

1947
NEW ZEALAND

FIRE BRIGADES OF THE DOMINION

(REPORT ON THE) BY THE INSPECTOR OF FIRE BRIGADES

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency

The INSPECTOR OF FIRE BRIGADES to the Hon. the MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
Office of the Inspector of Fire Brigades,
Wellington, 10th October, 1947.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the thirty-sixth annual report on the working of the Fire Brigades Act, 1926, for the year ending 31st March, 1947.

ADMINISTRATION

1. No new Fire Boards were created during the year and the number in operation remains at sixty. Several tentative applications for the formation of new Boards were made, but approval was deferred in view of the probability that the new legislation would be passed in the 1947 session. If this is not done, it will be necessary to review the whole question.

DOMINION FIRE WASTE

2. The insured fire loss in New Zealand for 1945, the latest year for which national figures have been prepared, was approximately £639,000. In past years the national loss has been estimated for the purpose of these reports by adding to the insurance pay-out an amount of 12½ per cent. to cover losses not insured. In 1945, however, there were two very large fires in Government stores (at Palmerston North and Te Awamutu) which together accounted for an uninsured loss of £660,000. The returns from fire districts show that the 12½ per cent. is, if anything, on the low side, so that the fire wastage for 1945 was certainly not less than £1,379,000. This is the heaviest loss since 1928. The fire district returns for 1946-47 in this report show that the losses in 1946 also have been high, and it is evident that the period of low losses which began in the depression and continued throughout the war years has come to an end.

3. Fire losses tend to run in cycles of high and low loss. The reasons for this are not clear. The cycles do not directly follow boom and depression periods, but probably have broad reference to economic conditions, varied in individual years by the incidence

of large fires. This trend is well illustrated in the following table, which sets out the insured fire losses for the years 1918–44. It will be seen that following the First World War there was a high loss cycle extending over twelve years from 1921 to 1932, with a peak in 1928. The average annual cost to the insurance companies over this period was £997,000 and the national loss at least £1,125,000. There was a sharp drop in 1933, and the low loss cycle continued until 1945, with a small rise in 1940–41 and minima in 1937 and 1943. The average insured loss over this period was £539,000, and by a coincidence the twelve lean underwriting years were exactly balanced by twelve fat ones. The bulk of the loss in 1945 was not insured, but it is clear that the underwriters will again have been heavily hit in 1946.

Table 1.—Insured Fire Losses, 1918–44

Year.	Loss.	Year.	Loss.	Year.	Loss.
	£(000)		£(000)		£(000)
1918	472	1927	1,211	1936	466
1919	391	1928	1,454	1937	463
1920	449	1929	1,094	1938	596
1921	739	1930	1,013	1939	587
1922	739	1931	1,149	1940	642
1923	796	1932	771	1941	715
1924	1,009	1933	573	1942	484
1925	862	1934	504	1943	426
1926	1,129	1935	540	1944	478

4. History has a habit of repeating itself, and the importance of the above figures is that they establish that a high fire-loss cycle is possible, not to say probable, in the present post-war inflationary period. The increase in the number of property fires in urban areas referred to in last year's report is being maintained, and the 1945 and 1946 losses, although not conclusive, give some indication that the conditions operating in 1921–32 have developed earlier than after the First World War. Experience in this and in other countries has shown that fire losses can be reduced, if not controlled, by fire-prevention activities and by the maintenance of a high standard of efficiency in the Fire Service. The proposed Fire Service Bill, discussed in previous reports, is designed to provide more effective machinery than was available in the past for dealing with both these aspects.

FIRES IN FIRE DISTRICTS

5. It will be seen from the statistical returns in Table 3 that a number of most unwelcome records have been established in fire districts during the year under review :—

- (1) The total fire loss (£1,201,508) exceeded by £500,000 the previous record loss in 1928–29.
- (2) The loss in large fires (£1,009,630) was almost double the loss in 1928–29, which was the previous record.
- (3) The wool-store fire in Wellington involved the largest insurance pay-out made on any single fire in New Zealand. This is understood to have been the second largest insured loss in the world during 1946.
- (4) The pay-out for the year by the insurance companies—insured loss plus Fire Board levies—was £1,279,535, or only slightly less than the total premium income of £1,286,976.

