subdivisions, aggregating 188,250 acres, were offered as pastoral runs; and forty-three, with an area of 299,300 acres, as small grazing-runs. It is satisfactory to

note that, in spite of a very dry summer and the high price of stock, all these areas were selected excepting two on Morven Hills, and these, doubtless, will soon find selectors.

In connection with the opening-up of these runs, it may be mentioned that two areas—one on Morven Hills of 9,000 acres, and one on Kawarau of 8,340 acres—have been reserved for the purpose of conducting experiments in the direction of re-establishing the native grasses, and of ascertaining the suitability of other grasses for regrassing the pastoral lands of Central Otago. These experiments will be of interest to pastoralists generally.

Consequent on the pushing forward of the railway into the Catlin's Bush, inquiries were made for bush land, and a number of sections were opened for selection, with the result that nine, with an area of 1,645 acres, were taken up. Although the summer has been a very dry one, there has been no outbreak of fires in the bush.

LAND TENURES AND TRANSACTIONS.

During the past year one deferred-payment holding has been made freehold, leaving now only eleven selectors, holding 3,470 acres. Three holders under perpetual lease have acquired freeholds during the year. About half the area taken up under this tenure has now been made freehold, the area selected being about 57,000 acres. The return of occupation-with-right-of-purchase land shows that about 53,000 acres have been selected, and that during the year five selectors purchased the fee-simple. Lease-in-perpetuity returns show, as to Crown lands, eight forfeitures and two surrenders, but no exchanges to renewable lease, nor any freeholds acquired; as to settlement lands, there have been two forfeitures and one surrender; while five selectors of small holdings have exchanged to renewable lease. In renewable leases over Crown lands there have been fourteen exchanges from other tenures, but no forfeitures or surrenders; while in leases over settlement lands there have been five exchanges, one forfeiture, and one surrender. The principal transactions during the year have been in small grazing-runs and pastoral runs. Of the former, close on 300,000 acres have been taken up during the year by forty-one selectors; and of the latter, leases over nearly 1,000,000 acres have been purchased by fifty-three selectors. From the above it will be seen that the year has been a busy one.

ARREARS OF RENT.

The amount of arrears, exclusive of current half-year's rent at the end of this year, is £1,077 9s. 1d. less than at the end of last year, and amounts to less than 1 per cent. on the gross rentals

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

Last year it was noted that the number of forfeitures and surrenders, as shown by the tables, was small, as compared with previous years, and this year's returns show the same satisfactory state of affairs.

TRANSFERS.

The total number of transfers completed during the past year is shown by the following list:—

	No.	Area. Acres.
Lease in perpetuity	40	9,862
Occupation with right of purchase	12	1,981
Land for settlement	22	4,590
Small grazing-runs	18	64,683
Perpetual lease	15	1,259
Occupation lease	10	325
Pastoral license	11	155,226
Miscellaneous	32	12,140
	160	250,066

The amount paid for goodwill is still a noticeable feature of these transactions, especially as regards land for settlement.

WORKERS' DWELLINGS.

The Ranger's report as to these shows that the tenants as a rule are satisfactory, and that the houses are kept in good order. Experience shows that the one-story houses are much preferred to the two-story ones. At the end of this year one house only out of twenty at Windle Settlement was unoccupied.

LAND PROPOSED TO BE OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING 1910-11.

The principal areas of land to be offered next year will be the subdivisions of Aviemore and Rugged Ridges Runs, near Kurow; Ormaglade, near Beaumont; Benger Run, near Roxburgh; and Northburn Run, near Cromwell. These will be offered mostly as small grazing-runs.

GENERAL REMARKS AS TO PROGRESS.

The reports of the Crown Lands Rangers show that in most cases Crown tenants are fulfilling the conditions of their leases very satisfactorily. At the end of the year the improvements effected on Crown lands exceeded the required amount by over £22,800; while the excess over requirements in the case of land for settlements was about £85,450. Throughout Otago the summer was a particularly hot and dry one, and told against grass, grain, and root crops; but, fortunately, the prices of wool, dairy-produce, and fat stock kept up well, and enabled our settlers generally to better their positions.

The Crown Lands Ranger reports on ordinary Crown lands as follows : On the whole, the settlers on the ordinary Crown lands have had a very fair season. The early spring promised well, and the grass and grain crops came away in a flourishing condition. December, however, turned out to be a very dry month, and everything received a set-back. A few light showers falling in January did not give a sufficient supply of moisture, with the result that the grain, especially the wheat-crops, did not fill out at all well. Many fields of wheat that looked well, and stood a good average height with apparently a good head, proved very unsatisfactory on being threshed. It was found that the grain was shrivelled and undeveloped, and, instead of yielding 50 to 60 bushels, as appearance would lead one to expect, they more often yielded only 35 bushels and less. What applies to the wheat-crop applies also in a more or less degree to oats, and it is to be feared that some of Otago's most bountiful districts will during next season have to bring in seed-oats from outside. Over practically the whole of Otago the grass went off quickly towards the middle and end of December, and did not again recover, owing to want of sufficient moisture. North Otago was perhaps not so bad in this respect ; but Central and South Otago experienced one of the driest years on record, with a consequent shortage of grass. The turnip-crops have suffered perhaps more than any other. December, a month in which moisture is so necessary to root-crops, was so very dry that the turnip-blight made its appearance, and spread very rapidly. Whole fields have been practically destroyed, and even now the blight is exceedingly bad. It is likely to remain now until the heavy frosts set in, and even should rain come by that time, it will be too late to give a recovery. From all appearances, Otago will not produce sufficient turnips this year to maintain its reputation as a fat-stock producer. The potato-crop is light generally, but it is in fair order. The potato-blight, which, unfortunately, appears to have come to stay, is not so bad as it had been during a few previous years. The dry season has no doubt prevented its development to a certain extent, but there is enough of it to make the chances of keeping potatoes for any length of time extremely doubtful. Spraying appears to find more favour among farmers as time goes on : from what can be gathered, it has been very successful in keeping the blight in check.

Though the past season has been in the matter of rainfall unsatisfactory to the farming population, it has also had some corresponding advantages. Wool has realised a particularly good price. Dairy-produce and fat sheep and lambs have perhaps more than held their own, so that where small profits have been the rule in grain-growing, the low yield has been in most cases counter-balanced by good returns from wool, sheep, and dairy-produce.

The settlers of Otago have made very fair progress during the past year, and they have not any marked grievances. Their prospects may well be described as very bright, unless something unforeseen happens to our Home market.

DEPARTMENTAL.

It is a pleasure to me to record my appreciation of the way the officers of the staff have worked, and of the willingness with which they have assisted me since taking charge of this district.

E. H. WILMOT,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

During the year the number of Crown lessees has increased from 2,051 to 2,162, the area held from 1,729,313 acres to 1,745,651 acres, and the annual rental payable from £22,822 to £23,798. The gross revenue received for the year is £33,100 as compared with 32,041 received last year.

THE VARIOUS TENURES.

Under the heading "Lands sold for Cash" the selections and amount received are about the same as last year. This system is not extensively availed of where lands are opened on the optional system, and the majority of the purchases represent sales of townships by auction and outlying pieces that have been bought by adjoining owners. Under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system, forty-five persons selected 9,415 acres, at an annual rental of £455 12s. 6d. The total number of tenants under this system has been increased during the year from 347 to 376, the area held from 77,899 acres to 83,835 acres, and the annual rental payable from £2,090 to £2,393. Very few have exercised the right of purchase. Under the renewable-lease system thirty-two tenants selected 3,412 acres (national endowment lands) at an annual rental of £137. The total number of selectors under this tenure has increased during the year from twenty-two to fifty-four, and the areas held from 1,916 acres to 5,327 acres, and the annual rent payable from £76 to £214. As regards perpetual lease and lease in perpetuity, there is very little alteration in these tenures, as very few of the selectors have taken advantage of their right to acquire the freehold. The pastoral run, small grazing-run, and other remaining tenures do not call for any special remarks, as there is little change ; and the conditions are, generally speaking, well complied with.

ARREARS OF RENTS.

One of the results of the successful season has been a reduction in the amount of arrears of rent owing. Last year (exclusive of the current half-year) fifty-two tenants owed £582 ; while, inclusive of half-year, 291 tenants were in arrear to the amount of £2,866. This year (exclusive of current half) thirty-two owe £289, while inclusive of current half, 215 tenants owe £1,798.

FREEHOLD TITLES ISSUED.

The subjoined table shows the number of provisional titles issued by the Receiver of Land Revenue under the various tenures :—

Tenure.	Selectors.	Area.		
		A.	R.	P.
Lease in perpetuity	9	2,709	1	11
Occupation with right of purchase	4	759	3	39
Perpetual lease	3	366	3	6
Cash under the Land Act, 1908	13	224	2	3
Auction sales	14	265	0	3
	43	4,325	2	22

TRANSFERS.

All transfers are examined very closely, the Land Board being very careful in dealing with cases that show too great a difference between improvements and purchase-money, though the hard-working pioneer settler has the fullest sympathy. The total number of transfers completed during the year is made up as under :—

Tenure.	Number of Lessces.	Area.		
		A.	R.	P.
Lease in perpetuity (ordinary)	50	4,729	3	29
Lease-in-perpetuity land for settlements	19	4,221	3	5
Occupation with right of purchase	26	4,831	1	37
Perpetual lease	7	289	0	11
Mining districts land-occupation leases.. .. .	3	53	3	29
Miscellaneous licenses	14	1,378	1	13
Pastoral licenses	3	12,940	0	0
Small grazing-run	2	5,528	2	0
Certificate of occupation	2	229	0	26
Coal leases	2	59	0	38
Sawmill areas	2	400	0	0
Renewable lease (ordinary)	2	3	2	3
	132	34,664	3	31

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

A reference to the tables will give full details of dealings under this heading. It may be observed that the area which has reverted to the Crown is somewhat in excess of last year's figures. Several holdings on occupation with right of purchase were forfeited, with the object of obtaining a revaluation of the land. In other instances various reasons are assigned, such as the cost of improvements on the land to enable the selector to make a living being too great for the people of insufficient means to stand the first few years of the pioneer life, especially on the less favoured lands; but very few cases have been caused by non-compliance with the conditions.

SAWMILLING INDUSTRY.

There are sixty-four sawmills working, with cutting-capacity of about 85,000,000 ft. per annum. Owing to the depressed state of the timber trade the mills have not worked full time. There are now indications of a greater demand for timber, so sawmillers are more hopeful. The means of access for getting timber to market has improved so much of late years that this enables the trade to be more concentrated. The waste in dealing with the cutting of timber is still considerable, and, combined with the limited areas of timber lands available, makes the end of the life of the industry in sight. The birch, however, is gradually proving a valuable timber, and this will help to prolong the industry and output, and at the same time make country valuable that hitherto has been considered of very little use.

LANDS PROPOSED TO BE OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING YEAR.

An area of about 30,000 acres of worked-out sawmill areas in various parts of the district has been withdrawn from the operations of the State Forest Act, and is now available for settlement, and only awaits subdivision to enable it to be opened for selection. Of this area a block of 4,600 acres in Blocks III and IV, Oteramika Hundred, has already been surveyed, and will be opened early in the year. The survey of another block of about 4,000 acres in Blocks V and VII, Longwood, is almost completed, and it will also be available for selection shortly. I propose to have a further block of about 800 acres in the Mabel Hundred subdivided, and this should also be in the market during the year. The subdivision of another large block, containing about 10,000 acres, to the west of Otautau, will be commenced, and it is hoped that at least one block will be available before the close of the year. All this land is of fair quality, and should be readily taken up. It is very desirable that it should be selected as soon as possible, as the Canadian thistle has already gained a good hold in some parts of it. In most of these cases the land will be loaded under the Government Loans to Local Bodies Act, for the purpose of providing internal road-access.

LANDLESS-NATIVE BLOCKS.

Of the lands set aside under the South Island Landless Natives Act, 1906, the claims in the Waiau, Wairaurahiri, Waikawa, and Lord's River Blocks have been completed. This has entailed a vast amount of extra work, and has involved the preparation of 80 warrants for the issue of certificates of titles, representing 1,947 claims of an aggregate area of 67,694 acres.

GENERAL REMARKS.

By reports received from the Rangers, and from my own personal observations, I have been greatly impressed by the steady progress that is being made by the Crown tenants in this district. Aided by a favourable season, bush clearing, burning, and drainage-works have been very much facilitated, but the greatest factor in contributing to the success has been the steady demand and good prices ruling for all farm-produce. Dairy-farming is quickly becoming the chief occupation of a large number of Crown tenants, and is a very valuable source of revenue to the farmer, and a strong inducement for him to clear his land and get it under cultivation as soon as possible. With the pastoral lands the difficulty of replacing the natural grasses and supplying suitable grasses to take their place seems to demand more attention. An effort should also be made to prevent burning and overstocking, as much of the high lands are now showing signs of injudicious management in these respects. With such conditions obtaining, it is only natural to expect that the tenants, on the whole, observe the conditions of their leases in a very satisfactory manner, and the past season has placed the settlers in a most cheerful and progressive position.

DEPARTMENTAL.

Without entering into details, I may state that the volume of office-work is steadily increasing, and has taxed the energies of the several officers employed to their utmost. All officers have shown a keen interest in their duties, and, coming here a complete stranger, I thoroughly appreciate their efforts in making the work of the office run so well and smoothly.

H. M. SKEET,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

 APPENDIX II.—LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS (EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS ON).

AUCKLAND.

The twenty-one settlements in this land district may be divided into three classes. In the first are placed pastoral and agricultural areas; then comes class 2, containing one settlement devoted entirely to residential purposes, the third class comprises the hamlets laid out in proximity to Auckland, and which are used mainly as residential sites, but which are large enough in area to enable some income to be derived from market-gardening, fruit-growing, poultry-keeping, &c.

The rural areas of the first class are comprised in fourteen settlements. In the previous year's report it was stated that Opouriao, Fencourt, and Matamata were the most conspicuously successful. This year the settlements at Rangiatea, Karapiro, and Whitehall can be added to the first three mentioned, as they have attained a standard which marks them as definitely successful. The Okauia Settlement, which has always been the least successful of the older settlements, continues to lag, but the infusion of new blood continues, and there has been some progress during the year. The prospects in the Bickerstaffe are not encouraging. Selwyn Settlement has not yet become an established success, but the settlers have made good progress, and the land, with the aid of manure, will no doubt turn out as well as that in older settlements. The balance of the settlements are progressing satisfactorily, with the exception of Rewi and Tautari. The Teasdale Settlement (which is the only one of its kind) appears to be serving the purpose for which it was intended. All the buildings erected are of a substantial nature. In the case of the hamlets which are comprised in class 3, there has been considerable progress. An enlargement of some of the areas by re-grouping sections resulted in an improvement, and with the exception of Waari Hamlet, all the settlements have made progress. In some it has been of a very substantial nature.

Although in looking over the settlements of all kinds as a whole there are one or two discouraging features, still there has been no retrogression, and in a great degree there has been considerable progress. As already mentioned, the older settlements are reaching the standard which enables them to be finally classified as a success, and of the newer blocks, with the exception of those mentioned, the indications show that next year more may be added to the list of those passed as successful.

ERIC C. GOLD SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

 HAWKE'S BAY.

I have to report the subdivision and settlement this year of the Tongoi, Clydebank, and Ngatapa Estates, containing altogether about 28,849 acres, which brings the area of acquired land in this district up to 193,405.

There was keen competition for all the allotments offered, and it is to be regretted that many desirable applicants could not be accommodated, and had to seek land elsewhere.

The Rangers report that most of the settlers are making good headway.

The Board has granted some of the settlers extension of time for payment of rent where the circumstances seemed to warrant it. On the last days of March a very heavy rain at Poverty Bay flooded several of the settlements, and damaged others by causing large landslips. The Ranger is now making a detailed report as to the damage done to individual holdings.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the southern portion of the district reports that, reviewing operations for the past twelve months in Hawke's Bay, it is highly satisfactory to note a steady progress in all branches of agricultural pursuits, but more especially in the dairying and fruit-growing industries. This applies also in cases of ordinary Crown Lands. The produce sheds at the Hawke's Bay Agricultural and Pastoral Society's autumn show were taxed to their utmost capacity. The exhibits of fruit were the largest that have yet appeared in this district, and were augmented by a magnificent display of grapes and wines from the Government experimental farm at Arataki, near Havelock North, and adjoining Te Mata Settlement, and from the Frimley vineyards. For the root-crops, comprising mangolds and turnips, the names of Mahora and Hatuma settlers appeared in the list of prize-winners in the field agricultural classes. During the year there has been a considerable addition to the number of creameries and cheese-factories throughout the district, and numbers of hand cream-separator machines are now to be found installed in the homes of many of the settlers, effecting a considerable saving in cartage to the factory of the milk in the ordinary way. The population of land-for-settlements areas in this portion of the district as compared with past years shows a remarkable increase during the last twelve months, whilst the increase in the number of stock is also considerable. The favourable weather-conditions experienced during the last twelve months, combined with fair market prices for wool and other produce, was the principal factor in the present prosperity and general progress of the settlement lands in this district.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the Poverty Bay portion of the land district reports that there are seven settlements let under the land-for-settlement system, namely: Pouparae, Waimarie, Willows, Wigan, Te Arai, Kanakanaia, and Ngatapa. The four former settlements are let under the lease in perpetuity, while the three latter are under renewable lease. These settlements, having a leasing-area of 38,055 acres 2 roods 15 perches, have been subdivided into 150 holdings, all of which have been selected.

Practically all the sections were taken up as soon as opened for selection, and have been continuously occupied, and at present are carrying a population of 464 souls. The improvements required under the Act amount to £42,948 18s. 5d., while the value of improvements effected (including original improvements—fencing, grassing, and buildings) is £97,797. There were only two defaulters for non-residence, these being selectors of township sections in Te Arai Settlement. There were no defaulters for improvements. One hundred and sixteen dwellinghouses, valued at £27,605, have been erected. The area in white crop is 722 acres, and in root or green crop 285 acres 2 roods; while 814 acres 1 rood 36 perches is in orchards, plantation, bush, scrub, &c.; and the balance, 25,582 acres and 28 perches, is in grass. Of the total area let, there are nine township sections, of an average area of 1½ acres; fifty seven agricultural sections, of an average area of 32 acres; fifty-eight agricultural and pastoral sections, of an average area of 407 acres; and the balance, 2,347 acres, is divided into two small grazing-runs. The stock carried on the settlements amounts to 53,973 sheep, 4,774 cattle, 602 horses, and 543 pigs. Only 1,007½ acres is in crops of various kinds, so it is manifest that the land is used exclusively for wool-growing, grazing, and fattening stock. On the Wigan Settlement, taken up in December, 1903, the settlers selected when sheep were down in price, and the markets rising immediately afterwards, all obtained a splendid start. The unimproved value of the land in this settlement has increased fully £3 per acre the last five years. This settlement is used exclusively for sheep and cattle, and the land is carrying fully two sheep and a half to the acre, including cattle. This settlement is in a very prosperous condition; the land is very good and the rental low. On Kanakanaia and Te Arai Settlements, taken up in February and March, 1908, the settlers had rather a bad start. In the first place, the principal sheep-sales were over in March, and the settlers were late for this, and had to take what they could get, and pay a big price; consequently, they obtained a poor class of sheep to start with, and at the end of the season the stock dropped almost 1s. 3d. in value. On the first year's working, though they received a fair price for their fat stock, the store sheep and wool were very low. This season they got a fair price for wool, but very few have been able to fatten any stock. This is chiefly caused by the settlers not getting a good class of sheep to start with. The majority of them have sold off all their old stock this year, and gone in for some really first-class sheep, and there is no doubt next year their returns will be very much improved. The selectors on the Kanakanaia Settlement go in exclusively for wool-growing and the raising of fattening stock, while on Te Arai Settlement twenty selectors go in exclusively for sheep, twenty-three for mixed farming (dairying, sheep, or dairying and cropping), and the balance are small township sections used for residential purposes. On Te Arai Settlement the selectors who have done the best for the year just ended are those who have gone in for dairying, and there is no doubt that next year many more will go in for it. There has been a very good price ruling for milk, but the price received for grain was only fair. Of the forty-eight tenants on the Pouparae, Willows, and Waimarie Settlements seventeen selectors go in for dairying, twenty-two for cropping and grazing, and nine sections are used for residence-sites, the tenants finding work locally. As the price for milk and farm-produce has been fairly well maintained throughout the year, these settlers have had a fairly good season, and the fact that there are no defaulters for improvements speaks very highly of the class of tenants.

T. N. BRODRICK,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

The Tokaora and Huinga Settlements are making good progress, and the settlers on both of them are well satisfied. I understand that a section of 94 acres in the former settlement yielded a return of £875 for the year.

Though the progress on the Clandon Settlement has not been so marked, still the settlers have come through the year fairly well.

The Spotswood Settlement has done better this year, a few of the unallotted sections having been taken up, and two new residences have been erected. It is anticipated that when the improvements to the harbour at Moturoa, which is near the settlement, are completed, its prospects will be considerably hopeful.

FRANCIS SIMPSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WELLINGTON.

My remarks as to ordinary Crown lands, so far as progress is concerned, are equally applicable to the lands-for-settlement holdings, with the difference, of course, that the latter comprise, generally speaking, improved lands, and the tenure under which they are held is principally lease in perpetuity without any right to purchase.

I visited most of the settlements, and have interviewed a large proportion of the settlers, and one cannot help being impressed with the evidences of stability that one meets at every turn.

One very noticeable feature is the improved class of homestead and outbuilding that is now so prominent throughout this class of settlement, and this extends to cases where the area is small.

The settlements in the east coast districts are used for mixed farming, the rougher country for grazing of sheep and cattle, and the lower for dairying and agricultural purposes. In the neighbourhood of Wellington the land is used for residential purposes, fruit-growing, market-gardening, and for poultry-farming.

On the west coast the settlements are chiefly in the Feilding, Bulls, and Lower Oroua districts, and these, if possible, seem more prosperous than the Wairarapa settlements. On the west coast the settlements are used chiefly for dairying, cropping, and fruit-growing, the grazing of sheep and cattle not being so marked as on the east coast.

JAMES MACKENZIE,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

Wangapeka Settlement.—This settlement consists of 6,263 acres, divided into fifteen allotments, of which fourteen, of a total area of 4,202 acres, are occupied. The remaining allotment, containing 1,949 acres, has just been applied for. The tenants have all erected good dwellings on their holdings, and have done a large amount of work in fencing, cultivation, felling bush, scrub, &c. Owing to the wet season the grain-crops have not been very good, but the root-crops are looking well. The settlers intend using the land chiefly for pastoral purposes until the price of white crops improve. Owing to the neglected state of the land, it was quite two years before it could be brought into profitable condition, and consequently fair returns from the land are only just being realised. Improvements to the value of £5,653 have been effected, an excess of £2,495 over the requirements of the Act. There are 2,904 head of stock on the estate, an increase of 144 over last year. A school has been erected on the settlement, and has an attendance of twenty-one children.

