

SESSION II.
1912.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

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

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ANNUAL REPORT.

The UNDER-SECRETARY FOR LANDS to the HON. the MINISTER OF LANDS.

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 18th July, 1912.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Department for the year ended 31st March, 1912.

I have, &c.,

JOHN STRAUCHON,

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

Under-Secretary for Lands

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, 1911-12.

In submitting the report for the year ended 31st March, 1912, I have to state that, as my duties as Under-Secretary only commenced with the current financial year, the transactions recorded herein deal with the work and operations carried out under the direction and supervision of my predecessor, Mr. William C. Kensington.

CROWN LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

The work of settlement of our Crown lands has been prosecuted with vigour, and shows satisfactory results. The area opened for selection during the year aggregated under all tenures 965,993 acres. Of this amount, an area of 143,045 acres was available for selection under the optional system, being 20,200 acres greater than in the previous year. Under the renewable-lease system the area advertised was 182,799 acres, an increase of 108,869 acres over that in the previous year.

The following table gives information regarding the area opened under each system and also for the several land districts:—

TABLE A.—LAND OPENED DURING THE YEAR 1911-12.

District.	Optional System.	Renewable Lease.			Cash by Auction.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Village Allotments.	Small Grazing-runs.		Pastoral Runs.		Improved Farm Settlements.	Total.
		Ordinary Crown Land.	National-endowment Land.	Land for Settlements.				Ordinary Crown Land.	National-endowment Land.	Ordinary Crown Land.	National-endowment Land.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	93,752	12,378	44,142	7,230	345	4,109*	12†	..	..	..	..	..	164,968
Hawke's Bay ..	2,073	..	..	2,576	4	104	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,757
Taranaki ..	7,402	..	7,243	..	371	302	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,318
Wellington ..	24,440	124	913	..	265	1	385	2,505	..	..	..	1,220	29,853
Nelson ..	139	7,198	2,368	..	6	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,719
Marlborough ..	2,885	203	14,279	15	15	1,419	..	13,210	..	296	..	..	32,322
Westland ..	..	603	4,529	..	27	..	..	..	..	279,942	47,710	..	332,811
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	66,152	21†	47	..	..	92,222	..	33,600	..	192,042
Otago ..	4,472	..	147	10,413	18	..	..	..	35,629	52,024	6,487	..	109,190
Southland ..	4,882	2,185	100	1	233	..	1	..	..	67,611	..	..	75,013
Totals ..	143,045	22,691	73,721	86,387	1,305	5,990	398	15,715	127,851	399,873	87,797	1,220	965,993

* Includes 191 acres land for settlements.

† Land for settlements.

‡ Includes 6 acres, Cheviot Estate.

LANDS SELECTED UNDER ALL TENURES.

The number of selections during the year was 2,459, and the area taken up 2,635,329 acres. Excluding pastoral-run holdings and miscellaneous leases (which concern lands leased for short periods) from the above figures, the lands taken up on settlement conditions amounted to 472,090 acres by 1,503 selectors.

The Crown tenants now on the books of the Department number 28,466, in possession of an area of 19,391,231 acres.

For the purposes of comparison I subjoin a statement showing the area of Crown land selected each year during the last five years under all tenures, the gross revenue received by the Department from all sources, the total number of selectors, and the net area of Crown land held at the close of each year:—

TABLE B.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE AREA OF CROWN LAND SELECTED EACH YEAR DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS; THE GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT FROM ALL SOURCES DURING THE SAME PERIOD; AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTORS AND THE NET AREA OF CROWN LAND HELD AT THE CLOSE OF EACH YEAR.

Year ended 31st March.	Area of Crown Land taken up during Year.		Area of Crown Land held at Close of Each Year.		Gross Revenue received during Each Year from all Sources.
	Number of Purchasers or Selectors.	Area.	Total Number of Selectors.	Area.	
		Acres,		Acres.	£
1908	2,225	1,326,780	24,179	17,883,911	658,795
1909	2,603	916,521	25,204	18,264,083	696,375
1910	2,582	2,431,143	26,498	18,722,779	674,907
1911	2,267	1,412,742	27,496	18,961,509	784,843
1912	2,459	2,635,329	28,466	19,391,231	893,058

From the above it will be seen that the number of selectors was larger than that of the previous year and of the year 1908, but smaller than in the years 1909 and 1910. The area selected was, however, larger than in any of the previous four years, the increased area being principally due to the pastoral runs that were relet in the Land Districts of Canterbury and Otago.

In addition to this the Department also administers educational and other endowments, which are leased to 4,237 selectors, occupying an area of 1,187,751 acres, and making a grand total of 32,703 selectors with an area of 20,578,982 acres held at the 31st March, 1912.

The following tables marked C and D give respectively the number of selectors and the area selected during the year, and the total lands held under each tenure at the close of the year.

TABLE C.—RETURN SHOWING SELECTIONS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Tenure.	Number.	Area taken up.		
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands,—</i>		A.	R.	P.
Cash lands	391	6,059	0	22
Occupation with right of purchase	379	131,482	2	35
Renewable lease	15	629	3	37
Mining districts land-occupation leases	53	1,404	0	23
Village settlement, cash	1	0	2	0
„ occupation with right of purchase	1	0	2	15
„ renewable lease	42	405	0	32
Improved-farm special settlement	8	1,385	1	39
Small grazing-runs	1	2,505	0	0
Pastoral runs	73	1,348,644	2	32
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	106	33,372	0	19
Miscellaneous leases	515	45,233	1	22
Totals	1,585	1,571,122	3	36
<i>Cheviot Estate,—</i>				
Cash lands	2	0	2	0
Miscellaneous leases	2	7	3	19
Totals	4	8	1	19
<i>Land for Settlements,—</i>				
Cash lands	15	35	3	6
Renewable lease	247	91,768	0	30
Renewable lease, village settlement	1	0	1	0
Pastoral runs	1	31	0	15
Miscellaneous leases	26	694	0	20
Totals	290	92,529	1	31
<i>National-endowment Lands,—</i>				
Renewable lease	307	94,084	0	0
Village renewable lease	16	194	3	11
Mining districts land-occupation leases	2	22	0	0
Small grazing-runs	22	142,111	3	11
Pastoral runs	32	683,861	0	0
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	86	19,741	3	2
Miscellaneous leases	115	31,653	0	4
Totals	580	971,668	3	4
Grand totals	2,459	2,635,329	2	10
Primary education endowments	16	5,179	1	10
Secondary education endowments	3	1,081	2	25
Other endowment lands	9	5,956	2	22

TABLE D.—RETURN SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTORS, WITH THE AREA HELD AND THE ANNUAL RENTAL PAYABLE, AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

NOTE.—Further details of the selectors under the various tenures are given in Table 27.

Tenure.	Ordinary Crown Lands.					Cheviot Estate.					Land for Settlements.				
	Selectors.	Area held.		Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.		Selectors.	Area held.		Yearly Rental payable.		Selectors.	Area held.		Yearly Rental payable.	
		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.
Deferred payment	28	9,136	0 36	527	18 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease ..	773	77,528	0 2	3,308	10 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	5,607	1,809,887	0 30	96,802	19 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	7,349	1,623,484	1 34	60,523	5 11	210	26,865	3 25	7,294	5 10	3,645	664,550	0 21	193,102	8 8
Renewable lease	319	27,124	0 38	2,588	10 8	1	11	0 7	14	1 4	1,070	356,341	1 30	75,535	17 10
Mining districts land-occupation leases	630	23,972	2 36	1,411	2 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Agricultural lease	17	550	1 0	23	7 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	252	462,302	1 8	20,841	3 4	34	45,021	1 32	6,424	3 2	115	202,340	1 15	26,650	7 0
Pastoral runs ..	464	7,065,678	0 29	41,726	8 8	1	1,642	0 0	193	3 8	4	1,014	3 13	132	18 0
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	366	85,659	3 20	1,823	18 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous leases	4,012	605,846	0 12	15,019	11 6	46	1,094	2 30	196	11 5	228	7,151	3 30	1,799	3 5
Totals	19,817	11,791,169	2 5	244,596	16 3	292	74,635	0 14	14,122	5 5	5,062	1,231,398	2 29	297,220	14 11
Totals.															
Tenure.	National-endowment Land.					Totals.					Totals.				
	Selectors.	Area held.		Yearly Rental payable.		Total Number of Selectors.	Total Area held.		Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.		Total Number of Selectors.	Total Area held.		Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.	
		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.		A.	R. P.	£.	s. d.
Deferred payment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Perpetual lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining districts land-occupation leases	..	..	..	..	..	1,512	380,431	3 35	16,427	11 5	2,902	763,908	2 30	94,566	1 3
Agricultural lease	..	..	..	..	..	2	22	0 0	2	10 0	632	23,994	2 36	1,413	12 2
Small grazing-runs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	550	1 0	23	7 9
Pastoral runs ..	..	..	..	..	..	503	1,680,806	1 19	31,452	2 1	904	2,390,470	1 34	85,367	15 7
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	..	..	..	..	..	211	3,979,814	2 37	37,810	10 8	680	11,048,149	2 39	79,863	1 0
Miscellaneous leases	..	..	..	..	..	261	48,707	2 29	1,149	6 2	627	134,367	2 9	2,973	4 2
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	503	197,750	0 6	1,609	3 8	4,789	811,842	2 38	18,624	10 0
Thermal springs ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,992	6,287,532	3 6	88,451	4 0	28,163	19,384,736	0 14	644,391	0 7
Grand totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	303	6,194	3 12	2,151	17 4
Educational endowments (Education Reserves Acts)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,466	19,391,230	3 26	646,542	17 11
Other endowments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,297	774,314	1 17	70,373	2 5
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	940	413,436	3 28	15,467	1 0

CROWN LAND REMAINING FOR FUTURE DISPOSAL.

The area of Crown land suitable for settlement remaining for future disposal at the 31st March, 1912, was approximately 4,272,735 acres. This does not include an area of 1,242,473 acres open for selection in the Land Guide. The total area available is therefore 5,515,208 acres, and this, at the same rate of settlement, will last only a few more years. The greater portion of this area must be classified as second- and third-class land; that which can be considered as first class will not exceed a quarter of a million acres.

Advantage is also taken of subdividing, wherever possible, pastoral country upon the termination of the current leases; but, as this process has now been in operation for some years, it is not considered that there are many more of the large runs that can be profitably dealt with in this manner.

NATIONAL-ENDOWMENT AREA.

The total area now within the national endowment, in terms of section 258 of the Land Act, 1908, is 8,343,700 acres. This leaves a balance of 656,300 acres still to be provided before the statutory limit of 9,000,000 acres is reached.

An area of 6,287,533 acres has been leased, bringing in an annual rental of £88,451.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENT LANDS.

In Appendix I, the Commissioners of Crown Lands describe the progress that has been made by the settlers upon these lands. The following table gives a summary of the tenants in each district, and the area occupied :—

Land District.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.		
		A.	R.	P.
Auckland	120	16,828	0	32
Hawke's Bay	16	1,825	1	20
Taranaki	364	51,147	2	7
Wellington	281	36,422	0	38
Southland	41	4,273	2	8
Totals	822	110,496	3	25

INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The Rangers have made 9,777 inspections during the year. These are necessary to see that compliance with conditions of leases are observed. The area of holdings inspected was 4,140,922 acres, and the Rangers report that the value of the improvements effected is greater to the extent of nearly £2,000,000 than is demanded by the Act. It must be remembered that *bona fide* settlers find it advantageous to improve their lands beyond the minimum imposed by the Act. There are some defaulters, both as regards residence conditions and for insufficient improvements, and their cases are brought before the Land Board for consideration.

The following table gives particulars relative to each land district :—

TABLE E.—RETURN SHOWING NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE RANGERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.		Value of Improvements.				Number of Defaulters.				
				Required.		Actually made.		For Deficient Improvements only.	For Non-residence only.	For Non-residence and Improvements.	For other Reasons.	Total.
		A.	R. P.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.					
Auckland	1,365	424,363	0 0	187,018	0 0	417,358	0 0	76	174	99	..	349
Hawke's Bay	943	411,024	0 0	261,652	0 0	758,728	1 4	28	81	..	1	110
Taranaki	358	183,195	2 20	85,907	0 0	179,289	17 6	23	28	2	..	53
Wellington	1,697	396,531	0 0	109,841	0 0	393,206	0 0	50	52	4	..	106
Nelson	580	178,008	1 17	43,419	9 8	77,153	7 6	30	57	37	..	124
Marlborough	492	207,522	0 28	106,685	11 7	240,419	15 8	3	25	3	..	31
Westland	484	51,822	3 15	20,890	10 1	83,184	0 0	34	21	3	..	58
Canterbury	2,027	1,429,232	0 0	434,487	7 2	801,223	16 7	83	20	..	33	136
Otago	1,290	764,382	0 3	241,703	17 7	404,445	15 8	105	62	8	..	175
Southland	541	94,841	1 26	75,299	2 9	133,426	14 3	28	13	9	..	50
Totals	9,777	4,140,922	1 29	1,566,903	18 10	3,488,435	8 6	460	533	165	34	1,192

REVENUE.

The revenue collected by the Receivers of Land Revenue for the year totals £893,058, and is greater by £108,215 than the previous year's receipts. The territorial revenue included in this sum is £247,803, which is slightly less than the amount under this heading in the previous year.

Table F appended gives the amount collected in each land district :—

TABLE F.—REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.						Territorial Revenue.	Non-territorial Revenue.	Total Revenue
						£	£	£
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	68,833	101,748	170,581
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	31,465	85,150	116,615
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	16,793	29,438	46,231
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	29,840	80,997	110,837
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	9,586	25,815	35,401
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	11,236	28,916	40,152
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	5,680	17,207	22,887
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	23,554	149,017	172,571
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	31,726	89,393	121,119
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	19,090	37,574	56,664
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	247,803	645,255	893,058

REBATES OF RENT.

If rents are paid within thirty days of the date upon which they are due, the Land Act and the Land for Settlements Act provide for a discount to the tenant. Upon ordinary Crown lands and national-endowment lands 10,629 tenants received such discounts, amounting to £12,425 12s. 11d., and on Cheviot Estate and land-for-settlements holdings 4,728 tenants obtained discounts to the extent of £25,569 0s. 9d., making the total rebates £37,994 13s. 8d.

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

Section 145 of the Land Act, 1908, enacts that a certain proportion of the rents received from the letting of the lands are to be paid to the local authorities for road-making purposes. During the past year the amount handed to the local bodies under this authority totalled £33,365 19s. 1d.

TIMBER AND FLAX ROYALTIES.

The "halves" of timber and flax royalties paid to local bodies under the authority of section 319 of the Land Act, 1908, amounted to £13,822 11s.

LANDS PURCHASED AND DEALT WITH UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACT.

Six estates, containing 76,451 acres, were subdivided and placed in the market during the year, five being in the Canterbury Land District and one in the Otago Land District. Practically the whole of this area was disposed of on the day of opening, indicating that there is still a keen demand for improved land situated in a favourable locality. Up to the 31st March last an area of 1,342,760 acres had been acquired and opened for selection. The area actually held under lease was 1,231,253 acres, by 5,060 selectors, paying an annual rental of £297,117. Improvements to the value of £2,084,184 had been effected, and the total receipts amounted to £2,373,058.

The subjoined table gives in a brief form the principal purposes for which these settlements are being utilized, and the present position of each. A perusal of this table will show, from the varied purposes for which the lands are utilized, that the purchase and disposition of areas under the Land for Settlements Act provides land for all classes of the community.

TABLE G.—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, 1912.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Select-ors.	Resi-dences	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Present Position.
Auckland—				
Bickerstaffe	33	25	Grazing	Satisfactory.
Eccleston No. 2	4	..	.. .. .	Inspection not due.
Fencourt	37	38	Dairying	Satisfactory.
Karapiro	16	13	"	"
Mangapouri	10	10	"	"
Mangawhero	19	18	"	"
Matamata	207	173	"	"
Opouriao	93	81	"	Excellent.
Okauia	9	10	Grazing	Sound.
Rangiatea	20	18	Dairying	Satisfactory.
Rewi	8	2	Grazing	Fair.
Selwyn	113	87	"	Satisfactory.
Teasdale	91	64	Residential	Good.
Tautari	35	33	Grazing	Fair.
Waimana	26	30	Dairying	"
Whitehall	16	12	"	Satisfactory.
Hamlets—				
Craddock	14	14	Workmen's hamlets	"
Hetana	85	81	"	"
Kitchener	12	11	"	"
Methuen	30	30	"	"
Plumer	17	17	"	"
Waari	32	28	"	"
Totals	927	795		
Hawke's Bay—				
Argyll	62	61	Agricultural and pastoral	Good.
Clydebank	23	20	"	Very fair.
Elsthorpe	49	30	Pastoral	Good.
Forest Gate	29	27	Agricultural and pastoral	"
Hatuma	76	66	"	"
Kanakanaia	7	7	Pastoral	"
Kumeroa	15	14	Pastoral and dairying	"
Lindsay	68	63	Agricultural and pastoral	Fair.
Mahora	34	32	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture	Very good.
Mangatahi	23	22	Pastoral	Prosperous.
Manga-a-toro	26	26	"	Good.
Ngatapa	27	24	Agricultural and pastoral	"
Pouparae	9	9	"	"
Pourerere	6	6	Pastoral	Fair.
Raureka	19	17	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture	Satisfactory.
Raumati	30	31	Dairying	Good.
Te Arai	53	51	Agricultural and pastoral	"
Te Mata	9	8	Fruit-culture	Satisfactory.
Tomoana	13	12	Agricultural, dairying, and fruit-culture	Very good.
Tongoio	11	7	Pastoral	Hopeful.
Waimarie	18	16	Agricultural	Good.
Waipuka	1	1	Pastoral	Fair.
Wigan	17	18	"	Very good.
Willows	22	16	Agricultural	Good.
Totals	647	584		
Taranaki—				
Clandon	7	5	Grazing	Fair.
Huinga	10	10	"	"
Spotswood	22	17	Homesteads	Good.
Tokaora	16	13	Grazing	"
Totals	55	45		
Wellington—				
Aorangi	37	38	Dairying and fruit-growing	Excellent.
Carrington	31	28	Grazing and dairying	Satisfactory.
Dyer	37	39	"	Good.
Epuni	42	43	Residential, market-gardening, &c.	Excellent.
Hawtrey	25	20	Residential	Improving.
Hikawera	3	3	Grazing sheep and cattle	Good.
Langdale	30	24	"	Satisfactory.
Linton	5	5	Dairying and cropping	Good.
Longbush	7	7	Grazing and dairying	"
Mahupuku	8	8	"	"
Mangawhata	7	7	"	Very good.
Maungaraki	20	19	Grazing, keeping pigs, poultry, &c.	Good.
Normandale	32	32	"	Fair.
Ohakea	16	15	Dairying, grazing, and cropping	Excellent.
Paparangi	36	36	Residential, keeping pigs, &c.	Good.
Tablelands	9	9	Grazing sheep and cattle	"
Tawaha	24	25	Grazing, dairying, and cropping	"
Te Matua	13	12	Dairying and grazing	Excellent.
Totals	382	371		
Nelson—				
Braeburn	20	18	Pastoral	Very good.
Wangapeka	15	12	"	"
Totals	35	30		

TABLE G.—SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, ETC.—
continued.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Selectors.	Residences.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Present Position.
Marlborough—				
Blind River	18	12	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Good.
Flaxbourne	121	87	"	Satisfactory.
North Bank	7	6	Sheep-farming	"
Omaka	13	11	Sheep-farming and light cropping ..	Sound.
Pubipuhi	2	1	Grazing	Fair.
Rainford	11	11	Dairying	Good progress.
Richmond Brook	12	10	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Good.
Starborough	183	105	"	"
Waipapa	4	4	Grazing	Fair.
Totals	371	247		
Westland—				
Kokatahi	8	7	Dairying and grazing	Highly satisfactory.
Poerua	24	14	"	Ditto.
Totals	32	21		
Canterbury—				
Albury	75	58	Mixed farming	Most prosperous.
Arlanholme	8	..	"	Good.
Annan	43	43	"	Very good.
Ashley Gorge	10	12	Partly pastoral, partly dairying ..	Good.
Braco	14	14	Residential and market-gardening ..	"
Buddo	14	13	"	"
Chamberlain	20	21	Pastoral and mixed farming	Very good.
Clandeboye	10	10	Mixed farming and dairying	Good.
Clandeboye (No. 2)	6	6	"	Very fair.
Culverden	45	29	Mixed farming and pastoral	Fairly good.
Drayton	20	13	Small farming	Good.
Douglas	32	..	Mixed farming	"
Eccleston	4	4	"	Very good.
Epworth	2	1	Small farm	"
Fyvie	5	5	Mixed farming	Fair.
Hekeao	15	13	Mixed farming and dairying	Very good.
Highbank	80	57	Mixed farming	"
Hornby	18	12	Residential and market-gardening ..	Very good; sections not all selected.
Horsley Down	26	24	Mixed farming	Excellent.
Kamahi	13	12	Market-gardening	Good.
Kapua	12	12	Small farming and dairying	"
Kaputahe	14	13	Workmen's homes	"
Kereta	4	3	Dairying	Very good.
Kiulchr	29	28	Pastoral	Good.
Kouika	15	15	Mixed farming	Very good.
Kouika (No. 2)	4	4	"	"
Ladbrooks	13	10	Small farming and dairying	Fairly good.
Lyndon	8	8	Pastoral	Very good.
Lyndon (No. 2)	9	9	"	"
Marawiti	13	13	Mixed farming	"
Maytown	11	11	Small farming and dairying	"
Mead	21	16	Mixed farming	"
Meadows	14	13	Small farming, residential, and dairying ..	Very satisfactory.
Mills	21	21	Small farming and dairying	Fairly good.
Morice	30	24	Dairying and grass-seeding	Very good.
Orakipaoa	27	24	Small farming	"
Otaio	9	7	"	Good.
Otarakaro	7	7	Residential and market-gardening ..	"
Papaka	9	9	Mixed farming	Very good.
Pareora	28	24	Small farming	"
Pareora (No. 2)	32	32	Mixed farming	Excellent.
Patoa	4	2	Pastoral	Very good.
Pawaho	25	25	Residential and market-gardening ..	Good.
Peaks	12	1	Pastoral	Very good.
Pubuka	10	10	Workmen's homes	"
Punaroa	17	17	Mixed farming	Very prosperous.
Raincliff	1	1	Pastoral	Good.
Rakitairi	22	17	Mixed farming	Very good.
Rapuwai	5	5	Pastoral	"
Rautawiri	6	6	Small farming	"
Roimata	27	26	Residential and market-gardening ..	"
Rosebrook	14	14	Small farming	Good.
Rosewill	154	143	Partly pastoral and mixed farming ..	Very prosperous.
Ruapuna No. 2	12	11	Pastoral	Good.
Seagill	4	..	"	"
Sherwood Downs	26	..	Pastoral and mixed farming	"
Stoke	7	7	Mixed farming	Good.
Studholme Junction	4	2	Small farming	"
Takitu	5	5	Pastoral	Very good.
Tamai	40	40	Workmen's homes	Good.
Tarawahi	28	28	"	Very good.
Tripp	24	22	Pastoral and mixed farming	Good.
Waipi	15	15	Mixed farming	Very good.
Waikakahi	183	154	Pastoral and mixed farming	Very prosperous.
Wharenui	26	25	Workmen's homes	Very good.
Homestead-sites and low-lying lands	9	4	"	"
Miscellaneous occupation licenses	50	..	"	"
Totals	1,520	1,231		

* New settlements; holdings only recently selected.

TABLE G.—SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UPON ESTATES ACQUIRED AND DEALT WITH, ETC.—
continued.

Land District and Name of Settlement.	Select-ors.	Resi-dences.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Present Position.
Otago—				
Airedale	12	11	Dairying and general	Good.
Argowan	66	53		
Barnego	24	19	Dairying and general farming	Very sound.
Cardrona	1	..		..
Conical Hills	40	..		..
Duncan	6	4	General farming	Fair.
Earsosleugh	13	8	Fruit-farming	Good.
Elderslie	35	23	General farming	
Greenfield	42	40		Very good.
Janefield	21	19	Fruit-growing and dairying	Sound.
Kauroo Hill	41	30	General farming	"
Kurou	14	13	Dairying	"
Maerewhenua	75	54	General mixed farming	"
Makareao and Extension	35	22		"
Matakanui	3	1	General farming	Unsatisfactory.
Meadowbank	11	7		Very fair.
Momona	14	13	Dairying	Very sound.
Otamatakau	2	1	Grazing	"
Otakaike	66	51	General mixed farming	"
Plunket	18	18	"	"
Pomahaka Downs	27	16	"	Good.
Puketapu	11	8	Dairying	"
Steward	48	42	General mixed farming	"
St. Helen's	3	3	"	"
Tabawai	8	8	Dairying	"
Taumata	9	9	General farming	"
Teaneraki	23	14	Dairying	"
Tokarahi	79	42	General farming	"
Tutara	27	25	General and dairying	Fair.
Windsor Park No. 1	37	23	"	Good.
Windsor Park No. 2	10	8	"	"
Totals	821	585		
Southland—				
Beaumont	11	8	Mixed farming	Fair.
Edendale	147	124	Farming and dairying	Very good.
Ermedale	13	12	"	Good.
Glenham	36	44	Farming, grazing, and dairying	"
Merrivale	49	40	Dairying and grazing	"
Oahu	6	5	Farming and grazing	Satisfactory.
Ringway	8	8	"	"
Totals	270	241		
Grand totals	5,060	4,150		

EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS.

The educational reserves formerly administered by the School Commissioners are now under the control and management of the Land Boards and the Department. The area leased during the year amounted to 6,261 acres, being 5,179 acres set apart for primary education and 1,082 acres for secondary education. The revenue received amounted to £70,435 19s. 6d., collected as follows: From "primary" reserves, £62,072 11s. 1d.; from "secondary" reserves, £8,363 8s. 5d.

CEMETERIES.

Whenever a block of Crown land is subdivided, provision is made for the reservation of lands for various public purposes, one of these purposes being that of cemeteries. The title vests in the Crown until the cemetery reserves have been vested in local authorities, who are by law charged with the duty of providing burial-grounds.

There are 491 cemeteries that have not yet been handed over to local authorities, and trustees have been appointed to manage these and provide for their use. During the past year 103 trustees were appointed for 44 cemeteries.

The Department is always willing to arrange for the vesting of cemeteries in local authorities, and when this has been done in the case of any one cemetery the Department is no longer concerned in the matter of appointing trustees.

PUBLIC DOMAINS.

During the year 13 new domains, containing 338 acres, were brought under Part II of the Public Reserves and Domains Act, 1908. The total number of domains is now 522.

containing 81,551 acres, including 33,000 acres on the banks of the Wanganui River. Each domain is managed by a Domain Board, which furnishes an annual report on the condition of the domain under its control, and the progress made in improving and beautifying it. A synopsis of the reports of the Boards will be prepared for presentation to Parliament as usual.

NAVAL AND MILITARY CLAIMS.

As indicated in last year's report, the Stipendiary Magistrates were adjudicating upon claims that had been preferred by old soldiers, Volunteers, and others. Full particulars of the decisions that were arrived at were published in session of last year—Parliamentary Papers H.—21 and H.—21A. The number of claims received was 607, and 39 were submitted by the Stipendiary Magistrates for favourable consideration. It was decided that of this number 23 should be compensated, and £420 was accordingly appropriated by Parliament for the purpose. The following summary gives the position to date: Number of old soldiers, Volunteers, &c., compensated, 7,715. Some of these were granted land, some were paid in cash, and others were given scrip, which was used for the purchase of land. Area of land granted, 349,112 acres; money paid in lieu of land, £71,187; scrip used in purchase of land (land not included in area given above), £5,730.

STATE FORESTS.

At the 31st March, 1912, the area set apart as State forests and administered under the State Forests Act, 1908, was 2,118,118 acres. The revenue received during the year from sales of timber, &c., from these lands was £35,466, being £20,133 in excess of the previous year's returns.

As soon as the milling-timber upon any reserve has been utilized, steps are taken to remove the reservation from the land, and to have it subdivided and opened for settlement.

A separate report dealing with afforestation will be laid before Parliament, as usual, giving particulars as to the trees raised at the various nurseries, the areas planted, and the total expenditure.

NATIVE-LAND PURCHASES.

The following shows the work of Native-land purchase carried out by this Department for the year ended 31st March, 1912:—

1. Several blocks standing over from old purchases in the King-country were partitioned, and are now complete. They are as follows:—

	Crown Award.		
	A.	R.	P.
Taharoa A Block	5	2	0
	177	3	0
	183	1	0
	{ in Parawai Township, Taharoa A No. 5.		
Rangitoto A 3B, Section 1	474	1	13
Turoto C No. 2B, Section 1	175	1	19
Rangitoto A 22A	23	2	0
Rangitoto-Tuhua 35I, Section 3B, No. 1A	344	3	14
Te Awaroa A 3B, Section 1	408	3	10

2. The purchases on hand are in the Waikato and Urewera country. The block in the Waikato is Moerangi Nos. 1 and 3 and Moerangi No. 2. The position is as follows:—

	Acres.	Share purchased. Acres.	Equivalent Area. Acres.
Moerangi Nos. 1 and 3	33,725	19,630	19,667
Moerangi No. 2	11,757	11,735	11,757

3. The position of the lands in the Urewera at present being dealt with is as follows:—

Urewera Lands.		Share purchased. Acres.	Equivalent Area. Acres.
Block.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Otara	2,680	1,635	1,644
Omahuru	6,600	1,369	3,800
Paraoanui N.	3,400	474	1,755
Paraoanui S.	5,510	1,014	3,214
Tauranga	39,320	2,536	21,875
Waikarewhenua	12,500	2,215	5,493
Part Maungapohatu	7,000	823	3,725
Totals	77,010	10,066	41,506

The purchase-moneys paid during the year, in current work, amounted to £56,029 8s. 6d.

Included in the above sum is £310, compensation awarded by the Appellate Court for some outstanding shares in the Town of Rotorua.

RETIREMENT.

From a departmental point of view, undoubtedly the principal event of the year was the retirement of Mr. William Charles Kensington, I.S.O., from the position of Under-Secretary for Crown Lands on the 31st March, 1912. Mr. Kensington was appointed to this position on the 1st January, 1902, and consequently held it for more than ten years. As he filled it with such conspicuous success and ability, a glance at his past career may be of general interest.

Mr. Kensington was born at Criccieth, North Wales, on the 2nd August, 1845, being the eldest son of Mr. C. Jephson W. Kensington, of Prince Hill, Worton, Wiltshire. He was educated at Grosvenor School, Bath, and the King's School, Bruton, Somerset. He came to New Zealand in November, 1862, and twelve months from that date volunteered for active service with the Imperial troops on the east coast, who were then engaged in the Maori war. He accompanied expeditions to Tauranga and Maketu, and subsequently conveyed a message from Major Colville from Maketu to Tauranga, arriving in time to witness the attack on the Gate Pa on the 28th April, 1864. He was promoted to be ensign in the Auckland Militia on the 3rd June, 1865, and gazetted captain commanding the cadet companies of the Auckland Rifle Brigade in March, 1872. The Imperial War Medal was awarded him for his services.

Mr. Kensington joined the General Government Survey staff in September, 1864, and served his time with the District Surveyor for the Waikato. He obtained his land surveyor's first-class certificate on the 12th June, 1866, and was then employed subdividing lands at Waiuku and elsewhere. In 1868 he proceeded to Hawke's Bay as special Commissioner to settle the dispute between the Hawke's Bay Provincial Council and the General Government as to the values of triangulation to be charged to the latter authority. He then prepared sketch topographical maps, upon which the Government purchased the Seventy-mile Bush (between Takapau and Eketahuna) from the Maoris. In 1871 he was appointed Deputy Inspector of Surveys, and for the ensuing three years assisted in land-purchase surveys and roadworks. In 1877 he was appointed Chief Draughtsman of the newly combined Survey Office at Auckland, and held this position until his promotion to the office of Under-Secretary in 1902.

After appointment as Under-Secretary, Mr. Kensington was successively appointed to other positions, which he held in conjunction therewith, comprising the following: Under-Secretary for Immigration; member of the Board of Land Purchase Commissioners; member of the Civil Service Guarantee Board; member of the Public Service Superannuation Board; member of the Public Service Classification Board; member of the Tongariro National Park Board; Chairman of the Board appointed to select sites in both Islands for central military training-grounds and camps. In June, 1909, His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to appoint him a Companion of the Imperial Service Order in recognition of his long and faithful service in the Civil Service of New Zealand.

I may also draw attention to the fact that Mr. Kensington personally supervised the operations of the Land Drainage Branch of the Department, frequently inspecting the extensive drainage-works in the Hauraki and Rangitaiki Plains, to enable him to acquire a complete knowledge of the situation in each locality; that he also exercised administrative control over the operations of the Afforestation Branch of the Department, comprising five nurseries and twelve plantations; that he had an intimate knowledge of the conditions governing the sale and disposal of timber on Crown lands and in State forests, and gave personal attention to such matters; and that not only in the details of land-administration, but also in all the varied technical and other duties now devolving upon the great Department of Lands and Survey, he showed a thorough and intimate acquaintance with every phase of the manifold duties entrusted to him.

The career of our late Under-Secretary is a striking example of the manner in which energy and ability may be displayed in every branch of the public service, and for the general good of the community. His unfailing courtesy, patience, and kindness have endeared him to all those officers who have been fortunate to be associated with him in any capacity, and the deep interest he always took in all matters tending towards the advancement of the Department and its members will never be forgotten. It is as a friend rather than as a chief that he is universally regarded, and on behalf of the Department I desire to express our heartfelt appreciation of his long and meritorious services, which we trust are but a prelude to a happy and prosperous period of retirement.

DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES: PROMOTIONS, TRANSFERS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

Consequent on the retirement on pension of the late Mr. E. C. Gold Smith, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for Auckland, Mr. H. M. Skeet was appointed from Southland to succeed him, while Mr. G. H. M. McClure, of Westland, took Mr. Skeet's place. Mr. H. D. M. Haszard, Chief Draughtsman at Christchurch, was promoted to Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for Westland, while Mr. H. G. Price, Chief Draughtsman at



[H. Bartholomew, photo.]

WM. C. KENSINGTON, ESQ., U.S.O., LATE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND IMMIGRATION

Napier, was appointed to succeed him. Mr. D. M. Calder, District Surveyor, Dunedin, was appointed Chief Draughtsman at Hokitika, vice Mr. F. A. Thompson, who succeeded Mr. Price as Chief Draughtsman at Napier. Mr. G. H. Bullard, Inspecting Surveyor and Land Officer, Gisborne, was promoted to be Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for Taranaki in the place of the late Mr. W. Armstrong. Mr. T. Brook, District Surveyor, was promoted to succeed Mr. Bullard at Gisborne. Owing to the retirement on superannuation of Mr. F. S. Smith, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor for Marlborough, Mr. W. H. Skinner, Chief Draughtsman at New Plymouth, was promoted in his place, while Mr. H. J. Lowe, surveyor, Wellington, took the latter's position. Mr. W. F. Marsh, Chief Draughtsman at Blenheim, was promoted to Dunedin, his place being filled by Mr. A. D. Burns. Mr. H. T. McCardell, draughtsman, who has been Acting Chief Draughtsman at the Head Office for the last two years, was promoted to the position of Chief Draughtsman in the same office. Mr. J. H. Boscawen, Chief Clerk at Auckland, was appointed to the position of Inspector of Kauri-gum Reserves and Forest Areas, and the vacant position was filled by the transfer of Mr. J. G. Bendely, Chief Clerk at Christchurch. Mr. R. Leckie, clerk in the Auckland office, was promoted to the Chief Clerkship in the Christchurch office.

REPORT BY THE CHIEF CLERK.

The Chief Clerk reports as follows:—

The work of the Head Office has been performed both efficiently and expeditiously during the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1912.

Correspondence.—The number of letters and telegrams inwards during the year amounted to 15,352 addressed to the Lands Department, and 5,022 addressed to the Immigration Department, making a total of 20,374, whilst the correspondence outwards totalled 16,293 for Lands, and 5,923 for Immigration, making a grand total of 42,590 for all correspondence. The modern system of using cards both for indexing and also for keeping records of correspondence has now been fully established, and has proved a great saving of time and labour, as well as being more efficient than the old system of entering *précis* of correspondence into large record-books. Another feature of the recording-work that has proved very beneficial is the abolition of the copy-press books, and the substitution of carbon copies of letters, which are always typed. These carbon copies are bound in books of five hundred, and form a ready and quick method of reference. A second carbon copy is placed on the file of papers relating to the subject in question.