6. The number of fires during the year in which the loss exceeded £5,000 was nineteen, as compared with the previous record of fifteen in 1945-46. It is noteworthy that seventeen of these fires occurred between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. This fact emphasizes the necessity stressed on a number of occasions in these reports of developing the Fire Service with special reference to large fires and particularly those occurring in the night hours.

Table 2.—Fires with Loss exceeding £5,000

Locality.	Day and Date.	Time.	Occupation of Premises in which Fire occurred.	Cause of Fire.	Loss.
					£
Auckland ..	Friday, 30/8/46 ..	9.30 p.m.	Bedding-factory ..	Unknown ..	10,880
Christchurch ..	Thursday, 8/8/46 ..	10.46 p.m.	Picture-theatre and shops ..	" ..	14,055
" ..	Thursday, 15/8/46 ..	4.13 p.m.	Joinery-factory ..	" ..	15,327
" ..	Monday, 19/8/46 ..	11.52 p.m.	Footwear-factory ..	" ..	72,443
" ..	Friday, 14/3/47 ..	8.44 p.m.	Wool-store ..	" ..	10,719
Dannevirke ..	Thursday, 19/12/46 ..	1.45 a.m.	Box-factory ..	" ..	10,000
Dunedin ..	Tuesday, 6/8/46 ..	9.10 p.m.	Clothing-factory ..	Lighted cigarette ..	12,864
Invercargill ..	Friday, 20/12/46 ..	5.06 a.m.	Warehouse ..	Unknown ..	21,400
Lower Hutt ..	Friday, 7/6/46 ..	6.30 a.m.	Church ..	Gas heating-system left on ..	5,680
" ..	Friday, 14/2/47 ..	3.38 a.m.	Joinery-factory ..	Spark from fire ..	8,500
Napier ..	Tuesday, 5/11/46 ..	11.40 p.m.	Hospital laundry ..	Electric iron left on ..	24,000
Rotorua ..	Monday, 21/10/46 ..	3.05 a.m.	Sawmill ..	Unknown ..	5,750
Tauranga ..	Friday, 28/10/46 ..	2 a.m.	Fruit-packing shed ..	" ..	9,840
Te Awamutu ..	Wednesday, 19/2/47 ..	9 p.m.	High school ..	Arson ..	6,288
Upper Hutt ..	Wednesday, 11/12/46 ..	4.40 a.m.	Orphanage ..	Electric-wiring defect ..	13,550
Wanganui ..	Monday, 30/12/46 ..	10.19 p.m.	Hotel ..	Unknown ..	33,216
Wellington ..	Wednesday, 25/9/46 ..	3.15 a.m.	Wool-store ..	" ..	676,700
" ..	Sunday, 23/3/47 ..	4.53 a.m.	Offices and store ..	" ..	8,103
Whangarei ..	Sunday, 2/3/47 ..	1 p.m.	Retail store ..	" ..	50,315
				Total ..	1,009,630

LOSS OF LIFE IN FIRES

7. Fourteen deaths occurred in or from burns received at fires during the year. The fact that this number is one below the average of a ten-year period for which records have been kept is in itself sufficient to justify the expenditure necessary for the resumption of fire-prevention work. Eleven of the deaths resulted from fires in dwellings, in one case a baby died from burns received in the ignition of its pram, and two deaths resulted from an explosion of petrol vapours.

NEW LEGISLATION

8. Very little progress had been made with the Fire Service Bill before the end of the year under review. The departmental draft of the proposed Bill was circulated to the interests concerned in August, 1946, and the proposals were fully reviewed in this report last year. A definite indication was given that Government would not proceed with the legislation unless the conflicting interests could compromise their major differences and come to an agreement at least on the principles involved. This agreement was not achieved until the end of August, 1947, and representations were then made to the Minister asking for certain modifications of the draft Bill and that the legislation be enacted this year. It is very unlikely that this will be practicable. The delay in reaching agreement was due in large measure to the controversy which has been going on for some years past with respect to the service conditions of both the permanent firemen and of the volunteer brigades. A brief review of both questions in this report is therefore warranted.