Braeburn Settlement.—This settlement contains 18,063 acres, of which 15,563 acres was forest and 2,500 acres open land. Good work has been done during the past year, an area of 853 acres of land having been felled and grassed, and contracts let for further areas. A considerable amount of fencing has been done, and nine dwellinghouses erected. An area of 11,965 is at present occupied by fourteen selectors, two more sections have been recently applied for, and several inquiries have been made lately with regard to the vacant lands, and it is anticipated that the remaining allotments will be selected at an early date. The establishment of a butter-factory at Murchison, eleven miles from the settlement, has enabled several of the settlers to become suppliers by each settler running a separator and sending the cream to the factory. The initial expense of providing cows and separators has been large, and does not leave much margin for profit, but the prospects for the next season are much brighter. There are 133 dairy cows on the settlement, and this number will be largely increased during the year. The butter-factory will undoubtedly be a great benefit to the settlement. The lessees have all complied with the improvement and residence conditions. There are thirty-two inhabitants on the settlement, and the live-stock numbers 4,025 head. The improvements effected amount to £3,999, or £2,070 in excess of the requirements. I feel sure that the prosperity of this settlement will be assured in a few years when more of the forest lands are brought under grass.

ROBT. T. SADD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

Despite the fact that the past season has been a very unfavourable one for agricultural operations, the general progress made on the nine land-for-settlement estates in Marlborough has been good, especially to holders of sheep country, and as the settlements become longer established, and the settlers get to work more on their own capital, still better results may be expected.

The total area of settlement-land acquired in the nine estates within the Marlborough Land District is 114,979 acres, out of which 5,049 acres have been used as reserves, roads, and river-beds, leaving an effectual area of 109,930 acres, of an estimated capital value of £396,984, or an average value of £3 12s. 3d. per acre, yielding an annual rental of £20,091 16s. 6d. Two of these estates—Puhipuhi and Waipapa, of an aggregate area of 3,975 acres—are worked in conjunction with other Crown land, and it is therefore impossible to separate the results. The particulars of the other purely settlement estates may be of interest: Area, 105,955 acres; value of improvements required by the Act, £65,503; value of improvements effected, £161,862; number of persons resident, 1,055; number of houses, 246; number of sheep, 100,703, or 0.95 per acre throughout. Notwithstanding the fact that there are 9,683 acres under white crops—chiefly barley, oats, wheat, and a few acres of peas—the number of horses is 1,185; cattle, 1,016; and pigs, 355. The area of land under green crops—chiefly rape—is 6,086 acres. The small settlement situated in the Kaikoura district is continuing to yield very good results, owing to the extreme fertility of the soil and the proximity to a splendid cheese-factory.

The prospects of continued prosperity in these settlements is good, always provided that no unfavourable climatic conditions prevail. Unfortunately, last year many of the settlers suffered considerable loss owing to caterpillars; in many instances these attacked the crops of the smaller holders, who were least able to bear the loss. There is a hope that a more severe winter may destroy, or render less harmful, many of these pests, which bear heavily on many very deserving settlers.

F. STEPHENSON SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

There are only two settlements in the district—Kokatahi and Poerua—and both are in a very flourishing state. The quality of the land in both cases is very good; in fact, these settlements comprise some of the best land in Westland. The land is used almost wholly for grazing, the only crops grown being used for feed. The whole of the Poerua settlers supply milk to the butter-factory, and they are at present milking 300 cows. Four Kokatahi settlers work their holdings as dairy farms, and the other three for rearing and fattening stock, mainly cattle. The stock bred are of good quality, and the herds are being materially improved by the importation of pedigree stock. There has been an abundance of grass on both settlements, and what crops have been grown have yielded well. The settlers are all well satisfied with their holdings, and, although the goodwill of any of the sections would realise a considerable sum, it is gratifying to notice that applications for transfer are very rare.

G. H. M. McCURE,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

CANTERBURY.

LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

Three new estates in the Canterbury District have been acquired and opened for selection under the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act during the year. These were—

(1.) The Fyvie Settlement, situated between the Selwyn and Rakaia Rivers, about thirty-one miles from Christchurch. It comprised 1,585 acres of mixed light agricultural land and pastoral land of fair quality, and was opened for selection on the 2nd December, 1909, in five sections, ranging in size from 260 acres to 375 acres. Applications were received from twenty-six persons, and the whole of the sections were disposed of at the first ballot.

(2.) The Buddo Settlement, situated near Belfast, about nine miles from Christchurch. It comprised 70 acres of good level alluvial-deposit land, and was opened for selection on the 1st March, 1910, in fifteen sections, ranging in size from 3 acres to 8½ acres. Up to the 31st March, 1910, six sections had been allotted, and others had been applied for. In this class of settlement it is usually found that the sections go off more slowly than in the case of rural settlements; but there is little doubt that the whole of the sections will in a short time be taken up and satisfactorily occupied. It is noticeable that up to the present there has been a complete absence of applicants from among the class whose supposed requirements the settlement was specially designed to meet—namely, the workers employed at the freezing-works and other industries established at and near Belfast.

(3.) The Tripp Settlement, formerly part of the Orari Gorge Estate, situated about nine miles from Geraldine, in South Canterbury. The area acquired was 7,977 acres, to which was added a block of 19,199 acres of pastoral Crown land previously leased by the owners of the estate. The whole area was divided into nineteen agricultural sections ranging in size from 33 acres to 253 acres, the aggregate area being 2,753 acres, and five pastoral sections ranging in size from 1,782 acres to 9,896 acres, the aggregate area being 24,134 acres.

There was a very keen demand for sections in this settlement, and applications were received from 350 persons, of whom 293 were admitted to the ballot. The whole of the sections were disposed of at the first ballot. The Land Board observed with much satisfaction the generally excellent stamp of would-be settler represented by the applicants, and there is no doubt that in the hands of men of this class the success of the Tripp Settlement is fully assured.

Lands for Future Selection.

At the close of the year preparations for the disposal of the following further estates were well in hand :—

(1.) The Ladbrooks Settlement, near Lincoln, comprising 268 acres, to be subdivided into twelve dairy farms.

(2.) The Cladehoye Settlement, near Temuka, comprising 560 acres, to be subdivided into ten dairying and agricultural farms.

(3.) The Hornby Settlement, near Hornby, comprising 75 acres, to be subdivided into twenty-three small allotments for labourers and others.

(4.) The Ruapuna Estate, near Ruapuna, comprising 4,423 acres, to be subdivided into fourteen mixed agricultural and pastoral farms.

CONDITION OF ESTABLISHED SETTLEMENTS.

The reports which have been furnished by the Crown Lands Rangers upon the condition of the whole of the established settlements throughout the district at the close of the year again reveal in a most striking manner the magnificent success which has been achieved under the operation of the Land for Settlements Acts in promoting settlement within a district which had, by the free-selection system previously in force, been left practically destitute of any Crown lands suitable for occupation under settlement-conditions. A perusal of the reports shows an almost unbroken record of prosperous settlers, contented with their holdings, and fulfilling the conditions of their leases in a satisfactory manner—men who, with the assistance afforded them by a progressive land policy, coupled with their own industry, have been enabled to improve their own position, to bring up families in comfortable circumstances, to increase the productiveness of their lands, and to contribute in no small degree to the prosperity of the district and the Dominion. With very few exceptions, the settlers' farms are neatly and carefully worked, kept clear of noxious weeds, and maintained in good heart by judicious farming, the conditions of the leases respecting rotation of crops, &c., being generally well observed. The Land Board is at all times willing to give careful and sympathetic consideration to any application for relaxation of the strict conditions as regards number of crops or the period during which land must be left in pasture, provided that reasonable grounds, verified by a report from the Crown Lands Ranger, can be shown to justify the concession asked for. The members of the Board, as practical farmers, recognise that weather-conditions, whether local or general, as well as other circumstances, must render it impossible at all times to enforce absolutely hard-and-fast rules of cultivation. At the same time, the Board does not encourage tenants to expect permission to vary the conditions, and, indeed, most of the settlers recognise that these conditions are framed as much in their own interests as in those of the Crown.

The buildings, fences, and other improvements effected on these holdings are generally of a good quality, and well maintained, and in many instances it is found that when a settler has surmounted his initial expense, and begun to reap good returns from his land, the small cottage which was made to suffice for his earlier requirements is enlarged or replaced by a new dwellinghouse, often fitted with conveniences that are usually looked for in town dwellings only. There are a few cases in which the value of improvements effected falls short of the legal requirements; but the usual experience is that such deficiencies are remedied as soon as opportunity offers and the tenants' means permit. There are, of course, also some cases—although they are not many—where there is noticeable a lack of satisfactory management, where the husbandry is inferior, where the buildings show evidence of want of care, and the whole farm, by contrast with neighbouring holdings, falls short of the usual standard. This, however, is merely to say that on Crown leaseholds, as on freehold properties, there are those who lack energy or ability to make the best of their holdings.

One subject that has received much consideration from the Board on several occasions has been the question of how to deal with applications for the amalgamation, by transfer, of small holdings which, the holders allege, are insufficient for the maintenance of themselves and those dependent on them. There are, no doubt, cases in which the number of small holdings provided in a given locality, the holders of which must seek outside employment to supplement the subsistence obtainable from their holdings, is in excess of the requirements of the surrounding district. In such cases applications for amalgamation of holdings, in order to provide an area which will render the tenant practically independent of outside employment, will sooner or later be made to the Land Board. While it is undoubtedly the case that amalgamation of holdings should, as a general rule, be strongly discouraged, it cannot be denied that it is better to establish one settler upon an area sufficient to enable him to maintain himself and his family in reasonable comfort than to seek to retain two holders on insufficient areas, with the result that the Crown has two somewhat discontented settlers, obliged to neglect their own holdings to some extent by reason of the necessity for seeking outside employment, perhaps at considerable distances from their homes.

The reports on the various workmen's homes, hamlets, and other small settlements in the vicinity of Christchurch, and the one suburban settlement near Timaru, are generally of a very satisfactory character. Neat and comfortable cottages have been erected on most of the holdings, and the sections are used for market-gardening and poultry-farming, or provide the holder with the means to grow sufficient garden-produce for himself and his family, and perhaps to graze a horse or cow. Apart from the increased value given to these lands by the tenants' improvements, there is in most cases a very substantial increase in the unimproved value of the lands, owing to the expansion of the city and the extension of facilities for communication.

Of the settlements offered during the year, only one—the Fyvie Settlement—has been occupied long enough to enable any progress to be made up to the date of this report. In the case of this settlement, a preliminary inspection shows that all the five tenants have built and taken up their residence on their holdings, and very satisfactory progress has been made during the four months that have elapsed since the settlement was established.

F. W. FLANAGAN,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

During the past year no new settlements have been offered for selection. Of three allotments open for selection at the beginning of the year, a large section on Kauroo Hill Settlement was taken up. The transfers which have taken place in respect of settlement selections have all shown considerable though not extravagant amounts for goodwill, thus giving evidence of the increasing value of settlement lands. The only selectors who have taken advantage of the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act in respect of exchanging lease-in-perpetuity tenure for renewable lease are the tenants on Duncan Settlement, who thereby secured a considerable reduction in the capital values of their holdings, as well as the reduction from 5 to 4½ per cent. on the capital values as rentals.

Speaking generally as to the settlers under the Lands for Settlement Act in Otago, they are making very steady and satisfactory progress, although they have been under the great disadvantage of an exceptionally dry summer. During the spring months things looked very promising. The frequent showers brought the crops away well, and there was every indication of a bountiful harvest with plenty of feed. During the early summer, however, prospects did not look quite so well, on account of a succession of hot north-west winds, which had the effect of giving the grain-crops and grass a decided set-back. The dry weather, with occasional high winds, continued throughout January and February, and entirely banished all hopes of the high returns which promised so well in the earlier part of the season. Strange to say, this state of affairs existed over nearly the whole of the Land District, Otago Central, as might be expected, being the worst affected, while north of the Kakanui the effects of the dry weather were not so apparent. South of the Kakanui, as far as Gore, crops of all kinds suffered very severely, as was proved by the threshing returns. It may be safely said that, taking the coastal districts of Otago all through, the crops have been quite 30 per cent. short of expectations. The same remarks also apply to the turnip-crops. As far as swede turnips are concerned, they are practically a failure on account of the blight. Taking that fact into account, together with the shortage of grass, farmers will no doubt find some difficulty in providing for their stock during the coming winter. In North Otago the usual area is under potatoes, but, on account of the dry season, the crops are not turning out as well as they promised; but growers are compensated to a certain extent for the smaller yield by the fact that the blight is not so bad as in previous seasons. With regard to the fat-lamb market, farmers are much better off than they expected to be. In the early part of the season fat lambs were selling at 10s., but before the season had advanced very far the price went up as high as 15s. a head.

The suppliers to the dairy factories and creameries have also had the advantage of good prices, which compensated somewhat for the reduced quantity of milk.

On Earnslough Settlement, where the selectors are going in for fruit-growing, they are beginning to get a return for their labour, the Otago Central Railway enabling them to send their fruit in good condition to a profitable market.

On Janefield Estate, which may be called a residential settlement, market-gardening and dairying are being successfully carried on, a ready market for the produce being found in Dunedin.

On the larger estates, the usual routine of mixed farming is carried on successfully.

On the whole the settlers have had a good year and generally are well satisfied with their prospects as tenants of the Crown.

E. H. WILMOT,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

LANDS OPENED DURING THE YEAR.

During the year one new settlement was purchased and opened to application—viz., Ermedale. This settlement, containing a leasing-area of 2,692 acres, is situated from five to seven miles from Fairfax Railway-station. It was subdivided into twelve sections, ranging in area from 130 to 400 acres. On the day of opening nine sections were selected, and one has since been taken up, leaving two, containing 548 acres, still unselected, but I am confident that these will be taken up very shortly. As the sections were only allotted on the 31st March last, it is not necessary to make any further comments at present.

CONDITION OF ESTABLISHED SETTLEMENTS.

It is satisfactory to record that since last year steady progress has been made on all the settlements, the improvements effected being increased by £5,000 since last report. For convenience of reference, the settlements may be divided as follows: Western and eastern, the former comprising Merrivale, Otahu, Beaumont, and Ringway, and the latter Glenham and Edendale. Generally speaking, the settlers in the western district are engaged in mixed farming and sheep-grazing, with a little dairying, while in the eastern district dairying is very extensively and successfully carried on, and forms the chief occupation. In the western district the white and green crops have suffered somewhat for the want of rain, and in consequence are a little poor, except on Otahu, where these crops are all that could be desired. An area of 1,266 acres has been laid down in new grass, and it is pleasing to note that the settlers are improving the stock-carrying capacity by this means. The high prices ruling for wool have created a feeling of satisfaction among the settlers in this portion of the district. The position of Otahu and Merrivale Settlements has been vastly improved by the completion of the Ore-puki-Waiiau Railway to Tuatapere, which brings them much nearer the railway terminus.

In the eastern district, as already mentioned, the chief occupation is dairying. Although the grass has not been quite so plentiful owing to the continued drought, it is gratifying to know that there has been a great increase in the milk-yields. Realising what this means, the settlers have put down no less than 2,620 acres in new grass during the year. All the milk-factories have been taxed to their utmost, and, to cope with the milk received, the chief factory at Edendale has been working

three shifts. To meet future developments, the directors have decided to erect another factory before next season, and the initial steps have already been taken to accomplish this object. As a further instance of the prosperity of these settlements, it might be mentioned that twenty mechanical milking plants have been installed, and have proved a great boon in labour-saving. As an indication of what the subdivision of the Edendale Settlement has done for dairying, it might be mentioned that in 1904-5 a sum of £14,299 was paid for milk, while in 1909-10 the amount was £44,000. In 1904-5 the output of cheese was 368 tons, of a monetary value of £24,240; and in 1909-10 the output will be approximately 1,100 tons, of a value of £56,460. The conditions on Glenham, although not so marked as Edendale, are also worth recording. In 1905-6 the output of cheese was 31 tons, while in 1909-10 the output will be approximately 130 tons. This means an increase in supply of milk for this season of 58,250 gallons. From this source alone a sum of about £7,000 was distributed amongst the Glenham suppliers this season.

The white and root crops in the eastern districts have suffered through the exceptional spell of dry and windy weather, and consequently the yields are not so heavy as in former years.

With such conditions obtaining, it is only natural to find that the settlers in this part of the district are prosperous and cheerful. The conditions of lease have been well complied with during the year.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

Now that the great majority of the tenants have firmly established themselves on their holdings, it seems reasonable to expect that their future prosperity is almost assured, more especially if the present prices for dairy-produce, stock, and wool are maintained. In this district, at all events, the last three seasons have been exceptionally favourable to farmers, and this has had the effect of placing the tenants in a more progressive and satisfactory position than at any other time since they have been established.

The settlers are seeing the necessity of providing shelter for their stock. Everywhere there is evidence of tree-planting that in a few years will quite alter the aspect of the country. It would be a good thing if more trees of general utility were planted, which in the course of time would supply the wants of the farmer for buildings and fencing.

H. M. SKEET,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

APPENDIX III. — REPORT ON THE TIMBER INDUSTRY IN THE AUCKLAND AND MARLBOROUGH LAND DISTRICTS.

AUCKLAND.

THE sales of timber for the year as compared with the sales for the previous year show a decrease in revenue. This fact is partly due to the disposal of large quantities of timber within the State forests during the previous year, whilst this year a number of small lots of timber only, consisting of the residue of old workings and small clumps of timber within certain districts, were offered and disposed of for the purposes of enabling the land to be cleared of milling-timber prior to opening same for settlement purposes. This, together with the reduced number of bills falling due for past sales of timber, largely accounts for the decrease in revenue.

During the greater part of the year only two measuring parties were engaged constantly in the field, and the total quantity of timber measured was 35,244,956 sup. ft. (exclusive of the balance of timber measured on the Moutatau Block No. 2 for the Tokerau Maori Land Board).

The measured quantity of timber available for sale purposes, and for which sale plans are now being prepared, totals 78,449,173 sup. ft.

Six poster plans and local sale notices, comprising 21 lots of timber, were prepared and issued, and the total sales effected (including sections loaded with the value of timber) were 53, aggregating 10,664,952 sup. ft.; and the amount realised, £8,296 11s. 7d.

Owing to the heavy rains and freshes experienced, the sawmillers' log supplies were largely augmented by the exceptional number of kauri and other logs coming to hand, which in some cases have remained in the creeks for years.

The demand for sawn kauri timber is still well maintained, and a further increase in prices has been fixed by the sawmillers.

The following table shows the various kinds of timber disposed of during the year:—

	Kauri.	Rimu.	Kahikatea.	Totara.	Matai.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Amount realised.
	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	£ s. d.
Crown lands	7,489,245	987,617	436,671	418,038	58,463	..	9,390,034	7,405 18 2
State forests	1,267,827	3,750	..	..	..	3,341	1,274,918	890 13 5
Totals	8,757,072	991,367	436,671	418,038	58,463	3,341	10,664,952	8,296 11 7

Timber measured and disposed of for Education Department:—

..	56,674	56,674	42 12 10
----	--------	----	----	----	----	----	--------	----------

Export of Timber from 1st April, 1909, to 31st March, 1910.—From Auckland: Kauri, 15,855,453 sup. ft., value £109,221; kahikatea, 11,916,395 sup. ft., value £48,250; other kinds, 179,053 sup. ft., value £795; total, 27,950,901 sup. ft., value £158,266. From Kaipara: Kauri, 8,738,056 sup. ft., value £52,222; kahikatea, 19,739,156 sup. ft., value £65,580; other kinds, 987,997 sup. ft., value £3,449; total, 29,465,209 sup. ft., value £121,251. Grand total, 57,416,110 sup. ft., value £279,517.

Imports of Timber, Auckland, from 1st April, 1909, to 31st March, 1910.—2,587,265 sup. ft., value £12,129. Of this quantity and value, Oregon pine is represented by 1,967,090 sup. ft., value £7,593. The total imports show a decrease over last year of 7,626,793 sup. ft., value £49,971, or practically 80 per cent. less.

Timber-floating.—Twelve new licenses were granted, 64 renewals were granted, 5 licenses lapsed: total license and renewal fees received, £101 10s.

Bush-fires.—Although every precaution was taken by the Forest Caretakers to guard against fires and trespassers in the forests, still, owing to the very dry summer, several large bush-fires occurred, resulting in considerable damage to private bushes and plant, mostly within the Thames County. Fortunately, however, the Crown forests suffered only to a slight extent, through the timely heavy rains quenching the fires before they penetrated far into the forests. Had these surrounding fires still continued, no doubt serious damage and loss would have resulted in the large kauri forest on Ti Tipi Block.

Gathering Gum, Waipoua and Warawara State Forests.—Tree-gum gathering by the Caretakers from old incisions made in the trees within these two State forests is still being continued, but not to the same extent as in previous years, as, owing to the large crops having been gathered, the temptation for diggers and others to trespass in the bushes for the purposes of collecting gum has to a great extent been removed. The amount of gum disposed of during the period was 1 ton 19 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.; amount realised, £95 16s. 3d. There still remains in the broker's store at Auckland 1 ton 13 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. for disposal; present value, £140. This is being held awaiting a more favourable market, and will be dealt with in due course.

Although a decrease in timber revenue is shown, nevertheless the correspondence in connection with timber matters has been very considerable. In addition to the preparation of sale plans, returns, &c., 986 letters and 1,028 sale posters were despatched during the year.

ERIC C. GOLD SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

I FORWARD herewith a table showing the quantity of timber from the State-owned forests upon which royalty was paid during the year ended 31st March last.

Although many of the mills, especially smaller ones, have either been closed down, or were running slowly, for a considerable period of the year, the gross output has been over twelve and a half million superficial feet, or about three and a half million feet more than last year's output.

It is anticipated that the gross returns from the bushes next year will be about fifteen million superficial feet; out of this there will probably be but little less than two million feet cut from Crown lands—the balance from State forests.

The various varieties of timber cut are, in the order of their quantities, rimu, kahikatea, matai, totara, and birch, although the proportion of white-pine has increased considerably.

The gross amount of royalty on timber cut during the year was £3,295 4s. 1d., against £2,439 15s. last year—an increase of £855 9s. 1d. Of this sum £1,192 11s. 10d. was from Crown lands, and £2,102 12s. 3d. from State forests. It is anticipated that a greater amount of revenue will be received from the latter next year, because the two largest mills will be cutting on State forests.

The number of men employed in the bushes and mills during the year was 236—119 in the mills and 117 in the bushes; probably twenty or thirty more were employed in carting, shipping, &c.

SUMMARY of TIMBER cut from CROWN LANDS and STATE FORESTS for Year ended 31st March, 1910.