Although the number of letters, &c., passing through the office has increased of late years, yet the alteration in the system of records and correspondence has enabled the work to be undertaken and carried out more economically and efficiently.

Land-sales.—The following Warrants and Proclamation offering land for disposal were issued: Under the optional system, 67; under renewable lease, 50; by auction, 31; land-for-settlement estates and areas, 18; village settlements, 3. Other documents comprised 6 Warrants setting land apart for, or withdrawing it from, improved-farm settlements; setting small grazing-runs apart, 7; notification of rivers under the Timber-floating Act, 6; miscellaneous, 4. Land-sale posters to the number of 182 were issued, the number of each printed varying from 500 to 2,000, and their publication is now entirely undertaken by this branch of the office staff.

Cemeteries.—Forty-three Warrants appointing trustees to Cemetery Boards were issued in the course of the twelve months.

Domains.—Ninety-eight Orders in Council making domains or constituting Domain Boards were published; whilst 79 appointments of persons to vacancies on existing Boards were made.

Crown Lands Guide.—Ten thousand copies of the Guide were published in four quarterly editions, and distributed.

Public Reserves.—One hundred and eleven Warrants under sections 321 and 322 of the Land Act, 1908, were prepared, setting apart Crown lands as reserves for various public purposes. Seventeen Warrants changing the purpose of reserves, eight Warrants exchanging reserves for other lands of equal value, and twenty-four Warrants vesting reserves in local authorities, &c., were prepared also.

Scenery-preservation.—Thirty-seven Proclamations setting Crown land aside for reservation under the Scenery Preservation Act were prepared and issued.

Kauri-gum Industry Act.—Eleven Orders in Council withdrawing lands from reservation under the Kauri-gum Industry Act were drafted and issued.

State Forests.—Five Proclamations creating State-forest reserves, or withdrawing lands from such reservation, were prepared.

Roads.—Under the provisions of the Native Land Act, 1909, there were nineteen Proclamations prepared and issued for laying out and taking roads through Native land. Under the Land Act, 1908, sixteen Proclamations were issued taking new roads and closing old lines of road.

Miscellaneous.—Twenty-four miscellaneous notices were also prepared on various subjects, as well as a large number of advertisements dealing with land and timber sales generally.

Land-sale Monthly Poster.—The usual poster giving summaries of land-sales for the ensuing month was prepared and published each month. Copies of this are posted up in the various Land Offices of the Department and other prominent places for the information of the public.

Other Work.—The staff has been kept fully occupied in attending to other important duties, which embrace the issue of Crown grants, Warrants for certificates of title, and miscellaneous leases and licenses. The necessary action has been taken to obtain loans under the New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909, for the roading and opening-up of Crown lands and national endowments preparatory to their being offered for sale or selection. Copious information has been afforded numerous inquirers regarding the available lands of the Dominion, letters being received from all parts of the Dominion and outside world. Bills and regulations have been prepared for Parliament and gazetting; reports have been furnished on numerous and diverse subjects; the constant details of departmental administration have been carefully and promptly attended to; Commissioners of Crown Lands, Chief Surveyors, and Land Boards have been advised regarding the meaning, interpretation, or procedure of the Land and other Acts dealt with by them; the fullest assistance has been afforded all local authorities and persons who require the help of, or information from, the Department; and every possible care has been taken that the administration of the Department has been in the best interests of the State and the great army of settlers who hold lands under the control of the ten Land Boards of the Dominion. This is largely insured by the adoption of modern methods when dealing with the correspondence, the avoidance of all possible delay, having all matters attended to by trained officers, and the most careful supervision to obviate friction, to prevent overlapping of duties, to increase the usefulness of the staff, and to see that a thorough and practical acquaintance of the many Acts and regulations governing the administration and disposal of lands and property of the Crown is, as far as practicable, possessed by all officers.

REPORT BY THE CHIEF ACCOUNTANT.

The Chief Accountant reports that during the year the work of his branch has considerably increased. The number of vouchers approved totalled 17,815, an increase of 1,000 over the previous year. During the year a considerable portion of his time has been occupied in and out of the office in negotiating with Native owners with regard to the purchase of Native lands under offer to the Crown, and in effecting payment for Native lands purchased.

Appended is a summary of the expenditure approved by the Department for the year ended the 31st March, 1912:—

Vote No.	Name of Vote or Account.	Amount voted (Net).	Expenditure (Gross).	Recoveries.	Expenditure (Net).
		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
74	Lands and Survey ...	169,901	191,303 17 10	32,676 5 6	158,627 12 4
75	Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous	113,826	47,124 11 9	7,757 12 3	39,366 19 6
111	Immigration ...	20,000	39,644 7 5	27,963 14 0	11,680 13 5
118	Improved-farm Settlements ...	16,000	20,729 3 10	2,583 5 5	18,145 18 5
119	Lands, Miscellaneous ...	4,000	1,068 14 0	...	1,068 14 0
120	State Forests ...	23,632	22,855 10 9	44 17 1	22,810 13 8
122	Scenery-preservation ...	11,856	5,938 16 5	180 11 1	5,758 5 4
	Totals ...	359,215	328,665 2 0	71,206 5 4	257,458 16 8
	Consolidated Fund, Unauthorized Account		600 17 10	...	600 17 10
	Public Works Fund Unauthorized Account		1,665 9 0	4 10 0	1,660 19 0
	Special Acts Deposit Accounts, &c. ...		9,646 12 8	...	9,646 12 8
	Land for Settlements Account (including Vote 123)		16,060 19 9	124 19 3	15,936 0 6
	Cheviot Estate Account ...		38 17 6	...	38 17 6
	Hauraki Plains Settlement Account ...		37,423 1 2	431 1 1	36,992 0 1
	Rangitaiki Land Drainage Account ...		11,888 2 2	...	11,888 2 2
	National Endowment Account ...		23,660 0 8	...	23,660 0 8
	Native Land Settlement Account ...		85,221 18 7	10,300 16 5	74,921 2 2
	Totals ...		186,205 19 4	10,861 6 9	175,344 12 7
	Grand totals ...		514,871 1 4	82,067 12 1	432,803 9 3

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, 1912.

AUCKLAND.

LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

THE number of sections (612) and area (164,968 acres) made available under all classes of tenure are very much in excess of figures for former years. The number of applications received and dealt with has been well maintained, the opening of special areas, such as the Hauraki Plains, attracting many applicants from all parts of the Dominion and resulting in heavy balloting. In the case of the Hauraki Plains the Land Board required all applicants to appear for personal examination, in order that only those with experience and a minimum capital should compete in the ballot. Of the total number of applications received during the year, 622 were approved and 280 rejected for various reasons.

The question arises whether, in view of the diminishing quantity of our Crown land and the unsatisfied demand, all applicants should not be personally examined as to experience, suitability, &c., before balloting. It may involve extra expense for the applicant in travel, but it would result in the Crown securing the best-qualified selector and the one most entitled to select.

During the year fourteen ballots and nine auction sales (or tenders) have been held.

It is worth while to draw attention to the fact that out of the total area of 164,968 acres opened for selection, 96,752 acres, or nearly 60 per cent. of the total, was offered under the optional system, giving selectors the right of acquiring the freehold. The area opened under renewable lease only, consisting of national endowments, land for settlements, and areas within mining districts, was 63,750 acres, or about 38 per cent. of the total.

THE VARIOUS TENURES.

The total number of Crown tenants of all classes on the books of the office at the close of the year was 7,136, occupying an area of 2,021,498 acres and 24 perches and paying an annual rental of £86,977 18s. 5d. Exclusive of the 570 tenants of education-endowment reserves who were taken over from the School Commissioners at the beginning of the year, the net increase is 262 tenants. The largest number of new selections was under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system, but this increase has been to a very large extent counterbalanced by the number of freeholds acquired, as well as by a number of forfeitures, principally at selectors' own requests, so that the actual increase is comparatively small. The lease-in-perpetuity tenure shows a small decrease, resulting from acquisition of freeholds, and forfeitures in a few cases. The renewable-lease tenure has received a considerable increase from selections under the national-endowment and land-for-settlements classes, though the total number of holders is less than one-fourth of those under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system. Of the remaining tenures, the largest increase is noticeable under pastoral licenses in mining districts (Hauraki pastoral leases). The other tenures show little variation from the figures of the preceding year.

RANGERS' REPORTS AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The reports received from the Crown Lands Rangers disclose on the whole a very gratifying condition of affairs in connection with the occupation of lands held under the various forms of Crown tenure. Excellent work is in the majority of cases being done in the clearing of bush, draining, laying down in pasture, and erection of fencing and buildings, and with few exceptions settlers comply readily with the conditions of their leases, even though considerable difficulties and hardships may be endured in the early stages of settlement. Holdings generally are improved at a much greater rate than is required by law—a satisfactory indication that lands are not held for speculative purposes. Residence conditions are not always so satisfactorily fulfilled, this being due generally to difficulties of access, and sometimes to lack of educational facilities for families. New schools are being provided where the required number of scholars can be obtained, but in isolated localities this is difficult to secure. In various parts of the district the means of access are still very bad, making the carriage of produce, &c., difficult and costly; gradual and steady improvement is however taking place, often under considerable difficulties owing to scarcity of metal. Railway-extension, especially in the northern part of the district, is facilitating the development of the country, and is helping to bring the hitherto unknown

north into the prominence which its true value merits. Many visitors from other parts of the Dominion have purchased land and settled in the north, and the capital which they brought with them has contributed materially to the prosperity of the district. The extension of the East Coast Railway will also prove a great factor in assisting the development of the district southwards of the Bay of Plenty.

Settlers occupying bush lands have been handicapped this year by the early autumn rains, which rendered it impossible to get good burns; those who burnt early were, however, rewarded with very favourable conditions for sowing. Crops generally have been good, and notwithstanding the variable season were successfully harvested. The dairying industry throughout the district has had a very successful year, as is evidenced by the fact that the total quantity of butter exported amounted to 140,601 cwt., as against 125,450 cwt. for the preceding year, an increase of 12 per cent., while the higher values realized represent an increase of over 25 per cent. The cheese export also shows an increase of 16 per cent. in quantity. The development of home separation in connection with the dairy industry, especially to those in the backblocks, is proving of great advantage, as it enables them to pack their cream and thus bring the dairy industry within reach of those who would otherwise be debarred from its benefits. The development of dairying is also bringing about an improvement in the quality of stock. In this connection it is interesting to note that dairying is being found to reduce to some extent the "bush sickness" prevalent in parts of the Tauranga and other counties. The changing of stock and bringing in of new stock prevents the rank growth of pasture, and minimizes the effect of the disease.

In the district southward of the Bay of Plenty good progress is being made by the tenants, though some in the Opotiki County are hampered by difficulties of access, due in part to the steep and broken nature of the country. The drainage-works undertaken by the Government at Matata and Rangitaiki have proved of great benefit to the surrounding district, and it is possible that similar works may be needed in the swamp near Maketu and similar areas in other parts of the district. The settlement of Native lands near Rotorua and the progress of dairying is aiding the development of that locality. The pumice soils are being found capable of responding to suitable treatment.

In the Coromandel Peninsula the most serious drawback is the difficulty of getting the lands settled under present conditions. Thousands of acres of unoccupied lands are becoming seriously overrun with noxious weeds, especially blackberry. Much of the land, though poor and rough, could be successfully occupied for sheep and cattle grazing, and if a sufficiently attractive form of tenure could be offered would in all probability be taken up readily.

A portion of the Waihi Plains close to the Township of Waihi was successfully disposed of during the year, and a considerable area of undulating country northward from Waihi, if suitably opened up, might be utilized for dairy farms.

On the Hauraki Plains great development is taking place on the lands already disposed of, and excellent work is being done by the tenants, who are generally complying with the terms of their leases in a very satisfactory manner.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

Rangitoto No. 1: This settlement has made good progress; out of the forty selectors, thirty-seven are residing with their families, the total number of souls being 161. The area under cultivation is 1,005 acres, and the value of improvements effected is £5,129. Two schools have been opened during the year.

Rangitoto No. 2: All the selectors, seventeen in number, are residing with their families, numbering sixty-two persons. The area under cultivation is 761 acres, and the value of improvements £3,147. A school has been opened, and several settlers are milking for the factory.

Korakonui: There are fifteen selectors, all of whom are residing, the total population being fifty-four persons. 462 acres have been brought under cultivation, and the value of improvements effected is £2,405. Dairying has been commenced, and a school is established on the settlement.

To make these settlements a complete success, further assistance is required for another year. The members of the Land Board and myself have recently visited nearly all these settlers, and generally speaking found them of a suitable type, satisfied with their holdings, and doing their best to make homes for themselves and their families. In a few cases the selectors and the holdings might be separated with mutual advantage, but with judicious elimination of the unfit the settlements should be able to stand the test imposed by the cessation of advances, and should ultimately prove successful.

REVENUE.

The gross revenue for the year was £170,580 17s. 11d., as against £130,795 11s. 7d. for the preceding year, an increase of £39,785 6s. 4d.; the principal increases being in the items of timber sales, cash sales, and acquisition of freehold, Native Land Settlement Account, and the educational endowment reserves, the control of which was taken over from the School Commissioners at the beginning of the year.

The report furnished by the Receiver of Land Revenue on the work of the year shows that, in addition to the collection of the above-mentioned revenue, which involved the issue of 13,482 receipts, a sum of £83,766 was paid into Ordinary Deposit Account, the payments from which amounted to £85,853, the receipts issued and operations effected on this account numbering 6,685. The amount of "thirds," "fourths," and "halves" paid into the Local Bodies' Deposit Account was £18,634, and £18,139 was paid out of this account. The number of book-keeping entries involved in dealing with these large sums of money was approximately 117,000. During the year new ledgers have been opened for all accounts, and a double-entry system of book-keeping is now being maintained.

The rebate of 10 per cent. granted for punctual payment of rents was secured during the year by 3,841 tenants, the aggregate amount of the rebates being £5,001 19s. 5d. The number of tenants who received the rebate shows a decrease of 130 on that of the previous year, but the aggregate amount is £572 greater, due, no doubt, to the higher rents now accruing from recent selections as the result of the general increase of land-values.

The arrears of rent owing at the close of the year amounted to £2,992 13s. 8d., owing by 309 tenants occupying an area of 182,921 acres 2 roods 37 perches. This represents, as regards the number of tenants, a little over 4 per cent. of the total, while as regards the amount owing it is barely $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the annual rent-roll of the district.

CONVERSIONS OF TENURE.

The only transactions during the year under this head consist of eleven exchanges, all but one of which were from the mining district land occupation and Hauraki pastoral lease tenures to renewable lease, the total area being 2,712 acres and 34 perches. No doubt more of such exchanges would be effected but for the fact that in many cases the road-access to the holdings is at present defective, and applications to exchange to the improved tenure cannot be entertained until this defect is remedied.

ACQUISITION OF FREEHOLD.

In respect of the various tenures under which Crown tenants have the right of acquiring the freehold—namely, the deferred-payment, perpetual-lease, occupation-with-right-of-purchase, and lease-in-perpetuity tenures—the number of tenants who acquired the freehold during the year was 161, holding an area of 42,238 acres. This shows a very marked increase over the corresponding figures for the preceding year, which were 104 tenants holding an area of 29,354 acres. Most of the increase is, of course, under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure.

TRANSFERS.

The total number of transfers approved by the Land Board during the year was 674, the principal tenures contributing to this total being—Occupation with right of purchase, 276; lease in perpetuity, 225; education reserves, 58; and renewable leases, 50. Thirty-two applications for transfer were declined. The keen demands by *bona fide* selectors for Crown land, which renders necessary careful scrutiny of applicants desiring to select in the first instance from the Crown, necessitates also full investigation of all applications for transfer, in order to ensure as far as possible that there shall be neither undue aggregation nor absorption of Crown leaseholds into adjoining properties; while a speculative value against the incoming tenant has also to be considered and dealt with. The general increase of land-values is emphasized in many cases by the large sums paid by way of goodwill over and above even the vendor's own estimate of the value of improvements. Such cases are most noticeable under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system, where the guaranteed right to acquire the freehold at the original capital value enables the transferor to obtain a considerable proportion of the increased value by way of goodwill. It is noticeable also that large goodwills are obtainable for the transfer of subdivisions of holdings which were originally designed for village settlements in the neighbourhood of small centres of population, but which, by the unexpected growth of these centres, have now come within the suburban radius, and command large values for residential purposes. In these cases the Crown lessee is often able to secure an "unearned increment" which has been lost to the State, although this circumstance would not justify any steps being taken that would prevent the legitimate development of the neighbourhood. It may be noted also that with improved means of communication and the development of the dairy industry, rural holders find it advantageous to subdivide and dispose of portions of their holdings, thus placing additional settlers on the land, and securing greater improvement and more productive and profitable use.

On analysing the applications for transfer, it is found that a very large proportion of the incoming tenants are from other districts; these men are taking advantage of the lower values of the northern lands, thus bringing in outside capital and experienced settlers, useful and valuable to the working of Auckland lands.

FORFEITURES.

The total number of holdings forfeited and surrendered has been 132, representing an area of 97,923 acres. This, however, includes two pastoral runs of 71,857 acres, the remaining area being 26,066 acres. In the previous year, when no large pastoral areas were forfeited, the area was 50,103 acres; so that there has really been a considerable decrease of area. In many cases forfeiture is effected at the selector's own request, a fruitful source of this being the selection of Crown lands without prior personal inspection. Afterwards, when the selector goes to inspect his newly-acquired property, he finds that it does not come up to his expectations, or is not the class of land he anticipated, or the locality or difficulties of transport promise to make the task of breaking-in a new area more arduous than he is prepared to undertake, and he applies to be relieved of an ill-chosen bargain. It cannot be too often emphasized that the practice of selecting lands without previous inspection is an extremely inadvisable one, and likely in the majority of cases to lead to disappointment and monetary loss.

EDUCATION RESERVES.

At the beginning of the year the Land Board took over the control of the education-endowment reserves throughout the district, which have hitherto been controlled by the School Commissioners. The total area of these endowments in the district is 126,346 acres, of which 83,321 acres are let at a rental of £4,236 per annum. Arrangements are being made to have the unlet areas offered for lease,

and it is anticipated that a considerable proportion will be taken up. Renewals have been arranged upon revaluation in a few cases where leases originally issued by the School Commissioners were about to expire.

KAURI-GUM.

The number of licenses issued during the year has been—To British diggers, 2,598; to alien diggers, mostly Austrians, 577; gum-buyers' licenses, 225. These figures show a considerable reduction on those for the previous year, especially among the Austrian diggers, this reduction being due to the low price of gum, the low wages resulting having driven many diggers to seek more lucrative employment in other directions.

Several applications have been made during the year for the removal of the reservation from kauri-gum reserves, with a view to the land being opened for settlement; but the provisions of the law which require a certificate that the land is no longer required for gum-digging render it difficult to remove the reservation from any considerable area, as all the reserves are being worked to some extent, and it is exceedingly difficult to say when a field is worked out. Should the price of gum again become high, many difficult places at present practically untouched will no doubt be searched, and may quite probably give payable results. Already gum has been found beneath the sandstone bottom underlying swamps, as well as in hard cement formations which require to be broken with a pick.

Numerous applications for leases of residence and business sites in terms of the regulations issued in December last have been received and dealt with, though the work has been delayed for want of survey assistance to mark out the areas applied for preparatory to issue of leases. The question of occupation of business-sites is a matter requiring special attention, and the area that is allowed for settlement is in many cases hardly large enough if a digger endeavours to make a farm.

LAND BOARD.

During the year twelve ordinary and fourteen special meetings of the Board were held. The special meetings were held at different centres within the district, ranging from Taumarunui in the south to Dargaville in the north, the members of the Board being thus enabled to meet Crown tenants in their own localities, and to make personal observation of the needs and capabilities of the different parts of the district. The result of these meetings justifies the Board in stating that the Crown tenants of the district are generally of an excellent stamp of settler, who are in many cases performing fine pioneer work under considerable difficulties and hardships, and deserve whatever sympathy and consideration can be justifiably given.

The biennial election of a Crown tenant's representative on the Board was held in February, and resulted in the re-election of the sitting member, Mr. J. Trounson, whose nomination was the only valid one received. Mr. M. W. Armstrong, whose term as a nominated member expired in March, did not seek reappointment, and the vacancy has been filled by Mr. J. Rountree.

OFFICE-WORK.

The continual increase in the number of Crown tenants in the district, the keen demand and numerous inquiries for all lands opened for selection, and the increasing number and complexity of the transactions passing under the control of the Department, have combined to make the year a busy one in all branches of work. Some indication of the volume of work passing through the office may be gathered from the fact that the number of letters, packets, and telegrams received during the year was 37,609, while the outgoing mail numbered 61,720 pieces of matter. The corresponding figures for the preceding year were 33,097 incoming and 46,810 outgoing.

I took charge of this district on the 1st December last, upon the retirement of the late Mr. E. C. Gold Smith, and wish to place on record my appreciation of the willing assistance that has been given me by the staff since I assumed control.

H. M. SKEET,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

HAWKE'S BAY.

THE SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

The year just ended, generally speaking, was one of advance in settlement right throughout the district. The settlers in the old-established settlements are prosperous, and there is a great movement towards efficient farming, bringing into use land which before was considered of little value, by manuring and adopting other methods of progressive farming.

The new settlers in the back country are engaged in the work of bushfelling, burning, and grassing, having made great headway, and appear quite satisfied with their prospects.

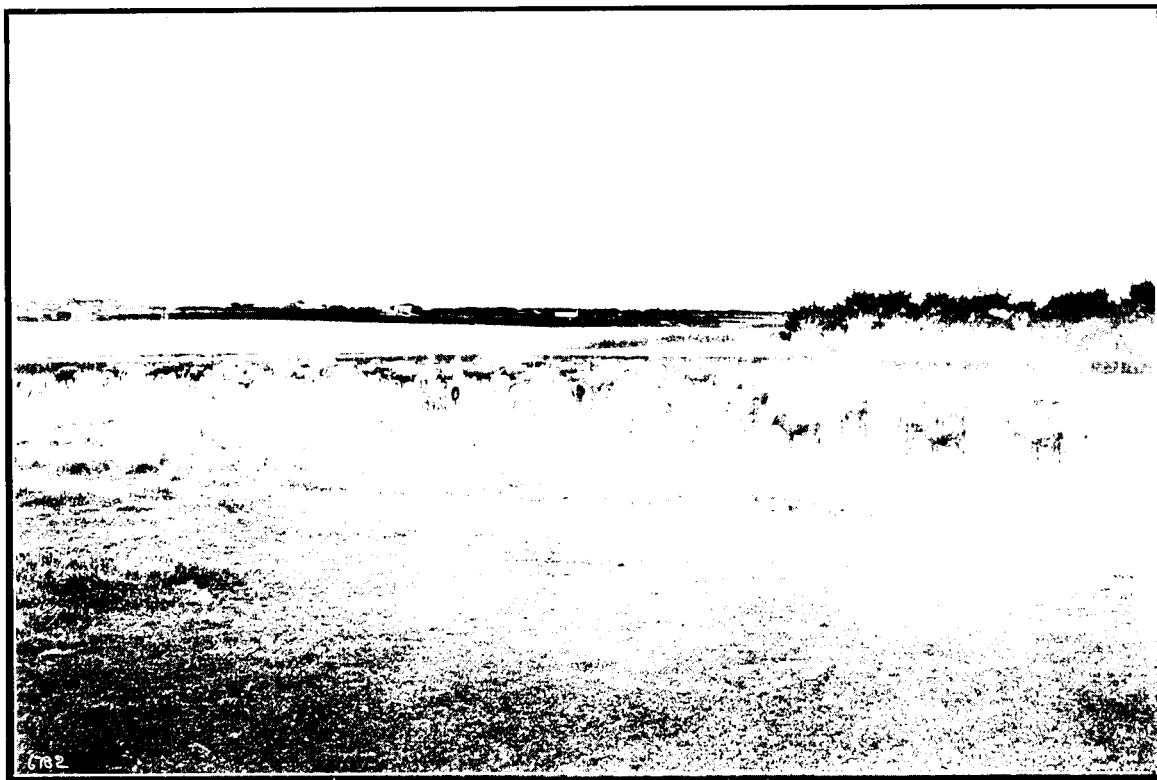
Every opportunity has been taken during the year to survey and offer the remaining Crown lands for settlement, but the supply was not quite equal to the demand, as can be seen by there being only three sections, of a total area of 871 acres, still available for selection, comprising two which are village allotments. In view of the extraordinary demand, the Land Board has decided, when offering lands for selection, to give preference to landless unsuccessful applicants in previous ballots, and also applicants with families.



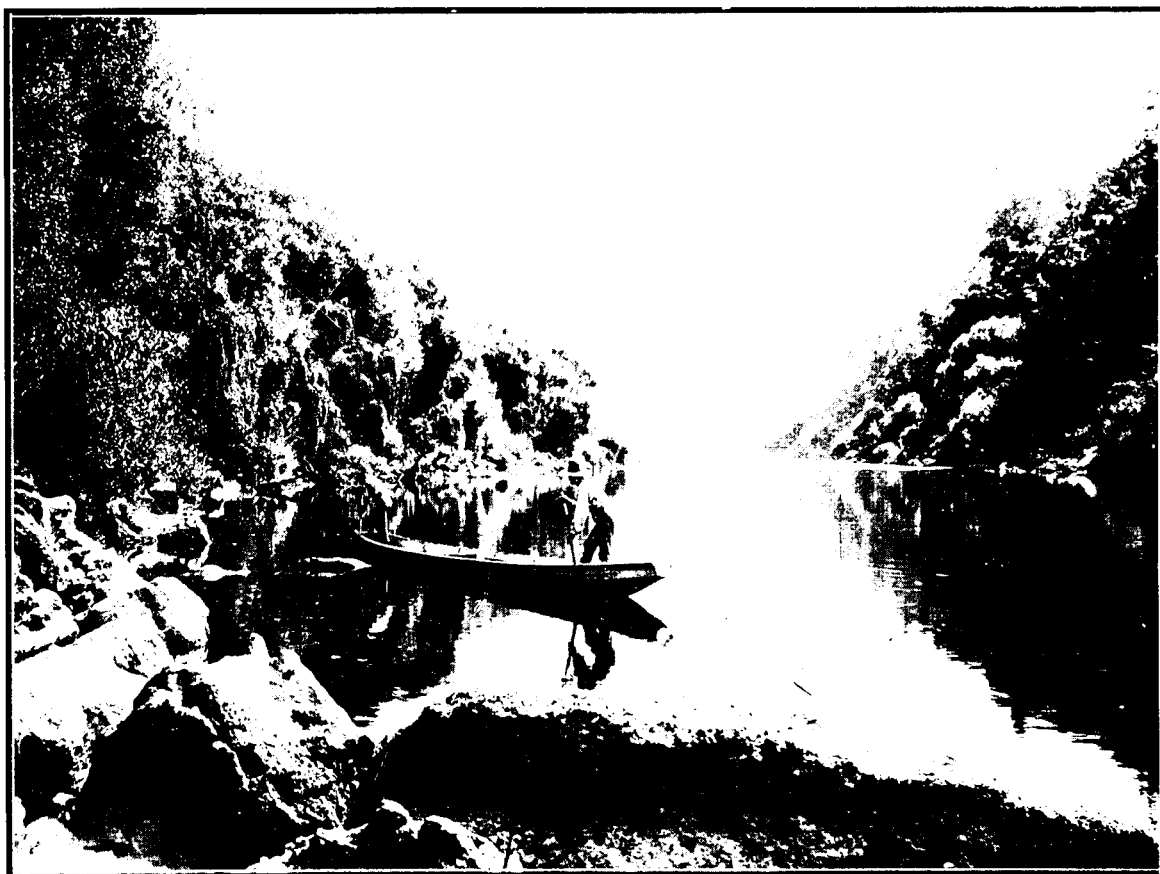
Group of towers, Haps, West of Haps, Japan.



Field, Saito, Waseda.



CATTLE SCENE, TAPANAEL. (MOUNT ELEMONT IN BACKGROUND.)



WANGANEI RIVER.

DISPOSAL OF REMAINING CROWN LANDS.

At the close of the year 1911-12 an area of 21,926 acres was in hand for offering for sale or selection during the current financial year. The following are brief descriptions of the blocks:—

Manawaangi Block (11,552 acres): Most part open country, partly in native and exotic grasses. The soil is variable; portions of the block show limestone outcrop, and other portions a clay subsoil resting on papa. Generally speaking, the block may be said to be well watered. The country is well adapted for mixed farming.

Te Whitiara Block (1,257 acres): The northern half is a natural clearing, the southern half being felled bush country which has been sown in English grass. All the sections are suitable for dairying, that industry having been successfully carried on in the locality for many years.

Tahoraite No. 1E Block (248 acres): Open grass land; soil fair to good.

Tutamoe (7,570 acres): Undulating country, covered with mixed bush: formation generally papa and clay; good soil; suitable for sheep and cattle.

Weber Survey District (294 acres): All in grass; soil fair to good.

Waiau Survey District (123 acres): Mostly hilly land with a few small easy-sloping terraces.

Te Arai Settlement (15 acres): Flat agricultural land of good quality.

Tongoio Settlement (867 acres): Comprised good limestone country, intersected by deep gullies carrying good water; all in grass.

SMALL GRAZING-RUNS.

The leases of seven holdings, covering an area of 13,588 acres 3 roods 4 perches, at an annual rental of £142 7s. 2d., expired during the year, and were all renewed at advanced rentals, altogether amounting to £1,040 19s., as it was found that none of these areas were suitable for further subdivision.

BUSH FELLED AND GRASSED.

The area of 14,959 acres of bush felled and grassed during the year—and this area only includes Crown lands inspected—illustrates the activity and progress of settlement, and also the great desire on the part of the settlers to bring land to a productive state, thereby enhancing the value of their holdings.

INSPECTIONS, AND RANGERS' REPORTS.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the northern or Poverty Bay portion of the district made 269 inspections of leasehold sections held on different tenures, covering an area of 187,485 acres, and thirty-seven miscellaneous inspections and reports.

The improvements required under the Act amount to £136,006, while the improvements effected are valued at £341,716.

The area of bush felled on Crown lands during the year was 14,288 acres: of this area 3,804 acres was felled by the settlers on the Ngatapa Block, selected in February, 1911. With one exception all selectors have complied with all the improvement conditions.

As the season has been favourable the settlers have all had good burns, which means a great deal to the settler in the first year of his occupation. Speaking generally, it has been an exceptionally good year all round.

The Crown Lands Rangers for the southern portion of the district made inspections and reported on 674 holdings, and also supplied 124 special reports. The dairying industry is being carried on wherever the land is found to be at all suitable, and a good demand exists at the present time for both dairy and store cattle. Fruitgrowing operations are being greatly extended throughout the district, more especially in regard to apple-culture, and some good specimens were to be seen at the Hawke's Bay Show. A feature of the year has been the establishment of the Matamau cheese-factory, the plant consisting of a 14-horse-power boiler and 6½-horse-power engine, with two 850-gallon cheese-vats, and a steam hoist ejector for lifting the whey and capable of putting through 1,560 gallons per hour. Our settlers generally are prospering and contented.

LAND REVENUE: REBATE OF RENT AND PAYMENT OF RENT.

The ordinary-revenue receipts, numbering 3,736, and twenty-six provisional-title receipts, were passed through the Receiver of Land Revenue's cash-book. In the deposit accounts £14,349 6s. 7d. was received. Twenty-five payments, amounting to £5,538 18s. 11d., were made from the Local Bodies Deposit Account.

The gross revenue received for the year was £116,614 13s. 3d. (a record for the district), an increase of £4,200 12s. 5d. over the previous year. The increase of revenue was principally made up of rents received from education endowments, which were handed over by the late School Commissioners on the 1st April, 1911, under the provisions of the Education Reserves Amendment Act, 1910. The lessees in arrear with their rents, exclusive of current half-year's rent, show an increase of twenty-four, and the total amount owing is £458 17s. 10d.; but this amount is comparatively small, representing less than ½ per cent. on the amount of annual rent payable. This is in a great measure due to the liberal rebate of 10 per cent. granted to the tenants for prompt payment. The amount granted under this heading was £8,158 8s. 10d., to 1,223 tenants, which is 7½ per cent. on the annual rent payable under all tenures.

PURCHASE OF FEE-SIMPLE DURING THE YEAR.

In consequence of the high value of land of to-day only two tenants under lease-in-perpetuity tenure have taken the advantage of acquiring the freehold of their holdings, compared with twenty tenants under occupation with right of purchase who have taken the opportunity. In the latter case the land was valued over ten years ago.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

On account of failure to comply with the conditions of their leases, the holdings of three lessees were forfeited, and the surrenders of a similar number were accepted.

TRANSFERS.

One hundred and seventy-eight transfers were approved by the Land Board during the year, and eleven rejected. In dealing with this important branch of its functions, the Land Board has been careful to prevent, as far as is possible, speculation in Crown lands.

EXPENDITURE OF "THIRDS," "FOURTHS," AND "HALVES."

Pursuant to the provisions of the Land Act, payment of "thirds," "fourths," and "halves" was made during the year to the undermentioned local authorities, after careful consideration of the proposals for expenditure submitted: Porangahau Road Board, £31 15s.; Patutahi Road Board, £1 7s. 4d.; Waimata Road Board, £99 12s. 3d.; Cook County, £448 10s. 9d.; Dannevirke County, £1,712 5s. 7d.; Hawke's Bay County, £1,052 11s. 4d.; Opotiki County, £106 8s. 7d.; Waikohu County, £973 15s. 1d.; Woodville County, £34 1s. 2d.; Weber County, £23 11s. 9d.; Wairoa County, £527 0s. 4d.; Waipawa County, £34 4s. 5d.; Waiapu County, £493 15s. 4d.; total, £5,538 18s. 11d.

LAND BOARD.

The Land Board held eighteen ordinary and special meetings, and last December made an inspection of Te Whitiatara Block, near Ormondville, recently acquired from the Natives.

GENERAL REVIEW.

In reviewing the year's transactions and the progress of settlement generally throughout the district, whether undertaken by the Department or by private enterprise, the prominent features are the continuance of steady and solid progress, an unsatisfied demand for land of all descriptions, and a buoyancy of revenue. The erection of butter and cheese factories indicates great prospects as to the future closer land-settlement.

DEPARTMENTAL.

In the Accountant's Branch 620 vouchers, representing a sum of £16,414 0s. 2d., were drawn against the Imprest Account and passed through for pre-audit. The number of statutory applications for land received and considered was 667, of which 139 were rejected. The number of letters, telegrams, and parcels received during the year was 11,637, and the number despatched 18,479.

My acknowledgments are due to the office and field staffs for the valuable assistance which they have rendered to me in all departments of the work.

C. R. POLLEN,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

As in the past year, the supply of land for selection has been limited owing to the survey of some of the blocks in hand not being sufficiently advanced to enable the land to be offered during the year. Eleven allotments were offered under optional tenures, all except one being selected, and eleven allotments of national endowment were also offered, six being selected. Three town and two rural sections were sold for cash by public auction. One rural section was offered but passed in, and it will be opened under optional conditions. Thirteen leases of town and rural lands were offered for public tender, seven being taken up.

The gross revenue shows an increase of £7,391 over last year, but this is principally on account of amounts received from education endowments, £6,102.

The Crown lands remaining undisposed of amount to 286,519 acres. It is hoped to have about 45,000 acres on the market next year.

CONDITION AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The weather has been bad for burning bush, and this will handicap the settlers to some extent next year. Generally, improvements on land already disposed of are greatly in excess of the requirements of the Act. The forward condition of the New Plymouth harbour-works and the progress of the Stratford-Te Koura Railway should shortly mean lessened cost of transport to many of the settlers, and if the oil industry justifies present promise the progress of the district should be helped.

The Ranger for the northern portion of the Land District reports:—

"All the settlers in my district, with but few exceptions, are making fair progress, the old story—want of road-access—being the most serious drawback they have to contend with. This season the weather-conditions have been exactly the reverse of last year, but have had practically the same effect on the stock-markets. The failure of the ordinary bush burns has caused a general depreciation among store and young stock of all classes."