SERVICE CONDITIONS, PERMANENT STAFF

9. The basis of employment known as the continuous-duty system has been in operation for the permanent or full-time firemen ever since they were first employed about the turn of the present century. The men are required to reside on the station and to respond to all fire calls, but the working-hours on routine duties have not at any time been onerous. In the early years the service conditions were almost as restrictive as those of seafaring men, from whom the staff was largely recruited, but the leave arrangements were later improved, and residential quarters were provided for the married officers and senior firemen. The congested living conditions at first provided were the source of family troubles, and when the new central station was built in Dunedin in 1930, each set of quarters was provided with separate entrance, laundry, and garden or drying-ground. This standard has since been adopted throughout the Service for attached or semi-detached quarters, and fully detached houses have been provided whenever sufficient land was available.

10. The continuous-duty system involves the provision of residential stations with full provision for recreation for the men not provided with married quarters. In 1936, after the 40-hour week was made general, the whole question of Fire Service conditions was discussed by the Government with representatives of Fire Boards employing permanent staff. It was agreed that the continuous-duty system should be continued, but that the firemen should have the benefit of the same additional leisure as was provided in industry by the reduction in working-hours under the new legislation. The Boards agreed that the improved scale should be based on the most favourable conditions then existing, and the basis of day leave every fourth day and eight weeks' extended leave was introduced throughout the Service. An undertaking was also given that additional married quarters would be provided wherever practicable, and this has been done in most centres employing permanent staff.

11. The improved leave conditions granted in 1936 involved an increase in establishment to maintain the turnout strength, and by 1938 the number of permanent men in the Service had increased from 252 to 304. During the war a further increase was necessary for the training of the emergency firemen and the protection of Service camps and storage areas. On reversion to peacetime conditions the Boards agreed to maintain an increased turnout and most of the additional men were retained. It had not been possible under wartime conditions to continue the housing scheme, and by 1946 the authorized permanent strength had reached 433, but only 189 of the 303 married men were provided with family quarters.

12. There was some unrest in the Service in the immediate post-war period due partly to the inequalities between the conditions of quartered and non-quartered firemen and partly to the fact that Fire Service conditions had remained the same since 1936 while those in industry had been improved by the compulsory-holiday legislation and the payment of special allowances for work at night and on week-ends and holidays. This culminated in proposals by the unions for a 60-hour week. These were declined by the Fire Boards on the grounds that they were in effect a request for a three-platoon or shift system, which was not justified by New Zealand conditions or requirements. A committee of departmental officers was instructed to prepare alternative proposals, and these were finally submitted to a Tribunal set up under the Strikes and Lockouts Emergency Regulations.

13. In most countries the permanent fire brigades work under either a two-platoon (84-hour week) or three-platoon (56-60-hour week) system, and some explanation is necessary as to why it is desired to retain the continuous-duty system in New Zealand. The permanent Service has almost without exception grown up as an extension of the volunteer fire brigades, which provided the first organized fire-protection system.

Staffing with permanent firemen becomes necessary at the stage when the residential district of a city or town moves so far from the business centre that the volunteer firemen can no longer be assembled in time to deal adequately with fires in the high-risk area. In the early years of the Service, continuous duty over long hours by the permanent staff was general. When ideas of what were reasonable labour conditions altered, most countries adopted the shift system, while in New Zealand it was found possible to give relief by providing a higher standard of living accommodation for the single men and family quarters for the married firemen.

14. So far as the firemen themselves are concerned, the men on platoon system live away from the stations, and by some this is regarded as an advantage. It is one which will depend largely on the housing and transport conditions existing at any time. On the other hand, the New Zealand conditions, as amended by the Tribunal in June, 1947, set a very high standard. The basic wages determined by the Arbitration Court are comparable with those in industry. Residential accommodation is of a high standard. Full uniform is provided. No overtime is paid, but instead the men receive a night, week-end, and holiday duty allowance of 17s. per week. Married men receive either free house, lighting, and firing or, if not provided with quarters, an allowance of £2 0s. 9d. per week. Extended leave of eight weeks per year is given and day leave every third day during duty periods. It is noted that these improved conditions will involve the employment of additional permanent men, the number depending on the extent to which housing is provided.

15. There is something to be said for both systems. It would be both costly and inconvenient in the large cities of the world to provide residential accommodation except in the suburban areas. The urban transport systems, moreover, normally permit the firemen to live many miles from their duty station. All that is required for platoon operation is an engine-room, dormitory for the night crew, and suitable stores, offices, and lavatories. The number of men required, and therefore the wages cost, is higher, but this is offset to some extent by the lower overhead and maintenance on buildings. In New Zealand we are committed to the continuous-duty system by the extensive provision of living accommodation adapted to this form of duty which has been provided over the last thirty years. If we were now to change over to the platoon system, the additional cost of the residential stations would be lost without any compensating benefit.