Mill.	Rimu.	White-pine (Kahikatea).	Totara.	Matai.	Birch.	Totals.
<i>Crown Lands.</i>						
Brownlee and Co. ...	Sup. ft. 1,912,509	Sup. ft. 2,226,865	Sup. ft. 26,610	Sup. ft. 417,801	Sup. ft. ...	Sup. ft. 4,583,785
Cooke and Co. ...	39,545	807	...	3,646	...	43,998
Totals ...	1,952,054	2,227,672	26,610	421,447	..	4,627,783

SUMMARY of TIMBER cut from CROWN LANDS and STATE FORESTS, &c.—*continued.*

Mill.	Rimu.	White-pine (Kahikatea).	Totara.	Matai.	Birch.	Totals.
<i>State Forests.</i>						
	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.
Robertson Bros.	450,971	204,058	9,461	138,196	1,344	804,030
W. C. J. Bryant	160,143	126,251	362	6,635	...	293,391
Marlborough Timber Com- pany	1,429,735	2,010,821	6,339	122,298	42,092	3,611,285
Smart Bros.	273,106	47,450	...	23,421	...	343,977
F. A. Smart	413,341	39,254	10,111	31,707	...	494,413
Brownlee and Co.	1,500,328	554,224	59,299	294,909	...	2,408,760
Totals	4,227,624	2,982,058	85,572	617,166	43,436	7,955,856
Grand totals	6,179,678	5,209,730	112,182	1,038,613	43,436	12,583,639

F. STEPHENSON SMITH,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

APPENDIX IV.—WHANGAMARINO SWAMP: REPORT AS TO DRAINING.

Memo. for the Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

IN response to your request, I visited the Whangamarino Swamp and the Government lands adjacent thereto. I have made considerable examination of the property, and find that under the existing circumstances the taking of levels is unnecessary; but the data acquired enables me to give you such information as will place you in a position to determine as to whether the swamp can be drained, or is worth draining. Though the dry land or ridges on the blocks are of inferior quality, the swampy portion is generally good, and the whole property free from inundation is a very valuable asset.

The existing conditions of the bed of the Waikato River are such as to make it impracticable to drain the above-mentioned land.

Of course, it is possible to bank the Whangamarino and Maramarua Rivers, and pump out the water accumulated in and within their drainage-area. It is also possible to bank along the railway-line to prevent the inflow of the Waikato River, also to bank out the overflow from the Waikare Lake (as I believe has been suggested); but this scheme, though possible, is impracticable for the following reasons: Firstly, the expense would be prohibitive; secondly, the maintenance would be enormous; thirdly, such scheme would be extremely detrimental to the railway, to the Government lands not included in the last-named area, and also the private lands adjoining would suffer materially.

The Whangamarino and Maramarua are, generally speaking, fine rivers, with very few obstructions. There are a few willows in the Maramarua which require removing for purpose of navigation; but it is quite accessible for the coal-barges to go up to the coal-mine. There are a few eel-weirs in the Whangamarino which interfere with navigation, but these obstructions do not materially affect the drainage question.

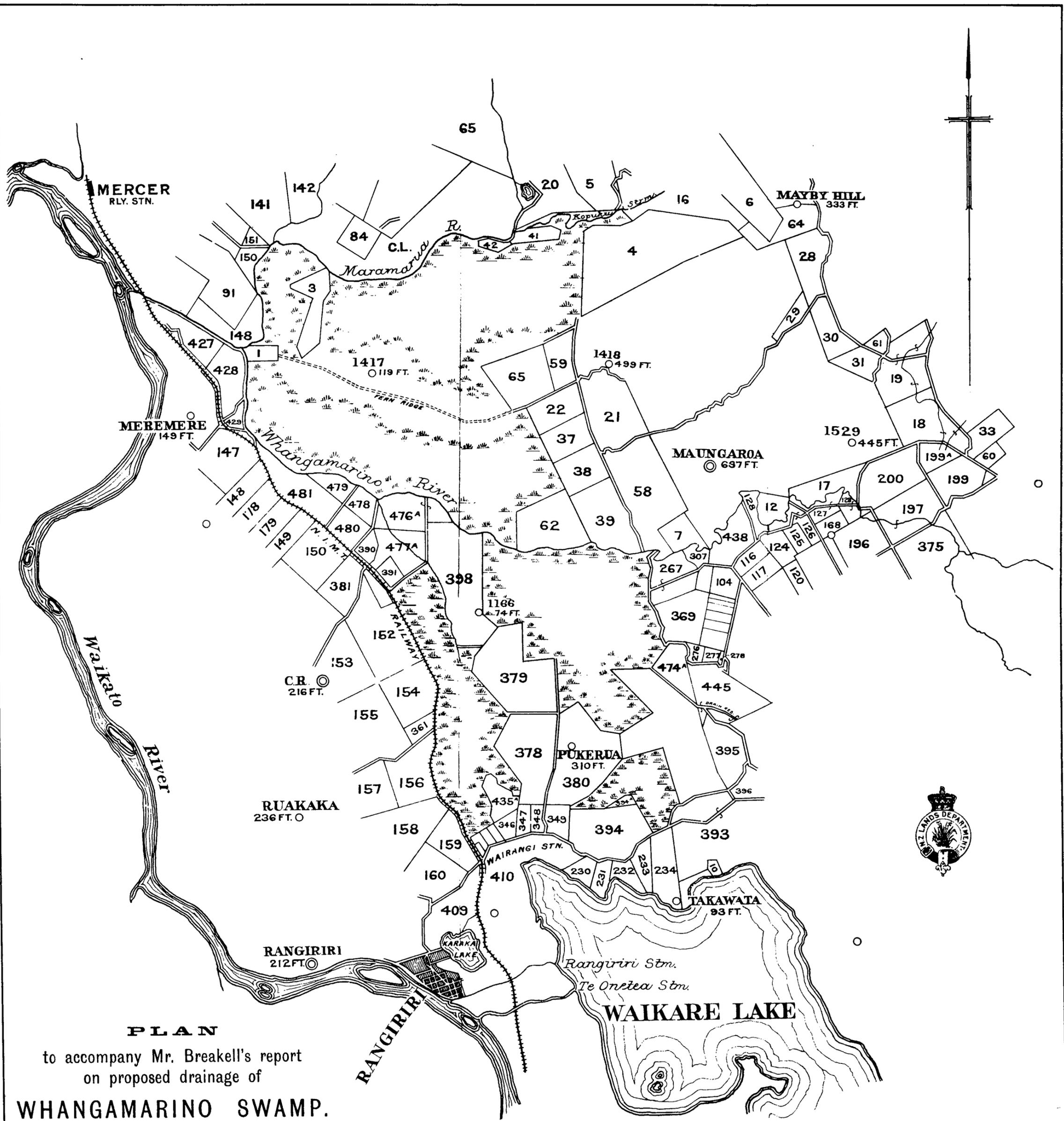
I have seen these rivers at summer level also when there has been a fresh in the Waikato. In the present state of the bed of the Waikato River there is practically no fall in the above-mentioned rivers even at summer level.

If the Maramarua and Whangamarino Rivers could perform their natural functions they would be able to carry off the water within their drainage-area, and there would be no floods, and the so-called swamps adjoining them would be sufficiently drained by the subdivisional roads and along the boundaries of subdivisions. In fact, the drainage question of Government lands and also private lands adjoining would be a very simple problem, provided as hereinbefore inferred, these rivers could perform their original and natural functions.

The cause of the flooding of the lands above referred to is, firstly, that when the Waikato River rises its waters flow up the Whangamarino and Maramarua Rivers and flood the country. Again, under like conditions, the waters of the Waikato River flow up the Rangiriri and Te Onetea Streams into the Waikare Lake, and from the Waikare Lake on to the Government and adjacent lands, practically causing an immense lake over thousands of acres of land. Further, owing to the Waikato River being congested, the waters remain for a considerable period.

The cause and the cure for the above conditions are apparent—namely, the congestion of the Waikato River below Mercer, and the immediate necessity of removing the obstructions that cause congestion. At several places near Tuakau and lower down the river the sectional area of said river is about one-tenth of the sectional area of the river near Mercer and Churchill.

The damage caused by the obstructions as shown above is considerable, and steadily increasing, and if some action is not taken, matters will become very serious to the settlers owning lands adjoining the Waikato River. Evidence of this is ample. Big floods which inundated the valley years ago were very seldom, and many years intervened; now there are two or three floods every year.

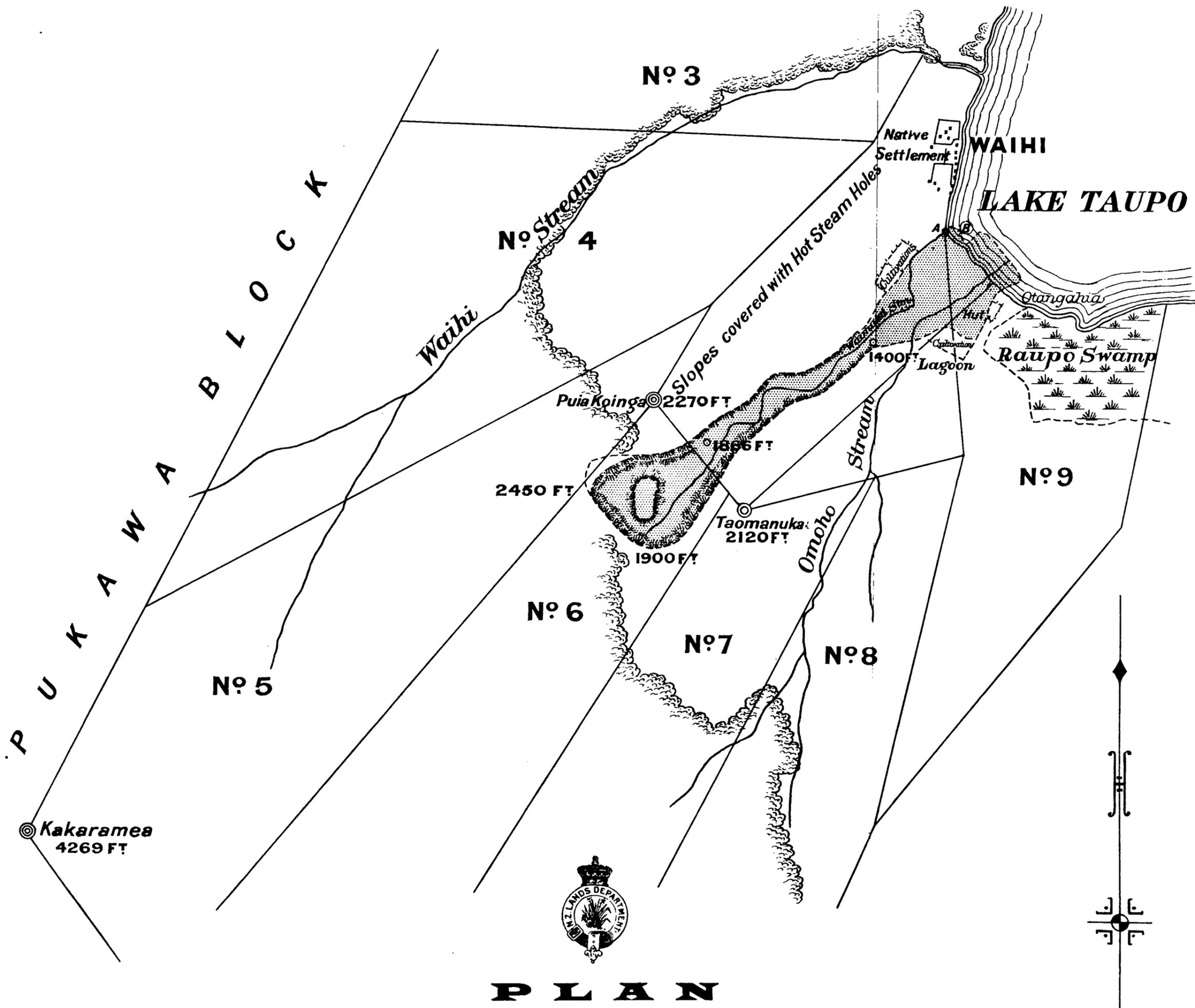


PLAN
 to accompany Mr. Breakell's report
 on proposed drainage of
WHANGAMARINO SWAMP.

Scale : 1 mile to an inch.

E.S.Wood 1910

By Authority : John Mackay, Government Printer.



PLAN

Showing Position of Land-slide of the 27th March, 1910, at Waihi, Lake Taupo.

Scale: 20 chains to an inch.

H. J. LOWE, District Surveyor, April, 1910.

F. W. Brontë, delt,

The obstructions, or the principal obstructions, consist of shifting sand-banks; consequently the channel is ever varying; and, although the river may be 15 or 16 chains wide, the channel is practically only 3 chains, the depth varying from 8 ft. to 15 ft., and in a few instances 30 ft., the rest of the river-bed being at summer level practically a dry sandbank. Between Tuakau and the Heads there is a long low flat about three miles in length, where the river spreads to a width of, I should say, two or three miles, with many small and varying channels. The river here requires restricting so as to create one definite channel.

This could be done by low training or wing walls 15 chains apart, so as to confine the scour, the method of forming these being loose rubble deposited on given lines to the height of, say, 1 ft. above low-water level at spring tides. Beyond this latter-mentioned work I think very little else would be required other than a little dredging from Port Waikato to the point where high-water neap tides reach up the river.

From this latter point up to the mouth of the Whangamarino River dredging would be required, and I apprehend that if a channel of, say, 3 chains wide were dredged, and the work hereinbefore proposed lower down the river were performed, the river would gradually scour itself to its original sole, and, with a little assistance, to its original width.

If the work as above proposed were performed, the Whangamarino and Maramarua Rivers would be enabled to perform their natural functions.

It must be evident that if the work as suggested is undertaken it will save considerable loss and expense to the Railway Department, and considerably enhance the value of lands belonging to private individuals. Therefore, I presume that before the work could be undertaken, even if the Government were willing and financially able to do so, some legislation would be necessary to enable an adjustment of the cost. There is one point to be remembered; there is plenty of waste land along the river-banks below Mercer available for depositing the excavated material from the river-bank, and a suction-dredge could easily deposit the said excavated material where required, and in many cases the land would be materially improved thereby.

If the works as proposed are carried on, there is plenty of suitable stone in the immediate neighbourhood.

In conclusion, I again inform you that I am of opinion that it is impracticable to drain, or otherwise reclaim the Whangamarino and other Government lands adjoining without commencing at the initial point—the clearing of the bed of the Waikato River.

Of course, I might have recommended the expenditure of a considerable amount in taking levels, but this, in my opinion, would be a wilful waste of time and money, and I am satisfied that were I to spend two or three months at the work I could afford you no more information than is herein contained, excepting, of course, detail work. The approximate cost of a dredge and gear suitable for the purpose of performing the work as proposed herein would be from £13,000 to £15,000.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM C. BREAKELL.

Department of Lands, Auckland, 2nd March, 1910.

APPENDIX V. — REPORT ON LANDSLIP AT WAIHI, TOKAANU, BY H. J. LOWE, DISTRICT SURVEYOR.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a sketch plan showing the position of the recent landslip near the Native village of Waihi, on the south-west bay of Lake Taupo, which occurred on Saturday morning, the 27th March, 1910.

On the south-west of the plan is shown the old volcano of Kakaramea, the north-eastern aspect of which presents an almost perpendicular face some 800 ft. high; from the base of this the land gradually slopes to the high terrace from which this landslide came.

A huge mass of volcanic *débris* some 30 chains long, 15 chains wide, and 400 ft. deep, consisting of sands, gravels, and huge volcanic bombs, slipped into the basin 500 ft. below (leaving cliffs from 400 ft. to 500 ft. high), and shooting down the narrow valley of the Waimatai, spread out over the cultivations and grass land, and out into the lake some 120 chains away and 1,000 ft. lower than the starting-point. There is still more to come.

The area of grass and cultivated land covered with *débris* from 10 ft. to 30 ft. deep I estimate at 45 acres, while quite 10 acres of new land has been formed above the waters of the lake. Huge quantities of *débris* were shot out into the deep water for many chains.

The new slide is much larger than the one which overwhelmed the old pa in 1846, and quite covers it up.

I understand that quite 12 acres of cultivations (potatoes, marrows, pumpkins, corn, &c.), have been destroyed, as well as pigs and cattle, and that the Waihi Natives will be short of food this winter in consequence.

A man was overwhelmed at the point A, and his body apparently located at the point B.

As far as I can judge, the Village of Waihi is, and always will be, quite safe, but further slips are liable to occur in this valley.

The upper and western side of the valley is simply perforated with steam-holes, some of which exploded as the slide passed over them.

Table 1.—RETURN showing (approximately) POSITION of LANDS of the DOMINION at 31st March, 1910.

District.	Total Area sold and held on Freehold.	Total Area granted under Acts without Money Payment or reserved for Public Purposes from Foundation of Dominion.	Total Area of Crown Lands under all Tenures leased (exclusive of Reserves leased by Crown).	Total Area open for Selection.	Total Area of Native Land.	Estimated Area of Barron and Worthless Country not already included under any of the other Headings.	Estimated Area occupied by Roads, Rivers, Lakes, &c.	Total Area remaining for future disposal, exclusive of Land shown in Preceding Columns.	Total Area in Land District.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	2,152,311	3,572,293	1,752,782	424,811	4,006,771	..	653,173	1,295,859	13,858,000
Hawke's Bay	2,386,573	433,752	908,599	8,512	1,493,336	..	150,000	128,128	5,508,900
Taranaki	452,156	705,632	551,685	967	342,643	..	58,539	310,777	2,417,299
Wellington	3,016,478	894,832	905,130	15,042	1,533,836	36,500	143,752	265,383	6,810,953
Nelson	552,409	306,315	723,496	235,040	41,400	1,544,000	60,000	1,223,340	4,686,000
Marlborough	837,506	208,428	1,311,514	912	..	140,000	100,000	169,640	2,768,000
Westland	120,211	205,893	1,146,967	808,487	..	1,375,500	154,072	83,757	3,894,887
Canterbury	3,703,125	1,361,069	3,824,932	430	..	272,389	442,100	..	9,604,045
Otago	1,979,710	543,220	5,447,634	20,191	..	200,000	263,200	428,845	8,832,800
Southland	1,561,923	3,495,335	1,745,651	30,833	..	233,698	139,897	376,555	7,583,892
Totals	16,762,402	11,726,819	18,318,340	1,545,125	7,417,986	3,802,087	2,159,733	4,282,284	66,014,776

NOTE.—Readjustments have been made in the figures appearing in some of the columns found necessary upon investigation made during the year.

Table 2.—LANDS OPENED for SALE and SELECTION during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Optional System.	Cash by Auction.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Village Allotments.	Pastoral Runs.	Small Grazing-runs.	Renewable Lease.	Improved-farm Special Settlements.	Totals.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	53,426	127	636	37	64,126	..	3,266	12,941	134,559
Hawke's Bay ..	6,414	83	..	47	24,845	..	..	..	31,389
Taranaki ..	22,134	45	.. 96	..	..	..	..	15,088	37,303
Wellington ..	45,791	526	7,517	130	..	3,970	..	12,916	70,850
Nelson ..	7,935	15	..	..	10,000	..	18,737	..	36,687
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	76,166	..	..	..	76,166
Westland ..	..	41	..	.. 1	348,520	..	29,477	..	378,039
Canterbury ..	564	..	387	..	3,824	..	272	..	4,997
Otago ..	3,860	85	..	..	304,574	79,180	1,457	..	389,156
Southland ..	12,359	501	..	..	141,254	..	3,737	..	157,851
Totals ..	152,483	1,423	8,526	215	973,309	83,150	56,946	40,945	1,316,997
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury ..	..	1	162	..	..	..	..	..	163
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland ..	..	..	..	48	..	..	11,970	..	12,018
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,929	..	28,929
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	..	67
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	828	..	828
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,285	..	5,285
Marlborough ..	..	..	154	..	..	..	75	..	229
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	10	..	..	..	29,100	..	29,110
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,731	..	13,731
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,905	..	2,905
Totals ..	..	..	164	48	..	..	92,890	..	93,102
<i>National Endowment—</i>									
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	116,016	..	24,980	..	140,996
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	856	..	856
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,320	4,897	17,217
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	1,760	..	6,142	..	8,852
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	215,765	..	215,765
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	5,577	4,981	..	10,558
Westland ..	..	..	159	..	53,160	..	11,198	..	64,517
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	246,460	210,554	..	..	457,014
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	..	..	159	..	417,396	216,131	276,242	5,847	915,775
Grand totals ..	152,483	1,424	9,011	263	1,390,705	299,281	426,078	46,792	2,326,037

Table 3 (Part II).—SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT LANDS: TRANSACTIONS UP TO THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1910.

For Details of Tenures.	Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.			Area held at 31st March, 1909.			Total Exchanges during the Year.			Total Forfeitures during the Year.			Total Surrenders during the Year.			Total Expires during the Year.			Total Area held on 31st March, 1910: Past and Current Transactions.			Total Area made Freehold to date.			
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.				
ORDINARY CROWN LANDS.																									
Table 5—Cash lands	13,125,611	1	38	
" 6—Deferred payment	16,417	0	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,238	3	24	
" 7—Perpetual lease	86,908	3	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82,378	0	17	
" 8—Occupation with right of purchase	1,056,308	3	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,691,014	2	34	
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	1,528,657	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,483,312	1	5	
" 10—Renewable lease	11,144	2	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,697	3	14	
" 11—Agricultural lease	521	1	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	521	1	29	
" 12—Mining districts land occupation	24,633	0	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,515	3	2	
" 13—Village settlement, cash	164	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	163	1	6	
" 13—Village settlement, deferred payment	1,459	2	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,450	1	10	
" 13—Village settlement, perpetual lease	62	2	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62	3	14	
" 13—Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	22,920	0	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,795	1	12	
" 13—Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	691	2	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	800	1	29	
" 13—Village settlement, renewable lease	13,633	0	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,455	3	24	
" 13—Village - homestead special settlement	115,462	2	36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115,452	1	5	
" 15—Special-settlement associations	73,126	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	104,334	3	19	
" 31—Improved-farm special settlement	458,457	3	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	468,307	3	12	
" 16—Homestead	
" 17—Small grazing-runs	
Totals	4,010,570	0	15	2,865	3	27	68,771	2	7	6,538	3	4	78,534	0	38	4,041,502	0	17	15,451,248	2	26	
CHEVIOT ESTATE.																									
Table 5—Cash lands	
" 9—Lease in perpetuity	24,387	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24,387	2	2	
" 10—Renewable lease	
" 13—Village-homestead special settlements (lease in perpetuity)	2,480	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,480	1	0	
" 13—Village-homestead special settlements (renewable lease)	
" 17—Grazing-farms	45,782	0	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45,782	0	7	
Totals	72,649	3	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72,649	3	9	
Totals	6,842	2	25

Table 3 (Part II).—SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT LANDS: TRANSACTIONS up to the Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

For Details of Tenures.	Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.			Area held at 31st March, 1909.			Total Exchanges during the Year.			Total Forfeitures during the Year.			Total Surrenders during the Year.			Total Expiries during the Year.*			Total Area held on 31st March, 1910, Past and Current Transactions.			Total Area made Freehold to date.			
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	
LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS.																									
Table 5—Cash lands
9—Lease in perpetuity	676,370	2 18	..	9,929	0 1	..	3,085	3 10	..	87	2 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	663,364	1 25	..	..	..
10—Renewable lease	155,972	3 7	..	..	..	..	1,379	0 29	..	5,684	2 29	..	..	..	..	..	..	247,233	0 0	..	..	..
13—Lease in perpetuity (village)	438	1 28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	438	1 28	..	..	..
13—Renewable lease (village)	9 2 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	2 16	..	..	..
15—Special-settlement associations	2,114	1 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,114	1 9	..	..	..
17—Small grazing-runs	211,004	0 33	..	..	..	..	6,696	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	204,308	0 33	..	..	..
Totals	9,929	0 1	1,045,909	3 31	9,929	0 1	11,110	3 39	5,722	0 30	1,117,467	3 31	399	1 32	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,413,016	0 27	..	..	..
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT LANDS.																									
Table 5—Cash lands
10—Renewable lease (ordinary)	118,056	1 1	..	..	..	..	5,270	0 23	..	3,368	3 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	196,783	1 28	..	..	..
13—Renewable lease (village settlement)	574	1 33	..	..	..	..	5	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	921	3 14	..	..	..
13—Renewable lease (village-homestead special settlement)	81	1 7	..	..	..
15—Renewable lease (special-settlement associations)
31—Renewable lease (improved-farm special settlements)	7,745	2 14	..	..	..
17—Small grazing-runs	1,137,505	2 13	..	..	..	..	16,862	0 0	..	493	1 26	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,413,016	0 27	..	..	..
Totals	5,949	2 22	1,256,136	1 7	5,949	2 22	22,137	0 23	3,862	1 6	1,618,548	1 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,618,548	1 10	..	..	..
Grand totals	15,878	2 23	6,385,266	0 22	12,794	3 28	102,019	2 29	16,123	1 0	6,850,168	0 27	78,570	0 35	6,850,168	0 27	..	..	..	..	15,458,490	3 3	..	..	..