"Thanks to the home-separator system, the dairy industry has been considerably extended in the district, with the result that there will be a considerable increase in the exports of butter for the season. The quantity of wool sent out also shows a very large increase on last year.

"New schools have been opened at Whenuakura and Waitaanga, and the telephone system extended from Mangaroa as far as Mr. Barnett's residence on the Waitewhenua Road."

The Ranger for the central and southern portion of the Land District reports as follows:—

"Owing to the very wet weather which has prevailed during the year, the progress of my district has not been as great as it would have been with moderate seasons. The bush that was felled during the winter months had no chance to dry, and bad burns was the general cry, only those settlers who burnt during a short spell of dry weather in the early part of the season being successful in getting good burns. In the more open country where grass is plentiful, the dairy farmers have done very well, and prosperity seems the order of the day. Prices for butter have kept up and are bringing the farmers a good return, though with the increased values placed upon any land suitable for dairy purposes, and the high price that good cows are fetching, it takes some of the farmers all their time to make a living. This, I think, will prove not altogether an unmixed blessing, as it will force the farmers to go in for more intense farming so as to enable the land to carry more stock, and will eventually produce a farming community who will understand the proper tilling of the soil and bring it up to its greatest producing-power.

"The roads other than those that are metalled have been in a very bad state and in some cases have been almost impassable. The railway-line has been pushed on and is now very near to Whangamomona, or about thirty-seven miles from Stratford. This will alleviate the traffic on the Whangamomona Saddle, and will give the road a chance of drying up before the winter sets in.

"The lambing in my district was not a great success owing to the cold and wet weather.

"Through the movement of stock to other districts they have become very scarce; high prices are likely to prevail for all classes of dairy stock."

With the extending of the telephone into several outlying places, the addition to or erection of new schools, and the pushing-on of widening of roads, the settlers in the back country are being brought more in touch with civilization every year.

GRASS-SEED.

Forty-nine promissory notes given in 1908 by sufferers from bush-fires for grass-seed supplied to them matured during March, 1912, to the total value of £617 7s. 3d., and twenty-four of these have been met, the amount paid being £319 18s. 1d. The sum of £354 1s. 9d. has been received during the year.

ARREARS OF RENT.

The amount owing has increased considerably during last year, being more than in any of the past three years. It is possible that the peculiar season we have experienced this year had its effect upon the farming community, the shearing operations being very late, which would consequently delay the returns from the wool-clip. The greater proportion of the amounts due on ordinary Crown land, exclusive of the current instalment, was owing by a few tenants; and the rents of education endowments being in most cases payable at the end of a half-year, many of them falling due on the 1st April, is the reason for the large amount appearing in the tables.

EXPENDITURE OF "THIRDS," "FOURTHS," AND "HALVES."

Thirty-two proposals for expenditure of £7,274 3s. 4d. were approved by the Land Board, a satisfactory increase on last year's operations. The amount at credit of the Deposit Account of the Receiver of Land Revenue on the 31st March, 1912, was £6,430 1s. 5d.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

These took place amongst the more recent selections, and unless all applicants for land are subjected to a personal examination as to their fitness and financial resources it is likely that a certain proportion of them will be found unsuitable, belonging to the class who select land in ignorance of the work required to bring it into profit, and more as a venture.

DISPOSAL OF REMAINING CROWN LANDS.

There is every reason to anticipate that the following blocks, or portions thereof, will be offered during the year 1912-13:—

In the Mapara and Tangitu Survey Districts, nine sections, 4,101 acres of good forest country, situated from eight to seventeen miles from Waimiha Railway-station.

Whakaihuwaka B Block (6,912 acres), in Kaipara and Tua Survey Districts, adjoining the boundary between the Taranaki and Wellington Land Districts, and extending from that boundary to the Rawhitiroa State Forest. Situate about thirty-five miles from Waitotara Railway-station.

Part Whakaihuwaka A Block (about 13,000 acres), in Taurakawa Survey District, to the south-east of the settled land at the head of the Puniwhakau Valley, and comprising the headwaters of the Waitotara River.

Aratawa, Mangapukatea, and Raoraomouku Blocks (12,334 acres), adjoining the Wanganui River above Pipiriki, and extending westerly. The stock route to this block will be *via* Puniwhakau Valley and a road to be constructed round the north side of Mount Humphries.

Part Taumatamahoe 2B No. 2A Block (about 7,000 acres), abutting on the Wanganui River, lying along the Whangamomona Valley westward to the settled country in Mahoe Survey District. This

block will be reached from Whangamomona Railway-station *via* Whangamomona Valley and Tahunarua Roads. There is already a bridle-track about two miles into this block, and work is proceeding.

Whatitokarua Block (about 17,000 acres), lying to the north-west of Taumarunui Railway-station, and extending in that direction to the Ohura Road. The railway-route from Stratford has been deviated through portion of this block, and it will be necessary to reserve from sale for the time being the portion immediately affected by the road and railway construction-works.

Mangaiti Block (about 8,800 acres), in Mapara Survey District, lying to the west of Waimiha and Paritikona Railway-stations.

Haupeehi Block (about 6,400 acres), in Mapara Survey District, recently purchased by the Crown, it having previously been subdivided by the Maori Land Board for settlement purposes.

IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS.

No new settlement under the improved-farm settlement conditions has taken place this year, but the Mapara and Tangitu Settlements, established in 1909, are progressing very well.

In the Tangitu Settlement the schedule of improvements effected shows a satisfactory state of affairs in that way, and willingness in the settlers to improve their lands. Owing to the bad weather of the past season, the burns as a rule are not good, and this may handicap the settlers later on. Last season's take of grass goes to prove the fertility of the soil. The settlers are generally in good heart. Three post-offices have been established, served by bi-weekly mails, and shortly by tri-weekly; and a telephone-line to Tangitu is proposed. Three tent schools with average attendance of about thirty-five have been established by the Auckland Education Board, and the members of the Land Board were struck by the healthy and intelligent appearance of the children. There are about nine hundred head of cattle in the settlement, the clearings in which could carry more. Given good roads the success of this settlement should shortly be assured; and, speaking from personal observation, the land is turning out even better than I thought when exploring it a few years ago. Out of eighty-six settlers, seventy-eight are now residing with their families; of the eight residing without their families, five are preparing for them, two were only allotted their sections last season, and the remaining one will be on the ground very shortly, so that there are really no defaulters.

The Mapara Settlement has also made good progress, and quite a number of the settlers have obtained their leases, and some have milked sufficient cows to keep themselves and families for the season. Substantial improvements have been made during the year, and the Land Board during its recent visit was pleased with the general appearance of the settlement and the amount of land that had been ploughed. Though not taking grass so well as bush country, the open fern country, after shallow ploughing and some amount of fallowing, takes grass fairly well, but will need successive cultivation to get rid of the fern. The sections are all roaded, but the completion of the Kahuwera Road would give the settlers more direct communication with the butter-factory at Piopio. These settlers are all residing, and the majority have erected substantial dwellings. The Auckland Education Board has a tent school in the settlement, and, I understand, contemplate erecting a schoolhouse shortly. A post-office has been established, and a telephone-wire is being erected. Evidence of the success of these settlements is the willingness of the banks to finance the settlers as soon as they can obtain their leases.

LAND BOARD.

The Board held twelve ordinary meetings, and during March made an inspection of the Mapara and Tangitu Improved-farm Settlements.

OFFICE-WORK.

This has steadily increased during the year, a great deal arising from the administration and registration of the improved-farm settlements. The correspondence inwards and outwards, circulars, applications, parcels, &c., was 25,153; cheques drawn, 1,146; vouchers, 1,400; transfers, 232; receipts for rent, refunds, &c., 4,607; provisional titles issued, 32; a total of 32,570.

I have to thank the staff for their cheerful and willing assistance, which has been of great value to me, coming here at the close of the year after the sudden death of the late Mr. Armstrong, whom I did not know personally, but who gained the esteem and goodwill of those in contact with him. I consider myself fortunate in being at the head of such a competent office-staff, whose organization reflects credit on my predecessors.

G. H. BULLARD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WELLINGTON.

The following report was drawn up by the late Commissioner of Crown Lands for the district (Mr. James Mackenzie), who retired from that position at the close of the year, in consequence of his promotion to the Surveyor-Generalship:—

LAND OPENED FOR SALE AND SELECTION.

The total area of Crown lands offered during the year was 29,853 acres. This, added to the land open for application on the 1st April, 1911—viz., 1,616 acres—made a total of 31,469 acres available publicly for selection. The lands offered comprised principally 21,535 acres in the South Waimarino (Morinui) Block; 5,046 acres in the Awarua Block; village homesteads in Manunui, Ohakune, and

Mataroa; and a large number of town allotments for cash or lease in Ninia, Waitangi, Rangataua, Ohakune, Horopito West, Erua, Waimarino, Raurimu, Owango, Kakahi, Manunui, Mangaweka South, Pohonui, Rewa, Pongaroa, Ngaturi, and Mawaihakona. Seven improved farms, comprising 1,220 acres, were also disposed of. Practically all the land offered was taken up.

The lands taken up during the year amounted to 33,426 acres, in 292 lots, inclusive of improved-farm sections, lands allotted without competition, &c.

Milling licenses have been granted over an area of 3,859 acres, a great part of which comprises land already occupied in the North Waimarino Improved-farm Settlement. Under agreements made with the occupants of these lands, a share of the royalty accruing will be credited towards the advances made to them by the Crown.

IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS.

The steward of the North Waimarino Improved-farm Settlement reports that the progress of the settlement during the year has been most satisfactory from results obtained. The comparatively small amount done by the settlers without assistance from the Government looks at first sight an unfavourable feature, but this is fully accounted for when it is remembered that only men without capital were allowed to participate in the ballot for sections. The returns from land brought into cultivation were somewhat poor; but this is not discouraging, as land in this locality requires a full season's sweetening in order to secure successful yields. The area felled is 2,570 acres, and 2,871 acres have been grassed, while there are 1,122 head of stock of various kinds on the settlement. The value of improvements effected is £8,970, of which £2,334 worth were effected by the settlers without assistance during the current year. The number of souls on the settlement is 323.

RANGERS' REPORTS AND INSPECTIONS.

The Rangers in the west coast district made 692 inspections during the year, covering an area of 216,223 acres. These figures show a decrease in number of inspections from last year's statistics, but an increase of 57,336 acres in area inspected. The amount of improvements required to be done by the tenants was £54,110, whereas the Rangers value the improvements actually effected at £201,150, being improvements to the value of £147,040 in excess of requirements.

In the east coast division the Rangers made 1,005 inspections, over an area of 180,308 acres. This year's figures show an increase over last year's both as to number and area. On this side of the district, too, the settlers show a keen desire to have their holdings highly improved, and they have put on improvements to the value of £136,325 in excess of what was wanted by the terms of their leases and licenses, the value of improvements actually made being £192,056, and the requirements £55,731.

PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the northern part of the west coast division reports that settlement in his district is progressing in a satisfactory manner. The long spell of dry weather last winter was detrimental to stock, and the percentage of lambs was exceptionally low; but good prices are ruling for produce, and, on the whole, the settlers are doing well.

In the recently opened blocks in the Waimarino district good progress has been made, and the Department was fortunate in obtaining an exceptionally good class of settlers, several of whom have their wives and families on their holdings. Good progress has been made with roading these blocks, and most of the sections have bridle-track access.

In the Rangitatau Block good work has been done, and the settlers are doing well. The grass sown by the Government looks well, and the settlers are quite satisfied with it. A dray-road has been formed from Waitotara Township well into the back, and is still being pushed on.

The settlers in the various village settlements have made marked progress. Some of the sections along the Main Trunk line have had to be forfeited, but these have been readily taken up again. The settlers for the most part work at sawmills in the vicinities of the settlements. At Manunui good progress has been made, and this settlement is an undoubted success.

The settlers on the land-for-settlements estates are making good progress. All the settlements are now so well established and developed that little can be added to reports of previous years. No damage has been done to scenic reserves by bush-fires this year.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the central district reports that the whole of the tenants in his district have experienced a favourable year. Stock have done well, and good prices for fat sheep have been realized. Shearing was protracted owing to continuous rains, and the wool-clip was on the light side, but good paying prices have been netted on the average. A considerable area of bush has been felled during the year, but the burns have not been very successful. The grass-seed sown, however, has come away first rate.

In the Awarua 1B Block, disposed of at Taihape on the 31st October last, about 75 acres have been felled, and it is expected that the bulk of the bush on these sections will be felled during the coming winter.

Great improvements have been made in the roads throughout the district, especially so in the Rangitikei County. Bridle-tracks are also much improved, there being now only a few bad places. There is no loss to scenic reserves to record this year, the bush on all the reserves having been fairly well preserved.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the eastern portion of the district reports that in his division settlement still continues to make steady progress, and the selectors generally seem prosperous and contented. The season just passed has been a good one for grass, although there has not been a very

warm summer. The major portion of the land selected in this district has now been settled for a number of years, and the conditions have in most cases all been complied with. The improvements are largely in excess of requirements, and still selectors are adding to them each year with new homesteads, stumping, and cultivation where there are suitable areas, thereby increasing their returns and carrying-capacity. The dairying industry still continues to flourish, and is one of the principal sources of income in the district, there being numerous cheese and butter factories established throughout. The roads still continue to improve, and there are only a few 6 ft. tracks left, these tracks being replaced by full-width dray-roads; also, a number of the most dangerous streams have been bridged during the year.

The Crown Lands Ranger for the south-eastern and southern portions of the district reports that the ordinary Crown lands in his district have all been brought into profitable use, dairying being the principal source of income. A great many of the Crown tenants in this district are on land-for-settlements estates. All settlements are now thoroughly established, the tenants are doing well, and many of them have a goodwill in their holdings amounting to large sums of money. Where the land is suitable for dairying the holdings are utilized for that purpose, dairy factories being established within the settlements or within easy distance of them. This industry during the current year has proved most remunerative, record prices having been obtained for both butter and cheese.

On the whole, settlement lands of farm areas have proved to be desirable areas to hold and are popular with the tenants. All tenants are of a desirable class and use their holdings to the best advantage.

Roads throughout are in good order, and consequently settlers can reach the markets and railway with every convenience, which is a great factor towards successful settlement. Scenery reserves have been well preserved during the year.

ARREARS OF RENTAL.

The arrears of rental at the end of the year under review show an increase over last year's figures. The gross arrears include amounts owing by settlers in the North Waimarino blocks, who have not been pressed for payment of rent for some considerable time. Even with this the amount is high as compared with last year. Since the 31st March, however, £2,181 has been collected, which means that in thirteen months only the amount of revenue was collected as in the twelve months of last year.

REBATES OF RENT.

For prompt payment of rent rebates amounting to £2,627 were granted to 2,338 tenants on ordinary Crown lands, £1,600 to 342 tenants on land-for-settlements estates, and £26 to seventeen tenants on national-endowment area. These figures disclose an increase on last year's statistics, showing that some of the tenants are becoming more alive to the advantage of paying their rents promptly.

CONVERSIONS OF TENURE.

During the period under review, two tenants applied for and obtained conversions of their village homestead holdings to renewable leases. The area brought under the new system was 15 acres.

TRANSFERS.

During the year 182 transfers were completed on ordinary Crown land, the area transferred being 89,990 acres. On land-for-settlements lands the number was nineteen, and the area 4,872 acres; and on education reserves twenty-three transfers representing 5,415 acres were completed. The figures are made up as follows:—

				Number Transfers.	Area.		
					A.	R.	P.
Ordinary Crown lands—							
Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	49	31,438	0	0
Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	19	40	0	0
Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	92	11,716	0	0
Small grazing-runs ..	..	..	..	12	13,158	0	0
Pastoral runs ..	..	..	..	2	33,620	0	0
Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	2	10	0	0
Miscellaneous licenses and leases ..	..	..	..	6	8	0	0
				182	89,990	0	0
Land-for-settlements lands—							
Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	18	4,774	0	0
Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	1	98	0	0
				19	4,872	0	0
Education reserves ..				23	5,415	0	0

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The number of forfeitures during the year was eighteen, of an area of 4,724 acres, and the number of surrenders was five of an area of 73 acres. Some of the forfeited sections were, however, reselected during the year. This year's figures show a decrease of fourteen from last year's number of forfeitures and a decrease of two surrenders.



FARM SCENE, WAIRARAPA.



FARMING SCENE, LOWER KŌKĀTAHI, WESTLAND.



PASTURE, A 100 AC. PASTURE, SOUTHWEST



HAYFIELD

MEETINGS OF THE LAND BOARD.

Thirteen ordinary meetings and eleven special meetings of the Land Board were held during the year in connection with land-sales. The amount of business that came forward for consideration was so great that some of the meetings extended over two days.

OFFICE OF RECEIVER OF LAND REVENUE.

In the Receiver's office 7,810 ordinary revenue receipts and 168 provisional titles were issued, covering a gross revenue of £110,837 11s. 6d. In the Deposit Account 1,102 receipts for the sum of £22,615, and 183 cheques representing 1,426 disbursements, were issued. The sum of £6,624 1s. 11d. was paid into the Local Bodies' Deposit Account, and forty-one payments amounting to £4,739 4s. 8d. were made to twenty-three local bodies.

CLERICAL.

The number of letters, &c., received during the year was 19,462, and the number despatched was 38,368. These latter comprise letters, telegrams, circulars, plans, lithos, rent-notices, &c. The total correspondence thus dealt with was 57,830. There were 948 cheques covering 804 vouchers drawn on Imprest Account for a total of £10,042 13s. 1d. Other accounts dealt with covered 680 vouchers for £26,411 9s. 2d., and there were twelve requisitions for imprest-money, representing £10,£50, made during the year.

I have been requested by Mr. Mackenzie, the late Commissioner, to place on record his recognition of the loyal and able assistance rendered by the Chief Clerk and the officers working under him. This also applies to the other land districts of the Dominion that have been under Mr. Mackenzie's control.

G. WRIGHT,
Acting Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

CONDITION AND PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

The settlement of this district is proceeding in a most satisfactory manner, and as lands are not now opened until they are roaded and the actual surveys made, very few complaints are received with regard to the want of roads, and generally the settlers appear satisfied with their condition and prospects.

Owing to several large blocks of unsurveyed selections being let by contract, the survey of scattered applications in the Inangahua and Buller Counties by contract, and the increase of the survey staff, the arrears of surveys have now been reduced to reasonable limits. The large blocks of land opened during the last four or five years are gradually being selected, and it is proposed during the current year to have surveyed and open for selection several large blocks which have been made accessible by the expenditure of loans obtained on the security of the land.

The settlers in this district are a very good class, and in most cases are contented with their condition and future prospects.

The roading of the backblocks is being carried out in a very satisfactory manner under the Public Works Department and the local bodies, and a very large amount of roadwork has been executed during the past year. The completion of the railway-line from Nelson to Glenhope has given a great start to settlement in the Buller Valley and its tributaries, and, by the reduction of freights, will make a great difference to settlement. The line is being constructed another four or five miles to the confluence of the Hope and Buller Rivers, and the survey of the line to Owen River junction (another ten miles) is in progress; this will bring the line within 11½ miles of Murchison Township.

The Township of Murchison is increasing rapidly, being the centre of a large pastoral district, parts of which are well adapted for dairying. The butter-factory at Murchison has increased four-fold since its institution three years ago, and is the largest factor in the prosperity of the district.

The railway-line between Reefton and Inangahua is nearing completion, the rails being laid to the Landing, and the balance of four to five miles in course of construction. The line from Westport to Inangahua Junction is in progress, and some four or five miles from the Nine-mile Punt (six miles from Westport) are practically completed. The work on this section is exceptionally heavy, being all rock-cutting, and will take some years to complete.

LAND PROPOSED TO BE OPENED, 1912-13.

The following blocks of Crown lands are being surveyed, or intended to be cut up during the coming year, for settlement.

Howard Block (20,000 acres), of which 17,000 acres ordinary Crown lands will be opened on the optional system, and 3,000 acres national endowment on renewable lease only. This block is within ten miles of the present terminus of the railway at Glenhope, and will in a short time be reduced to six miles. The land is suitable for pastoral purposes, chiefly sheep-grazing, when cleared and grassed. The roads through the block are being constructed, and the survey is in progress.

Waimea Block (about 5,000 acres), within the national-endowment area, situated at the headwaters of the Miner and Serpentine Rivers, and about ten miles from the railway-line. Grants have

been obtained for the construction of tracks up the above two rivers, and the survey will be made after the winter. Chiefly limestone country, well adapted for sheep when felled and grassed.

Matiri-Owen Block (about 8,000 acres), situated on the right-hand branch of the Matiri River. National-endowment land. Instructions have been given to the surveyor to make a rough survey, in order to obtain a loan to road the block. The country is quite equal to the land which has all been selected in the Matiri Valley.

Gowan Block (about 4,000 acres), situated in the valley of the Gowan River, the outlet of Lake Rotorua into the Buller River. National-endowment land. A bridle-track has been constructed for four miles up the Gowan from the main coach-road down the Buller, and a track cut through the bush the balance of the way to the outlet of the lake, connecting with bridle-track to Braeburn Settlement. Instructions are being issued for the survey of this block.

In addition, there are about 4,000 acres in the Upper Mokihinui Valley, 4,000 acres of cut-out milling-timber lands in the Oparara district, and other smaller blocks it is proposed to have surveyed as soon as surveyors are available.

INSPECTION BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

During the year the total number of inspections made in the northern part of the district amounted to 184, containing an area of 72,636 acres. The improvements required by the Act amounted to £23,676 13s. 11d., and the value of those effected to £48,837. On the leases inspected there are seventy-two defaulters, thirty-three being for non-residence, twenty for improvements, and nineteen for both improvements and residence. Twenty-eight lessees are still exempt by the Land Act, and twenty by the Land Board.

In the Buller County the inspections made number 106, containing an area of 24,635 acres, on which, in the aggregate, improvements were made exceeding the requirements fourfold, and the number of defaulters not numerous nor to any great extent. In addition to the above inspections, a great amount of work has been done for the Warden, consisting of numerous inspections and reports on mining privileges; this work takes up fully one-sixth of the Ranger's time.

Owing to excessive rainfall this season, there have been few good burns of the bush felled; but in spite of the drawbacks of a wet climate, want of road-construction, and the fact that many of the settlers have to work away from home to obtain means to live and clear their land, the progress of settlement is satisfactory.

The Crown Lands Ranger stationed at Reefton reports that he made 290 inspections of Crown leases. 190 on ordinary Crown lands, and 100 on national-endowment areas; the total area included in these inspections was 80,736 acres, the improvements required by the Act £16,251 18s. 6d., and the improvements effected £17,212 3s. There is only one defaulter for non-residence, and four for non-residence and improvements. In addition, a large number of inspections and reports were supplied to the Land Board and the Warden. The season generally was bad for farming owing to the excessive rainfall all through the spring and summer.

CROWN TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS.

Generally, the improvements are being carried out in a satisfactory manner, but not nearly so much bush was felled this year as last; approximately, 10,000 acres have been felled, but owing to the exceptionally wet season very few good burns have been obtained, and in some places on the west coast it was almost impossible to burn the felled bush.

TENURES.

The bulk of the lands selected are either on renewable lease or pastoral license, as only a small portion of the eastern part of the district is offered on the optional tenure, the balance being either in a mining district or within the national-endowment area.

ARREARS.

The arrears due amount to £1,576 18s. 9d., and of this amount £589 8s. 3d. is on land for settlements. The arrears on national endowment amount to £366; all of these, however, are settlers not long established, and making rapid strides in the improvement of their holdings. The £589 8s. 3d. owing on land for settlements is due to the settlers having had a hard struggle to make their selections reproductive; they are now beginning to reap the benefit of their industry, and I anticipate all these arrears being liquidated during the ensuing year. It was not advisable to press these selectors unduly for their rent, as the improvements they have made constitute good security for the debt.

The arrears for coal and timber royalties are large, and in the case of one large coal company amount to £5,400. This revenue belongs to the Westport Harbour Board, and it has been decided by that body to give the company two years to pay up, on certain conditions. The arrears on education-reserves leases are being gradually reduced.

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

This important industry is steadily growing and proving a great help to the struggling settlers on bush farms; the greatest advance is in the Murchison and Takaka districts. The new Takaka factory erected last year is one of the most up-to-date plants in the Dominion, and owing to the surrounding country being rich limestone land the business is increasing in every way; there are now 101 suppliers milking 1,200 cows, with an increase of 20 tons of butter on last year's output. The Murchison factory is also showing marked improvement, the output being 70 tons last season, an increase of 14 tons on the previous one; there are forty-five suppliers, an increase of eleven on last year.

There are two cheese-factories in Collingwood, with sixty-nine suppliers and an output of 198 tons of cheese. A small cheese-factory was started in the Takaka district last year, and has nine suppliers with 200 cows; the output being 30 tons. This factory will double its output next year, as there is available land sufficient to run another 300 cows in the vicinity.

In the Inangahua and Grey Valleys this industry is in a fairly flourishing condition, there being now 447 cows supplying the factory at Cronadun, within eight miles of Reefton. The output was 36½ tons, exceeding last year's by 14 tons. The factory at Karamea is in a flourishing condition, and another has been erected during the year at Charleston, and one at Birchfield, also another small private factory at Kongahu. The factories in this district are supplied by 896 cows, with an output of 60½ tons of butter.

THE FLAX INDUSTRY.

Owing to the price of fibre being still very low, nothing at all is doing in this industry, and there appears to be no prospect of the mills resuming work, although several have their plant all ready to begin work should the price improve.

THE COAL INDUSTRY.

The Buller County is the most productive part of the Nelson District with regard to coal, the output for last year being 793,200 tons. This industry is increasing, and is the principal source of revenue to the whole district. It is understood that the Westport-Stockton Company have now very much improved prospects, owing to satisfactory tests made by boring operations. The coal-mines near Reefton produced nearly 800 tons more than last year, but, being so far inland, the coal is nearly all consumed locally, and down the railway-line towards Greymouth. In the northern part of Nelson the coal-mining is confined to the Collingwood district, and is in a flourishing condition. There are two mines in active operation, the North Cape and Puponga, and recently another mine has been started at Marble Creek, near Ferntown. This industry, in conjunction with the development of the Parapara Ironworks should ensure a prosperous future for this district.

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY.

This industry is assuming large proportions in the northern part of the district, and the demand for lands for apple-culture continues. The large areas cut up on the slopes facing Tasman Bay are being brought into cultivation, and by the healthy appearance of the young trees these clay lands are adapted for this purpose. In all parts of the northern district planting is proceeding steadily, and fully 1,000 acres have been planted this year. The question of a profitable export trade to the Home markets has not yet been assured, as another shipment was sent to the English market last year and was practically a failure, chiefly owing to inattention in regulating the temperature on the voyage. Further arrangements are being made for another shipment, and it is probable that ultimately, by careful packing, grading, and carriage, this export trade must prove successful.

The crop this year has been very fair, and in some places exceptionally heavy; but the inclement season, which culminated in a heavy hailstorm over parts of the district, caused a great deal of damage and loss. In addition to apples, large quantities of other fruits are grown profitably, and the crops and prices proved satisfactory. This fruit-growing area is situated within a radius of twenty-five miles of the City of Nelson, and at Motueka there are four canning and preserving factories, one at Stoke and one in Nelson: these are all working at high pressure to cope with the business.

LAND BOARD.

Meetings were held regularly every month, and a large amount of business transacted; eleven of these meetings were held at the District Office, and special meetings at Westport and Reefton. During the year Mr. Owen Lynch, who had served on the Board for twelve years, died suddenly of heart-failure, and on account of his long experience and ability his loss will be greatly felt by the Board. Mr. E. S. Hoult was appointed in his place. Mr. Robert Patterson was elected by the Crown tenants in place of Mr. A. Sinclair, who had served four years as elective member and did not seek re-election. Mr. Sinclair was a most able and energetic member, and rendered valuable service.

DEPARTMENTAL.

The office-work has been heavy during the year, and although the staff has been increased it has taken them all their time to cope with the work. The administration and clearing up of questions in connection with the education reserves has increased the work to some extent. There are now 2,541 selections, and the number of letters, telegrams, &c., received and despatched during the year was 21,800, a large increase on previous years; the number of vouchers passed through the books was 886, amounting to the sum of £20,331 16s. 9d.

A large amount of work passed through the branch of the Lands and Survey Office at Westport during the year, and owing to the advance of land-settlement in the Buller County it is very necessary to keep an officer in Westport.

The Lands and Survey Office at Reefton is now placed under the charge of the Land officer, and the officer in charge moved to New Plymouth, the work in Reefton not warranting the employment of a separate officer. The office is still kept open for the convenience of the public, and counter maps kept up to date, &c.

My labours have been made much easier by the ready co-operation of the staff, both office and field, who have always rendered me most willing assistance.

ROBT. T. SADD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

LANDS OPENED FOR SALE OR SELECTION.

The total area of Crown lands offered for selection during the year was 32,322 acres, the principal blocks being situated in the Wakamarina, Tennyson, and Whernside Survey Districts. There were also 2,568 acres acquired by eleven selectors without competition. During the year six small-grazing-run leases under the Land Act, 1885, comprising an area of 2,880 acres, expired and were renewed for a further term, the rental being increased from £36 10s. 2d. to £74 1s. 10d. The total area taken up during the year on settlement conditions was 21,297 acres.

OPERATIONS DURING THE COMING YEAR.

The only block that will be open during the coming year of any dimensions is situated in the Upper Pelorus Valley, Heringa Survey District, and comprises the watershed of the Tinline and Heringa Rivers; the area is about 10,000 acres, and is divided into twelve sections. About 2,500 acres in the Opouri, situated in the State forest, but which has been cut out by the sawmillers, may before the end of the year be offered in sections of about 200 acres, and will make suitable dairy farms, being within a few miles of the Flat Creek Dairy Factory.

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

The number of dairy factories remains the same as last year—viz., seven—and the output of cheese is also practically the same, being 555 tons. The dairy industry in the southern portion of Marlborough is responsible for large increases in the value of land suitable for dairying, as much as £60 per acre being paid. The two cheese-factories at Kaikoura turned out 287 tons, an increase of 54 tons for the year, and this means the circulation of a large amount of ready cash among the small farmers in the neighbourhood. The lessees on Rainford Settlement, who are all carrying on dairying, are doing well.

GOLD-MINING.

This industry, which has been at a very low ebb for some years, shows signs of a revival. A strong company, after thoroughly prospecting the Golden Bar Reef in the Wakamarina, has now erected an up-to-date battery and employs forty hands. If successful this may lead to the further development of the district, the Wakamarina again taking the place it once held as one of the largest gold-producing districts of the Dominion.

ARREARS OF RENTAL.

The arrears, excluding the current half-yearly payments, now only amount to £618 10s. 6d., a decrease compared with last year of £514 6s. 1d.

RANGERS' REPORTS AND INSPECTIONS.

The number of Rangers' inspections during the year was 492 over an area of 207,522 acres. The amount of improvements required by the Act was £106,685, and the amount actually done £240,419.

W. H. SKINNER,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

Since taking charge of the district I have visited most portions of it from the northern boundary down to the Waiho River, with a view to becoming acquainted with its peculiarities, in order to decide as to the most suitable system of administration to adopt. The inspections I have made have impressed me as to the possibilities of the district for grazing and dairying purposes, and I am confident that the ruling prices are cheaper than in any other portion of the Dominion. This is to a certain extent accounted for by the isolation of the district, but were the grass-growing qualities of the land more generally known an influx of settlers from other districts would certainly result. Several properties have recently been purchased by persons not resident in the district, and in all cases the new owners appear to be very well satisfied with their bargains. The humid climatic conditions existing are unfavourable for agriculture, but feed is generally plentiful, as the dry seasons are not of sufficient duration to injure the grass, while the absence of lengthy periods of frost or extreme cold permits of growth during the greater part of the winter. The whole of the existing dairy factories and creameries have produced very encouraging results, and the coming season will witness the incorporation of two more creameries. Until recent years farmers have devoted their attentions almost exclusively to rearing and fattening cattle, but the enhanced returns to be obtained from dairying are inducing them to promote the establishment of dairy factories. Prices ruling for lands, more especially in the vicinity of dairy factories, have made very decided advances lately.

The past season has been extremely favourable for grass-growing, and I have noticed that in some localities the feed has been allowed to go to waste on account of insufficient stock, attributable to a large extent to the shortage in the supply of store cattle. The making of hay is not always attended with success, as the climate is somewhat variable, but farmers would do well to turn their surplus feed into ensilage, as the danger of loss would thus be minimized while the product would provide splendid winter feed.

Taking into consideration the drawbacks resulting from the fact that there is no tenure available that makes adequate provision for the permanent occupation of lands that are supposed to be of an auriferous nature, the progress of settlement during the past year has been very satisfactory. The majority of the settlers are doing their utmost to make their holdings productive to the fullest extent, and it is satisfactory to find that their efforts are being well rewarded. The improvement of the dairying herds is receiving due attention, and the results obtained from the importation of high-class pedigree stock are very gratifying. Inspections made of 456 properties (not including any land-for-settlements holdings) by the Crown Lands Ranger during the year show that improvements have been effected to the extent of £67,098, an amount almost £50,000 in excess of the actual requirements.

On account of settlement being in what may be termed the early stages of development, the Land Board has in the past dealt with tenants very leniently in the matter of compliance with the conditions of their leases, with the object of affording them every opportunity of bringing their holdings into such a condition as to provide a reasonable living; but with the advent of new dairy factories the time has now arrived when conditions should be somewhat strictly enforced, as there is a very keen demand for land, especially in those localities, and it is unreasonable that land suitable for dairying should be allowed to lie unoccupied or idle. The members of the Land Board are unanimously of opinion that the policy mentioned should now be pursued.

A system of administration amounting to a certain extent to free selection has been pursued in this district in the past, as the conflicting mining and timber interests have prevented the offering of blocks of land for public application, no secure tenure being available. This system has produced very satisfactory results, and after inspection of the various localities I am of opinion that the policy should be continued, although this course entails an immense amount of extra work, as each separate application requires a special report and consideration on its merits. During the year such applications involving an area of upwards of 20,000 acres have been dealt with.

The revenue shows an increase of £2,780 over the previous year, and I anticipate that the coming year's operations will result in still further increase. A review of the figures for the past five years discloses that during that period the area held under lease has increased from 729,160 acres to 1,433,820 acres, and the revenue from £15,323 to £22,887. These figures provide unmistakable evidence of progress, which I am confident will continue.

In conclusion, I would beg to tender my best thanks to the staff for their efficient co-operation in the duties appertaining to the various branches of the Department.

H. D. M. HASZARD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

ROAD AND OTHER WORKS IN RUNANGA TOWNSHIP.

As the roads or streets necessary to give access to the occupied sections in Runanga, totalling about five miles, have been previously constructed, the work for the past year has been principally confined to drainage, repairs, and maintenance, and the necessary odd works to keep things in order until the proposed borough is properly formed. These works have been satisfactorily carried out under the supervision of the overseer, who has been in charge for several years. The following are some of the principal works: Side drain on grade, McGowan and Seddon Streets, 40 chains; timbering and boxing same; erection of dam and gauge-box in Raleigh Creek for flushing drains; maintenance, repairs, and partial gravelling of five miles of streets; all creeks and side drains cleared out and deepened, 6½ chains road made and gravelled to police camp; 3 chains formed and metalled for access in village extension; wide approach formed and metalled to Post-office; tracks leading to No. 1 and No. 2 mines cleared and repaired; necessary pipes, culverts, water-tables, &c.

In addition an engineering survey was made by the District Surveyor, and reports and estimates given for the installation of an efficient water-supply both for domestic use and fire purposes.

H. D. M. HASZARD,
Chief Surveyor.

CANTERBURY.

LANDS OFFERED FOR DISPOSAL.

Five new settlements under the Land for Settlements Act were offered during the year, particulars of which are given in the separate report under that Act. In the Township of Hinds, thirty-one sections were sold for cash at auction, the total upset being £155, and the amount realized £218 10s. In the Township of Mina South, Cheviot, twenty-two sections were likewise offered for cash at auction, but only two were disposed of, and those two at the upset, £35. In the Darfield Township twenty-eight reserves, aggregating 9 acres and 9 perches, were offered for lease by public tender, the whole being let at an aggregate rent of £6 4s. per annum. In the South Rakaia Township twenty-five sections, aggregating 6 acres 2 roods 31 perches, were leased at public auction, the upset of £7 7s. 6d. per annum being increased to an aggregate of £10 5s. per annum. An area of 9 acres and 17 perches, situated at Rabbit Island, was offered for tender at an upset of £4 11s., an annual rent of £5 8s. being realized.

