

1919.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY: SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS

(ANNUAL REPORT ON).

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

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REPORT.

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 14th July, 1919.

I have the honour to submit herewith the report on the operations of the Department of Lands and Survey for the year ended 31st March, 1919.

I have, &c.,

T. N. BRODRICK, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. D. H. Guthrie, Minister of Lands.

REPORT.

THE activities of this Department during the year have been largely concentrated on the settlement of soldiers upon the land and in making advances to them for the purpose of developing their holdings. A separate report upon Discharged Soldiers Settlement (C.—9) deals with this matter.

CONDITIONS OF SETTLEMENT.

War conditions prevailed for the greater part of the year under review, and the progress of settlement was greatly retarded by the shortage of labour due to the absence of many experienced farmers and farm labourers on active service, and the high cost of fencing-material, grass-seed, &c.

In the South Island farming operations in the spring were hindered by an unusually wet season, consequently the harvest was late, but a fair yield was obtained. A very dry autumn was experienced in Hawke's Bay and Auckland, and caused much loss amongst stock.

Generally speaking, however, owing to the high prices ruling for stock and farm-produce, the majority of the landowners have had a successful year, as may be gathered by a perusal of the reports of the various Commissioners of Crown Lands which appear in Appendix I.

The dairying industry is still flourishing, and in many parts of the Dominion very high prices are asked for well-established dairy farms. During the serious epidemic in the latter part of the year this industry, in common with others, suffered severely, and for some weeks in the height of the season the falling-off in factory supplies was very marked.

Now that the war is over and the majority of our soldiers have returned home closer settlement and increased production may be expected, so that when normal conditions prevail once again and new markets are opened overseas to receive the Dominion's produce the future prospects of the farming community and the country generally must be regarded as very bright.

LEGISLATION.

The following is a brief summary of the legislation passed by Parliament during last session affecting the operations of this Department:—

Land Laws Amendment Act.—This was a short Act of eight sections. Section 3 increases the allowances payable to members of Land Boards from 15s. to £1 a day while attending Board meetings. Section 4 provides that section 53 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, fixing the minimum age-limit of applicants for pastoral leases at twenty-one years, shall not apply in the cases of persons engaged on military service beyond New Zealand, or of soldiers discharged from such service. Section 5 provides machinery for the effective working of the two land districts into which the old Auckland Land District has been subdivided. Section 6 provides that in the case of renewals of small grazing-run leases under sections 182 of the Land Act, 1892, and 218 of the Land Act, 1908, it shall be held that Land Boards have at all times had the power since the commencement of these Acts to fix the annual rents at not less than 2½ per cent. on unimproved value. Section 7 gives power to subdivide small grazing-runs granted under the Land Act, 1892. Section 8 prescribes the method whereby compensation shall be paid for land resumed by Crown under Part VII of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, in cases where it is decided to take private lands where aggregation has occurred.

Appropriation Act.—Section 19 provided for the expenditure on roads to open up lands for discharged soldiers of an amount of £20,000 out of the sum annually provided for roads, &c., under section 63 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913.

Repatriation Act.—Section 18 provides that all discharged soldiers who have been classed as medically fit for service abroad and who have served as members of an Expeditionary Force in a military training-camp, and remained attached to that camp on the 12th November, 1918, shall be eligible to obtain the concessions that may be granted under sections 2 and 3 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917.

Reserves, &c., Disposal Act.—This Act, which authorizes special dealings with public reserves, &c., contains sixty-nine clauses, which relate to matters of purely local interest.

DIVISION OF AUCKLAND LAND DISTRICT.

For some time past the division of the Auckland Land District, which contained 13,525,540 acres of the Dominion's total area of 66,292,232 acres, has been under contemplation, and strong representations as to the necessity of accomplishing this at an early date were made by Mr. V. H.

Reed, M.P., and the various County Councils north of Auckland, whilst a petition from eleven local bodies praying for the division was presented to the House of Representatives in 1918, the Lands Committee of the House recommending the petition to the favourable consideration of the Government in order that the matter might be proceeded with with all possible expedition. After careful inquiry into the matter it was decided to divide the district as from the 1st April, 1919, the necessary authority to accomplish this having been provided by section 21 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1914. As, however, it was found after investigation that further legislative authority was necessary to effect the administrative changes an amendment to the Act was made by section 5 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1918, and under the aforesaid provision two Orders in Council were prepared, and published in the *Gazette* of the 30th January, 1919, abolishing the existing Auckland Land District, and constituting in lieu thereof two new land districts to be respectively entitled the "Auckland Land District" and the "North Auckland Land District," and also establishing the principal land offices for the two districts. The line of division between the two districts is the southern boundary of the Franklin County running from the mouth of the Waikato River to Miranda, on the Firth of Thames; all land north of this line, including the Barrier and other islands, is in the new North Auckland Land District.

The division of the district took place as stated, and although much extra work was necessary to enable the new office to cope with its duties and functions from the date of its establishment the staff appointed, assisted by the officers of the Auckland District, worked zealously, and have carried out their duties in a very efficient and satisfactory manner. Owing to the return of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force and the consequent impetus given to settlement, it is anticipated that the Crown lands north of Auckland and the district generally will be settled at a comparatively rapid rate, and to this end the energies of the Department are being devoted, in order that intending settlers may be enabled to select suitable areas at as early a date as possible. The demands of settlement both in this district and the older-established districts are very strenuous, and the survey and clerical staffs of the Department are naturally working at high pressure to cope with the increased work.

The work of the North Auckland staff has been much hampered by the unavoidable delay in providing the necessary office accommodation for it. Even now it will be months before all the rooms allotted are ready for occupation. It is understood that workmen employed making the necessary alterations had to be taken away to do urgent work at the quarantine-station.

LANDS OPENED FOR SELECTION.

The lands opened for selection under the various tenures of the Land Act, Land for Settlements Act, and Education Reserves Act totalled 66,892 acres, including one pastoral run of 52,000 acres. An area of 3,465 acres was opened on the optional system, and on renewable-lease tenure 1,720 acres was offered.

By these figures it will be noticed that during the past year land-settlement by the general public has been practically at a standstill, only very limited areas being available for selection. The explanation lies in the fact that every endeavour has been made to find land for settling discharged soldiers, and with this end in view all suitable areas have been offered under the provisions of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915.

It is not proposed in this report to enlarge further on this aspect of the Department's activities, as full particulars are given in the Report on Discharged Soldiers Settlement—parliamentary paper C.—9.

LANDS TO BE OPENED.

As has been the practice during the year just closed, all suitable rural lands to be opened during the ensuing year will be offered for settlement to discharged soldiers only, and in addition this area will be greatly increased by the purchase of private estates for subdivision into smaller holdings.

LANDS SELECTED.

Selections during the year under all headings totalled 802,097 acres by 1,283 selectors. Included in these figures, however, are 127 cash purchases of town, suburban, and rural lands covering an area of 2,224½ acres. These figures include selections made by discharged soldiers.

LANDS MADE FREEHOLD.

The following statement shows the lands purchased for cash :—

	Number.	Area. Acres.	Price. £
Town lands	24	23	1,779
Suburban lands	19	126	1,015
Rural lands	84	2,075	8,526
Totals	127	2,224½	11,320

These figures show a falling-off in cash purchases as compared with last year.

The number and area of leasehold and deferred-payment holdings converted to freehold during the year show a marked increase over similar transactions for last year. This is probably due in some measure to the prosperous year experienced by many landholders, and also to the fact that the right of conversion to freehold of lease-in-perpetuity sections under the Land for Settlements Act expired in November, 1918, and many tenants took the last opportunity to

purchase the fee-simple of their farms before that date. The total area made freehold under these two headings for the year ended the 31st March last was 124,641 acres, the purchase price £196,174, and the number of holdings thus alienated 670. The conversions to freehold under the Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912, 1913, and 1914, were 377, covering an area of 54,093 acres, with a purchase price of £131,865.

This now brings the total freeholds acquired under these enactments to 480,563 acres, in 2,614 holdings; purchase price, £884,475.

RECEIPTS.

The gross revenue received was as under :—

	£
Auckland	214,219
Hawke's Bay	200,197
Taranaki	72,323
Wellington	156,610
Nelson	33,312
Marlborough	57,163
Westland	19,098
Canterbury	267,068
Otago	158,971
Southland	67,887
Total	£1,246,848

The following analysis shows the sources from which the revenue was derived :—

	£
Cash sales and purchase of freeholds	176,389
Deferred-payment instalments	92,921
Perpetual-lease rents	1,713
Occupation-with-right-of-purchase rents	109,143
Lease-in-perpetuity rents	195,505
Renewable-lease rents	215,088
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under regulations—Rents	3,917
Small-grazing-run rents	91,508
Mining districts land-occupation leases—Rents	1,550
Pastoral-run rents	182,999
Educational and other endowments	125,332
Other leases and licenses and miscellaneous receipts	150,983
Total	£1,246,848

The revenue has exceeded the amount received last year by more than £30,000.

EXPENDITURE.

The amount appropriated on the Consolidated Fund for the purpose of the Lands and Survey Department amounted to £274,574, against which the net expenditure charged up amounted to £209,403, being £65,171 less than estimated requirements. The administration, management, survey, and other expenditure out of Consolidated Fund upon works controlled by the Department or incidental to departmental activities amounted to £254,239, against which the sum of £44,836 was recovered for services rendered to other Departments and for charges upon expenditure of loan funds administered by the Department. The net expenditure was therefore £209,403, being an increase of £49,571 on the expenditure of the previous year.

The main items contributing towards the increase are—

	£
Waimarino bush-fire relief	10,500
Contribution towards cost of forest-tree growing and planting	9,500
War bonus (increase)	9,360
Rangitaiki Land Drainage—Grant on account construction main arterial road	2,250
Remission to members of Expeditionary Force (increase)	2,591
Maintenance and construction of roads before handing over to local bodies (increase)	2,368

During the current year a considerable increase in salaries will be incurred, owing to the return of officers absent with the Expeditionary Forces and the reclassification of officers as at 31st March last. On the other hand, a higher standard of efficiency will now be maintained, and it will be possible to carry out many activities which during the war could not be considered.

The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Account shows £594,920 charged during the year, as against £113,694 charged for the previous year. Statements of accounts in connection with these transactions appear in the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Report.

The gross amount charged up by the Department shows an increase of £492,432 over that of the previous year, operations on the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Account, the Hauraki Plains Settlement Account, the Rangitaiki Land Drainage and Swamp Land Drainage Accounts, and the Waimarino bush-fire relief loans being principally responsible for the increase.

Summary of Expenditure approved during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.

Name of Vote or Account.	Net Amount voted.	Gross Expenditure.	Recoveries.	Net Expenditure.
<i>Consolidated Fund.</i>				
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Lands and Survey	165,770	180,094 9 5	43,123 5 8	136,971 3 9
Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous	108,804	75,783 6 8	3,351 14 8	72,431 12 0
State Forests Account	69,257	41,728 4 4	384 14 3	41,343 10 1
Land for Settlements Expenses	7,560	3,488 9 0	..	3,488 9 0
Scenery-preservation Account.. .. .	9,888	3,588 17 1	..	3,588 17 1
<i>Public Works Fund.</i>				
Improved-farm Settlements	2,000	472 17 5	394 13 10	78 3 7
Lands, Miscellaneous	5,000	218 5 2	4,563 19 7	Cr. 4,345 14 5
<i>Land for Settlements Account.</i>				
Roads to open up Lands for Settlement	100,500	51,612 8 5	256 18 8	51,355 9 9
Totals	468,779	356,986 17 6	52,075 6 8	304,911 10 10
Land for Settlements Account .. .. .	..	33,308 3 6	..	33,308 3 6
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Account (Section 7, Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act, 1910)	..	29,221 3 11	197 0 7	29,024 3 4
Hauraki Plains Settlement Account (Section 93, Reserves, &c., Act, 1916)	..	27,325 3 0	929 16 10	26,395 6 2
Swamp Land Drainage Account (Section 95, Reserves, &c., Act, 1916) —	£ s. d.			
Kaitaia	17,095 4 4			
Waihi	6,710 17 4			
Poukawa	101 9 0			
General Expenses.. .. .	250 0 0			
		24,157 10 8	32 17 1	24,124 13 7
National Endowment Account .. .. .	..	6,239 2 7	..	6,239 2 7
Native Land Settlement Account .. .. .	..	28,682 14 3	..	28,682 14 3
Special Acts, Deposit Account, Refunds, &c. .. .. .	..	10,191 15 9	..	10,191 15 9
Waimarino Bush-fire Relief Account .. .. .	..	52,548 1 11	..	52,548 1 11
Discharged Soldiers Settlement Account .. .. .	..	594,920 19 8	..	594,920 19 8
Totals .. .. .	..	806,594 15 3	1,159 14 6	805,435 0 9
Grand totals .. .. .	..	1,163,581 12 9	53,235 1 2	1,110,346 11 7

GRASS-SEED SUPPLIED TO SETTLERS.

For many years it has been the practice of the Department to assist Crown tenants and in some cases holders of freehold lands who have suffered financial hardship through bush fires. The method adopted has been to purchase grass-seed and dispose of it to the settlers, payment being secured by promissory notes.

The bush fires of 1917 in the Waimarino District were of such an extensive character and caused so much suffering and distress that it has been deemed desirable to make special mention of the working of the relief measures adopted to deal with the cases in that locality, and full information on the subject will be found in Appendix IV.

REVALUATIONS OF CROWN LEASEHOLDS.

During the year twenty-seven holdings were revalued under section 15 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1915. The capital values were reduced from £91,079 to £82,689, and the annual rentals from £4,225 to £3,895. At the close of the year there were twenty-nine applications not dealt with.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT.

The area of national-endowment land in the Dominion at the 31st March, 1919, was 8,935,835 acres. Of this area 6,835,130 acres was held under lease or license, providing an annual rental of £119,734. The gross amount of rents, &c., received from this endowment during the year was £128,125. As section 258 of the Land Act, 1908, provides that the area in the endowment shall not exceed nine million acres, it will be seen that this limit must shortly be reached, as only another 65,000 acres are necessary to bring the total up to the statutory requirement.

INSPECTIONS BY CROWN LANDS RANGERS.

The statutory inspections made by Crown Lands Rangers during the year numbered 3,020, aggregating 1,627,371 acres, but in addition many miscellaneous inspections were made in connection with holdings occupied by discharged soldiers. Further information under this heading is given in Table 31, published at the end of this report. The value of the improvements required by Act amounted to £786,775, while the improvements actually effected were valued at £1,283,973.

LAND-DRAINAGE OPERATIONS.

Another phase of the work of the Department is the drainage and reclamation of swamp lands in different parts of the Dominion. This work is controlled by Mr. J. B. Thompson, Chief Drainage Engineer, whose headquarters are in Auckland.

A resumé of the year's operations in this respect appears in Appendix III.

STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

As stated last year, the calls made upon the Public Service generally in connection with the war have naturally been felt to a large extent by this Department. At the outbreak of war the staff of this Department totalled 572, comprising 506 permanent and 66 temporary officers. Of these, 186 officers joined the Expeditionary Force, 33 giving up their lives in defence of the liberties of the Empire. At the 31st March, 1919, 73 were still with the Expeditionary Force. Six officers have died during the year, while 23 permanent and 11 temporary officers resigned. Five officers were transferred to other Departments, 23 permanent and 25 temporary appointments were made, and 9 officers were transferred from other Departments during the year. The staff at 31st March, 1919, comprised 498 permanent and 82 temporary officers, a total of 580.

With a view of economizing as much as possible, and to enable the staff to cope with the abnormal position occasioned by the war [for an account of this see the report on discharged soldiers settlement, C.-9], the work of the Department wherever possible was curtailed. Triangulation was stopped and standard surveys nearly so, no inspections of surveys were made other than those absolutely necessary, and the travelling of officers and the attendant expenses have been reduced to a minimum. In every office the substitution of new maps for old and dilapidated ones, the arrears of mapping, and preparation of plans dealing with compilation of surveys was also postponed as much as possible. All work that was not deemed of first importance or immediately required for settlement or current operations was allowed to stand over, leaving only the absolutely essential work to be carried out. The loss of trained officers and the frequent changes of duties of others necessitated by the gradual absorption of returning members of the Expeditionary Force have added considerably to the difficulties of administration, but the staff has responded to the calls made upon it in a most loyal and efficient manner.

Now that the war has ended, life and settlement in New Zealand will, it is hoped, revert to their former conditions, and an added impetus will be needed in order that the productivity of the lands of the Dominion may be more effectively increased. This will result in heavy calls being made upon the Department to enable it to cope with the great demand for land that now exists, and it will be necessary to enlarge the staff accordingly. All the officers of the Department who have returned to New Zealand have been absorbed, and those who have not yet returned will shortly do so and will either fill their old positions or take fresh and more responsible duties. To enable all available land to be placed on the market as soon as possible, and to assist the settlement of all discharged soldiers who may desire to become farmers, are the most important duties of the Department, and nothing will be left undone to deal with them in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. Other important duties of the Department alluded to above as having been temporarily stopped must also be attended to and put in hand at as early a date as possible.

DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES.

Deaths.

The services of a valuable officer of the Department were lost to the Dominion by the untimely death of Frederick Augustus Thompson, late Commissioner of Crown Lands and Chief Surveyor, Nelson. The deceased officer joined the Survey Department as a cadet on the 1st June, 1877, and after having served the usual field apprenticeship qualified as an Assistant Surveyor, and was engaged for some years in survey-work in the South Island. He was subsequently transferred to the Wellington District, and there for many years in the capacity of District Surveyor he completed numerous important surveys of remote blocks of bush country which were then being cut up for settlement, the work being characterized by thoroughness and accuracy. After a short period of service in the Wellington District Office he was promoted to be Chief Draughtsman at Hokitika; in 1911 was appointed to a similar position at Napier, and the following year was promoted to the responsible position which he held up to the time of his death. For the last two years of his official career the deceased gentleman suffered greatly from ill health, and although attacked by a very painful malady he continued his work, and was at his office up to within a few days of his death. It may truly be said that he died in harness. The late Mr. Thompson was of a quiet and retiring disposition, but by his genial and kindly nature he made many warm friends, and profound sympathy was expressed for his widow and large family in their great loss.

Among the officers of the Department who joined the Expeditionary Force and who sacrificed their lives whilst fighting for the Empire must be mentioned Hubert Earle Girdlestone, a District Surveyor of the Department, who by his consistent good work and ability gave every promise of eventually reaching the highest position open to him. He joined the Department on the 1st

December, 1896, and was appointed an Assistant Surveyor on the 27th March, 1902. He served with success in the Wellington District, principally in the Wairarapa, Wanganui, and Waimarino districts, and carried out all the duties entrusted to him with conspicuous energy and ability. Amongst other work he carried out several explorations and reconnaissances for the Department, and also assisted in the standard survey. He was promoted District Surveyor on the 1st December, 1912, and joined the Expeditionary Force on the 31st May, 1917, being killed in France on the 20th August, 1918. His professional attainments were of the highest order. He had an undeviating sense of honour, whilst his energy and ability, coupled with an obliging and cheerful disposition, made him respected and esteemed by his fellow-officers and all those brought into contact with him.

Another promising officer of the Department was one of the victims of the influenza epidemic. Henry Francis Edgecumbe joined the Department as a draughting cadet on the 20th February, 1894, and was transferred to the field as a survey cadet, being subsequently appointed as an Assistant Surveyor on the 11th November, 1898. He was chiefly employed on surveys in the Auckland District, where he gave evidence of being a careful and competent surveyor. He gained the respect of his superior officers by his assiduity and the conscientious manner in which he carried out the work entrusted to him. He was subsequently placed on the secondary triangulation under the late Mr. Langmuir, Inspector of Surveys, and was appointed District Surveyor in January, 1908. After creditable work in the field he was promoted to be Land Transfer Draughtsman, Dunedin, in February, 1916. On the 30th May of that year he joined the Expeditionary Force and attained the rank of Lieutenant therein. On his return to New Zealand at the end of last year he caught the prevailing epidemic and died at Te Awamutu on the 15th November, leaving behind him a high reputation for good and conscientious work and the respect of his fellow-officers.

Arthur Neville Harrop joined the Department as a Surveyor in the Westland District in April, 1892, and did excellent work in that district. He was promoted to be District Surveyor on the 1st April, 1911, and appointed Chief Draughtsman in the Hokitika Office in May, 1914. In this position he carried out his duties assiduously and well, and his sudden death on the 13th February last was a distinct loss to the Department.