* Includes 10 acres added to a renewable lease after exchange.

Table 4.—ANALYSIS of HOLDINGS taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

Tenures.	No. of Selectors.	Average Holdings of Selectors.						No. of Selectors 1,001 Acres. and upwards.
		No. of Selectors under 1 Acre.	No. of Selectors 1 to 50 Acres.	No. of Selectors 51 to 250 Acres.	No. of Selectors 251 to 500 Acres.	No. of Selectors 501 to 1,000 Acres.	No. of Selectors 1,001 Acres. and upwards.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>								
Cash lands	356	193	142	17	1	1	1	2
Occupation with right of purchase	307	1	25	114	91	59	17	17
Lease in perpetuity	4	..	..	2	2	..	..	..
Renewable lease	34	17	..	1	10	6	..	..
Mining districts land occupation leases	60	..	46	14	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, cash	8	4	4	..	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, renewable lease	12	..	12	..	..	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlement	220	..	..	220	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Pastoral runs	68	..	1	..	2	4	..	61
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	26	..	9	12	1	4	..	..
Thermal springs, Rotorua .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	558	57	315	134	24	12	16	16
Totals	1,656	273	554	514	132	86	97	97
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>								
Cash lands	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements Acts—</i>								
Cash lands	16	4	11	1	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease	274	22	100	71	36	34	11	11
Renewable lease (village)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	18	1	14	3	..	..	..	..
Totals	308	27	125	75	36	34	11	11
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>								
Cash lands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease (ordinary)	308	22	52	105	80	37	7	7
Renewable lease (village settlements)	32	2	29	1	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease (improved-farm special settlements)	39	..	..	39	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	43	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	44	..	1	3	..	2	43	43
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	45	..	7	31	6	1	38	38
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	109	..	46	43	10	7	3	3
Totals	615	24	135	222	96	47	91	91
Grand totals	2,582	325	815	812	264	167	199	199

Table 5.—RETURN OF CROWN LANDS sold for CASH during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Area disposed of.										Average Price per Acre.				Consideration received.					
	Town.			Suburban.			Rural.				Total.			Town.	Suburban.	Rural.	Cash.	Scrp.	Total.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.							£ s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																				
Auckland ..	32	17 1 33	1	10 2 0	{ 24 1†	A. R. P. 916 2 19 1 0 0	57	A. R. P. 944 2 12 1 0 0	159 3 11	1 18 1	{ 0 14 1 1 6 7}*	3,992 3 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,992 3 5
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	26	882 3 32	26	882 3 32	..	..	{ 1 3 6 2 16 9}*	3,567 10 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,567 10 10
Taranaki ..	33	20 1 21	3	10 1 2	4	237 3 26	40	268 2 9	76 13 5	7 0 0	{ 0 12 7 45 10 1}*	1,718 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,718 4 4
Wellington ..	92	33 2 26	41	161 1 35	10	4,823 3 0	143	5,018 3 21	106 8 2	4 13 2	{ 1 16 6 12 8 6}*	4,829 4 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,829 4 11
Nelson ..	2	0 2 0	..	..	6	500 1 39	8	500 3 39	408 0 0	..	{ 0 10 0 1 17 6}*	1,115 0 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,115 0 3
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	15	6 2 27	22	32 0 30	17	175 3 34	54	214 3 11	21 19 0	4 5 6	{ 1 1 1 3 17 5}*	980 8 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	980 8 8
Southland ..	3	1 1 0	8	90 2 24	16	695 0 20	27	787 0 4	37 0 0	3 0 0	{ 0 12 10 0 14 6}*	792 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	792 4 4
Totals ..	177	79 3 27	75	305 0 11	104	8,233 3 10	356	8,618 3 8	..	..	..	17,134 13 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,134 13 8
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>																				
Canterbury ..	1	0 1 0	..	..	..	..	1	0 1 0	48 0 0	..	..	12 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 0 0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																				
Auckland ..	2	5 1 0	..	..	4	12 0 0	6	17 1 0	11 8 7	..	8 14 2	164 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	164 10 0
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	1	2 0 0	1	2 0 0	1	2 0 0	..	..	15 6 6	74 13 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	74 13 0
Wellington ..	..	..	1	1 0 3	..	..	1	1 0 3	..	300 18 4	..	306 11 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	306 11 3
Canterbury ..	1	0 1 0	..	..	2	5 2 0	3	5 3 0	6 10 0	..	10 3 8	57 12 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	57 12 6
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	4	223 1 25	4	223 1 25	..	..	5 9 11	1,228 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,228 3 0
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	1	5 0 0	1	5 0 0	..	..	15 0 0	75 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	75 0 0
Totals ..	3	5 2 0	1	1 0 3	12	247 3 25	16	254 1 28	..	..	..	1,906 9 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,906 9 9
Grand totals ..	181	85 2 27	76	306 0 14	116	8,481 2 35	373	8,873 1 36	..	..	..	19,053 3 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,053 3 5

* Where two average prices are given, the first is for lands selected when an option was given to acquire them under other tenures, and the second when no such option was given.
 † Payment received for excess area on survey of areas selected as unsurveyed land.
 ‡ Payment received for an excess area of 24 acres 1 rood 28 perches.
 + Improved farm special settlement land.

Table 6.—RETURN OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Exchanges during the Year.			Capitalised during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910, including Capitalised Holdings.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.
	Number of Selectors	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors	Area.	Yearly Instalments payable. £ s. d.	Area.	Yearly Instalments and Interest payable. £ s. d.		
Auckland	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Hawke's Bay	7 14 0	
Taranaki	127 10 0	
Wellington	
Nelson	
Marlborough	
Westland	
Canterbury	
Otago	
Southland	
Totals..	
				1	1,415 0 0	42 10 0	1	1,415 0 0	42 10 0	14,238 3 24	740 1 10	868 8 4	

District.	Freehold acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1910.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Amount. £ s. d.
Auckland	..	A. R. P.	A.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough
Westland
Canterbury
Otago
Southland
Totals..
	6	2,178 1 9	7,388	979,843 1 24	..	..
					1,156,716 8 7	

Table 7.—RETURN of PERPETUAL-LEASE LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount realised. £ s. d.
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Okato	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	3	483 2 26	11 1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
District.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March 1910.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910 (exclusive of Amount from Perpetual Leases made Freehold).			Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1910.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realised, exclusive of Interest. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount. £ s. d.
Auckland	586	161,456 2 15	75,916 12 3	185	31,985 3 35	947 13 7	6	474 1 2	745 7 8	6	474 1 2	15 3 3
Hawke's Bay	298	133,878 1 4	102,598 9 7	8	2,633 1 3	102 0 0	..	..	84 18 3	..	..	..
Taranaki	402	101,344 2 39	94,101 10 2	11	3,640 3 6	183 9 10	..	..	146 6 8	..	..	..
Wellington	792	309,476 3 29	276,039 3 8	11	3,706 1 3	145 19 10	..	..	215 13 8	..	..	..
Nelson	27	9,181 0 30	3,122 5 6	10	1,631 1 13	32 11 6	..	..	34 10 9	..	..	..
Marlborough	8	1,676 1 2	772 1 10	4	420 1 5	17 12 6	..	..	14 17 5	..	..	..
Westland	6	483 3 20	482 17 2	7	530 1 8	28 0 4	..	..	51 10 2	..	..	..
Canterbury	92	15,649 3 11	28,847 1 9	19	1,388 2 35	110 5 2	..	..	100 2 2	..	..	..
Okato	150	28,773 3 5	22,672 16 2	168	28,075 0 18	1,025 9 4	..	..	990 15 9	..	..	..
Southland	98	28,039 3 13	17,252 4 2	52	8,376 0 11	310 13 4	..	..	292 7 1	..	..	..
Totals	2,409	784,960 1 8	616,800 2 3	475	82,378 0 17	2,903 15 5	15	1,436 2 6	2,676 9 7	15	1,436 2 6	54 10 7

Table 8.—RETURN OF OCCUPATION-WITH-RIGHT-OF-PURCHASE LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount received.
Auckland	143	A. 40,212 3 37	£ 3,465 4 10	97	A. 26,087 2 6	£ 807 0 2	..	A. 7,482 0 36	50	7,482 0 36	£ 5,281 19 8	
Hawke's Bay	20	4,548 0 17	1,145 7 10	4	301 0 0	68 5 0	1	5,133 2 0	13	5,133 2 0	5,590 6 6	
Taranaki	28	20,251 1 2	1,296 0 0	15	12,324 0 39	485 16 10	..	3,269 2 0	7	3,269 2 0	2,856 5 0	
Wellington	36	26,576 1 0	2,931 2 10	..	..	..	..	6,858 3 0	26	6,858 3 0	7,395 1 3
Nelson	16	3,153 3 39	94 15 0	4	1,742 3 18	34 4 2	..	1,821 1 12	9	1,821 1 12	625 9 0	
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,569 2 23	9	3,569 2 23	3,770 16 11
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	1	564 1 32	33 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	18	3,329 3 12	120 10 6	1	435 1 0	8 3 2	1	436 2 24	5	436 2 24	266 18 0	
Southland	45	9,415 0 17	456 12 6	12	2,717 1 21	135 19 2	..	759 3 39	4	759 3 39	331 10 0	
Totals	307	108,151 3 36	9,542 8 6	183	43,608 1 4	1,489 8 6	2	29,344 0 14	124	29,344 0 14	26,108 6 4	

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1910.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910 (exclusive of Amount paid for acquiring Freehold).			Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1910.		
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realised.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Auckland	337	A. 57,132 1 38	£ 32,100 12 7	2,430	741,070 0 31	£ 26,833 17 9	96	£ 17,468 4 2	£ 19,094 13 8	83	A. 20,498 2 11	£ 346 7 5
Hawke's Bay	56	24,649 3 0	22,576 2 3	307	149,372 3 38	12,785 11 9	0	9,770 13 1	10,377 12 1	4	2,887 3 30	132 14 7
Taranaki	49	13,594 0 32	16,845 7 3	463	257,565 2 13	10,993 13 2	1	6,591 0 6	7,286 4 7	8	2,735 2 6	63 12 3
Wellington	231	70,237 1 31	82,688 12 8	664	306,072 1 0	19,886 18 6	6	10,074 3 2	11,847 1 9	52	32,286 0 0	1,843 5 0
Nelson	29	5,487 1 7	1,887 17 2	254	68,087 0 22	1,281 11 2	2	781 4 4	858 17 7	14	2,304 1 0	24 2 0
Marlborough	19	5,800 0 11	5,367 6 9	30	9,025 3 37	354 2 9	7	354 2 9	354 2 9	1	205 0 0	10 17 6
Westland	..	..	..	106	18,590 0 24	601 4 0	0	558 17 7	558 17 7	3	689 0 0	17 10 6
Canterbury	10	1,149 0 29	1,483 4 5	24	4,642 2 15	262 14 8	8	207 2 10	239 4 1	..	..	..
Otago	10	884 3 7	593 8 0	288	52,832 0 37	1,492 11 4	4	1,226 3 11	1,316 7 6	7	1,631 2 10	21 2 8
Southland	29	3,928 0 25	2,893 7 3	376	88,885 2 17	2,332 16 6	6	1,777 2 1	2,004 18 4	3	718 3 27	5 0 10
Totals	770	182,963 1 20	166,435 18 4	4,948	1,691,014 3 34	76,890 17 3	3	48,808 14 5	53,937 19 11	175	63,956 3 4	2,469 12 9

Table 9.—RETURN of LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Exchanges to Renewable Lease during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.		
	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	No. of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realised. £ s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Auckland	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	22	5,687 1 14	125 17 5	..	..	..	14	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..
Hawke's Bay	3	504 1 12	4,925 6 10
Taranaki	2	971 0 0	21 1 6	..	..	..	2	500 2 0	536 9 4
Wellington	1	300 0 0	997 17 6
Nelson	11	8,400 2 37	174 2 2	9	4,547 1 15	86 12 4	14	6,776 2 27	375 0 0
Marlborough	1	70 2 24	1 3 8	1	462 0 0	2,483 13 2
Westland	1	103 0 0	1 10 10	1	160 0 0	3 4 0	..	..	254 2 0
Canterbury
Otago	8	2,741 3 31	42 1 5	2	682 1 0	10 2 0	..	..	..
Southland	6	3,324 3 37	41 14 0	..	..	..	7	2,693 2 15	1,608 8 4
Totals	50	21,238 3 39	406 7 4	13	5,460 0 39	101 2 0	42	19,357 3 3	11,180 17 2
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland	18	2,303 2 10	239 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington	404 3 19	388 4 0	3	80 0 3	73 19 0	1	15 0 18	4 8 2	..	..	..
Nelson
Marlborough	2	16 0 0	12 10 6	1	5 3 6	2 0 10	..	..	..
Westland
Canterbury	9,003 2 0	4,774 5 10	3	3 0 0	4 2 6 6	3	2 2 0	12 0 2	..	..	..
Otago	520 2 22	208 16 4	2	420 0 37	71 12 0	1	14 0 17	16 4 6	..	..	..
Southland	1	213 0 0	45 5 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	9,929 0 1	5,371 6 2	29	3,035 3 10	447 2 10	6	37 2 1	34 13 8	..	..	..
Grand totals	9,929 0 1	5,371 6 2	79	24,264 3 9	853 10 2	19	5,497 3 0	135 15 8	42	19,357 3 3	11,180 17 2

Taken up during the Year.*

District.	No. of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>			
Marlborough ..	2	A. R. P. 523 3 20	£ s. d. 11 1 2
Southland ..	2	487 1 28	7 19 0
Totals ..	4	1,011 1 8	19 0 2

* These were uncompleted transactions finally dealt with during the year.

Table 9.—RETURN OF LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910—*continued.*

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1910.				Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.				Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.				Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1910.			
	Number of Purchasers	Area.	Total amount realised.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.		On Past Transactions.		Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.		
							£	s. d.	£	s. d.					£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																
Auckland ..	21	10,683	8,472 17 10	1,172	288,569	8,048 17 8	7,854 14 11	7,854 14 11	43	10,909	1 30	194 8 1				
Hawke's Bay ..	4	1,603	1,498 11 10	206	102,520	3,792 19 3	3,496 18 3	3,496 18 3	7	1,612	0 36	111 14 9				
Taranaki ..	2	500	997 17 6	473	177,289	7,167 15 0	6,124 19 5	6,124 19 5	19	7,007	1 5	119 8 4				
Wellington ..	2	2,280	1,860 0 0	527	145,786	6,952 17 4	6,088 14 4	6,088 14 4	10	3,695	0 0	112 0 0				
Nelson ..	32	15,421	6,835 2 11	520	189,163	3,319 12 4	1,413 2 1	1,413 2 1	14	2,901	2 23	47 13 4				
Marlborough ..	3	1,665	766 19 0	331	144,824	3,414 0 0	2,979 8 4	3,034 8 4	7	1,701	3 13	34 9 11				
Westland ..	6	1,211	690 6 2	472	65,702	1,564 1 8	1,106 18 6	1,106 18 6	14	790	3 4	31 9 3				
Canterbury ..	1	39	123 10 0	245	75,565	4,287 4 6	3,837 2 3	3,837 2 3	2	194	0 0	6 4 0				
Otago ..	3	2,145	740 14 6	800	198,465	5,842 9 4	5,849 14 8	5,849 14 8	8	1,083	3 19	9 6 4				
Southland ..	9	3,868	3,076 12 8	336	95,423	2,223 4 8	2,095 2 9	2,120 2 9	5	993	0 23	10 4 4				
Totals ..	83	39,418	25,062 12 5	5,082	1,483,312	46,613 1 9	40,346 15 6	40,426 15 6	129	30,839	0 33	676 18 4				
<i>Lands for Settlements—</i>																
Auckland ..	..	..	..	617	115,564	18,264 6 2	17,688 8 5	17,688 8 5	29	9,403	0 11	911 16 2		
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	426	119,734	39,537 16 4	35,384 8 6	35,384 8 6	17	3,950	2 35	693 2 6		
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	34	4,017	3,241 2 8	3,285 17 10	3,285 17 10	4	191	1 5	64 16 10		
Wellington ..	..	..	..	303	38,669	3,222 4 6	13,516 7 1	13,516 7 1	17	1,196	0 0	450 10 0		
Nelson ..	..	..	..	13	4,097	805 4 10	485 7 3	485 7 3	7	2,199	0 22	543 7 8		
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	300	54,390	12,264 1 4	10,853 12 2	10,853 12 2	25	1,646	0 9	345 10 3		
Westland ..	..	..	..	27	4,990	538 11 8	549 15 6	549 15 6	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	1,110	164,987	59,912 13 4	55,531 1 6	55,531 1 6	31	2,796	2 3	1,185 17 6		
Otago ..	..	..	..	535	108,699	34,303 3 10	32,159 14 7	32,159 14 7	22	4,667	2 12	663 0 0		
Southland ..	..	..	..	235	48,214	10,659 13 0	10,192 0 0	10,192 0 0	14	3,028	1 14	205 13 5		
Totals ..	..	..	..	3,600	663,364	194,096 16 8	179,676 12 10	179,676 12 10	166	29,078	2 31	5,063 14 4		
Cheviot Estate (Canterbury)	..	..	..	118	24,387	6,424 7 6	5,769 10 1	5,769 10 1	1	292	0 0	29 4 0		
Grand totals	83	39,418	25,062 12 5	8,800	2,171,064	247,134 5 11	225,792 18 5	225,872 18 5	236	60,209	3 24	5,769 16 8				
Ellesmere Endowment ..	..	..	..	68	13,937	1,399 13 2	1,270 8 7	1,270 8 7	..	..	..	..

Table 10.—RETURN of RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>National Endowment—</i>												
Auckland ..	62*	A. 20,164 2 2	£ s. d. 812 19 6	8	A. 1,529 3 16	£ s. d. 27 2 4	12	A. 4,706 1 38	£ s. d. 149 11 0	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..
Hawke's Bay ..	21	4,781 3 31	1,253 8 0	..	..	..	1	19 3 25	10 8 0	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	14	6,595 1 27	509 9 7	..	..	..	1	461 0 0	30 0 0	..	..	..
Wellington ..	8	5,239 3 32	431 18 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	88	28,105 0 27	604 0 0	9	1,621 1 25	36 5 3	..	..	..	3	1,604 0 0	37 15 0
Marlborough ..	8	4,709 0 0	96 15 10	10	708 0 0	16 11 0	..	..	..	2	820 3 20	16 19 10
Westland ..	59	6,338 1 30	202 4 10	4	726 3 20	13 6 2	1	82 3 0	1 14 0	4	944 0 0	19 2 0
Canterbury ..	2	271 2 1	95 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	16	1,635 0 10	46 17 0	14	1,282 0 34	43 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland ..	25	3,216 0 1	117 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	303	81,032 0 1	4,170 12 11	45	5,868 1 15	143 3 9	15	5,270 0 23	191 13 0	9	3,368 3 20	73 16 10
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland ..	113	18,457 0 3	1,414 16 0	..	..	..	6	1,159 1 4	198 13 6	..	342 0 0	207 7 8
Hawke's Bay ..	67	30,130 0 6	6,916 13 10	..	..	..	3	120 2 38	74 15 0	4	..	..
Taranaki ..	6	5,900 3 16	204 1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	19	890 3 4	662 13 4	4	404 3 19	330 5 8	..	..	..	4	202 2 17	166 19 0
Nelson ..	4	3,794 0 0	247 5 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1,763 0 0	88 13 0
Marlborough ..	8	49 1 20	39 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	42	29,062 1 0	3,148 19 6	22	9,003 2 0	3,457 18 0	1	0 2 0	2 5 0	..	..	..
Otago ..	3	3,489 3 16	372 3 0	5	520 2 22	139 8 8	1	98 2 27	35 11 0	1	3,377 0 12	50 4 0
Southland ..	12	2,256 2 4	590 12 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	274	88,430 2 29	13,597 4 0	31	9,929 0 1	3,917 12 4	11	1,379 0 29	311 4 6	11	5,684 2 29	965 3 8
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Taranaki ..	14	6,757 2 0	376 14 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	20	1,796 0 28	204 15 0	..	..	..	1	0 1 0	3 10 0	1	0 1 0	2 15 0
Totals ..	34	8,553 2 28	581 9 9	..	..	..	1	0 1 0	3 10 0	1	0 1 0	2 15 0
Grand totals ..	611	178,036 1 18	18,849 6 8	76	15,797 1 16	4,060 16 1	27	6,649 2 12	506 7 6	21	9,053 3 9	1,041 15 6

* Includes eleven selectors of an area of 4,564 acres 1 rood 36 perches of unurveyed land, the annual rental of which is approximately £111 3s. 6d.

