

was as bad as February was good, and destroyed all hope of the realization of reasonable expectations. Had the autumn weather been good or even fair through the harvesting-period the province would have benefited enormously. Although the pasture has been so abundant the returns to the dairy-farmer have been only moderate so far. Some factories sold their output at the beginning of the season and are paying their suppliers quite good and remunerative returns. The soldiers who are suppliers to these are doing well. The number of such is rather limited, however. Although feed has been so plentiful it is doubtful if the yield of butterfat has kept pace with it. The soldiers found it difficult to get cows at the beginning of the season and impossible to get good breeds. The prices, too, rose very high. It will take some time, of course, to get together herds for soldier settlers which can be relied upon to produce the best results. Now that dairy-produce has hardened on the London market many of the soldiers should receive a substantial bonus in a few months' time.

So far as Southland is concerned, the prospects of the soldiers who have settled on the land are most promising. Clearing, burning, grassing, fencing, and building have been pushed on vigorously. Failures there have been and will be. Given reasonable prices and fair weather conditions the soldiers on the land in Southland should become permanent and prosperous farmers.

TABLE 1.

AREA OF LANDS PROCLAIMED FOR SETTLEMENT UNDER THE DISCHARGED SOLDIERS SETTLEMENT ACT, 1915.

District.	Under Section 3 of the Act. (Ordinary Tenures.)		Under Section 4 of the Act. (Special Tenures.)		Total Area proclaimed.	
	For the Year ended 31st March, 1922.	Total to 31st March, 1922.	For the Year ended 31st March, 1922.	Total to 31st March, 1922.	For the Year ended 31st March, 1922.	Total to 31st March, 1922.
<i>Ordinary Crown Lands—</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
North Auckland .. ..	..	1,575	2,393	18,001	2,393	19,576
Auckland	119	30,035	7,323	97,220	7,442	127,255
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	23,531	1,622	94,103	1,622	117,634
Taranaki .. ..	..	12,831	77	18,540	77	31,371
Wellington .. ..	..	884	6,200	68,382	6,200	69,266
Nelson .. ..	..	20,728	..	4,058	..	24,786
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	5,268	..	5,268
Westland .. ..	..	21,865	..	480	..	22,345
Canterbury .. ..	..	..	..	798	..	798
Otago .. ..	..	87,912	..	30,199	..	118,111
Southland .. ..	..	1,696	74	8,503	74	10,199
Totals	119	201,057	17,689	345,552	17,808	546,609
<i>Cheviot Estate, Canterbury</i>	..	..	..	3,356	..	3,356
<i>Land for Settlements—</i>						
North Auckland .. ..	..	..	3,974	18,868	3,974	18,868
Auckland .. ..	..	..	6,622	50,104	6,622	50,104
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	..	1,255	57,438	1,255	57,438
Taranaki .. ..	..	..	327	18,783	327	18,783
Wellington .. ..	..	707	1,494	38,250	1,494	38,957
Nelson .. ..	..	1,187	6,980	29,441	6,980	30,628
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	14,585	..	14,585
Westland .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury	173	44,834	..	42,193	173	87,027
Otago .. ..	..	17,652	3,458	45,241	3,458	62,893
Southland .. ..	..	2,535	..	5,674	..	8,209
Totals	173	66,915	24,110	320,577	24,283	387,492
<i>National Endowment—</i>						
North Auckland	3,701	21,581	..	..	3,701	21,581
Auckland	878	31,538	..	..	878	31,538
Hawke's Bay .. ..	..	3,732	..	..	..	3,732
Taranaki .. ..	..	2,826	..	..	..	2,826
Wellington .. ..	..	899	..	..	..	899
Nelson .. ..	..	13,465	..	..	..	13,465
Marlborough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland .. ..	..	5,887	..	..	..	5,887
Canterbury .. ..	..	209,567	..	..	..	209,567
Otago .. ..	..	134,216	..	..	..	134,216
Southland .. ..	..	6,593	..	..	..	6,593
Totals	4,579	430,304	..	..	4,579	430,304
Grand totals	4,871	698,276	41,799	669,485	46,670	1,367,761

NOTE.—During the year Proclamations setting apart 63,530 acres of Crown land and 38,426 acres of settlement land for discharged soldiers were revoked.