The foregoing results show no great demand for small sections, but results were different when larger areas were offered. Five small grazing-runs in the Mackenzie country were offered for application. These formed parts of runs which fell in and were reoffered last year, an aggregate of 70,980 acres being offered at an annual rent of £1,310 7s. 4d. There was a ready demand, 141 persons being

admitted to the ballot. A still greater demand was made manifest at the offering of lands formerly part of the Mount Peel country. Certain exchanges of pastoral country for freehold with the executors of the late Hon. J. B. A. Acland, and readjustment of two pastoral licenses held by them, enabled the Crown to offer on the small-grazing-run system an area of 21,242 acres in five runs at an aggregate rent of £1,351. The number of persons admitted to the ballot was 300.

An area of 33,600 acres to the west of the runs, being the higher and more out-of-the-way portion of the same country and unsuitable for smaller subdivision, was offered at auction as a pastoral run at an upset annual rent of £440, and realized £675. The total area of land disposed of, inclusive of settlement land, during the financial year aggregates 194,544 acres; besides which five settlements, comprising an additional area of 23,501 acres, have been prepared for settlement, and will be offered for selection during the months of April and May.

There has been, and still is, a keen demand for pastoral holdings capable of carrying from 1,000 to 2,000 sheep and upwards. The demand for agricultural land is also considerable, and all the farms offered have, with one exception, been readily taken up. In the exceptional instance the holdings are considered to be too small but numerous offers for two allotments, instead of one, have been received, and no doubt the Land Board will recommend their aggregation when it is satisfied that men of smaller means do not require them. There is not a large demand for holdings of from 20 to 50 acres except in the vicinity of the towns.

LAND-TENURES.

There has been very few changes in the tenures of lands held, with the exception of the substantial addition to the renewable-lease and small-grazing tenures. No exchanges from lease in perpetuity or other tenure to renewable lease have taken place, and only three holdings of any kind have been converted to freehold. These three were village sections in the Arowhenua Township, and aggregated only 2 acres 3 roods 6 perches, the total purchase-money being £126 18s. 9d. Owing to the control of the educational reserves formerly in the hands of the School Commissioners being handed over to this Department, 222 endowment leases were added to the ordinary roll, the additional area amounting to 71,184 acres, and the rent to £20,921 per annum. The control of the workers' dwellings was handed over to the Labour Department at the end of May, the Commissioner, however, being appointed a member of the Workers' Board.

LAND REVENUE: PAYMENTS OF RENTS AND REBATES.

The total revenue for the year was £172,570 15s. 10d., an increase of £16,322 6s. over that of last year. This increase was in part due to the educational endowment reserves taken over by the Department, and in part to the new selections under the Land for Settlements Act and Land Act, 1908. It may be noted that an amount of £7,246 paid in advance by pastoral runholders whose licenses dated from the 1st March, 1912, went to the credit of last year's revenue, none being consequently received this year. The total amount of rent in arrear at the 31st March, 1912, excluding current payments, was £3,381, or under 2 per cent. on the annual rent-roll. The total sum allowed for rebates for prompt payment of rent was £9,463 3s. 5d., the number of tenants who participated in this privilege being 2,317.

TRANSFERS.

The total number of applications to transfer submitted to the Land Board during the year was 275, of which twenty-one were declined. The total number completed, omitting temporary licenses, is shown on the following list:—

Tenure.	Number.	Area.		
		A.	R.	P.
Lease in perpetuity: Land for settlements	139	17,820	2	12
Renewable lease: Land for settlements	11	2,153	1	37
Village-homestead leases	25	937	1	29
Small grazing-runs	15	34,586	3	10
Pastoral runs	22	434,038	0	0
Education reserves leases (lately under control of School Commissioners)	11	2,380	1	0
Occupation with right of purchase	2	315	1	24
Farm-homestead leases	2	82	0	0
Totals	227	492,313	3	32

The numbers and areas of the holdings transferred during the year continue to increase, and as a rule the amounts paid for goodwill are considerable. The area transferred is exceptionally large owing to the addition of the pastoral transfers remarked in another part of this report.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The total number of holdings forfeited and surrendered during the year was twenty, comprising an area of 7,766 acres and 8 perches. Fifteen of these were renewable-lease holdings in the land-for-settlements blocks opened during the last two years. It is found that occasionally people apply for these lands without previous inspection, and after seeing the section on its being allotted to them prefer to surrender rather than occupy. It is usually found, however, to be no fault of the section, but rather a matter of personal dislike, the section being as a rule disposed of readily when reoffered. One high pastoral run of 6,600 acres is included in the above figures. It was bought at auction one year for £60 above the upset of £100, and surrendered the next owing to the lessee having suffered heavy losses of sheep during the winter months.

FOREST AND SCENIC RESERVES.

A few new reserves have been created during the year, the most notable of which are those acquired on the Port Hills, and one of about 128 acres on the Four Peaks Estate opposite Gunnion's camp. The Rangers report that no damage by fire or other means has occurred, and that the rabbits on the Mount Cook Reserve have been kept down well.

RANGERS' REPORTS AND CONDITION OF SETTLEMENT.

As nearly the whole of the ordinary Crown leaseholds have been in the possession of the tenants for a considerable number of years, and the periods of statutory requirements have expired, there is little to report under this heading.

LANDS TO BE OPENED.

The lands to be opened during the ensuing year will consist principally of fifteen estates under the Land for Settlements Act, containing 34,003 acres. Under pastoral lease there will be an area of 51,600 acres situated at Snowdon and Hurunui. The area at Hurunui, a large block of 45,000 acres of back country on the north side of the Hurunui River, lying adjacent to the pass to the west coast and up into the mountainous country of the Main Divide, has been offered before, and still remains open for selection. Under the small-grazing-run tenure about 12,000 acres of the Acheron Run, near Lake Coleridge, will be offered in two runs. An area of 741 acres and 32 perches formerly held as grazing-farms on the Cheviot Estate, the lease of which expired at the end of February, is being reoffered on renewable lease, a tenure that up till the present has been represented on Cheviot by only one holding of 11 acres. The lessees of eight small grazing-runs at Greta and three small grazing-runs at Oxford, aggregating an area of 15,874 acres, have been given notice of the resumption of their holdings for closer settlements, as required by law, twelve months previous to the expiry of their leases, and during the coming year the final disposal of these must be determined.

PASTORAL RUNS LET LAST YEAR.

The valuation by arbitration of the improvements on the pastoral runs relet to new tenants in 1911 was completed this year, the total value assessed being £15,289 9s. 8d. Eighteen lessees took advantage of the privilege of paying for the improvements on their runs by twenty-eight half-yearly instalments of principal and interest, the Crown paying the outgoing tenants for them in full. This concession was much appreciated by many who would otherwise have been hard pressed to find the money to pay for them, and also for the stock and fencing of their runs without it. The new tenants only obtained possession of their runs on the 1st March, 1912, so that it is too early to make any definite report on their progress. The indications are, however, that most of them are setting about the occupation of their holdings in a businesslike manner.

DEPARTMENTAL.

The total number of ordinary and special meetings of the Land Board held during the year was twenty. A large number of statutory applications for land were received and considered, and the Board also dealt with a number of transfers and the usual routine work inseparable from the requirements of the large tenantry of this district. The office staff has been fully occupied during the past year. Every settlement adds to the work, and many estates have been settled without the staff being correspondingly increased. This year the control of the educational reserves, formerly managed by the School Commissioners, was taken over, and altogether the rent-roll has increased by about £40,000 during the year.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in acknowledging the valuable co-operation and assistance I have received from all the officers employed in this office.

T. N. BRODRICK,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

CHEVIOT ESTATE.

This estate, containing 84,755 acres, was acquired under the Land and Income Assessment Act in 1893. It is held under the various tenures mentioned below, viz. :—

Lease in perpetuity—						A.	R.	P.
Ordinary	..	..	..	..	..	24,385	2	25
Village homestead special settlement	..	..	..	..	..	2,480	1	0
Renewable lease	..	..	..	..	..	11	0	7
Grazing-farms	..	..	..	..	..	45,021	1	32
Pastoral run	..	..	..	..	..	1,642	0	0
Miscellaneous occupation licenses	..	..	..	..	..	1,094	2	30
Sold for cash	..	..	..	..	..	6,843	0	25
Grazing-farms terminated during year and partly relet as renewable lease after 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	..	741	0	32
Roads, railway reserves, wastes, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	2,535	2	9
Total	..	..	..	..	..	84,755	0	0

The Ranger reports that this estate is in a most satisfactory condition, and remarkably free from noxious weeds of any kind. Its capital value, which had increased very much of late years, in common

with all other land in Canterbury, has been still further enhanced by the completion of the railway to the Waiau. Of the 71,700 acres reported upon, about 7,700 acres were cropped this year; 28,000 acres have been cultivated and are now in English grass; and about 36,000 acres remain in tussock. The permanent resident population numbers about a thousand souls. The stock wintered on the area under remark number 86,000 sheep, 1,000 cattle, 900 horses, and 200 pigs. A considerable number of fat lambs are annually sent from this estate, and a large number of store sheep are purchased from other parts of the district and fattened on the Cheviot farms. The permanent improvements are always on the increase, and now total £124,000.

T. N. BRODRICK,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

The returns show that at the 31st March, 1912, there were 164 more Crown holdings than at the end of last financial year, while the increase in area held was 81,257 acres. The gross revenue received during the year amounted to £121,118 16s. 5d. The demand for land is still strong, more especially for pastoral country and for small areas for fruit-growing. The latter industry is rapidly increasing in Central Otago, and to meet the demand it will be necessary to provide, if possible, areas that may be subdivided into suitable lots for fruit-culture. With this end in view, it is proposed to make as early as possible an inspection of the Galloway and Earnsclough Runs, on which such areas are said to be available.

Occupation with right of purchase is still the favourite tenure, showing a desire on the part of the bulk of our selectors for an ultimate acquisition of the freehold. Apparently, however, lease-in-perpetuity holders consider they have as good a tenure as they can secure, seeing that under that tenure only two have during the year availed themselves of the right of purchase, the area purchased being 3 acres. There have been no applications for exchange from this tenure to that of renewable lease.

LAND TENURES AND TRANSACTIONS.

Four holders of ordinary perpetual leases over an aggregate area of 896 acres, eight licenses under occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure of 1,528 acres, two holders of village-settlement perpetual leases comprising 66 acres, and two tenants of village-homestead allotments under the lease-in-perpetuity system of a combined area of 3 acres, purchased the freehold of their land during the year. A preference for the occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure was shown by twenty-four selectors taking up 5,877 acres under this form of lease out of 6,709 acres taken up by thirty-two selectors under the optional system. No exchanges were made of leases in perpetuity for renewable leases. Thirty-one settlers took up 4,929 acres under ordinary renewable lease, and forty-one settlers acquired 10,153 acres under land-for-settlement renewable lease within the past twelve months. Of the latter, forty were successful applicants for subdivisions of Conical Hills Settlement, near Waipahi, which were offered to the public on the 25th March, 1912, and one was a selector of a holding of 499 acres in Matakanui Settlement, which had been surrendered by a previous tenant and reoffered to the public. Ten persons selected 36,679 acres of national-endowment small grazing-runs, twenty-one individuals became holders of ordinary pastoral runs totalling 80,905 acres, and four became tenants of 70,835 acres of national-endowment pastoral runs. One hundred and three applicants were granted yearly grazing licenses over 23,415 acres, and licenses for timber-cutting over 1,225 acres were issued to six persons.

ARREARS OF RENT.

The amount of rent in arrear at the 31st March, 1912, exclusive of the current half-yearly instalments payable in advance, was £1,178 1s. 4d. in respect of all tenures. Half of this sum is accounted for by the fact that payment of the rent of a number of settlers in North Otago was allowed to remain in abeyance for one year, out of consideration for the losses sustained by these settlers through the long drought of the summer of 1911. The position, therefore, is very satisfactory.

FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS.

The largest forfeiture was that of a grazing license over 8,000 acres in Wilkin Valley. Although the yearly rent for the area was only £3 the licensee failed to keep up his payments regularly. Four occupation-with-right-of-purchase licenses over 808 acres were forfeited, two for non-payment of rent, one for non-compliance with conditions, and one for non-execution of lease; and two similar licenses over 572 acres were surrendered, one licensee averring that he was unable to fulfil the conditions of his license, and the other stating that "unforeseen circumstances" had arisen preventing her from complying with the conditions. One holder of a small grazing-run of 2,833 acres surrendered his lease. Five occupation leases over 156 acres bringing in a total yearly rent of £7 were surrendered for various reasons, and one of 20 acres at a yearly rent of £1 was forfeited for non-payment of rent. Three holders of 10 acres of primary-education endowment land of a total yearly rental of £3 15s. had their leases forfeited for non-payment of rent, and a tenant of a village-settlement section of 3 roods 32 perches under occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure lost his holding also through failure to pay a yearly rent of 6s. A gratifying feature of the year's business is the absence of any forfeiture or surrender of land held under the provisions of the Land for Settlements Act.

TRANSFERS.

The total number of transfers granted during the past year was as follows :—

	Number.	Area : Acres.
Lease in perpetuity (ordinary)	70	13,044
Renewable lease	12	1,272
Lease in perpetuity (land for settlement)	52	13,733
Renewable lease (land for settlement)	2	2,112
Small grazing-runs	28	69,580
Occupation with right of purchase	13	1,554
Perpetual lease	34	2,580
Occupation lease	18	513
Miscellaneous licenses	38	4,159
Pastoral runs	20	430,022
Education Reserves	24	20,509
Totals	311	559,078

LAND PROPOSED TO BE OPENED FOR SELECTION IN 1912-13.

An area of 1,633 acres, comprising Elderslie No. 2 Settlement, will be offered to the public on renewable lease in fourteen sections on the 29th April, 1912. Two sections in Conical Hills Settlement will be grouped and offered for lease as one holding of 627 acres, and five sections of rural land aggregating 702 acres will be opened for selection under the optional system on the 7th May of this year. Of national-endowment land 4,000 acres in Lower Wanaka, Rankleburn, Beaumont, and Tuapeka West Survey Districts will be offered to the public under renewable lease, and 29,215 acres in Leaning Rock and Warepa Survey Districts will be placed on the market—9,090 acres as a pastoral run and 20,125 acres in small grazing-runs.

GENERAL REMARKS (RANGERS' INSPECTIONS).

Contrary to the weather-conditions of several previous years, the past year in the latter part has been marked by an amount of rain beyond the normal. In consequence, more particularly in North Otago, where the settlers had been suffering from droughts, they were encouraged to put a larger area than usual into cereals. These, for yield, turned out remarkably well—such phenomenal yields as 50 to 60 bushels of wheat to the acre being obtained, while in one instance upwards of 115 bushels of oats to the acre was threshed. The excessive wet and cold, however, had the effect of delaying the harvest, especially in the southern districts, where at the date of my report the greater part of the white crops is still uncut.

The position and prospects of tenants of ordinary Crown land are reported on by the Ranger as follows :—

The tenants on ordinary Crown lands have had on the whole a fairly successful year. The past winter, though free from heavy snow, was more severe than the average, on account of the long-continued frosts. Last autumn and also last winter and spring were very dry, and hence the grass did not come away early, consequently feed was scarce during the early spring and summer. Stock, generally, were in a backward condition, and the lambing percentages below the average on pastoral country. Towards the middle and end of December the weather completely changed and became very wet. The crops and grass came away very quickly, and stock soon picked up in condition. The weather greatly retarded shearing operations, and the general shearing was considerably delayed and expensive. There was not the usual number of surplus stock this year, but wool-prices were well maintained. Central Otago did not enjoy the copious rainfall that visited the south and east part of the province. In the early parts of the season the weather was extremely dry and the pasture very late in coming. Many of the early root-crops failed, but rain coming in December favoured those resown. There are now some fair turnip crops, and the grain crops generally are good. The harvest weather there was favourable, and the oats, wheat, and barley crops have been well saved. In the eastern and southern part of Otago the weather since the middle of December has been very wet and broken, and though the grain crops grew luxuriantly they have not ripened well. The farmers have had considerable difficulty in getting their crops cut, and more difficulty still in saving them; in fact, a very large proportion of the oats and wheat will be at least badly discoloured, if not absolutely destroyed. The wheat return must suffer very much, and it is difficult to see where sufficient wheat is coming from to supply local requirements. The high-priced land has suffered most from the wet season, and it is to be feared that those holding highly valued land, and those paying high rents, will suffer considerable hardships on account of the poor returns and inferior prices that must necessarily follow for badly matured grain. The bush settlers have been at some disadvantage through the wetness of the past season. The roads have been heavy, and the delivery of milk to the factories has been difficult. There has, however, been very good feed, and the returns have been well maintained. Most of the bush farmers are dairymen, and the dairying industry has been extended by the erection of a number of new factories during the past season. The prices ruling for butter and cheese have given the factory-suppliers a timely lift, and though they have had bad roads and wet weather to contend with they seem to have had a good year generally. Cattle prices are high, and this also has materially helped those who had surplus stock.

Taking the farming community throughout Otago as a whole, they seem to have had a fair average year, notwithstanding the unfavourable weather-conditions. The strong and growing desire to get

on the land is evidenced by the number of applicants at the recent ballots in Otago. The large number applying for land shows that farming is looked upon with a favourable eye, both by farmers' sons and townpeople. In perusing the lists of those who are keen to get land, it is very noticeable that applicants come from nearly every walk in life, and also that townpeople are about as anxious to get on the land as are those who have been brought up to a country life. The position of Otago farmers is sound, though they may not have made much solid progress during the year, and their prospects as long as the markets remain steady are very good.

LAND BOARD.

Last year I reported the steady increase of work, and this year it has continued to increase. In addition to the ordinary monthly two-day sittings, the Board has held sittings twice at Oamaru, once at Cromwell, and once at Tapanui. These sittings were in connection with land ballots, but though doubtless a great convenience and saving of time and expense to applicants, they were the reverse to the Board members, who found it difficult to arrange their own private business to suit.

DEPARTMENTAL.

Owing to the abolition of the Otago School Commissioners as an administrative body, and the administration of the education endowments having been taken over by the Land Board, the office-work has been considerably increased. New books on a new system had to be prepared both for this office and for Southland. To in part meet the extra clerical work, Mr. Macandrew, who has been for many years secretary to the School Commissioners, was joined to the staff here, and his knowledge of the past dealings with the endowments has been of much use to this office, and, I may say, to the Southland office also. The long illness of Mr. Johnston, Chief Clerk, necessarily increased the work of other officers, and I take this opportunity of acknowledging the cheerful and competent way in which all the officers have discharged their various duties.

E. H. WILMOT,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

During the year the number of tenants has increased by 756. Total area held is 2,170,365 acres, as against 1,862,042 last year, the annual rent payable being £39,989 as compared with £26,434 last year. The gross revenue received was £56,664, being an increase of £18,766 over last year's receipts. The large increases in tenants and revenue are mainly owing to the taking-over of the late School Commissioners' leases, there being 722 such tenants, holding 318,745 acres, with an annual rent of £12,855.

THE VARIOUS TENURES.

Under the heading "Lands sold for Cash" the area purchased from the Crown shows a decrease of 918 acres, but the revenue received is £1,216 greater than last year. Under the occupation-with-right-of-purchase system the selections show a decrease of 5,900 acres as compared with previous year. The total number of holdings has been increased by seventeen, but the area held is 3,773 acres less than last year, owing to the freehold acquired exceeding the area selected. The increase in annual rent payable is £48. The freeholds acquired during the year show an increase of 6,748 acres over last year's purchases. Under the renewable-lease system the area selected during the year is 585 acres more than last year. The total number of holdings has been increased from 93 to 123, the area held from 8,969 acres to 12,599, and the annual rental payable from £360 to £518. Under the perpetual-lease tenure only seven tenants exercised their right to acquire the freehold, while sixteen tenants did likewise under the lease-in-perpetuity system. The remaining tenures are practically the same as last year.

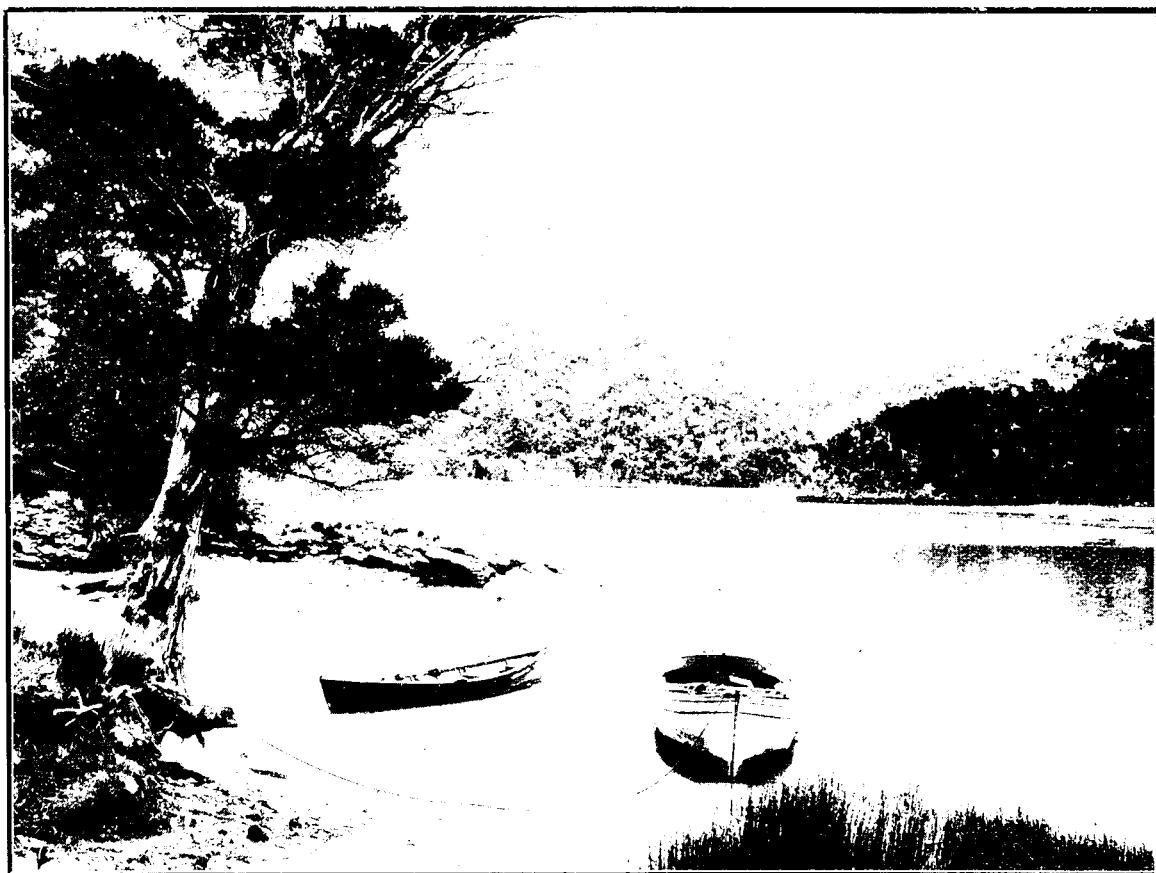
ARREARS OF RENT.

It is pleasing to note that the arrears of rent are now practically reduced to a minimum. The total amount of arrears due at the 31st March, exclusive of the current instalments (including education endowments) is only £199. This gratifying result is largely due to the high prices ruling for stock and dairy produce.

FREEHOLD TITLES ISSUED.

The subjoined table shows the number of provisional titles issued by the Receiver of Land Revenue. Compared with last year the number of purchasers has increased by fifty-nine and the area acquired by 10,469 acres.

Tenure.				Number.	Area.		
					A.	R.	P.
Occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	25	10,172	2	1
Lease in perpetuity purchased)	..	..	..	16	3,184	3	29
Perpetual lease (purchased	..	..	..	8	721	0	34
Cash	..	..	..	22	963	1	31
Auction	..	..	..	35	214	3	32
Totals	..	..	..	106	15,257	0	7



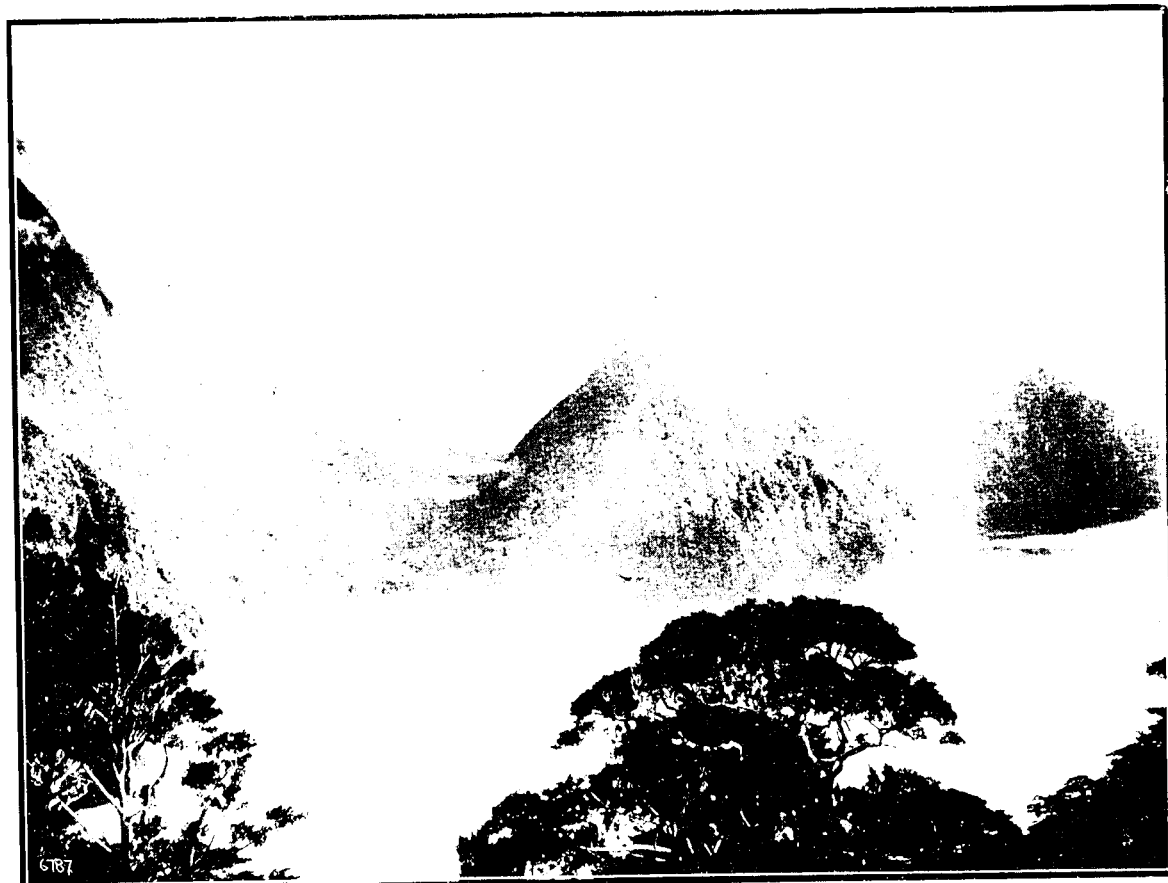
FAIERE RIVER



NORTH FJORD, LAKE TE ANAU.



Paul's Cove, Port Antonio



Atterbury Park and The Lion, Port Antonio

TRANSFERS.

The number of transfers completed during the year is 114 greater than the previous year. About half of these are, however, education-endowment leases. The subjoined list gives details under the various tenures :—

Tenure.	Number.	Area.		
		A.	R.	P.
Lease in perpetuity (ordinary)	68	13,950	0	1
Lease in perpetuity lands for settlement	19	2,536	1	1
Occupation with right of purchase	35	8,202	2	8
Perpetual lease	26	1,636	0	33
Renewable lease (ordinary)	4	1,095	1	4
Renewable lease (land for settlement)	1	207	1	15
Pastoral license	17	328,034	0	0
Small grazing-runs	3	14,018	2	0
Mining districts land occupation	2	80	0	36
Occupation lease (mining)	15	1,212	3	27
Coal leases	1	19	0	38
Certificate of occupation	1	313	0	20
Sawmill areas	3	2,080	0	0
Education reserves	52	20,146	0	11
Totals	247	393,531	2	34

LANDS OPENED DURING THE YEAR.

The demand for land is still exceedingly keen, and as soon as a block is placed on the market large numbers of applications are received. The following table shows the number of applicants who applied for land at four large ballots held during the year, which might be of interest and which goes to show that much has yet to be done to satisfy the demand for land in Southland :—

Block.	Number of Sections.	Number of Applicants.
Winton	9	104
Forest Hill	10	193
Longwood	5	23
Spar Bush	10	156
Totals	34	476

The Terepa Estate, containing 5,505 acres (an education reserve), and which was purchased by the late School Commissioners prior to their abolition, was also offered in seven sections during the year, and 3,357 acres representing five sections of it were selected prior to 31st March.

LANDS PROPOSED TO BE OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING THE YEAR.

During the year I hope to be in a position to place about 25,000 acres in the market, and have no hesitation in saying that the majority of the sections will be selected the day they are opened for application.

The surveys of an area of 5,685 acres in Campbelltown and Invercargill Hundreds, and 1,626 acres in Aparima Hundred, have been completed and some of the sections already advertised. Surveys of 6,000 acres in the Longwood district and Jacob's River Hundred are almost completed, and will be dealt with as soon as possible. Further blocks in Campbelltown Hundred, Aparima Hundred, and Longwood and Mokoreta districts will also be available for settlement. The majority of the lands under survey are worked-out bush areas and well suited for settlement, and this area should assist to cope with the demand.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Crown tenants, with few exceptions, continue to fulfil the conditions of their respective leases in a satisfactory manner. The past season has been a remarkably cold and wet one. This has had a very retarding influence on all vegetable growth, the result being that crops of all kinds were a month to six weeks later than usual. Grass has been exceedingly plentiful, but the prevalence of so much rain has proved disastrous to the seed crops. White crops have done well on the whole, but the wet spring delayed the sowing of all root crops, and consequently the results are not as good as last year. Dairying still flourishes, and record prices have ruled for factory-output. Five new factories have been erected during the year, making a total of fifty-four cheese-factories and four butter and condensing factories in Southland, with an intake ranging from 800 to 12,000 gallons of milk per day. One of the results of the good prices ruling for dairy-produce has been the laying-down of new grass on a very liberal scale, which will largely increase the feeding-value. Systematic farming and the improvement of their dairy herds are matters of vital importance to the dairy-farmers, as it is only by strict attention to these that they can increase the earning-powers of their holdings. Taken as a whole, the settlers have experienced a good year, as prices for stock and produce generally have ruled above the average.

DEPARTMENTAL.

The volume of departmental work involved in the carrying-on of the administration of the district has been very much increased by the taking-over of the late School Commissioners' endowments, which are now under the control and management of this Department. The period under review has been a year of strenuous work for the whole of the staff, the amount of business being greatly in excess of any previous year. I have much pleasure in recording my appreciation of the way the officers have worked and the willingness with which they have assisted me since taking charge of the district in December last.

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

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

AUCKLAND.

THE reports received from the Crown Lands Ranger on the rural settlements are generally of a very satisfactory character. The majority of the settlers are devoting their attention to dairying, creameries having been established in or adjoining the settlements, and the amount of cropping done is not great, though good results have been obtained from the crops put in. The introduction of milking-machines, erection of public halls, establishment of schools, &c., are evidences of an energy and intelligence which are bound to lead to well-deserved prosperity not only to the settlers immediately concerned, but also to the districts in which they are located. In the older settlements comfortable homesteads and surroundings have developed, the roads are in good order, and the general appearance is one of comfort and prosperity.

In the Tautari Settlement road-improvement will become necessary before long, and telephone communication is much needed.

In the Selwyn Settlement, although much of it consists of light land, the settlers appear to be doing well, and there is a tendency to subdivide the larger holdings, which indicates that settlers find the land responsive to suitable treatment, and realize that a smaller area developed to its full productiveness is more remunerative than a larger area that cannot be brought into the fullest use. Root crops and clovers appear to do well when judiciously treated with artificial manures.

The Township of Matamata (in the settlement of that name), Te Awamutu (Teasdale Settlement), and Putaruru (Selwyn Settlement) are thriving agricultural centres.

The suburban settlements near Auckland, six in number, are in a very satisfactory and prosperous condition; the dwellinghouses and other improvements are of a good description, and many of the holders are establishing orchards and poultry-farms with considerable success.

H. M. SKEET,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

HAWKE'S BAY.

The settlers in the northern portion of the Hawke's Bay Land District under the land-for-settlement conditions have had another successful year. The settlers on Wigan, Ngatapa, and Kanakanaia go in particularly for grazing; on Te Arai, mixed farming, dairying, cropping, and grazing are carried on; and on Pouparae, Willows, and Waimarie they go in principally for dairying and cropping.

It has been an exceptionally good winter for stock. All the sheep clipped exceptionally well, and the wool was in beautiful order, much heavier than the last few years, and the prices realized by the settlers have been very satisfactory. The lambing has been above the average for this district, and the lambs have fattened well. It is the general opinion that hoggets have never done better in this district. Big sheep also fattened well, and one settler on Kanakanaia sent 1,600 fat sheep to the freezing-works this season.

The dry season was felt more by the settlers who go in for dairying, but the prices received for butter-fat was a record for this district, and practically compensated them for the shortness in supply. Generally speaking, it has not been a good year for fat cattle. The stock came through the winter in splendid condition, but both the spring and summer being dry it was hard to top them off.

The season also has not been very favourable for cropping, as the rain came too late to do the crops much good. There is a shortage of maize in the district, consequently prices have been ruling much higher than in previous years. There has been a much larger area in oats this year, but no heavy crops, though the quality is first class, and it has been the best season for chaff for some considerable time.



ON THE TRACK TO LAKE IDA, BETWEEN THE LAKE AND PESKY SOUND.

It has also been a good season for rye-grass, and more has been harvested than has been for some years, and it is of a very fair quality, but the price is rather lower than it has been for some considerable time.

Viticulture experts who have visited this district on several occasions have reported that Poverty Bay soil and climate are particularly adapted to the growth of grapes, and Mr. P. Gurschka, one of the Te Arai Settlements tenants, who has had considerable experience in the culture of vines, has in a most practical manner put this theory to the test some years ago by the establishment of a vineyard, 1 acre in extent, which has proved a great success.

The Education Board have, as usual, assisted materially in the progress of settlement by the establishment of schools at Ngatapa and Kanakanaia Settlements.

The Clydebank settlers, situated on the southern boundary of the district, have only had a fair season. It is a new settlement, and the principal drawback is the distance from freezing-works, but there is every prospect of these being started at Wairoa shortly, so this settlement cannot be otherwise than prosperous. A large portion of the settlement was covered with fern, manuka scrub, bush, and native grass, and the season being dry was very suitable for burning, and has enabled the settlers to clear up and break in a lot of country.

The result of the year's inspection of sixteen settlements situated in the southern portion of the Hawke's Bay District is very satisfactory, both as regards improvements effected and an increased population, the number of souls now living in the various settlements being 1,897. The improvements required by law amount to a value of £155,177, and those effected are estimated at £312,062, which compared with total improvements effected last year gives a difference of £34,597, which represents value of improvements effected during the last twelve months. The season has been a very favourable one for dairying and fruit-culture, which in many instances has been the main sources of income to the settlers.

The Hawke's Bay Autumn Show held at Hastings has grown in size and importance from its inception, where the entries numbered some 400, up to the last year, when the exhibits were increased to 7,608 principally in the fruit and produce sections. The success attending the last exhibition indicates the manner in which the fruit industry has developed within the last few years. The Department of Agriculture and many of our settlers contributed largely to the success of the show. The Heretaunga Dairy Company in March last awarded prizes in a butter-fat competition. The first prize was won by a Mahora settler with a herd of thirty-five cows, and at the ruling market price now obtaining—viz., 1s. per pound for butter-fat—represented £1 15s. 9d. per cow per month.