William James Price was first employed as an overseer in connection with bushfelling contracts in the Rangitatan Block, Waitotara River, and provisionally appointed as a Crown Lands Ranger in the Waimarino District in November, 1909. He was permanently appointed Crown Lands Ranger for the Wellington Land District in March, 1913, and did excellent work in this capacity looking after the settlers in the improved-farm settlement and reporting on the settlers in the Waimarino district. Unfortunately an attack of illness in June, 1918, prostrated him and led to his early death on the 16th of that month. The deceased officer was respected by all who knew him, and his good work was much appreciated by the Government.

Richard Edward Harris entered the employ of the Department in January, 1901, when he was appointed a Ranger of Crown Lands for the Nelson District. In that district he reported on land applications and Crown leaseholds, supervised timber-cutters, and in every way proved himself a hard-working, conscientious, and faithful officer, whose energy and enthusiasm for his work were well known.

Another death from the influenza epidemic was that of Thomas Lionel Folley, a draughtsman in the Lands and Survey Office, Auckland, who joined the Department on the 11th October, 1910, and proved himself energetic, reliable, and conscientious in the performance of the duties entrusted to him. In common with the officers above mentioned, his death occasioned a distinct loss to the Department.

A third loss from the influenza epidemic was occasioned the Department by the death of Robert McIver, whose services as a surveyor were engaged in October, 1914. He did good work in the Auckland District, and proved himself energetic and reliable.

William Edwin Gourlay was killed as the result of a fall sustained whilst climbing Mount Egmont on the 3rd June, 1918. He was a draughting cadet in the New Plymouth Office, where he did good work and gave every evidence of becoming a valuable officer.

Another officer who died whilst serving with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force was Thomas John Lang, Cashier in the Wellington Office, who at the time of his death was serving as a Lieutenant in the Army Pay Branch. Mr. Lang for many years was in the Accounts Section of the Head Office, where he did excellent work and proved himself an energetic and able officer.

Phillip Corliss Gannaway, who had been an officer of the Department since January, 1904, died of sickness on 6th November whilst a member of the Auxiliary Naval Patrol, in which he ranked as Lieutenant. After serving as a cadet he was appointed as Assistant Surveyor in October, 1912, on the staff of the Chief Drainage Engineer, in which capacity he showed zeal and ability, whilst his personal conduct was admirable.

Retirements.

The principal retirement during the year was that of William Henry Skinner, who joined the Department on the 1st July, 1872, as a survey cadet under Mr. T. Humphries, receiving an appointment as an Assistant Surveyor on the 1st July, 1876. He carried out several surveys in the Taranaki District with success, particularly the survey of the Mokau-Mohakatino Block, and in conjunction with Mr. Skeet the Waimate Plains. On the 1st July, 1888, he left the field and joined the office staff at New Plymouth. In this office he did good work, and was promoted to be Land Transfer Draughtsman in 1904, having acted in this capacity for some time previous. He was subsequently promoted to be Chief Draughtsman in the New Plymouth Office in February, 1905, and after doing good work in this position was appointed Commissioner of Crown Lands

and Chief Surveyor for the Marlborough Land District on the 1st October, 1911. After carrying out the duties of this position with success he was further promoted to a similar position for the Hawke's Bay District as from the 1st April, 1914, and a higher promotion was given him when he was transferred to the Canterbury Land District in March, 1916. Here he continued to represent the Department until after service of nearly forty-seven years he voluntarily retired from the Public Service at the close of the last financial year, when he was granted three months' leave of absence prior to retirement. In Mr. Skinner the Department possessed an officer with a great knowledge of Maori lore and traditions. He had made a special study of the Taranaki District, and was a frequent contributor to the "Transactions of the New Zealand Institute" and those of the Polynesian Society. It is hoped that he will long enjoy his well-earned leisure after his lengthy period of service in the Department.

Promotions and Transfers.

Position to which appointed.	Officer promoted and previous position.
Chief Clerk and Receiver of Land Revenue, New Plymouth	G. W. Palmer, Receiver of Land Revenue, Christchurch.
Chief Clerk and Receiver of Land Revenue, Christchurch	R. Leckie, Chief Clerk, Christchurch.
Land Transfer Draughtsman, Dunedin	E. O. Weir, Draughtsman, Dunedin.
Superintending Nurseryman, South Island, Tapanui	D. J. Buchanan, Plantation Foreman, Whakarewarewa.
Chief Officer, Forestry Branch	E. Phillips Turner, Inspector Scenic Reserves.
Chief Inspector of Surveys and Computer, Head Office	W. T. Neill, District Surveyor.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

In addition to those officers mentioned in previous reports, the following joined the Expeditionary Force during the year, though, owing to the sudden termination of the war, some of them did not actually leave New Zealand:—

Surveyors.—P. S. Sherratt, surveyor, Auckland; T. Cagney, surveyor, Napier; A. F. Waters, surveyor, New Plymouth; S. T. Burton, surveyor, Dunedin.

Draughtsmen.—V. G. B. Burrell, cadet, Auckland; L. J. McKenzie, cadet, Auckland; A. W. Hood, cadet, Auckland; W. G. Harding, Napier; E. Taylor, Napier; C. B. Hodge, temporary draughtsman, Napier; W. Conway, temporary draughtsman, New Plymouth; S. H. Wogan, cadet, Wellington.

Crown Lands Rangers.—T. Sheehy, New Plymouth; W. A. Sutton, Nelson; R. D. Campbell, Hamilton.

Clerk.—R. C. M. Irwin, cadet, Wellington.

Forestry.—C. Snow, Kaingaroa; W. Montgomery, clerk, Whakarewarewa.

Casualties during Year.

Killed in Action or Died of Wounds, &c.—J. G. Boyd, clerical cadet, Auckland (killed in action); H. F. Edgecumbe, Land Transfer draughtsman, Dunedin (died of sickness); T. L. Folley, draughtsman, Auckland (died of sickness); P. C. Gannaway, surveyor (died of sickness); W. A. Fraser, forester, Tapanui (killed in action); A. E. R. Bagnell, survey cadet (died of wounds); H. E. Girdlestone, surveyor (killed in action); T. J. Lang, Cashier, Wellington (died of sickness); O. D. Pearce, survey cadet (died of wounds).

These officers by their deaths, as in their lives, showed they were always ready at the call of duty, and in common with the officers of the Department who had preceded them and other members of the Expeditionary Forces of the Empire, gave their utmost for the sake of humanity and freedom. The deepest sympathy of their fellow-officers is respectfully extended to their relatives.

Discharged from Expeditionary Force during Year.

The following officers have now been discharged, and in most cases have returned to duty: A. D. Folley, draughtsman, Hokitika; P. M. Page, Assistant Forester, Whakarewarewa; H. G. Shannon, surveyor, Auckland; W. Montgomery, clerk, Whakarewarewa; B. Hutton, draughtsman, Auckland; E. Taylor, draughtsman, Napier; R. D. Campbell, Crown Lands Ranger, Hamilton; A. F. Waters, surveyor, New Plymouth; T. Cagney, surveyor, Napier; S. T. Burton, surveyor, Dunedin; W. A. Sutton, Crown Lands Ranger, Nelson; D. S. B. Heather, survey cadet, Thames; A. W. Hood, draughting cadet, Auckland; T. Sheehy, Crown Lands Ranger, New Plymouth; A. C. Turnbull, Inspector, Head Office; R. C. M. Irwin, clerical cadet, Wellington; G. I. Beeson, clerk, Auckland; L. J. McKenzie, draughting cadet, Auckland; S. H. Wogan, draughting cadet, Wellington; T. R. Hancock, survey cadet, New Plymouth; J. A. Chesney, clerk, Hokitika; T. G. Phillippis, draughtsman, Invercargill; R. F. Burgess, survey cadet, Wellington; H. C. Hulme, Cashier, Dunedin; W. E. Cockroft, clerk, Dunedin; J. T. Kenny, Assistant Forester, Conical Hills; O. N. Campbell, Drainage Engineer, Whakatane; R. E. E. McLeod, clerk, Head Office; A. W. Kuapp, draughtsman, Auckland; L. J. Poff, survey cadet, Auckland.

REPORTS ON COGNATE SUBJECTS.

As in former years, separate reports are required to be laid before Parliament in connection with many of the operations carried out by the Department. They comprise—

Surveys.—The report by the Surveyor-General on the work of the survey (or technical) branch of the Department is submitted in parliamentary paper C.—1A.

Swamp-drainage.—The report required by the Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, is contained in parliamentary paper C.—4.

Discharged Soldiers Settlement.—The annual report under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, is furnished by the Department in parliamentary paper C.—9.

Scenery-preservation.—The statutory report containing details of reservations and statement of accounts appears in parliamentary paper C.—6.

Advances for Roading of Crown Lands.—The necessary report submitted in accordance with section 63 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, appears in parliamentary paper C.—7.

Rangitaihi Land Drainage.—The annual report on the operations in the Rangitaihi Plains is given in parliamentary paper C.—11.

Drainage Operations in Hauraki Plains.—A full report by the Chief Drainage Engineer on this subject is included in parliamentary paper C.—8.

HEAD OFFICE.

In common with the District Offices of the Department, the work has shown a considerable increase during the past year, but every effort has been made to deal with it in a satisfactory manner.

Correspondence.—This has shown a marked increase. During the year ended 31st March, 1915, there was a total of 53,187 letters and telegrams received and despatched; during the next year 57,004 were dealt with; for the year ended 31st March, 1917, a total of 67,170 was recorded, and in 1917–18 a total of 71,200; but in the twelve months ended 31st March, 1919, the correspondence totalled 114,065, having thus more than doubled in volume within four years; and this, of course, indicates a corresponding increase in the correspondence of the District Offices.

Cemeteries.

Four new cemeteries were made during the year. The Highbank Cemetery was closed and vested in the Mount Hutt Road Board; the Hororata Cemetery was closed and vested in the Selwyn County Council; the Lumsden Cemetery was closed and vested in the Lumsden Town Board; and the Ohakune Cemetery was vested in the Ohakune Borough Council. There are now 530 cemeteries under the control of the Department.

Public Domains.

The public domains on the books of the Department now number 581, comprising an area of 85,367 acres. Five new domains were made during the year, the area being 61 acres. Fifty domains are under the control of the Commissioners of Crown Lands in the absence of controlling Domain Boards.

Proclamations, Notices, &c., prepared and issued.

	Proclama- tions.	Orders in Council.	Warrants and Notices.	Totals.
Under the Land Act and the Land for Settlements Act	33	8	174	215
Under the Public Reserves and Domains Act ..	..	91	80	171
Under the Scenery-preservation Acts	12	..	8	20
Under the Native Land Act	6	..	..	6
Under the Education Reserves Acts and Public Bodies' Leases Act	..	11	12	23
Under the State Forests Act	4	..	1	5
Under the Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Acts	5	..	1	6
Under the Cemeteries Act .. ..	..	..	52	52
Under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915 ..	102	4	31	137
Miscellaneous	8	3	48	59
Totals	170	117	407	694

There were also issued—Four editions of the Land Guide, comprising a total of 6,800 copies; twelve monthly posters, comprising 33,500 copies; fifty-nine land-sale posters, comprising a total of 27,225 copies.

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, 1919.

AUCKLAND.

(H. M. SKEET, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Lands opened for Selection.—Exclusive of areas offered for discharged soldiers, the total area opened for disposal during the year was extremely limited, amounting to only 3,334 acres, out of which 1,969 acres were Education endowment lands, and 204 acres town and suburban lands. A considerable area of land subdivided and available for disposal was held back to meet the requirements of returning soldiers. I have repeatedly been interviewed during the year by immigrant farmers and others possessed of some capital, and obviously having the experience and energy to make successful settlers, who were anxious to obtain suitable areas of Crown land for occupation and development, and it has been a matter of keen regret to me that we should have nothing but the picked-over remnants shown in the Land Guide to offer to men obviously capable of making first-class colonists and adding materially to the wealth and development of the Dominion, and who, moreover, are anxious to have the opportunity of doing so on the very classes of land which have up to the present attracted little or no attention from the returned soldiers.

Lands selected.—The total selections during the year numbered 405, covering an area of 65,487 acres, which may be divided into the following classes:—

	Number.	Area. Acres.
Discharged soldiers	122	16,314
Freehold by cash and deferred payment, other than discharged soldiers	98	1,772
Occupation tenures other than discharged soldiers	72	13,756
Education endowments	11	2,056
Temporary tenancies	102	31,589
	405	65,487

The Freehold Tenure.—During the year 359 selections comprising 59,441 acres were alienated under freehold tenure, these consisting in the main of conversions from leasehold tenures carrying the right of freehold. In addition to these, the purchase by deferred payments of the freehold of 189 holdings, comprising 35,913 acres, was commenced during the year. This large total, which is very much in excess of the figures for the previous year, is due mainly to the expiration in November of the period within which lease-in-perpetuity holders of settlement lands could exercise their right of freehold. This caused a considerable rush of business, but, although ample warning was given by the Department, some of the settlers failed to realize their privileges until too late.

Number of Tenants, &c.—The total number of Crown tenants within the district on the 31st March, 1919, was 7,789, occupying an area of 1,916,888 acres, and paying a rental of £117,763 per annum.

The total revenue received was £214,219, which was slightly in excess of the amount for the previous year. Rebates for prompt payment of rent were granted to 6,897 tenants, the total amount of the rebates being £6,035 12s. 11d. Postponements of payment of rent in order to afford relief from circumstances of misfortune or during the early stages of occupation were granted to 121 tenants, the total amount postponed being £6,160.

Conditions and Progress of Settlement.—The progress of settlement has, as in the three preceding years, been retarded by scarcity of labour and the high cost of materials for improvements, especially fencing-wire and grass-seeds, as well as by the absence at the front of many of the occupiers, without whom development-work could not be carried on. On the limited areas of bush felled good burns were generally obtained, but grassing was not so successful. During the summer and autumn an unusually protracted spell of dry weather was experienced almost throughout the whole district, the result being that in many cases the winter has been approached with stock in poor condition, and supplies of winter feed—where provided—already severely depleted. Owing to the generally genial climate of the district the adequate provision of winter feed does not receive the attention that it should, and the effects of the dry season will therefore be more acutely felt than need have been the case if more scientific farming were practised. Progress in improvement of roading has naturally been slow, but the dry season has kept the roads, especially of the North, in better condition than would otherwise have been the case.

Owing to pressure of work on the Rangers in connection with the settlement of discharged soldiers it has not been possible to carry out the inspection of other Crown leaseholds as systematically as could be wished, but, making due allowance for conditions already referred to, the position of settlement and fulfilment of conditions by the tenants are known to be generally

satisfactory. Many holdings the development of which had not proceeded far when the war broke out have unfortunately gone back to a very serious extent during the absence of the holders at the front, and the rehabilitation of these holdings will prove a severe task to the returning settlers. It is regrettable that instances are not wanting in which the interests of those who went to the front have not been looked after as they should have been by those placed in trust.

Educational Endowments.—The total area of primary and secondary education endowments in the district at the close of the year was 126,374 acres, out of which 81,548 acres was occupied by 744 lessees, paying a rental of £6,885 per annum. Fresh leases comprising 2,068 acres were taken up during the year, and renewals were arranged in twenty-six cases at a substantial increase on the rents previously paid.

General.—As the whole of the northern portion of the district has been constituted a separate land district as from the 1st April, 1919, this is the last report to be furnished in respect of the Auckland Land District as hitherto constituted. With the dissolution of the Land Board the work of land-settlement loses the help of Mr. James Trounson, a very old pioneer of settlement in the north, whose sincere desire for the welfare of the settlers and whose unobtrusive assistance in many ways will be remembered with gratitude by many of the older settlers, while his honesty and straightforwardness of purpose commanded respect and made his name known throughout the district. His efforts, equally with those of the other members of the Board, have been directed towards the promotion of the best interests of Crown-land settlement; and, while the Board has often been blamed for not placing lands more freely on the market, that very fact has helped to preserve for present and future requirements portions of the Crown estate which otherwise would long ago have passed into private hands, perhaps not with the best results. Thus the Board has been enabled to hand over to the new Board of the northern district a very substantial area of Crown land surveyed and ready to be placed on the market for those now seeking land.

The work of dealing with the settlement of discharged soldiers, especially during the later part of the year, has been very heavy, and this, coupled with the extra work involved in preparation for the division of the district, has taxed the full energy of the staff, which has responded well to the emergency. I desire to express my appreciation and thanks for their efforts.

HAWKE'S BAY.

(W. F. MARSH, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The past year has furnished a variety of climatic changes in Hawke's Bay, a dry winter succeeding a dry autumn, giving place to a wet spring and summer, followed by an excessively dry, hot spell, which at the moment of writing is causing the utmost consternation among the grazing and farming communities. The shortage in shipping-space has caused a glut in the freezing-works, and fears are held that unless the unexpected happens there will be insufficient pasture to carry the large surplus of sheep in the district, and by some the future is painted in very gloomy colours.

In spite of all this there is no apparent abatement of the wave of prosperity, and temporary derangements are optimistically borne because of the assured demand of our products at good prices for the next two or three years.

Land keeps soaring in value, and, although high prices for stock are usually concurrent with high values in land, the possibility of being able to buy cheaply in a fallen stock-market has led many shrewd judges to buy lands at a risen price, so it is difficult to ascribe a rule for land-valuation.

There has been a constant demand all through the year for Crown leases, due in a great measure, of course, to the restriction of the disposal of Crown lands by selection to all but discharged soldiers, and transfers were much in excess of last year's figures. The goodwill obtained for sections selected within the last six years were in some cases remarkably high, particularly in regard to dairying lands, and in such instances it is to be devoutly hoped that the confidence placed by many small settlers in the capability of the "rural divinity" to pay rent, taxes, interest, and income may not be misplaced.

The bulk of land transactions are at present confined to the southern part of the district, and are accounted for by the better road and railway access; but a gradual development is taking place between Napier and Wairoa, and the construction of the Napier-Gisborne Railway and one good arterial north road will assuredly result in the settlement of a portion of the district which, though not first class, enjoys a good rainfall, and possesses a large amount of easy ploughable country which should respond readily to the plough and manures.

It is somewhat difficult to acquire suitable lands for settlement in the Gisborne district, due principally to the fact that the country is wonderfully adapted for grazing, and even comparatively limited areas run into values much beyond the average price at which it is thought advisable to place upon Crown lands for selection.

A great volume of business has been transacted during the year, and the gross revenue has again been a record.

TARANAKI.

(G. H. BULLARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

During the last year the progress of both the northern and southern ends of the district suffered a check through the unusual severity of the winter. This coming after a number of mild seasons found farmers unprepared, and the scarcity of feed caused by the unexpected frost and snow was responsible for the death of thousands of dairy cows throughout the district. Some

of the soldier selectors suffered losses, but were no worse off than their neighbours. Through the shortage of early feed, milk-yields were very low for the first few months, but recovered later. Feed was plentiful enough subsequent to November, but the cows then seemed to run too much to beef. The influenza epidemic also helped to make matters worse and greatly delayed general farm-work, many settlers finding it hard to carry on at all for a few weeks. Mortality was also heavy amongst hoggets and old ewes. The experience of the last season has had the effect of inducing farmers to provide more winter feed in the shape of hay and root crops, which generally promise well, so that some good may in the end come out of the misfortune. Shearing and hay-making were very much later than usual. Owing to this a lot of the wool will be seedy owing to the rapid growth of piripiri. Through the shortage of labour some of the noxious weeds have increased, and it is disquieting to see blackberry getting a hold in country too steep for tillage. The fern problem in the hill country is still troublesome, and many pastoral farms have gone back through the lack of labour and high price of fencing-wire, preventing the erection of subdivision fences. To redeem a lot of this country various grass mixtures will have to be tried: it is thought that much more use will have to be made of *Danthonia pilosa* in the steeper and poorer parts of the grazing-farms.

High prices still continue to obtain for dairy-products, but to soldiers intending to take up farming are entirely discounted by the prices for dairy land, which are ruling higher than ever and still increasing. In the best parts of the district as much as £110 per acre has been paid for dairying-land with few buildings. The loss of dairy cows also served to stiffen prices for them on account of the demand to replace the losses, and cows were selling at anything from £17 to £28 in the southern part of the district. In the northern end they were cheaper. Owing probably to the congested state of the different freezing-works through the shortage of shipping, fat-stock prices are lower than last year. This is also the case with cattle of all kinds, excepting dairy cows, which command good prices. The potato crops, owing to lessened amount of blight, were better than usual. The development of Crown holdings last year was almost at a standstill, but it is hoped the lesser price for fencing-wire and hardware, and the return of the country's manhood from the war, will start development afresh.