16. The purpose of this review is to stress the desirability of determining some long-term policy for Service conditions. The agreement arrived at between the Fire Boards and the unions, which was confirmed by the Tribunal referred to, has a currency of three years only. It is based on the maintenance of the continuous-duty system. The Boards undertook to proceed with the housing programme, and the housing-allowance payable to married men not provided with family quarters is a penal one designed to enforce compliance with this undertaking. Proposals for new housing are already under consideration at Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua, Masterton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Lower Hutt, and Timaru, but a major expenditure of the order contemplated would not be justified if the duty system is liable to change on the expiration of a three-year agreement. The Fire Boards, therefore, are justified in asking that, as custodians of public funds, they should be safeguarded by some provision in the new legislation defining the basis of Fire Service duty for which they are to provide.

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES

17. Another controversy which has had a very unsettling effect on the Fire Service for some years past, and which came to a head during the year, concerns the status of the volunteer fire brigades. It originally arose through an agreement by the Wellington Fire Board in conciliation to the inclusion in the Wellington City award of conditions applying to "part-time firemen." The term was not defined in the award, but by consent of the Board was applied to the auxiliary firemen in the Wellington Brigade.

These are single men employed under ordinary hiring and firing arrangements who make their homes on the station and mess with the permanent men. They do regular standby duty at night and attend all night fires, but are not called in the daytime. There were at the time no volunteer brigades in the Board's area, and since both parties apparently desired their inclusion, the Board agreed, despite certain negative conditions in the union rules.

18. Some time afterwards the union cited all brigade-controlling authorities in the Wellington district, including those in the small country towns, in an application for an award. The claims, intended to apply to these country brigades, were strongly opposed and were not successful. In conciliation proceedings last year the Fire Board representatives agreed to the inclusion in the award applying to districts outside the metropolitan areas of the same conditions with respect to "part-time firemen" as are contained in the Wellington City award. The justification for this is that in one of the secondary cities covered by the award only auxiliary firemen are employed and under the same conditions as in Wellington. The union has since claimed that the award applies to volunteer fire-brigadesmen whether or not resident on the fire stations and whose brigade rules involve duty on an entirely different basis. The union has put forward for acceptance by the Service a definition of "part-time firemen" which would, at the pleasure of the union, include practically all the volunteer brigadesmen in the country towns.

19. In order to understand the strong feeling which has been aroused by the union action it is necessary to have some knowledge of the volunteer brigade organization. The brigades were invariably formed before any permanent firemen were employed in the district. They were initially associations of men interested in fire protection who gave service to their community on an honorary basis. They elected their own members, made their own rules, obtained their finance from subscriptions, entertainments, &c., and were responsible only to public opinion. In course of time they were taken over or sponsored by the local authority, which then provided the finance. As the towns grew and the complexity of the work and number of fire calls increased, it became customary for the local authority to make some small payments for fire duty either to the brigade or to the individual fireman. Such payments are now made in most towns with a population exceeding one thousand.

20. The volunteer firemen are very jealous of their rights, status, and privileges. They value the democratic system under which they elect their own membership, have a say in all brigade affairs at brigade meetings, and deal directly as a body with the controlling authority on all matters affecting the local service. They regard any remuneration received not as wages, but as compensation for possible damage to clothing or loss of wages whilst on brigade duty. They are mostly in the Service, as were their predecessors who formed the volunteer brigades, because of an interest in fire-brigade work and as a hobby. This is shown by the fact that even in the larger centres great interest is taken in competition work and most of the members compete at demonstrations at some stage of their service. They are mostly staunch unionists in their ordinary employment, but they resent the proposal that their brigade service should be treated as a part-time job and not as a service to their community. The opinion is widely held that the varying conditions existing in large and small towns are more satisfactorily dealt with by local discussion than they would be if governed by a standardized award controlled from Wellington.

21. The United Fire Brigades' Association, which includes in its membership both permanent and volunteer brigades, has consistently opposed the proposal to include volunteers in the union since it was first mooted in 1937. It has no objection to the inclusion in the union of auxiliary firemen working under the conditions applying in the Wellington Brigade if this is desired by permanent men and agreed to by the auxiliaries.