Table 10.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.			Number of Selectors	Annual Rental.	Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.			Number of Selectors	Area.	Amount.
	Numbers of Selectors.	Area.	£ s. d.	On the Year's Transactions.	£ s. d.	On Past Transactions.			Total.	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1910.				
<i>National Endowment—</i>														
Auckland ..	128	41,511 3 0	1,475 11 2	350 18 0	718 14 9	1,069 12 9	1	33 1 25	0 10 0					
Hawke's Bay ..	37	11,619 1 38	2,979 16 0	534 0 9	871 10 11	1,405 11 8	2	348 3 0	41 12 5					
Taranaki ..	20	11,022 1 27	847 19 0	384 3 1	318 6 1	702 9 2	4	2,732 0 0	47 14 6					
Wellington ..	13	5,815 1 0	485 14 0	310 15 9	34 8 6	345 4 3	..	..	..		
Nelson ..	226	84,621 3 14	1,760 3 5	531 1 7	180 16 8	711 18 3	13	4,443 0 0	103 12 3					
Marlborough ..	26	8,861 0 0	241 11 8	112 2 7	..	112 2 7	2	..	..			
Westland ..	176	15,989 2 20	537 17 0	301 9 6	197 3 11	498 13 5	10	1,392 2 18	25 0 0					
Canterbury ..	14	6,298 1 37	444 2 8	103 11 1	306 7 3	409 18 4	..	..	..		
Otago ..	46	6,012 1 24	166 12 2	74 3 2	54 6 3	128 9 5	..	..	..		
Southland ..	34	5,030 0 28	183 3 4	80 15 6	75 0 2	155 15 8	1	250 0 0	5 0 0					
Totals ..	720	196,783 1 28	9,122 10 5	2,783 1 0	2,756 14 6	5,539 15 6	33	9,287 3 3	224 9 9					
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>														
Auckland ..	162	33,327 2 32	2,064 7 8	707 8 0	902 8 3	1,609 16 3	3	707 1 16	55 7 4					
Hawke's Bay ..	172	51,389 0 34	15,834 17 4	7,614 17 10	8,486 12 8	16,101 10 6	19	3,082 1 19	875 10 6					
Taranaki ..	7	311 2 26	224 6 6	162 13 3	17 8 5	180 1 8	..	..	..		
Wellington ..	48	5,874 2 19	2,767 6 8	582 13 4	810 15 5	1,393 8 9	2	122 0 0	62 0 0					
Nelson ..	15	12,070 0 0	961 1 0	124 14 9	897 11 2	1,022 5 11	..	..	..		
Marlborough ..	11	144 2 27	71 5 8	31 12 10	30 2 8	61 15 6	..	..	..		
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	114	64,801 0 10	13,231 19 4	2,364 19 4	6,250 5 4	8,615 4 8	25	10,558 1 0	3,923 10 1					
Otago ..	111	76,671 3 28	13,444 2 0	268 6 6	8,575 8 3	8,843 14 9	..	..	..		
Southland ..	15	2,642 0 24	621 13 4	354 5 5	34 5 2	388 10 7	..	..	..		
Totals ..	655	247,233 0 0	49,220 19 6	12,211 11 3	26,004 17 4	38,216 8 7	49	14,469 3 35	4,922 7 11					
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>														
Taranaki ..	28	16,961 2 0	889 1 4	351 15 2	367 5 10	719 1 0	..	..	..		
Wellington ..	99	2,736 1 14	463 2 4	136 1 0	104 7 2	240 8 2	4	2 0 0	5 17 0					
Totals ..	127	19,697 3 14	1,352 3 8	487 16 2	471 13 0	959 9 2	4	2 0 0	5 17 0					
Grand totals ..	1,502	468,714 1 2	59,695 13 7	15,482 8 5	29,283 4 10	44,715 13 3	86	23,759 2 38	5,152 14 8					

Table 11.—RETURN of AGRICULTURAL-LEASE LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Expiries during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amounts received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.			Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1910.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Trans- actions.	Past Trans- actions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realised.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	3	35 3 37	1 11 9	16	521 1 29	22 13 3	0 12 9	13 14 2	14 6 11	1,326	131,580	12 6 2	217 0 38	8 8 6	..
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	3	35 3 37	1 11 9	16	521 1 29	22 13 3	0 12 9	13 14 2	14 6 11	1,475	140,895	3 23 139,229	15 5 2	217 0 38	8 8 6

In the Otago Land District three leases over an area of 35 acres 3 roods 37 perches, annual rental £1 11s. 9d., were renewed during the year.

Table 12.—RETURN of MINING DISTRICTS LAND OCCUPATION LEASES under Part VIII of the Land Act, 1908, at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures and Surrenders during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amount received during the Year.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Trans- actions.	On Past Trans- actions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Auckland ..	17	1,005 0 0	51 18 2	9	284 2 7	85 3 0	3	249 0 21	10 18 0	177 9,046	3 18 1	707 0 2	25 19 1	639 2 2	725 1 3	13	649 1 38	28 12 11
Nelson ..	1	15 0 0	1 0 0	1	100 0 0	3 15 0	7	476 1 25	17 5 3	37 1,927	3 35 0	71 9 6	6 10 0	72 7 7	78 17 7	1	40 0 0	0 15 0
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	708 0 0	20 11 2	14 1,105	0 0 0	36 4 10	..	47 16 10	47 16 10	..	..	..
Westland ..	19	191 1 14	34 5 0	..	..	..	1	29 3 20	0 15 0	49 547	0 35 0	56 19 0	86 9 4	12 17 9	99 7 1	..	..	..
Otago ..	21	846 0 32	46 15 0	5	327 3 28	11 4 10	14	1,272 0 34	49 14 0	273 9,881	1 21 0	421 11 6	6 3 3	466 19 11	473 3 2	4	80 1 22	2 3 9
Southland ..	2	10 0 21	2 6 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	41 1,057	1 13 0	98 13 0	1 3 0	94 4 3	95 7 3	..	..	..
Totals ..	60	2,067 2 27	136 4 2	15	712 1 35	50 2 10	37	2,795 2 20	99 3 5	591 23,515	3 2 1,391	18 0 126	4 81,393	8 61,519	18 2 18	769 3 15	31 11 8	

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS at the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Tenure.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Made Freehold during Year.			Made Freehold from Commencement.					
		Selectors.		Annual Rental.	Selectors.		Area.	Annual Rental.	Purchasers.		Area.	Amount realised.	Purchasers.			
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	Area.	£ s. d.	Area.	£ s. d.			
Ordinary Crown Lands Auckland	Cash	6 2 19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	0 2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	Cash	4 3 23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	115 3 16	45	6	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	0 1 0	0	12	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements— Hawke's Bay	Cash	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
National Endowment Lands— Auckland	Renewable lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
			
Totals	Totals	128 0 18	45	19	4	7	130 1 7	13	15	0	18	130 3 18	944 0 1	3,261	23,146 1 37	91,856 4 3
	Cash	3	1 1 32	31 5 0

Grand totals	Totals	352 1 21	104	19	4	82	130 1 7	13	15	0	18	130 3 18	944 0 1	3,264	22,147 3 29	91,887 9 3

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS for the Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Tenure.	Rent and other payments received during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.		Arrears on 31st March, 1910.																						
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Area.	Selectors	Area.	Selectors	Area.	Selectors	Area.	Selectors																					
Ordinary Crown Auckland	Cash ..	263	18	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	185	6	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity ..	157	0	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Hawke's Bay	Village-homestead special settlement ..	234	4	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Cash ..	40	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	6	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Taranaki	Lease in perpetuity ..	2,001	9	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	53	8	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	1	18	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Wellington	Lease in perpetuity ..	9	19	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Cash ..	27	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	388	4	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Marlborough	Lease in perpetuity ..	1,991	14	4	1	1	0	0	4	10	..																					
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	79	15	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Renewable lease ..	329	10	5	2	7	0	0	5	17	8																					
Westland	Perpetual lease ..	1	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity ..	20	16	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	10	0	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Canterbury	Lease in perpetuity ..	10	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Perpetual lease made freehold ..	80	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Deferred payment ..	39	8	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Otago	Perpetual lease ..	53	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	7	16	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity ..	872	4	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Southland	Village-homestead special settlement ..	187	10	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	2	18	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Perpetual lease ..	27	17	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Totals	Occupation with right of purchase ..	0	13	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity ..	136	6	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	143	16	6	1	39	1	11	2	19	0																					
Totals	Perpetual lease made freehold ..	32	10	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	50	2	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Perpetual lease ..	118	13	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Totals	Occupation with right of purchase ..	0	17	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Lease in perpetuity ..	432	4	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	115	11	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..														
Totals		8,117	12	2	4	47	1	11	9	1	6	2	11	2	17	2	11	10	1,946	38,728	0	15	6,362	6	7	72	1,397	3	23	174	6	8

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS for the Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Tenure.	Rent and other payments received during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Arrears on 31st March, 1910.	
		£	s.	d.	Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Total Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i> Canterbury ..	Lease in perpetuity ..	782	7	5	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	870 10 4	6	A. R. P. 150 1 35	£ s. d. 98 13 8
<i>Land for Settlements—</i> Hawke's Bay ..	Lease in perpetuity ..	29	15	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 0 0	2	6 0 21	3 6 0
" ..	Renewable lease ..	0	10	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 2 6	..	..	..
Otago ..	Lease in perpetuity ..	149	7	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	309 12 8	..	..	..
" ..	Renewable lease ..	8	8	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7 13 0	..	..	..
Totals		183	1	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	342 8 2	2	6 0 21	3 6 0
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i> Auckland ..	Renewable lease ..	53	1	1	1	5 0 0	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	83 8 0	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	" ..	17	19	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22 8 0	..	..	..
Wellington ..	" ..	17	19	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41 11 4	..	..	..
" ..	" (village homestead special settlement)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 17 2	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	" ..	44	14	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47 16 0	..	..	..
Westland ..	" ..	2	0	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 0 0	..	..	..
Otago ..	" ..	2	5	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 6 0	..	..	..
Southland ..	" ..	18	16	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30 10 6	..	..	..
Totals		156	16	11	1	5 0 0	3 0 0	..	..	..	..	244 17 0	..	..	..
Grand totals		9,239	18	5	5	52 1 11	12 1 6	2	11 2 17	2 11 10	2,193	7,820 2 1	80	1,554 1 39	216 6 4

Table 14.—SUMMARY OF POSITION OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS at 31st March, 1910.

District.	Number of Settlers in Occupation.		Area occupied.		Area laid down in Pasture or cultivated.		Annual Rental or Instalments, including Interest on Advances.		Amounts advanced to Settlers up to 31st March, 1910.			Amount of Advances which have been repaid to 31st March, 1910.		Total Amount of Interest paid to 31st March, 1910.		Value of Improvements now on the Land.		Arrears of Interest on 31st March, 1910.			
	Resident.	Non-resident.	A.	B. P.	A.	B. P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																					
Auckland	67	18	3,822	1 20	2,354	0 0	248	18	0	1,253	17	6	2,211	17	6	3,145	12	11	19,851	0	0
Hawke's Bay	71	37	4,091	2 25	2,420	3 15	1,729	2 10	0	296	15	9	876	15	9	698	4	6	18,598	0	0
Taranaki	16*	1	76	1 8	76	1 8	12	9	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	892	0	0	..
Wellington	623†	163	12,248	3 29	11,395	0 0	2,309	18 7	0	3,670	19 11	5	6,695	17 5	9	227	18 2	2	126,762	0	0
Marlborough	11	7	221	1 14	172	0 0	34	7	0	18	15	0	108	15	0	95	18 4	4	1,905	0	0
Westland	11	1	198	2 17	198	2 17	14	9	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,465	16	0	..
Canterbury	240	63	8,809	2 7	7,911	2 0	1,023	12 4	0	440	0	0	2,460	0	0	2,101	0	1	30,199	8	2
Otago	95	99	3,042	1 31	2,024	0 0	301	1 4	0	1,101	5 0	0	1,541	5 0	6	1,219	16 11	11	15,096	0	0
Southland	380	42	6,216	3 24	3,815	0 0	716	18 2	0	350	2 2	2	1,106	2 2	6	1,011	0 11	11	32,100	0	0
Totals	1,514	431	38,728	0 15	30,368	1 0	6,390	6 9	0	6,030	10 4	4	14,995	12 10	10	8,494	11 10	10	247,869	4 2	7
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>																					
Canterbury	50	42	2,480	1 0	2,393	3 26	870	10 4	0	..	..	..	120	0 0	0	26	0 0	0	15,126	12 0	0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																					
Hawke's Bay	3	14	35	0 0	31	0 0	25	2 6	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	482	10 0	0
Otago	21	10	413	0 4	288	3 0	317	5 8	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,741	10 0	0
Totals	24	24	448	0 4	319	3 0	342	8 2	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,224	0 0	0
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>																					
Auckland	24	7	147	3 1	41	0 0	83	8 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,050	0 0	0
Hawke's Bay	..	3	24	1 17	..	..	22	8 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	13†	..	232	2 39	..	..	51	8 6	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	9	20	243	3 12	225	0 0	47	16 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,488	0 0	0
Westland	4	1	1	0 31	1	0 31	6	0 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	575	0 0	0
Otago	2	4	65	3 1	10	0 0	3	6 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106	10 0	0
Southland	15	5	297	2 0	75	0 0	30	10 6	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	570	0 0	0
Totals	67	40	1,003	0 21	352	0 31	244	17 0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,789	10 0	0
Grand totals	1,655	537	42,659	2 0	33,434	0 17	7,848	2 3	9,085	2 6	6,030	10 4	15,115	12 10	10	8,520	11 10	10	271,009	6 2	7

* One selector holds two leases. † Includes 73 holdings not reported on. ‡ Not reported on.

Table 16.—RETURN OF HOMESTEAD LANDS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Surrenders during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.		Made Freehold during the Year.		Made Freehold since Commencement of System to 31st March, 1910.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.
Auckland	A. R. P.	..	A. R. P.	..	A. R. P.	..	A. R. P.	464	A. R. P.
Westland	39	76,096 3 10
Otago	22	1,480 0 0
Totals	525	2,876 0 1
	80,452 3 11

Table 17.—RETURN of SMALL GRAZING-RUNS at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>			£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	2	2,867 0 0	152 10 0	7,901 2 39	173 19 4	11 7,894	1 25	608	5 0	12,755	0 0	75	0 0	384	0 0	4 3 4	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	2	2,867 0 0	152 10 0	78,534 0 38	1,125 1	734,855,845	0 36	4,531 7 8	12,755	0 0	75	0 0	1	384	0 0	4 3 4	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																			
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National Endowment—</i>																			
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	1	1,460 0 0	64 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	493	1 26	6 3 4	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	41	288,590 0 0	5,183 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	43	295,627 0 0	5,467 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	493	1 26	6 3 4	..	..	..
Grand totals	45	298,494 0 0	5,619 10 0	78,534 0 38	1,125 1	734,855,845	0 36	4,531 7 8	12,755	0 0	75	0 0	1	827	1 26	10 6 8	..	..	..

Table 17.—RETURN OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS at Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.				Amount received during the Year.				Arrears on 31st March, 1910.			
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number.	Area.	Amount.			
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Auckland ..	5	A. 26,380 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ 620 0 0 s. 0 0 d. 0 0	£ 250 0 0 s. 0 0 d. 0 0	£ 412 9 2 s. 9 2 d. 2	£ 662 9 2 s. 9 2 d. 2	3	A. 5,702 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ 27 6 9 s. 6 9 d. 9			
Hawke's Bay ..	49	119,937 0 24	5,029 4 9	5,195 14 1	5,195 14 1	5,195 14 1	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	8	7,605 1 6	104 12 6	137 1 11	137 1 11	137 1 11	..	..	..
Wellington ..	80	72,506 1 18	3,988 13 8	3,423 8 10	3,501 15 10	3,501 15 10	2	756 0 0	18 18 0			
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	9	5,223 3 31	65 16 2	54 10 4	54 10 4	54 10 4	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	19	39,771 3 21	2,778 19 4	2,540 4 1	2,540 4 1	2,540 4 1	..	..	..
Otago ..	85	196,883 0 32	5,419 9 4	4,793 12 11	5,080 6 11	5,080 6 11	1	792 1 13	19 16 0			
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	255	468,307 3 12	17,956 15 9	615 1 0	16,557 1 4	17,172 2 4	6	7,250 1 13	66 0 9			
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>												
Canterbury ..	49	45,782 0 7	6,840 5 2	6,208 5 0	6,208 5 0	6,208 5 0	7	9,040 3 0	707 16 10			
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland ..	6	25,947 0 0	346 19 2	214 16 11	214 16 11	214 16 11	2	8,077 0 0	91 14 6			
Hawke's Bay ..	16	19,681 0 0	4,440 18 6	4,051 5 10	4,051 5 10	4,051 5 10	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	7	9,127 0 0	1,795 5 4	1,701 15 6	1,701 15 6	1,701 15 6	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	31*	54,850 1 16	7,515 16 4	6,700 9 6	6,700 9 6	6,700 9 6	2	4,426 0 0	252 14 4			
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	44	81,161 0 26	10,882 6 6	9,772 1 8	9,772 1 8	9,772 1 8	1	1,683 0 0	186 14 11			
Otago ..	9	10,733 1 31	1,556 11 2	1,487 6 9	1,487 6 9	1,487 6 9	..	..	..
Southland ..	2	2,808 1 0	201 7 4	272 16 0	272 16 0	272 16 0	..	..	..
Totals	115	204,308 0 33	26,739 4 4	24,200 12 2	24,200 12 2	24,200 12 2	5	14,186 0 0	481 3 9			
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>												
Auckland ..	12	50,766 2 25	358 9 8	321 9 8	321 9 8	321 9 8	3	9,562 3 34	42 7 2			
Hawke's Bay ..	47	156,247 3 8	2,600 13 8	2,431 10 8	2,431 10 8	2,431 10 8	1	4,130 0 0	53 0 0			
Taranaki ..	4	4,906 0 0	76 8 8	84 9 10	84 9 10	84 9 10	..	..	..
Wellington ..	9	8,610 3 0	275 6 2	106 8 9	139 9 9	139 9 9	..	..	..
Nelson ..	9	16,757 3 18	109 1 10	99 8 9	99 8 9	99 8 9	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	73	200,260 1 22	2,877 1 9	2,821 6 11	2,821 6 11	2,821 6 11	6	11,825 0 0	123 13 0			
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	36	98,962 0 38	3,281 11 8	2,792 5 4	2,792 5 4	2,792 5 4	1	2,840 0 0	44 7 6			
Otago ..	251	817,033 3 23	15,387 10 6	10,510 0 2	13,101 10 2	13,101 10 2	16	20,670 1 10	216 12 9			
Southland ..	19	64,470 2 13	736 10 2	747 11 3	747 11 3	747 11 3	3	11,071 0 1	45 3 0			
Totals	460	1,413,016 0 27	25,702 14 1	2,734 11 0	19,964 11 4	22,699 2 4	30	60,099 1 5	525 3 5			
Grand totals	879	2,131,414 0 39	77,238 19 4	3,349 12 0	66,930 9 10	70,280 1 10	48	90,576 1 18	1,780 4 9			

* Four of these hold ordinary small grazing-runs in conjunction therewith, and are therefore not separate holders.

Table 18.—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES at Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	£ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	
<i>Pastoral Runs.</i>																
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																
Auckland..	1	12,110 0 0	25 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	4	22,296 2 0	977 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	1	282 0 0	3 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	15	270,625 0 0	190 5 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	11	201,714 0 0	1,737 12 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago..	30	508,485 0 11	2,506 4 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	6	42,090 0 0	217 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	68	1,057,602 2 11	5,057 12 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>																
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson..	1	1,760 0 0	136 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	1	10,000 0 0	34 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	9	67,080 0 0	80 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago..	5	13,467 0 0	1,005 15 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	23	44,071 2 34	4,234 13 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	5	68,440 0 0	48 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	44	604,818 2 34	5,539 8 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	112	1,662,421 1 5	10,597 1 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.

<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																	
Auckland	4	1,865 0 0	33 1 6	1	309 0 0	151 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson..	8	1,678 3 14	32 0 8	2	1,145 0 0	500 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	14	1,540 0 17	35 3 0	1	237 0 0	99 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	26	5,083 3 31	100 5 2	4	1,691 0 0	750 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>																	
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson..	17	2,987 3 29	75 10 6	3	922 2 35	1,987 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	28	3,874 0 1	79 11 0	2	460 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	45	6,861 3 30	155 1 6	5	1,382 2 35	1,987 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	71	11,945 3 21	255 6 8	9	3,073 2 35	2,737 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Excludes 4,500 acres resumed. † Excludes 750 acres resumed.

Table 18.—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES at Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.				Annual Rental.	Rent paid during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.		Amount.
	Number of Holders.	Area, approximately.	Average Holdings.	Area, approximately.			Number.	Area.	
<i>Pastoral Runs.</i>									
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland	22	A. 190,582 2 5 R. P. 98,377 0 0	A. 8,668 0 0 R. P. 6,568 0 0	£ s. d. 377 7 10 1,000 10 6	£ s. d. 150 13 2 820 10 5	3	A. 101,751 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 74 16 3	
Hawke's Bay	15								
Taranaki	3	A. 99,641 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 33,213 2 26 R. P. 2 26	£ s. d. 1,792 14 4	£ s. d. 1,862 9 0				
Wellington	2	A. 165,829 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 82,914 2 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 330 0 0	£ s. d. 330 0 0				
Nelson	31	A. 510,344 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 16,463 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 2,632 14 8	£ s. d. 2,563 14 8				
Marlborough	69	A. 640,330 3 20 R. P. 0 0	A. 9,280 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 544 15 2	£ s. d. 477 4 8	3	A. 6,574 2 9 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 10 17 6	
Westland	78	A. 2,124,557 1 36 R. P. 1 36	A. 27,237 3 26 R. P. 3 26	£ s. d. 18,459 14 2	£ s. d. 12,497 18 0				
Canterbury	174	A. 2,398,848 3 2 R. P. 3 2	A. 13,786 1 37 R. P. 1 37	£ s. d. 12,463 14 0	£ s. d. 12,117 8 0	1	A. 17,500 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 2 15 0	
Otago	69	A. 716,258 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 10,880 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 2,505 8 8	£ s. d. 2,479 13 2				
Southland									
Totals	463	A. 6,944,768 2 28 R. P. 2 28	A. 14,999 2 0 R. P. 2 0	£ s. d. 35,105 19 4	£ s. d. 33,299 11 1	7	A. 125,825 2 9 R. P. 2 9	£ s. d. 88 8 9	
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury	1	A. 1,642 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 1,642 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 193 3 8	£ s. d. 193 3 8				
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Otago	2	A. 953 2 38 R. P. 2 38	A. 476 3 19 R. P. 3 19	£ s. d. 121 13 0	£ s. d. 121 13 0				
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland	9	A. 92,935 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 10,326 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 155 3 6	£ s. d. 175 5 4	1	A. 10,144 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 11 3 4	
Wellington	17	A. 31,540 0 16 R. P. 0 16	A. 1,855 1 7 R. P. 1 7	£ s. d. 836 0 0	£ s. d. 686 3 9				
Nelson	1	A. 10,000 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 10,000 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 34 0 0	£ s. d. 17 0 0				
Marlborough	15	A. 311,140 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 20,748 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 1,379 13 4	£ s. d. 1,455 17 4				
Westland	49	A. 212,152 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 4,329 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 261 15 10	£ s. d. 238 19 9	4	A. 9,616 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 21 10 0	
Canterbury	49	A. 1,264,977 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 25,815 3 18 R. P. 3 18	£ s. d. 19,493 16 4	£ s. d. 18,144 5 10				
Otago	59	A. 1,417,086 2 21 R. P. 2 21	A. 24,018 2 13 R. P. 2 13	£ s. d. 11,126 5 8	£ s. d. 11,300 18 4				
Southland	28	A. 670,000 0 0 R. P. 0 0	A. 23,928 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 1,778 17 0	£ s. d. 1,735 17 0				
Totals	227	A. 4,009,840 2 37 R. P. 2 37	A. 17,664 1 39 R. P. 1 39	£ s. d. 35,065 11 8	£ s. d. 33,739 7 4	5	A. 19,760 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 32 13 4	
Grand totals	698	A. 10,957,205 0 18 R. P. 0 18	A. R. P.	£ s. d. 70,486 7 8	£ s. d. 67,353 15 1	13	A. 145,585 2 9 R. P. 2 9	£ s. d. 121 2 1	
<i>Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.</i>									
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland	69	A. 16,034 3 14 R. P. 3 14	A. 232 1 0 R. P. 1 0	£ s. d. 320 3 8	£ s. d. 190 5 5	7	A. 2,335 2 0 R. P. 2 0	£ s. d. 43 9 0	
Nelson	85	A. 14,598 0 16 R. P. 0 16	A. 172 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 292 18 6	£ s. d. 314 5 7	11	A. 1,632 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 54 10 0	
Westland	61	A. 8,510 0 99 R. P. 0 99	A. 139 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 196 1 6	£ s. d. 156 7 8				
Totals	215	A. 39,143 0 29 R. P. 0 29	A. 132 0 9 R. P. 0 9	£ s. d. 809 3 8	£ s. d. 660 18 8	18	A. 3,967 2 0 R. P. 2 0	£ s. d. 97 19 0	
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland	37	A. 6,951 0 23 R. P. 0 23	A. 188 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 140 10 8	£ s. d. 153 10 8	2	A. 450 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 7 3 2	
Nelson	30	A. 6,317 0 33 R. P. 0 33	A. 210 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 152 11 6	£ s. d. 102 15 1				
Westland	85	A. 11,968 0 1 R. P. 0 1	A. 141 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 243 0 6	£ s. d. 257 17 10				
Totals	152	A. 25,256 1 17 R. P. 1 17	A. 166 0 25 R. P. 0 25	£ s. d. 536 2 8	£ s. d. 514 3 7	2	A. 450 0 0 R. P. 0 0	£ s. d. 7 3 2	
Grand totals	367	A. 64,399 2 6 R. P. 2 6	A. R. P.	£ s. d. 1,345 6 4	£ s. d. 1,175 2 3	20	A. 4,417 2 0 R. P. 2 0	£ s. d. 105 2 2	