In the northern end of the district the rabbit pest has increased. The high prices for labour and material and the hard winter has made it hard for soldiers and other settlers to get a start.

The ruling prices for stock last year were as follows: Southern end of the district—dairy cows, £16 to £28; northern end—dairy cows, £10 to £14; fat bullocks, £10 to £14; fat cows, £7 10s. to £9 10s.; two-year-old steers, £6 to £8; dairy heifers, £6 to £8 10s.; calves, £1 to £2 10s.; fat wethers, £1 8s. to £1 13s.; fat ewes, £1 5s. to £1 9s.; fat lambs, 16s. 6d. to £1; cull ewes, 8s. to 16s.; store wethers and ewes, £1 to £1 5s.

Revenue.—The revenue for the year was £72,322 7s. 8d., the amount being a little less than was received during the previous year, mainly in consequence of a falling-off in the acquisition of freeholds.

WELLINGTON.

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

The prices of produce and stock have been well maintained, supplies having been purchased by the Imperial Government, but towards the close of the year the cold storage became congested owing to the shortage of shipping, and there was a sharp decline in the prices of all store stock. The severe and long winter caused considerable mortality among stock, and the spring proved very wet until early in December, then favourable until early in March, when a dry spell was experienced. This was favourable to securing the harvest in good condition, but was detrimental to the rape and turnip crops, and also to the pasture.

On the whole the dairy season was a good one, and the settlers have made progress. Milch cows realized from £12 to £16 per head; stores and young cattle eased considerably on former prices, as also did all classes of sheep.

Road-formation to give access to Crown tenants' holdings has proceeded steadily, and there are few now who have not dray-roads to or within a short distance of their holdings.

The wet winter caused several slips, which were an inconvenience for some months owing to difficulty in obtaining labour.

Special roading districts which have been constituted almost wholly within the Kaitieke County, being the newest settled in this district, have on the whole proved of material benefit to the settlers.

Practically the whole of the transactions this year have been in land set apart for selection by discharged soldiers, the area dealt with being 22,152 acres. The area remaining open for selection at the close of the year was 604 acres for ordinary application and 13,227 acres for discharged soldiers.

Education reserve endowments are in a satisfactory condition. Sixty-five leases expired and were nearly all renewed, the rentals being increased from £753 to £4,107 per annum.

In the North Waimarino Improved-farm Settlement one settler obtained his license under the Land Act, 1908, and there now remain nine who still hold under agreement.

The Land Board held thirteen meetings, and its sittings extended over twenty-six days. Amongst other business it dealt with 223 transfers and subleases, and 556 applications from discharged soldiers for financial assistance to purchase farms and dwellings; but these figures will be considerably added to during the coming year owing to the ever-increasing volume of the soldiers' work.

The year's work has been a very arduous one, brought about by the settlement of discharged soldiers on the land. Up to the end of the year the number of applications and inquiries was 2,150, the increase during the last twelve months being nearly double the number dealt with since

the inception of the scheme in 1915. The actual number of men settled is no indication of the volume of work performed, a very considerable amount of the time of several members of the staff being occupied in attending to verbal inquiries; moreover, the business is an ever-increasing one, and the problems to be dealt with, which require close and prompt attention, make the soldiers' work entirely different from the ordinary Land Office work. The amendments of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, have materially increased this Department's operations, and there is as much preliminary work in settling one man under section 2 or 3 of the amendment of 1917 as in placing a dozen or so on a block of land purchased under the main Act.

NELSON.

(H. D. McKellar, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Generally speaking the progress of settlement in this district has not been very marked during the year, owing in large measure to war conditions prevailing, and in some degree to the fact that very little land is offering to the general public, the bulk of it being reserved for discharged soldiers.

In the older-established portions of the district, however, on both freehold and leasehold lands good progress has been made, and settlers and farmers have done well, as the prices ruling for stock, &c., have been high. The dairying industry is in a flourishing condition, and those who have made this class of farming their life-work are well satisfied with results and prospects.

The amount of business coming before the Land Board has increased very considerably on account of the large number of applications for advances by soldiers, and several meetings have extended over two days. The Board did not hold its usual meeting on the West Coast during this year owing to the death of Mr. F. A. Thompson, late Commissioner of Crown Lands.

During the year the appointments of Messrs. Walker and Bell, as members of the Board, expired by effluxion of time, and Messrs. J. Brown and W. C. Mirfin were appointed to the vacancies.

Although the tenants have experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining labour for bush-felling, &c., the Rangers' reports show that good work has been done, and the amount of improvements that have been effected over requirements aggregates generally the substantial sum of £26,958. The number of defaulters for various reasons is not considerable.

MARLBOROUGH.

(H. J. Lowe, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

General.—The winter of 1918 opened with a fall of snow in May all through the back country, and was unfortunately followed at short intervals by several heavy falls, which kept the high country under snow for a considerable time and caused heavy losses of sheep; but it is not thought that the loss was as severe as some eight years ago. The spring gave promise of a good season, but the summer in the early part was cold and wet, although later a drought commenced and continues. The growth of grass has ceased, and unless rains come it will be a difficult task to carry the stock through the winter.

The district was almost free from floods during the year, and damage caused last year to roads and bridges has been generally repaired, but the construction of groynes for protection of bridge approaches and land is required in several places.

Cropping.—Very little wheat was grown during the past season, the bulk of the crops consisting of oats, barley, and peas. Lucerne continued to give good results for early feed and hay, but the seed crop was practically a failure. Rape and turnip crops were also poor.

Dairying Industry.—This industry is growing apace, and good returns have been received for the year's working, particularly in regard to factories where cheese is made.

Pastoral Runs.—Seven pastoral runs, comprising 20,023 acres, the licenses over which expire within the next two years, were dealt with by Classification Commissioners. Although the question of subdivision was carefully considered, the number of runs cannot be increased, but the boundaries and areas of three adjoining runs will possibly be adjusted without detriment to the two larger and with advantage to the smallest.

The licenses of three runs expired during the year, and renewals were offered in each case.

Education Endowments.—The position in regard to these endowments is the same as formerly—viz., that lands of value from a farming point of view are occupied, but small town sections, chiefly in Picton, are in little demand, although where possible they are let on year-to-year tenure. During the year three leases expired and two were renewed, one being increased in area by the inclusion of an area formerly held on yearly license and the rent over the whole considerably increased. The renewal of the remaining lease (of a town section) was not accepted.

Land Board.—The Land Board held twelve ordinary meetings. The business to be transacted, however, has increased considerably on account of discharged soldiers applying for land and financial assistance, and it will be necessary very shortly to hold special meetings each month to enable transactions of this class to be dealt with more expeditiously.

The War.—This is happily ended, but the industries of the country will not return to anything like pre-war days for a considerable length of time on account of the serious wastage of life that has taken place for the preservation of our country and Empire. The scarcity of labour continues to affect farming operations, as is evidenced by the decreased cropping and the spread of noxious weeds and rabbits. The gradual repatriation of our soldiers will, it is anticipated, materially assist to improve matters in these respects next season.

Lands to be opened.—It is estimated that 97,400 acres will be offered for selection during this year. Two pastoral runs, however, comprise 90,000 acres of this area; the balance will be offered for selection by discharged soldiers.

Flax Industry.—This industry, although in a small way, is still flourishing, and generally a good year has been experienced. Prices fell somewhat towards the end of the year, but not sufficiently to cause the mills to cease working.

Mining Industry.—This comprises one mine, which produces principally scheelite in payable quantity. The company working the mine has enjoyed a good measure of success during the war, scheelite being essential to the manufacturing of high-grade steel for big guns, &c. Apart from this there is a little alluvial gold-mining carried on in various parts, but its success is doubtful.

Lime-works.—The works at Ward are as yet undeveloped and can supply only local requirements. The only other works are situated at Kaikoura, where a first-class plant has been erected. A good trade with Canterbury was being developed, but on account of the almost prohibitive freight charges between Kaikoura and Christchurch this has been interrupted in the meantime, and only a small business is being carried on with the surrounding district.

Noxious Weeds and Rabbits.—As already mentioned, these are not being kept down, owing mainly, it is considered, to the shortage of labour, and it is hoped with the repatriation of the oversea troops that the farmers generally, in their own interests and the country's, will grapple with the nuisances and prevent further spread.

WESTLAND.

(R. S. GALBRAITH, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

General.—During the past year the climatic conditions in Westland were not very favourable: the season was unusually late, little or no warm weather being experienced until February and March, and this interfered materially with the saving of the crops, which consist principally of oats, &c., for hay grown by settlers for their own requirements, also in most cases no attempt could be made to burn off any bush felled.

Most of the settled land is used for rearing and fattening stock and for dairying. There has been plenty of grass throughout the district, and farmers generally have done very well.

Prices for fat and store cattle are still good, but the last two or three sales have shown a downward tendency, and this applies also to the sheep-market, the latest quotations being: Ox cattle, £14 15s.; cows and heifers, £11 10s. to £12 10s.; sheep, £1 5s. to £1 10s.; lambs, £1.

The importation of pedigree stock from other districts is year by year improving the quality of the cattle raised, and there is keen competition for the young stock at the annual sales.

The butter and cheese factories have been kept working at their utmost capacity, prices received for butter-fat being as high as 1s. 8d. per pound.

Flax-millers in the district, generally speaking, have had a good season, which is now drawing to a close for the winter; prices have, however, fallen considerably of late.

The lime-works recently started at Ross are producing a first-class agricultural lime, which has been found very satisfactory by farmers who have used it. It is anticipated that the present somewhat high cost of production will shortly be reduced by improving the methods of traction.

The mining proposition in the Arahura Valley referred to in last year's report has been proceeded with, and the company has now completed a large dredge fitted with special appliances for replacing the top soil over the worked ground, and this dredge has just commenced operations.

CANTERBURY.

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

The lessees of the pastoral runs were not so favoured by the weather during the last year as in the previous one; the winter was unusually severe, and pastoralists experienced a most trying and anxious time. Numerous heavy snowfalls were experienced, and the loss of sheep on some stations amounted to over 50 per cent., consequently the lambing was much below the average, and it will take some time to stock up again with the right class of sheep. Shearing was greatly delayed on account of the influenza epidemic and the difficulty in securing experienced musterers. Spring was late, but the wet season prior to Christmas brought the feed on well, so that pasture is plentiful, and the prospect of wintering stock is fairly good.

The grain-yields have been much above the average, and in some instances abnormal—so much so, indeed, that when threshing results begin to come in the market took a decided drop on account of the plentiful supplies.

The benefits of lucerne and linseed have become more generally known, and they are now being grown with most profitable results. Unfortunately, for some unknown reasons, turnips do not seem to do as well as in former years.

Cheviot Estate.—This estate has been reported on so often that any further comments are superfluous, and it still remains probably the most prosperous settlement ever acquired by the Crown, though perhaps Waikakahi and Rosewell Settlements run it very close.

OTAGO.

(ROBERT T. SADD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

Land-settlement in Otago during the past twelve months has been almost at a standstill owing to the war being so long protracted, and all lands suitable for settlement by discharged soldiers being held over in the meantime.

An area of 653 acres was opened to the general public for selection, and an area of 35,491 acres to discharged soldiers, consisting principally of the two subdivisions of the Dasher Run.

The high prices of fencing and other material and stock further increased to such an extent that it was really a benefit to prospective settlers and to the Crown that the settlement of land was reduced to a minimum.

Last winter was the most severe Otago has experienced for ten years; there were three separate falls of snow, increasing in severity, and the cold wet spring and summer prevented farming operations and the growth of root crops and rape, &c. Shearing was very late, not being concluded in some cases until February, and in December cold storms including a slight fall of snow and sleet in the back country, caused heavy mortality in the sheep just off the shears. This, added to a heavy death-rate through the winter snows, caused heavy losses to a number of the pastoralists.

In spite of the cold wet weather, however, the cereal crops have been generally good, but the wet weather has so delayed harvesting that 40 per cent. of the crops are still in stook.

In North Otago a fairly large area of wheat was sown, and the yield has been good, some of the returns being as high as 72 bushels per acre and the average yield from 40 to 50 bushels.

The oat crops have been disappointing in most places, although some exceptionally good crops have been grown, particularly on the Taieri Plain, in some cases the yields being 100 bushels and over to the acre. The turnip and rape crops have in most cases been failures, and in localities where these crops showed great promise, in the south and Balclutha districts, they were destroyed by record floods which occurred in January. An estimated area of 2,000 acres of drilled swede turnips were ruined, representing a loss of £10 to £12 per acre.

In North Otago a considerable quantity of hay has been made, but in most places there will be a decided shortage of winter feed, and in consequence there has been a temporary fall in the price of stock.

The returns from fruitgrowing have not been so good as usual owing to the partial destruction of the stone-fruits by a late frost, which also affected the pip-fruits to a considerable extent. The wet weather seems also to have been responsible for the appearance of black-spot in apples in certain localities. Prices, however, have been good, and the generally less saleable fruits, such as plums and pears, have realized high prices.

In spite of the above adverse conditions, which naturally have retarded the progress and prosperity of a large number of settlers, the good prices of wool, stock, and grain have enabled the majority to maintain a fairly prosperous position, while a good season will recoup them for

SOUTHLAND.

(THOMAS BROOK, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

For many years the general report on this district has been of a most satisfactory nature, but I regret to have to record that the year ended 31st March, 1919, has proved an exception, and the prospects for the coming winter are not particularly bright.

As regards climatic conditions, the period under review has been one of the worst ever experienced. Not only was the winter a severe one, but the spring and summer were cold and wet. Snowfall caused heavy mortality amongst sheep on the high country, several runholders losing as many as eight thousand sheep each, while week after week of cold and rain resulted in heavy losses in flocks on the low country, especially amongst hoggets. The backward season is evidenced by the scarcity of grass, and for the first time on record the turnip crops generally are more or less a failure. The result is that many farmers find their holdings overstocked, and as a consequence there has been a decided drop in the prices of store cattle and sheep.

The present unsatisfactory state of the stock-market does not appear to have affected land-values, there being a very keen demand for all classes, and producers evidently expect the good prices to return with the spring. In this connection it should be noted that the demands of the soldiers have a marked tendency to increase land-values. This applies also to town properties, and probably to an even greater extent.

Dairy-farming is on the increase, but although the price of butter-fat has risen the production shows a decrease, caused by the severe season and consequent shortage of feed. The area under grain crops was less than usual, and the average yield is probably 20 bushels per acre below that of the previous season.

As mentioned in previous reports, lime is extensively used in Southland, and there is abundant evidence that its use is followed by a great increase of carrying-capacity particularly in the case of burnt lime. Unfortunately the demand greatly exceeds the supply.

The number of tenants on the books and the total area held again shows a slight decrease as compared with the figures for the previous years. This is accounted for by the fact that no land is being opened for selection by the outside public, all lands available being reserved for discharged soldiers. On the other hand, the annual rental payable continues to increase, the advance over last year being £1,631. The gross revenue for the year shows a slight falling-off compared with 1917-18, which was a record for Southland. For the first time the estimate was not reached, but this was solely due to the fact that the purchases of leases in perpetuity of settlement land were surprisingly small. The revenue derived from the total freeholds was some £4,000 less than for the former period.

Only 425 acres, consisting of one education endowment and some miscellaneous lands, were opened for selection by the general public during the year. These figures are probably the smallest yet recorded, and do not, of course, include land for soldiers. The arrears of rent as at the 31st March, 1919, show a slight increase, but nevertheless the position must be regarded as satisfactory, as they represent only a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total rental payable. The administration of education endowments in this district is a big item and entails considerable work. There are more tenants under this heading than under any other tenure. Several leases expired during the year, and in the majority of cases the lessees were granted renewals at rentals fixed by the Land Board.

Since the abolition of the School Commissioners the annual rental payable has increased by about £6,000. The interests of the endowments are carefully guarded in every way by the Land Board, in whom the control is now vested.

APPENDIX II.—LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS.

THE following tables show the land-for-settlement estates opened for selection during the year and the present position of all settlements disposed of:—

ESTATES OPENED FOR SELECTION DURING THE YEAR.

Land District.	Name of Estate.	Number of Holdings opened for Selection.	Area opened for Selection.
			Acres.
Auckland	(Mangateparu (part)	43	3,390
	Waiteitei	10	1,730
	Pakaraka	17	1,463
Taranaki	Croydon	7	632
	Ashton	4	1,748
Canterbury	Homebrook	16	1,126
	Buckley	3	1,653
	Bruce	3	1,164
Otago	Gladbrook (part)	7	648
	Westcott	20	1,835
Southland	Monte Cristo	4	445
	Stalker	10	501
Totals .. ..	.. ..	144	16,335

NOTE.—The whole of these settlements were offered for selection by discharged soldiers only.

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, 1919.

Name of Estate.	Lease-holds.	Free-holds.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Auckland—</i>				
Balachraggan ..	24	2	Dairying	Good.
Bickerstaffe ..	44	3	Grazing	Good.
Carlton's ..	1	..	Dairying	New selection.
Clifford ..	9	..	Dairying and mixed farming ..	Fair.
Carroll ..	1	1	Grazing; lease only .. ..	..
Cadman ..	1	..	Grazing; lease only .. ..	..
Cradoek ..	6	8	Homes and orchards	Good.
Delaney ..	1	..	Home	New selection.
Ecclestone No. 2 ..	7	1	Homes	Satisfactory.
Fencourt ..	31	14	Dairying	Very good.
Gorton ..	10	..	Dairying	Fair.
Hotana ..	29	61	Homes and orchards	Good.
Kaipaki ..	4	..	Dairying	Good.
Karapiro ..	11	8	Dairying	Good.
Kitchener ..	7	5	Homes and orchards	Good.
Laurensen ..	1	..	Temporary grazing land ..	..
Lawry ..	1	..	Homes and grazing leases ..	Good.
Mangapouri ..	9	5	Dairying	Good.
Mangawhero ..	20	7	Dairying	Good.
Matamata ..	120	152	Dairying	Very good.
Mangateparu ..	32	..	Dairying	New estate.
Methuen ..	9	21	Homes and orchards	Good.
Ohautiti ..	13	..	Mixed farming	Fair.
Okauia ..	8	7	Dairying	Good.
Opouriao ..	43	55	Dairying	Very good.
Otway ..	15	2	Dairying	Good.
Pacrata ..	2	..	Mixed farming	Good.
Pakaraka ..	10	1	Dairying	Good.
Pakarau ..	22	1	Dairying	Good.
Parahi ..	10	..	Dairying and grazing	Good.
Plumer ..	5	16	Homes and orchards	Good.
Prescott ..	..	1	Grazing; not let .. ..	..
Rangiatea ..	13	9	Dairying	Very good.
Rewi ..	9	2	Dairying	Good.
Reynolds ..	19	..	Dairying	Good.
Solwyn ..	125	77	Mixed farming	Good.
Streamlands ..	10	..	Dairying	Fair.
Taniwha ..	10	..	Dairying	Good.
Tapapa ..	10	..	Dairying	Good.
Tautari ..	40	4	Dairying	Fair.
Toasdale ..	46	56	Business and residence ..	Good.
Te Miro ..	36	..	Dairying and mixed farming ..	Fair.
Waari ..	19	17	Homes and orchards	Good.
Waimana ..	26	13	Dairying	Good.
Waitakaruru ..	16	..	Dairying and grazing	Fair.
Waiteitei ..	8	..	Dairying	New estate.
Whitehall ..	8	11	Dairying	Good.
Totals ..	901	560		

