

road through the Marunga Block, but this was abandoned, and the money has been diverted to opening up a section of the Inland Waiapu Road in the locality, and 2 miles 58 chains of bridle-road have been constructed.

*Waimate-Tauwhareparae.*—£100 was granted to the Cook County Council towards the erection of three bridges on the Inland Waiapu Road, the total cost being £200.

*Tolago-Arakihi.*—One mile of an 8ft. bridle-track has been widened to a 12ft. dray-road, at a cost of £119 5s. This was done by co-operative labour.

*Gisborne-Tolago Bay-Awanui.*—This work was entrusted to the Cook County Council to carry out. The total charge against the vote was £309 9s. 6d., with which 28 chains on a bad hill on the coast road was metalled, eight new culverts and slips cleared, and all sharp points flattened over a length of sixteen miles.

*Gisborne-Opotiki.*—The road is formed into a dray-road from Gisborne to the edge of the bush, some fifty miles, and in the meantime taken over by the Cook County Council. From there onwards for sixty-six miles it is a horse-track, on which five men are continually at work keeping it in order. The expenditure has been on wages and contingencies, such as horse-hire for sledges, carting timber, tools, &c.

*Pakarae Road and Punt.*—Of the £741 14s. 4d. spent, £200 was handed over to the Cook County Council for the punt and approaches at the Pakarae River on the coast road, the balance was spent by the department in clearing and forming about five miles of bridle-track on the Waimata-Tauwhareparae through route, which was all done by co-operative labour.

*Pouawa Road.*—£92 15s. of the £95 vote was paid over to the Road Board for general repairs to the roads of the district.

*Waikohu Motu.*—£542 19s. 1d. has passed through our books during the year, though a large portion of the work was done before the end of the last financial year. However, the above must represent the improving by widening of eighteen miles of bridle-road through the Motu-Matawai Settlement.

*Nuhaka.*—On this work £691 has been spent in forming and clearing seven miles of bridle-road by co-operative labour, the greater part having been done at the end of last year. This work opens up a through bridle-road from Gisborne to Wairoa by way of Nuhaka, at the same time giving the settlers better access and the travelling public and visitors to the Nuhaka Springs from Gisborne a fair road to travel.

*Frasertown-Waikaremoana.*—This vote was spent by the Wairoa County Council in repairing the great damage done to the road by the disastrous floods of 1894.

*Wairoa County Roads.*—Here, again, £300 was granted to assist the same body in general repairs, notably a large bridge in the place of a large concrete culvert that was washed away. The money was well spent.

*Ruahine Block.*—£136 13s. 1d. has been spent to date in felling 3 miles 10 chains of road 1 chain wide, and clearing 20ft. in the centre. The formation of the bridle-road is now being carried on. This is a special-settlement block, and the money has to be obtained under the Government Loans to Local Bodies Act, and the land loaded with the amount of loan.

*Rotorua-Galatea-Waikaremoana.*—From Frasertown the road had been formed and made available for wheeled traffic (though indifferent at the latter end) to within four miles and three quarters of Lake Waikaremoana. This year a bridle-road has been formed by almost continuous side-cutting throughout, over this gap, and to reach the lake, excepting in the winter season, is now an easy undertaking. The last section should be widened so as to allow buggies to be taken up to the lake. Besides this, the new road-line along the shores of the lake towards Waikare-iti has been felled and cleared about half-way, and the formation of the bridle-road for some three miles is drawing near completion. There is about half-a-mile of rock-face which had to be blasted throughout. The cost to date, £1,224 7s. 3d., includes eighteen miles of engineering survey.

*Awanui-Hicks Bay.*—£306 2s. 3d. has passed through our books this year, representing 4 miles 40 chains of bridle-road formed by co-operative labour.

*Waikopiro Block.*—The road expenditure here has been with the object of opening up the improved farm settlement block and 10,000 acres lately taken up under ordinary settlement conditions. £1,560 10s. 10d. has been expended, and the work done wholly by co-operative labour, 1 mile 31 chains of a 16ft. dray-road has been formed, and 10 miles 48 chains of road-felling 1 chain wide, with 33ft. cleared centre.

THOMAS HUMPHRIES, Chief Surveyor.

#### TARANAKI.

*South Egmont Forest Reserve* (Vote, £100).—The South Egmont Forest Reserve Board have opened a fair bridle-road from Manaia Road at Forest Reserve Line, to Dawson's Falls, about four miles, and built a house near the Falls for the accommodation of tourists and visitors. They have also improved the walking-track from the Falls up the slope of Mount Egmont. A good deal of this has been done by voluntary labour and subscription, the sum of £47 8s. being also spent out of the above vote. The work has been performed under the supervision of the South Egmont Forest Reserve Board.

*Mohakatino Bridge* (Vote, £760).—This bridge was completed last year, and but little had to be done this year beyond protecting the approaches by fencing, and maintenance. The final payments, amounting to £402 15s., came within this year's operations.

*Mimi Road Metalling* (Vote, £300).—This is a subsidy of £1 for £1 to Clifton County Council for gravelling part of Mimi Road between Main North Road and Uruti Stream. Some difficulty