

Timber-cruising.—An area of 86 acres, containing 2,328,000 ft. board measure, was cruised in the Southland Region for a private owner.

Silvicultural Survey of Exotic Forests.—During the year some 25,000 acres of exotic forests situated in the Auckland Conservancy were closely examined on the ground with a view to evaluating the work already done and deciding on future activities. Statements setting out the present condition of the areas and detailing their silvicultural requirements for the next five years are now in the course of completion. In order to facilitate the inspection special plans 1 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft., on a scale of 5 chains to an inch, were compiled at Head Office, showing species and contour-lines and were of considerable help in quickly fixing the positions of the failed, established, and waste areas. This work will be continued until all the State plantations have been dealt with.

4. FOREST ATLAS.

During the year forty-seven general-purpose plans were added to the record. To the forest atlas 546 additions (comprising additions to and deletions from State forests, recording of sawmill, grazing, and mining license, &c.) were made, and to the forest register fifty-four additions were made.

Work on plantation plans comprised the preparation of two topographical plans (Pebbly Hills and Golden Downs) and one species plan (Waipoua), and additions were made to the topographical and species plans of all plantations; forty-three white prints, prepared from the above plans, were coloured for use as species plans.

The Public Works, Railway, and Post and Telegraph Departments prepared for Service use 327 helio prints and 171 photostat prints, of which 152 and 90 respectively were for regional use. One map (Rimutaka Range) was prepared for lithography, and 300 copies were printed.

5. STATE AFFORESTATION.

The following summarized statement sets out the position regarding the establishment of State exotic plantations at the close of the year. From it it will be seen that the new planted areas total 30,532 acres, of which 23,159 acres are located on Kaingaroa Plains, Rotorua Region. Other main areas in order of size are Golden Downs (Nelson Region) 2,181 acres; Tairua (Auckland Region) 1,927 acres; Karioi (Wellington Region) 1,199 acres. The total figures for the previous year's planting were 15,958 acres, and during the forthcoming season it is anticipated that at least a further 23,000 acres will be afforested.

The grand total area of all State plantations throughout the Dominion is 394,000 acres.

TABLE 4.
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN PLANTATIONS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1934.

Plantation.	Year of Establishment.	New Area planted, 1933.	Total Net Area established.	Gross Area of Plantation.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Waipoua	1925	532	824	12,600
Puhipuhi	1904	..	849	1,558
Riverhead	1926	241	10,999	11,934
Maramarua	1928	197	12,280	14,146
Tairua	1930	1,927	9,930	54,400
Whakarewarewa	1898	..	7,591	10,076
Waiotapu	1901	..	7,051	8,003
Kaingaroa	1913	23,159	233,055	329,065
Erua	1930	449	2,359	3,477
Karioi	1927	1,199	16,077*	33,689
Golden Downs	1927	2,281	17,757	22,527
Westland	1922	272	3,063	8,006
Hanmer	1901	..	7,750	10,308
Balmoral	1916	31	20,647	24,014
Eyrewell	1928	88	18,055	19,266
Dusky Hill	1898	..	4,368	6,829
Conical Hills	1903	..	3,551	3,765
Naseby	1900	..	3,308	4,032
Pukerau	1915	..	565	628
Blue Mountains	1925	27	8,732	9,628
Pebbly Hills	1930	7	4,332	5,867
Minor areas	1875-1933	122	855	2,947
Totals	30,532	393,998*	596,765

* 1,163 acres direct sown in 1932 excluded.