

Negotiations are in progress for the purchase of other estates in Auckland, Hawke's Bay, Wellington, Nelson, Westland, Canterbury, and Otago.

A summary of the transactions is as follows :—

	Number.	Acres.	Prime Cost. £
Estates purchased to 31st March, 1907 ...	166	995,267	4,241,641
Estates purchased during 1907-8...	16	126,867	565,728
	<u>182</u>	<u>1,122,134</u>	<u>4,807,369</u>

Acquired at 31st March, 1908, but not paid for nor prepared for selection ...	7	74,043	334,597
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The Land for Settlements Account at the 31st March stands as under :—

Dr.			£	Cr.			£
Loans current	...	...	5,496,547	Purchase-money	...	...	4,807,369
Rents, &c., received	...	...	1,433,552	Incidental expenses	...	...	409,885
				Interest	...	...	1,116,152
				Sinking fund	...	...	104,630
				Balance	...	...	492,063
			<u>£6,930,099</u>				<u>£6,930,099</u>

The usual tables are appended, including one furnished by the Under-Secretary for Lands, showing the condition of those estates already settled.

I have, &c.,

A. BARRON,

Land Purchase Inspector,

Chairman of the Board of Land Purchase Commissioners.

The Hon. Robert McNab, Minister of Lands.