During the past year, generally speaking, the condition of the settlements may be said to be very promising.

C. R. POLLEN,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

TARANAKI.

The Clandon Settlement is progressing better than was anticipated. Two of the sections are being used entirely for grazing sheep, and show a marked improvement. Other settlers are using small quantities of patent top-dressing, which has done much good.

The Huinga Settlement is, generally speaking, in a fairly prosperous condition, though two of the settlers have had to give up milking and graze sheep on their sections with a view of renewing the grass. There has been a considerable amount of sickness among the settlers' families during the past year.

Tokaora Settlement still continues its prosperous career, and all the settlers are apparently doing well. There appears very little chance of the grass running out on this settlement for a number of years, and even then it could be easily renewed on account of the flatness of the land, a condition which does not prevail in either Clandon or Huinga. The value of the land in Tokaora Settlement has about doubled since it was selected.

The improvement in Spotswood Settlement is most marked, and as there appears to be some prospect of the oil and ironsand industries being a success the future of this settlement is much brighter than it has been for some time. One of the settlers stated that his leaving town and going to live at Spotswood had been the making of him, as the saving effected by being able to keep a cow and pig on his increased area had materially helped him in the upbringing of his family.

Generally speaking, these settlements are doing well, although there are cases where the settlers are not making the success they should, but this is either owing to lack of funds, insufficient knowledge of farming, or sickness in their families.

G. H. BULLARD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WELLINGTON.

In the west coast districts the settlements are for the most part situated in the vicinities of Feilding, Bull's, and Lower Oroua. The holdings on this side are used principally for dairying, cropping, and fruit-growing. The settlers are doing well, and the progress made is very satisfactory. The settlements are now so well established and developed in this part of the district that little can be added to reports of previous years.

The tenants on settlement lands in the east coast division go in for mixed farming, the higher lands being used for grazing and the lower for dairying and agricultural purposes.

The settlements in the vicinity of Wellington are utilized as residential sites principally, but some of the tenants follow poultry-farming, market-gardening, &c.

With the exception of Normandale and Hawtrey Settlements, the latter of which is, however, coming more into favour, the whole of the settlers on settlement lands are in a more or less prosperous condition.

The season throughout has been very changeable and much later than usual, but there has been abundance of feed and, as record prices have been reached for dairy-produce, the settlers have, on the whole, had a good year. All settlers are of a desirable class and utilize their holdings to the best advantage. Roads throughout are in good order, consequently settlers can reach the markets and railway with every convenience, which is a great factor towards successful settlement.

G. WRIGHT,
Acting Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

Wangapeka Settlement: This settlement, opened in 1907, is to-day one of the most prosperous parts of the district. It contains an area of 6,149 acres, occupied by fifteen hardworking desirable tenants. The requirements of the Act in the way of improvements amount to £956, and those effected have reached a value of £7,776, or an excess of £6,820. This estate is nearly all open land, and when first settled was in a neglected state, but after several years' careful ploughing and working the land is now in good heart, and is an object-lesson to those who predicted its failure. Where formerly one man was only obtaining an indifferent living, fifteen men are now doing well. The improvements consist chiefly of fencing, ploughing and cropping, and buildings; the stock now amounts to 3,625 sheep, 39 horses, 257 cows, and 35 pigs. A fair amount of ground has been ploughed and cropped, and some fine crops of oats have been harvested for chaff. There is a creamery on the settlement, supplied by nine of the settlers milking 200 cows. The settlers are all hardworking, practical farmers, and are well satisfied with their conditions and prospects.

Braeburn Settlement: The area of this settlement is 17,674 acres, of which 15,825 acres is held by nineteen tenants, an increase of two since last year; there are still two selections unoccupied, but I have no doubt these will soon be taken up. This place is advancing steadily, and at the present time is supplying cream to the Murchison factory. The improvements required are £4,474 and £9,984 effected, showing a great increase since last year. Grazing is the chief industry, very little in the way of agriculture being done owing to distance from market and a heavy rainfall; the small amount of crops grown for local consumption were very good. The bulk of this settlement is hilly bush land, and consequently the progress is somewhat slow; 1,025 acres were felled this year, but owing to the wet season the burns have not been good. The stock now number 9,076 head of sheep, cattle, horses, and pigs, a large increase on last year.

ROBT. T. SADD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

The total area acquired and offered under the Land for Settlements Act in this district is 116,334 acres, and the area leased 109,912 acres. The total population residing on the holdings is 1,048—a slight decrease from last year. The number of sheep shows a falling-off from 121,121 to 117,814, but the number of cattle has increased from 1,166 to 1,217 head; the number of horses remains practically the same as last year. The total area in white crops was 1,825 acres, and in green crops 6,385 acres. The improvements effected are valued at £192,394 6s. 5d., as against the amount required by the Act, £89,509 7s. 7d. The lessees, especially on Starborough, Richmond Brook, and Blind River, are all doing remarkably well; the original selectors who are still holding their leaseholds are nearly all independent. The increased value of the leaseholds is shown by the prices paid for the goodwill. Several sections have changed hands at sums, exclusive of improvements, considerably more than the original price of the land.

Seddon Township, now no longer the terminus of the railway, is at a standstill as far as population goes, but has greatly improved during the past year. A post-office has been built, a telephone exchange opened with forty subscribers, also a Coronation Library and another church erected. Although Seddon will probably never have a much larger population than at present, it will always be the centre for the traffic for the Upper Awatere, which, as the larger properties are subdivided, will support a much greater population than at present.

The climatic conditions have been very variable and broken; the spring and early summer being wet and cold seriously interfered with the harvest operations and caused a large mortality among sheep. For the last three months very little rain has fallen north of the Ure, and now that frost has set in there seems a likelihood of the sheep-farmer having a shortage of winter feed. The caterpillar pest has not caused the same damage to crops this year as it has done in past years.

The settlers, with very few exceptions, are making headway, and are assured of future success.

W. H. SKINNER,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

Only two estates in this district have been acquired for closer settlement under the Land for Settlements Act, and the present position of both of these reflects great credit on the judgment of those responsible for their acquisition. Very considerable goodwills are offering for any of the leases, but the tenants are showing no disposition to dispose of their holdings, as they are without exception thoroughly *bona fide* settlers and obtaining highly satisfactory returns. The success in the case of both settlements is to a large extent attributable to the butter-factories which the close settlement of the land brought into existence. The two settlements have been improved to the extent of £16,086 (as against £3,319 required under the leases) and carry a population of ninety-seven souls. There has been a very plentiful supply of feed during the whole of the past year, and the results of the year's work have given general satisfaction. The dairying herds carried are of very good quality, due to the enterprise of the settlers in importing valuable pedigree stock.

H. D. M. HASZARD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

CANTERBURY.

LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

Five new settlements were opened for selection under renewable-lease tenure during the year. The following are brief particulars regarding the disposal of each :—

(1.) Drayton Settlement, from three-quarters of a mile to two and three-quarter miles from Templeton Railway-station. Opened for selection on the 25th April, 1911. It comprises open level land, varying in quality from good light soil to rich agricultural land. Area offered, 987 acres 1 rood 9 perches in twenty sections of from 10 to 125 acres. The number of applicants admitted to the ballot was thirty-five, and the whole of the sections were disposed of before the end of the year. Three leases were subsequently surrendered, but these have already been reselected.

(2.) Allanholme Settlement, two miles from Waihao Forks Railway-station, and ten miles from Waimate. Opened for selection on the 25th April, 1911. It comprises agricultural land, ranging in altitude from 500 ft. to 800 ft. above sea-level, in undulating and easy sloping spurs, level terraces, and river flats. Area offered, 1,911 acres 3 roods 4 perches, in eight sections of from 203 to 276 acres. The number of applicants admitted to the ballot was forty-seven, and the whole of the sections were disposed of at the first ballot.

(3.) Douglas Settlement, two and a half miles from Waihao Downs Station, and eleven miles from Waimate. Opened for selection on the 13th June, 1911. It comprises first-class agricultural land, ranging in altitude from 500 ft. to 800 ft. above sea-level, being similar in quality and description to the land in the Allanholme Settlement adjoining. Area offered, 3,534 acres 3 roods 28 perches, in thirty-three sections of from 5 to 418 acres. The number of applicants admitted to the ballot was 109, and the whole of the sections were selected by the end of the year. Two of the small sections were subsequently surrendered.

(4.) Scargill Settlement, within a mile of the Scargill Railway-station, fifty-five miles from Christchurch, on the Christchurch—Cheviot Railway. Opened for selection on the 21st February, 1912. It comprises first-class agricultural land, level and undulating, ranging in altitude from 500 ft. to 700 ft. above sea-level. Area offered, 1,641 acres and 38 perches, in eight sections of from 150 to 262 acres. There were only nine applicants for these sections, the result being that, as several applied for the same sections, four remained undisposed-of at the end of the year.

(5.) Sherwood Downs Settlement, eight miles from Fairlie Railway-station at its nearest point. Opened for selection on the 20th March, 1912. It comprises the country lying between the north and south branches of the Opuha River, running back to the Two-thumb Range and its easterly offshoot through Fox's Peak. The frontal portion consists of good flat and undulating agricultural country, ranging from 1,400 ft. to 1,800 ft. above sea-level; the back portion of hill and mountain-slopes good summer tussock country. Area offered, 57,638 acres 1 rood, in twenty-six holdings of from 192 to 14,711 acres. The number of applicants admitted to the ballot was 191, and the whole of the sections were disposed of at the first ballot.

LANDS TO BE OPENED DURING THE YEAR.

The settlements to be offered during the ensuing year will include Timaunga, 5,957 acres, fifteen miles from Timaru, in twenty sections; Four Peaks, 12,692 acres, south of the Tripp Settlement, about twelve miles from Orari, in eight sections; Valverde, 2,312 acres, near Ashburton, in eleven sections; Bournedale, 1,575 acres, near Timaru (Makikihi), in seven sections; Claremont, 2,343 acres, near Timaru, in eleven sections; Waimate, 1,600 acres, immediately south and west of Waimate, in thirty-eight sections; Aylesbury, 1,002 acres, near Kirwee, in six sections; Irwin's, 521 acres, near Mitcham, in two sections; Low's, 1,300 acres, near Mitcham, in six sections; Patterson's, Scott's, and Laver's, 2,161 acres, part of Pareora Estate, in six sections; Winchester, 789 acres, near Temuka, in ten sections; Avenel, 1,751 acres, near Mitcham, in seventeen sections: total area, 34,003 acres, in 142 sections.

SETTLEMENTS.

There are now established in this district sixty-five settlements and a few homestead-sites, &c. These comprise a total occupied area of 386,428 acres, occupied in 1,521 holdings. The total resident population of these lands is 5,280 souls, exclusive of those who will settle on the new settlements within

the next few months. The aggregate value of improvements required by the terms of the lease is £240,132 9s. 4d., and the total value effected £605,374 4s. 2d. The stock depastured on the settlements include 286,852 sheep, 7,233 head of cattle, 5,772 horses, 2,856 pigs. The annual rental of the occupied land is £101,094, and the total receipts since the inception of the system in 1894 amount to £822,193 8s. 4d.

The reports of the Crown Lands Rangers on all the land-for-settlements estates throughout the district record a steady increase of prosperity amongst the settlers, a most satisfactory compliance with all the conditions of the leases, and on the whole a favourable season for all classes of farming. In nearly all cases settlers are well satisfied with their holdings, though those on small sections naturally wish to enlarge their farms as they get financially stronger and their families grow up.

T. N. BRODRICK,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

OTAGO.

During the year now ended there has been only one new settlement opened—viz., Conical Hills. This was offered towards the end of the year in fifty-two allotments aggregating 9,914 acres, two sections being held back with a view to their being offered as one allotment of an area of about 600 acres. All the allotments offered, excepting a few small ones, were taken up.

The Crown Lands Ranger reports on the settlements generally as under :—

The condition of the settlers is quite the reverse of what it was last year, when they suffered from the effects of a disastrous drought. This year the rainfall has been much greater than usual, consequently a very large area has been sown in wheat and oats. The area sown in green crop is also much greater than in past years. It is not often that the farmers of North Otago complain of having too much moisture, but that has been the complaint this season. The subsoil received a thorough soaking during the spring months, consequently the yields of grain are phenomenal in many cases, upwards of 115 bushels of oats per acre being threshed in one instance, and as high as 50 to 60 bushels of wheat per acre. Last year the average yield was about 12 bushels of wheat and 25 of oats per acre. The turnip crop is not quite as good as might have been expected after so bountiful a rainfall, but the crop will be good and above the average for some years past. The potato crop last year was very poor on account of the drought and the wireworm. This year this crop is expected to be much above the average of former years.

In North Otago the grass was never better, there being abundance of feed which will carry the stock well during the winter. That, taken in conjunction with the turnip crops, will, it is expected, enable the farmers to carry more stock than last year. The market price for fat lambs remains good at 14s. to 15s. The price obtained for wool was on the whole better than last season. The dairy industry is in a very flourishing condition this year, the supply of milk to the creameries being far in excess of what it has been in past seasons.

Much the same may be said of the settlements in South Otago. They are all looking remarkably well. The grain crops are very heavy, and the yield promises to be much ahead of former years, while the turnip crops are much better than in North Otago. Generally speaking, the prospects of the settlers, both leaseholders and freeholders, are exceedingly bright, and the splendid season experienced will go far to compensate them for the losses incurred on account of the droughts of the last few years.

E. H. WILMOT,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

There have not been any new settlements purchased during the year. In the eastern portion of the district, where dairying is the chief occupation of the settlers, there has been an abundance of feed, but the cold and unsettled weather has somewhat operated against the yield of milk. Still, it is generally agreed that the season's returns will more than reach those of the past. The white crops, generally speaking, are very good, but the root-crops will, as a rule, not be up to the usual standard of excellence. The settlers in this part of the district are keeping their holdings in a high state of fertility by the application of lime and other artificial fertilizers coupled with a judicious system of cultivation. This year an area of 2,770 acres of new grass has been laid down. The settlers in the western portion of the district are chiefly occupied in mixed farming and grazing, and the high prices ruling for all produce have been of material assistance to them. The climatic conditions have been very suitable for the light lands in this district, the result being that there are some really excellent white crops, while the root crops are looking healthy and of good promise. An area of 1,682 acres has been laid down in new grass. Taking the settlements as a whole, it may be said that the conditions of lease are very well carried out, there being only a few defaulters; and the settlers now appear to be in a very satisfactory position in every way. The required amount of improvements is £60,477, and the value actually made is £94,477.

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

APPENDIX III.—THE TIMBER INDUSTRY.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

AUCKLAND.

DURING the year there has been a keen demand for timber owing to the amount of building and other works in progress. Three measuring-parties have been constantly employed, and timber to the quantity of 65,210,973 superficial feet has been offered for disposal.

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

	Kauri.	Rimu.	Kahikatea.	Totara.	Matai.	Total.	Amount realized.	
	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	£	s. d.
Crown lands (including national endowments)	5,044,409	1,154,552	13,606,958	2,337,333	1,065,779	23,209,031	11,159	5 11
State forests	26,563,397	6,148,445	12,402,285	1,577,734	598,836	47,290,697	49,451	3 3
Sections loaded with value of timber	88,687	1,762,852	2,649,775	387,316	93,066	4,981,696	1,274	16 0
Education reserves ..	..	..	..	13,600	..	13,600	6	16 0
Totals	31,696,493	9,065,849	28,659,018	4,315,983	1,757,681	75,495,024	61,892	1 2

By a recent amendment of the regulations, authority was obtained to dispose of kauri timber by auction, instead of only by tender as previously, and at the first sale held afterwards the record price of 6s. 3d. per 100 superficial feet for kauri timber was realized, thus indicating the value that is placed upon the limited remaining supplies of this unique timber. The sales of kauri have indicated that the time may have arrived for the minimum rate of royalty to be at least doubled.

Timber to the value of £334,413 has been exported from Auckland, principally to Australia, and timber valued at £72,118 has been imported, this being mostly Oregon pine. It is expected that there will be an importation of Manchurian pine during the coming year, as a sawmiller in the Northern Wairoa has a concession over certain forests in Manchuria.

With the decreasing supply of those timbers which were hitherto only esteemed as valuable, millers are beginning to use others not formerly considered. The shortening supply of kauri is producing an improved demand for mountain-rimu, which is good for building purposes. An attempt is also being made to utilize taraire for inside fittings; this timber has hitherto only been burnt, though it is pretty wood, and durable.

It is to be regretted that the millers do not fell the various timber-trees in winter when sap is down, as all timber lasts longer if felled in the winter. The difference in seasoning between kauri felled in winter and summer is very noticeable.

Another effect of the lessening supplies is that buried kauri-trees which are found in some parts a few feet below the surface are being unearthed and utilized in the mills. Some of these trees have a girth of 36 ft. and more, and must have been buried for hundreds of years, yet they appear quite sound, while over them there are in some cases to be found huge kauri-trees growing.

A visitor to the timber districts cannot fail to be struck with the waste of timber, especially kauri, that has taken place, though, probably, attempts will now be made to utilize some of this. There is also a great deal of mill-waste left on sawmill workings, which might be turned to commercial value.

The inevitable conflict of interests between timber and settlement is still in evidence, the Crown being urged to cut up and open for settlement land on which valuable milling-timber exists. In the past such lands have sometimes been offered loaded with the value of the timber, either in the form of a permanent addition to the capital value of the land, or as a debt to be paid by the selector to the Crown during a limited period of years. Neither method has proved satisfactory; in the first instance the occupier, when the timber is destroyed, complains that his valuation is excessive; while in the second case the recurring payments for the timber press hardly upon him at a time when all his financial and other resources are needed to bring his holding into a productive condition. Nor is it reasonable to claim that the Crown should dispose of the land without regard to the timber, which is frequently worth

more than the present value of the land, and represents a valuable asset to the community, which has a right, through the Government, to obtain the best possible price for the timber as well as to ensure its proper utilization. The Dominion has probably lost, by clearing and burning without utilization, millions of feet of valuable timber that would now be eagerly sought after for milling purposes. As the timber is cleared from Crown land by milling operations the land can be opened for settlement in a condition in which it can be more readily utilized, and the State thus obtains a double asset.

State Forests.—There have been no losses by fire in the State forests during the year, the wet season and careful supervision accounting for the absence of fires. The Waipoua State Forest contains about 120,000,000 sup. ft. of kauri, and in the Warawara State Forest the estimated amount of kauri is 60,000,000 sup. ft. Both are wet forests, situated on hilly land; and there is little danger from fire. A resident caretaker is maintained in each to prevent trespass and damage. A good deal of settlement is taking place outside the Waipoua Forest, and a demand is arising to have it placed on the market, but this valuable asset should be retained.

I am indebted to Colonel John H. Boscawen, Inspector of Forests and Kauri-gum Reserves, for much valuable information relating to these matters dealt with in the report. Since his appointment in October last he has visited all the reserves in the district, and his observations are accurate and full of interest.

H. M. SKEET,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NELSON.

The output of timber in northern Nelson is gradually diminishing, most of the milling-timber areas being cut out.

There are twenty-six small mills in the Takaka, Collingwood, Waimea, and Murchison Counties. Of this number six are cutting very little, and only for local orders, and others only working half-time. Three are cutting on Crown lands, one on Native lands, and twenty-two on private holdings. The estimated output is about 6,000,000 ft. per year. The principal timber cut is rimu, with a little matai and some birch. The whole output is used in the district, no export being carried on.

In the Inangahua County there are seven mills, and the output was 3,316,616 sup. ft., slightly in excess of the previous year.

In the Buller County twenty mills are at work, and the amount cut was 8,000,000 sup. ft. This continues to be a very active industry in this district, and affords a large amount of employment, and will continue to do so for many years, especially at Karamea and in the Steeples district.

The total output for the fifty-three mills in the Nelson District was 17,316,676 sup. ft.

ROBT. T. SADD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

MARLBOROUGH.

There are seven mills working in the district. One small one in the vicinity of Kaikoura cuts for local consumption, and the others, in the Opouri, Pelorus, and Wakamarina Valleys, export principally to Lyttelton and Australia, besides supplying the local market. The total annual output is about 12,000,000 ft., Messrs. Brownlee and Co.'s two mills at Timatanga and Blackball being responsible for 6,000,000 ft.; they employ about 120 men, and export the greater portion of their output to Lyttelton. The milling-area held by this firm will be cut out in about three years. The other large mill in the Opouri is owned by the Marlborough Timber Company, who, after considerable engineering difficulties, have constructed a tram over a saddle about 1,100 ft. high between Nydia Bay in Pelorus Sound and the head of the Opouri Valley. The output of this mill is 3,000,000 ft., which is either taken to Lyttelton or exported to Australia.

W. H. SKINNER,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

WESTLAND.

The timber industry is one of very great importance in this district in that it provides employment for a very large number of men, while during the past year it has produced a revenue of almost £10,000 from royalty alone. The timber is a very valuable asset to the district, and should therefore be dealt with to the very best advantage. The present system of administration in accordance with the provisions of the Mining Act is unsatisfactory alike to the Crown and the sawmiller. The provision for payment by way of royalty half-yearly on the output is unfavourable to the Crown, as it results at

times in somewhat serious loss on account of financial failure between periods of payment ; the granting of licenses for the excessive term of forty-two years permits of unwarrantable delay in cutting-operations, with the result that the land is indefinitely withheld from settlement ; while the uncertainty of the titles to reservations, which are granted for terms of one year only and must be renewed each year, seriously hampers the sawmillers in their financial arrangements. The administration of the timber in manner provided in the regulations under the Land Act would dispose of most of the objections mentioned, and by enabling the Board to keep a stricter control over the country worked would not only prevent a certain waste in timber, which is now going on through the areas not being cleanly worked, but would ensure that each reservation as completed would be handed over for settlement purposes before the blackberries got a start.

During the past year the total output has amounted to 62,450,663 ft., representing the operations of forty-three sawmills employing almost a thousand hands.

H. D. M. HASZARD,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SOUTHLAND.

During the year sixty-one mills out of sixty-three were working mostly full-handed ; indeed, I consider it was the busiest year that Southland sawmillers have had for the past twenty years. These sixty-one mills produced, approximately, 60,000,000 ft. of sawn timber ; 400,000 ft. were shipped to Australia and England, and of the balance, 27,000,000 ft. were delivered inside the Southland District, and 32,000,000 ft. delivered outside the district—viz., Gore to Christchurch. About 50 per cent. of the timber produced was manufactured into mouldings and dressed lines of different kinds. During the year about 1,100 persons were engaged in the industry, and £125,000 paid in wages.

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

APPENDIX IV.—REPORT ON WARAWARA STATE FOREST.

[By J. HUGH BOSCAWEN, Inspector of Kauri-gum Reserves and Forest-areas.]

I HAVE to report that I have lately visited the Warawara State Forest and spent four days exploring the ranges containing the forest. As far as I can ascertain, this forest has not previously been reported upon.

To begin with, the Warawara is what is known as a "rain forest," and situated about fifteen miles along the coast north of Hokianga Heads, on ranges having an altitude of 1,600 ft. to 2,000 ft. The spurs start from the seashore with a gradual ascent to the main ridge, with small streams in each gully, these streams having a descent to the sea through the land on the coast-line. Running north and south is a reef of hard volcanic rock crossing these streams at right angles, thus causing high waterfalls in most of the streams. These waterfalls are the stumbling-blocks to getting out the timber by driving, so it has been the means in the past of preserving the timber up to 1886, at which time the forest was gazetted a State forest ; and I hope it will remain as a State forest for all time. The kauri, as can be seen from my rough exploration-map, is situated on very inaccessible country. It consists of fine timber averaging from 8 ft. to 10 ft. through ; but I noticed that there is very little young kauri growing. In the past a good many of the trees have been bled for kauri-gum. This, no doubt, from the appearance of the trees, has injured them ; but I am inclined to think that from the present appearance of them the bleeding has been stopped in time and the trees will gradually recover. In one clump of trees the leaves certainly looked very brown, but I fancy this was due to exposed position, and that this year's westerly gales of salt-laden air have done the damage. Bled trees in a sheltered gully opposite looked quite green. But, undoubtedly, bleeding would kill the kauri in time. The former incisions in the trees are now healing, and a strict watch is kept to prevent bleeding at present or in future. The forest consists of two watersheds, marked A and B on map. The estimate of the timber on each area I obtained from an old timber-worker who had to do with the forest when it was Native land. I understand that he had to estimate the amount many years ago, and as it is still virgin forest I fancy his estimate is a fair one—viz., 60,000,000 ft. As before mentioned, the streams down which the timber would come have high rocky falls on them. If timber were driven down these creeks it would come out on an impossible coast with surf nearly always breaking. The

best way to get timber out would be as marked by map—(a) possible tram to Whangape Harbour; (b) driving down Waihou River over falls to Hokianga Harbour. However, I hope the timber may never be cut, and I am only supposing such a thing to happen.

The forest is a wet forest—tall kauri above, just below the ordinary northern mixed bush, and close to the ground grasses and ferns; in fact, what is known as the “kauri-grass” is thicker in this forest than in any forest I have seen, and it makes travelling exceedingly difficult off the ridges. The main spurs come right down to the coast-line, ending in sandhills and low cliffs. On the seaward spurs fine flax grows, especially on the Native-land portion; higher up the spurs white tea-tree (manuka), combed flat by wind; and it is not until you get over the first ridge that the real forest begins.

There is little or no danger from fire, because it is a wet bush where off and on rain is falling. We have also a caretaker living in a hut in a lonely spot in the forest, but his duty is principally to prevent trespass from gum-diggers.

Of animals there are practically none, as wild cattle do not roam the forest, and wild pigs there are none. The caretaker's cat caught a small weasel at the time of my visit. It is a pity that stoats and weasels are in the forest, as it means extinction of the kiwi, of which there are still many.

Birds: Very few tuis, a few green parakeets, a kaka or two, numerous fantails, and that is all the bird-life I saw in the forest. The seashore made up for it, as I saw great quantities of the following, absolutely tame: Curlew, torea (a black-and-white wader with young birds), dotterell, plover, sand-pipers, blackback gull, kettiwake gull, skua gull, black-cap terns, also small grey black-headed sea-swallow, shags, and blue cranes. The toreas and gulls simply walked out of my way as I walked along the long stretch of beach from Hokianga Heads.

I did not see any out-of-the-way plants, except *Rubus* or “lawyer,” which had only a midrib and no leaves. Southern forest plants grow better, on account of the moist climate. Flax grows well. The Natives grow taro in rows in their gardens alongside kumeras. In places the foothills were purple with pennyroyal or peppermint. I also saw a pink ipomea in flower at edge of bush.

The sand along the coast is fast encroaching. Marram-grass has been planted by the Natives, who have been most industrious over the matter. It has been planted in rows, and in places is in seed. It appears to have taken good hold. There is a new plant called melilotus, which, I believe, is a clover. It comes from King Island, in Tasmania, and has been sown on barren sandy hills; and from newspaper reports this fodder-plant has converted King Island from an unproductive desert into highly prosperous farms, the sandhills bearing a close resemblance to prolific lucerne-fields. The experiment is going to be tried on the sandhills on the coast at Warawara, by burning off tufts of marram-grass, and scattering this clover-seed on the ashes, as seed will not grow unless there is some semblance of soil to start it, but once started the plants spread rapidly.

Table 1.—RETURN SHOWING (APPROXIMATELY) POSITION OF LANDS IN THE DOMINION AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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 leased under all tenures (exclusive of Reserves leased by Crown).	Total Area open for Selection.	Total Area of Native Land.	Estimated Area of Barren 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 ..	2,228,251	3,630,771	1,898,007	347,301	3,864,951	..	653,173	1,235,546	13,858,000
Hawke's Bay ..	2,409,038	436,730	858,032	871	1,434,184	..	150,050	219,945	5,508,900
Taranaki ..	475,821	715,909	541,463	5,547	335,109	..	54,132	286,519	2,414,500
Wellington ..	3,105,241	898,071	934,306	735	1,530,348	36,500	143,752	212,000	6,810,953
Nelson ..	563,224	311,418	778,590	193,446	41,400	1,544,000	60,000	1,193,922	4,686,000
Marlborough ..	843,804	213,671	1,404,344	7,328	..	114,309	100,300	84,244	2,768,000
Westland ..	132,591	258,947	1,413,085	655,143	..	750,000	154,110	531,011	3,894,887
Canterbury ..	3,661,510	1,361,900	3,853,365	2,155	..	257,150	442,100	25,965	9,604,045
Otago ..	1,978,539	588,873	5,589,332	7,981	..	423,000	263,250	118,025	8,969,000
Southland ..	1,578,017	3,526,188	1,718,288	21,966	..	233,698	140,177	365,558	7,583,892
Totals ..	16,976,036	11,942,428	18,938,812	1,242,473	7,205,992	3,358,657	2,161,044	4,272,735	66,098,177

Table 2.—LANDS OPENED FOR SALE AND SELECTION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Optional System.	Cash by Auction.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Village Allotments.	Pastoral Runs.	Small Grazing-runs.	Renewable Lease.	Improved-farm Special Settlement.	Totals.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	Acres. 96,752	Acres. 345	Acres. 3,918	Acres. ..	Acres. ..	Acres. ..	Acres. 12,378	Acres. ..	Acres. 113,393
Hawke's Bay ..	2,073	4	104	..	..	..	..	..	2,181
Taranaki ..	7,402	371	302	..	..	..	..	..	8,075
Wellington ..	24,440	265	1	385	..	2,505	124	1,220	28,940
Nelson ..	189	6	8	..	..	..	7,198	..	7,351
Marlborough ..	2,885	15	1,419	..	296	13,210	203	..	18,098
Westland ..	..	27	..	..	279,942	..	603	..	280,572
Canterbury ..	..	15	47	..	52,024	..	..	..	62
Otago ..	4,472	18	..	..	67,611	..	..	..	56,514
Southland ..	4,882	233	..	1	..	..	2,185	..	74,912
Totals ..	143,045	1,299	5,799	386	399,873	15,715	22,691	1,220	590,028
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury ..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland ..	..	..	191	12	..	..	7,230	..	7,433
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,576	..	2,576
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	15
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66,152	..	66,152
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,413	..	10,413
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Totals ..	..	..	191	12	..	..	86,387	..	86,590
<i>National Endowment—</i>									
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44,142	..	44,142
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,243	..	7,243
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	913	..	913
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,368	..	2,368
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,279	..	14,279
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	47,710	..	4,529	..	52,239
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	39,600	92,222	..	..	125,822
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	6,487	36,629	147	..	42,263
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	100
Totals ..	..	..	..	..	87,797	127,851	73,721	..	289,369
Grand totals ..	143,045	1,305	5,990	398	487,670	143,566	182,799	1,220	965,993

Table 3 (Part I).—SUMMARY OF LANDS TAKEN UP DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912 (EXCLUSIVE OF PASTORAL RUNS AND MISCELLANEOUS LEASES).

