

## LANDS FOR SELECTION.

During the year 406,408 acres were taken up on various tenures, the number of selections being 1,448 under all headings. These figures include some 623 sections, comprising altogether an area of 103,719 acres, taken up under miscellaneous leases and licenses, so that the selections on permanent tenures numbered 825 sections, covering a total area of 302,689 acres. The following table gives the selections of Crown lands for the last five years :—

## SELECTIONS UNDER ALL TENURES.

| Year ending      |       | Number. | Area,<br>Acres. |
|------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| 31st March, 1928 | .. .. | 1,913   | 460,590         |
| 31st March, 1929 | .. .. | 1,911   | 462,563         |
| 31st March, 1930 | .. .. | 2,091   | 402,900         |
| 31st March, 1931 | .. .. | 1,639   | 368,809         |
| 31st March, 1932 | .. .. | 1,448   | 406,408         |

Only one estate was opened for general application during the year under the Land for Settlements Act—viz., the Wairakau Settlement in the Auckland Land District—comprising fourteen sections of a total area of 2,001 acres.

The following group settlements under Part II of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1928, were allotted during the year :—

| Land District.       | Name of Settlement. | Number of Holdings. | Area.  |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
|                      |                     |                     | Acres. |
| North Auckland .. .. | Tauraroa .. ..      | 2                   | 1,142  |
| Auckland .. ..       | Te Poi .. ..        | 2                   | 177    |
| Auckland .. ..       | Hannon .. ..        | 2                   | 292    |
| Auckland .. ..       | Norwegians .. ..    | 3                   | 308    |
| Gisborne .. ..       | Rere .. ..          | 2                   | 171    |
| Wellington .. ..     | Bryce .. ..         | 3                   | 395    |
| Southland .. ..      | McCallum .. ..      | 4                   | 285    |
| Totals .. ..         | .. ..               | 18                  | 2,770  |

The total of 406,408 acres selected during the year includes lands taken up under both permanent and temporary tenures, and also town and suburban lands. The *permanent* selections of *rural lands only* were as follows :—

| Class of Land.                          | Number of Rural<br>Sections selected. | Total Area selected. |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
|   |                                       | Acres.               |
| Crown and national-endowment land .. .. | 361                                   | 123,647              |
| Settlement land .. ..                   | 73                                    | 15,981               |
| Education reserves, &c. .. ..           | 22                                    | 3,038                |
| Grand totals .. ..                      | 456                                   | 142,666              |

The lands dealt with above comprise both areas offered for the first time and areas which became available for reoffering through various reasons. The figures for *entirely new* rural areas selected during the year are as follows :—

| Class of Land.                          | Number of New Rural<br>Sections selected. | Total Area selected for<br>the First Time. |
|---|---|--|
|   |   | Acres.                                     |
| Crown and national-endowment land .. .. | 166                                       | 38,574                                     |
| Settlement land .. ..                   | 43  | 6,547                                      |
| Education reserves, &c. .. ..           | 7   | 688  |
| Grand totals .. ..                      | 216                                       | 45,809                                     |

The demand for land has on the whole been well maintained, particularly for medium-sized areas of unimproved and partially improved land.