Table 19.—RETURN of MISCELLANEOUS LEASES and LICENSES, not otherwise enumerated, at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Objects for which leased.										Total Area leased during the Year.	Total Amount received during the Year.	Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1910.				Lessees in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.
	Coal and Mineral.		Timber-cutting, &c.		Flax-cutting.		Miscellaneous.		Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1910.				Annual Rental.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Area.	
	Area.	Annual Rental.	Area.	Amount received.	Area.	Amount received.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Area.	Annual Rental.							
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Auckland ..	..	1,534 10 10†	..	18,999 17 5	..	12 14 0	6,478 3 1	191 8 0	6,473 3 1	23,072 2 7	219	62,999 2 27	1,306 14 2	15 2 38		
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,778 3 19	423 8 11	2,778 3 19	3,347 0 7	103	38,555 0 21	1,721 11 11	133 2 28	
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	142 2 24	97 9 3	206 2 31	530 4 6	134	1,764 2 24	467 2 10	119 1 0	
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,848 1 22	412 11 6	7,848 1 22	3,778 14 11	240	51,710 0 0	1,255 17 11	15 0 0	
Nelson ..	4	25 12 6	..	31 15 0	5	258 0 0	8,949 3 13	49 0 0	10,529 1 31	4,696 7 11	345	144,049 0 28	1,487 6 10	5,889 0 0			
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	735 0 12	138 6 0	2,665 0 12	1,675 17 11	155	43,657 0 28	1,264 17 10	4,771 1 30	
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,974 1 31	308 7 6	43,696 1 31	1,043 14 11	363	79,687 0 27	986 4 6	3,888 3 29	
Canterbury ..	1	9 17 0	..	14 19 6	..	..	2,655 2 4	200 0 5	2,701 2 4	3,483 9 11	661	92,823 0 14	3,695 8 2 27	2,729 1 39	
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,878 2 28	124 11 6	7,878 2 28	2,232 4 7	898	112,902 1 24	1,261 11 6	..	
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,777 0 7	228 4 6	4,777 0 7	5,412 13 2	456	34,862 2 5	984 4 11	..	
Totals	51,088 2 18	1,534 10 10† 35 9 6	122,245 0	719,046 11 11	11,233,008 0	0 22 14	63,214 1	12,113 7 7	89,555 3 26	49,272 10	73,514	663,010 3 38	14,431 0 1	85,12,712 1 34	460 3 9		
<i>Crown Estate—</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	153 1 0	86 18 8	153 1 0	215 13 9	49	1,269 3 20	229 17 5	167 1 8	26 2 0
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auckland ..	..	..	..	1,176 5 5	..	..	149 1 13	80 1 0	149 1 13	2,702 16 1	13	793 0 24	73 12 0	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	144 2 14	124 6 0	144 2 14	121 3 5	8	184 2 14	131 0 8	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 0 0	2 0 0	19 0 0	2 16 8	3	32 2 0	4 0 0	8 2 0	2 0 0
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78 0 17	45 4 0	78 0 17	283 17 5	44	1,054 1 8	310 19 4	269 3 15	121 12 3
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	129 3 32	9 5 0	129 3 32	682 11 5	78	2,316 0 3	378 16 0	18 3 20	1 5 1
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	125 11 10	12	1,425 2 39	73 1 6	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	1,176 5 5	..	..	520 3 36	260 16 0	520 3 36	4,873 13 11	205	6,723 0 22	1,401 15 3	382 2 35	147 17 4
<i>National Endowment—</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auckland ..	..	..	..	5,321 3 2	..	29 7 6	15 2 0	15 10 0	15 2 0	5,370 6 8	1	15 2 0	15 10 0	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,636 0 0	107 15 0	3,636 0 0	7 10 6	2	3,636 0 0	107 15 0	..	..
Nelson ..	2	1 15 0	..	34 12 0	..	..	8,634 0 0	30 10 0	9,170 0 0	2,418 0 10	202	53,416 3 23	953 10 2	2,109 0 0	213 0 6
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,145 2 25	143 15 0	16,604 2 25	7,381 0 8	209	87,666 3 32	362 8 0	5 1,601 2 0	17 0 0
Totals	2	1 15 0	7	5,355 15 2	2	3,459 0 0	25,431 0 25	297 10 0	29,426 0 25	15,212 17 8	416	173,945 3 15	1,475 2 2	3,710 2 0	280 0 6		
Grand totals	71,092 2 18	1,534 10 10† 37 4 6	192,777 0	725,578 12 6	13,264,67 0	0 76 18	89,319 2 22	2,758 12 3	119,656 1	7,69,574 15 11	4,184	844,949 3 15	17,537 14 11	120,972 3 37	864		

* Includes coal and timber royalty and receipts from State forests.

† Royalty on 106,233 tons.

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

System.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands.</i>											
Cash lands	3,993 3 5	3,567 10 10	1,718 4 4	4,829 4 11	1,115 0 3	198 17 7	930 8 8	49 19 4	930 8 8	792 4 4	17,134 13 8
Perpetual lease made freehold	1,318 12 6	219 0 0	306 0 0	156 8 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	317 12 6	.. .. .	317 12 6	272 8 9	2,590 1 9
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	5,281 19 8	5,580 6 6	2,856 5 0	7,395 1 3	625 9 0	3,770 16 11	266 18 0	50 0 0	266 18 0	331 10 0	26,108 6 4
Lease in perpetuity made freehold	4,925 6 10	596 9 4	997 17 6	375 0 0	2,483 13 2	354 2 0	.. .. .	80 0 0	.. .. .	1,608 8 4	11,180 17 2
Village settlement, perpetual lease made freehold .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	32 10 0	112 10 0
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase made freehold	185 6 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	388 4 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	187 10 0	50 2 11	811 2 11
Improved - farm special settlement, occupation with right of purchase made freehold .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	922 6 1	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	922 6 1
Improved-farm special settlement, lease in perpetuity made freehold	33 15 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	33 15 0
Deferred payment, rural	7 14 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	6 16 2	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 3 8	137 2 8	.. .. .	152 16 6
Deferred payment, pastoral	745 7 8	84 18 3	146 6 8	215 13 8	34 10 9	14 17 5	.. .. .	562 3 2	25 18 8	292 7 1	715 11 10
Perpetual lease and small areas	19,094 13 8	10,377 12 1	7,286 4 7	11,847 1 9	858 17 7	364 2 9	558 17 7	239 4 1	990 15 9	2,004 18 4	53,937 19 11
Occupation with right of purchase	7,854 14 11	3,496 18 3	6,124 19 5	6,088 14 4	1,413 2 1	3,034 8 4	1,106 18 6	3,837 2 3	5,849 14 8	2,120 2 9	40,436 15 6
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	719 1 0	240 8 2	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	14 6 11	.. .. .	959 9 2
Renewable lease* .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	14 6 11
Agricultural lease	725 1 3	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	78 17 7	47 16 10	99 7 1	.. .. .	473 3 2	95 7 3	1,519 13 2
Mining districts land occupation leases	263 18 3	40 0 0	.. .. .	27 0 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	330 18 3
Village settlement, cash .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	39 8 3	2 18 8	.. .. .	42 6 11
Village settlement, deferred payment .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 2 6	.. .. .	53 2 4	27 17 11	118 13 4	200 16 1
Village settlement, perpetual lease .. .. .	.. .. .	6 5 1	1 18 4	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	4 0 7	0 13 6	0 17 11	13 15 5
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	157 0 5	2,001 9 0	9 19 1	1,991 14 4	.. .. .	20 16 4	10 7 9	7 16 2	136 6 8	432 4 11	4,767 14 8
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	329 10 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	329 10 5
Village settlement, renewable lease*	234 4 8	53 3 3	.. .. .	79 15 10	.. .. .	10 0 8	.. .. .	872 4 8	143 16 6	115 11 11	1,508 17 6
Village-homestead special settlement .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
Special settlement association, deferred payment .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	48 4 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	48 4 0
Special settlement association, perpetual lease	302 7 10	103 13 0	787 0 10	4,368 5 10	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	85 13 8	109 0 8	.. .. .	5,756 1 10
Special-settlement association, lease in perpetuity .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
Improved-farm special settlement, occupation with right of purchase	374 13 7	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,947 9 11	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	180 3 9	2,452 7 3
Improved-farm special settlement, lease in perpetuity	105 6 6	240 18 10	1,996 2 3	482 5 8	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	131 2 1	2,955 15 4
Improved-farm special settlement, renewable lease* .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	14 14 9	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	14 14 9
Small grazing-runs	662 9 2	5,195 14 1	137 1 11	3,501 15 10	.. .. .	54 10 4	.. .. .	2,540 4 1	5,080 6 11	.. .. .	17,172 2 4
Pastoral runs	150 13 2	820 10 5	.. .. .	1,862 9 0	330 0 0	2,563 14 8	477 4 8	12,497 18 0	12,117 8 0	2,479 13 2	33,293 11 1
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	190 5 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	314 5 7	.. .. .	156 7 8	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	660 18 8
Coal and mineral leases	1,534 10 10	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	444 16 10	.. .. .	392 7 4	112 0 9	870 15 1	351 17 8	3,706 8 6
Prospectors' mining leases	10 12 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	10 12 0
Timber licenses and other leases, and sale of timber	8,992 2 3	867 8 3	41 0 6	1,547 16 7	576 6 1	1,579 13 2	4 0 0	184 2 1	51 15 0	1,804 18 9	15,649 2 8
Carried forward	57,143 19 0	33,269 7 2	23,142 16 2	48,603 1 9	8,274 18 11	11,706 1 11	2,995 18 4	21,364 9 3	28,550 17 5	13,165 3	324,216 13 2

* North Island Main Trunk Railway endowment lands.

† Includes repayment of advances.

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED during the Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

System.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—continued.</i>											
Brought forward ..	57,143 19 0	38,269 7 2	23,142 16 2	48,608 1 9	8,274 18 11	11,706 1 11	2,995 18 4	21,364 9 3	28,550 17 5	13,165 3	3248,216 13 2
Flax-cutting ..	12 14 0				5 0 0	1 11 4	50 2 0		1 19 6	57 15 0	129 1 10
Miscellaneous leases ..	1,923 16 5	2,407 9 6	138 19 9	1,125 11 2	405 2 10	140 0 6	520 2 0		1,187 10 2	809 17 10	8,658 10 2
Transfer, lease, and license fees, &c. ..	520 5 0	147 8 0	129 18 0	269 16 6	172 10 0	48 13 0	382 16 0		285 0 6	165 12 0	2,258 11 0
Rents of reserves ..	227 8 5	65 0 10	345 9 3	750 6 9	244 12 2	1,004 5 1	77 3 7		68 18 6		5,697 16 7
Miscellaneous ..	3,255 2 8	691 14 5	1,685 3 11	5,985 1 4	188 15 10	20 9 7	33 12 9		413 6 5	329 16 6	13,054 6 7
Crown-grant fees ..	162 2 2	42 19 9	58 1 11	145 5 11	42 0 5	13 6 4			64 11 2	47 16 1	595 4 0
State forests ..	10,370 18 8	7 2 0	4 15 0	355 0 5		1,970 17 5			51 6 4	2,388 3 11	15,420 18 10
Survey liens on Native lands ..	1,455 18 9	224 6 1	14 4 8	599 5 7	101 15 9				17 18 8	12 0 0	2,293 15 1
Survey fees which do not form part payment of land ..											173 10 10
Survey fees which do form part payment of land ..		197 16 0		55 12 3	25 5 8						278 13 11
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..				30 13 4					66 12 6		97 5 4
Totals ..	75,072 5 1	37,063 3 9	25,519 8 8	57,919 15 0	9,460 1 7	14,905 5 2	4,059 14 8	25,190 8 2	30,718 0 8	16,976 4	7296,874 7 4
<i>Lands for Settlements.</i>											
Cash lands ..	164 10 0	74 13 0		306 11 3					1,228 3 0	75 0 0	1,906 9 9
Lease in perpetuity ..	17,688 8 5	35,384 8 6	3,285 17 10	13,516 7 1	485 7 3	10,863 12 2	549 15 6	55,531 1 6	32,189 14 7	10,192 0	0179,676 12 10
Renewable lease ..	1,609 16 3	16,101 0 6	180 1 8	1,393 8 9	1,022 5 11	61 15 6		8,615 4 8	8,843 14 9	388 10 7	38,216 8 7
Lease in perpetuity, village ..		29 15 4							149 7 5		179 2 9
Renewable lease, village ..		0 10 3							3 8 11		3 19 2
Special-settlement associations, lease in perpetuity ..								147 1 7			147 1 7
Special-settlement associations, renewable lease ..											
Small grazing-runs ..	214 16 11	4,051 5 10		1,701 15 6		6,700 9 6		9,772 1 8	1,487 6 9	272 16 0	24,200 12 2
Pastoral runs ..									131 13 0		121 13 0
Miscellaneous ..	2,702 16 1	1,595 15 8	212 3 7	2,143 16 9		511 3 5	2 16 8	1,323 10 3	682 11 5	488 13 2	9,663 7 0
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..								1,340 0 0			1,340 0 0
Totals ..	22,380 7 8	57,287 19 1	3,678 3 1	19,061 19 4	1,507 13 2	18,127 0 7	552 12 2	76,786 12 2	44,705 19 10	11,416 19	9255,455 6 10
<i>Chertot Estate.</i>											
Cash lands ..											
Lease in perpetuity ..								12 0 0			12 0 0
Renewable lease ..								5,769 10 1			5,769 10 1
Village homesteads ..											
Grazing-farms ..								782 7 5			782 7 5
Pastoral runs ..								6,208 5 0			6,208 5 0
Miscellaneous leases ..								193 3 8			193 3 8
Miscellaneous ..								215 13 9			215 13 9
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..								90 12 6			90 12 6
Totals ..								13,271 12 5			13,271 12 5

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED during the Year ended 31st March, 1910—continued.

System.	Auckland.		Hawke's Bay.		Taranaki.		Wellington.		Nelson.		Marlborough.		Westland.		Canterbury.		Otago.		Southland.		Totals.		
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
<i>National Endowment Lands.</i>																							
Cash lands	1,069	12 9	1,405	11 8	702	9 2	345	4 8	711	18 3	112	2 7	498	13 5	409	18 4	128	9 5	155	15 8	5,539	15 6	
Renewable lease, ordinary	53	1 1	17	19 7	39	4 7	17	19 6	..	..	44	14 9	2	0 4	..	..	2	5 8	18	16 0	136	16 11
Renewable lease, village settlement	321	9 8	2,481	10 8	84	9 10	139	9 9	99	8 9	2,931	6 11	..	..	2,792	5 4	13,101	10 2	747	11 3	92,599	2 4
Small grazing-runs	175	5 4	..	..	..	..	686	3 9	17	0 0	1,455	17 4	223	19 9	18,144	5 10	11,300	18 4	1,735	17 0	39	4 7
Pastoral runs	153	10 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	15 1	..	..	257	17 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	83,739	7 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	514	3 7
Coal and mineral leases	5,340	19 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	528	8 11	..	..	6	10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	529	18 11
Timber licenses and sale of timber	29	7 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,722	1 5	..	..	7,031	18 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,094	19 5
Flax-cutting	25	9 3	380	19 0	..	..	7	10 6	172	10 6	..	..	35	6 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	14 2
Miscellaneous	7,168	15 5	4,286	0 11	826	3 7	1,196	7 9	3,949	2 11	4,544	1 7	8,363	12 0	21,346	9 6	24,669	3 7	2,657	19 11	1,029	14 5	
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78,407	17 2
Workers' dwellings, ordinary Crown lands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,002	1 7
Workers' dwellings, land for settlements	945	15 6	..	..	..	..	631	15 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	142	19 7	517	6 3	..	..	2,237	16 11
Endowment lands, ordinary	367	9 10	414	4 9	235	0 6	379	0 4	15,502	3 1	..	..	345	3 9	1,607	9 9	4,648	6 8	2,049	0 0	25,547	18 8
Thermal-springs Districts Act: Rents	2,110	5 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,110	5 6
Grand total	108,044	19 0	98,991	8 6	30,258	15 10	79,647	18 1	29,819	0 9	37,576	7 4	13,321	2	71,388	13	1105,258	17 0	33,100	4	3,674,907	6 5	

Table 21.—RETURN OF LANDS ALIENATED under Acts, without Money Payment, or RESERVED by the Crown for Public Purposes.

District.	During the Year ended 31st March, 1910.			Total Area granted under Acts, without Money Payment, or reserved for Public Purposes from Foundation of Dominion to 31st March, 1910.
	Crown Lands set apart for various Public Purposes.	Area granted under Special Acts.	Total Area thus alienated during the Year.	
Auckland	Acres. 6,011	Acres. ..	Acres. 6,011	Acres. 3,572,293
Hawke's Bay	145	..	145	433,752
Taranaki	5,229	989	6,218	705,682
Wellington	2,049	..	2,049	894,832
Nelson	6,392	..	6,392	306,315
Marlborough	8,273	..	8,273	208,428
Westland	32	..	32	205,898
Canterbury	350	..	350	1,361,069
Otago	692	..	692	543,220
Southland	448	..	448	3,495,335
Totals	29,621	989	30,610	11,726,819

Table 22.—FORFEITURES and SURRENDERS during the Year ended 31st March, 1910, showing under each Tenure the Number of Selectors who have forfeited and surrendered their Holdings, and the Area and Rental of such Holdings.

Tenure.	Forfeitures.			Surrenders.		
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	3	483 2 26	11 1 6	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	133	43,608 1 4	1,489 8 6	2	598 2 0	25 0 4
Lease in perpetuity	50	21,228 3 39	406 7 4	13	5,460 0 39	101 2 0
Renewable lease	1	0 1 0	3 10 0	1	0 1 0	2 15 0
Agricultural lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining districts occupation leases	11	578 1 7	44 16 4	4	184 0 28	5 6 6
<i>Village settlement.—</i>						
Deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	1	1 0 0	0 4 10	1	4 0 17	0 9 8
Renewable lease	2	7 0 0	5 17 8	..	..	..
Homestead special settlement	1	39 1 11	2 19 0	1	7 2 0	2 2 2
Special-settlement associations	..	..	..	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlements	1	69 3 0	5 4 8	..	..	..
Homestead .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	1	2,755 0 0	75 0 0	1	334 0 0	4 3 4
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	6	18,355 0 0	107 19 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	4	750 0 0	11 17 0	4	1,160 0 0	15 5 6
Miscellaneous	19	966 2 34	38 13 0	42	14,608 3 5	616 5 5
Totals	227	70,488 1 1	2,094 19 10	75	40,662 2 9	880 9 3
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village-homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grazing-farms .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	1	2 2 28	2 13 6	..	..	..
Totals	1	2 2 28	2 13 6	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity	29	3,035 3 10	447 2 10	6	37 2 1	34 13 8
Renewable lease	11	1,379 0 29	311 4 6	11	5,684 2 29	965 3 8
Village lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	1	6,696 0 0	27 18 0	..	..	..
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	2	4 3 37	8 0 0	2	136 0 0	61 19 0
Totals	43	11,115 3 36	794 5 4	19	5,858 0 30	1,061 16 4
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease, ordinary	15	5,270 0 23	191 13 0	9	3,368 3 20	73 16 10
Renewable lease, village settlement	1	5 0 0	3 0 0	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	4	16,862 0 0	162 0 0	1	498 1 26	6 3 4
Pastoral runs	1	14,275 0 0	20 0 0	4	69,280 0 0	270 13 2
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	11	1,987 0 0	39 10 10	1	50 0 0	1 0 0
Miscellaneous	2	6,400 0 0	4 0 0	12	2,469 0 10	18 15 2
Totals	34	44,799 0 23	420 3 10	27	75,661 1 16	370 8 6
Thermal springs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	305	126,406 0 8	3,312 2 6	121	122,182 0 15	2,312 14 1

Table 23.—RETURN of LAND TAKEN UP within the Thermal Springs District of Auckland at Year ended 31st March, 1910.

Locality.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1910.			Amount received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1910.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Rotorua	306	6,057 0 2	2,158 16 4	2,110 5 6	18	23 2 10	126 10 0

Table 24.—RETURN SHOWING PAYMENTS OF CAPITAL VALUE UNDER SECTION 191 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1910.

Tenure.	Amount deposited during the Year.		Tenants whose Deposits in the Aggregate are under 33 per Cent. of Capital Value.				Tenants whose Deposits aggregate 33 or more per Cent. of Capital Value.				Totals.										
	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Amount deposited.	Number of Tenants.	Net Area held.	Original Annual Rental payable.	Total Payments made on Account of Capital Value.	Annual Rental now payable as reduced by such Payments.	Number of Tenants.	Net Area held.	Original Annual Rental payable.	Total Payments made on Account of Capital Value.	Annual Rental now payable as reduced by such Payments.	Number of Tenants.	Net Area held.	Original Annual Rental payable.	Total Payments made on Account of Capital Value.	Annual Rental now payable as reduced by such Payments.			
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
ORDINARY CROWN LANDS.																					
Lease in perpetuity	1	148 1 9	66 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Special-settlement associations, lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease	1	0 1 0	30 13 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	2	148 2 9	97 5 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS.																					
Lease in perpetuity	2	211 1 26	1,940 0 0	1	255 3	0 111 17	10 680 0	0 77 17	10	4	372 0	8 272 6	4 1,865 15	8 180 0	6	5	627 3	8 384 4	2 2,545 15	8 257 18	4
CHEVRIER ESTATE.																					
Lease in perpetuity	
Grand totals	4	359 3 35	1,437 5 4	1	255 3	0 111 17	10 680 0	0 77 17	10	14	1,559 1	36 368 0	2 2,748 16	10 234 1	10	15	1,815 0	36 479 18	0 3,498 16	10 11 19	8

Table 25.—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF BUSH FELLED ON LANDS SOLD OR LEASED BY THE CROWN FROM 1st APRIL, 1895, TO 31st MARCH, 1910.

