

4. FOREST ATLAS.

The Draughting Branch of the Service was fully engaged during the year in preparing new plans, renewing old ones, compiling atlas sheets, and recording information disclosed by later surveys, &c., particularly with respect to plantation operations and topographical surveys. New work included the making of fifty-eight tracings and three plans, the mounting of 143 plans, the compilation of six compartment survey plans, the colouring of thirty-two species plans to show the various species planted, and the preparation of new atlas sheets for lithographing. Routine work in connection with the recording of sawmilling activities and the changes rendered necessary by the proclamation of new forest areas, &c., was kept well up to date.

5. STATE AFFORESTATION.

It will be seen from the table which follows that, with the exception of Rotorua Region, State tree-planting on a large scale has ceased throughout the Dominion; as mentioned in former reports this is due to the fact that the existing areas available for afforestation have been completely planted except for blanking and miscellaneous planting here and there. The total new area afforested during the year was 12,090 acres—slightly lower than last year's figures and the lowest for many years. The area of artificially created State forests in the Dominion now approaches, in round figures, 420,000 acres. Planting on a reduced scale will be continued in Rotorua Region.

The gross area of the plantations (see extreme right-hand column of the table) differs slightly from the figures published last year; but this is due to the correction of certain errors discovered by recent surveys, &c.

TABLE 4.
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN PLANTATIONS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1936.

Plantation.	Year of Commencement	New Area planted, 1935.	Total Net Area planted.	Gross Area of Plantation.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Waipoua	1925	9	1,070	12,600
Puhipuhi	1904	..	871	1,558
Riverhead	1926	..	11,029	11,956
Maramarua	1928	4	12,303	14,087
Tairua	1930	173	10,604	54,400
Waio tapu	1901	..	7,051	7,974
Whakarewarewa	1898	..	8,033	10,076
Kaingaroa	1913	11,152	253,752	327,931
Erua	1930	185	2,703	5,392
Karioi	1927	..	17,196	33,689
Golden Downs	1927	64	19,245	22,527
Westland	1922	..	3,005	8,006
Hanmer	1901	..	7,737	10,309
Balmoral	1916	105	20,757	24,000
Eyrewell	1928	155	18,306	19,266
Dusky	1898	..	4,364	6,829
Conical Hills	1903	..	3,619	3,765
Naseby	1900	..	3,008	4,032
Pukerau	1915	..	565	628
Blue Mountains	1925	23	8,775	9,661
Pebbly Hills	1930	14	4,353	5,330
Minor areas	1875-1935	206	1,207	4,576
Totals	..	12,090	419,553	598,592

6. WAITANGI ENDOWMENT.

By authority of the Waitangi Endowment Act, 1932-33, the Service planted a further area of 94 acres of the Waitangi Endowment during the year under review, making a total of 181 acres planted to date.

The primary object of these afforestation operations, which were commenced in 1934, is to reclothe a treeless area to form a scenic background for the area known as the Waitangi National Trust, and not the establishment of timber-trees as a source of revenue.