

Other Work.—This consists of a drainage-levels survey of approximately $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles, defining boundaries of a forest reserve and amending boundaries thereof, supervision of standard stones and other permanent marks due to trenching and other road operations, revision of standard work in Timaru, Timaru standard extension (see special report of this work), and general.

Inspection Surveys.—Several inspections of surveyors' work were carried out during the year, and although in two cases, which have already been reported to Head Office, the work was not found to be satisfactory, taken on the whole the work is well up to the necessary standard. Further inspections will be made during the coming year.

Office-work.—General: A notable increase in plans examined and passed is shown for this year, being a total of 109, as against 67 for last year. The number of diagrams placed on instruments of title shows a slight falling-off, being a total of 439, as against 458 for last year. 1,100 miscellaneous tracings were prepared during the year, showing a marked increase, but township schemes dealt with show a decline, being 43, as against 70 for last year. Very little lithographic work was done during the year, there being only two sale plans and one standard publication, that of Westerfield Survey District. Nine county sheets and 3 survey districts were revised, and 2 county sheets and 1 survey district are in hand; 6 20-chain record maps were completed during the year, and 4 are in hand. The usual routine work, such as recording, searching, compiling, &c., has been well maintained, and this work shows a steady increase. Mr. Pfankuch completed the second sheet of the map of the City of Christchurch during the year, and it is anticipated that the third and final sheet will be completed by June next.

Land Transfer.—In this branch 443 plans were examined and passed, 6,174 diagrams were placed on instruments of title, and 3,129 deeds and other instruments examined and passed. The diagrams drawn include 909 certificates under the Compulsory Registration Act. 165 tracings were prepared for the Valuation Department. In addition to current recording of plans, road dealings, Proclamations, &c., 3 new record maps were prepared, besides renewing 12 worn maps, and various tracings were prepared for the purpose of special notice, &c.

OTAGO LAND DISTRICT (R. S. GALBRAITH, Chief Surveyor).

Triangulation.—A small area of 3,600 acres was done by Mr. Greig, consisting of reestablishing stations and connecting up an isolated survey. I have to again draw attention to the need of a systematic revision of the trigonometrical work of Otago, much of which is very old and not up to the standard of modern requirements.

Settlement Surveys.—Messrs. Phillipps and Greig handled an area of 21,333 acres, of which the former did 5,330 acres and the latter 15,803 acres. Mr. Phillipps's principal work was the subdivision of the Last Chance Block, of 4,800 acres, in Fraser Survey District, which has since been thrown open for selection. Mr. Greig has been engaged upon the surveying of various runs the lessees of which are converting their titles from the small-grazing-run to the renewable-lease tenure. Of this work, 6,600 acres was done in the Upper Taieri Survey District, 3,900 acres in Tarras Survey District, and 2,400 acres in Maruenua and Domet Survey Districts. In addition, both surveyors have dealt with a quantity of miscellaneous work, such as small areas of Crown lands surveyed for applicants, and education reserves being brought under the Land Transfer Act. During December, January, and February Mr. Greig was engaged upon work for the Public Works Department in connection with the Waitaki hydro-electric scheme at Kurow.

Standard Surveys.—During the year a number of standard stones in the city were inspected, and the level of 11 was altered to conform with the street-formation. On account of street-regrading and trenching operations by local bodies there is always more or less interference with the standard-survey marks.

There are several portions of the City of Dunedin which have not yet been included in the standard survey, and it is very desirable that authority should be given to put this work in hand. The Borough of St. Kilda, also, has not been touched. The standard survey of Mansford Town, Port Chalmers, will be started by Mr. Greig as soon as his present programme of rural work is completed.

Native Surveys.—An area of 113 acres was done under Court orders for subdivisions in the Otakou and Moeraki Native Reserves.

Roads.—About 8.5 miles of road work was done by the staff, being partly new road and partly deviations put through to give better access to Crown leases. Two deviations on the Dunedin to Christchurch Main Highway were done by Mr. Greig at the request of the Public Works Department. The usual amount of road-deviation work was done by private surveyors for local bodies, &c.

Inspections.—One inspection of a private surveyor's work was made by Mr. Greig.

Office-work.—The draughting staff have been well occupied during the year in the various kinds of routine work, the total output being well up to the average. I am pleased to report that good progress is being made with the new photo-litho map of Dunedin and suburbs. The first half-sheet, which covers the centre of the city and contains much detail, is completed, and the second is well under way. All the Dunedin standard-survey sheets with the exception of 10 have now been copied for counter use. Good progress is being made with the Land Transfer record maps, 20 having been completed since my last report. The value of these maps fully justifies the time spent in their preparation. The photo-litho work done comprises 10 sale posters, a new map of the Town of Clinton, and 9 survey districts and towns revised for publication. The general draughting work includes 3 Land Office maps, 16 road Proclamation plans, and 54 working-plans of various kinds. The total number of general tracings made was 845, in addition to 105 deposited plans traced for the Valuation Department and 279 diagrams of land transactions. Diagrams were placed on instruments of title