

APPENDIX G.

NORTH ISLAND MAIN TRUNK RAILWAY.

REPORT ON THE CHARACTER OF THE LANDS AFFECTED VIA CENTRAL ROUTE, BY MR. H. J. LOWE.

Department of Lands and Survey,
District Office, Wellington, 4th September, 1899.

REFERRING to your memorandum of the 22nd ultimo (S.G. 39554), I have the honour to forward herewith a report by Mr. District Surveyor Lowe on the value of the lands adjacent to the line of railway between Taihape and the northern boundary of the Wellington District.

I regret that time has not permitted the work being done more fully. Mr. Lowe and a couple of draughtsmen have done their best; and the information and plans, so far as I can find, are as asked for.

The Surveyor-General, Wellington.

J. MACKENZIE,

For Chief Surveyor.

Wellington, 4th September, 1899.

TABLE showing Lands along the Central Route of the North Island Main Trunk Railway, starting from an East-and-West Line through Taihape, and extending for Ten Miles on either Side of the Line to the Boundary of the Wellington Land District at Taumaranui, showing the Crown, Native, and Alienated Lands, their Approximate Areas, and Present and Past Selling-values; also some Notes of Timber, Soil, &c.

Name of Block.	Area within Ten-mile Limit.	Tenure.						General Remarks.
		Crown.	Value.	Native.	Value.	Alienated.	Value.	
Awarua ..	55,048	Acres. 900	£ 1,350	Acres. ..	£ ..	Acres. ..	£ ..	680 acres open fern and grass country, 220 acres undulating bush country, medium-size mixed. Average price, £1 10s. per acre.
Awarua ..	..	..	..	31,300	62,600	..	..	Mostly open fern and grass country, hilly, undulating, with areas of agricultural land all suitable for small farms. Average price, £2. Contains about 3,000 acres of good milling timber.
Awarua ..	..	..	..	..	..	22,848	33,000	Occupied in farms under 640 acres. Sold at £1 10s.
Motukawa ..	32,935	10,278	8,300	..	..	..	..	900 acres low country on river, partly open, partly good bush; 1,300 acres high open country, light soil, on limestone; 8,000 acres high bush and open country, on limestone, containing rimu, matai, and some totara, also a great quantity of good kaiwaka (or pihautea): 12s. 6d. to £1 2s. 6d.
Motukawa ..	..	..	..	22,657	30,000	..	..	Open fern and grass country, some up to 2,000 ft. above sea, some up to 3,000 ft.; also undulating and flat bush, of which at least 2,000 acres could be milled. Flat and undulating land around Turangarere could be cropped.
Te Kapua ..	8,200	300	375	..	..	7,900	9,875	Practically all sold in farms of 200 acres, with some small improved farms under 50 acres; also contains site of proposed township of Mataroa, 300 acres. Average selling-price of whole block, 17s. 6d. to £1 10s.
Ponuiotane ..	6,600	2,200	2,750	..	..	..	..	Bush country; hilly; cut into farms of 200 acres, but forfeited, and now open for selection.
Ponuiotane ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,400	5,500	Hilly bush country; sold in areas of 200 acres each, and now being felled and cleared for sheep.
Ngaurukehu ..	9,251	1,120	1,400	..	..	..	..	Hilly, mixed-bush country, good soil; can cut into small areas; not much for milling purposes. Average price, £1 5s.
Ngaurukehu ..	..	..	..	8,131	10,164	..	..	Hilly bush and open country, good soil; could cut into small farms. Average price, £1 5s. Some good flax-swamps.
Ruanui ..	11,166	1,610	3,220	..	..	..	..	Hilly mixed-bush and open country, improved; let to Europeans by the Natives.
Ruanui ..	..	..	..	9,536	27,668	..	..	Hilly, undulating, and flat bush and open country; improved, and carrying about three sheep to the acre. Leased by Natives to Europeans.
Raketapauma ..	19,689	7,976	6,640	11,713	10,400	..	..	High land, 2,000 ft. to 3,000 ft.; open tussock, bush, and swamp; some suitable for farms under 640 acres, and balance under 2,000 acres. Bush contains good rimu, and matai, and kaiwaka, also some good totara, but somewhat difficult of access for milling purposes, more especially the eastern portion.
Maungakaretu ..	9,744	535	535	1,509	1,509	7,700	5,775	Sold over ten years ago, in areas under 2,000 acres, at 15s. per acre; mostly cleared and under sheep.
Rangipo-Waiiau	43,000	34,598	21,625	8,402	5,274	..	..	High, open tussock country, 2,000 ft. to 3,000 ft.; pumice-sand on limestone. Partly bought by the Crown; leased until 1903 to Europeans; could be greatly improved if cut into areas up to 5,000 acres.
Carried forward	195,633	59,517	46,195	93,248	147,615	42,848	54,150	