

TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPPING

In the Rotorua-Taupo region a start has been made in mapping the areas required for national development projects. Although it is hoped that urgent requirements will be covered, shortage of staff will delay progress during 1949.

Maps published during the year include some sheets on which work was completed in the previous year. The summary of maps published to date is as follows:—

1 : 25,000 SERIES

—				Area (Square Miles).	Number of Sheets.
Maps published at 31st March, 1948	..	..	..	1,070	35
Maps published during year	..	..	..	58	2
Mapping in hand	..	..	..	1,130	29
				2,258	66

1 : 63,360 SERIES

—	North Island.		South Island.		Total.	
	Area (Square Miles).	Number of Sheets.	Area (Square Miles).	Number of Sheets.	Area (Square Miles).	Number of Sheets.
Published at 31st March, 1948	18,908	73	27,598	87	46,506	160
Published during year	300	2	436	1	736	3
Drawings completed	500	2	..	..	500	2
Mapping in hand	3,800	15	1,800	5	5,600	20
	23,508	92	29,834	93	53,342	185

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The services of N.Z. Aerial Mapping, Ltd., Hastings, have been fully employed during the year on the production of aerial photographs for all State Departments. This company still maintains a high standard of production and is now engaged in filling in photographic coverage of more difficult terrain where suitable weather conditions are limited.

During the year the company photographed an area of 7,237 square miles, mostly on a basic scale of 4 in. to 1 mile. Since the company commenced operations under contract in 1939, an area of 52,700 square miles has been covered with vertical aerial photographs.

MOSAIC MAPS

To make fuller use of existing photography, a start has been made on the production of mosaic maps (N.Z.M.S. 3, 1 : 15,840 and N.Z.M.S. 4, 1 : 25,000). These maps, particularly in areas not covered by topographical maps, will greatly assist in the study of lands for development purposes. During the year 24 sheets have been published, and it is anticipated that 100 sheets will be published in the year 1949-50. These maps are being produced by N.Z. Aerial Mapping, Ltd., under contract to this Department.