It has also indicated that it has no desire to exclude from the benefits of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act any non-permanent firemen who desire to take advantage of its provisions and obtain full value for their services. The request has therefore been made to Government that the new legislation should contain appropriate definitions of "volunteer" and "part-time" firemen and that specific provision should be made that volunteer brigade members shall have no obligation to join the union.

22. This question has been given some ventilation in this report because it has an important bearing on the efficiency of the Fire Service. The "volunteer" firemen, honorary and remunerated, form more than 80 per cent. of the Fire Service, which could not function without them. Most of the larger secondary towns with population exceeding five thousand have one or more permanent men attached to the volunteer brigade for maintenance work and to ensure rapid turnout to fires, but a major share of the responsibility is still on the volunteer brigadesmen. Even in the metropolitan areas the volunteer brigades are still required for protection of suburban areas and to form a reserve of men for operation at large fires (see paragraph 6). The viewpoint of the men themselves must also be given due consideration if a contented Service is desired. The United Fire Brigades' Association recently requested all brigades which retain the volunteer organization to take a secret ballot under official control to obtain a free expression of opinion. Most of the brigades complied, and the aggregate of the votes cast was 57 for affiliation with the union and 2,281 against.

23. The volunteer and permanent firemen have worked together efficiently ever since the permanent men were first employed. Careful inquiries do not disclose a single instance of friction because one was in the union and the other not. The only reasonable ground which could be put forward by the permanent men for inclusion of the volunteers would be that the controlling authorities were in some way utilizing the services of the volunteer brigades to prejudice either the Service conditions or the number of the permanent staff. The information given above (paragraphs 9-16) as to the improved conditions recently granted to the permanent staff (which compare favourably with those of any Fire Service in the world) and as to the increases in establishment since 1936, negative any such suggestion.

INSPECTION

24. It has not been possible during the year, owing to the pressure of other work, to do any routine inspection of brigades. Inspection visits have therefore been restricted to towns where it was necessary to discuss with the brigade-controlling authorities the provision of new equipment, changes in brigade organization, or the development of the emergency organization and the accommodation of emergency appliances. A number of reports were made on fire protection of Government property and to the Local Government Loans Board on loan proposals for fire protection, water-supply, and water-reticulation services.

25. Attached (Table 3) are statistical returns covering the year under review.

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R. GIRLING-BUTCHER, Inspector of Fire Brigades.

