

as follows : Warrant certificates of title, 154 ; leases, 494 ; Native partition orders, 30 ; and soldiers' mortgages, 10. The work of the computing branch has been well maintained, 100 plans, consisting of 53 rural, 32 road, and 15 others, having been examined for approval. The Land Transfer draughtsman reports 121 plans examined, 3,250 diagrams put on certificates of title, and 330 other documents examined. Maps mounted number 724 ; books bound, 122 ; and 10,010 forms printed. I am pleased to report that a start has now been made with the numbering and indexing of the plans in the safe, and during the coming year considerable headway should be made with this very necessary work.

*Proposed Operations for 1929-30.*—Mr. Phillipps will complete the repegging of the 260 Crown sections in the Town of Pembroke, and then do the subdivision of the Pisa Flats and various spotting surveys. On resuming in the spring he will undertake the survey of Run 223N, Lauder Survey District. Mr. Greig will carry on with the 9,700 acres in Tiger Hill Survey District, and, after completing some spotting work, commence the Mansford Town standard survey.

#### SOUTHLAND LAND DISTRICT (N. C. KENSINGTON, Chief Surveyor).

*Standard Surveys.*—The standard survey of the Borough of Invercargill has been continued by Mr. Otway, acting under the direct control of the Surveyor-General. The field-work of this survey is now almost completed, and good progress has been made with the preparation of the plans.

*Triangulation.*—The work carried out under this heading was the revision of the triangulation and reestablishment of lost stations where the Survey Districts of Wyndham and Oteramika adjoin. This survey covered an area of 7,200 acres and established the convergence between the two districts, which are in separate meridional circuits and separated by the Mataura River. The revision is of great value in the checking of surveys in both districts adjoining the Mataura River.

*Rural.*—Four surveys were completed, of 458 acres, divided into 6 sections, and comprised settlement, education-reserve, and Crown land.

*Native Land Court Surveys.*—One Native Land Court survey, containing 209 acres, divided into 8 subdivisions, was carried out by a private surveyor.

*Village and Suburban.*—Under this section 5 surveys, totalling 226 acres, were divided into 27 sections, and comprised Crown and education-reserve land.

*Town-section Surveys.*—24 sections were laid off in 4 surveys, with a total area of 6·8 acres. This includes Waikiwi Township Extension No. 1, a subdivision of an education reserve situated close to the Borough of Invercargill.

*Other Work.*—Included under this heading are 4 redefinition surveys of boundaries, levels of two areas for drainage purposes, a river-boundary survey to show losses by flood, chainage between two trigonometrical stations, survey of foreshore, subdivision of 2 Crown sections into firewood areas, reopening 7 miles of road and section lines for settlement purposes, and exploring and grading 2 miles of new road, valuation of sections opened for selection, repegging of sections in Town of Clifden, survey fixing occupation of a section, 2 surveys of land to be taken for road, and further plotting on plans of Sounds topographical survey. Mr. Preston spent four months in the field on the topographical survey in the vicinity of Dusky Sound.

*Inspection Surveys.*—Two inspections of Land Transfer surveys and one of a Native survey were made during the year. One of the Land Transfer surveys was very unsatisfactory, and after reference to Head Office the surveyor was compelled to repeg the whole survey. The other two inspections disclosed quite satisfactory work.

*Traverse Closures.*—A summary of some of the staff surveys carried out by Mr. Preston shows that 9·8 miles, controlled by 83 stations, closed on an average to 0·14 links per mile on the meridian and 0·12 links per mile on the perpendicular.

*Proposed Operations.*—Mr. Preston will complete the mapping of the Sounds topographical survey, covering an area of approximately 580 square miles, and will undertake surveys as required.

*Office-work.*—During the year 72 Land Transfer plans, with a total area of 3,088 acres, divided into 254 lots, and 40 Survey Office plans of various descriptions, totalling 8,572 acres, were examined and approved ; 143 traverse sheets, 23 tracings, and 32 schedules for road takings and closings were examined ; 317 diagrams were endorsed on Crown leases, 16 on Native partition orders, and 74 on Crown grants ; 1,813 diagrams were endorsed on certificates of title for Land Transfer purposes, and diagrams on 956 Land Transfer instruments of title were examined and passed ; 307 working, 148 ordinary, 8 poster, and 76 valuation tracings were made, being a total of 539 tracings ; 14 Survey Office plans were compiled, and 3 plans, 5 tracings, and 259 lithographs were mounted and 157 lithographs were coloured ; 2 plans were redrawn ; 1 Land Transfer record sheet, 4 application maps, and 3 Crown-grant record maps were drawn ; 5 application maps were coloured, and 275 plans were recorded on various maps ; 1 plan and 8 tracings were drawn for photo-lithographic reproduction, and 9 standard publications were revised ; 19 plans of the standard survey of Invercargill were drawn, and 2 wall-maps of parts of the land district on 80-chain scale were made ; 37 index maps of the Borough of Invercargill were revised for the Valuation Department. The compilation of the new plan register has been steadily proceeded with.