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, 1919—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Lease-holds.	Free-holds.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Hawke's Bay —</i>				
Argyll ..	59	4	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Very good.
Clydebank ..	20	3	Pastoral ..	Very good.
Elsthorpe ..	46	7	Pastoral ..	Very good.
Forest Gate ..	20	9	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Good.
Gwavas ..	12	..	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Good.
Hatuma ..	67	11	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Very good.
Kanakanaia ..	8	..	Pastoral ..	Very good.
Kumeroa ..	13	3	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Very good.
Lindsay ..	63	6	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Good.
Mahora ..	29	4	Agricultural, fruit-culture, and dairying ..	Very good.
Manga-a-toro ..	23	3	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Good.
Mangatahi ..	23	..	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Very fair.
Marakeke ..	17	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Ngatapa ..	28	3	Pastoral ..	Very good.
Otamauri ..	16	..	Pastoral ..	Good.
Pouparae ..	5	4	Agricultural and dairying ..	Very good.
Pourerere ..	6	..	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Very fair.
Raumati ..	30	2	Pastoral and dairying ..	Very fair.
Raureka ..	12	7	Dairying and fruit-culture ..	Very good.
Sherenden ..	21	..	Mostly pastoral ..	Good.
Springhill ..	17	1	Mostly pastoral ..	Very good.
Te Arai ..	52	7	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Very good.
Te Mata ..	9	..	Fruit-culture ..	Good.
Tomoana ..	9	5	Fruit-culture and dairying ..	Very good.
Tongoio ..	12	..	Mostly pastoral ..	Very fair.
Waihau ..	22	..	Mostly pastoral ..	Very fair.
Wainario ..	15	3	Agricultural and dairying ..	Very good.
Waipuka ..	1	..	Mostly pastoral ..	Good.
Watea ..	9	..	Mixed farming ..	Fair.
Wigan ..	14	6	Pastoral ..	Excellent.
Willows ..	21	1	Agricultural and dairying ..	Very good.
Totals ..	699	89		
<i>Taranaki—</i>				
Clandon ..	7	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Croydon ..	7	..	Dairying ..	Improving.
Huinga ..	10	..	Dairying ..	Fair.
Kota ..	1	..	Temporary grazing ..	Not yet opened up.
Parkes ..	7	..	Dairying ..	Very fair.
Spotswood ..	37	8	Homestead ..	Good.
Tariki ..	8	..	Dairying and grazing ..	Very good.
Tokaora ..	6	10	Dairying ..	Excellent.
Tututawa ..	3	..	Dairying and grazing ..	Improving.
Totals ..	86	18		
<i>Wellington—</i>				
Aorangi ..	28	12	Dairying and fruitgrowing ..	Excellent.
Bartholomew ..	6	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Benge ..	1	..	Dairying, &c. ..	Fair.
Bruce ..	1	..	Dairying, &c. ..	Fair.
Carrington ..	33	2	Dairying ..	Fair.
Cherry Grove ..	3	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Dixon ..	1	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Dyer ..	37	2	Grazing and cropping ..	Excellent.
Epuni Hamlet ..	31	11	Market-gardening, &c. ..	Very good.
Evans ..	1	..	Dairying, &c. ..	Fair.
Fairfield ..	6	..	Grazing and cropping ..	Satisfactory.
Fulloon ..	6	..	Grazing and cropping ..	Very fair.
Greystoke ..	14	..	Dairying, cropping, &c. ..	Satisfactory.
Hall-Jones ..	3	..	Grazing, gardening, &c. ..	Good.
Hawtrey ..	34	5	Residential ..	Fair.
Heatherlea ..	25	2	Dairying, poultry, bees, &c. ..	Good.
Horrobin ..	1	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Johnson ..	1	..	Mixed farming ..	Satisfactory.
Kopane ..	14	..	Dairying ..	Assured.
Langdale ..	25	7	Grazing ..	Good.
Lean ..	1	..	Market-gardening ..	Fair.
Lewis ..	1	..	Dairying ..	Satisfactory.
Linton ..	5	..	Dairying and cropping ..	Good.
Longbush and Mahupuku ..	18	3	Grazing, dairying, &c. ..	Excellent.
Makowhai Extension ..	31	..	Dairying, cropping, &c. ..	Satisfactory.
Mangawhata ..	1	6	Grazing and dairying ..	Excellent.
Maungaraki ..	18	2	Grazing, pigs, and poultry ..	Good.
Muhunoa ..	2	..	Dairying ..	Fair.
Ngakaroro ..	2	..	Dairying ..	Fair.
Normandale ..	29	3	Grazing, pigs, and poultry ..	Fair.
Ohakea ..	6	10	Dairying, cropping, &c. ..	Excellent.
Paparangi ..	29	6	Residential, pig-farming, &c. ..	Good.
Perham ..	1	..	Dairying, &c. ..	Fair.
Pitt ..	2	..	Gardening ..	Fair.
Poroporo ..	15	2	Grazing, cropping, &c. ..	Fair.
Pukenamu and Extension ..	8	..	Dairying ..	Satisfactory.
Putorino ..	15	..	Dairying ..	Satisfactory.

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, 1919—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Lease-holds.	Free-holds.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Wellington—continued.</i>				
Tablelands and Hikawera	15	2	Grazing	Very good.
Tawaha	24	1	Grazing and dairying	Good.
To Matua	8	5	Dairying and grazing	Satisfactory.
Tiraumea	19	..	Dairying and grazing	Good.
Waddington	1	..	Let for grazing only .. ..	..
Waihora	3	..	Dairying and grazing	Good.
Westmere	6	..	Grazing	Good.
Wilford	6	4	Residential .. ..	..
Woulfe	1	..	Dairying	Fair.
Wright	1	..	Dairying	Fair.
Totals	539	85		
<i>Nelson—</i>				
Braeburn	22	2	Dairying and grazing	Very good.
Lake	4	..	Grazing	Improving.
Palmer	1	..	Mixed farming	Just settled.
Spittall	1	..	Dairying	Just settled.
Wangapeka	14	3	Dairying and grazing	Very good.
Totals	42	5		
<i>Marlborough—</i>				
Blind River	18	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Satisfactory.
Erina	13	2	Sheep-farming	Promising.
Flaxbourne	128	6	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Good.
Hillersden	54	5	Sheep-farming	Good.
Hillersden Bush	3	..	Procuring fencing-timber .. ..	..
Lynton Downs	11	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Very disappointing.
Northbank	11	..	Sheep-farming	Satisfactory.
Onaka	13	..	Sheep-farming and light cropping	Very good.
Puhipuhi	2	..	Grazing	Satisfactory.
Rainford	11	..	Dairying	Excellent.
Richmond Brook	12	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Good.
Starborough	175	16	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Very good.
Waipapa	4	..	Grazing	Satisfactory.
Warnock	1	..	Dairying	Hopeful.
Wither	18	2	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Very good.
Totals	474	25		
<i>Westland—</i>				
Kokatahi	8	..	Dairying and grazing	Highly satisfactory.
Poorua	22	2	Dairying and grazing	Highly satisfactory.
Totals	30	2		
<i>Canterbury—</i>				
Albury	78	1	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Established and prosperous.
Allanholme	9	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Good.
Annan	41	4	Mixed farming and grazing	Established and prosperous.
Ashley Gorge	7	3	Dairy-farming and grazing	Well established.
Ashton	4	..	Mixed farming	Uncertain yet.
Ashwick	8	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Well established.
Avenel	16	..	Mixed farming	Very fair.
Avenel Extension	11	..	Mixed farming	Very fair.
Aylesbury	6	..	Mixed farming	Good.
Bourndale	7	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Very fair.
Braco	7	7	Market-gardening	Well established.
Bruce	3	..	Mixed farming	Uncertain yet.
Buckley	3	..	Mixed farming	Uncertain yet.
Buddo	13	2	Workers' dwellings	Fair.
Burke's Homestead	1	..	Homestead-site .. ..	..
Chamberlain	31	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Established and prosperous.
Clandeboye	10	..	Dairy-farming and grain-growing	Very fair.
Clandeboye No. 2	6	..	Dairy-farming and grain-growing	Fair.
Claremont	11	..	Sheep and dairy farming and grain-growing	Fair.
Clayton	6	..	Sheep-farming	Very good.
Copland	2	..	Sheep and dairy farming and grain-growing	Good.
Craigmore	8	..	Mixed farming	Uncertain yet.
Cricklewood	7	..	Mixed farming	Good.
Culverden	57	3	Mixed farming and grazing	Good.
Douglas	33	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Fair; improving.
Drayton	19	1	Agricultural	Improving.
Eccleston	4	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Well established.
Epworth .. ..	..	2	.. ..	Now freehold.
Finlay Downs	5	..	Dairy-farming and grain-growing	Very good.
Four Peaks	8	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Very good.
Fyvie	4	1	Mixed farming	Not satisfactory.
Glenmark	27	1	Mixed farming and grazing	Improving.
Glentanner .. ..	..	..	Homestead-site	Fair.
Hekeao	13	4	Mixed farming	Well established and prosperous.
Highbank	72	8	Mixed farming	Well established and prosperous.
Hillborough	3	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing	Good.
Homebrook	16	..	Mixed farming	Uncertain yet.

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, 1919--*continued*.

Name of Estate.	Lease-holds.	Free-holds.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Canterbury—continued.</i>				
Hornby ..	22	..	Agricultural and gardening ..	Fair.
Horsley Downs ..	12	15	Mixed farming ..	Well established and prosperous.
Jungle ..	1	..	Dairy-farming ..	Satisfactory.
Jungle No. 2 ..	1	..	Dairy-farming ..	Satisfactory.
Kaimahi ..	8	5	Workers' homes and gardening ..	Satisfactory.
Kapua ..	12	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Good.
Kaputohe ..	11	3	Workers' homes and gardening ..	Satisfactory.
Keith ..	1	..	Mixed farming ..	Uncertain yet.
Kerota ..	4	..	Dairying ..	Well established.
Kinloch ..	32	..	Dairy-farming and grazing ..	Very good.
Kohika ..	17	..	Mixed farming ..	Established and prosperous.
Kohika No. 2 ..	4	..	Mixed farming ..	Very good.
Kowhātu ..	5	..	Mixed farming and grazing ..	Uncertain yet.
Ladbrook's ..	14	..	Dairying and mixed farming ..	Improving.
Lansdown ..	10	1	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Good.
Leeston ..	5	..	Agricultural ..	Uncertain yet.
Lees Valley ..	9	..	Sheep-farming ..	Good.
Lyndon ..	8	1	Mixed farming ..	Well established and prosperous.
Lyndon No. 2 ..	9	..	Mixed farming and grazing ..	Well established and prosperous.
McGregor ..	..	..	Unlet ..	Unsatisfactory.
Marawiti ..	13	..	Mixed farming and grazing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Maytown ..	9	2	Sheep-farming and dairying ..	Good.
Mead ..	22	..	Mixed farming and grazing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Meadows ..	14	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Very fair.
Mills ..	21	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Well established.
Morice ..	28	3	Dairy-farming and grass-seed growing ..	Satisfactory.
Mount Nessing ..	11	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Very good.
Omihi ..	..	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Orakipaoa ..	27	..	Dairy-farming, grain-growing, and gardening ..	Well established.
Otaio ..	9	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Well established.
Otarakaro ..	5	2	Market-gardening ..	Well established ; satisfactory.
Papaka ..	9	..	Mixed farming ..	Well established and prosperous.
Pareora ..	28	..	Sheep-farming and dairying ..	Good.
Pareora No. 2 ..	29	4	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Patoa ..	1	3	Grazing and small farming ..	Satisfactory.
Pawaho ..	11	14	Market-gardening ..	Satisfactory.
Peaks ..	10	2	Mixed gardening ..	Satisfactory.
Puhuka ..	9	1	Workers' homes ..	Well established.
Punaroa ..	16	1	Dairy and sheep farming and grain-growing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Raincliff ..	1	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established.
Rakitairi ..	21	1	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established.
Rapuwai ..	5	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established.
Rautawiri ..	6	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established.
Roimata ..	20	9	Workers' homes ..	Satisfactory.
Rosebrook ..	14	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Good.
Roswill ..	153	8	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Ruapuna No. 2 ..	15	..	Mixed farming ..	Very good.
Seagill ..	8	..	Mixed farming and grazing ..	Moderate.
Seafield ..	4	..	Mixed farming ..	Uncertain yet.
Seaforth ..	8	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Uncertain yet.
Sherwood Downs ..	26	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Good.
Stoke ..	7	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Strathmore ..	3	..	Mixed farming ..	Fair.
Studholme Junction ..	4	..	Small farming and dairying ..	Good.
Takitu ..	5	..	Sheep-farming ..	Well established and prosperous.
Tamai ..	28	12	Workers' homes ..	Satisfactory.
Tara ..	8	1	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Very good.
Tarawahi ..	19	9	Workers' homes ..	Satisfactory.
Teschemaker ..	12	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Very good.
Timaunga ..	17	..	Mixed farming ..	Fair; improving.
Timaunga Extension ..	7	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Tripp ..	25	..	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Fair.
Valverde ..	11	..	Mixed farming ..	Fair.
Waiapi ..	12	3	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Waikakahi ..	187	11	Sheep-farming and grain-growing ..	Well established and prosperous.
Waimate ..	34	..	Sheep-farming, grain and fruit growing ..	Good.
Wharenui ..	21	5	Workers' homes ..	Well established.
Winchester ..	10	..	Sheep-farming, grain-growing, and dairying ..	Fair.
Unnamed—Section 36226 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Sections 36056, 36057 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Section 1862 (Can- nington) ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Section 36469 (Can- nington) ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Section 2682 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Part Section 30791 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Part Section 36278 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Adjoining Section 36228 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Adjoining Section 36231 ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Adjoining Sections 34430, 34431, &c. ..	1	..	Homestead-site ..	..
Totals ..	1,704	153		

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, 1919—*continued.*

Name of Estate.	Lease-holds.	Free-holds.	Principal Purpose for which Holdings are utilized.	Remarks as to Present Position.
<i>Otago—</i>				
Airedale ..	12	..	Dairying and general farming ..	Fair.
Ardgowan ..	66	3	Dairying and general farming ..	Fair.
Aviemore ..	1	..	Grazing ..	Good.
Barnego ..	22	2	Dairying and general farming ..	Good.
Bellamy ..	15	..	Grazing ..	Fair.
Cardrona ..	1	..	Grazing ..	Fair.
Clareview ..	5	..	Dairying and general farming ..	Fair.
Clifton ..	12	..	General farming ..	Fair.
Conical Hills ..	46	1	Grazing and general farming ..	Fair.
Croncher ..	1	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Duncan ..	5	2	Dairying ..	Fair.
Earnsclough ..	15	..	Fruitgrowing ..	Very fair.
Elderslie ..	35	1	General farming ..	Good.
Elderslie No. 2 ..	16	..	General farming ..	Fair.
Galloway ..	9	..	Fruitgrowing and homestead-sites ..	Good.
Gladbrook ..	17	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Greenfield ..	39	5	General farming ..	Good.
Hilderthorpe ..	19	..	General farming and workers' homes ..	Poor.
Janefield ..	20	1	Dairying, fruitgrowing, &c. ..	Good.
Kauroo Hill ..	42	3	General farming ..	Very fair.
Kuraw ..	11	3	General farming and dairying ..	Good.
Lakeview ..	1	..	General farming ..	Good.
Maerewhenua ..	75	..	General farming ..	Good.
Makareao ..	33	..	General farming ..	Good.
Makareao Extension ..	3	..	General farming ..	Good.
Maraeweka ..	7	..	General farming ..	Fair.
Matakanui ..	3	..	General farming and grazing ..	Fair.
Meadowbank ..	11	..	General farming ..	Very fair.
Momona ..	11	3	Dairying ..	Good.
Otanomomo ..	24	1	Dairying ..	Good.
Otekaiki ..	63	1	General and mixed farming ..	Fair.
Plunket ..	18	1	General and mixed farming ..	Fair.
Pomahaka Downs ..	27	1	General and mixed farming ..	Very fair.
Puketapu ..	10	1	Dairying ..	Good.
Rugged Ridges ..	1	..	Grazing ..	Good.
Steward ..	51	2	General and mixed farming ..	Fair.
St. Helens ..	3	..	General farming ..	Good.
Tahawai ..	7	1	Dairying ..	Good.
Taumata ..	9	..	Mixed farming ..	Good.
Teaneraki ..	23	..	Dairying ..	Fair.
Te Puke ..	4	..	General farming ..	Very poor.
Tokarahi ..	79	..	General and mixed farming ..	Good.
Totara ..	26	..	General and mixed farming ..	Fair.
Waitahuna No. 1 ..	2	1	General and mixed farming ..	Very poor.
Waitahuna No. 2 ..	5	1	General and mixed farming ..	Very poor.
Westcott ..	5	..	General farming ..	Fair.
Windsor Park No. 1 ..	37	1	General and mixed farming ..	Good.
Windsor Park No. 2 ..	10	..	General and mixed farming ..	Good.
Totals ..	957	35		
<i>Southland—</i>				
Ardlussa ..	4	..	Pastoral ..	Fair.
Beaumont ..	10	2	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Fair.
Edendale ..	117	34	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Excellent.
Ermedale ..	12	1	Pastoral and dairying ..	Good.
Fortification Hill ..	6	..	Pastoral ..	Very good.
Glenham ..	41	5	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Very good.
Knowsley Park ..	9	..	Pastoral ..	Doubtful.
Lambert ..	1	..	Dairying ..	Very good.
Lamont ..	6	..	Agricultural and dairying ..	Good.
Maori Hill ..	14	..	Dairying and pastoral ..	Very good.
Merrivale ..	46	9	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Very good.
Merrivale No. 1 ..	8	..	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Fair.
Merrivale No. 2 ..	7	..	Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying ..	Fair.
Monte Christo ..	3	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Otahu ..	7	..	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Good.
Ringway ..	6	2	Agricultural and pastoral ..	Good.
Stalker ..	6	..	Dairying ..	Good.
Waiariki ..	6	..	Pastoral ..	Fair.
Totals ..	309	53		
Grand totals ..	5,741	1,025		

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

AUCKLAND.

(H. M. SKEET, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The only new settlements opened during the year have been offered exclusively for discharged soldiers, and will be dealt with in that report.

The total number of tenants in the settlements at the end of the year was 901, occupying 145,476 acres, and paying a rental of £31,989 per annum. The freehold of 560 holdings containing 89,199 acres had been completely acquired, the purchase-money paid totalling £178,653.

The condition of the tenants in most of the old-established settlements has been one of considerable prosperity, due mainly to the position of the dairying industry, in which the majority are engaged. Recent developments in the industry have led in some localities to what can only appear as speculation based on an assumption of continued high prices for products. An undesirable feature in connection with this is the frequency with which properties change hands, the result being that instead of farming the land steadily to the best advantage it is either maintained merely at an average production pending resale at the earliest opportunity, or "nursed" with the same object of extracting a record price at the next sale. Such operations are good neither for the farmer nor the holding itself.

In a few cases the tenants are still struggling under disabilities caused by absence of labour and high prices of necessary supplies for improvements.

The small suburban settlements in the neighbourhood of Auckland are now very largely freehold, the proportion of tenures in the seven blocks being—freehold, 129; leasehold, 82. They continue to serve a useful purpose in the settlement of the outlying suburban area, although their development has been restricted by the recent conditions of the suburban services.

HAWKE'S BAY.

(W. F. MARSH, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

No new estates under this heading have been opened for settlement during the year, but the existing ones have been sharing very materially in the general prosperity of the district, and the same success which characterized the earlier purchases has continued to the most recent ones.

The right of conversion to freehold of lease-in-perpetuity sections under the Land for Settlements Act expired in November, 1918, and for the whole of the period of five years during which the right was in force about 30 per cent. of the settlers under this tenure availed themselves of the privilege.

TARANAKI.

(G. H. BULLARD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

All the estates acquired prior to the war are in a prosperous condition.

WELLINGTON.

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

Two small estates were acquired for the purposes of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, and were disposed of as follows: Pukenu Extension, five allotments, 508 acres; and Makowai Extension, three allotments, 284 acres. They comprise dairying and fattening country, and the settlers are doing well on their holdings.

It is anticipated that in the Putorino Settlement, mentioned in my previous report, the permanent gravitation water-supply will be installed in time for the coming dairy season.

Owing to difficulty in procuring suitable labour and the high cost of materials, no progress has been made with the street-construction work in the Hall-Jones Settlement, Lower Hutt.

Preparations are being made for offering sixteen allotments in the Waddington Settlement, just outside the borough above mentioned, in areas from 1 acre 1 rood 35 perches to 10 acres 1 rood 30 perches, three sections there having already been allotted. These small areas are suitable for market-gardens and occupation by partially disabled men.

The settlements established in previous years continue to prosper, and the more recent purchases now in occupation of discharged soldiers are likewise being gradually brought into a satisfactory and payable condition.

NELSON.

