

is now proceeding at the portion of the Clark Bluff cribbing which has slipped away, and hereafter this portion of the track will be permanent.

*Hokitika Valley.*—This is a portion of the road on the east side of the Hokitika River, connecting the Whitcombe Valley with the Koiterangi farming district. A serviceable rough pack-track has been blazed through the bush to provide access for the co-operative workmen, who will be put on as soon as Mr. Smyth finishes the survey.

*Great South Road.*—This road (from Mikonui River to Mount Hercules, a distance of thirty-one miles) was taken over from the County Council of Westland by the Government in December last. The road was in such a bad state that it has been practically re-formed and the culverts and bridges almost renewed.

*Franz Josef Glacier.*—The road from the Waiho wire foot-bridge to the glacier has been put in a thorough state of repair, and is now fit for horse-traffic throughout.

*Tracks to Fox Glacier.*—Mr. Wilson is now under instructions to survey a route for this road from the Clearwater Flat to the glacier, and the work will be put in hand at an early date.

*Hokitika-Christchurch Road.*—On this road two small foot-bridges, at Rangiriri, were repaired, and that over Wellesley's Creek, in the Otira Gorge, has been renewed. Slight damage by flood occurred in the Otira Gorge on three occasions. With these exceptions very little loss by storm has taken place, and the road is now in excellent order throughout.

*Greenstone-Teramakau.*—A further portion of this road, which is intended to give the Teramakau settlers an outlet, has been formed and metalled during the year, and other contracts have just been let, which, however, do not quite take up the whole of the unfinished portion.

*Kanieri Forks-Kanieri Lake.*—This money was granted to the Westland County Council to repair flood-damage. The works consist of a deviation of the road, with stone-walling, and a protecting crate in the Kanieri River, and these have been satisfactorily carried out.

*Woodstock-Mahinapua.*—A traffic-bridge of two spans of 25 ft. each has been built at Fisherman's Creek, and the approaches have all been formed and metalled. A ballast-pit has been opened, and a tramway laid from it to the road, and a small section of about six chains has been metalled. In consequence of the amount of traffic on this newly-formed road, the formation had to be made good before the metal could be laid.

*Dawson Road.*—Very little work has been done during the year; the formation has been completed, and about half of the gravelling is done.

*Turnbull River Road.*—One of the deviations formed the previous year has been metalled, and the remainder of the track which was cleared has been formed. Contracts are now in hand for further work.

*Block 112, Kokatahi.*—One mile of this road has been formed and metalled, and a bridge 20 ft. long has been built over Davis's Creek, and all the requisite culverts have been put in.

*Greenstone Bridge.*—A grant has been made to the Grey County Council for the construction of this bridge, and the work is now in hand.

*Cook's River (Upper).*—Mr. Wilson has been instructed to make a survey of this road, on the completion of which the work will be commenced.

W. G. MURRAY, Chief Surveyor.

## CANTERBURY.

*White's Cutting, Patoa Settlement.*—This work comprised a side-cutting along a steep terrace, to give the settlers access to the river-bed, and was carried out by the settlers in two contracts, on the co-operative system. The men had no broken time, and earned 7s. 11½d. per day.

*Costello's Road, Patoa Settlement.*—This work comprised formation and gravelling and the construction of twelve fords, and was carried out by the settlers in two contracts, on the co-operative system. The men had no broken time, and earned 12s. 7¾d. per day, which includes the use of four horses, two drays, plough, and scoop owned by the contractors.

*Roads to Dairy Factories on the Peninsula.*—The £300 voted for this work, the character of which was reported upon last year, has now been paid over to the Akaroa County, who carried out the work.

*Roimata Roads and Drain.*—This work comprised the metalling of 48¾ chains of road to a width of 16 ft., and gravelling the footpaths on each side, and was carried out under the supervision of Assistant Surveyor Farnie. With respect to the drain on the north-east boundary of the settlement, constructed last year, the 9 in. pipes laid down in the underground portion were found quite inadequate to carry off the flood-water during ten days' incessant rain last winter. The low-lying portions of the settlement were, in consequence, flooded, which brought forth many complaints from the settlers. On inquiring into the matter, I found that since the drain was constructed the catchment area has been enormously increased, owing to the water of Ensor's Road and the adjacent lands having been run into it. When providing for the requirements of our own 48 acres, the draining of the district was never contemplated.

*Hokitika-Christchurch Road.*—The cost of maintaining this road during the year is lower than that of former years, owing to the exceptionally dry winter and fine summer which has been experienced. The road throughout has been maintained in splendid order, and no interruption to the traffic has occurred. The work of maintaining the road has been chiefly of the usual character—namely, shingling, tussocking, removing landslips and stones that have fallen into the cuttings, repairs to the Bealey Gorge Bridge, repairing fords and tracks across river-beds, repairing and making new wheelbarrows, and repairing huts. Provision will require to be made for shingling portions of the road between the 3 m. and 20 m. pegs—a length of four miles—that gets into a bad state during the winter.

*Clearing Water-races, Highbank Estate.*—The work has been carried out in one contract, under the supervision of the Ashburton County Engineer, who reported it efficiently completed in May last.