Table 3—Miscellaneous Statistics for Fire Districts

Fire District.	Population as at 31st March, 1947.	Rateable Capital Value, 31st March, 1946.	Insurance Company's Premium Income for Year ended 31st December, 1946.	Number of Fire Calls.	Fires Involving Loss of Property.	Insurances on Property Involved in Fires.	Insured Fire Loss: Buildings and Contents.	Uninsured Fire Loss: Buildings and Contents.	Total Fire Loss.	Authorized Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1948.
		£	£			£	£	£	£	£
Auckland Metro-	238,290	77,944,584	340,304	1,395	377	5,458,813	36,512	3,598	40,110	72,194
Balelutha	1,760	402,865	1,722	*	*	*	*	*	*	420
Birkenhead	4,010	866,533	12,467	11	3	2,290	7	5	12	856
Cambridge	2,690	797,975	3,219	4						862
Christchurch	1,980	542,167	3,398	5						900
Dunedin Metro-	120,500	34,242,442	143,217	719	256	2,171,759	121,596	3,772	125,368	37,960
Dargaville	4,470	1,506,231	5,891	15	11	13,950	7,551	8,340	15,891	939
Dunedin Metro-	2,460	681,327	3,544	11	2	2,020	496	35	531	876
Dunedin Metro-	82,340	27,002,668	102,250	729	173	750,622	25,913	3,294	29,207	32,000
Eltham	1,930	418,330	1,870	9	5	1,650	279	105	384	500
Feilding	5,220	1,419,421	5,587	20	6	3,550	185	90	275	920
Foxton	1,720	333,987	2,674	12						426
Gisborne	15,750	4,462,122	25,000	51	12	2,691	1,614	1,982	3,596	3,545
Greymouth	8,750	1,842,113	8,626	20	6	10,340	5,046	1,250	6,296	1,375
Hamilton	23,600	6,863,566	30,510	172	39	114,489	5,909	926	6,835	8,224
Hastings	15,840	4,389,444	16,768	59	16	23,375	3,723	140	3,863	3,675
Hawera	5,090	1,581,306	7,295	52	16	60,952	444	232	676	2,926
Hikurangi	1,060	127,760	806	4						302
Hokitika	2,840	531,900	4,220	2	2	1,000		30	30	625
Invercargill	25,200	7,217,780	30,330	260	59	186,411	16,599	9,479	26,078	14,996
Kaiaipo	1,800	375,165	2,137	2						622
Kaitangata	1,370	147,265	1,055	*	*	*	*	*	*	400
Lawrence	580	58,433	571	2						120
Levin	3,510	1,326,790	3,625	7	1	875	565		565	645
Lower Hutt	36,500	10,458,995	26,886	258	49	520,297	16,490	1,982	18,472	10,336
Masterton	10,150	2,847,720	14,427	68	11	19,145	1,825	76	1,901	4,520
Milton	1,520	287,970	2,109	8						313
Morrisville	2,300	643,777	4,030	5	2	460	460	640	1,100	580
Napier	18,350	5,163,469	29,799	115	44	130,655	25,973	468	26,441	6,500
Nelson	14,000	3,578,401	21,187	79	24	78,615	2,818	96	2,914	3,948
New Plymouth	19,800	6,096,013	18,622	118	41	13,415	2,681	241	2,922	5,880
Oamaru	7,800	2,145,039	9,133	34	3	3,650	532		532	1,575
Ohakune	1,470	136,571	1,278	12	1	250	250		250	484
Opotiki	1,670	406,755	2,268	12	3	†	†	†	†	703
Otaki	2,200	363,279	1,741	11	8	3,700	646	1,250	1,896	420
Pahiatua	1,820	475,963	3,480	10	4	31,971	182		182	550
Palmerston North	27,100	8,434,404	30,328	164	48	58,645	1,031	1,278	2,309	10,500
Patea United	1,640	215,976	3,481	5	1	150	150	350	500	1,050
Petone	11,500	3,504,228	16,142	36	9	15,715	1,169	145	1,314	4,875
Port Chalmers	2,670	347,769	1,913	6	2	1,550	47	20	67	340
Pukekohe	3,500	1,080,221	3,759	12	2			215	215	880
Rotorua	8,720	1,972,985	8,582	96	16	1,119,180	3,875	4,660	8,535	2,875
Stratford	4,030	1,092,870	4,892	12	5	1,500	672	20	692	700
Taihape	2,270	450,513	3,974	14	1	11,000	400		400	573
Taumarunui	2,800	675,705	3,190	12	5	3,450	1,193	240	1,433	1,040
Tauranga	2,800	1,822,687	5,787	16	3	10,955	10,090		10,090	762
Te Aroha	2,520	847,127	4,074	*	*	*	*	*	*	572
Te Awamutu	3,210	1,094,185	3,647	25	9	12,650	638	6,293	6,931	700
Timaru	19,300	5,522,493	17,690	87	21	32,242	3,300	308	3,608	7,350
Upper Hutt	5,870	1,088,066	3,232	45	8	14,190	8,105	7,498	15,603	791
Waihi	3,870	354,671	3,083	48	5	7,185	45	145	190	911
Waipukurau	2,160	540,417	3,921	7	2	20,185	70	5	75	500
Wairoa	3,020	729,015	3,483	4	2	2,050	727	48	775	674
Waitara	2,450	575,272	3,923	7						366
Wanganui	24,900	6,524,302	29,592	259	55	319,419	38,733	4,878	43,611	12,331
Wellington	132,250	50,113,426	220,831	1,247	265	2,382,196	723,844	11,945	735,789	54,800
Westport	4,930	870,888	4,760	21	3	5,100	631	150	781	1,009
Whakatane	2,990	681,894	3,198	17	8	1,925	406	405	811	878
Whangarei	9,970	3,080,988	10,254	20	4	58,670	39,075	12,377	51,452	2,290
Woodville	1,150	204,927	1,254	2						410
Totals	..	..	1,286,976	6,453	1,648	12,689,902	1,112,497	89,011	1,201,508	329,284
Protected areas outside fire districts—										
Christchurch	..	..	..	27	27	218,292	12,319	551	12,870	..
Whakatane	..	..	..	1	1	37,753	2,219	..	2,219	..
Invercargill	..	..	..	2	2	415,000	3,500	20	3,520	..

* Returns not received.

† Return incomplete.

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