(H. D. McKELLAR, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The number of settlements in this district is five, two of which have been purchased, as isolated sections, for returned soldiers under section 3 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917. As these lands have just been acquired it is too early yet to make any report on them.

Of the other three estates, Braeburn and Wangapeka were acquired some years ago, and are now well established. The principal sources of income are dairying and sheep and cattle raising, and the settlers appear to be in a prosperous condition.

The remaining settlement, The Lake, was for a time somewhat overrun with rabbits, but this difficulty is now being overcome and settlement is proceeding. The tenants on this settlement graze sheep and cattle, and are doing well, and in a few years will, no doubt, be as successful as the Braeburn and Wangapeka Settlements.

MARLBOROUGH.

(H. J. LOWE, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

There are fifteen settlements in this district, comprising 219,441 acres, occupied by 474 lessees. During the year one new settlement, comprising 144 acres, was acquired under section 3 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917. With the exception of a few of the Lynton Downs tenants, the settlers appear to be making satisfactory progress, and transfers of holdings are not effected without the passing of a substantial goodwill. Comparatively a small area was cropped this year, but the crops, mostly oats, barley, and peas, were good, and fair returns resulted. The prices realized for stock, wool, and dairy-produce were good, but prices are receding on account of a drought setting in in Marlborough and Canterbury, entailing a scarcity of feed for the winter, and shortage of shipping to clear the freezing-works. Land-for-settlement settlers are, with the farmers in general, suffering from shortage of labour and high cost of materials, &c., due to conditions arising from the war.

Revaluations of Lands.—Thirteen settlers on Hillersden Settlement applied under the provisions of section 15 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1915, for revaluation of their holdings. Six of these were reduced.

WESTLAND.

(R. S. GALBRAITH, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

There are only two settlements in Westland—viz., Kokatahi and Poerua. Both have been in existence for a number of years, and the settlers, who are chiefly engaged in dairy-farming, are doing exceedingly well.

CANTERBURY.

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

The total number of estates settled in this district is now 115, with an area of 552,011 acres, and, taken as a whole, their position may be considered as quite satisfactory.

OTAGO.

(ROBERT T. SADD, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

This class of settlement has practically ceased, as all estates now purchased are being subdivided for discharged soldiers, and presumably this position will be maintained until the requirements of soldier settlers are met.

Generally, the old-established settlements, chiefly in North Otago, are doing well owing to the climatic conditions being favourable. The heavy rains which have caused such disaster in the south suited the dry areas of the north.

Elderslie No. 2 Settlement, which was revalued about two years ago, is now in a prosperous condition, but this is owing not to the substantial reductions in rentals, but to the more favourable seasons. Had the summer droughts continued the settlers would have been ruined. When a settler is heavily in debt a reduction of 25 per cent. of his rent is not going to make his farm a paying proposition. The failure can generally be traced to unfavourable seasons or inexperienced and unpractical farming. Revaluations and reductions of rentals are very small factors, but a good season, with good farming, always put the farmer in a prosperous position.

Otanomomo Settlement was again heavily flooded, and this is the fourth flood in five years. These settlers have shown exceptional courage and endurance in returning to their farms after each flood and battling along to make another start. They should be helped as much as possible, and areas of higher land acquired as a refuge from the frequently recurring floods, and also a scheme devised to lessen their liability to floods in the future. Barnego Settlement was also very seriously flooded, and the settlers suffered heavy losses, but being an older settlement, with low rents, they are better able to stand these losses.

SOUTHLAND.

(THOMAS BROOK, Commissioner of Crown Lands.)

The number of settlements in this district is now eighteen, exclusive of Teihoka and Allenby, which were recently purchased and are now being prepared for early selection.

Stalker Settlement and Monte Cristo Settlement were opened for selection during the year. The former was divided into nine holdings, and six of these being small dairy farms were readily taken up. The other four are suitable for soldiers desirous of taking up poultry-farming, bee-farming, or vegetable-culture, but no such applicant has yet come forward. Monte Cristo Settlement contains four sections suitable for dairy-farming, and all but one have been selected.

With the exception of Knowsley Park, Waiairiki, and Ardlussa, all the other settlements are prospering, and considerable goodwill is required to tempt lessees to transfer their leases. This applies particularly to Edendale, where sales have been effected at prices ranging from £40 to £50 per acre.

APPENDIX III.—LAND DRAINAGE OPERATIONS.

(J. B. THOMPSON, Chief Drainage Engineer.)

During the past year the Land Drainage Branch has been busily occupied in drainage and kindred operations. The year has been an exceptionally heavy one and the work has increased greatly. Separate reports have been made on the Hauraki Plains, Rangitaiki Plains, Kaitaia, Waihi, and Poukawa land-reclamation works. Many special inspections and reports have been made, including Waikato River inspection, Raupo drainage-works, St. John's Lake, Taieri and Waipori Rivers, Tokatoka Swamp works, Hikurangi Swamp, Kawakawa Swamp, Kaituna River, Waikare Lake, Makowhai Settlement, New River reclamation, Lees Valley, Waipaoa River, Waimata diversion, Matata water-supply, Akaaka drainage-works, Cricklewood water-supply, Lambrook Swamp, Brinkwood Swamp, Stirling flooding, Otanomomo Settlement flooding, Barnago Settlement flooding, Kaitangata flooding, Tokomairiro River flooding, Hales Swamp inspection, Seawood Moss, Invercargill reclamation-works, Aparima River, Earnscleugh Settlement, water-race and flooding by Fraser River, Weatherston Creek, Lawrence flooding, Stewart Settlement flooding, Waitaki River protection, and many other minor works.

Works done by local bodies out of grants and subsidies were inspected, and plans and specifications of such works were examined and approved. Vouchers totalling £2,085 19s. 10d. were passed for payment to the different local bodies.

Hereunder is a short report on works that have been carried out in connection with the various grants expended direct by this branch.

Hauraki Plains, Metalling Roads in.—Full details are included in the report on Hauraki Plains Settlement. A total distance of 5 miles 2 chains was metalled during the year, the works comprising the following roads: Hopai Road, Ngatea-Pipiroa Road, Patetonga Road. These roads were metalled to a width of 13 ft. Total expenditure, £4,337 3s. 1d.

Hauraki Plains: Maintenance of Completed Works, Drains, &c.—The maintenance of existing drains, &c., involved a large expenditure during the year owing to the heavy growth in drains necessitating much cleaning. Work was done partly by piecework contract and partly by day labour. Total expenditure, £4,523 14s.

Awaiti Block Outfall.—This necessary work was completed in July, 1918, and much benefit was derived from same during the winter. The drainage of the Awaiti district is now more efficient than ever it was before. Total expenditure, £815 8s. 3d.

Waitakaruru Loan Block.—The work consisted of maintaining the drains and roads, and was performed by day labour. Total expenditure, £313 16s.

Waitakaruru Stream Improvement.—This work is still being carried on by dredge No. 2, the object being to straighten and deepen the stream. The work has taken longer than was anticipated, owing to the heavy country encountered and need for erection of dams to bank up water and enable pontoon to float. Total distance dredged during the year was 81 chains. Total expenditure, £858 17s. 4d.

Piako and Waitoa Rivers Improvement.—This work is being carried on by dredge No. 1, and the intention is to straighten and deepen the courses of the streams. Very good progress has been made considering the hard oxidized nature of the country dredged. In some places 4 ft. to 5 ft. of pumice sand was encountered on a bottom of very hard sandstone and clay. A total distance of 55 chains was dredged during the year. Total expenditure, £925 0s. 3d.

Wharepoa-Kerepehi Drainage Outfall.—108 chains of drains were cleaned during year. Total expenditure, £65 2s.

Ngaurua Road and Canal.—A distance of about 130 chains was formed during year. The expenditure was heavy owing to the extra depth of spoil required to be deposited in order to make a good road on the treacherous peat, a thickness of 2 ft. to 3 ft. being put on. Total expenditure, £1,183 13s.

Kopu Ferry Road.—New drains were put in by contract on both sides of road and the spoil levelled for road-formation, a distance of approximately one mile being completed. Total expenditure, £876 18s. 2d.

Waitakaruru-Pokeno Road.—Work done consisted of about 18 chains of very heavy cutting and filling. Total expenditure, £284 11s. 6d.

Otway Settlement.—A light bridge to carry about 3 tons was erected over the Waitoa River. This was designed to give access to the creamery. Total expenditure, £270 10s.

Lees Valley Settlement.—Contracts for the creek diversions and drains were let in March, 1918, and work has proceeded since then with the exception of a break at the time of the influenza epidemic. Some difficulty was experienced in getting sufficient labour, but all contracts are now proceeding satisfactorily. About 300 chains of drains were excavated by the end of the period under review. The work of cutting diversions in Duck Creek is being carried out with expedition, seven spillways being completed. Owing to the exceptional spell of dry weather since the New Year the swamps are very dry, so that it is not possible as yet to say what amount of good the drains are doing. Given a good winter the majority of the drains should be completed early in the spring of this year. Total expenditure, £802 4s. 8d.

Tarawera River Bank-protection.—A considerable amount of bank-protection and willow work has been done during the year near the Otarakuti Bridge. A large amount of banking was also done in constructing the approaches to the Otarakuti Bridge, and there should now be no fear of floods affecting the embankment. Near the old Tarawera flax-mill construction of a bank was commenced, but not a great amount was completed during the year. This work will be proceeded

with, and banks repaired and renewed where required for a considerable distance down the Tarawera River. Total expenditure, £497 12s. 8d.

Pukahu Road-formation.—This work provides an outlet from the Waihou River to the Awaitei Road, and about 50 chains of formation was completed during the year. Total expenditure, £215 13s.

Opouriao Protective Works.—The system of groynes at Section 9 was completed and willows planted where necessary. This portion of the Whakatane River is now in good order, and will require little attention for some time to come. Farther down the river (at Webster's) three timber-boom groynes have been constructed, and a long stretch of the river-bank protected by willows. This has been a very bad spot to deal with, but it is anticipated that the measures adopted will have the desired effect, and there should be little trouble in the future. Various other portions of the river have received attention, and practically the whole of the block is now in good order. Total expenditure, £512 15s. 4d.

Waimana Protective Works.—In June, 1918, a commencement was made at Woodfield's cut to erect a groyne across the old river-channel below the mouth of the cut with the object of diverting the whole of the river into the new channel. This was accomplished by erecting a wire-fence groyne 700 ft. long across the channel at an acute angle to the waterflow, and behind this planting willows. The destruction of willows by wandering stock has still to be contended with, but this has been mitigated by allowing settlers to fence in waste land between their sections and the river-channel. A timber-boom groyne and a long wire-fence groyne have been erected at Addison's, but this work was greatly hindered by the influenza epidemic. This is a bad place on the river, and a great amount of work requires to be done to make it safe. The whole length of the river has been inspected and necessary repairs attended to. There is a bad place on the river at the southern end of the settlement where encroachment is taking place, and this will be attended to at once. Total expenditure, £422 18s. 2d.

Rangitaiki District Railway Road.—The road has been formed from the western drain as far as Awakeri, a distance of two miles. The road has been pumiced in all the soft places, and the formation is in splendid order. Arrangements are in hand to complete the necessary fencing. Drains have been cut on the wet portions of the road between the Rangitaiki River and the Awaitei Road, all spoil being thrown into the centre of the road-line, and the formation will be taken in hand at once. After this portion is finished a start will be made with the section from the Tarawera River towards Matata. This will be expensive, as, owing to the wet nature of the country, material will have to be carted long distances. Total expenditure, £2,315 5s. 11d.

Settlement Surveys, Hauraki Plains.—Owing to the difficulty in getting surveyors this work has been in abeyance for some considerable time, but a start was made in January last, and by the end of the year the field-work of approximately 4,000 acres had been completed, and will soon be available for selection. Total expenditure, £51 8s.

The following particulars show the principal works carried out in the various localities during the year:—

Cleaning drains	...	...	...	207 miles 50 chains.
Widening and deepening drains	...	...	...	72 " 55 "
Constructing new drains	...	...	...	47 " 30 "
Reforming roads	...	...	...	10 " 79 "
New roads	...	...	...	7 " 29 "
Disking roads	...	...	...	6 " 20 "
Gravelling roads	...	...	...	1 " 20 "
Shelling roads	...	...	...	0 " 40 "
Metalling roads	...	...	...	3 " 20 "
Fencing roads	...	...	...	3 " 20 "
Repairing stop-banks	...	...	...	1 " 48 "
Levels taken	...	...	...	40 " 0 "
Spoil dredged	...	...	...	375,635 cubic yards.
Excavation by wheel scoops	...	...	...	158,460 "
Artesian wells sunk	...	...	...	4 (number).
Flood-gates built	...	...	...	6 "
Concrete culverts built	...	...	...	21 "
Sleepers laid	...	...	...	3,650 "
Gravel for roads	...	...	...	6,486 cubic yards.
Facines	...	...	...	150 bundles.

OFFICE.

The total expenditure certified for payment during the year was £108,402 13s. 11d., an increase of £40,469 17s. 2d. over the expenditure for the preceding twelve months. Direct Treasury payments amounted to £29,949 5s. 9d., and payments through the Post Office to £831 12s. The amount of £75,226 1s. 8d., representing wages, piecework contracts, war bonus, &c., was paid out of the Kaitaia, Thames, and Whakatane imprests. Some 206 piecework contracts were let during the year. A total of 2,293 vouchers were prepared and passed through the books, showing an increase of 758 over last year's figures. Some of these vouchers cover up to thirty pages each. Inward correspondence, 4,220; outward, 4,990. The amount of £743 19s. was received by the branch during the year on account of miscellaneous transactions. A considerable number of engineering, road, and other plans were made, and tracings and blue-prints prepared, by the draughting staff.

Mr. Harvey, Chief Clerk and Accountant, and Mr. Slane, Senior Draughtsman, have very ably conducted the work of their respective branches.

APPENDIX IV.—WAIMARINO BUSH-FIRE RELIEF.

The losses sustained as a result of the bush-fires that occurred in March, 1918, mainly in Raetihi and the adjoining district, were so great that it was found necessary for the Government to come to the assistance of the sufferers. The public generously subscribed a sum of £14,000, and to this the Government added a subsidy of £10,000.

At the suggestion of the National Efficiency Board an association known as the Bush-fires Relief Association was incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act, 1908, the affairs of this association being conducted by a committee consisting of persons representing the various local bodies and local residents, with the addition of two representatives appointed by the Government. The administration of the subscribed funds, together with the Government subsidy, was undertaken by this committee, the moneys being wholly applied to the relief of hardship resulting from fire losses.

The benefit of these funds was given mainly to workers and townspeople, and for the purpose of assisting farmers to reinstate their properties and restock the Government authorized the raising of a loan of £75,000. Attention was in the first place directed to the regrassing of burnt areas, and in cases where the financial position of the farmer was such as to justify it the accounts for grass-seed were paid by the Government, and promissory notes with interest at 5 per cent. were taken from the persons affected, half of the amount being at twelve months and the balance at two years. On account of the loss of revenue owing to inability to make use of the land until the new grass was sufficiently advanced to permit of its being restocked, it has been found necessary in many cases to renew either in whole or in part the promissory notes falling due this year.

In view of the scarcity and high prices ruling for corrugated iron, 20 tons was secured at wholesale price, and this was forwarded to Raetihi and disposed of principally to farmers for cash or on promissory notes according to the financial position of the person requiring it. A sufficient amount for the re-erection of the necessary buildings was reserved for the dairy factory.

The purchase of the grass-seed and iron out of the £75,000 authorized left an amount of some £44,000 available for the reinstatement of buildings and fences and the purchase of stock. It was decided that this balance should be dealt with by way of loans to farmers, repayment to be secured by mortgage over the land. As those who were most in need of the assistance were, of course, men whose holdings were already somewhat heavily encumbered, it was necessary that arrangements should be made with the banks and commercial firms operating in the district for the protection of the Crown's interest. In all cases a willing response was received to requests in this direction, and arrangements satisfactory to all parties were completed, under which it is considered that the Crown's liability to loss will be reduced to a minimum. In all cases the term of the mortgage is seven years, interest being payable half-yearly at 5 per cent. per annum. The preparation and registration of the documents has been arranged, the whole of the costs being borne by the Relief Association. Advances for the re-erection or repairing of buildings and fences are being made only on the certificate of a departmental officer that the work for which the money was intended has been completed.

Applications were invited for loans on these terms, and a total of sixty-two applications, involving an amount of £76,348, were received. After careful consideration of the necessities of each case and investigation of the security available, advances totalling £44,150 were authorized to be made to fifty-four applicants. The statement of losses by these sixty-two applicants showed a total of £88,553, including buildings £15,170, fencing £8,585, sheep £53,898, and cattle £4,614. These figures do not include damage to grass nor the losses resulting from a forced sale of stock in a much-depreciated condition owing to the effects of the smoke and lack of feed. The extent of this loss is largely dependent upon the prices ruling for stock when the properties are being again stocked. A Receipts and Payments Account and balance-sheet showing the position of the fund as at the 31st March, 1919, are appended.

WAIMARINO BUSH-FIRE RELIEF FUND.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1919.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loan Account : Debentures issued ..	75,000	0	0	Advances— ^a						
Roofing-iron : Cash sales ..	559	19	9	Grass-seed} 29,755		9	6			
				Buildings and fences rein-						
				statement 21,320		12	5			
								<u>51,076</u>	1	11
				Rooftng-iron : Purchases, freight, &c. 1,394		0	4			
				Stamps, fees, &c. 39		15	6			
				Cash in hand, 31st March, 1919 .. 23,050		2	0			
								<u>£75,559</u>	19	9
	<u>£75,559</u>	19	9					<u>£75,559</u>	19	9

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

<i>Liabilities.</i>		£	s.	d.	<i>Assets.</i>		£	s.	d.
Loan Account : Debentures issued	..	75,000	0	0	Sundry debtors—				
Consolidated Fund : Interest on debentures		1,657	1	9	Secured by promissory notes	..	30,631	15	3
Profit on sales of iron	..		1	15	Secured by mortgage	..	21,320	12	5
Suspense Account	..		0	14	Interest accrued	..	1,657	1	9
				0	Cash in hand, 31st March, 1919	£	23,050	2	0
		£76,659	11	5			£76,659	11	5

J. H. O'DONNELL,
Chief Accountant, Department of Lands.

Table 1.—RETURN SHOWING (APPROXIMATELY) POSITION OF LANDS IN THE DOMINION AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Total Area sold and held on Freehold.	Total Area granted under Acts without Money Paid, or reserved for Public Purposes from Foundation of Dominion.	Total Area of Crown Lands held under all tenures (exclusive of Reserves leased by Crown).	Total Area opened 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	2,660,728	3,593,234	1,813,268	209,864	3,435,510	..	664,870	1,148,066	13,525,540
Hawke's Bay	2,490,639	436,676	1,003,091	20,150	1,286,090	..	150,530	121,724	5,508,900
Taranaki	552,616	720,396	580,472	21,370	276,467	..	67,795	185,384	2,404,500
Wellington	3,320,254	900,815	814,573	13,831	1,556,793	36,500	195,078	213,156	7,051,000
Marlborough	777,709	218,534	1,425,870	8,554	..	131,447	100,440	105,446	2,768,000
Nelson	611,870	348,388	899,070	39,460	30,629	1,573,000	60,093	1,152,490	4,715,000
Westland	147,578	309,790	1,795,636	361,175	..	750,000	154,248	345,451	3,863,878
Canterbury	3,598,601	1,390,660	3,826,466	434	..	140,500	445,295	76,089	9,478,045
Otago	1,982,961	615,747	5,535,441	8,336	..	573,600	263,235	115,680	9,095,000
Southland	1,610,668	3,557,763	1,628,946	21,004	..	626,479	140,639	296,870	7,882,369
Totals	17,753,624	12,092,003	19,322,833	704,178	6,585,489	3,831,526	2,242,223	3,760,356	66,292,232

Table 2.—LANDS OPENED FOR ORDINARY SALE AND SELECTION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	SALE AT AUCTION FOR CASH OR ON DEFERRED PAYMENT.			Optional System.	Renew- able Lease.	Small Grazing- runs.	Pastoral Runs.	Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.	Lease by Auction and Application, and Miscellaneous.	Totals.
	Town.	Sub- urban.	Rural.							
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	74	130	484	..	..	..	..	..	..	688
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	13	27
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	15	2,688	..	..	..	..	1	2,704
Wellington	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	287	439	..	..	..	149	875
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	52,000	..	200	52,200
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	32	..	79	..	..	..	..	..	150	261
Otago	3	44	6	490	50	..	..	..	..	593
Southland .. .. .	..	9	34	..	..	..	..	..	90	133
Totals	113	183	632	3,465	489	..	52,000	..	603	57,485
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>										
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	37	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	9	..	5	..	103	..	..	..	..	117
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	38	..	..	..	22	60
Southland .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	9	..	43	..	141	..	..	..	22	215
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>										
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	640	..	..	..	..	..	..	640
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,090	..	..	..	..	1,090
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	..	..	640	..	1,090	..	..	..	..	1,730
Thermal springs districts leases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Education endowments ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*7,462
Grand totals ..	122	183	1,315	3,465	1,720	..	52,000	..	625	66,892

* The following shows the Land Districts in which these lands were situated: Auckland, 1,969 acres; Taranaki, 89 acres; Nelson, 2,559 acres; Canterbury, 2,554 acres; Southland, 291 acres.