District.	Felled during the Year on Lands taken up during the Year.		Felled during the Year on Lands taken up in Previous Years.		Total felled at 31st March, 1910.	
	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Auckland	3,780	0 0 0	12,850	0 0 0	175,794	0 0 0
Hawke's Bay	2,811	0 0 0	7,672	0 0 0	147,448	0 0 0
Taranaki	923	0 0 0	3,200	0 0 0	63,203	0 0 0
Wellington	700	0 0 0	11,200	0 0 0	713,360	0 0 0
Nelson*	625	0 0 0	6,100	0 0 0	57,942	0 0 0
Marlborough	170	0 0 0	1,900	0 0 0	99,070	0 0 0
Westland .. .. .	..	..	1,900	0 0 0	70,020	0 0 0
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	75	0 0 0	254	0 0 0	24,125	0 0 0
Southland .. .. .	..	..	425	0 0 0	14,089	0 0 0
Totals	9,041	0 0 0	45,501	0 0 0	1,364,401	0 0 0

* Does not include the Buller and Inangahua Counties, of which no detailed inspections were made. A rough estimate of the area felled in these counties is an additional 1,900 acres.

Table 27.—STATEMENT showing the Total Number of CROWN TENANTS, with Area selected or held, the Yearly Rent payable, and Rent in Arrear, on 31st March, 1910.

Tenure.	Total Number of Tenants.	Total Area held by such Tenants.		Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.			Total Amount of such Rents or Payments in Arrear.		
		A.	R. P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Deferred payment	31	14,238	3 24	740	1 10	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	475	82,378	0 17	2,903	15 5	54	10 7	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	4,948	1,691,014	2 34	76,890	17 3	2,469	12 9	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	5,082	1,483,312	1 6	46,613	1 9	676	18 4	..	..
Renewable lease*	127	19,697	3 14	1,352	3 8	5	17 0	..	..
Agricultural lease	16	521	1 29	22	13 3	8	8 6	..	..
Homestead .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining districts land occupation leases	591	23,515	3 2	1,391	18 0	31	11 8	..	..
<i>Village settlements—</i>									
Deferred payment	8	163	1 6	18	11 0	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	98	1,450	1 10	197	13 8	4	0 0	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	32	62	3 14	14	12 6	0	2 2	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	1,082	22,795	1 12	3,995	5 4	104	1 5	..	..
Renewable lease*	121	800	1 29	473	4 0	17	16 0	..	..
<i>Village-homestead special settlements—</i>									
Perpetual lease	259	4,338	1 6	595	8 8	42	12 3	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	346	9,117	2 18	1,067	11 5	5	14 10	..	..
<i>Special-settlement associations—</i>									
Deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease	10	669	0 8	48	4 0	0	8 5	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	653	114,783	0 37	6,166	11 6	75	18 5	..	..
<i>Improved-farm special settlements—</i>									
Occupation with right of purchase	475	64,256	2 6	2,880	8 2	113	0 1	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	1319	39,823	1 13	2,978	7 10	158	2 8	..	..
Renewable lease*	1	255	0 0	14	14 9	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	255	468,307	3 12	17,956	15 9	66	0 9	..	..
Pastoral runs	463	6,944,768	2 23	35,105	19 4	88	8 9	..	..
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	215	39,143	0 29	809	3 8	97	19 0	..	..
Miscellaneous leases	3,514	663,010	3 38	14,431	0 1	460	3 9	..	..
Totals	19,121	11,688,424	3 27	216,668	2 10	4,481	7 4	..	..
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Lease in perpetuity	118	24,387	2 2	6,424	7 6	29	4 0	..	..
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Village-homestead special settlement	92	2,480	1 0	870	10 4	38	13 8	..	..
Grazing-farms	49	45,782	0 7	6,840	5 2	707	16 10	..	..
Pastoral runs	1	1,642	0 0	193	3 8	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	49	1,269	3 20	229	17 5	26	2 0	..	..
Totals	309	75,561	2 29	14,558	4 1	801	16 6	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Lease in perpetuity	3,600	663,364	1 25	194,096	16 8	5,063	14 4	..	..
Renewable lease	655	247,233	0 0	49,220	19 6	4,922	7 11	..	..
Lease in perpetuity (village)	46	438	1 28	333	12 8	3	6 0	..	..
Renewable lease (village)	2	9	2 16	8	15 6	..	..	..	..
Special-settlement associations	11	2,114	1 9	162	7 8	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	111	204,308	0 33	26,739	4 4	481	3 9	..	..
Pastoral runs	2	953	2 35	121	13 0	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	205	6,723	0 22	1,401	15 3	147	17 4	..	..
Totals	4,632	1,125,144	3 11	272,085	4 7	10,618	9 4	..	..
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>									
<i>Renewable lease—</i>									
Ordinary	720	196,783	1 28	9,122	10 5	224	9 9	..	..
Village settlement	101	921	3 14	234	19 10	..	..	..	..
Village homestead special settlement	6	81	1 7	9	17 2	..	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlement	48	7,745	2 14	75	14 7	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	460	1,413,016	0 27	25,702	14 1	525	3 5	..	..
Pastoral runs	227	4,009,840	2 37	35,065	11 8	32	13 4	..	..
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	152	25,256	1 17	536	2 8	7	3 2	..	..
Miscellaneous leases	416	173,945	3 15	1,475	2 2	230	0 6	..	..
Totals	2,130	5,827,591	0 39	72,222	12 7	1,019	10 2	..	..
Thermal springs (Rotorua)	306	6,057	0 2	2,158	16 4	126	10 0	..	..
Grand totals	26,498	18,722,779	2 28	577,693	0 5	17,047	13 4	..	..
Endowments (ordinary)	860	406,710	3 16	14,661	17 0	306	1 7	..	..
<i>Workers' dwellings—</i>									
Ordinary Crown lands	36	6	0 26	89	5 1	80	9 10	..	..
Land for settlements	82	14	1 31	188	13 9	92	16 9	..	..

* North Island Main Trunk Railway endowment lands. anticipated royalties. § Monthly rent.

† Includes unregistered holdings.

‡ Excludes £16,000

Table 28.—ENDOWMENT LANDS (other than National Endowment) taken up during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Nature of Endowments.	Cash Lands.			Renewable Lease.			Small Grazing-runs.		
		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realised. £ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.
Wellington	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..
Nelson	6	3,087 2 34	63 8 0	..	..	..
Otago	2*	1,645 3 21	59 1 0
Southland..	..	5	1 3 0	40 3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	5	1 3 0	40 3 0	6	3,087 2 34	63 8 0	2	1,645 3 21	59 1 0
Pastoral Runs.										
District.	Nature of Endowments.	Pastoral Runs.			Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.			Miscellaneous Leases.		
		Number.	Area.	Annual Instalments. £ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental. £ s. d.
Wellington	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	1	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..
Nelson	4	90 0 0	5 5 0	13	203 1 36	64 0 0
Otago	..	2*	25,590 0 0	845 0 0	..	..	..	2*	4,051 2 19	114 15 8
Southland	2	1 0 0	10 5 0
Totals	..	2	25,590 0 0	845 0 0	4	90 0 0	5 5 0	19	4,262 1 15	193 0 8

* Leases renewed during the year.

Table 29.—ENDOWMENTS: RETURN of REVENUE received during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

Tenure.	Revenue received.	Tenure.	Revenue received.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash lands	48 2 0	Village lease in perpetuity	21 10 11
Perpetual lease made freehold	28 0 4	Small grazing-runs	1,281 2 11
Deferred payments	8 3 8	Pastoral runs	4,957 4 10
Perpetual lease and small areas	313 1 2	Coal and mineral leases and royalty	14,546 13 10
Occupation with right of purchase	12 0 0	Timber licenses and royalties	410 17 7
Lease in perpetuity	2,077 5 11	Miscellaneous leases	541 4 0
Renewable lease	25 4 2	Rents of reserves	985 3 6
Mining districts land occupation leases	87 8 11		
Village-homestead special settlement	254 14 11	Total	£25,547 18 8

Table 30.—SUMMARY of ARREARS due to the CROWN on 31st March, 1910.

Tenure.	Exclusive of Current Half-year's Rent or Instalment.			Inclusive of Current Half-year's Rent or Instalment.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount in Arrear.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount in Arrear.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>						
Deferred payment				4	291 0 8	5 7 1
Perpetual lease	15	1,436 2 6	54 10 7	76	11,774 3 20	279 17 2
Occupation with right of purchase	175	63,956 3 4	2,469 12 9	611	189,090 1 3	6,995 5 1
Lease in perpetuity	129	30,839 0 33	676 18 4	556	128,604 2 37	2,665 15 11
Renewable lease	4	2 0 0	5 17 0	21	11 0 0	34 2 0
Agricultural lease	2	217 0 38	8 8 6	3	233 0 35	13 4 3
Mining districts land occupation leases	18	769 3 15	31 11 8	76	3,774 0 27	133 14 8
Village settlements, deferred payment				1	4 2 10	0 12 2
Village settlements, perpetual lease	2	11 0 0	4 0 0	17	173 3 23	23 16 2
Village settlements, occupation with right of purchase	1	0 3 0	0 2 2	1	0 3 0	0 4 5
Village settlements, lease in perpetuity	42	978 1 4	104 1 5	157	3,178 2 28	317 4 11
Village settlements, renewable lease	7	47 0 0	17 16 0	19	137 0 0	62 13 0
Village-homestead special settlements	20	360 3 19	48 7 1	57	1,307 0 27	131 3 4
Special-settlement associations	15	2,735 0 14	76 6 10	57	10,229 2 14	349 4 5
Improved farms	31	4,130 2 29	271 2 9	95	12,604 0 14	790 10 0
Small grazing-runs	6	7,250 1 13	66 0 9	107	164,992 0 3	4,073 12 0
Pastoral runs	7	125,825 2 9	88 8 9	40	501,203 0 38	481 2 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	18	3,967 2 0	97 19 0	47	10,222 3 7	201 15 0
Miscellaneous (not otherwise specified)	85	12,712 1 34	460 3 9	430	67,750 3 4	2,142 11 5
Totals	577	255,241 0 18	4,481 7 4	2,375	1,105,588 3 18	18,701 15 4
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity	1	292 0 0	29 4 0	5	1,042 3 2	97 10 9
Village-homestead special settlement	6	150 1 35	38 13 8	8	210 1 35	75 10 3
Grazing-farms	7	9,040 3 0	707 16 10	42	44,038 1 22	4,002 3 5
Miscellaneous	5	167 1 8	26 2 0	19	718 1 12	105 1 7
Totals	19	9,650 2 3	801 16 6	74	46,009 3 31	4,280 6 0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity	166	29,078 2 31	5,063 14 4	428	69,201 1 32	12,248 1 9
Renewable lease	49	14,469 3 35	4,922 7 11	96	27,030 3 21	7,302 5 11
Village lease in perpetuity	2	6 0 21	3 6 0	6	10 1 3	7 15 0
Village renewable leases				1	0 1 0	0 11 3
Small grazing-runs	5	14,186 0 0	481 3 9	15	38,370 0 19	1,257 18 3
Miscellaneous	9	382 2 35	147 17 4	39	891 2 36	332 12 2
Totals	231	58,123 2 2	10,618 9 4	585	135,504 2 31	21,149 4 4
<i>National Endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease (ordinary)	33	9,287 3 3	224 9 9	99	19,165 1 19	712 15 10
Renewable lease (village settlements)				9	50 0 18	4 9 11
Renewable lease (improved-farm special settlement)				1	197 3 0	8 5 8
Small grazing-runs	30	60,099 1 5	525 3 5	188	593,148 0 30	5,121 2 6
Pastoral runs	5	19,760 0 0	32 13 4	15	139,484 0 0	583 15 10
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	2	450 0 0	7 3 2	16	2,966 0 7	37 19 10
Miscellaneous	21	3,710 2 0	230 0 6	63	65,128 0 0	532 6 9
Totals	91	93,907 2 8	1,019 10 2	391	820,139 1 34	7,000 16 4
Thermal springs, Rotorua	18	23 2 10	126 10 0	72	266 0 18	364 13 3
Grand totals	936	416,346 1 1	17,047 18 4	3,497	2,107,509 0 12	51,496 15 3
Workers' dwellings (Crown lands)*	10	2 1 24	80 9 10	16	3 2 18	113 15 6
Workers' dwellings (land for settlements)*	15	2 2 21	92 16 9	31	6 1 28	165 4 9

* Read "month's rent" or "week's rent" in lieu of "half-year's rent."

Table 31.—RETURN showing POSITION and TRANSACTIONS in IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS from their Commencement to 31st March, 1910.

District.	Area.	Total Number of Sections in the Settlements.	Number of Settlers remaining on the land on 31st March, 1910.	Number of Persons resident.	Area occupied.			Total Area made Freehold.			Area felled.	Area grassed.
					Area occupied.			Number.	Total Amount received.			
					A.	R.	P.		£	s.			d.
Auckland ..	Acres. 25,045	197	118	192	A. 16,091	R. 1	P. 11	3	£ 216	s. 5	d. 0	Acres. 3,054
Hawke's Bay ..	2,025	17	16	64	1,890	0	0	1	272	17	3	1,829
Taranaki ..	62,731	482	368	965	51,148	3	27	..	..	..	..	19,719
Wellington ..	46,438	375	301	977	38,282	3	19	48	4,355	10	1	20,965
Southland ..	4,862	57	45	139	4,732	1	16	..	..	..	..	2,861
Totals ..	141,101	1,128	843	2,337	112,080	1	33	47	4,844	12	4	47,037

District.	Amount paid to Selectors for Improvements.						Rent and Interest paid by Selectors.			Value of Improvements now on the Land, including those paid for by Government.		
	Past Transactions.			During Year.			During the Year ended 31st March, 1910.					
	For Houses.	For Bushfelling and other Works.	Total.	For Houses.	For Bushfelling and other Works.	Total.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Auckland ..	£ 1,457	5 0	6,390	12 11	72	13 0	412	1 2	3,895	14 7	18,191	5 0
Hawke's Bay ..	159	14 4	1,860	9 5	..	..	240	18 10	9,177	4 2	8,141	12 9
Taranaki ..	3,855	10 0	21,060	3 8	1,698	2 10	2,050	1 7	14,410	11 7	67,230	0 0
Wellington ..	3,090	15 0	14,367	2 0	18	0 0	2,429	15 7	23,701	19 10	103,979	16 5
Southland ..	902	1 0	11,155	14 2	..	..	261	5 10	2,646	10 1	10,235	7 7
Totals ..	9,465	5 4	54,834	2 2	1,788	15 10	5,394	3 0	47,832	0 3	207,838	1 9

Table 32.—RETURN OF LANDS DISPOSED OF UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1910.

District.	Area acquired, including Surplus or Deficiency.		Area occupied by Roads and Reserves and unlet.		Area of Land unlet, surrendered, or resumed and not relet, and also Land not yet offered for Selection.		New Selections and Additions to Holdings during the Year.		Total Lands leased at Date.		Annual Rent now payable. £ s. d.		
	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.			
Auckland ..	276,972	2 4	7,495	3 2	93,765	1 10	113	18,457	0 3	175,632	0 38	20,749	5 0
Hawke's Bay ..	193,404	3 37	2,035	0 28	177	1 30	70	30,279	1 19	191,167	0 17	59,983	11 2
Taranaki ..	4,577	3 17	50	3 11	153	3 29	6	300	3 16	4,973	0 17	3,510	5 3
Wellington ..	60,514	2 24	846	2 13	5,805	3 1	24	1,085	1 18	53,856	0 15	19,263	17 2
Nelson ..	24,326	1 24	112	1 15	8,047	0 0	4	3,794	0 0	16,167	0 9	1,766	5 10
Marlborough ..	114,979	2 21	2,591	0 1	2,450	0 14	8	49	1 20	109,930	1 16	20,091	16 6
Westland ..	5,124	3 26	102	0 22	..	..	1	19	0 0	5,022	3 4	542	11 8
Canterbury ..	316,925	2 14	2,561	0 36	115	3 13	47†	29,138	0 27	314,116	0 4	84,496	5 2
Otago ..	202,798	1 14	2,456	2 12	323	2 0	6	3,619	3 8	199,787	0 35	50,121	11 8
Southland ..	56,985	3 2	827	0 0	1,002	0 16	12	2,256	2 4	55,090	2 26	11,555	15 2
Totals ..	1,256,560	2 23	19,178	2 20	111,840	3 33	291	88,949	1 35	1,125,142	2 21	272,081	4 7

District.	Yearly Value of Land at 31st March, 1910.		Occupied Land.		Amount advanced to Selectors for Buildings, &c.		Arrears on 31st March, 1910.		Rent and other Payments received during the Year.		Total Receipts from Inception to 31st March, 1910. £ s. d.						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Number of Houses on Holdings.	Number of Souls resident on Holdings.	Value of Improvements.	During Previous Years.	During Year.	Total.	No.	Area.		£ s. d.					
Auckland ..	4,139	6 1	582	2,485	784,260	0 0	90	2,080	5 0	18,187	1 27	1,058	18 0	22,325	12 8	133,717	16 2
Hawke's Bay ..	122	9 9	513	2,221	327,108	0 0	..	387	10 0	7,089	0 35	1,571	19 0	57,237	19 1	347,236	11 8
Taranaki ..	308	14 0	41	202	10,112	0 0	..	..	..	191	1 5	64	16 10	3,678	3 1	22,616	12 8
Wellington ..	1,507	0 9	347	1,493	142,864	0 0	..	2,510	0 0	1,318	0 0	512	10 0	18,472	3 8	123,053	8 6
Nelson ..	359	13 6	20	75	9,651	0 0	..	..	..	2,193	0 22	543	7 8	1,507	13 2	3,756	17 5
Marlborough ..	192	7 6	251	1,065	170,329	16 1	..	..	..	6,157	2 9	621	4 7	18,127	0 7	148,643	11 8
Westland ..	243	15 8	21	106	13,250	2 0	..	..	..	8	2 0	2	0 0	552	12 2	5,268	7 1
Canterbury ..	55	8 11	587	2,354	519,563	8 5	..	2,760	10 0	15,307	2 18	5,373	14 9	75,442	6 0	645,538	0 0
Otago ..	146	8 0	224	998	221,290	18 6	..	..	..	4,686	1 32	664	5 1	44,705	19 10	317,142	17 9
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	72,505	18 5	..	..	..	3,028	1 14	205	13 5	11,416	19 9	78,963	7 3
Totals ..	7,070	4 2	3,711	16,016	2,270,935	3 5	90	7,688	5 0	58,123	2 2	10,618	9 4	253,466	10 0	1,825,537	10 2

Miscellaneous receipts on lands not yet opened for selection

Payments of capital value under Section 151 of the Land Act, 1908, on account of Land for Settlement lands ..

648 16 10

1,840 0 0

255,455 6 10

1,832,974 6 5

Includes four holders of small grazing runs, who also hold ordinary Crown lands in conjunction therewith. † Exclusive of a miscellaneous license over a portion of Walker Settlement containing 2 acres and 30 perches, annual rental £4. ‡ Includes £150 10s. paid on account of a dishonoured cheque credited in last year's transactions.

Table 33.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of SELECTORS and LANDS SELECTED under SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS for the Ten Years ended 31st March, 1910.

Year ending 31st March,	Cash.		Perpetual Lease.		Lease in Perpetuity.		Renewable Lease.		Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Agricultural Lease.		Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.		Village Settlement Cash.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
1901*	362	Acres. 58,703	3	Acres. 2,499	489	144,205	..	..	673	262,729	1	Acres. 23	53	Acres. 2,123	35	Acres. 22
1902*	489	27,290	1	10	501	116,125	..	..	447	128,893	1	28	71	2,507	21	10
1903*	374	17,194	..	..	573	161,745	..	..	403	118,557	3	36	52	2,434	19	9
1904*	435	22,481	..	..	894	194,515	..	..	402	146,953	2	13	97	4,972	10	8
1905*	371	18,990	..	..	751	173,811	..	..	330	138,206	3	218	40	1,914	2	1
1906*	229	11,132	1	127	706	158,018½	..	..	388	157,432½	..	..	30	1,194	39	40
1907*	447	20,357	..	..	597	154,237	..	..	412	215,530	..	..	26	1,044	15	20
1908*	404	28,519	..	..	427	98,367	168	70,535	354	187,799	3	84	73	3,047	3	3
1909*†	371	42,177	..	..	193	106,184	692	218,005	382	123,116	..	..	36	1,490	11	17
1910*†	373	8,874	..	..	4	1,011	611	178,036	307	108,152	..	..	60	2,068	8	12

Year ending 31st March,	Village Settlement: Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Village Settlement: Lease in Perpetuity.		Village Settlement: Renewable Lease.		Village-homestead Special Settlement.		Special-settlement Associations.		Improved Farms.		Small Grazing-runs and Grazing-farms.		Totals.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
1901*	..	Acres. ..	96	Acres. 1,082	..	..	7	Acres. 376	..	..	13	Acres. 1,936	35	Acres. 86,076	1,767	559,774
1902*	1	1	33	456	..	..	30	469	..	..	..	1,618	36	112,947	1,632	390,406‡
1903*	..	..	40	619	..	..	34	1,512	29	5,761	30	4,032	45	113,925	1,602	425,824
1904*	1	0½	21	514	..	..	23	272	4	729	106	19,436	58	144,786	2,053	534,679
1905*	1	0½	14	208	..	..	8	111	2	223	14	1,459	45	67,271	1,581	402,412
1906*	2	41	55	1,936	..	..	49	287	..	..	3	547	34	68,587	1,536	399,342
1907*	..	..	32	1,012	..	..	17	173	1	4	46	5,622	51	114,854	1,644	512,853
1908*	3	3	72	2,302	15	108	..	..	..	..	3	410	64	226,757	1,589	617,934
1909*†	..	..	..	..	168	1,167	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	28,989	1,863	521,145
1910*†	1	0½	..	..	44	468	..	..	..	..	259	40,005	45	298,494	1,712	637,120

* Inclusive of Cheviot Estate, and lands disposed of under the Land for Settlements Acts.

† Inclusive of National endowment lands.

‡ Includes 1 selector (area, 52 acres), deferred payment.

