REPORT.

The main parts of the report for the year ending 31st March, 1926, comprise a summary of the operations of the field parties, grouped under appropriate headings, a brief account of the office-work performed, and extracts from the reports of the Chief Surveyors of the various land districts.

The attached tables, A, B, and 1 to 5 inclusive, contain a concise summary of the amount of work completed during the year under review. Fuller details are given in the report by the Chief Surveyors appended hereto.

Under the heading of "Rural Surveys" in Table B an area of 143,888 acres is shown as completed work, as compared with 90,837 acres for last year, an increase of 53,051 acres; and under the heading of "Native-land Surveys" the area of completed work is shown as 139,369 acres, a decrease of 72,378 acres as compared with last year's return.

The average cost per acre of rural-land surveys shows a decrease of 6d., while the cost per acre of the Native-land surveys is about the same as shown on last year's return. The above rates show that the work is being done at a reasonable price.

TABLE A.

Class of Work.	Area, &c.	Average Cost.	Total Cost.		
Topographical surveys (contoured), by staff Rural, by staff , by private surveyors Suburban, by staff Town, by staff , by private surveyors Native Land Court, by staff , by private surveyor Roads, &c., by staff py private surveyor		1550·2 sq. miles 15,596 acres 142,368 ,, 1,520 ,, 391·5 ,, 562 sections 1 section 50,078 acres 89,291 ,, 126·6 miles 1 mile	£6.04 per mile 6.95d. per acre 1.80s. ,, 4.29s. ,, 19.96s. ,, £2.27 ,, £9.45 ,, 1.92s. ,, 2.89s. ,, £33.47 per mile £38.85 ,,	\$\frac{\partial}{0}\$ s. s. 3,323 0 451 12 12,820 16 326 0 390 13 1,274 10 9 9 4,799 15 12,905 0 4,237 12 38 17	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 0 \\ 9 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{array} $

TABLE B.

Land District.			Rural Survey.	Native Land Court.	
				Acres.	Acres.
North Auckland				6,851	7,332
Auckland				3,428	73,685
$\operatorname{Gisborne} \dots$				5,844	15,509
Hawke's Bay				8,289	8,856
Taranaki			[18,079	1,160
Wellington				1,137	30,708
${f Marlborough}$					499
Nelson				565	••
${f Westland}$				5,141	••
Canterbury				3,108	7 87
Otago				77,242	585
Southland	• •	• •		14,204	. 248
Totals				143,888	139,369

MINOR TRIANGULATION.

The erection of five permanent signals on stations in the vicinity of Wellington was completed. The observation of the angles is held in abeyance on account of pressure of work on settlement surveys in the Hutt Valley.