In addition to the area given in Table 2, the following summary shows the lands which have been proclaimed for selection by discharged soldiers, under the provisions of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act. Further particulars regarding soldiers' lands are given in the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Report, parliamentary paper C.—9.

Lands proclaimed during the Year ended 31st March, 1919, under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act.

Land District.	Area. Acres.
Auckland	13,268
Hawke's Bay	6,442
Taranaki	9,195
Wellington	2,416
Nelson	10,880
Marlborough	2,338
Westland	3,025
Canterbury	24,561
Otago	33,886
Southland	7,660
Total	113,671

Table 3.—RETURN OF LANDS SELECTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

Tenure.	Number of Selectors.	Average Holdings of Selectors.						Total Area selected during Year.
		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 over.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>								
Cash lands	117	23	76	18	..	..	..	Acres. 2,201
Deferred payment	4	..	2	1	1	..	..	466
Occupation with right of purchase	54	..	20	20	10	4	..	8,189
Renewable lease	84	..	10	32	11	21	10	33,342
Mining districts land occupation leases	27	..	27	..	..	..	..	311
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	22	..	1	7	6	8	..	9,643
Small grazing-runs	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2,532
Pastoral runs	11	..	..	2	1	..	8	208,318
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	429	65	226	93	16	16	13	74,695
Totals	749	88	362	173	45	49	32	339,697
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>								
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous leases	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	6
Totals	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	6
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Cash lands	10	2	8	..	..	..	..	24
Deferred payment	40	18	21	1	..	..	..	166
Renewable lease	239	..	52	144	28	13	2	37,802
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	40	5	20	7	5	1	2	6,583
Totals	329	25	101	152	33	14	4	44,575
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>								
Renewable lease	73	..	20	23	17	9	4	19,747
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	22	..	3	5	8	6	..	7,754
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs	9	..	..	..	1	..	8	347,338
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	42	1	12	17	4	3	5	23,002
Totals	146	1	35	45	30	18	17	397,841
Thermal springs districts leases	5	4	1	..	..	..	..	12
<i>Educational-endowment Lands—</i>								
Primary	46	8	17	5	6	6	4	19,850
Secondary	6	4	1	1	..	..	..	116
Cash sales (primary) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	52	12	18	6	6	6	4	19,966
Grand totals	1,283	131	518	376	114	87	57	802,097
<i>Other Endowment Lands—</i>								
Greymouth Harbour Board	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	151
Westport Harbour Board	17	3	9	5	..	..	..	925
Totals (other endowment lands)	18	3	9	6	..	..	..	1,076

Table 4.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SELECTORS AND LANDS SELECTED UNDER SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

Year ending 31st March,	Cash.		Deferred Payment.		Lease in Perpetuity.		Renewable Lease.		Occupation with Right of Purchase.		Mining Districts Land Occupation Leases.		Small Grazing-Runs.		Education Endowments.		Pastoral Licenses in Mining Districts under Special Regulations.		Totals.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
1909	382	42,194	..	..	193	106,184	860	219,172	382	123,116	36	1,490	10	28,989	..	..	83	14,743	1,946	535,888
1910	381	8,886	..	..	4	1,011	694	184,904	528	141,757	60	2,068	45	298,494	..	..	71	11,946	1,783	649,066
1911	274	9,547	..	..	15	1,877	612	124,268	498	136,007	73	2,687	22	128,764	..	..	106	27,421	1,600	430,571
1912	409	6,096	..	..	..	..	628	187,082	388	132,869	55	1,426	23	144,617	18	5,061	192	53,114	1,713	530,265
1913	352	4,625	..	..	..	..	585	207,606	362	104,935	36	773	10	37,749	142	6,847	121	28,606	1,608	391,141
1914	312	5,948	..	..	..	..	539	213,402	489	117,366	61	2,398	4	14,691	59	3,340	145	28,037	1,609	385,182
1915	288	5,742	18	27	..	..	325	88,400	428	110,729	29	1,285	6	14,803	102	20,948	114	36,951	1,310	278,885
1916	319	7,097	11	486	..	..	359	139,533	265	59,234	43	977	12	150,514	103	15,037	114	37,041	1,226	409,919
1917	313	5,414	37	680	..	..	452	157,226	176	37,791	29	800	16	135,691	138	16,050	73	19,610	1,234	373,262
1918	180	4,696	14	992	..	..	392	103,354	82	25,403	35	738	5	31,093	140	7,171	59	15,188	907	188,635
1919	127	2,225	44	632	..	..	396	90,891	54	8,189	27	311	1	2,532	52	19,966	44	17,397	745	142,143

Table 5.—LANDS SOLD FOR CASH DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Town.			Suburban			Rural.			Totals.		
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Price realized.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland	9	6	928	6	81	282	49	1,663	6,060	64	1,750	7,270
Hawke's Bay	1	1	18	..	..	..	1	5	26	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	44
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	16	90	2	16	90
Wellington	4	3	325	2	5	540	2	20	62	8	28	927
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	14	84	2	14	84
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	65	2	7	65
Canterbury	2	2	48	..	..	..	2	78	798	4	80	846
Otago	4	2	120	11	40	193	8	92	517	23	134	830
Southland	1	1	5	..	..	..	9	165	216	10	166	221
Totals	21	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,444	19	126	1,015	77	2,060	7,918	117	2,200 $\frac{1}{2}$	10,377
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>												
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>												
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	9	565	5	9	565
Canterbury	3	9	335	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	9	335
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	33	1	5	33
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	10	1	1	10
Totals	3	9	335	..	..	..	7	15	608	10	24	943
<i>Educational Endowments (Primary)—</i>												
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	24	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,779	19	126	1,015	84	2,075	8,526	127	2,224 $\frac{1}{2}$	11,320

Table 6.—RETURN OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT LANDS, UNDER THE LAND ACTS, 1877 AND 1885, AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Net Area held on 31st March, 1919, including Capitalized Holdings.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.	Freehold acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Yearly Instalments and Interest payable.		Number of Purchasers	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
		Acres.	£	£		Acres.		Acres.		£
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	333	46,003	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	972	91,324	..	..
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,424	159,479	..	..
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,579	219,491	..	..
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,592	150,467	..	..
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	4,682	..	..
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	4,572	..	..
Canterbury	6	63	15	12	..	..	644	30,347	1	1
Otago	3	650	15	10	..	..	1,233	193,205	..	..
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,586	196,916	..	..
Totals	9	713	30	22	..	..	9,523	1,096,486	1	1

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and special-settlement lands.

Table 7.—RETURN OF DEFERRED-PAYMENT LANDS HELD UNDER THE LAND LAWS AMENDMENT ACTS, 1912 AND 1913, AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.			Selections during the Year.			Conversions from other Tenures during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.		
			Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Instalment.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>											
Auckland.. ..	1	Acres. 25	£ 5	29	Acres. 9,178	365	138	Acres. 34,417	£ 1,404		
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	2	269	83	13	11,547	1,059
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	2	678	39	14	3,799	322
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	14	4,715	506	93	28,351	2,575
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	4	1,364	42	46	11,854	465
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	4
Westland.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	2,516	74
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	2	174	31	18	781	131
Otago	1	39	10	..	..	..	7	413	42
Southland	2	402	48	2	105	17	38	3,257	340		
Totals	4	466	63	55	16,483	1,083	377	96,941	6,416		
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>											
Auckland.. ..	31	29	171	127	25,945	4,667	315	45,194	7,996		
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	65	15,725	5,056	114	34,090	11,808
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	6	791	569	25	1,253	1,186
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	72	11,071	3,558	102	17,157	5,299
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	2	824	128	3	1,693	215
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	11	848	248	25	14,525	3,044
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	6	789	57	6	789	57
Canterbury	9	137	238	51	8,002	2,841	112	12,531	4,644		
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	20	1,956	695	24	4,438	1,179
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	30	9,363	1,468	40	10,748	1,819
Totals	40	166	409	390	75,314	19,287	766	142,418	37,247		
Grand totals	44	632	472	445	91,797	20,370	1,143	239,359	43,663		

District.	Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.	Freeholds acquired during the Year.		Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
		Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>								
Auckland	£ 3,176	4	Acres. 1,636	38	Acres. 14,097	£ 9,208	3	£ 46
Hawke's Bay	2,338	2	1,155	7	5,434	8,356	..	..
Taranaki	1,191	2	270	7	1,166	1,966	1	65
Wellington	6,432	7	309	38	8,189	14,636	6	111
Nelson	533	..	..	6	2,614	1,072	6	75
Marlborough	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	281	2	456	3	555	288	3	6
Canterbury	605	1	20	2	22	303	5	10
Otago	86	1	51	5	600	763	..	..
Southland.. ..	825	3	243	27	1,581	2,650	..	..
Totals	15,474	22	4,140	133	34,258	39,242	24	313
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Auckland	20,983	18	5,471	118	18,535	41,121	11	340
Hawke's Bay	20,140	3	21	15	1,980	15,140	..	..
Taranaki	2,485	3	178	9	511	10,808	..	..
Wellington	8,663	..	..	9	258	3,847	1	4
Nelson	27	..	..	2	947	2,010	1	387
Marlborough	6,917	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	9,921	10	240	16	253	4,036	..	..
Otago	4,155	3	393	3	393	1,536	..	..
Southland.. ..	4,084	1	1	6	353	2,293	..	..
Totals	77,425	38	6,304	178	23,230	80,791	13	731
Grand totals	92,899	60	10,444	311	57,488	120,033	37	1,044

Table 8.—RETURN OF PERPETUAL-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewals 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.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realized.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	29	2	1	29	3	26	4,894	2,296
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	22	5	1	22	6	2	374	355
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	244	227
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	196	73
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	11	1	1	11	2	3	216	216
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	3	1	50	3	..	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	104	16	5	104	39	3	133	157
Canterbury	1	25	3	..	..	..	27	1,089	63	23	1,089	84	12	3,061	1,910
Otago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	17	5	2	17	27	13	525	962
Southland	1	29	3	2	18	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	2	54	6	2	18	2	38	1,322	95	34	1,322	164	61	9,643	6,196

District.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919 (exclusive of Amount paid for Perpetual Leases made Freehold).	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized, exclusive of Interest.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland	667	183,308	87,263	66	8,951	244	271	3	13
Hawke's Bay	316	136,824	104,925	1	47	9	15	..	..
Taranaki	408	102,858	95,627	6	2,127	107	116	..	..
Wellington	835	312,878	279,822	28	625	57	77	..	..
Nelson	33	10,333	3,572	4	470	10	11	1	2
Marlborough	16	2,105	1,344	7	52	18	24	..	..
Westland	11	953	956	2	110	5	5	..	..
Canterbury	154	17,671	27,678	69	1,993	346	322	4	24
Otago	292	45,748	36,870	114	12,578	581	534	3	4
Southland	232	28,187	24,945	69	5,082	338	338	..	..
Totals	2,964	840,865	663,002	366	32,035	1,715	1,713	11	43

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and special-settlement lands.

Table 9.—RETURN OF OCCUPATION-WITH-RIGHT-OF-PURCHASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

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 realized.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland	30	4,379	342	14	3,171	158	..	..	..	134	31,178	24,569
Hawke's Bay	4	1,416	587	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	7,140	13,482
Taranaki	3	543	58	7	3,335	169	..	..	..	14	3,965	4,452
Wellington	7	49	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	6,667	9,431
Nelson	1	287	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	5,520	1,665
Marlborough	2	703	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	130	115
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	1	112	3	..	..	..	8	1,045	503
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	12
Otago	4	332	14	1	63	2	..	..	..	15	2,908	1,750
Southland	3	480	21	9	3,338	106	..	..	..	22	2,449	2,656
Totals	54	8,189	1,072	32	10,019	438	..	..	..	238	61,003	58,635

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919 (exclusive of Amount paid for acquiring Freehold).	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland	1,543	357,200	231,905	2,562	679,033	46,083	40,307	140	5,029
Hawke's Bay	218	112,121	112,689	329	122,618	24,749	22,675	4	59
Taranaki	185	75,721	68,768	671	291,397	19,151	16,195	27	548
Wellington	713	216,166	260,769	747	280,755	23,191	22,432	31	842
Nelson	110	24,542	9,019	195	59,232	1,331	1,111	21	134
Marlborough	31	7,711	6,912	86	29,023	1,798	1,641	3	6
Westland	41	7,055	4,433	68	11,737	385	326	3	16
Canterbury	28	4,088	4,932	24	3,063	435	362	..	..
Otago	90	14,813	8,287	271	46,592	1,446	1,246	10	73
Southland	216	42,706	25,744	386	78,098	3,111	2,848	4	18
Totals	3,175	862,123	733,458	5,339	1,601,548	121,680	109,143	243	6,725

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and improved-farm-settlement lands.

Table 10.—RETURN OF LEASE-IN-PERPETUITY LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Conversions to Deferred Payment during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.			
	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Pur-chasers.	Area.	Amount realized.	
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	
Auckland	4	1,147	31	32	4,847	3,832	
Hawke's Bay	2	269	50	5	1,614	2,404	
Taranaki	2	678	25	17	4,602	7,366	
Wellington	14	3,299	148	43	6,348	13,423	
Nelson	1	275	8	..	..	1	261	5	5	1,210	613	
Marlborough	1	250	173	
Westland	2	1	3	1	316	8	..	..	3	465	316	
Canterbury	1	149	12	2	284	525	
Otago	16	3,478	4,232	
Southland	2	92	4	..	..	4	76	7	4	953	1,501	
Totals	5	368	15	1	316	8	28	5,879	278	128	24,051	34,385
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>													
Auckland	118	25,938	4,654	55	6,562	19,673	
Hawke's Bay	59	13,932	4,158	15	1,649	7,374	
Taranaki	5	786	557	..	..	..
Wellington	71	11,071	3,555	22	1,440	10,507	
Nelson	2	824	128	..	..	..
Marlborough	17	64	54	5	2	115	
Westland	6	789	57	1	191	95	
Canterbury	1	1	1	47	4,611	1,453	34	2,174	16,166	
Otago	20	1,956	742	6	660	3,065	
Southland	28	7,748	1,248	5	213	629	
Totals	1	1	1	373	67,769	16,606	143	12,891	57,624	
Grand totals	5	368	15	2	317	9	401	73,648	16,884	271	36,942	92,009

District.	Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.	Selectors in Arrear, 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Pur-chasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Se-lectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Se-lectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland	416	89,372	70,388	912	212,460	6,291	6,132	41	208
Hawke's Bay	98	28,740	35,313	236	76,310	4,756	4,400	..	..
Taranaki	118	28,485	43,803	703	191,385	8,784	7,923	21	113
Wellington	506	75,654	126,970	1,069	158,335	9,646	8,873	21	148
Nelson	112	38,461	17,928	393	139,475	2,491	2,109	27	149
Marlborough	38	13,421	9,685	313	133,513	3,188	2,975	1	7
Westland	91	19,950	10,097	361	41,601	1,111	983	18	37
Canterbury	72	9,698	16,766	396	74,415	4,608	4,234	7	43
Otago	82	15,843	15,032	832	186,785	5,656	5,139	9	16
Southland	199	31,635	26,277	444	70,645	2,096	1,968	5	7
Totals	1,732	351,259	372,259	5,659	1,284,924	48,627	44,736	150	728
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Auckland	256	39,663	97,421	165	32,249	5,623	7,154	11	197
Hawke's Bay	51	11,158	62,408	306	88,867	29,575	29,074	3	38
Taranaki	7	514	12,415	16	1,857	1,214	1,333	..	..
Wellington	58	4,274	47,425	155	21,693	8,112	8,472	5	117
Nelson	1	13	116	10	3,260	689	684	..	..
Marlborough	7	573	2,580	257	51,398	11,549	10,502	3	1,422
Westland	1	191	95	21	4,008	477	462	1	11
Canterbury	121	8,645	63,024	895	151,288	52,721	48,663	20	586
Otago	14	2,336	10,777	526	102,070	32,702	30,749	3	74
Southland	34	5,073	17,350	165	33,692	8,040	7,476	1	35
Totals	550	72,440	313,611	2,516	490,382	150,702	144,569	47	2,480
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	210	26,866	7,294	6,490	3	16
Grand totals	2,282	423,699	685,870	8,385	1,802,172	206,623	195,795	200	3,224

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement, special-settlement, and improved-settlement lands.

Table 11.—RETURN OF RENEWABLE-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Taken up during the Year.		Exchanges from other tenures during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.		Conversions to Deferred Payments during the Year.		Freeholds acquired during the Year.		Freeholds acquired to 31st March, 1919.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.		Amount of Rent received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.		Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	£	£	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
National Endowment—																				
Auckland	28	6,132	349	..	16	3,523	256	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	687	183,374	8,618	7,440	85	1,885
Hawke's Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65	30,363	5,122	4,668	1	5
Taranaki	4	1,484	130	..	..	..	..	1,090	44	..	..	..	..	..	157	59,376	4,514	3,737	5	31
Wellington	1	30	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85	23,521	2,375	1,972	2	73
Nelson	3	1,730	288	2	18	10,411	320	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	481	206,514	4,744	2,460	38	560
Marlborough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	112	21,768	781	722	2	23
Westland	12	3,954	104	5	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	382	52,760	1,549	1,339	20	92
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	8,129	640	589	..	..
Otago	6	409	26	3	5	694	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	307	42,735	1,613	1,394	8	21
Southeast	5	663	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	186	22,321	1,053	942	2	9
Totals	59	14,402	924	10	38	14,629	609	3	1,091	45	..	..	..	..	2,482	650,861	31,009	25,263	163	2,699
Oheviot Estate—																				
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	2,051	831	753	1	26
Land for Settlements—																				
Auckland	78	9,293	5,293	..	16	1,754	892	1	..99	58	9	7	27	10	2,554	6,575	25,827	32,209	358	49,933
Hawke's Bay	1	14	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	610	252	..	4	..	442	2,684	252	90,838
Taranaki	10	1,259	1,213	..	2	543	286	14	1,400	1,382	1	5	11	3	3	93	2,263	2,978	44	2,966
Wellington	51	8,999	7,472	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	486	5,256	253	41,263
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	23,655	1,793	1,497	57	5,787
Marlborough	7	3,194	916	..	..	390	106	..	..	..	2	784	170	..	..	..	1,209	7,421	102	108,405
Canterbury	47	8,411	5,323	..	1	22	52	2	388	275	1	391	267	..	..	..	72,452	67,233	612	309,792
Otago	32	3,482	1,908	..	2	666	224	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	286	103,292	24,045	21,670	3	11,960
Southeast	10	1,420	898	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	465	132	..	91	30,924	7,557	6,693	12	746
Totals	236	36,072	23,099	..	22	3,375	1,560	17	1,887	1,715	18	2,263	862	13	2,557	6,668	30,120	60,531	2,027	761,088
Ordinary Crown Lands—																				
Auckland	22	2,904	473	..	7	1,352	122	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	12,883	1,662	1,218	6	152
Hawke's Bay	19	12,996	2,684	..	5	3,373	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	124	53,928	14,036	11,974	3	102
Taranaki	5	942	175	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	1,825	236	324	..	..
Wellington	25	12,627	972	..	..	..	..	6	1,362	148	..	..	..	..	325	39,550	4,278	4,416	45	970
Nelson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	776	25	11	..	..
Marlborough	2	388	76	..	1	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1,580	168	121	..	..
Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	252	71	..	7	40
Otago	4	2,519	110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	22,338	793	545	2	54
Southeast	7	966	123	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	2,769	389	411	..	..
Totals	84	33,342	4,613	..	13	4,731	825	6	1,362	148	..	..	..	1	1	35	24	461	580	135,901
Grand totals	379	83,816	28,636	10	808	38	22,735	2,994	26	4,340	1,908	18	2,263	862	14	2,558	30,144	60,992	5,104	1,549,901
																				251,799
																				215,087
																				29,532

NOTE.—This table includes village-settlement and improved-farm-settlement lands; special tenure renewable-lease lands under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act are also included.

