

The rights of local bodies with reference to "thirds" and "fourths" remain unaltered, and the cost of administration by the Department of Lands, &c., is a first charge on the funds derived from the endowment.

In addition to the ordinary method of raising money for the construction of roads and bridges under "The Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1901," on areas of Crown lands to be opened for selection, power is given by this Act to raise an additional sum, not exceeding £50,000 in any one year, to supplement such loans on national endowment lands.

No national endowment land shall be disposed of on the occupation-with-right-of-purchase tenure, or for cash, except as sites for educational, religious, and other public purposes, when areas not exceeding 5 acres at any one time may be sold.

Power is given to take out of the national endowment area, as if it were ordinary Crown land, all reserves required for public purposes.

LAND OPENED FOR SELECTION, 1907-8.

The lands enumerated in the following table comprise lands opened under "The Land Act, 1892," prior to the passing of "The Land Laws Amendment Act, 1907," and also those reopened subsequent to the passing of that statute:—

TABLE D.—LANDS OPENED for SALE and SELECTION during the Year ended 31st March, 1908.

District.	Optional System.	Cash by Auction.	Lease by Auction and Application.	Village Allotments.	Pastoral Runs.	Small Grazing-runs.	S.G. Runs, Land for Settlements.	Lease in Perpetuity only.	Lease in Perpetuity, Land for Settlements.	Renewable Lease only.	Renewable Lease, Land for Settlements.	Native Towns.	Totals.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ..	51,303	230	2,060	..	..	14,200	..	192	4,914	5,273	2,337	..	80,509
Hawke's Bay	5,358	14	130	1,248	..	2,478	..	..	53	..	21,642	..	30,923
Taranaki ..	10,059	19	36	..	..	..	..	956	19	..	..	..	11,089
Wellington..	56,147	125	45,572	707	23,352	..	..	..	234	..	229	9	126,375
Nelson ..	3,512	83	12,053	..	13,127	..	1,947	36,015	4,204	2,402	..	..	73,843
Marlborough	1,174	..	43	..	74,550	..	..	1,196	8	..	..	..	76,971
Westland ..	..	2	..	33	118,000	..	..	2,483	..	4,072	..	..	124,590
Canterbury..	271	259	185	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	548	..	1,265
Otago ..	1,661	141	..	..	64,109	147,551	..	2,209	3,742	187	33,612	..	253,212
Southland ..	1,776	754	3,304	651	9,854	..	..	550	..	..	..	..	16,889
Totals ..	131,261	1,627	63,383	2,640	302,992	164,229	1,947	43,601	13,175	11,934	58,368	9	795,166

The area opened as above comprised 248,896 acres in the North Island, and 546,270 acres in the South Island. At a glance it will be seen that the Department is not standing still, but that energy has been shown in its operations.

LANDS BEING PREPARED FOR SETTLEMENT ON 31st MARCH, 1908.

The lands under survey for settlement purposes on the 31st March last consisted of:—

	Acres.
Ordinary Crown lands (for selection under optional system)	262,803
National endowments (for selection on renewable lease)	74,169
Settlement lands (for selection on renewable lease)	61,868

405,340

distributed in the various land districts as follows:

District.	Crown Land.	National Endowment.	Settlement Lands.	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland ...	20,750	24,179	12,798	57,727
Hawke's Bay	53,450	6,000	..	59,450
Taranaki ...	50,543	15,190	..	65,733
Wellington ...	81,000	..	5,178	86,178
Marlborough	8,900	18,000	..	26,900
Nelson ...	6,200	6,500	18,063	30,763
Westland ...	4,500	10,800	..	15,300
Canterbury ...	..	..	25,829	25,829
Otago ...	27,460	..	..	27,460
Southland ...	10,000	..	..	10,000
Totals ...	262,803	80,669	61,868	405,340