

with will be planted by the Forest Service, and adequate fire protection will be given to the remainder of the scenic reserve. In South Westland many years ago the bush on an area of 12 acres of a scenic reserve a mile or two south of Lake Mapourika was felled in error by an adjoining owner when clearing and grassing his land. Grazing licences have been issued from time to time over the 12 acres in favour of the adjoining owner, who lately applied for a permanent title. It was decided that there was nothing to be gained by keeping the area under scenic reservation, and a revoking Proclamation was therefore issued.

The number of scenic reservations in the Dominion is now 1,292, covering a total area of 938,213 acres.

SUPERVISION OF RESERVES

Special Scenic Boards were appointed or reappointed during the year as follows: The Manginangina Scenic Board to control the Manginangina Scenic Reserves, North Auckland, which contain some very fine kauris; the North Shore Scenic Board to control the Le Roy's Bush and Kauri Glen Scenic Reserves on the North Shore, Auckland; the Urenui Pa Scenic Board to control the Urenui Pa Scenic and Historic Reserve on the North Taranaki coast; and the Willsher Bay Scenic Board to control the Willsher Bay Scenic Reserve on the South Otago coast. The Department is represented on the Manginangina, North Shore, and Urenui Pa Boards by the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the land district concerned.

In addition, the control of the reserves listed hereunder was vested in the local authorities named:—

Name of Reserve.			Local Authority Concerned.
Whangarei	..	..	Whangarei Borough Council.
Mangaokewa Gorge	..	..	Te Kuiti Borough Council.
Puketoki	..	..	Tauranga County Council.
Makirikiri (part)	..	..	Dannevirke Borough Council.
Silverhope	..	..	Rangitikei County Council.
Silverstream	..	..	Hutt County Council.
On Wanganui River	..	..	Taumarunui Borough Council.
Ururakau and Dun Mountain	..	..	Nelson City Council.
Titeremoana	..	..	Peninsula County Council.

Additional members were appointed to the Kirk's Bush, New Plymouth, and Willsher Bay Scenic Boards.

The Department's relations with the various Scenic and Historic Reserve Boards throughout the Dominion and with those local authorities which have accepted the responsibility of controlling reserves in their districts have continued to be most cordial. The Boards and local authorities are carrying out work of great value, and every endeavour is being made to give them such advice and assistance as lie within the power of the Department.

Twenty-nine gentlemen were appointed as honorary Inspectors of scenic reserves. Here again the country owes a debt of gratitude to those public-spirited citizens, who, by accepting appointment as Inspectors, are showing in a practical way their keen desire to assist in the preservation of the natural beauties of the Dominion.

Inspections of scenic reserves have been carried out by members of the Department's field staff whenever possible, although the heavy calls made on them in connection with land-settlement and other activities have prevented comprehensive inspections of all reserves from being made. Valuable assistance has been given by officers of the Forest Service and other Departments, while organizations such as the Forest and Bird Protection Society have been most helpful and co-operative in many ways.

Caretakers are in residence on the Trounson Kauri Park Reserve north of Dargaville, and on the Hutchinson and Ball's Clearing Reserves at Puketitiri, Hawke's Bay. They have done good work during the year, as also has the ranger on Stewart Island.