For Details see	Tenures.	Auckland.		Hawke's Bay.		Taranaki.		Wellington.		Nelson.		Marlborough.		Westland.		Canterbury.		Otago.		Southland.		Total Area taken up during Year.
		A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands.</i>																						
Table 5—	Cash lands	2,116	0 19	29	3 2	1,336	3 3	308	0 30	46	0 5	925	3 23	12	1 5	116	3 12	375	0 14	742	0 29	6,059 0 22
" 8—	Occupation with right of purchase ..	81,992	1 35	2,075	2 30	5,966	1 34	24,155	0 3	155	0 0	2,858	0 0	..	..	..	..	6,111	0 36	9,168	3 17	131,482 2 35
" 10—	Renewable lease	212	1 11	..	..	..	..	417	2 26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	629 3 37
" 12—	Mining districts land occupation leases ..	919	0 23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	2 12	..	..	415	1 39	18	3 29	1,404 0 23
" 13—	Village settlement, cash ..	..	..	0	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 2 0
" 13—	Village settlement, renewable lease ..	..	..	..	0 2 15	..	..	405	0 32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	405 0 32
" 13—	Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 2 15
" 32—	Improved-farm special settlement ..	165	0 0	..	..	..	..	1,220	1 39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,385 1 39
" 17—	Small grazing runs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,505	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,505 0 0
Totals		85,405	0 8	2,106	2 7	7,353	0 37	29,011	2 10	201	0 5	3,783	3 23	62	3 17	116	3 12	6,901	3 9	8,929	3 35	143,872 3 3
<i>Cheviot Estate.</i>																						
Table 5—	Cash lands .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	2 0	..	..	..	..	0 2 0
Totals .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	2 0	..	..	..	..	0 2 0
<i>Land for Settlements Acts.</i>																						
Table 5—	Cash lands	10	3 0	..	..	..	..	1	0 0	..	..	4	1 5	..	..	15	1 7	..	..	4	1 34	35 3 6
" 10—	Renewable lease	10,870	3 22	1,719	2 0	82	0 14	76	1 12	1,821	0 0	35	1 11	..	..	65,819	1 22	10,153	1 31	1,190	0 38	91,768 0 30
" 13—	Renewable lease (village settlement)	..	..	0	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 1 0
Totals		10,881	2 22	1,719	3 0	82	0 14	77	1 12	1,821	0 0	39	2 16	..	..	65,834	2 29	10,153	1 31	1,194	2 32	91,804 0 36
<i>National-endowment Lands.</i>																						
Table 10—	Renewable lease (ordinary) ..	42,889	1 6	..	..	2,060	1 22	1,194	3 3	29,188	1 12	4,263	3 05	649	3 8	..	..	4,929	0 14	3,908	2 15	94,084 0 0
" 13—	Renewable lease (village settlements) ..	7	0 36	7	2 22	..	..	21	2 22	..	..	..	..	1	0 0	..	..	..	..	157	1 11	194 3 11
" 12—	Mining districts land occupation leases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22 0 0
" 17—	Small grazing runs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,210	0 0	..	..	92,922	0 0	36,679	3 11	..	..	142,111 3 11
Totals		42,896	2 2	7	2 22	2,060	1 22	1,216	1 25	29,210	1 12	17,473	3 05	650	3 8	92,922	0 0	41,608	3 25	4,065	3 26	236,412 2 22
Grand totals		139,183	0 32	3,833	3 29	9,495	2 33	30,305	1 7	31,282	1 17	21,297	0 39	5,713	2 25	158,174	0 1	58,664	0 25	14,190	2 13	472,090 0 21

Table 3 (Part II).—SUMMARY OF LANDS SELECTED UNDER SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS: TRANSACTIONS UP TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Table No.	Tenures.	Exchanges from other Tenures during the Year.	Area held at 31st March, 1911.			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, 1912: Past and Current Transactions.			Total Area made Freehold to Date.		
			A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.		A.	B. P.	
Ordinary Crown Lands.																							
Table 5	Cash lands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	6—Deferred payment ..	..	9,166	0	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	7—Perpetual lease ..	..	77,048	0	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	8—Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	1,723,418	3	15	..	..	..	25,721	3	32	633	2	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	9—Lease in perpetuity ..	..	1,463,640	1	13	..	..	..	3,890	3	10	4,152	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	10—Renewable lease ..	..	25,211	0	16	..	..	..	0	3	14	0	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	11—Agricultural lease ..	..	551	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	12—Mining districts land occupation leases	23,552	2	8	634	1	35	293	2	1	156	2	20	257	3	15	23,972	2	36	140,895	3	23
"	13—Village settlement, cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	13—Village settlement, deferred payment	163	1	6	7,149	3	37
"	13—Village settlement, perpetual lease	1,424	3	9	12,230	1	28
"	13—Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	60	3	33	0	3	32	2,762	1	20
"	13—Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	22,193	2	23	1	3	30	12	0	24
"	13—Village settlement, renewable lease	789	2	24	65	0	0	633	3	33
"	13—Village - homestead special settlement ..	..	13,291	0	28	58	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	15—Special-settlement associations ..	..	115,447	2	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	32—Improved-farm special settlement	106,689	0	0	1,622	0	0	91,358	2	14
"	16—Homestead	6,652	0	1
"	17—Small grazing-runs	466,371	1	2	2,510	0	0	80,452	3	11
Totals ..			4,049,019	2	5	693	1	1	34,096	3	39	4,943	0	19	31,533	1	17	4,038,985	1	24	15,672,550	0	37
Cheviot Estate.																							
Table 5	Cash lands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	9—Lease in perpetuity	24,387	2	2	6,843	0	25
"	10—Renewable lease ..	..	11	0	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	13—Village-homestead special settlements (lease in perpetuity) ..	..	2,480	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	13—Village-homestead special settlements (renewable lease) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	17—Grazing-farms ..	..	45,762	2	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	741	0	32	45,021	1	32	..	..
Totals ..			72,641	1	33	741	0	32	71,898	1	24	6,843	0	25

Table 4.—ANALYSIS OF HOLDINGS OF CROWN LANDS TAKEN UP DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Tenures.		Average Holdings of Selectors.					
Number of Selectors.		Number of Selectors under 1 Acre.	Number of Selectors 1 to 50 Acres.	Number of Selectors 51 to 250 Acres.	Number of Selectors 251 to 500 Acres.	Number of Selectors 501 to 1,000 Acres.	Number of Selectors 1,001 Acres and upwards.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>							
Cash lands	391	232	138	14	5	2	..
Occupation with right of purchase	379	1	37	170	87	62	22
Renewable lease	15	11	2	1	1	..	..
Mining districts land occupation leases	53	1	40	12	..	..	..
Village settlement, cash	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Village settlement, renewable lease	42	..	42	..	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlement	8	..	..	8	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	73	..	2	3	7	2	1
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	106	..	14	42	33	17	59
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	515	78	324	77	18	11	7
Totals	1,585	325	599	327	151	94	89
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>							
Cash lands	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Totals	4	2	2	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements Acts—</i>							
Cash lands	15	3	12	..	..	..	..
Renewable lease	247	38	71	73	43	8	14
Renewable lease (village settlement)	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	26	3	21	1	1	..	..
Totals	290	45	105	74	44	8	14
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>							
Renewable lease (ordinary)	307	2	50	128	64	52	11
Renewable lease (village settlement)	16	4	12	..	..	..	..
Mining districts land occupation leases	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	22	..	..	..	..	1	21
Pastoral runs	32	..	..	..	..	..	32
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	86	..	18	40	19	9	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	115	..	38	49	18	5	5
Totals	580	6	120	217	101	67	69
Grand totals	2,459	378	826	618	296	169	172

Table 5.—RETURN OF CROWN LANDS SOLD FOR CASH DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Area disposed of.						Average Price per Acre.						Consideration received.		
	Town.			Suburban.			Rural.			Total.			Town.	Suburban.	Rural.
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Cash.	Scrip.	Total.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>															
Auckland ..	14	A. R. P. 21 2 31	5	A. R. P. 28 3 11	43	A. R. P. 2,065 2 17	62	A. R. P. 2,116 0 19	£ s. d. 17 16 0	£ s. d. 23 9 2	£ s. d. 2 12 4	£ s. d. 2 17 6	£ s. d. 6,685 9 5	..	£ s. d. 6,685 9 5†
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	3	29 3 2	3	29 3 2	..	..	4 3 10	133 6 3	133 6 3	..	133 6 3
Taranaki ..	4	7 0 21	1	2 2 14	6	1,377 0 8	11	1,386 3 3	22 18 8	25 9 3	1 5 1	2,045 10 9	2,045 10 9	..	2,045 10 9
Wellington ..	99	36 1 28	15	93 2 9	6	178 0 33	120	308 0 30	114 0 0	8 0 0	4 0 0	6,254 8 9	6,254 8 9	..	6,254 8 9
Nelson ..	43	11 2 9	..	..	3	34 1 36	46	46 0 5	52 0 0	..	1 14 0	781 8 3†	781 8 3†	..	781 8 3†
Marlborough ..	22	11 0 4	..	..	6	914 3 19	28	925 3 22	97 0 0	..	6 1 2	2,667 18 2	2,667 18 2	..	2,667 18 2
Westland ..	13	8 1 5	..	..	..	4 0 0§	13	12 1 5	35 0 0	..	0 8 0	290 7 0	290 7 0	..	290 7 0
Canterbury ..	15	18 0 31	..	..	3	98 2 21	18	116 3 12	25 17 10	..	4 7 8	797 1 10	797 1 10	..	797 1 10
Otago ..	15	8 0 33	7	5 3 24	14	360 3 37	36	375 0 14	43 14 11	12 14 1	0 10 3	689 3 1	689 3 1	..	689 3 1
Southland ..	14	11 1 36	10	33 0 39	30	697 1 34	54	742 0 29	62 5 5	11 14 6	0 18 6	2,896 5 11	2,896 5 11	..	2,896 5 11
Totals ..	239	133 3 33	38	164 0 17	114	5,761 0 7	391	6,059 0 22	..	..	..	23,240 19 5	23,240 19 5	..	23,240 19 5
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>															
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	5	10 3 0	5	10 3 0	..	..	7 16 0	83 15 0	83 15 0	..	83 15 0
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0	1	1 0 0	..	..	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	..	15 0 0
Wellington ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	4	4 1 5	..	..	..	..	4	4 1 5	48 0 0	..	..	204 2 6	204 2 6	..	204 2 6
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	4	4 1 5	..	..	11	31 2 1	15	35 3 6	..	..	..	1,185 3 3	1,185 3 3	..	1,185 3 3
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>															
Canterbury ..	2	0 2 0	..	..	..	..	2	0 2 0	70 0 0	..	..	35 0 0	35 0 0	..	35 0 0
Grand totals ..	245	138 3 3	38	164 0 17	125	5,792 2 8	408	6,095 1 28	..	..	..	24,461 2 8	24,461 2 8	..	24,461 2 8

* Where two averages are given, the first is for lands when an option was given to acquire them under other tenures, and the second when no such option was given.
† Includes a sum of £493 6s., balance of purchase-money for areas returned during previous years. ‡ Excludes £7 2s. 8d. equality on exchange of section.
§ Excess area on survey.

Table 7.—RETURN OF PERPETUAL-LEASE LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT AND SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT LANDS) AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount realized.
Auckland	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough
Westland
Canterbury
Otago
Southland
Totals

District.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1912.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1912 (exclusive of Amount from Perpetual Leases made Freehold).			Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realized, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Auckland..	555	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.
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	299	166,100 0 85	78,531 13 2	26,792 1 15	806 1 1	637 11 6	240 0 0	5 5 0	..	..	..	..
Wellington	406	133,944 2 11	102,646 9 7	2,757 3 36	104 2 6	109 17 11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	796	101,938 1 29	94,750 5 2	3,037 0 16	151 4 0	167 1 7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	29	310,660 1 29	276,955 8 8	2,522 3 3	100 1 6	146 0 11	171 0 0	6 8 0	..	..	..	..
Westland	9	9,497 0 38	3,259 10 6	1,305 1 5	25 14 4	29 0 1	77 0 14	0 19 3	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	6	1,698 1 28	786 1 10	898 0 19	16 18 6	15 10 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	94	482 3 20	482 17 2	580 1 8	28 0 4	20 7 0	99 0 32	2 14 2	..	..	..	..
Southland	164	15,738 1 28	23,974 6 0	1,300 0 18	103 17 10	93 15 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	105	81,226 2 83	24,677 16 7	25,616 0 33	925 4 2	840 0 7	346 3 13	6 0 3	..	..	..	..
	..	24,185 2 11	18,225 18 10	7,118 0 5	259 3 2	249 14 11	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2,463	795,472 3 22	624,290 7 6	71,428 0 38	2,520 7 5	2,309 0 1	934 0 19	21 6 8	..	..	..	..

Table 8.—RETURN OF OCCUPATION-WITH-RIGHT-OF-PURCHASE LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT, AND IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS) AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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	240	A. 81,992 1 35	£ 7,201 14 7	64	A. 16,127 0 2	£ 670 8 6	..	A. ..	£ ..	141	A. 37,307 2 9	£ 20,535 3 9
Hawke's Bay	8	2,075 2 30	303 10 0	1	78 3 27	33 0	..	..	..	20	7,790 0 28	6,456 14 0
Taranaki	10	5,966 1 34	394 16 0	7	4,637 3 23	219 16 8	..	..	..	16	7,825 1 38	6,537 14 11
Wellington	36	24,155 0 3	2,629 0 0	2	1,865 0 0	205 5 5	1	61 0 0	2 5 10	38	12,304 0 30	14,566 18 5
Nelson	1	155 0 0	4 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	5,560 2 0	2,392 6 10
Marlborough	9	2,858 0 0	189 19 6	1	253 0 0	27 0 0	..	..	..	7	1,236 2 27	585 10 3
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	29	6,111 0 36	172 8 6	4	808 1 34	19 0 4	2	572 2 38	14 15 0	8	1,528 2 22	652 12 6
Otago	46	8,168 3 17	371 9 6	8	1,951 2 26	85 6 0	..	..	..	21	10,006 0 5	4,772 3 0
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	379	131,482 2 35	11,266 18 1	87	25,721 3 33	1,259 16 11	3	693 2 38	17 0 10	283	83,559 0 39	56,549 3 8

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1912.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1912 (exclusive of Amount paid for acquiring Freehold).			Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Auckland	567	A. 121,688 3 34	£ 64,795 0 9	2,583	783,263 0 28	£ 38,097 6 11	£ 3,533 12 8	£ 28,314 15 6	£ 31,848 8 2	100	A. 25,143 3 27	£ 838 6 8
Hawke's Bay	103	46,391 2 28	42,941 3 6	325	158,494 3 15	16,306 8 2	151 15 0	13,180 12 10	13,332 7 10	7	2,814 3 32	146 4 8
Taranaki	91	32,601 3 13	33,860 2 3	442	246,929 3 21	10,620 14 9	267 13 9	8,452 19 9	8,720 13 6	11	7,486 0 0	138 15 3
Wellington	310	96,350 3 21	112,927 8 8	633	314,939 3 85	22,148 8 11	1,300 15 0	12,609 2 1	13,909 17 1	26	24,234 0 0	2,731 19 0
Nelson	64	11,909 2 7	4,548 18 0	224	64,531 0 6	1,220 9 9	2 0 0	975 19 7	977 19 7	9	1,739 3 3	49 13 7
Marlborough	19	5,800 0 11	5,367 6 9	42	12,431 1 37	643 11 5	146 4 3	432 17 3	579 1 6	..	..	..
Westland	8	1,336 2 27	635 10 3	98	17,253 1 37	569 8 2	..	626 6 4	626 6 4	1	136 0 0	5 2 0
Canterbury	11	1,266 1 12	1,658 18 9	24	4,676 1 32	257 15 2	..	285 18 6	235 18 6	1	152 0 0	7 15 0
Otago	32	5,057 0 37	2,816 4 11	302	55,726 3 18	1,596 0 0	92 17 6	1,307 19 11	1,400 17 5	4	835 0 37	10 7 10
Southland	55	17,192 3 4	9,294 10 6	451	87,921 2 9	2,819 17 10	185 14 9	2,347 9 1	2,533 3 10	4	711 0 11	9 1 4
Totals	1,260	339,595 3 34	278,845 4 4	5,125	1,746,168 2 38	94,280 1 1	5,680 12 11	68,484 0 10	74,164 13 9	163	63,252 3 30	3,937 5 4

Table 9.—RETURN OF LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT, SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT, AND IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS) AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Exchanges to Renewable Lease 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 realized.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Auckland	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	5	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	..	A. B. P.	£ s. d.	5	A. B. P.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay	1,680 3 16	44 5 0	..	..	..	..	1,117 2 18	1,128 15 0
Taranaki
Wellington	2,461 0 0	3,259 0 3
Nelson	4	2,199 0 0	43 4 2	..	3,691 3 25	78 1 0	2	2,185 0 0	1,739 11 6
Marlborough	1,609 2 34	1,328 15 0
Westland	4	0 3 34	4 5 0	..	307 1 3	5 2 0	2	515 1 16	311 4 5
Canterbury	5,117 2 16	2,590 2 4
Otago	153 1 13	3 1 2	..	..	..
Southland	2,871 0 24	2,548 12 6
Totals	13	3,880 3 10	90 14 2	9	4,152 2 1	82 0 2	44	15,877 1 28	12,796 1 0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland	4	105 0 15	32 4 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough	3	0 3 34	3 8 0	1	0 1 7	1 4 0	..	..	..
Westland
Canterbury
Otago
Southland
Totals	7	106 0 9	35 12 6	1	0 1 7	1 4 0	..	..	..
Grand totals	20	3,986 3 19	126 6 8	10	4,152 3 8	83 4 2	44	15,877 1 28	12,796 1 0

Table 9.—RETURN OF LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT, SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT, AND IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS, AT 31st MARCH, 1912—continued.)

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1912.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1912.				Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Purchasers	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.	
Ordinary Crown Lands—													
Auckland ..	32	A. 12,964 2 6 R. P. 3 12	£ 10,866 8 4	1,149	A. 283,293 3 21 R. P. 3 21	£ 7,913 5 5	£ s. d. 7,913 5 5	£ s. d. 7,362 11 10	£ s. d. 7,362 11 10	21	A. 4,953 2 7 R. P. 2 7	£ s. d. 211 1 6	
Hawke's Bay ..	5	1,883 1 12	3,053 11 10	204	102,597 3 11	3,874 2 0	3,874 2 0	3,664 8 1	3,664 8 1	..	3,978 0 19	82 18 6	
Taranaki ..	5	3,215 2 0	4,764 17 9	474	174,574 3 33	7,086 14 8	7,086 14 8	6,379 18 7	6,379 18 7	11	2,738 0 0	169 8 0	
Wellington ..	4	4,465 0 0	3,599 11 6	525	143,601 1 29	6,907 3 4	6,907 3 4	6,153 6 2	6,153 6 2	7	12,674 2 24	172 10 2	
Nelson ..	48	19,020 1 20	8,839 11 2	488	172,391 3 6	3,011 9 2	3,011 9 2	2,080 13 4	2,080 13 4	31	612 1 16	21 6 0	
Marlborough ..	13	5,754 1 16	3,489 9 6	325	141,354 1 18	3,364 8 6	3,364 8 6	3,082 2 1	3,082 2 1	4	1,804 2 33	48 17 10	
Westland ..	48	11,982 1 37	5,951 18 8	412	52,843 3 6	1,315 18 0	1,315 18 0	1,073 4 10	1,073 4 10	22	2,297 0 5	17 4 8	
Canterbury ..	1	39 0 0	123 10 0	245	75,561 2 23	4,286 8 6	4,286 8 6	3,880 8 10	3,880 8 10	7	271 3 0	2 9 2	
Otago ..	4	2,465 0 16	1,060 14 6	800	198,052 1 1	5,832 14 8	5,832 14 8	5,323 18 9	5,323 18 9	7	29,479 0 38	730 2 3	
Southland ..	23	7,834 0 11	6,686 15 2	352	92,357 2 4	2,271 10 8	2,271 10 8	2,121 0 1	2,121 0 1	1	1,938 2 0	726 6 6	
Totals ..	183	69,573 2 38	48,496 8 5	4,974	1,436,929 1 32	45,863 14 11	45,863 14 11	41,121 12 7	41,122 11 1	106	8,760 2 8	2,751 4 7	
Land for Settlements—													
Auckland ..	..	..	..	615	115,049 1 15	18,112 6 4	18,112 6 4	16,856 10 4	16,856 10 4	11	1,938 2 0	726 6 6
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	426	119,719 1 0	39,085 0 2	39,085 0 2	35,257 17 2	35,257 17 2	9	190 0 7	121 8 8
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	37	4,017 2 15	3,241 2 8	3,241 2 8	3,049 17 1	3,049 17 1	3	381 1 35	122 7 3
Wellington ..	..	..	..	300	38,492 0 3	14,480 11 10	14,480 11 10	13,203 11 4	13,203 11 4	18	446 0 0	287 13 0
Nelson ..	..	..	..	13	4,097 0 9	805 4 10	805 4 10	938 4 9	938 4 9	2	824 0 0	319 19 7
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	289	54,343 0 9	12,227 4 10	12,227 4 10	11,700 17 1	11,700 17 1	9	482 1 7	66 5 9
Westland ..	..	..	..	28	4,987 3 26	538 5 10	538 5 10	501 7 5	501 7 5	1	86 2 0	3 10 4
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	1,108	164,386 2 6	59,176 16 0	59,176 16 0	54,902 3 9	54,902 3 9	24	1,151 2 3	404 14 9
Otago ..	..	..	..	535	108,690 0 18	34,296 19 8	34,296 19 8	31,116 19 4	31,116 19 4	21	2,535 0 11	608 15 11
Southland ..	..	..	..	237	48,214 2 3	10,631 1 2	10,631 1 2	9,469 15 0	9,469 15 0	6	725 0 25	93 2 10
Totals ..	..	..	..	3,588	661,997 1 24	192,597 13 4	192,597 13 4	176,997 3 3	176,997 3 3	104	8,760 2 8	2,751 4 7
Cheviot Estate, Canterbury	..	..	..	118	24,385 2 25	6,423 15 6	6,423 15 6	5,778 17 1	5,778 17 1	..	..	..
Grand totals	183	69,573 2 38	48,496 8 5	8,680	2,123,012 2 1	244,885 3 9	244,885 3 9	223,897 12 11	223,898 11 5	210	38,239 3 6	3,484 6 10	
Ellesmere Endowment ..	..	..	..	68	13,937 0 0	1,399 13 2	1,399 13 2	1,261 2 8	1,261 2 8	..	..	..

Table 10.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT AND IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS) AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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 ..	135	42,889 1 6	1,882 19 6	11	2,712 0 84	92 2 6	13	3,674 3 20	152 8 0	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	7	2,060 1 22	112 5 8	..	..	..	1	431 0 0	49 12 0	1	175 0 0	12 8 0
Wellington ..	3	1,194 3 3	75 12 10	..	..	..	1	278 0 0	38 16 0	..	..	..
Nelson ..	56	29,188 1 12	629 11 4	2	106 3 15	3 12 4	7	1,253 1 34	29 8 10	7	4,102 1 6	87 2 0
Marlborough ..	22	4,263 3 0	165 4 10	3	163 0 0	4 8 6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	28	5,649 3 8	140 16 0	10	1,578 3 24	50 8 0	11	644 0 4	33 10 0	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	20 0 0	2 10 0
Otago ..	31	4,929 0 14	120 12 8	2	78 3 7	3 3 2	..	..	..	2	255 0 7	10 10 2
Southeast ..	25	3,908 2 15	167 9 4	..	..	..	3	435 3 34	15 10 0	..	..	..
Totals ..	307	94,084 0 0	3,294 12 2	28	4,639 3 0	153 14 6	36	6,717 1 12	319 4 10	11	4,552 1 13	112 10 2
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>												
Canterbury ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland ..	63	10,870 3 22	1,100 9 6	..	..	..	15	336 3 5	41 14 9	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	4	1,719 2 0	556 16 6	..	..	..	1	484 1 0	177 15 0	1	5 0 0	4 10 0
Taranaki ..	5	82 0 14	96 10 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	8	76 1 12	53 7 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1 0 1	3 16 6
Nelson ..	2	1,821 0 0	80 1 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	6	35 1 11	29 9 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	114	65,819 1 22	11,593 18 11	..	..	..	6	819 1 6	446 3 8	8	237 2 1	200 12 2
Otago ..	41	10,153 1 31	2,080 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southeast ..	4	1,190 0 38	150 10 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	247	91,768 0 30	15,741 19 11	..	..	..	22	1,640 1 11	665 18 5	10	243 2 2	208 18 8
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>												
Auckland ..	1	212 1 11	50 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	14	417 2 26	50 10 0	..	..	..	3	0 3 14	6 10 0	1	0 1 0	1 10 0
Totals ..	15	629 3 37	101 6 0	..	..	..	3	0 3 14	6 10 0	1	0 1 0	1 10 0
Grand totals ..	569	186,482 0 27	19,137 18 1	28	4,639 3 0	153 14 6	61	8,358 1 37	991 8 3	22	4,796 0 15	322 18 10

Table 10.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS (EXCLUSIVE OF VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT AND IMPROVED-FARM-SETTLEMENT LANDS) AT 31ST MARCH, 1912

C.—1.

—continued.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1912.				Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1912.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
<i>National Endowment—</i>									
Auckland ..	326	A. 103,180 3 5	£ s. d. 4,180 0 2	£ s. d. 817 4 3	£ s. d. 2,043 4 10	£ s. d. 2,860 9 1	15	A. R. P. 3,543 1 27	£ s. d. 126 9 10
Hawke's Bay ..	50	15,950 2 34	3,522 8 4	..	2,995 12 11	2,995 12 11	2	812 1 12	25 0 6
Taranaki ..	40	16,399 3 0	1,247 0 8	80 6 9	836 14 1	917 0 10	..	..	..
Wellington ..	18	8,748 2 11	710 3 10	73 10 6	481 10 8	555 1 2	1	1,603 0 0	116 19 0
Nelson ..	398	141,202 0 9	2,938 0 4	486 11 6	562 7 11	1,048 19 5	24	8,770 0 9	366 5 4
Marlborough ..	58	14,430 1 0	437 19 8	341 18 5	175 13 8	517 12 1	..	..	..
Westland ..	249	30,424 3 33	886 18 6	194 10 7	497 2 6	691 13 1	20	1,641 1 4	46 1 0
Canterbury ..	15	6,540 2 24	454 6 8	..	368 4 11	368 4 11	2	252 0 27	12 3 0
Otago ..	160	24,692 3 27	778 16 8	53 5 6	356 19 2	410 4 8	1	63 0 21	1 5 4
Southland ..	91	12,064 0 6	478 9 4	147 12 3	278 13 0	426 5 3	1	203 3 1	5 4 0
Totals ..	1,345	378,634 3 29	15,634 4 2	2,194 19 9	8,596 3 8	10,791 3 5	66	16,889 0 21	699 8 0
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury ..	1	11 0 7	14 1 4	..	13 4 8	13 4 8	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland ..	290	51,686 2 27	4,200 18 5	550 4 9	3,603 9 10	4,153 14 7	9	1,130 3 10	110 16 3
Hawke's Bay ..	173	50,680 2 37	19,766 1 8	265 10 0	17,382 12 4	17,648 2 4	1	345 0 0	41 6 6
Taranaki ..	16	439 0 22	896 9 0	68 1 8	295 18 4	364 0 0	1	23 0 0	17 18 3
Wellington ..	65	6,007 2 10	2,929 12 8	45 19 4	2,429 17 11	2,475 17 3	4	155 0 0	220 18 0
Nelson ..	21	17,872 0 0	1,230 4 2	58 10 7	878 15 10	937 6 5	5	4,842 0 0	269 8 8
Marlborough ..	19	191 0 23	114 11 8	12 18 0	90 1 5	102 19 5	1	85 0 0	11 19 1
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	307	137,097 1 8	30,299 6 9	10,270 0 4	19,479 7 10	29,749 8 2	3	640 0 2	124 13 11
Otago ..	155	87,806 0 17	15,719 7 8	1,605 13 1	12,384 3 10	13,989 16 11	10	1,032 1 18	184 8 8
Southland ..	21	4,550 3 30	869 7 10	120 9 4	578 16 2	699 5 6	..	..	..
Totals ..	1,067	356,331 2 14	75,525 19 10	12,997 7 1	57,123 3 6	70,120 10 7	34	8,253 0 30	981 4 4
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	10	1,725 2 1	336 8 0	25 8 0	248 4 10	273 12 10	1	203 0 0	24 8 0
Taranaki ..	28	16,997 2 2	889 1 4	..	1,003 0 4	1,003 0 4	..	..	..
Wellington ..	126	7,016 1 19	765 2 4	40 15 0	135 10 6	226 5 6	12	1,141 0 0	325 8 0
Totals ..	164	25,739 1 22	1,990 11 8	66 3 0	1,436 15 8	1,502 18 8	13	1,344 0 0	349 16 0
Grand totals ..	2,577	755,716 3 32	93,164 17 0	15,258 9 10	67,169 7 6	82,427 17 4	113	26,486 1 11	2,030 8 4

Table 11.—RETURN OF AGRICULTURAL-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Expires during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1912.				Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1912.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1912.			
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Trans.		On Past Trans.		Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.							
..	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
..	67	2,750 0 0	590 5 0	..	..	..
..	32	279 0 15	488 12 11	..	..	..
..	5	257 3 15	9 18 0	17	550 1 0	23 7 9	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	1,326	131,296 2 3	131,580 12 6	..	..	..
..	50	6,570 1 5	6,570 5 0	..	..	..
Totals	..	5 257 3 15	9 18 0	17	550 1 0	23 7 9	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	35 3 6	1,475	140,895 3 23	139,229 15 5	..	..	..

Table 12.—RETURN OF MINING DISTRICTS LAND OCCUPATION LEASES UNDER PART VIII OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Forfeitures and Surrenders during the Year.			Exchanges to Renewable Lease during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year.					Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1912.		
	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 Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.		
..	18	A. R. P. 919 0 23	£ s. d. 29 7 0	6	A. R. P. 271 2 28	£ s. d. 13 5 0	4	A. R. P. 210 0 0	£ s. d. 11 14 0	199	A. R. P. 10,095 0 6	£ s. d. 714 14 6	£ s. d. 14 13 6	£ s. d. 588 9 2	£ s. d. 603 2 8	22	A. R. P. 1,149 3 0	£ s. d. 64 5 3		
Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	106 3 15	3 12 4	1,679	1 19	69 4 0	1 5 0	63 9 11	164 14 11	2	199 0 22	5 0 3
Nelson	*2	22 0 0	2 10 0	..	..	..	3	163 0 0	7 11 0	5 481	0 0	6 4 4	..	18 15 1	18 15 1	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	75 3 13	8 10 0	78 720	3 4	110 9 0	31 15 0	69 17 0	101 12 0	2	47 0 32	0 19 3
Westland	..	50 2 12	17 15 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	6	176 2 20	8 0 0	2	78 3 7	3 19 0	287 9,954	3 14	435 14 4	3 17 3	475 18 10	479 16 1	1	15 0 27	0 3 0
Otago	26	415 1 39	8 4 6	1	1 3 13	0 7 4	..	..	..	27 1,063	2 33	77 6 0	4 15 0	66 11 4	71 6 4	..	..	..
Southland	1	18 3 29	9 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	1,426 0 23	67 6 6	13	450 0 21	21 12 4	14	634 1 35	85 6 4	632 23,994	2 36	1,413 12 2	56 5 9	1,283 1	41,339 7 1	27	1,411 1 1	70 7 9		

* National-endowment lands.

+ Includes two selectors, area 23 acres, annual rental £3 10s., national-endowment land.

‡ Includes £1 5s., receipts from national-endowment land.

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS AT 31st MARCH, 1912.

C.—1.

District.	Tenure.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Made Freehold during Year.			Made Freehold from Commencement.		
		Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Selectors.	Area.	Amount realized.	Purchasers.	Area.	R. P.	Total Cash received.
Ordinary Crown Lands— Auckland Hawke's Bay " " " " " " Taranaki Wellington " " " " " " " " Marlborough Westland Canterbury " " " "	Cash ..	..	£ s. d.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	48	50	1	1,015 14 0
	Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	25	2	671 18 6
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	668	2	4,400 13 11
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,192	2	2,706 18 1
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	146	3	238 18 1
	Perpetual lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	20 0 0
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	154	0	746 13 5
	Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	858	8	6,945 10 9
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,589	2	10,907 12 11
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	46 10 0
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	501	1	3,950 18 5
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	970	2	3,789 5 4
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	824	0	1,035 3 1
	Perpetual lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	0	1,004 8 1
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements— Hawke's Bay "	Village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Deferred payment ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Perpetual lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	44	406 1 7	149 16 0	3	58 3 6	3 0 8	24	2,370 10 5	3,318	22,791	3	95,816 14 2
National-endowment Lands— Auckland Hawke's Bay Wellington Westland Southland " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	1	0 1 0	1 2 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	1	0 1 0	1 2 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	2	7 0 36	5 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	1	21 2 22	4 8 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	4	157 1 11	5 14 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Cash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Totals ..	16	194 3 11	23 2 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Grand totals ..	61	601 1 18	174 1 2	3	58 3 6	3 0 8	28	2,370 10 5	3,321	22,793	1	95,847 19 2

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS AT 31st MARCH, 1912—continued.

District.	Tenure.	Rent and other Payments re- ceived during the Year.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Arrears on 31st March, 1912.		
			Selectors.	Area.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	Area.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	Area.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Ordinary Crown Auckland	Lands—	£ s. d.												
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	171 5 11												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	92 2 6												
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	69 18 10												
	Cash ..	36 0 0												
Hawke's Bay	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	484 3 5												
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	4 1 9												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	1,711 8 10												
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	55 8 8												
Taranaki	Occupation with right of purchase made freehold ..	6 0 0												
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	1 3 8												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	3 4 0												
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	332 4 1												
Wellington	Lease in perpetuity ..	1,674 5 0	1	0 3 0	1 0 0									
	Renewable lease ..	527 9 1	8	65 0 0	46 2 2									
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	408 11 3												
	Perpetual lease ..	1 3 9												
Marlborough	Lease in perpetuity ..	90 0 4												
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	15 9 8												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	15 2 1												
	Village-homestead special settlement, lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	126 18 9												
Westland	Deferred payment ..	12 3 4												
	Perpetual lease ..	40 18 10												
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	4 2 10												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	6 16 2												
Otago	Village-homestead special settlement ..	871 18 1												
	Perpetual lease made freehold ..	187 0 0												
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	27 0 0												
	Deferred payment ..	1 9 5												
Southland	Perpetual lease ..	24 6 11												
	Occupation with right of purchase ..	0 7 6	1	0 3 32	0 6 0									
	Lease in perpetuity ..	133 13 4												
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	127 17 1												
Totals	Perpetual lease made freehold ..	161 10 9												
	Occupation with right of purchase made freehold ..	15 15 0												
	Lease in perpetuity made freehold ..	858 12 6												
	Perpetual lease ..	104 18 1												
Totals	Occupation with right of purchase ..	0 2 6												
	Lease in perpetuity ..	369 2 6	1	1 0 30	0 9 8									
	Village-homestead special settlement ..	121 11 3												
	Totals ..	8,820 7 8	11	67 3 22	47 17 10				1,916	37,836 1 24	6,568 4 9	51	1,593 3 30	261 13 6

Table 13.—RETURN OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS AT 31st MARCH, 1912—continued.

District.	Tenure.	Rent and other Payments re- ceived during the Year.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Arrears on 31st March, 1912.		
			Selectors.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
Cheviot Estate— Canterbury ..	Lease in perpetuity ..	£ s. d. 790 0 1	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	..	A. R. P. ..	£ s. d. ..	92	A. R. P. 2,480 1 0	£ s. d. 870 10 4	2	A. R. P. 20 0 0	£ s. d. 6 0 0
Land for Settlements— Hawke's Bay .. " .. Otago .. " ..	Lease in perpetuity .. Renewable lease .. Lease in perpetuity .. Renewable lease ..	26 7 8 1 9 9 268 16 10 6 17 10	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	16 2 30 1	34 3 0 0 2 0 408 2 28 9 1 16	32 15 0 2 5 0 309 12 8 7 13 0	2	0 3 6	0 8 0
National endowment Lands— Auckland .. Hawke's Bay .. Wellington .. " .. Marlborough .. Westland .. Otago .. Southland ..	Renewable lease .. " .. Village-homestead special settlement .. Renewable lease .. " .. " .. " .. Totals .. Grand totals ..	303 12 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	448 1 4	352 5 8	2	0 3 6	0 8 0
		46 18 10	2	3 0 2	2 4 0	..	..	..	32	156 1 35	88 12 0	..	..	..
		36 14 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	54 3 6	48 12 0	..	..	..
		167 16 9	1	4 3 11	0 12 0	..	..	..	9	375 2 28	207 9 4	..	..	..
		14 17 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	119 2 15	14 11 5	..	..	..
		43 14 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	243 3 12	47 16 0	..	..	..
		9 1 6	1	0 1 1	1 4 0	2	0 2 0	2 8 0	7	1 2 30	8 8 0	1	0 1 0	1 4 0
		3 15 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	73 1 1	3 18 0	..	..	..
		29 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	535 1 19	39 9 2	..	..	..
		352 18 0	4	8 0 14	4 0 0	2	0 2 0	2 8 0	135	1,560 2 26	458 15 11	1	0 1 0	1 4 0
		10,266 17 10	15	75 3 36	51 17 10	2	0 2 0	2 8 0	2,192	42,925 2 14	8,249 16 8	56	1,614 3 36	269 5 6

Table 14.—SUMMARY OF POSITION OF VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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, 1912.				Amount of Advances which have been repaid to 31st March, 1912.	Total Amount of Interest paid to 31st March, 1912.	Value of Improvements now on the Land.		Arrears of Interest on 31st March, 1912.
	Resident.	Non-resident.	Area occupied.				For Houses.	For Bushfelling, Grassing, &c.	Total.				£	s.		d.
			A.	R. P.	£	s.			d.	£	s.	d.			£
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>															
Auckland	63	15	3,627 1 15	2,956 0 19	225 7 6	958 0 0	1,253 17 6	2,211 17 6	1,888 17 0	3,211 14 0	23,660 0 0	23 14 7			
Hawke's Bay	77	38	3,882 2 9	2,590 3 15	1,998 4 2	580 0 0	296 15 9	876 15 9	427 17 0	736 15 9	24,274 0 0	0 0			
Taranaki	10	5	73 2 8	73 2 8	11 12 8						892 0 0	0 0			
Wellington	678*	127	12,468 3 20	11,874 0 0	2,362 15 5	3,068 7 6	3,670 19 11	6,739 7 5	6,436 19 9	372 2 1	156,678 0 0	20 14 0			
Marlborough	12	8	221 1 14	172 0 0	34 7 0	85 0 0	18 15 0	103 15 0	15 0 0	102 13 8	2,499 6 0	0 0			
Westland	10	..	128 1 37	128 1 37	12 3 2						2,195 0 0	0 0			
Canterbury	233	65	8,801 1 16	8,627 0 12	1,011 10 8	2,460 0 0	..	2,460 0 0	1,257 0 0	2,214 10 1	34,635 1 0	1 10 0			
Otago	83	105	2,959 2 0	1,885 3 0	290 12 0	1,101 5 0	440 0 0	1,541 5 0	432 17 6	1,903 4 6	15,712 12 0	0 0			
Southland	370	17	5,673 1 25	4,926 0 0	661 6 6	756 0 0	350 2 2	1,106 2 2	320 0 0	1,093 14 0	31,964 0 0	0 0			
Totals	1,536	380	37,836 1 24	33,233 3 11	6,607 19 1	9,008 12 6	6,080 10 4	15,089 2 10	10,778 11 3	9,034 14 1	292,509 19 0	52 18 7			
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>															
Canterbury	42	50	2,480 1 0	2,317 1 4	870 10 4	120 0 0	..	120 0 0	120 0 0	26 0 0	14,469 18 0	0 0			
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>															
Hawke's Bay	10	8	35 1 0	34 0 0	35 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	482 10 0	0 0	
Otago	13	13	413 0 4	412 2 0	317 5 8	..	..	..	..	..	4,262 0 0	0 0	
Totals	28	21	448 1 4	446 2 0	352 5 8	..	..	..	..	..	4,744 10 0	0 0	
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Auckland	24	8	156 1 35	48 1 32	88 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	2,924 0 0	0 0	
Hawke's Bay	1	7	54 3 6	50 0 0	48 12 0	..	..	..	..	..	393 0 0	0 0	
Wellington	15	5	495 1 3	190 0 0	222 0 9	..	..	..	..	..	2,000 0 0	0 0	
Marlborough	13	16	243 3 12	240 0 0	47 16 0	..	..	..	..	..	3,488 14 0	0 0	
Westland	3	4	1 2 30	1 2 30	8 8 0	..	..	..	..	..	620 0 0	0 0	
Otago	1	6	73 1 1	25 2 0	3 18 0	..	..	..	..	..	122 6 0	0 0	
Southland	24	8	535 1 19	135 0 0	39 9 2	..	..	..	..	..	743 0 0	0 0	
Totals	81	54	1,560 2 26	690 2 22	458 15 11	..	..	..	..	..	10,291 0 0	0 0	
Grand totals	1,687	505	42,325 2 14	36,688 0 37	8,289 11 0	9,128 12 6	6,080 10 4	15,159 2 10	10,898 11 3	9,060 14 1	922,015 7 0	52 18 7			

* Includes seventy-seven holdings not reported on.

