

148. And you do not know whether they would consent to the construction of a line of railway?—No. They are very positive; they will not sell. There are ten grantees in each block, and some have taken advances and signed preliminary deeds; and now they say they were only representatives, and have handed back their responsibility to the outsiders, and the outsiders say they will not sell.

149. What do you think is the value of this land down here [points to map south of the Horowhenua Block], assuming it were put into the market?—If a railway were made through it; I know land down here [points to map] fetches £2 an acre readily—land near the river. Of course as you go higher up it is not so valuable.

150. Has any advance been taken on Ohau 2 and 3?—No; I do not anticipate any difficulty until you reach the No. 5 Block, Manawatu-Kukutumaki No. 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, and 2E.

151. I understand you have reported fully on these various matters, showing the condition of the negotiations?—Yes.