

A further section empowers the Court to hear any other matters affecting the value of land where all parties concerned consent to those matters being referred to the Court.

SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES AMENDMENT ACT, 1948

This Act extended the operation of Part II of the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, to permit of Crown land held under lease or licence being taken for the settlement of discharged servicemen in the same way as privately-owned land. The lessee or licensee is entitled to compensation for his interest in the land, and where part only of the land is taken to a proportionate reduction in the rent payable under the lease or licence.

Another section applies the provisions of section 51 of the principal Act to the transfer of a Crown leasehold. Where the Land Board (as from 1st April, 1949, the Land Settlement Board) considers that the land in a Crown lease, to the transfer of which consent is asked, is suitable or adaptable for the settlement of a discharged serviceman it may refer the application to the appropriate Land Valuation Committee for an order under section 51 permitting the Minister of Lands to take that land.

Section 7 of the Act clarifies the uncertainty which existed about the transfer of certain mining privileges by providing that a business-site licence, a residence-site licence, and a lease under section 45 or section 47 of the Mining Act, 1926, are deemed to be leasehold interests in land to the transfer of which the consent of the Court is required.

Section 8 of the Act provides that where land is being transferred to a child of the owner, and the Land Valuation Committee is satisfied that the purchaser intends to reside personally on the land and farm it exclusively for his own benefit, section 51 of the principal Act shall not apply. Section 9 authorizes a trustee of a property to apply to have the basic value of that property fixed by the Court without his first arranging a sale.

RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL ACT, 1948

The thirty-eight sections of this Act are mainly of a machinery nature and deal with Crown land, reserves, endowments, and other lands. Section 38 relates to 438,000 acres of the Sounds (Fiordland) National Park and makes special provisions for the protection of flora and fauna. These provisions were designed particularly to protect the notornis colonies which were recently rediscovered in this locality.

RECEIPTS

The receipts for the year from all sources totalled £4,762,523. The receipts for the previous year totalled £3,752,988. Details are as follows:—

Heading.	Year Ended 31st March, 1949.	Year Ended 31st March, 1948.
	£	£
Rents, royalties, and interest	1,073,035	1,063,727
Rates and miscellaneous receipts from drainage areas	60,352	52,134
Administration charges, fees, and other departmental receipts	119,500	120,262
Sales of land, improvements, repayment of advances, &c.	1,481,283	1,046,513
Farming receipts from development schemes	2,028,353	1,453,660
Miscellaneous	..	16,692
	4,762,523	3,752,988