

the lease-in-perpetuity were only 241, with a similar disparity in areas; but the selections in both systems fall far short of those in the year 1900-1, though, of course, the balance of revenue is in favour of the later period. The next principal item, village settlement lease-in-perpetuity and village homestead selections total sixty-two, against one hundred and three for the preceding year, with a proportionately less area; the disparity is maintained under the improved farm and pastoral runs, but the comparison of occupation licenses under the Mining Act, and small grazing-runs (as to area), and miscellaneous leases and licenses, is in favour of the year 1901-2, as are also the figures under the Land for Settlements Act, which show an increase of sixty-two selectors and 26,592 acres over the transactions of the previous year, and under this heading the items lease-in-perpetuity and small grazing-runs show a substantial improvement also. The explanation of the lower figures recorded in the foregoing instances is, as before indicated, due to the fact that suitable land was not available for selection. Nevertheless, it appears reasonable to conclude that, notwithstanding unavoidable drawbacks, the results are satisfactory in the three essentials of number, area, and revenue.

The following table represents the above comparisons in a convenient form:—

TABLE C.

COMPARISON of OPERATIONS during Year under PRINCIPAL HEADINGS with those for previous Year.

Tenure.	1900-1901.		1901-1902.	
	Number of Selectors.	Area.	Number of Selectors.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.
Cash sales*	398	58,725	510	27,300
Deferred payment	...	...	1	52
Perpetual lease	3	2,499	1	10
Occupation with right of purchase	673	262,729	448	128,894
Lease in perpetuity†	606	147,600	573	118,669
Pastoral and small grazing-runs	99	1,099,185	92	685,952
Mining and occupation leases	54	2,146	72	2,535
Miscellaneous leases	479	94,861	462	130,674
New transactions	2,312	1,667,745	2,159	1,094,086
Forfeitures and surrenders	409	381,138	288	145,923
Net increase	1,903	1,286,607	1,871	948,163

* Inclusive of subdivisions of town and suburban lands.

† " " subdivision of lands for settlements.

AVERAGE SIZE OF HOLDINGS SELECTED DURING THE YEAR.

The average size of the areas selected (excluding town and suburban lands, pastoral runs, grazing-runs, small lots, and miscellaneous leases) is 228 acres, the figures for 1901 being 316 acres, and those for 1900, 223 acres. Selection under the optional clauses of the Act, where the selector is not limited to one section but may select up to the limits defined in the Act, average 239 acres, the average areas for the two previous years being 363 acres (year 1900-1) and 292 acres (year 1899-1900) respectively.

For facility of reference and comparison, the totals of transactions from the year 1891-2 to the 31st March last is set forth in

TABLE D.

SUMMARY of LANDS SELECTED.

Year.	Number of Selectors or Purchasers.	Area taken up during Year.	Territorial Revenue.	Total Revenue collected.	Number of Leasehold Tenants on the Books.
		Acres.	£	£	
1891-92	2,519	1,453,082	320,483	324,470	12,735
1892-93	3,071	1,663,339	274,399	310,523	14,261
1893-94	2,876	1,393,918	282,067	347,343	15,081
1894-95	2,547	1,015,577	338,166	375,879	15,326
1895-96	2,865	2,662,344	291,673	345,331	15,683
1896-97	2,173	1,600,695	272,954	360,993	15,527
1897-98	2,058	2,451,062	263,296	359,086	16,365
1898-99	2,542	1,357,466	273,799	385,145	16,572
1899-1900	2,310	1,573,823	262,228	382,943	17,191
1900-1901	2,312	1,667,744	270,203	431,338	18,050
1901-1902	2,159	1,094,086	249,619	427,138	18,521