Table 34.—TRANSACTIONS in BUSH, SWAMP, and SCRUB LANDS, under Section 127 of the Land Act, 1908, during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

District.	Heavy-bush Land.						Light-bush Land.						Swamp Land.						Totals.						
	Area opened during Year.			Selections during Year.			Area opened during Year.			Selections during Year.			Area opened during Year.			Selections during Year.			Total Area opened during Year.			Total Selections during Year.			
	No.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	No.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	No.	Area.	Area opened during Year.	No.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	No.	Area.	Area opened during Year.	No.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	No.	Area.	Total Area opened during Year.	No.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	
																									A.
Auckland	118	49,038	1 14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	1	1,075	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	103	98,805	2 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	90	86,028	0 24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	218	114,188	1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	6	3,637	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	49	12,256	1 14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	600	864,181	3 38	49	18,604	0 19	377	18 8	8	2,121	3 10	45	18 4	6	1,188	0 7	15	10 0	668	386,095	3 34	18,466	0 0	2,017	18 0

TOTAL AREA held at 31st March, 1910.

District.	Heavy-bush Land.						Light-bush Land.						Swamp Land.						Totals.						
	Area held.			Annual Rental (remitted).			Area held.			Annual Rental (remitted).			Area held.			Annual Rental (remitted).			Area held.			Annual Rental (remitted).			
	No. of selectors.	A.	B. P.	£ s. d.	No. of selectors.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	No. of selectors.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	No. of selectors.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	No. of selectors.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	No. of selectors.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	
																									No. of selectors.
Auckland	118	49,038	1 14	2,150	6 6	4	18 9 8	2	748	1 0	15 14 6
Hawke's Bay	1	1,075	0 0	3,241	13 8	..	167 15 8	..	290	0 0	11 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	103	98,805	2 10	5,592	12 10	..	54 18 2	..	349	0 0	5 4 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	90	86,028	0 24	2,119	7 0	..	88 9 6	..	784	2 10	13 7 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	218	114,188	1 6	72	8 2	..	2 12 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	6	3,637	0 0	212	1 2	..	50 13 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	49	12,256	1 14	7 11 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	67	10 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	..	..	..	377	18 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	..	..	13,483	14 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	600	864,181	3 38	18,604	0 19	49	377 18 8	8	2,121	3 10	45 18 4	6	1,188	0 7	15 10 0	668	386,095	3 34	18,466	0 0	2,017	18 0			

Table 35.—REBATES of RENT granted under Section 116 of the Land Act, 1908, and Section 55 of the Land for Settlements Act, 1908, during the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

Land District.	Number of Tenants who have been granted Rebate.	Area held.		Amount of Rebate granted.		
		A.	R. P.	£	s.	d.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>						
Auckland	3,067	815,260	0 0	2,094	16	9
Hawke's Bay	589	290,130	1 17	1,448	18	2
Taranaki	972	307,111	0 17	1,332	10	4
Wellington	2,285	464,418	0 0	2,441	4	1
Nelson	232	72,204	0 14	67	5	4
Marlborough	327	144,206	3 30	356	12	7
Westland	411	51,269	3 23	141	7	6
Canterbury	201	26,773	1 4	511	6	2
Otago	717	202,179	2 26	671	19	9
Southland	745	123,215	0 0	338	8	7
Totals	9,496	2,496,768	1 11	9,404	9	3
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Canterbury	451	69,580	1 17	690	10	8
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Auckland	544	130,016	0 0	1,513	0	7
Hawke's Bay	572	170,777	2 23	4,760	17	5
Taranaki	33	3,726	2 10	277	10	8
Wellington	265	34,697	0 37	1,278	4	11
Nelson	7	2,042	3 27	19	19	6
Marlborough	295	99,878	0 8	1,799	19	9
Westland	25	4,650	0 4	46	5	5
Canterbury	1,193	276,300	1 12	6,885	2	4
Otago	645	178,583	1 7	4,176	1	8
Southland	185	37,246	0 0	701	7	9
Totals	3,764	937,918	0 8	21,458	10	0
<i>National Endowment—</i>						
Auckland	57	20,560	0 0	48	11	5
Hawke's Bay	16	7,983	2 15	96	11	8
Taranaki	24	14,669	1 0	67	4	7
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	15	3,658	1 9	3	1	8
Marlborough	34	838	0 31	4	16	9
Westland	83	6,449	1 27	18	0	4
Canterbury	12	6,271	2 31	31	19	2
Otago	24	3,937	0 36	7	16	11
Southland	21	1,413	0 0	5	4	10
Totals	286	65,780	2 29	283	7	4
Grand totals	13,997	3,570,047	1 25	31,836	17	3

Table 36.—CROWN LANDS PROCLAIMED under the Local Bodies' Loans Acts, the AMOUNT BORROWED, and the AMOUNT REPAID to the Public Account up to 31st March, 1910.

Land District.	Area.	Amount borrowed.		Amount repaid.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Auckland	Acres. 1,034,094	200,021	0 0	63,759	3 5
Hawke's Bay	355,758	70,061	0 0	26,390	1 8
Taranaki	596,992	162,121	0 0	73,979	5 1
Wellington	657,312	190,485	0 0	118,395	9 1
Nelson	376,246	39,165	0 0	2,915	11 8
Marlborough	173,669	21,979	0 0	18,651	3 2
Westland	35,670	3,926	0 0	857	1 8
Canterbury	2,135	456	0 0	550	1 10
Otago	175,631	21,481	0 0	23,755	18 2
Southland	126,163	27,962	0 0	13,780	12 5
Totals	3,533,670	737,657	0 0	343,034	8 2

Table 37.—CROWN GRANTS, CERTIFICATES of TITLE, LEASES, and other INSTRUMENTS OF TITLE from the CROWN prepared from 1st April, 1909, to 31st March, 1910.

District.	Number.					Cost.
	Singly.	In Duplicate.	In Triplicate.	In Quadruplicate	Total Copies.	
Auckland	6	38	257	219	1,729	£ s. d. 90 10 0
Hawke's Bay	3	92	213	59	1,062	58 2 0
Taranaki	9	6	53	50	380	9 1 6
Wellington	1	27	196	72	931	93 2 0
Nelson	4	77	58	117	800	60 0 0
Marlborough	4	10	39	5	161	11 13 0
Westland .. ..	..	300	22	120	1,146	393 2 0
Canterbury .. ..	..	63	15	63	423	31 14 6
Otago .. ..	..	46	97	..	383	19 3 0
Southland	10	50	98	11	448	52 0 0
Totals	37	709	1,048	716	7,463	813 8 0

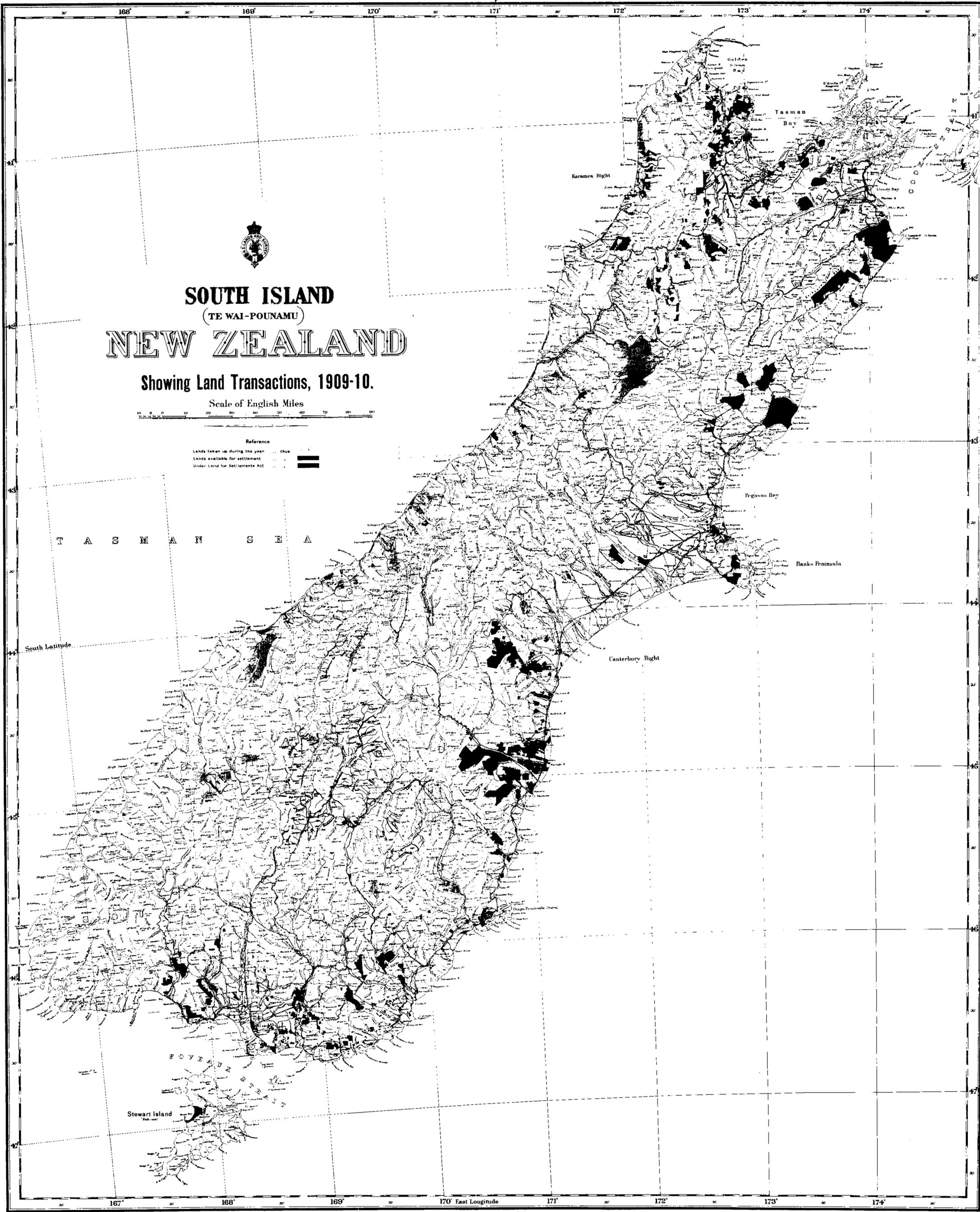
Table 38.—STATEMENT showing PAYMENTS to LOCAL BODIES during the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1910, from "Thirds" of Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, Occupation-with-right-of-purchase, Renewable-lease, and Lease-in-perpetuity Lands, "Fourths" of Small Grazing-runs, and "Halves" of Timber and Flax Royalties.

District.			"Thirds," Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, Occupation-with- right-of-purchase, Renewable-lease, and Lease-in- perpetuity Lands.		"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	"Halves," Timber and Flax.		Total Payments		
			£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£
Auckland .. ..	..	..	7,761	19 2	62	7 8	3,949	2 7	11,773	9 5
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	4,819	16 10	529	14 7	179	4 6	5,528	15 11
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	2,637	2 7	11	5 6	..	..	2,648	8 1
Wellington .. ..	..	..	5,270	5 2	27	13 9	1	12 0	5,299	10 11
Nelson .. ..	..	..	1,067	19 3	6	11 9	640	4 1	1,714	15 1
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	994	8 0	432	10 8	785	7 7	2,212	6 3
Westland .. ..	..	..	676	11 6	..	..	2,815	18 0	3,492	9 6
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	323	1 9	410	14 5	79	2 0	812	18 2
Otago .. ..	..	..	1,157	6 11	2,424	13 2	28	2 2	3,610	2 3
Southland .. ..	..	..	996	12 0	115	18 0	976	18 7	2,089	8 7
Totals .. ..	..	..	25,705	3 2	4,021	9 6	9,455	11 6	39,182	4 2

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given printing; (1,500 copies, including maps), £207 10s.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1910.

Price 5s.]



SOUTH ISLAND
(TE WAI-PONAMU)
NEW ZEALAND

Showing Land Transactions, 1909-10.

Scale of English Miles



Reference

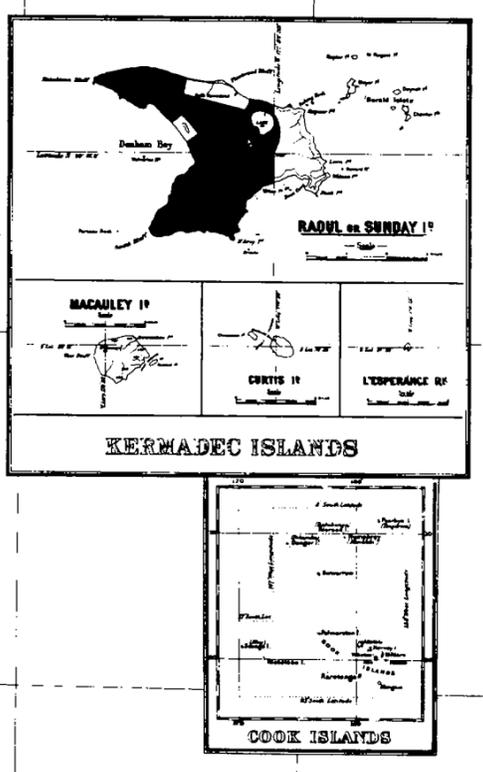
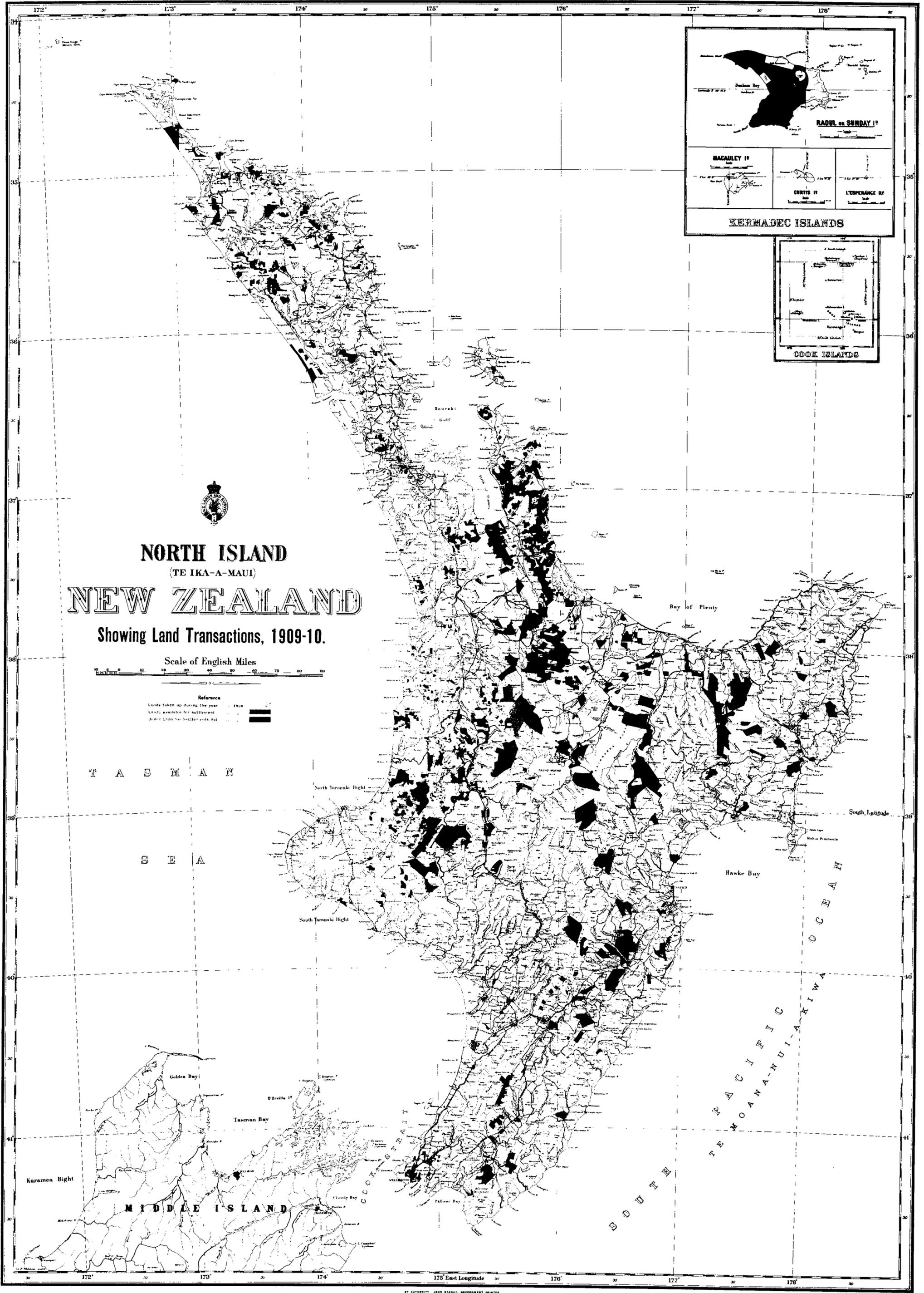
- Lands taken up during the year . . . thus
- Lands available for settlement . . . thus
- Under Land for Settlements Act . . . thus

T A S M A N S E A

South Latitude

Stewart Island
Feb. 1909

170° East Longitude



NORTH ISLAND
(TE IKA-A-MAUI)
NEW ZEALAND

Showing Land Transactions, 1909-10.

Scale of English Miles

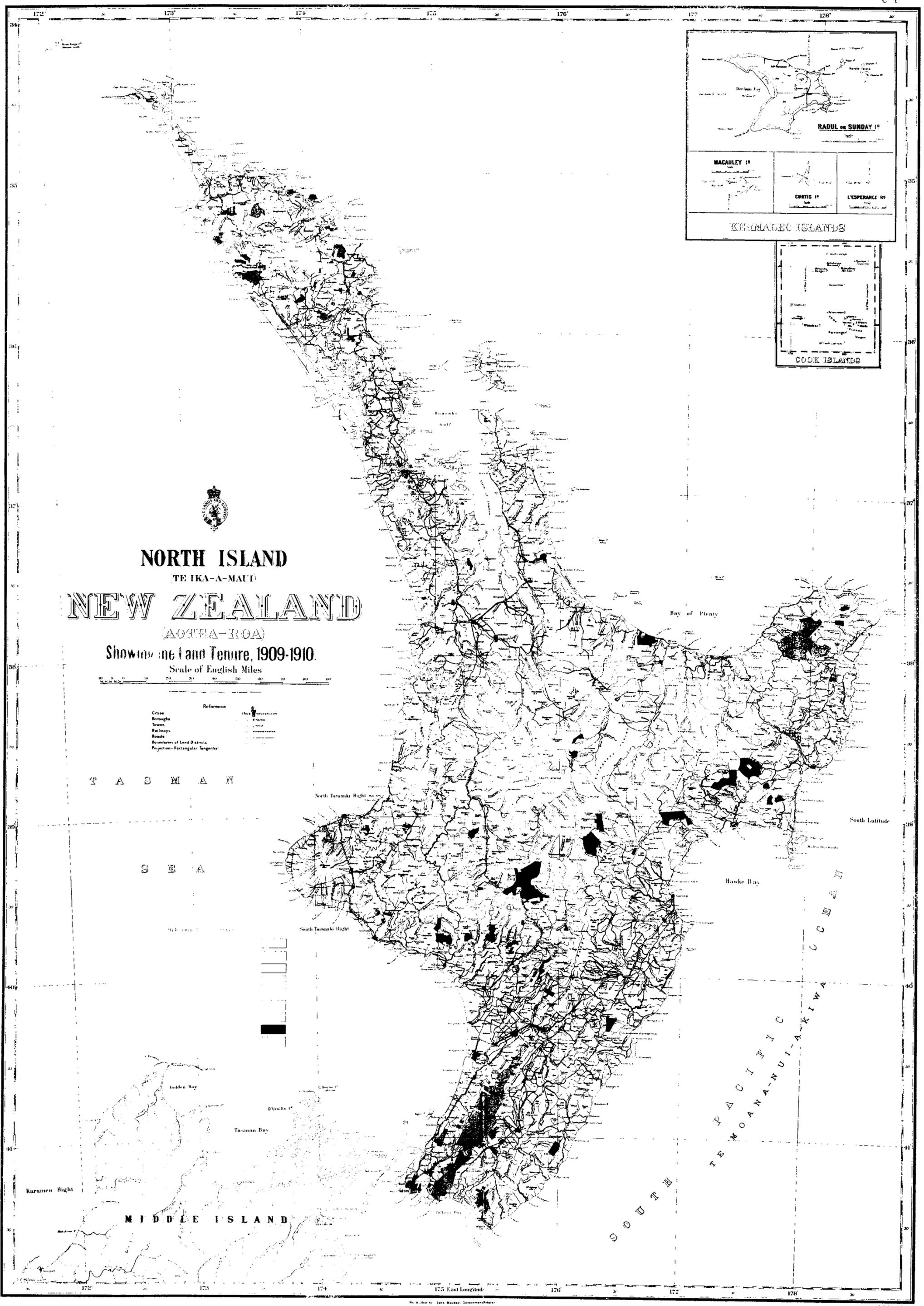
Reference
 Lands taken up during the year
 Lands available for settlement
 Under Lease for Settlers Act

T A S M A N

S E A

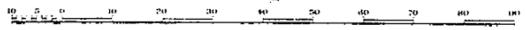
M I D D L E I S L A N D

P A C I F I C
 O C E A N
 T E M O A N A N U I - A K I W A
 S O U T H I S L A N D



NORTH ISLAND
 TE IKA-A-MAUI
NEW ZEALAND
 (AOTEAROA)

Showing Land Tenure, 1909-1910.
 Scale of English Miles

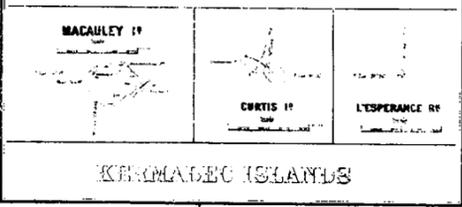
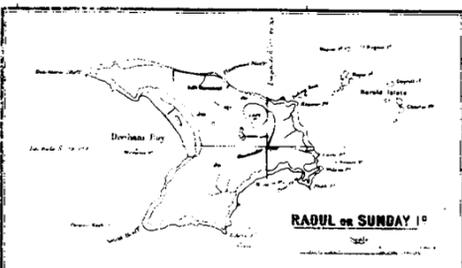


- Reference
- Cities
 - Boroughs
 - Towns
 - Railways
 - Roads
 - Boundaries of Land Districts
 - Projection-Rectangular Tangential

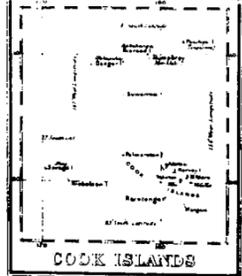
T A S M A N

S E A

M I D D L E I S L A N D



KERMADEC ISLANDS



South Latitude

C O C K I S L A N D S

P A C I F I C O C E A N

S O U T H

SOUTH ISLAND
(TE WAI-POUNAMU)
NEW ZEALAND
(AOTEAROA)

Showing the Land Tenure, 1909-1910.
Scale of English Miles



Reference	Symbol
Cities	Large black dot
Boroughs	Small black dot
Towns and villages	Small grey dot
Railways and stations	Line with cross-ticks
Roads	Double line
Boundaries of Land Districts	Dashed line
Projection - Rectangular Tangential	

T A S M A N S E A

South Latitude

Reference to Land Tenure.



Stewart Island

