

At the last meeting of the Board the following resolution was passed regarding my predecessor Mr. James Mackenzie, who after acting as Chairman for the past two years, and having been a member for the preceding six years, vacated his seat through his promotion to the position of Under-Secretary of Crown Lands: "Resolved, That the Board places on record its appreciation of the work done by Mr. James Mackenzie as Chairman of the Board since his appointment to that position, and also testifies to his previous interest in scenery-preservation matters whilst filling the position of Commissioner of Crown Lands for Taranaki, Auckland, and Wellington."

KENNEDY'S BUSH SCENIC BOARD.

Fires having occurred in the reserve and on Flat Spur adjoining on two occasions, and the reserve having become the resort of many people, it was decided that it would be advisable to have a caretaker resident on the spot, to look after this and other reserves along the road, protecting the flora and fauna, and also such improvements in the way of concrete catchments for water-springs, &c., that were being effected. Messrs. J. and W. Jameson having offered to erect a stone cottage with outbuildings for a sum of about £450, special meetings of the Board were held, and an agreement entered into for the erection of a cottage on the edge of the bush in the reserve, on a plan drawn up by Mr. S. Hurst Seager. The building is to be paid for partly by Government grant of £150, partly from rents accruing from the reserve, and partly from private sources.

An agreement was entered into with Mr. Allan for a lease of the reserve for grazing sheep only, for £50 a year; and on the addition of the 29 acres the rent was increased to £65 a year, the increased rental dating from November, 1913.

<i>Receipts.</i>				£	s.	d.	<i>Expenditure.</i>				£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	..	..	..	19	8	8	Erection of fencing	..	..	..	28	16	3
Rent received	..	..	..	53	15	0	Cartage	..	..	..	5	13	5
							Solicitors' expenses	..	..	..	6	14	6
							Balance in hand	..	..	..	32	0	6
				£73	3	8					£73	8	8

SUMMIT ROAD SCENIC BOARD.

There have been several additions to the reserves by gift and purchase. An area of 29 acres was purchased from Messrs. Gibson and McDonald at £20 an acre, plus fencing. Towards this purchase the Government contributed a subsidy of £200, pound for pound, which was paid over on the 24th March, 1914, and the purchase completed. This area links up the Hoon Hay and Kennedy's Bush Reserves, adding largely to their value for grazing purposes.

The Hon. R. Heaton Rhodes presented an area of 6 acres 3 roods 32 perches, part of Rural Section 1403, at Cass Peak, to the King as a scenic reserve; Mr. Allan presented 1 acre and 28 perches, parts of Rural Sections 1403 and 33748; and Mr. R. M. D. Morten presented 26 acres 3 roods 28 perches, parts of Rural Sections 1183, 33950, and 33951. Ahuriri Bush.

There were also acquired, by purchase, 11 acres 3 roods 25 perches, the Gravenor Bush Scenic Reserve, at £10 an acre (for this the Government granted £100 subsidy, pound for pound, and Mr. A. E. G. Rhodes gave £50), and 36 acres 2 roods 36 perches, parts Rural Sections 13609, &c., at Cooper's Knobs, obtained from the Hon. R. H. Rhodes in exchange for a closed road intersecting his property.