

1908.
NEW ZEALAND.

GOVERNMENT ADVANCES TO SETTLERS OFFICE

(REPORT BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1908.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE-SHEET.

THIS year has again proved a record greatly in excess of any previous year for the amount of business transacted, the applications numbering 3,183, amounting to £1,668,135, as against 2,420 applications, amounting to £999,461, for the previous year, an increase of 763 applications, for £668,674. The advances actually granted during the year numbered 2,371, for £1,197,416 9s. 11d., which exceeds those of the previous year by 442, for £429,686 5s. 4d. The Board had up to the 31st March, 1908, authorised 22,456 advances, amounting to £8,003,930. Applicants to the number of 2,573 declined the grants offered them, amounting to £1,065,980, so that the net advances authorised to the 31st March, 1908, numbered 19,883, and amounted to £6,937,950.

Classified according to provincial districts, the total advances authorised to date are:—

Provincial District.	Number of Applications.	Amount of Advances authorised. £
Auckland	5,482	1,707,283
Taranaki	3,301	1,450,549
Hawke's Bay	1,113	320,275
Wellington	5,659	2,085,678
Marlborough	676	279,860
Nelson	284	90,415
Westland	468	115,280
Canterbury	1,911	603,115
Otago and Southland	3,562	1,351,435
Total	22,456	£8,003,930

Classified according to provincial districts, the advances authorised during the year ended 31st March, 1908, are:—

Provincial District.	Number of Applications.	Amount of Advances authorised. £
Auckland	883	321,510
Taranaki	381	221,930
Hawke's Bay	62	24,960
Wellington	826	424,600
Marlborough	87	53,255
Nelson	42	19,215
Westland	122	35,705
Canterbury	303	135,770
Otago and Southland	249	118,505
Total	2,955	£1,355,450