Table 15.—RETURN OF SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATIONS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Total Amount received on Current and Previous Transactions to 31st March, 1912.		Made Freehold		Number of Selectors required to reside, and actually residing.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Capital Value per Acre.	Amount of Rent received during the Year.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	No.	Area.	No.
Ordinary Crown Lands— Auckland .. Hawke's Bay .. Taranaki .. Wellington .. Nelson .. Marlborough .. Westland .. Canterbury .. Otago .. Southland	295 1 9	10,245 11 9	..	..	A. R. P.	12
	70 10 0	1,255 9 0	..	..	5,217 0 25	12
	804 19 7	14,452 8 5	..	..	4,809 3 12	2
	4,155 11 11	170,592 13 9	..	..	81,331 2 17	346

Totals	5,571 9 1	201,265 0 9	..	922	91,358 2 14	438
Land for Settlements— Canterbury	146 3 8	2,561 8 0	..	..	..	1
	5,717 12 9	203,826 8 9	..	922	91,358 2 14	438
Grand totals
Ordinary Crown Lands— Auckland .. Hawke's Bay .. Taranaki .. Wellington .. Nelson .. Marlborough .. Westland .. Canterbury .. Otago .. Southland	£ s. d.	..	..	..	..

Totals
Land for Settlements— Canterbury

Grand totals

Table 16.—RETURN OF HOMESTEAD LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Surrenders during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Made Freehold during the Year.			Made Freehold since Commencement of System to 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	A. R. P.
Auckland	464	76,096	3 10
Westland	39	1,480	0 0
Otago	22	2,876	0 1
Totals	525	80,452	3 11

Table 17.—RETURN OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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.
Ordinary Crown Lands—		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.
	..	..	..	7	13,588 3 4	142 7 2	7	13,538 3 4	1,040 19 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	1	2,712 0 14	33 18 0	1	2,718 0 0	42 10 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	1	2,505 0 0	126 0 0	2	2,230 3 32	55 15 6	2	2,219 3 15	83 5 0	1	2,510 0 0	125 10 0	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	5	2,445 0 0	30 11 4	5	2,426 0 0	63 4 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	4	9,636 0 0	609 11 0	4	9,636 0 0	636 14 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	1	662 2 32	35 0 0	1	662 2 32	24 17 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	1	2,505 0 0	126 0 0	20	31,275 2 2	907 3 0	20	31,201 1 11	1,891 9 8	12,510 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cheviot Estate—																		
	..	..	..	15	741 0 32	404 9 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Land for Settlements—																		
	..	..	..	1	99 0 19	17 0 0	1	99 0 19	16 13 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
National Endowment—																		
	..	13 210 0 0	160 0 0	1	435 0 0	5 8 10	1	435 0 0	10 17 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	10 92,222 0 0	2,661 7 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	10 36,679 3 11	735 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,833 0 0	40 0 0	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	22 142,111 3 11	3,556 7 4	1	435 0 0	5 8 10	1	435 0 0	10 17 6	..	..	..	12,833 0 0	40 0 0	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	..	23 144,616 3 11	3,682 7 4	37	32,550 3 13	1,334 1 4	37	32,550 3 13	1,919 1 0	12,510 0 0	..	..	12,833 0 0	40 0 0	..	..	..	..

Table 17.—RETURN OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1912—continued.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year.			Arrears on 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	On the Year's Transactions.	On Past Transactions.	Total.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	5	A. 26,380 0 0 R. P. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 620 0 0	£ s. d. 593 15 0	£ s. d. 593 15 0	£ s. d. 593 15 0	..	A. 2,060 2 0 R. P. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 38 12 6
Hawke's Bay ..	48	115,509 0 8	7,840 15 8	7,545 14 8	7,545 14 8	7,545 14 8	1	2,060 2 0	38 12 6
Taranaki ..	6	5,749 2 10	91 14 8	66 3 8	87 8 8	87 8 8	..	5,117 0 0	314 16 0
Wellington ..	80	72,490 1 1	3,966 13 2	63 0 0	3,107 2 3	3,170 2 3	6	5,117 0 0	314 16 0
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	9	5,204 3 31	98 9 2	53 3 0	39 10 7	92 13 7	2	1,550 0 0	8 18 7
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	19	39,771 3 21	2,806 2 4	..	3,014 5 0	3,014 5 0	7	16,637 3 27	538 19 8
Otago ..	85	197,196 2 17	5,417 8 4	..	5,486 6 3	5,486 6 3	2	2,086 0 37	10 10 9
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	252	462,302 1 8	20,841 3 4	137 8 0	19,852 17 5	19,990 5 5	18	27,451 2 24	911 17 6
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury ..	34	45,021 1 32	6,424 3 2	..	7,152 7 8	7,152 7 8	13	20,435 2 24	1,515 0 0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland ..	5	23,590 0 0	199 12 10	..	352 11 8	352 11 8	1	3,647 1 38	36 15 0
Hawke's Bay ..	16	19,662 2 17	4,437 17 6	..	4,140 10 4	4,140 10 4	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	7	9,127 0 0	1,795 5 4	..	1,303 16 2	1,303 16 2	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	31	54,849 1 2	7,515 10 0	..	6,522 1 5	6,522 1 5	2	3,067 0 0	305 8 4
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	44	81,350 0 15	10,885 13 6	..	8,659 8 9	8,659 8 9	3	3,483 2 32	301 10 9
Otago ..	10	10,953 0 21	1,615 0 6	..	1,388 12 6	1,388 12 6	..	..	..
Southland ..	2	2,808 1 0	201 7 4	..	306 4 8	306 4 8	..	..	..
Totals ..	115	202,340 1 15	26,650 7 0	..	22,673 5 6	22,673 5 6	6	10,198 0 30	643 14 1
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	12	50,803 0 0	358 12 4	..	413 18 10	413 18 10	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay ..	49	160,953 3 8	2,727 7 8	..	2,878 2 10	2,878 2 10	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	4	4,906 0 0	74 15 2	..	51 14 7	51 14 7	1	1,486 0 0	11 12 3
Wellington ..	9	8,610 3 0	275 6 2	..	337 15 7	337 15 7	..	..	..
Nelson ..	9	16,757 3 18	109 1 10	..	112 18 7	112 18 7	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	75	213,470 1 22	3,042 10 5	165 8 9	2,579 15 2	2,745 3 11	5	12,064 0 0	145 5 3
Westland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	47	186,972 3 38	6,037 11 0	1,352 13 2	2,672 7 3	4,025 0 5	4	14,509 3 8	230 10 4
Otago ..	278	971,781 0 0	18,064 7 4	377 10 0	16,479 16 10	16,857 6 10	18	39,050 3 18	230 4 8
Southland ..	20	66,550 2 13	762 10 2	..	766 13 6	766 13 6	2	9,877 0 21	35 16 1
Totals ..	503	1,680,806 1 19	31,452 2 1	1,895 11 11	26,293 3 2	28,188 15 1	30	76,987 3 7	713 8 7
Grand totals ..	904	2,390,470 1 34	85,367 15 7	2,082 19 11	75,971 13 9	78,004 13 8	67	135,073 1 5	3,734 0 2

Table 18.—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	71,857	0 0	..	..	..	1	..	100 2 0
Hawke's Bay	..	5,326	0 0	..	..	33 6 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	74,846	0 0	..	..	369 0 0	..	..	..	..	696 0 0	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	..	284,798	2 9	..	..	100 0 2	..	12,750	0 0	20	52,464 1 11	..	2	22,914	0 0
Canterbury	..	889,200	0 0	..	..	8,505 0 0	..	..	..	22	963,600 0 0	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	..	80,905	0 23	..	..	1,282 13 4	..	..	..	8	24,154 0 11	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	13,574	0 0	..	..	237 0 0	..	300	0 0	10	15,539 0 0	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	73	1,948,644	2 32	..	..	10,526 19 6	4	84,907	0 0	63	1,056,453 1 22	3	22,314	2 0	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>															
Otago ..	1	31	0 15	..	..	2 5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Auckland	1	20,000	0 0	..	..	20 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	32,569	0 0
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	1	1,350	0 0	..	..	182 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	3	55,210	0 0	..	..	36 14 10	..	9,400	0 0	23	9,864 0 0	..	1	10,500	0 0
Canterbury	21	476,536	0 0	..	..	8,095 0 10	..	..	..	12	548,009 0 0	..	1	6,600	0 0
Otago ..	4	70,885	0 0	..	..	705 0 0	..	..	..	6	88,885 0 0	..	..	..	..
Southland	2	59,930	0 0	..	..	814 0 0	..	..	..	2	60,860 0 0	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	32	688,861	0 0	..	..	9,852 15 8	1	9,400	0 0	43	707,618 0 0	3	49,669	0 0	..
Grand totals ..	106	2,032,536	3 7	..	..	20,382 0 2	5	94,307	0 0	106	1,764,071 1 22	6	71,983	2 0	..
<i>Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.</i>															
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>															
Auckland	65	25,311	0 13	6	2,458	0 34	2	1,106	0 0	..	..	..	2	765	2 17
Nelson ..	22	4,796	1 18	..	..	95 14 8	1	200	0 0	..	..	..	2	271	0 0
Westland ..	19	3,264	2 28	4	1,091	2 33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	106	33,372	0 19	10	3,549	3 27	3	1,306	0 0	..	..	..	4	1,036	2 17
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Auckland	1	100	0 0	..	..	0 17 8	2	250	0 0	..	..	..	..	300	0 0
Nelson ..	51	12,997	3 24	..	..	370 14 4	1	90	0 0	..	..	..	2	235	0 0
Westland ..	34	6,643	3 18	3	411	1 18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	86	19,741	3 2	3	411	1 18	3	340	0 0	..	..	..	3	535	0 0
Grand totals ..	192	53,113	3 21	13	3,961	1 5	6	1,646	0 0	..	..	..	7	1,571	2 17

Table 18.—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES AT 31st MARCH, 1912—continued.

C.—1.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.				Rent paid during the Year.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area, approximately.	Average Holdings.		Annual Rental.	£ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Amount.
			A.	R. P.					
<i>Pastoral Runs.</i>									
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	17	99,840 0 5	5,879 0 0	0 0	240 1 0	116 10 7	6	59,792 0 0	£ s. d. 101 7 0
Hawke's Bay ..	12	63,428 2 0	5,285 0 0	0 0	887 6 6	870 19 8	..	..	..
Taranaki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	4	100,818 0 0	25,203 0 0	0 0	1,814 14 4	1,814 14 4	..	..	..
Nelson ..	2	165,829 0 0	82,914 0 0	0 0	330 0 0	330 0 0	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	32	586,259 0 0	18,320 0 0	0 0	3,182 3 4	3,314 16 8	..	..	..
Westland ..	59	885,662 2 9	15,011 0 0	0 8	570 0 8	552 11 3	1	100 0 0	0 10 0
Canterbury ..	83	2,052,911 1 36	24,734 0 0	0 6	16,709 5 6	10,296 1 2	..	..	..
Otago ..	190	2,423,497 2 19	12,755 0 0	0 0	15,312 16 0	13,734 9 4	2	9,218 0 0	3 0 6
Southland ..	65	687,437 0 0	10,576 0 0	0 0	2,680 1 4	2,664 17 4	..	..	..
Totals ..	464	7,065,678 0 29	15,228 0 0	0 0	41,726 8 8	33,695 0 4	9	69,110 0 0	104 17 6
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury ..	1	1,642 0 0	1,642 0 0	0 0	193 3 8	193 3 8	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Otago ..	4	1,014 3 13	254 0 0	0 0	132 18 0	131 15 6	..	..	..
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	11	169,443 0 0	15,404 0 0	0 0	231 3 6	131 13 11	2	67,888 0 0	45 6 4
Hawke's Bay ..	1	186 0 0	186 0 0	0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	..	..	..
Wellington ..	18	32,890 0 16	1,827 0 0	0 0	1,018 0 0	788 8 0	..	..	..
Nelson ..	1	10,000 0 0	10,000 0 0	0 0	34 0 0	..	1	10,000 0 0	17 0 0
Marlborough ..	15	311,140 0 0	20,742 0 0	0 0	1,379 13 4	1,529 13 4	..	..	..
Westland ..	21	222,158 0 0	10,579 0 0	0 8	236 4 8	233 11 9	..	..	..
Canterbury ..	58	1,201,294 0 0	20,712 0 0	0 0	22,221 12 2	15,532 14 7	..	..	..
Otago ..	58	1,363,633 2 21	23,511 0 0	0 0	10,578 0 0	10,721 3 4	..	..	..
Southland ..	28	669,070 0 0	23,895 0 0	0 0	2,109 17 0	1,466 9 6	..	..	..
Totals ..	211	3,979,814 2 37	18,861 0 0	0 0	37,810 10 8	30,415 14 5	3	77,888 0 0	62 6 4
Grand totals ..	680	11,048,149 2 39	..	..	79,863 1 0	64,435 13 11	12	146,998 0 0	167 3 10
<i>Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.</i>									
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	171	53,057 2 30	310 0 0	0 0	1,171 16 6	571 6 7	4	1,483 2 0	12 4 2
Nelson ..	120	22,642 3 36	189 0 0	0 0	430 5 4	369 13 2	22	4,408 3 18	80 16 3
Westland ..	75	9,959 0 34	133 0 0	0 0	221 16 2	272 16 5	6	1,059 0 0	11 15 8
Totals ..	366	85,659 3 20	234 0 0	0 0	1,823 18 0	1,213 16 2	32	6,951 1 18	104 16 6
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland ..	36	6,796 2 30	189 0 0	0 0	136 11 8	141 7 9	2	300 0 0	6 3 4
Nelson ..	95	21,284 0 12	224 0 0	0 0	610 4 0	433 16 6	7	1,341 2 15	25 5 1
Westland ..	130	20,626 3 27	159 0 0	0 0	402 10 6	478 10 0	3	944 0 0	12 5 0
Totals ..	261	48,707 2 29	187 0 0	0 0	1,149 6 2	1,058 14 3	12	2,585 2 15	43 13 5
Grand totals ..	627	134,367 2 9	..	..	2,973 4 2	2,267 10 5	44	9,536 3 33	149 9 11

Table 19.—RETURN OF MISCELLANEOUS LEASES AND LICENSES, NOT OTHERWISE ENUMERATED, AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Objects for which leased.										Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1912.				Lessees in Arrear on 31st March, 1912.			
	Coal and Mineral.			Timber-cutting, &c.			Flax-cutting.			Miscellaneous.			Total Area leased during the Year.			Total Amount received during the Year.		
	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Amount received.	Number.	Area.	Amount received.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																		
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.	..	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	..
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough
Westland
Canterbury
Otago
Southland
Totals
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>																		
Canterbury
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																		
Auckland
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough
Westland
Canterbury
Otago
Southland
Totals
<i>National Endowment—</i>																		
Auckland
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Westland
Otago
Totals
Grand totals

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

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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	6,692 11 11	138 6 3	2,045 10 9	6,254 8 9	781 8 3	2,667 18 2	290 7 0	797 1 10	689 3 1	2,896 5 11	23,248 1 11
Perpetual lease made freehold	2,151 8 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	334 0 0	137 5 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	697 15 0	370 14 2	3,691 2 7
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	20,585 3 9	6,456 14 0	6,537 14 11	14,566 18 5	2,392 6 10	.. .. .	585 10 3	.. .. .	652 12 6	4,772 3 0	56,549 3 8
Lease in perpetuity made freehold	1,123 15 0	.. .. .	3,259 0 3	1,739 11 6	1,223 15 0	311 4 5	2,590 2 4	.. .. .	187 0 0	2,548 12 6	12,736 1 0
Village settlement, perpetual lease made freehold .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	6 0 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	161 10 9	348 10 9
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase made freehold .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	15 15 0	21 15 0
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity made freehold	171 5 11	484 3 5	.. .. .	332 4 1	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	27 0 0	858 12 6	1,873 5 11
Village-homestead special settlement, lease in perpetuity made freehold .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	126 18 9	.. .. .	.. .. .	126 18 9
Improved-farm special settlement, occupation with right of purchase made freehold	0 10 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,387 2 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	82 2 2	1,469 14 7
Improved-farm special settlement (lease in perpetuity made freehold) .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	27 0 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	450 5 0	477 5 0
Deferred payment, rural	49 16 8	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	3 19 2	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 3 8	34 2 9	.. .. .	89 2 3
Deferred payment, pastoral .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	465 11 10	.. .. .	.. .. .	465 11 10
Perpetual lease and small areas	637 11 6	109 17 11	167 1 7	146 0 11	29 0 1	15 10 1	20 7 0	98 15 6	840 0 7	249 14 11	2,309 0 1
Occupation with right of purchase	31,848 8 2	13,332 7 10	8,720 13 6	13,909 17 1	977 19 7	579 1 6	626 6 4	235 18 6	1,400 17 5	2,533 3 10	74,164 13 9
Lease in perpetuity	7,362 11 10	3,664 8 1	6,379 18 7	6,153 6 2	2,080 13 4	3,082 2 1	1,074 3 4	3,880 8 10	5,323 18 9	2,121 0 1	41,122 11 1
Renewable lease	278 12 10	.. .. .	1,003 0 4	226 5 6	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	35 3 6	.. .. .	1,502 18 8
Agricultural lease .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
Mining districts land occupation leases	603 2 8	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	63 9 11	18 15 1	101 12 0	.. .. .	479 16 1	71 6 4	1,338 2 1
Village settlement, cash .. .. .	.. .. .	36 0 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	36 0 0
Village settlement, deferred payment .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	12 3 4	1 9 5	.. .. .	13 12 9
Village settlement, perpetual lease .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 3 8	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 3 9	.. .. .	40 18 10	24 6 11	104 18 1	171 7 7
Village settlement, occupation with right of purchase .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	4 2 10	0 7 6	0 2 6	9 18 3
Village settlement, lease in perpetuity	92 2 6	1,711 8 10	3 4 0	1,674 5 0	.. .. .	20 0 4	15 2 1	6 16 2	133 13 4	369 2 6	4,025 14 9
Village settlement, renewable lease .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	527 9 1	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	527 9 1
Village-homestead special settlement	69 18 10	55 8 8	.. .. .	403 11 3	.. .. .	15 9 8	.. .. .	871 18 1	127 17 1	121 11 3	1,665 14 10
Special-settlement association, perpetual lease .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	48 4 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	48 4 0
Special-settlement association, lease in perpetuity	295 1 9	70 10 0	804 19 7	4,155 11 11	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	88 1 1	109 0 9	.. .. .	5,523 5 1
Improved-farm special settlement, occupation with right of purchase	550 16 8	19 11 10	80 16 4	1,775 11 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	102 11 6	2,529 7 9
Improved-farm special settlement, lease in perpetuity	50 2 10	238 19 2	2,179 19 0	446 2 10	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	145 19 5	3,061 3 3
Improved-farm special settlement, renewable lease .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	21 2 1	6 8 1	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	27 10 2
Small grazing-runs	593 15 0	7,545 14 8	87 8 8	3,170 2 3	.. .. .	92 13 7	.. .. .	3,014 5 0	5,486 6 3	.. .. .	19,990 5 5
Pastoral runs	116 10 7	870 19 8	.. .. .	1,814 14 4	330 0 0	3,314 16 8	552 11 3	10,296 1 2	13,734 9 4	2,664 17 4	33,695 0 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	571 6 7	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	369 13 2	.. .. .	272 16 5	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,213 16 2
Coal and mineral leases	524 2 6	.. .. .	48 2 11	96 9 0	371 3 3	.. .. .	1,007 11 2	12 5 6	1,148 6 3	380 8 8	3,588 9 3
Prospectors' mining leases	489 9 4	.. .. .	.. .. .	2 10 0	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	491 19 4
Timber licenses and other leases, and sale of timber	10,474 5 9	219 3 11	19 2 1	9,338 19 9	1,089 1 9	511 6 4	.. .. .	169 13 1	211 15 6	2,335 4 2	24,318 12 4
Carried forward	85,327 11 0	34,952 16 0	31,391 18 3	68,461 9 9	9,799 15 4	10,630 1 8	7,136 9 2	20,165 8 0	31,345 2 0	23,356 1	7322,566 12 9

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912—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 ..	85,327 11 0	34,952 16 0	31,391 18 3	68,461 9 9	9,799 15 4	10,630 1 8	7,136 9 2	20,165 8 0	31,345 2 0	23,356 1 7	322,566 12 9
Flax-cutting ..	135 16 6	..	..	5 0 0	..	15 0 0	30 2 6	..	..	5 10 0	191 9 0
Miscellaneous leases ..	3,339 8 3	1,080 7 9	119 16 0	1,098 13 9	368 9 0	160 6 3	573 2 11	..	1,207 1 1	853 12 0	8,900 17 0
Transfer, lease, and license fees, &c. ..	792 1 0	125 18 0	116 11 0	184 13 0	208 15 0	59 11 0	319 2 0	198 3 0	305 6 0	233 1 6	2,543 0 6
Rents of reserves ..	162 18 6	523 0 5	421 16 1	675 11 3	477 19 3	1,161 18 0	89 17 10	2,828 18 4	57 15 9	80 13 0	6,480 8 5
Miscellaneous ..	3,629 19 5	2,399 19 6	1,501 15 7	4,224 8 7	499 3 5	430 12 3	16 5 11	96 16 7	1,274 5 0	795 8 8	14,868 14 11
Crown-grant fees ..	257 18 9	32 13 10	42 2 5	181 16 11	63 12 10	31 17 5	40 13 6	50 8 1	150 14 5	118 17 11	870 11 1
State forests ..	29,194 13 0	..	..	397 15 2	..	3,397 0 6	..	329 12 8	185 11 3	2,011 17 6	85,466 10 1
Survey liens on Native lands ..	6,887 2 11	876 2 3	4 2 10	860 19 2	30 15 2	..	..	55 4 7	1 0 0	..	8,628 7 2
Survey fees which do not form part payment of land ..	..	..	13 8 0	249 1 8	..	..	..	..	202 16 9	..	216 4 9
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	249 1 8
Totals ..	129,727 9 4	39,990 17 9	34,502 17 6	77,910 4 1	11,448 10 0	15,886 7 1	8,205 13 10	23,724 6 3	34,579 12 3	27,455 2	2403,431 0 3
<i>Lands for Settlements.</i>											
Cash lands ..	83 15 0	..	..	15 0 0	..	204 2 6	..	382 5 9	..	500 0 0	1,185 3 3
Lease in perpetuity ..	16,856 10 4	35,257 17 2	3,049 17 1	13,203 11 4	938 4 9	11,700 17 1	501 7 5	54,902 3 9	31,116 19 4	9,469 15	176,997 3 3
Renewable lease ..	4,153 14 7	17,648 2 4	364 0 0	2,475 17 3	937 6 5	102 19 5	..	29,749 8 2	13,989 16 11	699 5 6	70,120 10 7
Lease in perpetuity (village settlement)	..	26 7 8	..	..	..	..	..	..	268 16 10	..	295 4 6
Renewable lease (village settlement)	..	1 9 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 17 10	..	8 7 7
Special - settlement associations, lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	146 3 8	..	..	146 3 8
Small grazing-runs ..	352 11 8	4,140 10 4	..	1,303 16 2	..	6,522 1 5	..	8,659 8 9	1,388 12 6	306 4 8	22,673 5 6
Pastoral runs ..	1,855 1 11	2,490 17 6	58 11 0	2,059 17 7	..	548 13 2	2 6 3	1,005 5 10	131 15 6	..	131 15 6
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,572 4 10	360 5 10	9,353 3 11
Totals ..	23,301 13 6	59,565 4 9	3,472 8 1	19,058 2 4	1,875 11 2	19,078 13 7	503 13 8	94,844 15 11	48,475 3 9	11,335 11	281,510 17 9
<i>Cheviot Estate.</i>											
Cash lands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35 0 0	..	..	35 0 0
Lease in perpetuity ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,778 17 1	..	..	5,778 17 1
Renewable lease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13 4 8	..	..	13 4 8
Village homesteads ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	790 0 1	..	..	790 0 1
Grazing farms ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,152 7 8	..	..	7,152 7 8
Pastoral runs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	193 3 8	..	..	193 3 8
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	233 2 4	..	..	233 2 4
Totals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45 10 0	..	..	45 10 0
Carried forward ..	153,029 2 10	99,556 2 6	37,975 5 7	96,968 6 5	13,324 1 2	34,965 0 8	8,709 7	6132,810 7 8	83,054 16 0	38,790 13	2699,183 3 6

Table 20.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912—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.
Brought forward ..	153,029 2 10	99,556 2 6	37,975 5 7	96,968 6 5	13,324	34,965 0 8	8,709 7 6	132,810 7 8	83,054 16 0	38,790 13 2	699,183 3 6
National-endowment Lands.											
Renewable lease, ordinary ..	2,860 9 1	2,995 12 11	917 0 10	555 1 2	1,048 19 5	517 12 1	691 13 1	368 4 11	410 4 8	426 5 3	10,791 3 5
Renewable lease, village settlement ..	46 18 10	36 14 11	..	167 16 9	..	43 14 1	9 1 6	..	3 15 10	29 19 0	338 0 11
Renewable lease, village-homestead special settlement ..	..	..	..	14 17 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 17 1
Renewable lease, improved-farm special settlements ..	..	..	247 5 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	247 5 5
Mining districts land occupation leases ..	413 18 10	2,878 2 10	51 14 7	337 15 7	112 18 7	2,745 3 11	..	4,025 0 5	16,857 6 10	766 13 6	1 5 0
Small grazing-runs ..	131 13 11	12 0 0	..	788 8 0	433 16 6	1,529 13 4	233 11 9	15,532 14 7	10,721 3 4	1,466 9 6	28,188 15 1
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations ..	141 7 9	..	..	..	..	..	478 10 0	..	..	..	1,053 14 3
Coal and mineral leases ..	..	..	..	..	936 4 9	..	26 0 10	..	..	..	962 5 7
Timber licenses and sale of timber ..	5,866 0 4	..	..	..	1,699 19 7	..	9,863 1 8	..	..	..	17,429 1 7
Flax-cutting ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 10 6	..	..	..	4 10 6
Miscellaneous ..	45 5 6	15 0 0	5 5 0	34 19 6	256 17 4	..	483 16 4	..	138 11 6	..	979 15 2
Totals ..	9,505 14 3	5,937 10 8	1,221 5 10	1,898 13 1	4,490 1 2	4,836 3 5	11,790 5 8	19,925 19 11	28,131 2 2	2,689 7 3	90,426 8 5
Thermal Springs Districts Act: Rents ..	2,084 19 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,084 19 6
Workers' dwellings, ordinary Crown lands ..	..	..	..	98 16 9	..	..	..	72 14 8	..	..	171 11 5
Workers' dwellings, land for settlements ..	239 9 7	..	..	97 3 3	..	..	..	28 3 11	39 10 1	..	404 6 10
Primary-education endowments ..	4,273 5 1	8,281 4 1	5,134 11 10	9,190 16 10	353 15 0	312 19 3	261 6 8	17,854 10 8	3,312 16 6	13,097 5 2	62,072 11 1
Secondary-education endowments ..	1,066 14 4	2,461 13 6	967 16 0	2,278 6 4	130 2 6	37 15 0	201 12 9	270 0 0	690 6 10	259 1 2	8,363 8 5
Other endowment lands ..	381 12 4	378 2 6	932 12 3	305 3 10	17,103 4 10	..	1,924 19 2	1,608 19 0	5,890 4 10	1,827 6 10	30,352 5 7
Grand totals ..	170,580 17 11	116,614 13 3	46,231 11 6	110,837 11 6	35,401 4 8	40,151 18 4	22,887 11 9	172,570 15 10	121,118 16 5	56,663 13 7	893,058 14 9

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, 1912.			Total Area granted under Acts, without Money Payment, or reserved for Public Purposes from Foundation of Dominion to 31st March, 1912.	
	Crown Lands set apart for various Public Purposes.		Area granted under Special Acts.	Total Area thus alienated during the Year.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	42,375	..	..	42,375	3,630,771
Hawke's Bay ..	1,195	..	..	1,195	436,780
Taranaki ..	3,510	..	..	3,510	715,909
Wellington ..	1,906	..	..	1,906	898,071
Nelson ..	2,462	..	..	2,462	311,418
Marlborough ..	520	..	..	520	213,671
Westland ..	29,816	..	..	29,816	258,947
Canterbury ..	367	8	..	375	1,361,800
Otago ..	45,463	..	..	45,463	588,873
Southland ..	430	..	..	430	3,526,188
Totals ..	138,044	8	..	138,052	11,942,428

Table 22.—FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912, 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.
Occupation with right of purchase	87	25,721 3 32	1,259 16 11	3	633 2 38	17 0 10
Lease in perpetuity	13	3,880 3 10	90 14 2	9	4,152 2 1	82 0 2
Renewable lease	3	0 3 14	6 10 0	1	0 1 0	1 10 0
Mining districts occupation leases	8	293 2 1	14 12 4	5	156 2 20	7 0 0
<i>Village settlement,—</i>						
Occupation with right of purchase	1	0 3 32	0 6 0	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	2	1 3 30	1 9 8	..	..	..
Renewable lease	8	65 0 0	46 2 2	..	..	..
Improved-farm special settlements	11*	1,622 0 0	..	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs	1	2,510 0 0	125 10 0	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	4	84,907 0 0	97 0 0	3	22,314 2 0	40 10 0
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	3	1,306 0 0	17 17 0	4	1,036 2 17	27 1 0
Miscellaneous	43	17,886 2 20	166 0 6	31	6,331 3 38	65 13 10
Totals	184	138,196 2 19	1,825 18 9	56	34,626 0 34	240 15 10
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity	7	106 0 9	35 12 6	1	0 1 7	1 4 0
Renewable lease	22	1,640 1 11	665 13 5	10	243 2 2	208 18 8
Miscellaneous	1	19 0 0	2 0 0	4	16 1 17	33 14 0
Totals	30	1,765 1 20	703 5 11	15	260 0 26	243 16 8
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease, ordinary ..	36	6,717 1 12	319 4 10	11	4,552 1 13	112 10 2
Renewable lease, village settlement	4	8 0 14	4 0 0	2	0 2 0	2 8 0
Renewable lease, improved-farm special settlements	..	..	..	1	171 0 0	..
Small grazing-runs .. ..	..	..	..	1	2,833 0 0	40 0 0
Pastoral runs	1	9,400 0 0	9 10 0	3	49,669 0 0	201 0 0
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	3	340 0 0	8 8 8	3	535 0 0	8 0 0
Miscellaneous	17	5,148 3 11	44 5 0	14	3,710 1 11	25 14 2
Totals	61	21,614 0 37	385 8 6	35	61,471 0 24	389 12 4
Thermal springs	2	32 2 1	7 15 0	..	..	..
Grand totals	277	161,608 2 37	2,922 8 2	106	96,357 2 4	874 4 10
Primary-education endowments ..	12	1,826 0 0	66 11 0	3	100 3 1	22 7 8
Secondary-education endowments	1	2 1 30	7 10 0	..	..	..

* Unregistered holdings, no rent payable.

Table 23.—RETURN OF LAND TAKEN UP WITHIN THE THERMAL SPRINGS DISTRICT OF AUCKLAND, AT 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Locality.	Taken up during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1912.			Amount received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1912.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Rotorua	303	6,494 3 12	2,151 17 4	2,084 19 6	21	34 1 2	178 16 9

Table 24.—RETURN SHOWING PAYMENTS OF CAPITAL VALUE UNDER SECTION 191 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1912.

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.		
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands.</i>																				
Lease in perpetuity, ordinary	3	A. R. P. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 249 1 8	..	..	£ s. d. ..	£ s. d. ..	£ s. d. ..	8	A. R. P. 2,079 1 9	£ s. d. 60 9 2	£ s. d. 827 0 4	£ s. d. 32 5 5	8	A. R. P. 2,079 1 9	£ s. d. 60 9 2	£ s. d. 827 0 4	£ s. d. 32 5 5
Lease in perpetuity, village settlement	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	30 0 19	6 0 6	64 2 6	3 9 2	3	30 0 19	6 0 6	64 2 6	3 9 2
Lease in perpetuity, special-settlement associations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	302 0 0	15 2 0	125 16 8	1 4	2	302 0 0	15 2 0	125 16 8	1 4
Renewable lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0 1 0	4 12 0	30 13 4	3 1 4	1	0 1 0	4 12 0	30 13 4	3 1 4
Totals	3	500 0 0	249 1 8	..	..	..	..	..	14	2,411 2 28	86 3	81,047 12 10	48 14 3	14	2,411 2 28	86 3	81,047 12 10	48 14 3
<i>Land for Settlements.</i>																				
Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	629 3 8	386 10	23,881 15	8 193 8 4	6	629 3 8	386 10	23,881 15	8 193 8 4
Renewable lease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	814 1 27	16 4 0	120 0 0	10 16 0	1	814 1 27	16 4 0	120 0 0	10 16 0
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,444 0 35	402 14	24,001 15	8 204 4 4	7	1,444 0 35	402 14	24,001 15	8 204 4 4
<i>Cheviot Estate.</i>																				
Lease in perpetuity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	106 3 0	55 10 2	999 3 8	5 11 0	1	106 3 0	55 10 2	999 3 8	5 11 0
Grand totals	3	500 0 0	249 1 8	..	..	..	..	..	22	3,962 2 23	544 8	06,048 12	2 258 9 7	22	3,962 2 23	544 8	06,048 12	2 258 9 7

Table 25.—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF BUSH FELLED ON LANDS SOLD OR LEASED BY THE CROWN FROM 1st APRIL, 1895, TO 31st MARCH, 1912.

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, 1912.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Auckland	1,014 0 0	18,902 0 0	214,760 0 0	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	3,954 0 0	11,005 0 0	174,828 0 0	..	..	..
Taranaki	300 0 0	4,000 0 0	73,275 0 0	..	..	..
Wellington	575 0 0	21,060 0 0	751,475 0 0	..	..	..
Nelson	285 0 0	9,410 0 0	81,785 0 0	..	..	..
Marlborough	2,149 0 0	104,087 0 0	..	..	..
Westland	400 0 0	2,600 0 0	75,213 0 0	..	..	..
Canterbury	360 0 0	24,590 0 0	..	..	..
Otago	135 0 0	1,715 0 0	16,439 0 0	..	..	..
Southland
Totals	6,663 0 0	71,201 0 0	1,516,452 0 0	..	..	..

Table 26.—STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF SELECTORS ON THE BOOKS OF THE LANDS DEPARTMENT ON 31st MARCH, 1912.

District.	Deferred Payment.		Perpetual Lease.		Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Lease in Perpetuity.				Renewable Lease.			Agricultural Lease.		Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.		Village Settlement, Deferred Payment.	Village Settlement, Perpetual Lease.	Village Settlement, Occupation with Right of Purchase.	Village Settlement, Lease in Perpetuity.			National-endowment Lands.			Village Settlement, Renewable Lease.		
	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Endowment Lands.
Auckland	4	..	165	1	2,583	6	1,149	..	615	22	10	326	290	1	..	199	..	..	..	..	52	78	16	..	32	8	..	..	..
Hawke's Bay	..	..	8	5	325	..	204	..	426	18	..	50	173	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	8	..	443	..	474	..	37	..	28	40	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	490	..	..	9	..	..	..	154
Wellington	..	..	7	..	633	..	525	..	300	..	126	18	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	5	..	8	..	224	..	488	..	13	14	..	338	21	27	..	*36	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	..	6	..	42	..	325	..	289	..	..	58	19	..	..	5	..	..	1	..	..	11	..	..	29	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	..	7	..	98	..	412	..	28	..	..	249	..	..	..	78	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	3	..	17	..	24	..	245	118	1,108	68	..	15	307	1	..	..	..	6	12	12	8	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	8	1	154	18	302	..	800	..	535	12	..	160	155	..	17	287	..	2	12	2	2	103	30	4	7	..	..	1	..
Southland	..	..	44	11	451	1	352	..	237	44	..	91	21	..	..	27	..	..	64	2	2	275	..	..	32	..	..	..	..
Totals	20	1	424	35	5,125	7	4,974	118	3,588	178	164	1,345	1,067	1	28	17	632	79	8	89	25	1,046	46	4	134	3	154	3	154

District.	Village-homestead Special Settlement.				Special-settlement Associations.		Improved-farm Special Settlements.		Small Grazing-runs.				Pastoral.†				Miscellaneous.				Thermal Springs, Rotorna.				Educational Endowments (Education Reserves Acts).		Total.
	Crown Lands.	Endowment Lands.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	National-endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Complete.	Not registered.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	National-endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	National-endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	Crown Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	National-endowment Lands.	Land for Settlements.	Ordinary Endowment Lands.	Primary Education.	Secondary Education.
Auckland	26	..	..	..	..	..	49	71	..	5	12	12	..	188	..	..	297	..	..	5	303	..	..	..	466	104	7,136
Hawke's Bay	29	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	48	49	2	..	12	..	..	121	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	187	24	1,856
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	242	90	..	6	4	..	..	..	..	..	164	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	332	43	2,087
Wellington	161	..	11	..	..	..	196	85	..	80	9	5	..	4	..	..	359	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	509	12	4,262
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	122	..	..	346	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	84	28	2,541
Marlborough	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	75	..	..	32	..	..	184	..	..	179	..	..	..	..	39	3	1,218
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134	..	..	151	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	47	28	1,998
Canterbury	255	92	..	..	11	..	..	..	..	19	44	47	..	83	1	..	700	46	..	300	..	..	..	..	222	..	3,717
Otago	69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85	10	278	18	190	..	..	921	..	..	18	..	..	..	..	400	47	4,814
Southland	46	..	..	..	..	..	41	..	..	..	20	3	..	65	..	..	479	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	693	29	3,079
Totals	594	92	11	76	663	11	544	246	32	252	115	503	40	830	1	4	4,012	46	228	503	454	303	2,979	318	32,703	318	32,703

* Includes two holdings national-endowment land.

