

offset by the areas withdrawn, which approximated 24,500 acres, and consisted of 21,100 acres made available for settlement under the Land Act and 3,400 acres set aside under the Scenery Preservation Act.

It was found necessary to slightly adjust last year's figures, as the result of recent surveys disclosing cases of overlapping boundaries, incorrect areas, &c. It is inevitable that further instances of this kind will occur as later survey data become available.

The area dedicated to forestry purposes does not yet equal 12 per cent. of the total area of the Dominion, and is still insufficient to supply adequately the future needs of the Dominion.

## 2. LEGISLATION.

No amendments to the Forests Act, 1921-22, were made during the year under review.

By section 8 of the Reserves and other Lands Disposal Act, 1931, an area of 3,290 acres in Maungatapu Survey District (Nelson-Marlborough Forest Conservation Region) was withdrawn from State forest and made a scenic reserve.

Section 12 of the same Act authorized the cancellation of the reservation as a provisional State forest of an area of 248 acres in Waiwhero and Mawheranui Survey Districts, Westland Forest Conservation Region, in order that it could be set apart for the purposes of Part III of the Coal-mines Act, 1925.

## 3. FINANCE.

### *Receipts.*

The forest receipts for the past financial year from all sources were £55,558. Details, together with comparisons with the previous two years, are appended.

TABLE 2.

Item.	1931-32.	1930-31.	1929-30.
Indigenous-forest receipts—	£	£	£
Timber-sales .. .. .	36,320	56,391	60,711
Timber royalties and trespass .. .. .	3,751	3,538	6,790
Leases—Grazing .. .. .	1,704	2,093	2,115
Sawmill-sites, industrial, &c. .. .. .	1,865	1,636	2,850
Miscellaneous .. .. .	2,249	3,723	9,685
National Endowment Account allocation .. .. .	6,391	9,866	12,156
Nurseries and plantations—			
Trees and seeds .. .. .	3,278	5,271	8,082
Firewood and poles .. .. .		298	1,117
Miscellaneous .. .. .		1,899	2,131
Totals .. .. .	55,558	84,715	105,637

The main reason for the decrease in revenue is the continued depressed state of the sawmilling industry, which has resulted in the complete cessation of operations by a number of millers and the working of part time only by others.

### *Payments.*

The net expenditure from the State Forests Account for the past financial year was £275,177, a detailed analysis of which is set out herein, also comparisons with the years 1929-30 and 1930-31.

TABLE 3.

Item.	1931-32.	1930-31.	1929-30.
Fixed charges and staff salaries—	£	£	£
Interest and loan expenses .. .. .	90,223	82,809	59,884
Staff salaries .. .. .	40,974	49,526	47,817
Allocation of revenue—			
National Endowment Account .. .. .	6,337	9,495	6,971
Local-body payments .. .. .	6,416	10,346	11,522
Management, establishment, and development—			
Indigenous forests .. .. .	12,893	32,331	28,520
Fire-fighting equipment and prevention .. .. .	1,578	1,454	1,295
Educational—Reference library, &c. .. .. .	276	742	525
Research and experimental equipment, &c. .. .. .	1,199	4,867	6,387
Afforestation—Nurseries and plantations .. .. .	107,795	194,556	248,404
Sand-dune reclamation .. .. .	110	480	1,689
Land-purchase .. .. .	6,874	6,361	12,958
Miscellaneous .. .. .	502	98	1,446
Totals .. .. .	275,177	393,065	427,418