Table 12.—RETURN OF AGRICULTURAL-LEASE LANDS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewals during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount received during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.	Made Freehold from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.		
			Number of Selectors.	Area.		Number of Selectors.	Area.		Number of Selectors.	Area.			Number of Purchasers.	Area.		Total Price realized.	Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£	Acres.	£		Acres.	£		£			
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	2,750	590	..	..
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	279	489	..	..
Otago .. ..	..	11	335	13	7	112	4	12	319	14	..	1,326	131,297	131,581	..	..
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	6,570	6,570	..	..
Totals .. ..	..	11	335	13	7	112	4	12	319	14	..	1,475	140,896	139,230	..	..

Table 13.—RETURN OF MINING DISTRICTS LAND OCCUPATION LEASES UNDER PART VIII OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewals during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.		Number.	Area.		Number.	Area.		Number.	Area.		Number.	Area.	
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland ..	14	176	23	1	50	3	1	50	3	1	49	3	..	..	..
Nelson ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland ..	3	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago ..	10	131	17	3	103	5	2	53	6	6	301	23	..	..	..
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	27	311	43	4	153	8	3	103	9	7	350	26	..	..	..

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.			Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount of Rent received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Auckland ..	7	Acres. 423	£ 16	3	Acres. 69	£ 136	12	Acres. 354	£ 839	211	Acres. 9,140	£ 498	£ 504	31	£ 89
Nelson ..	..	..	..	1	65	155	2	135	190	25*	895	40	38†	4	4
Marlborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	200	8	8	..	..
Westland ..	2	12	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	89	760	130	132	6	9
Otago ..	3	104	6	5	75	157	28	1,000	1,873	322	9,885	687	692	8	21
Southland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	10	43	57	1,923	185	178	1	3
Totals ..	12	539	26	9	209	448	43	1,499	2,945	706	22,803	1,548	1,552	50	126

* Includes two selectors, area 14 acres, annual rental £2, national-endowment land. † Includes £2 national endowment.

Table 14.—RETURN OF PASTORAL LICENSES IN MINING DISTRICTS UNDER SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.		Freeholds acquired to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Rent paid during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Total Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
Ordinary Crown Lands—		Acres.	£		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland ..	14	7,133	176	19	7,606	1	153	..	..	19	4,958	2,631	293	94,090	2,934	1,414	64	766
Nelson ..	5	2,194	38	4	1,286	2	850	..	..	16	2,375	1,948	101	19,853	123	338	4	72
Westland ..	3	316	10	1	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94	14,168	364	289	7	22
Totals ..	22	9,643	224	24	8,942	3	1,003	..	..	35	7,333	4,579	488	128,111	3,421	2,041	75	860
National-endowment Lands—																		
Auckland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	5,895	126	69	6	26
Nelson ..	13	4,632	91	1	222	1	169	..	..	..	..	..	169	34,376	751	858	14	119
Westland ..	9	3,122	119	2	235	6	1,759	..	..	..	..	..	233	50,430	1,251	949	22	92
Totals ..	22	7,754	210	3	457	7	1,928	..	..	..	..	..	429	90,701	2,128	1,876	42	237
Grand totals	44	17,397	434	27	9,399	10	2,931	..	..	35	7,333	4,579	917	218,812	5,549	3,917	117	1,097

Table 15.—RETURN OF SMALL GRAZING-RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.			Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders 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.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Hawke's Bay	1	2,532	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	1	2,532	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>															
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>															
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	2	2,453	273	2	2,453	316	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	..	..	..	2	2,453	273	2	2,453	316	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	1	5,217	65	1	5,217	95	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	..	..	..	1	5,217	65	1	5,217	95	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand totals	1	2,532	64	3	7,670	338	3	7,670	411	..	..	..	..	..	..

District.	Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.			Freeholds acquired during the Year.			Freeholds acquired from Commencement of System to 31st March, 1919.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Amount of Rent received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Amount realized.	Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Total Amount realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number of Selectors.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£		£
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3,990	2,756	2	17,374	639	639	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1,301	3,885	48	116,414	8,093	8,201	2	132
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	5,750	123	132	..	..
Wellington	1	1,415	97	..	..	..	16	12,893	26,177	30	31,704	1,941	1,421	..	..
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	244	270	9	4,928	114	110	..	..
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	22,541	1,524	1,954	..	..
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5,129	5,604	82	192,072	5,370	5,444	1	20
Totals	1	1,415	97	..	..	..	23	23,557	38,692	187	390,783	17,804	17,901	3	152
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>															
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	40,328	9,858	9,479	1	164
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>															
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4,997	1,479	4	15,600	130	92	..	..
Hawke's Bay	3	1,133	379	..	..	..	1	1,200	8,046	11	12,948	2,944	2,736	..	..
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6,280	1,176	961	..	..
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2,748	4,999	28	40,750	5,659	5,491	..	..
Canterbury	3	3,000	691	..	..	..	1	916	5,849	39	76,531	9,599	8,949	1	213
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10,953	1,686	1,491	..	..
Southland	1	1,150	77	..	..	..	1	1,658	2,582	..	..	..	39	..	..
Totals	7	5,283	1,147	..	..	..	6	11,519	22,955	96	163,062	21,194	19,759	1	213
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>															
Auckland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	47,899	406	328	..	..
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	163,713	4,544	4,079	5	809
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4,906	75	68	..	..
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	14,312	865	416	2	278
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	16,754	109	120	..	..
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	249,941	3,650	3,938	3	66
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	225,052	10,111	9,644	1	414
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	310	1,254,618	23,719	24,523	11	253
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	71,237	1,163	1,053	1	15
Totals .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	555	2,048,432	44,642	44,169	23	1,835
Grand totals	8	6,698	1,244	..	..	..	29	35,076	61,647	871	2,642,605	93,498	91,308	28	2,364

Table 16.—RETURN OF PASTORAL RUNS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District	Taken up during the Year.			Exchanges to other Tenures during the Year.		Forfeitures during the Year.		Surrenders during the Year.		Expiries during the Year.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>											
Auckland	..	Acres.	£	..	Acres.	..	Acres.	..	Acres.	..	Acres.
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough	..	2	270	22	..	..	..	..	..	1	70
Westland	..	2	19,750	15	..	..	..	2	46,600	5	81,000
Canterbury	2,700*	33	..	..	..	..	..	5	94,313
Otago	..	6	185,148	953	1	6,810	..	..	..	7	189,304
Southland	..	1	450	5	..	..	..	..	..	4	25,514
Totals	..	11	208,318	1,028	1	6,810	..	2	46,600	22	390,201
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>											
Auckland
Hawke's Bay
Taranaki
Wellington
Nelson
Marlborough	..	1	14,300	200	..	..	..	..	..	3	38,600
Westland	..	1	3,250	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	..	1	78,800†	1,004	..	..	..	..	..	3	53,827
Otago	..	5	250,570	2,488	..	..	..	..	..	4	211,222
Southland	..	1	418	5	..	..	..	..	..	2	32,768
Totals	..	9	347,338	3,700	..	..	..	..	..	12	336,417
Grand totals	..	20	555,656	4,728	1	6,810	..	2	46,600	34	726,618

District.	Renewals during the Year.		Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.				Rent paid during the Year	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area (approximately).	Average Holdings.	Annual Rental.		Number.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>									
Auckland		Acres.	15	Acres.	Acres.	£	£	1	£
Hawke's Bay			15	75,733	5,049	221	111	1	10
Taranaki				80,651	5,377	1,366	1,247	1	15
Wellington			4	100,813	25,203	1,815	445	2	2,232
Nelson			4	225,529	56,382	970	1,040	..	..
Marlborough	1	21,800	33	500,846	15,177	3,427	4,035	..	..
Westland	5	81,000	69	1,099,582	15,936	772	854	1	3
Canterbury	3	82,430	65	1,593,947	24,522	14,156	14,702	..	..
Otago	3	21,104	172	2,161,623	12,568	15,036	14,528	..	..
Southland	2	10,563	56	581,671	10,387	3,529	3,510	..	..
Totals	14	216,897	433	6,420,395	170,601	41,292	40,472	5	2,260
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>									
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	1	786	786	59	79	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	13	3,552	273	557	791	..	..
Totals .. .. .	..	..	14	4,338	1,059	616	870	..	..
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>									
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	1	1,462	1,462	256	384	..	..
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>									
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	7	72,945	10,421	125	103	2	36
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	1	186	186	12	12	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	14	28,115	2,008	765	805	..	..
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	1	10,000	10,000	34	34	..	..
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	13	254,340	19,565	1,099	1,147	..	..
Westland .. .. .	..	..	22	275,780	12,535	300	320	..	..
Canterbury	2	20,750	63	1,318,641	20,931	24,960	25,728	..	..
Otago .. .. .	..	..	64	1,200,309	18,755	9,977	10,403	1	196
Southland	1	32,350	26	645,780	24,838	2,797	2,721	..	..
Totals	3	53,100	211	3,806,096	119,239	40,069	41,273	3	232
Grand totals	17	269,997	659	10,232,291	292,361	82,233	82,999	8	2,492

* Part of a run. † Includes part of another run.

Table 17.—RETURN OF MISCELLANEOUS LEASES AND LICENSES NOT OTHERWISE ENUMERATED AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Transactions during Year ended 31st March, 1919.										Total Area leased during the Year.	Total Amount received during the Year.*	Total Area in Occupation on 31st March, 1919.			Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Coal and Mineral.		Timber-cutting, &c.		Flax-cutting.		Miscellaneous.		Number.	Area.			Annual Rental.	Number.	Amount.		
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Total Amount received.	Number.	Area.			Total Amount received.	Number.				Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Amount.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>																	
Auckland	1	20	1	..	..	..	..	72	23,642	549	23,662	755	767	209,933	6,927	124	945
Hawke's Bay	71	25,314	3,838	23,314	11,683	239	94,658	10,633	8	36
Taranaki	875	..	31	3,175	373	3,512	2,249	267	14,701	2,079	3	5
Wellington	1	337	..	..	50	1,863	660	1,863	4,666	675	75,606	4,473	68	597
Nelson	27	5,019	55	5,019	110,592	387	110,592	675	15	70
Marlborough	10	2,516	108	2,516	2,802	200	40,341	1,275	3	3
Westland	37	2,830	56	3,962	1,227	634	146,990	979	44	89
Canterbury	24	4,634	172	4,702	4,582	708	218,924	4,582	52	175
Otago	51	2,424	124	2,424	3,947	1,136	147,428	2,236	5	2
Southland	1	..	14	..	..	..	..	50	1,789	126	1,789	5,588	473	53,460	1,534	..	..
Totals	2	20	15	1	337	875	3	423	73,206	6,061	74,695	38,300	5,486	1,112,633	35,393	322	1,922
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>																	
Canterbury	2	6	3	6	603	54	4,714	951	2	22
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>																	
Auckland	20	794	356	794	1,564	59	2,479	463	4	48
Hawke's Bay	1	2	1	2	364	16	280	135	1	2
Taranaki	1	1,715	804	1,715	284	1	3	3	..	..
Wellington	1	444	249	444	1,685	25	484	1,084	..	..
Nelson	1	2
Marlborough	1	168	84	168	455	62	4,364	392	..	..
Westland	3	3	37	3	..	..
Canterbury	2	32	95	32	4,641	45	1,084	384	3	13
Otago	14	3,428	444	3,428	1,892	98	4,066	1,014	..	..
Southland	587	13	76	27	..	..
Totals	40	6,583	2,033	6,583	11,475	322	12,873	3,505	9	65
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>																	
Auckland	1	302	15	..	..	..	..	8	6,831	307	7,133	77	25	17,974	481	3	21
Hawke's Bay	1	70	1	70	20	3	29,092	24	..	..
Taranaki	1,132	6	612	9	1	3
Wellington	630	5	1,989	256	..	..
Nelson	9	7,944	23	7,944	1,497	101	35,923	195	7	10
Marlborough	22	1	1,410	17	..	..
Westland	21	4,161	34	4,161	7,914	338	100,302	605	26	132
Canterbury	5	1	242	5	..	..
Otago	282	24	27,219	246	..	..
Southland	1	204	6	204	59	3	24,263	47	..	..
Totals	1	302	15	..	..	..	..	41	22,700	376	23,002	11,638	507	239,026	1,885	37	166
Grand totals	3	322	30	1	337	875	3	506	102,495	8,473	104,286	62,016	6,369	1,369,246	41,734	370	2,175

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

Table 18.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

Tenure.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands, &c.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash lands	7,270	43	52	936	89	2,203	65	846	830	221	12,555
Perpetual lease made freehold (Land Act, 1885)	2,208	264	..	..	73	216	..	157	1,827	614	5,359
Perpetual lease made freehold (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1913 and 1914)	..	91	..	320	..	..	..	..	83	348	842
Occupation with right of purchase made freehold	24,460	13,482	4,469	10,419	1,662	115	500	12	1,750	2,656	59,525
Lease in perpetuity made freehold	3,811	2,404	7,351	13,615	613	173	312	520	4,231	1,489	34,519
Miscellaneous leases made freehold	414	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	414
Renewable leases made freehold .. .. .	..	..	..	35	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Mining districts land occupation leases made freehold	137	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	157	..	449
Pastoral licenses in mining districts made freehold	357	..	..	..	510	..	..	..	..	..	867
Deferred payment (Land Acts, 1877 and 1885)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	10	..	22
Deferred payment (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912, 1913, &c.)	3,176	2,338	1,191	6,432	533	7	281	605	86	825	15,474
Perpetual lease	271	15	116	77	11	24	5	322	534	338	1,713
Occupation with right of purchase	40,307	22,675	16,195	22,432	1,111	1,641	326	362	1,246	2,848	109,143
Lease in perpetuity	5,842	4,400	7,923	8,873	2,109	2,975	983	4,234	5,139	1,968	44,446
Renewable lease	1,218	11,974	324	4,416	11	121	..	..	545	411	19,020
Mining districts land occupation leases	504	..	..	..	36	8	132	..	692	178	1,550
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	1,414	..	..	..	338	..	289	..	..	..	2,041
Small grazing-runs	639	8,201	132	1,421	..	110	..	1,954	5,444	..	17,901
Pastoral runs	111	1,247	..	445	1,040	4,035	854	14,702	14,528	3,510	40,472
Coal and mineral leases and royalties	1,183	..	10	..	200	4	2	21	565	765	2,750
Timber licenses and sale of timber	2,608	107	438	2,353	377	304	177	..	259	1,492	8,115
Flax-cutting	709	..	..	5	..	14	78	..	97	68	971
State forests	619	..	53	306	46	1,403	..	536	130	1,844	4,937
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses	6,038	11,576	889	2,002	656	1,077	970	4,145	2,296	1,417	31,066
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908	..	..	40	510	..	..	..	..	..	..	550
Miscellaneous	755	..	9,653	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	10,412
Totals	104,051	78,817	48,836	74,597	9,572	14,430	4,974	28,428	40,449	20,994	425,148
<i>Land for Settlements.</i>											
Cash lands	565	..	..	..	..	..	..	235	33	10	843
Lease in perpetuity made freehold	19,623	7,376	..	10,372	..	114	95	13,090	3,065	629	54,364
Renewable lease made freehold	6,582	..	..	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,615
Deferred payments	20,983	20,140	2,485	8,663	27	6,917	50	9,921	4,155	4,084	77,425
Lease in perpetuity	7,164	29,074	1,333	8,472	684	10,502	462	48,663	30,749	7,476	144,569
Renewable lease	11,570	30,071	2,299	17,059	1,497	11,960	..	67,233	21,670	6,693	170,052
Small grazing-runs	92	2,736	..	961	..	5,491	..	8,949	1,491	39	19,759
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	791	..	870
Coal and mineral leases and royalties .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95	19	..	114
Timber licenses and sale of timber	7	..	..	11	..	81	..	..	..	..	99
Flax-cutting	25	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	26
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses	314	364	284	..	..	373	3	713	1,754	536	4,341
Miscellaneous	1,564	..	..	1,674	..	..	..	3,833	119	50	7,240
Totals	68,479	89,761	6,401	47,245	2,208	35,439	610	152,811	63,846	19,517	486,317
<i>Cheviot Estate.</i>											
Cash lands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Lease in perpetuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,490	..	..	6,490
Renewable lease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	753	..	..	753
Grazing-farms .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,479	..	..	9,479
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	384	..	..	384
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	603	..	..	603
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,711	..	..	17,711
<i>National-endowment Lands.</i>											
Renewable leases	7,440	4,668	3,737	1,972	2,460	722	1,339	589	1,394	942	25,263
Small grazing-runs	328	4,079	68	416	120	3,938	..	9,644	24,523	1,053	44,169
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	69	..	..	..	858	..	949	..	..	..	1,876
Pastoral runs	103	12	..	805	34	1,147	320	25,728	10,403	2,721	41,273
Coal and mineral leases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	486	..	..	..	..	2	488
Timber licenses and sale of timber	3,371	..	1,126	547	799	..	7,370	..	..	11	13,224
Flax-cutting	150	..	..	13	..	..	24	..	..	..	187
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses	382	20	6	..	212	22	520	5	282	46	1,495
Miscellaneous	77	..	..	70	2	..	..	..	..	..	149
Totals	11,920	8,779	4,937	3,823	4,971	5,829	10,522	35,966	36,602	4,775	128,124

Table 18.—RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919—*continued.*

Tenure.	Auckland.	Hawke's Bay.	Taranaki.	Wellington.	Nelson.	Marlborough.	Westland.	Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Totals.
<i>Educational-endowment Lands.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary	4,663	10,012	6,444	14,187	455	444	583	25,855	5,221	18,568	86,432
Secondary	1,697	1,863	1,099	2,098	109	124	475	270	851	249	8,835
Totals	6,360	11,875	7,543	16,285	564	568	1,058	26,125	6,072	18,817	95,267
<i>Other Endowment Lands.</i>											
Deferred payments	85	..	..	..	85	..	..	..	..	..	170
Perpetual lease	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,304	..	2,402
Occupation with right of purchase	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Lease in perpetuity	11	..	..	..	78	..	..	1,508	64	..	1,661
Renewable lease	4	..	..	..	142	..	..	..	..	..	146
Mining districts land occupation leases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	57	..	..	..	..	..	57
Small grazing-runs .. .. .	..	..	..	200	..	..	..	..	1,376	360	1,936
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	3	..	..	..	17	..	..	..	..	..	20
Pastoral runs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,315	1,438	6,753
Coal and mineral leases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	12,963	..	1,610	..	..	..	14,573
Timber licenses and sale of timber .. .. .	..	..	..	..	242	..	53	..	..	7	302
Flax-cutting .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46	46
Other miscellaneous leases and licenses .. .. .	..	2	..	..	972	..	9	79	25	79	1,166
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	786	31	..	..	..	..	..	..	817
Totals	127	2	786	231	14,556	..	1,672	1,587	9,174	1,930	30,065
Thermal springs districts leases	1,990	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,599
Survey liens on Native land	10,566	2,609	1,230	2,105	..	16	..	44	4	17	22,336
Miscellaneous	10,726	8,354	2,590	12,324	1,441	881	262	4,396	2,824	1,837	37,281
Grand totals	214,219	200,197	72,323	156,610	33,312	57,163	19,098	267,068	158,971	67,887	1,246,848

