

REPORT.

In framing this report I purpose making it as concise as possible, and shall therefore present general aspects of the work performed during the year, leaving details to be found in the various tables and appendices accompanying.

The volume of work performed is rather less than that of last year. This is due, in the case of the regular staff, in large measure to the fact that no fewer than seven surveyors and five survey cadets enlisted and went to the front. Another factor has been the weather, which during the past year has been exceptionally boisterous, thus militating against survey operations. In consequence of this, also, the cost per acre of surveys has somewhat advanced on last year's figures, but is still quite satisfactory.

A summary of the work performed during the year is given in the following tables:—

TABLE A.

Class of Work.	Area.	Cost per Acre.	Total Cost.
	Acres.		£ s. d.
Triangulation, by staff surveyors	146,443	1·70d.	1,034 15 4
Topographical, by staff surveyors	218,101	2·32d.	2,109 2 7
Rural, by staff surveyors	430,562	1·97s.	42,316 17 4
Rural, by licensed surveyors	20,050	2·57s.	2,579 17 9
Rural, by licensed surveyors (cost not available) ..	12,862	..	..
Village and suburban, by staff surveyors	5,514	7·11s.	1,961 11 1
Town, by staff surveyors	105*	23·67s.†	300 13 11
Town, by licensed surveyors	104‡	22·35s.†	34 13 0
Native Land Court, by staff surveyors	102,080	15·22d.	6,475 13 6
Native Land Court, by licensed surveyors	383,735	16·87d.	26,988 3 3
Native Land Court, by licensed surveyors (costs paid by applicants)	31,008	..	..
Gold-mining, by staff surveyors	98	9·75s.	47 16 0
Gold-mining, by licensed surveyors (costs paid by applicants)	2,275	..	..
Roads, by staff surveyors	233 miles	£22·16§	5,162 14 2
Roads, by licensed surveyors	24 „	£29·46§	707 3 4
Roads, by licensed surveyors (costs not available) ..	15 „	..	..

* In 254 sections. † Per section. ‡ In thirty-one sections. § Per mile.

TABLE B.

District.	Rural Surveys.	Native Land Court Surveys.
	Acres.	Acres.
Auckland	151,517	280,507
Hawke's Bay	50,086	100,770
Wellington	34,499	86,993
Taranaki	35,302	44,950
Nelson	113,445	159
Marlborough	11,735	1,308
Westland	9,555	..
Canterbury	8,576	186
Otago	9,585	534
Southland	39,173	1,416
Totals	463,473	516,823

TRIANGULATION.

Very slow progress has been made with this work, on which there has been only one observer, and, owing to illness and bad weather, his efforts have been somewhat spasmodic. As is pointed out in Mr. Langmuir's report (see appendix), if this work is to make satisfactory progress the staff of observers must be increased. It is hoped that this coming year this work, which is an important one, will be pushed on with vigour on the lines suggested in his report,