† Includes pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations.

: Includes thirteen not registered.

Table 27.—STATEMENT SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTORS, WITH AREA OF CROWN LAND SELECTED OR HELD, THE YEARLY RENT PAYABLE, AND RENT IN ARREAR, ON 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Tenures.	Total Number of Selectors.	Total Area held.	Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.	Total Amount of such Rents or Payments in Arrear.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment	20	8,972 3 30	509 7 4	.. .. .
Perpetual lease	424	71,428 0 38	2,520 7 5	21 6 8
Occupation with right of purchase	5,125	1,746,168 2 38	94,280 1 1	3,937 5 4
Lease in perpetuity	4,974	1,436,629 1 32	45,863 14 11	730 2 3
Renewable lease	164	25,739 1 22	1,990 11 8	349 16 0
Agricultural lease	17	550 1 0	23 7 9	.. .. .
Mining districts land occupation leases	630	23,972 2 36	1,411 2 2	70 7 9
<i>Village settlements—</i>				
Deferred payment	8	163 1 6	18 11 0	2 16 0
Perpetual lease	89	1,311 2 7	177 1 0	2 10 0
Occupation with right of purchase	25	15 3 21	12 11 6	.. .. .
Lease in perpetuity	1,046	21,959 1 24	4,195 4 4	109 3 9
Renewable lease	154	1,129 3 16	569 18 6	40 12 0
<i>Village-homestead special settlements—</i>				
Perpetual lease	250	4,119 0 29	562 18 0	92 7 9
Lease in perpetuity	344	9,137 1 1	1,032 0 5	14 4 0
<i>Special-settlement associations—</i>				
Perpetual lease	10	669 0 8	48 4 0	.. .. .
Lease in perpetuity	653	114,455 1 23	6,167 11 1	114 14 11
<i>Improved-farm special settlements—</i>				
Occupation with right of purchase	457	63,702 2 11	2,510 6 11	194 19 8
Lease in perpetuity	332	41,302 3 34	3,264 15 2	62 3 11
Renewable lease	1	255 0 0	28 0 6	.. .. .
Small grazing-runs	252	462,302 1 8	20,841 3 4	911 17 6
Pastoral runs	464	7,065,678 0 29	41,726 8 8	104 17 6
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	366	85,659 3 20	1,823 18 0	104 16 6
Miscellaneous leases	4,012	605,846 0 12	15,019 11 6	873 14 2
Totals	19,817	11,791,169 2 5	244,596 16 3	7,737 15 8
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>				
Lease in perpetuity	118	24,385 2 25	6,423 15 6	.. .. .
Renewable lease	1	11 0 7	14 1 4	.. .. .
Village-homestead special settlement	92	2,480 1 0	870 10 4	6 0 0
Grazing-farms	34	45,021 1 32	6,424 3 2	1,515 0 0
Pastoral runs	1	1,642 0 0	193 3 8	.. .. .
Miscellaneous	46	1,094 2 30	196 11 5	33 5 10
Totals	292	74,635 0 14	14,122 5 5	1,554 5 10
<i>Land for Settlements Acts—</i>				
Lease in perpetuity	3,588	661,997 1 24	192,597 13 4	2,754 4 7
Renewable lease	1,067	356,331 2 14	75,525 19 10	981 4 4
Lease in perpetuity (village settlement)	46	438 1 28	342 7 8	0 8 0
Renewable lease (village settlement)	3	9 3 16	9 18 0	.. .. .
Special-settlement associations	11	2,114 1 9	162 7 8	.. .. .
Small grazing-runs	115	202,340 1 15	26,650 7 0	643 14 1
Pastoral runs	4	1,014 3 13	132 18 0	.. .. .
Miscellaneous	228	7,151 3 30	1,799 3 5	27 9 9
Totals	5,062	1,231,398 2 29	297,220 14 11	4,407 0 9
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>				
Renewable lease—				
Ordinary	1,345	373,634 3 29	15,634 4 2	699 8 0
Village settlement	124	1,441 0 11	444 4 6	1 4 0
Village-homestead special settlement	11	119 2 15	14 11 5	.. .. .
Improved-farm special settlement	32	5,236 1 20	334 11 4	.. .. .
Mining districts land occupation leases	2	22 0 0	2 10 0	.. .. .
Small grazing-runs	503	1,680,806 1 19	31,452 2 1	713 8 7
Pastoral runs	211	3,979,814 2 37	37,810 10 8	62 6 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	261	48,707 2 29	1,149 6 2	43 13 5
Miscellaneous leases	503	197,750 0 6	1,609 3 8	159 0 4
Totals	2,992	6,287,532 3 6	88,451 4 0	1,679 0 8
Thermal springs (Rotorua)	303	6,494 3 12	2,151 17 4	178 16 9
Grand totals	28,466	19,391,230 3 26	646,542 17 11	15,556 19 8
<i>Education Reserves Acts—</i>				
Primary-education endowments	2,979	735,219 1 9	62,721 16 4	797 5 2
Secondary-education endowments	318	39,095 0 8	7,651 6 1	23 19 9
Other endowment lands	940	418,436 3 28	15,467 1 0	6,957 5 1

Table 28.—SUMMARY OF ARREARS DUE TO THE CROWN ON 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Tenure.	Exclusive of Current Half-year's Rent.			Inclusive of Current Half-year's Rent.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount in Arrear.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount in Arrear.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		A. R. P.	£ s. d.		A. R. P.	£ s. d.
Deferred payment .. .. .	..	..	..	1	68 2 10	0 1 3
Perpetual lease	8	934 0 19	21 6 8	39	6,081 3 33	120 5 2
Occupation with right of purchase ..	163	63,252 3 30	3,937 5 4	513	176,208 2 13	7,769 15 9
Lease in perpetuity	106	29,479 0 38	730 2 3	422	117,169 0 8	2,092 12 2
Renewable lease	13	1,344 0 0	349 16 0	35	5,192 1 6	528 1 10
Mining districts land occupation leases	27	1,411 1 1	70 7 9	79	3,530 2 34	179 5 8
Village settlements, deferred payment	1	5 0 0	2 16 0	2	9 2 10	4 6 3
Village settlements, perpetual lease	1	10 0 0	2 10 0	10	110 2 14	18 9 0
Village settlements, occupation with right of purchase	..	..	..	5	2 2 29	1 14 9
Village settlements, lease in perpetuity	24	1,075 2 25	109 3 9	120	3,483 3 8	303 13 9
Village settlements, renewable lease	8	51 0 0	40 12 0	18	79 0 0	52 6 0
Village-homestead special settlements	17	452 1 5	106 11 9	70	1,510 3 8	205 16 6
Special-settlement associations ..	12	2,029 3 3	114 14 11	53	9,797 3 3	346 1 2
Improved-farm special settlements	47	6,991 0 23	257 3 7	121	16,571 3 33	1,130 16 11
Small grazing-runs	18	27,451 2 24	911 17 6	88	139,065 0 23	4,022 2 9
Pastoral runs	9	69,110 0 0	104 17 6	52	555,644 1 15	1,780 16 4
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	32	6,951 1 18	104 16 6	87	23,632 1 6	351 5 0
Miscellaneous (not otherwise specified)	140	11,898 3 15	873 14 2	579	113,674 2 31	3,501 6 2
Totals	626	222,448 1 1	7,737 15 8	2,294	1,171,883 3 4	22,408 16 5.
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	1	292 0 0	29 4 0
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	1	11 0 7	0 0 8
Village-homestead special settlement	2	20 0 0	6 0 0	9	59 3 3	24 19 4
Grazing-farms	13	20,435 2 24	1,515 0 0	31	43,482 3 14	4,500 9 11
Miscellaneous	7	228 0 36	33 5 10	19	763 2 10	126 18 3
Totals	22	20,683 3 20	1,554 5 10	61	44,609 0 34	4,631 12 2
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Lease in perpetuity	104	8,760 2 8	2,754 4 7	342	50,161 0 27	9,077 16 6
Renewable lease	34	8,253 0 30	981 4 4	131	39,947 1 31	3,828 6 10
Village-settlement lease in perpetuity	2	0 3 6	0 8 0	4	18 2 36	2 16 11
Small grazing-runs	6	10,198 0 30	643 14 1	25	38,660 0 33	2,760 2 11
Miscellaneous	7	300 2 38	27 9 9	34	1,339 0 31	275 8 11
Totals	153	27,513 1 32	4,407 0 9	536	130,126 2 38	15,944 12 1
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease, ordinary	66	16,889 0 21	699 8 0	164	35,403 1 35	1,538 11 6
Renewable lease, village settlements	1	0 1 0	1 4 0	7	60 0 7	10 19 2
Renewable lease, improved-farm special settlement	..	..	..	2	236 1 24	14 7 4
Small grazing-runs	30	76,987 3 7	713 8 7	198	641,481 2 37	6,894 5 8
Pastoral runs	3	77,888 0 0	62 6 4	19	277,557 0 0	613 1 8
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	12	2,585 2 15	43 13 5	36	7,225 0 0	128 11 8
Miscellaneous	27	35,042 2 11	159 0 4	70	45,149 3 11	308 19 0
Totals	139	209,393 1 14	1,679 0 8	496	1,007,113 1 34	9,508 16 0
Thermal springs, Rotorua	21	34 1 2	178 16 9	75	956 1 9	429 12 7
Grand totals	961	480,073 0 29	15,556 19 8	3,462	2,354,689 1 39	52,973 9 3
Primary-education endowments	99	10,443 1 34	797 5 2	489	136,716 0 33	6,355 12 6
Secondary-education endowments	9	62 3 2	23 19 9	52	9,336 1 14	957 4 7

Table 29.—ENDOWMENTS: RETURN OF REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Tenure.	Revenue received.	Tenure.	Revenue received.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash lands .. .. .	..	Pastoral runs	5,227 2 6
Perpetual lease made freehold	10 4 0	Coal and mineral leases, and royalties ..	17,436 6 11
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	31 10 7	Timber licenses and royalties	646 5 0
Deferred payments	12 5 6	Miscellaneous leases	264 18 8
Perpetual lease and small areas	310 19 6	Rent of reserves	1,860 3 5
Occupation with right of purchase	19 10 0	<i>Educational Endowments (Education Reserves Acts)—</i>	
Lease in perpetuity	2,004 4 8	Primary education	62,072 11 1
Renewable lease	10 14 0	Secondary education	8,363 8 5
Mining districts land occupation leases ..	63 10 5	Total	£100,788 5 1
Village-homestead special settlement ..	249 11 4		
Village lease in perpetuity	16 2 2		
Small grazing-runs	2,188 16 11		

Table 31.—RETURN OF EDUCATION ENDOWMENTS DEALT WITH UNDER THE EDUCATION RESERVES ACTS TO 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Land District.	Total Area set apart.	Area opened for Selection during the Year.		Taken up during the Year.		Expires during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.					
		A.	R. P.	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.		
Primary Education.														
Auckland	..	116,013	0 4	..	..	£ s. d.	12	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.	11	A.	R. P.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay	..	70,422	1 4	2	..	127 12 0	10	561	0 0	52 3 0	12	1,165	3 38	123 15 6
Taranaki	..	49,208	0 0	..	..	..	2	..	..	82 10 6	1	68	1 11	78 16 8
Wellington	..	93,958	0 0	..	..	..	6	..	..	20 5 8	1	68	0 0	15 0 0
Nelson	..	8,623	1 22	1	..	7 0 0	..	0 1 0	..	42 7 4	5	97	2 15	121 16 10
Marlborough	..	1,155	2 35	..	..	..	8	..	..	18 16 6	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	14,613	0 37	1	..	0 8 11	..	2 1 25	..	..	2	0 2 1	..	11 10 0
Canterbury	..	70,160	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	44,298	3 33	3	..	96 17 4	3	1,213	2 0	17 1 0	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	332,299	0 0	9	..	644 0 0	..	3,402	0 25	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	800,751	2 15	16	..	875 18 3	41	5,179	1 10	238 4 0	31	1,400	1 25	350 19 0
Secondary Education.														
Auckland	..	10,383	1 4	..	..	..	4	..	..	12 0 0	3	322	0 0	23 11 8
Hawke's Bay	..	7,484	1 2	..	..	..	3	..	..	80 1 0	3	1,222	0 29	272 14 0
Taranaki	..	2,853	0 0	..	..	..	1	..	..	0 10 0	1	0	1 1	4 0 0
Wellington	..	12,178	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	..	801	1 37	2	..	13 10 0	..	81	2 25	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough	..	265	3 22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	..	4,448	0 21	1	..	2 0 0	1	1,000	0 0	2 0 0	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	1,024	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	2,101	3 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	605	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	41,594	3 11	3	..	15 10 0	9	1,081	2 25	94 11 0	7	1,544	1 30	300 5 8
Grand totals	..	842,346	1 26	19	..	891 8 3	50	6,260	3 35	327 15 0	38	2,944	3 15	651 4 8

Table 32.—RETURN SHOWING POSITION AND TRANSACTIONS IN IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENTS FROM THEIR COMMENCEMENT TO 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Area.	Total Number of Sections remaining in the Settlements.	Number of Settlers in Occupation on 31st March, 1912.	Number of Persons resident.	Area occupied.	Total Area made Freehold.			Area felled.	Area grassed.
						Number.	Area.	Total Amount received.		
A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	25,045	197	120	478	16,828 0 32	5	384 3 10	476 12 11	752	5,898
Hawke's Bay	3,025	17	16	42	1,825 1 20	1	86 0 0	272 17 3	1,817	1,795
Taranaki	62,731	476	364	*	51,147 2 7	..	3 0 30	27 0 0	..	*
Wellington	51,755	418	281	1,267	36,422 0 38	69	5,719 0 33	7,773 13 8	23,172	24,623
Southland	4,862	57	41	143	4,273 2 8	4	458 3 8	743 12 2	3,217	2,998
Totals	146,418	1,165	822	..	110,496 3 25	79	6,652 0 1	9,298 16 0	..	..

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.		Total Payments.			During the Year ended 31st March, 1912.	From Commencement of System.				
	For Houses.	For Bushfelling and other Works.	For Houses.	For Bushfelling and other Works.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Hawke's Bay	2,790 18 8	8,405 4 4	751 14 11	3,725 14 6	15,673 12 5	600 19 6	4,967 4 4	30,562 0 0	9,837 17 9	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	159 14 4	1,860 9 5	..	..	2,020 3 9	258 11 0	3,649 14 3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	4,506 15 0	26,946 9 2	1,629 5 0	5,730 2 0	38,812 11 2	2,529 2 10	18,989 16 0	119,781 0 0	10,890 8 0	..	..	..	..
Southland	3,527 0 0	17,420 12 7	1,060 0 0	3,260 0 4	25,267 12 11	2,228 2 4	28,275 10 8	..	..	..	..	..	..
	902 1 0	11,155 14 2	..	..	12,057 15 2	248 10 11	3,201 8 10	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	11,886 9 0	65,788 9 8	3,440 19 11	12,715 16 10	98,831 15 5	5,865 6 7	59,083 14 1	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Figures not supplied.

Table 34.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SELECTORS AND LANDS SELECTED UNDER SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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.
1903*	374	Acres. 17,194	..	Acres. ..	573	161,745	..	Acres. ..	403	118,557	3	Acres. 36	52	Acres. 2,434	19	Acres. 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
1911*†	270	9,544	..	..	15	1,877	589	123,718	473	131,001	..	..	73	2,687	4	3½
1912*†	408	6,095½	..	..	..	..	569	186,482	379	131,483	..	..	55	1,426	1	½

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.
1903*	..	Acres. ..	40	Acres. 619	..	Acres. ..	34	Acres. 1,512	29	Acres. 5,761	30	Acres. 4,032	45	Acres. 113,925	1,602	Acres. 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	1,934	..	..	49	287	..	..	3	547	34	68,587	1,536	399,340
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
1911*†	3	1½	..	..	22	390	..	..	..	..	23	5,164	22	128,764	1,494	403,150
1912*†	1	½	..	..	59	600	..	..	..	..	8	1,385½	23	144,617	1,503	472,090

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

† Inclusive of national-endowment lands.

Table 35.—TRANSACTIONS IN BUSH, SWAMP, AND SCRUB LANDS UNDER SECTION 127 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Area opened during Year (Heavy-bush land).			Selections during Year.			Total Area held at 31st March, 1912.					
	Area opened during Year (Heavy-bush land).			Heavy-bush Land.			Heavy-bush Land.		Light-bush Land.		Scrub Land.	
	A.	R.	P.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Amount of Rental remitted per Annum.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (remitted).	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental (remitted).
Auckland	A.	R.	P.	..	A.	£ s. d.	..	A.	£ s. d.	..	A.	£ s. d.
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	21,524	0	0	28	21,524	0 0 1,987 16	13	14,261 0 0	511 10 8	13	14,261 0 0	511 10 8
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	93,698 0 28	3,740 12 9	102	93,698 0 28	3,740 12 9
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	21,048 0 30	447 4 8	48	21,048 0 30	447 4 8
Westland	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	296 0 0	5 18 6	1	296 0 0	5 18 6
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1,446 0 0	20 3 8	9	3,936 0 0	45 7 8
Otago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	21,524	0	0	28	21,524	0 0 1,987 16	170	130,749 1 18	4,725 10 3	173	133,289 1 18	4,750 14 3

Table 36.—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, 1912.

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	3,015	920,413	0 0	3,151	14	6
Hawke's Bay	587	266,327	0 0	1,876	15	7
Taranaki	954	363,891	1 28	1,761	16	6
Wellington	2,338	435,541	0 3	2,627	8	4
Nelson	365	145,731	1 24	121	0	6
Marlborough	341	145,693	0 37	357	5	6
Westland	418	46,282	3 35	153	2	3
Canterbury	363	28,819	1 21	513	14	1
Otago	727	205,437	1 19	700	15	1
Southland	872	138,402	0 0	402	6	2
Totals	9,980	2,696,538	3 7	11,665	18	6
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Canterbury	298	63,987	0 14	718	17	0
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Auckland	701	133,125	0 0	1,697	2	2
Hawke's Bay	587	161,836	0 0	5,976	1	3
Taranaki	40	3,368	2 28	305	3	2
Wellington	342	55,334	2 1	1,600	17	1
Nelson	25	15,571	0 9	102	18	7
Marlborough	303	103,239	1 38	1,844	11	10
Westland	25	4,612	2 4	49	0	1
Canterbury	1,535	364,208	2 12	8,037	19	2
Otago	651	179,014	0 8	4,351	4	3
Southland	221	43,950	0 0	885	6	2
Totals	4,430	1,064,259	3 20	24,850	3	9
<i>National Endowment—</i>						
Auckland	125	24,152	0 0	153	2	9
Hawke's Bay	49	14,835	0 0	305	12	0
Taranaki	35	14,350	0 0	96	8	4
Wellington	17	4,434	0 0	26	18	5
Nelson	46	13,597	3 37	11	3	11
Marlborough	60	8,304	1 34	26	11	4
Westland	136	17,478	2 17	44	13	10
Canterbury	13	6,317	3 8	40	12	4
Otago	102	4,159	3 17	32	5	5
Southland	66	7,300	0 0	22	6	1
Totals	649	114,929	2 33	759	14	5
Grand totals	15,357	3,944,715	1 34	37,994	13	8
Ellesmere Endowment	108	14,106	1 17	152	0	10

Table 37.—CROWN LANDS PROCLAIMED UNDER THE NEW ZEALAND STATE-GUARANTEED ADVANCES ACT AND ITS AMENDMENTS, THE AMOUNT BORROWED, AND THE AMOUNT REPAID TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNT UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Land District.	Area.	Amount borrowed.		Amount repaid.	
	Acres.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Auckland	1,162,422	228,126	0 0	88,584	10 2
Hawke's Bay	394,120	90,383	0 0	38,790	18 8
Taranaki	629,238	182,945	0 0	96,717	7 4
Wellington	727,612	223,590	0 0	144,418	0 11
Nelson	396,853	40,890	0 0	4,074	4 2
Marlborough	211,571	25,499	0 0	21,632	16 1
Westland	40,724	4,576	0 0	1,270	7 11
Canterbury	2,135	456	0 0	613	5 5
Otago	175,631	21,481	0 0	20,246	9 4
Southland	136,730	31,742	0 0	17,087	15 9
Totals	3,877,036	849,688	0 0	433,435	15 9

Table 38.—CROWN GRANTS, CERTIFICATES OF TITLE, LEASES, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF TITLE FROM THE CROWN PREPARED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912.

District.	Number.					Cost.
	Singly.	In Duplicate.	In Triplicate.	In Quadruplicate.	Total Copies.	
Auckland ..	3	62	444	18	1,531	£ s. d. 114 16 0
Hawke's Bay ..	1	283	154	23	1,121	56 1 0
Taranaki ..	2	2	73	12	273	7 11 7
Wellington ..	9	52	294	..	995	66 7 0
Nelson ..	2	26	99	16	415	31 2 6
Marlborough ..	..	27	52	..	210	10 0 0
Westland ..	..	118	79	..	473	59 2 6
Canterbury ..	1	103	5	85	562	56 4 0
Otago ..	..	303	762	..	2,892	115 0 0
Southland ..	10	43	142	7	550	67 0 0
Totals ..	28	1,019	2,104	161	9,022	583 4 7

Table 39.—STATEMENT SHOWING PAYMENTS TO LOCAL BODIES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1912, 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.

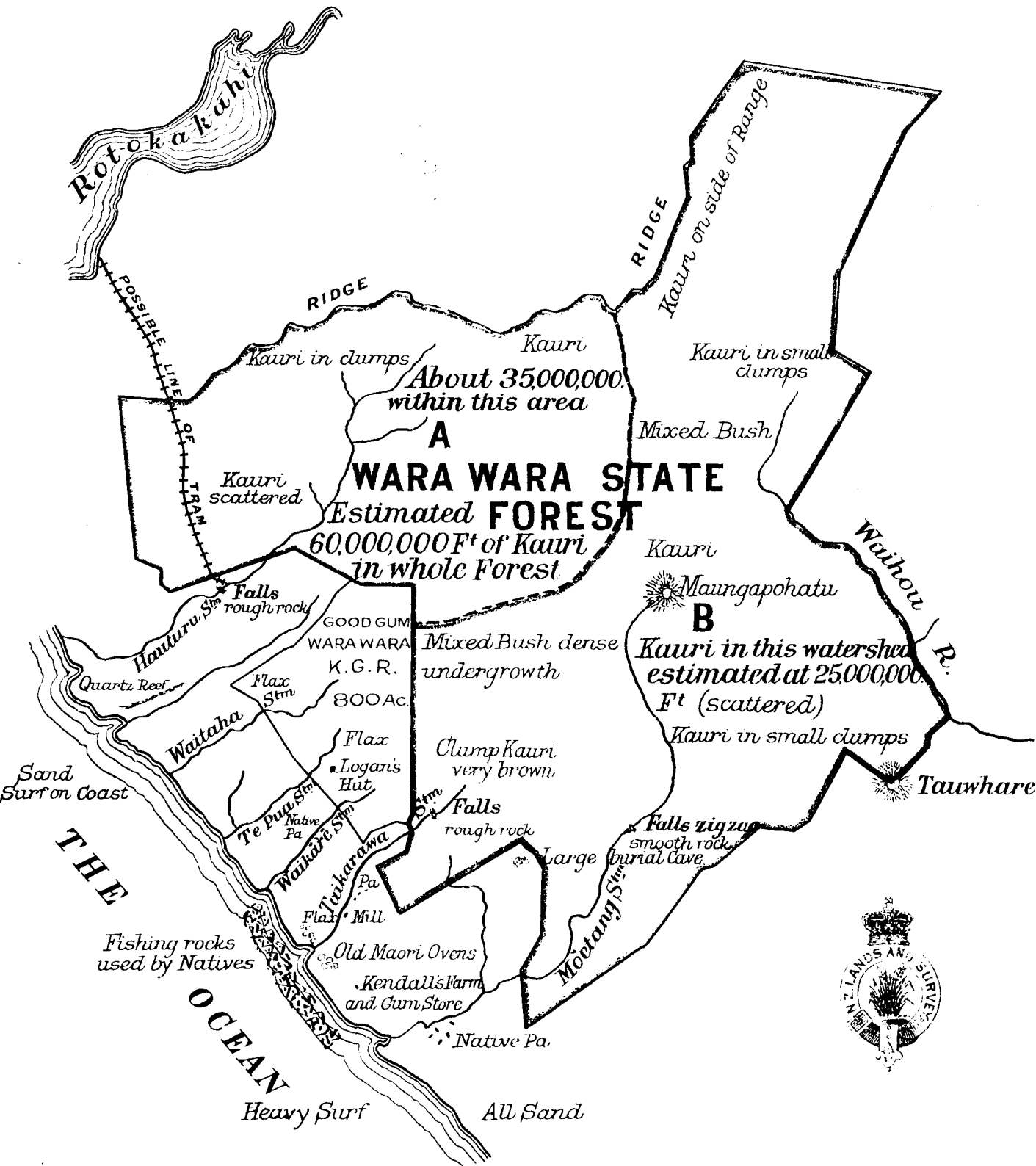
District.	"Thirds," Deferred-payment, Perpetual-lease, Occupation-with- right-of-purchase, Renewable-lease, and Lease-in- perpetuity Lands.	"Fourths," Small Grazing-runs.	"Halves," Timber and Flax.	Total Payments.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	8,557 14 2	78 15 3	8,064 11 10	16,701 1 3
Hawke's Bay ..	4,934 4 4	569 15 11	34 18 8	5,538 18 11
Taranaki ..	7,263 18 11	10 4 5	..	7,274 3 4
Wellington ..	4,225 13 7	373 18 7	139 12 6	4,739 4 8
Nelson ..	465 19 5	2 10 0	930 5 0	1,398 14 5
Marlborough ..	576 16 11	547 3 4	238 2 5	1,362 2 8
Westland ..	859 7 6	..	3,951 7 9	4,810 15 3
Canterbury ..	221 15 3	80 14 7	1 16 6	304 6 4
Otago ..	889 17 9	2,575 16 7	33 7 4	3,499 1 8
Southland ..	1,096 9 10	35 2 9	428 9 0	1,560 1 7
Totals ..	29,091 17 8	4,274 1 5	13,822 11 0	47,188 10 1

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (1,500 copies, including illustrations and maps), £145.

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1912

Price, 2s. 6d.

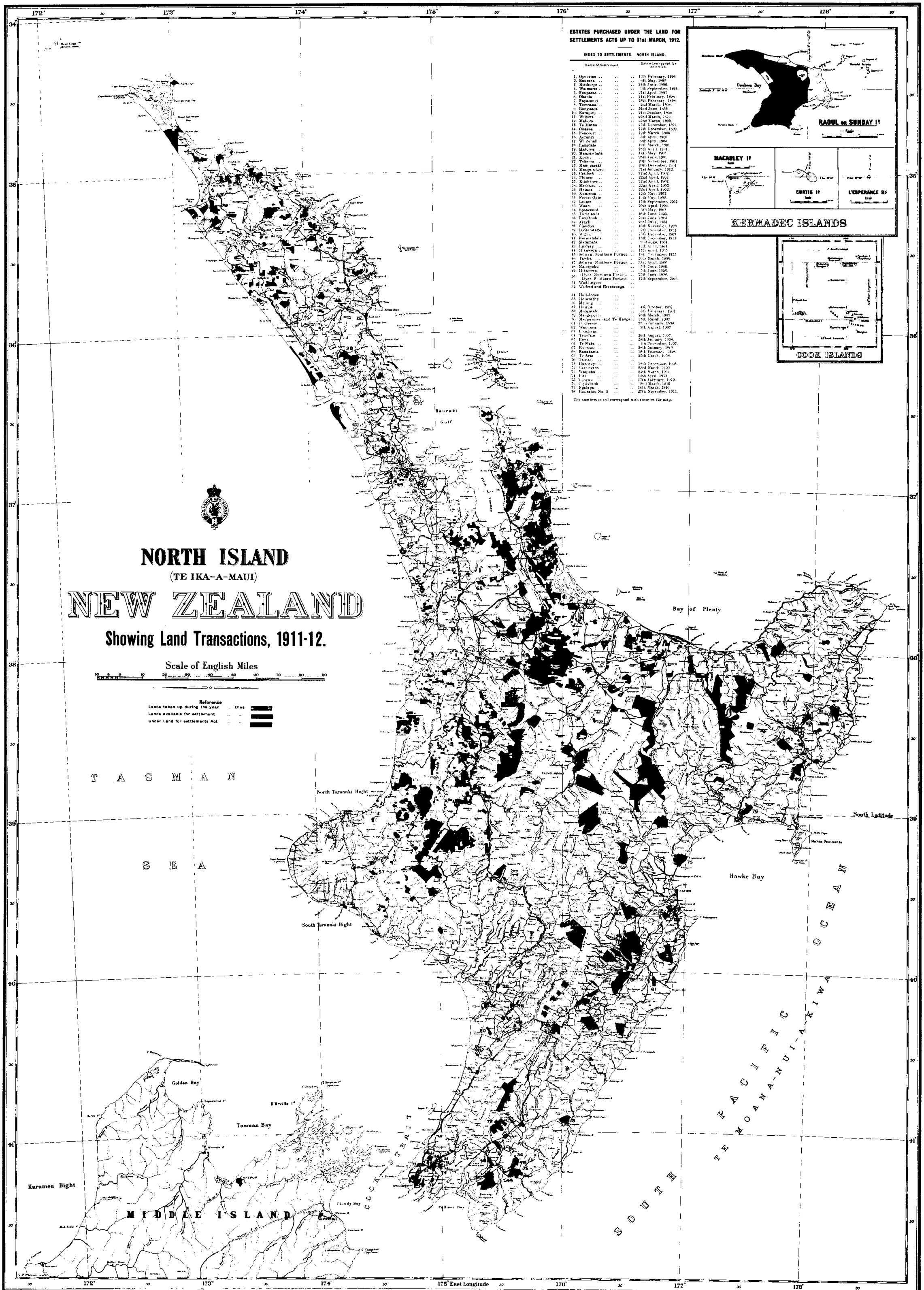
Sketch plan of
WARA WARA STATE FOREST,
HOKIANGA COUNTY.



A contains roughly 35,000,000 ft. of kauri.

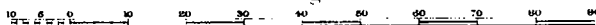
B " " 25,000,000 ft. "

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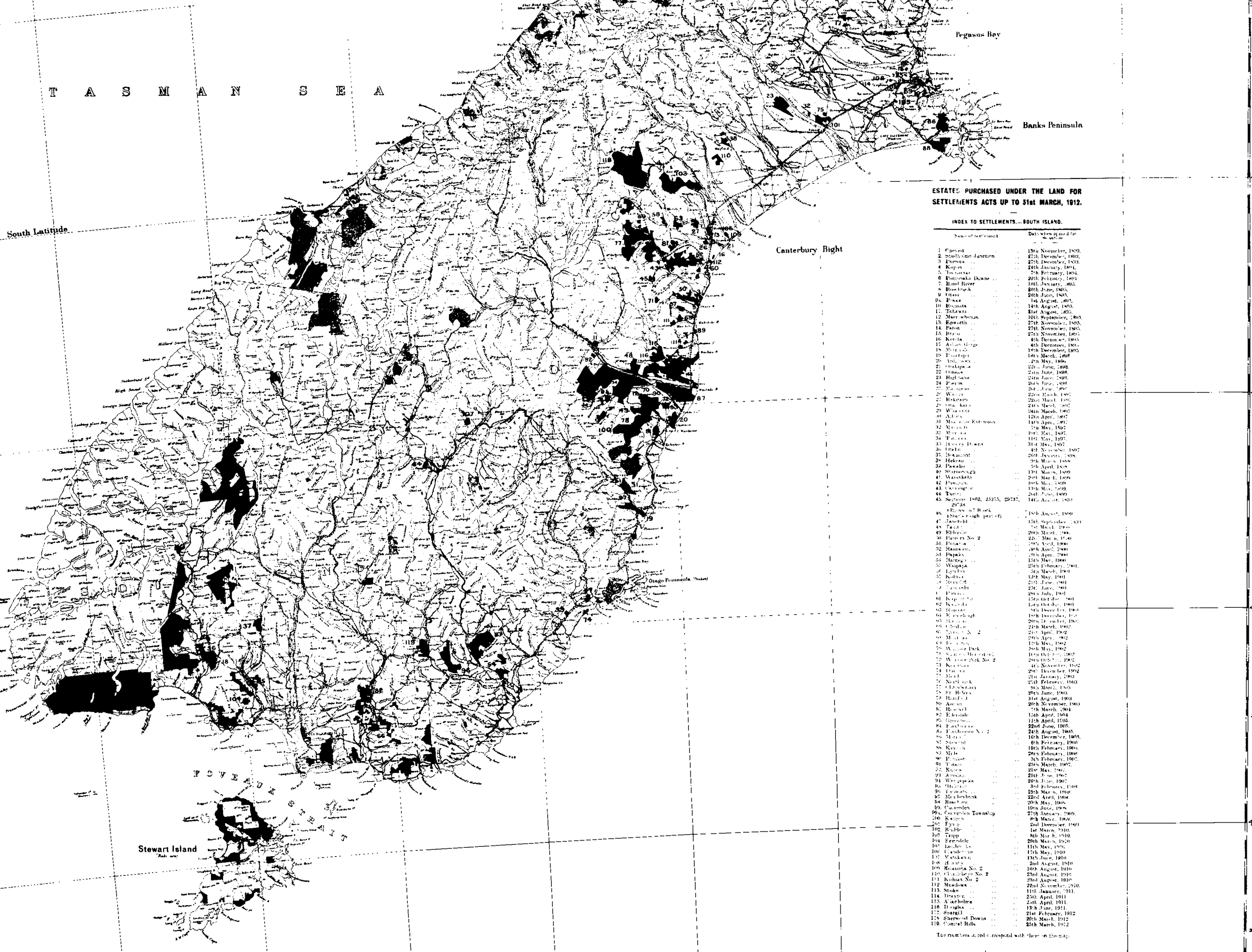


SOUTH ISLAND
(TE WAI-POUNAMU)
NEW ZEALAND
Showing Land Transactions, 1911-12.

Scale of English Miles



Reference
Lands taken up during the year
Lands available for settlement
Under Land for settlements Act



ESTATES PURCHASED UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS UP TO 31st MARCH, 1912.

INDEX TO SETTLEMENTS—SOUTH ISLAND.

No. of Settlement	Date when issued for
1. Canaan	15th November, 1903.
2. Northland Junction	17th December, 1903.
3. Kaitake	27th December, 1903.
4. Kaitake	27th December, 1903.
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130. Te Kaitake	27th December, 1903.

For numbers in bold type, refer to the map.



Figure 1. A person lying down, possibly in a hospital bed, with their head tilted back and eyes closed. The image is heavily degraded with noise and artifacts.