Table 19.—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 THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Number of Tenants who have been granted Rebate.	Amount of Rebate granted.	District.	Number of Tenants who have been granted Rebate.	Amount of Rebate granted.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		£	<i>Land for Settlements—contd.</i>		£
Auckland	5,230	4,073	Otago	701	5,452
Hawke's Bay	597	3,769	Southland	237	1,181
Taranaki	1,260	2,216	Totals	4,460	31,621
Wellington	1,799	3,296	<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>		
Nelson	409	289	Auckland	950	589
Marlborough	387	461	Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..
Westland	370	127	Taranaki	137	350
Canterbury	503	495	Wellington	110	203
Otago	1,020	730	Nelson	253	182
Southland	714	454	Marlborough	105	71
Totals	12,349	15,910	Westland	271	97
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>			Canterbury	21	56
Canterbury	221	749	Otago	175	133
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>			Southland	159	90
Auckland	717	1,373	Totals	2,181	1,771
Hawke's Bay	615	6,484	Grand totals	19,211	50,051
Taranaki	49	248	<i>Other Endowment Lands—</i>		
Wellington	258	1,845	Hawke's Bay	63	510
Nelson	34	191	Nelson	41	14
Marlborough	380	2,638	Westland	4	7
Westland	27	51	Canterbury	121	156
Canterbury	1,442	12,158	Totals	229	687

Table 20.—ARREARS OF RENT DUE TO THE CROWN AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District	Number of Selectors.	Amount in Arrear, exclusive of current Half-year's Payment.	District.	Number of Selectors.	Amount in Arrear, exclusive of current Half-year's Payment.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		£	<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>		£
Auckland	413	7,258	Auckland	97	1,968
Hawke's Bay	18	344	Hawke's Bay	6	814
Taranaki	52	730	Taranaki	6	34
Wellington	173	4,900	Wellington	4	351
Nelson	78	506	Nelson	59	689
Marlborough	7	16	Marlborough	5	89
Westland	82	182	Westland	68	316
Canterbury	70	293	Canterbury	1	414
Otago	38	190	Otago	20	470
Southland	10	28	Southland	3	24
Totals	941	14,447	Totals	269	5,169
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>					
Canterbury	7	228	Thermal springs	36	330
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>			<i>Education Endowments—</i>		
Auckland	88	3,545	Primary	134	2,865
Hawke's Bay	8	152	Secondary	32	299
Taranaki	9	462	Totals	166	3,164
Wellington	63	5,908	Grand totals	1,687	40,552
Nelson	5	627			
Marlborough	7	1,528	Other endowment lands	60	213
Westland	1	11			
Canterbury	65	3,858			
Otago	15	820			
Southland	7	303			
Totals	268	17,214			

Table 21.—STATEMENT SHOWING PAYMENTS TO LOCAL BODIES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919, 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
Auckland	£ 6,667	£ 7	£ 1,415	£ 8,089
Hawke's Bay	9,428	619	1	10,048
Taranaki	5,244	..	42	5,286
Wellington	3,063	117	..	3,180
Nelson	1,581	11	570	2,162
Marlborough	513	356	128	997
Westland	673	..	3,644	4,317
Canterbury	193	998	..	1,191
Otago	842	3,822	173	4,837
Southland	1,287	28	400	1,715
Totals	29,491	5,958	6,373	41,822

Table 22.—RETURN SHOWING PAYMENTS OF CAPITAL VALUE UNDER SECTION 191 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

System and Tenure.	Amount deposited during the Year.			Total Payments at 31st March, 1919.				
	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Amount deposited.	Number of Selectors.	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	3	104	81	44	6,333	363	3,248	231
Renewable lease	2	417	469	4	418	62	521	38
Totals	5	521	550	48	6,751	425	3,769	269
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>								
Lease in perpetuity .. ..	..	..	..	1	107	56	999	6
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>								
Lease in perpetuity .. ..	..	..	..	3	363	265	3,466	92
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>								
Renewable lease	1	17	10	1	17	$\frac{3}{4}$	10	$\frac{1}{4}$
Grand totals	6	538	560	53	7,238	746 $\frac{3}{4}$	8,244	367 $\frac{1}{4}$

Withdrawals during year.—No. 3 area held 363 acres; amount, £3,466.

Table 23.—RETURN OF FORFEITURES AND SURRENDERS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919, 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>						
Deferred payment .. ..	..	Acres.	£	1	Acres.	£
Perpetual lease	2	18	2	..	6	8
Occupation with right of purchase	32	10,019	438	..	..	..
Lease in perpetuity	5	368	15	1	316	8
Renewable lease	13	4,731	825	6	1,362	148
Mining districts land occupation leases	7	350	26	..	..	..
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	3	1,003	25	..	..	..
Pastoral runs .. ..	..	..	..	2	46,600	24
Miscellaneous	103	9,705	702	49	4,117	274
Totals	165	26,194	2,033	59	52,401	462
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>						
Miscellaneous leases and licenses .. ..	..	..	..	1	5	2
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
Deferred payment	1	55	38	..	1	1
Lease in perpetuity .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Renewable lease	22	3,375	1,560	17	1,887	1,715
Miscellaneous	4	274	99	12	542	332
Totals	27	3,704	1,697	30	2,430	2,048
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>						
Renewable lease	40	14,629	609	3	1,091	45
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations	7	1,928	66	..	..	..
Small grazing-runs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pastoral runs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	14	7,202	33	1	1,015*	..
Totals	61	23,759	708	4	2,106	45
<i>Educational-endowment Lands—</i>						
Primary	16	6,820	216	5	299	371
Secondary	3	1	40	1	1	1
Totals	19	6,821	256	6	300	372
Grand totals	272	60,478	4,694	100	57,242	2,929

* Royalty.

Table 24.—RETURN SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SELECTORS, WITH AREA OF CROWN LAND SELECTED OR HELD, THE YEARLY RENT OR INSTALMENT PAYABLE, AND THE AREA MADE FREEHOLD AT THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

System and Tenure.	Total Number of Selectors.	Total Area held.	Total Yearly Rental or Instalment payable.	Total Area made Freehold.	
				Number of Purchasers.	Area.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>		Acres.	£		Acres.
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	13,183,775
Deferred payment (Land Acts, 1877 and 1885) ..	9	713	30	9,523	1,096,486
Deferred payment (Land Laws Amendment Acts, 1912 and 1913, &c.) ..	377	96,941	6,416	133	34,258
Perpetual lease	366	32,035	1,715	2,964	840,865
Occupation with right of purchase	5,339	1,601,548	121,680	3,175	862,123
Lease in perpetuity	5,659	1,284,924	48,627	1,732	351,259
Renewable lease	580	135,901	21,658	140	30,144
Agricultural lease	12	319	14	1,475	140,896
Mining districts land occupation leases ..	706	22,803	1,548	43	1,499
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations ..	488	128,111	3,421	35	7,333
Small grazing-runs	187	390,783	17,804	23	23,557
Pastoral runs	433	6,420,395	41,292	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	5,486	1,112,633	35,393	..	..
Totals	19,642	11,227,106	299,598	..	16,572,195
<i>Cheviot Estate—</i>					
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6,862
Lease in perpetuity	210	26,866	7,294	..	..
Renewable lease	15	2,051	831	..	..
Grazing-farms	33	40,328	9,858	..	..
Pastoral runs	1	1,462	256	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	54	4,714	951	..	..
Totals	313	75,421	19,190	..	6,862
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>					
Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	..	648
Deferred payment	766	142,418	37,247	178	23,230
Lease in perpetuity	2,516	490,382	150,702	550	72,440
Renewable lease	2,027	761,088	198,301	130	30,120
Small grazing-runs	96	163,062	21,194	6	11,519
Pastoral runs	14	4,338	616	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	322	12,873	3,505	..	..
Totals	5,741	1,574,161	411,565	..	137,957
<i>National-endowment Lands—</i>					
Renewable lease	2,482	650,861	31,009	..	..
Pastoral licenses in mining districts under special regulations ..	429	90,701	2,128	..	..
Small grazing-runs	555	2,048,432	44,642	..	..
Pastoral runs	211	3,806,096	40,069	..	..
Miscellaneous leases and licenses	509	239,040	1,887	..	..
Totals	4,186	6,835,130	119,735	..	..
Thermal springs districts leases	328	3,650	2,135	..	..
<i>Educational-endowment Lands—</i>					
Primary	3,208	764,991	87,325	..	..
Secondary	420	38,993	9,142	..	..
Totals	3,628	803,984	96,467	..	..
Grand totals	33,838	20,519,452	948,690	..	16,717,014
Other endowment lands	741	351,179	16,091	..	..

SUMMARY SHOWING TOTAL LAND HELD IN EACH LAND DISTRICT.

District.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rent.
		Acres.	£
Auckland	7,769	1,912,774	117,668
Hawke's Bay	2,069	1,094,564	164,590
Taranaki	2,366	632,268	48,326
Wellington	4,142	977,019	110,722
Nelson	2,082	908,299	15,263
Marlborough	1,376	1,458,791	49,260
Westland	2,418	1,815,138	8,588
Canterbury	3,679	4,165,581	247,637
Otago	5,059	5,578,553	134,084
Southland	2,878	1,976,465	52,552
Totals	33,838	20,519,452	948,690

Table 25.—RETURN OF EDUCATION ENDOWMENTS AT 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Total Area set apart.	Area opened for Se- lection during the Year.	Taken up during the Year.			Expiries during the Year.			Renewal of Leases during the Year.		
			Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.
Primary Education.											
	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland	116,037	1,857	10	1,944	150	16	1,438	80	15	1,470	171
Hawke's Bay	80,413	..	1	372	119	2	742	89	1	370	169
Taranaki	51,096	87	5	45	168	9	494	101	4	399	270
Wellington	94,466	..	..	..	..	65	12,250	753	60	12,213	4,107
Nelson	11,296	2,559	1	55	8	5	9	11	5	9	11
Marlborough	1,119	..	..	..	..	2	107	16	1	461	64
Westland	14,613	..	1	50	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	70,142	..	6	2,585	1,486	10	1,219	941	3	141	108
Otago	45,438	..	2	1	5	4	3,109	192	3	3,109	267
Southland	348,205	291	20	14,758	962	11	19,151	144	7	6,091	258
Totals	832,825	4,794	46	19,810	2,899	124	38,519	2,327	99	24,263	5,425

<i>Secondary Education.</i>											
Auckland	10,337	112	1	112	7	12	234	103	11	219	181
Hawke's Bay	7,484	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki	2,355	2	3	3	14	3	3	8	..	..	..
Wellington	12,178	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	802	..	..	..	..	4	2	12	3	1	7
Marlborough	284	..	..	..	..	1	50	3	1	50	4
Westland	4,448	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	1,024	2,554	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Otago	2,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southland	579	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	41,591	2,668	6	116	22	20	289	126	15	270	192
Grand totals	874,416	7,462	52	19,926	2,921	144	38,808	2,453	114	24,533	5,617

District.	Forfeitures during the Year.			Surrenders during the Year.			Net Area held on 31st March, 1919.			Gross Amount received during the Year.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.	
	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.		Number.	Amount.
Primary Education.												
Auckland	1	Acres.	£	1	Acres.	£	563	Acres.	£	£	57	£
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	218	72,510	5,173	4,663	10	809
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	366	80,422	10,125	10,012	10	510
Wellington	5	6,347	189	..	..	..	503	47,994	6,441	6,444	10	73
Nelson	1	1	3	..	..	..	92	47,994	6,441	6,444	22	685
Marlborough	2	355	8	..	..	..	37	94,289	14,573	14,187	7	12
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57	6,618	477	455	..	..
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	223	1,115	487	444	4	126
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	380	10,359	413	583	10	631
Southland	7	116	15	4	298	368	769	69,081	26,735	25,855	9	12
Totals	16	6,820	216	5	299	371	3,208	42,663	4,622	5,221	5	7
Totals	16	6,820	216	5	299	371	3,208	339,940	18,279	18,568	134	2,865

<i>Secondary Education.</i>												
Auckland	3	1	40	..	..	..	181	9,038	1,712	1,697	26	239
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	7,592	1,942	1,863	1	25
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	2,317	1,104	1,099	1	21
Wellington .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	12,177	2,693	2,098	..	..
Nelson .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	816	124	109	3	2
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	286	89	124	..	..
Westland .. ..	..	..	1	1	1	1	30	3,209	113	475	..	..
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,024	270	270	..	..
Otago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	1,955	848	851	1	12
Southland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	579	247	249	..	..
Totals	3	1	40	1	1	1	420	38,993	9,142	8,835	32	299
Grand totals	19	6,821	256	6	300	372	3,628	803,984	96,467	95,267	166	3,164

Table 26.—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER VILLAGE-SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1919.*			Area made Freehold to Date.		Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements up to 31st March, 1919.	Amount of Advances which have been repaid to 31st March, 1919.
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental or Instalment payable, including Interest on Advances.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.		
			Acres.	£		Acres.	£	£
Auckland	5	81	3,124	296	91	611	2,312	2,438
Hawke's Bay .. .	14	113	3,570	1,976	424	2,555	877	469
Taranaki	3	14	55	10	441	3,170	..	..
Wellington	57	649	10,389	2,516	680	4,754	6,893	5,742
Nelson	1	5	11	6	..	..	..	..
Marlborough .. .	3	45	380	83	18	151	104	58
Westland	2	14	89	17	21	125	..	..
Canterbury	42	327	9,249	1,725	780	6,324	2,580	1,530
Otago	2	199	3,168	619	269	3,041	..	..
Southland.. . . .	39	264	3,974	599	1,077	10,118	1,106	730
Totals	168	1,711	34,009	7,847	3,801	30,849	13,872	10,967

* Includes holdings converted to deferred-payment license.

Table 27.—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER SPECIAL-SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1919.*			Area made Freehold to Date.	
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental or Instalment.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.
			Acres.	£		Acres.
Auckland	6	50	8,124	235	70	8,139
Hawke's Bay .. .	2	10	2,000	80	56	5,610
Taranaki	9	86	15,206	823	5	1,000
Wellington	50	335	60,803	3,548	930	100,301
Canterbury	4	38	4,817	325	4	518
Otago	1	14	2,765	121	..	..
Totals	72	533	93,715	5,132	1,065	115,568

* Includes holdings converted to deferred-payment license.

Table 28.—RETURN SHOWING THE AREA OF LAND SETTLED UNDER IMPROVED-FARM SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Number of Settlements.	Area held at 31st March, 1919.*			Area made Freehold to Date.		Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements.
		Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental or Instalment.	Number of Purchasers.	Area acquired.	
			Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland	12	115	15,748	1,960	..	..	26,696
Hawke's Bay .. .	2	15	1,692	219	2	219	2,020
Taranaki	19	321	45,629	5,100	40	3,986	44,913
Wellington	19	197	24,330	4,085	153	17,396	33,703
Southland.. . . .	4	30	3,312	200	15	1,422	12,058
Totals	56	678	90,701	11,564	210	23,023	119,390

* Includes holdings converted to deferred-payment license

Table 29.—LANDS DISPOSED OF UNDER THE LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACTS TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Net Area acquired, including ascertained Surplus.	Area occupied by Roads and Reserves unlet.	Area of Land unlet, including land forfeited, surrendered, or returned and not relet, and also land not yet offered for Selection.	Total Area purchased for Cash or made Freehold to Date.			Total Lands leased at Date.		
				Number of Purchasers.	Area.	Price realized.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland ..	318,557	7,067	76,816	560	89,199	178,653	901	145,476	31,989
Hawke's Bay ..	244,438	2,591	4	89	14,818	88,841	699	227,023	78,120
Taranaki ..	8,895	72	1,715	18	1,029	23,457	86	6,079	5,381
Wellington ..	94,554	886	1,755	85	5,036	57,584	539	86,877	41,219
Nelson ..	35,019	766	4,679	5	966	2,153	42	28,608	2,697
Marlborough ..	228,358	2,682	1,492	25	4,556	15,565	474	219,441	33,136
Westland ..	5,125	99	..	2	192	116	30	4,834	536
Canterbury ..	567,361	4,052	886	153	10,412	80,065	1,704	552,011	139,860
Otago ..	245,189	2,846	9,724	35	4,248	19,324	957	228,371	61,183
Southland ..	92,106	953	8,211	53	7,501	23,760	309	75,441	17,444
Totals ..	1,839,602	22,014	105,282	1,025	137,957	489,518	5,741	1,574,161	411,565

District.	Yearly Value of Unlet Land at 31st March, 1919.	Total Amount advanced to Selectors for Improvements.*	Rent and other Payments received during the Year.	Total Receipts from Inception to 31st March, 1919.	Selectors in Arrear on 31st March, 1919.		Holdings inspected during Year ended 31st March, 1919.			
					Number.	Amount.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.	Value of Improvements.	
									Required.	Actually made.
	£	£	£	£		£		Acres.	£	£
Auckland ..	6,566	2,209	68,479	546,300	88	3,545	91	16,221	1,660	4,976
Hawke's Bay ..	5	..	89,761	1,068,702	8	152	75	32,948	42,258	65,297
Taranaki ..	..	337	6,401	84,687	9	462	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	1,167	2,947	47,245	406,770	63	5,908	..	..	..	..
Nelson ..	198	850	2,208	25,259	5	627	4	3,562	2,471	3,693
Marlborough ..	496	..	35,439	405,126	7	1,528	186	68,525	62,916	115,581
Westland ..	..	..	610	9,820	1	11	28	5,023	3,320	25,000
Canterbury ..	554	2,785	152,811	1,746,807	65	3,858	654	332,575	377,874	396,667
Otago ..	5,440	..	63,846	805,643	15	820	52	15,900	12,500	18,200
Southland ..	676	..	19,517	230,384	7	303	248	64,209	74,548	138,367
Totals ..	15,102	9,128	486,317	5,329,498	268	17,214	1,338	538,963	577,547	767,781
Payments of capital value under section 191 of the Land Act, 1908 ..				3,466						
				5,332,964						

* Does not include advances under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act.

Table 30.—TRANSACTIONS IN BUSH, SWAMP, AND SCRUB LANDS UNDER SECTION 127 OF THE LAND ACT, 1908, DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Selections during the Year.											
	Heavy-bush Land.			Light-bush Land.			Scrub Land.			Totals.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Annual Rental.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nelson	6	4,618	162	2	1,646	38	..	..	..	8	6,264	200
Westland	2	509	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	509	10
Totals	8	5,127	172	2	1,646	38	..	..	..	10	6,773	210

District.	Total Area held at 31st March, 1919.											
	Heavy-bush Land.			Light-bush Land.			Scrub Land.			Swamp Land.		
	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.	Number of Selectors.	Area held.	Annual Rental.
		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£		Acres.	£
Auckland	9	5,120	723	..	..	..	2	139	73	11	5,259	796
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	7	7,393	702	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7,393	702
Nelson	91	45,567	1,282	12	16,317	167	1	389	8	104	62,273	1,457
Westland	14	4,576	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	4,576	94
Totals	121	62,656	2,801	12	16,317	167	1	389	8	2	79,501	3,049

Table 31.—INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE RANGERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

District.	Number of Properties visited.	Area.	Value of Improvements.		Number of Defaulters.				Total.
			Required.	Actually made.	For Deficient Improvements only.	For Non-residence only.	For Non-residence and Improvements.	For other Reasons	
		Acres.	£	£					
Auckland	526	112,868	64,944	153,135	16	80	24	3	123
Hawke's Bay	138	73,537	64,608	90,878	35	8	5	..	48
Taranaki	127	37,084	32,566	85,605	2	4	1	..	7
Wellington	208	149,109	7,935	12,214	4	8	..	..	12
Nelson	330	98,139	31,082	58,040	49	20	14	..	83
Marlborough	236	250,402	75,693	202,115	..	16	..	..	16
Westland	198	33,036	15,150	58,184	6	4	5	..	15
Canterbury	706	430,571	387,785	424,070	190	6	3	..	199
Otago	114	75,470	19,760	36,910	19	7	2	..	28
Southland	437	367,105	87,252	162,822	40	9	17	..	66
Totals	3,020	1,627,371	786,775	1,283,973	361	162	71	3	597

Table 32.—ADVANCES OBTAINED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADING CROWN LANDS, SHOWING THE AMOUNT BORROWED AND THE AMOUNT REPAID UP TO 31ST MARCH, 1919.

Land District.					Area.	Amount borrowed.	Amount repaid.
					Acres.	£	£
Auckland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,414,239	375,842	191,380
Hawke's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	523,693	159,863	88,276
Taranaki .. .. .	..	..	..	..	714,765	237,715	193,567
Wellington .. .. .	..	..	..	..	827,423	303,722	242,525
Nelson .. .. .	..	..	..	..	427,225	50,693	12,333
Marlborough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	218,326	30,073	94,910
Westland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	59,710	8,006	3,100
Canterbury .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3,552	1,821	1,226
Otago	324,306	24,775	26,751
Southland	188,597	43,920	29,707
Totals	4,701,836	1,242,450	823,775

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