

Eyre Water Race.—The clerk to the Oxford Road Board reports :—"The total amount spent is £3151 3s. 8d., and the amount received, including £6 9s. from Mackle for maintenance, is £3032 9s., leaving a balance due to the Board of £118 14s. 8d. The expenditure was principally expended in a lower apron to prevent the dam from being undermined, and blowing below the wall. The length of the race is 10 miles. The Crown lands benefited by this race are those between the Waimakariri and Burnt and View Hills.

WALTER KITSON.

OTAGO.

IN reporting on roads to open up Crown lands for sale, I would like to express the opinion that these roads are amongst the most desirable works that the Colony can undertake, and I think no works give a better return for the money expended on them.

Precipice Creek Road.—Earnslaw Survey District, Lake County, through Block II.—The approximate area of surveyed land benefited through the construction of this road is 5,000 acres, and the area of unsurveyed land about 74,000 acres.

Glenorchy Road up Rees and Dart.—Town of Glenorchy, Upper Wakatipu and Dart. This road, commenced last year under the supervision of the Chief Surveyor, begins at the intersection of Mull and Aban streets, to creek in Section 2, Block III., Dart. It is 6 miles fifty chains in length, the improvements consisting of formation, culverts, scrub clearing and side drains. The area of surveyed land benefited by this road is about 9,900 acres, and that of unsurveyed about 28,800 acres.

Upper Clutha Blocks Road.—Lower Wanaka Survey District, Lake County. This road, under the supervision of the Chief Surveyor, was begun at the north boundary of Pembroke and extended to the north boundary of Section 28, Block XIV., Lower Wanaka. It is 1 mile fifty-seven chains in length, was formed and culverted. Approximate area of surveyed land benefited—about 2,400 acres, and unsurveyed about 5,200 acres.

Arthur's Point to Skipper's Road.—Shotover Survey District, Lake County. This road, passing through Block XI., is 2 miles in length, is formed and culverts and retaining walls constructed. The area of unsurveyed land benefited is about 42,500 acres.

Mr. L. D. Macgeorge, engineer to Vincent County, reports :—

Upper Clutha Blocks.—Lower Hawea Survey District, Vincent County.—This road passing through Blocks III. and IV., seventy-seven chains, and Block V., forty chains, is formed, and the area of surveyed land benefited by it is about 4,300 acres.

Lauder Block.—Lauder Survey District, Vincent County.—Road through Block V., twenty-four chains of which is formed and gravelled, culverts put in and pitched crossing made. Area of surveyed land benefited by this road about 1,100 acres, and unsurveyed about 43,400 acres.

Ida Valley Road (Naseby to Ophir).—Poolburn Survey District, Vincent County. This road passes between Sections 28, 22, 31, 21, and 4, 5, 7, Block III. It is formed for 1 mile forty chains, culverted and gravelled. Approximate area of surveyed land benefited, 1,700 acres; unsurveyed, 12,800 acres.

Waikaia Bush to Clutha Valley Road.—Cairnhill, Teviot, and Whitecomb Survey Districts; Vincent, Tuapeka, and Southland Counties, respectively. Road passes through Block VIII., partially improved. About 44,000 acres of surveyed land are benefited.

Mr. C. Banks, Engineer to Waitaki County, reports as follows :—

Kurow Run Road.—Kurow Survey District, Waitaki County. This road extends up the Kurow River through Blocks IV., VIII., for 2 miles ten chains, and through Blocks IV., VII., to southern boundary of Block V., 5 miles twenty chains. It is formed, culverted, and crossings pitched. It is estimated that about 7,200 acres of surveyed and 27,000 acres unsurveyed land, will be greatly benefited by this road.

Mr. R. H. Browne, Engineer to the Maniototo County reports :—

Ida Valley Road (Naseby to Ophir).—Blackstone Survey District, Maniototo County. This road extends between Sections 2, 10, 13, and 1, 11, 12, and between 19, 22 and 20, 21, Block XV., 3 miles of which, in Block XV., are partially formed, and 2½ miles formed in Block XVI. The approximate area of surveyed land improved through the construction of this road is 5,300 acres, and unsurveyed, 14,200 acres.

Taieri Lake, Block XV., Maniototo.—Maniototo Survey District, Maniototo County. This road fifty-nine chains in length, passes between Sections 5, 7, 8, 3, and 1, Block XV., is formed, culverted, and ditches have been dug. Approximately 8,700 acres of surveyed and 33,400 acres unsurveyed land, will be benefited by it.

Block II., Blackstone.—Blackstone Survey District, Maniototo County. This road between Sections 50, 51, 20 and 49, 48, 36, Block II., which is 1 mile forty-seven chains in length, is formed, culverted and ditched, and a bridge has also been built on it. The road is being widened from half-a-chain to one chain, when about 2,400 acres of surveyed land will be greatly benefited by it.

Lauder Block Road.—Lauder Survey District, Maniototo County. This road passing between Sections 9, 8, 7, 6, and 13, Block V., is 1 mile eight chains in length. It has been formed, culverted and ditched. Fascines have been used in the formation, and three small bridges built. About 1,800 acres of surveyed land will be benefited.

Mr. A. Valentine, Road Inspector to County of Waikouaiti, reports :—

Hummockside District Road.—Hummockside Survey District, Waikouaiti County. This road passes through Sections 8, 3, 2, 7, Block IV., and 5, Block I. 2 miles sixty chains have been formed, culverts made, and crossings pitched. About 2,800 acres of surveyed land will be improved through the construction of this road, and Block I. will be improved by the Mount Watkins road.