

1949
NEW ZEALAND

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY
SETTLEMENT OF CROWN LANDS

(ANNUAL REPORT ON)

Presented to Both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 30th June, 1949.

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the settlement of Crown lands for the year ended 31st March, 1949, together with particulars of operations under the Small Farms Act, 1932–33, the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1929, and the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943.

I have, &c.,

D. M. GREIG,

Director-General of Lands.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

REPORT

GENERAL REVIEW

THE year has been marked by steady progress in the acquisition and development of land for ex-servicemen settlement. Some improvement in supplies of fertilizer and an easing of the position in regard to fencing-wire have assisted in speeding up settlement, but operations have been hampered to some extent by shortages of water-piping, and the difficulty in securing expeditious erection of buildings in rural areas. In an effort to speed up settlement temporary living-accommodation is being provided in suitable cases pending the erection of housing.

Although climatic conditions have not been altogether favourable in some localities, Crown tenants generally have had a successful year, and, as will be seen later in this report, there has been a marked reduction in the arrears owing by Crown tenants. As at the 31st March, 1949, tenants on the books of the Department numbered 34,265, occupying a total area of approximately 17,003,297 acres.

Public demand for farm land is still at a very high level, but until full provision has been made for ex-servicemen the opportunities for civilian settlement on Crown land are necessarily limited.

A Land Utilization Officer was appointed during the year, and a commencement has been made with a survey of the undeveloped land resources of the Dominion. In the meantime this work has been confined to the Rotorua–Taupo–Bay of Plenty districts, but it will be extended to other areas as soon as the requisite staff and organization have been built up. The immediate objective of the survey is to determine the

nature and extent of undeveloped lands available and suitable for either immediate or deferred development. Surveys are being carried out on a county basis, and the Department is indebted to County Councils for their co-operation in supplying details of undeveloped areas within county boundaries. From time to time the claim has been made that there are vast areas of available Crown land which are capable of easy development, but until a land-utilization survey has been completed the exact position will not be disclosed. It should be remembered also that before any worth-while effort can be made to bring further undeveloped areas into pasture, adequate supplies of fertilizer must be assured. Practically the whole of our imported supplies of phosphate are at present necessary to maintain the fertility of existing grassed lands, and it would obviously be most unwise to undertake any large-scale scheme for speedy development of our undeveloped resources without first planning for an adequate supply of fertilizer.

During the year 40 applications for revaluations of Crown leases and licences in terms of section 216 of the Land Act, 1924, were finally dealt with, and reductions in capital value totalling £34,873 were approved. Applications by 11 high-country pastoral run holders for a review of their annual rentals in terms of section 277 of the Land Act, 1924, were also considered. In these cases reductions in rentals amounting to £1,595 were approved.

The task of dealing with the heavy volume of applications for consent to transactions filed under the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, has meant another year of constant pressure for all concerned. Statistics covering transactions under this legislation are set out later in this report.

LEGISLATION

The year has been a momentous one for the Department so far as legislation is concerned, and it was most gratifying to see the planning and work of many months, indeed of years, brought to fruition. The principal measure from the departmental viewpoint was the Land Act, 1948, which consolidated and brought up to date existing laws relating to Crown land. Also of major importance was the Land Valuation Court Act, 1948, which established one Tribunal to adjudicate on all matters affecting the value of land. Besides the two principal measures, there was an amendment to the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, and the usual Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act.

LAND ACT, 1948

The original Land Act was enacted in 1877, and prior to 1948 new Acts consolidating the many amendments and variations in the land laws had been passed on three occasions, the last being in 1924. There had been many amendments to the land laws since the 1924 consolidation; furthermore, the Land Act was operated in conjunction with other Acts affecting lands of the Crown—namely, the Land for Settlements Act, the Education Reserves Act, the Small Farms Act, and other Acts of comparatively minor importance. Although amending land legislation frequently added another tenure on which Crown land could be selected it did not often abolish an existing tenure, or if it did it did not affect any lands already held under that tenure. This resulted in Crown lands being held on a multiplicity of tenures with varying conditions according to the date of selection. The resulting complexity of tenures and legislation made administration both difficult and cumbersome.

The Land Act, 1948, consolidated all enactments relating to lands of the Crown and abolished the distinctions between ordinary Crown land—that is, land subject to the Land Act, 1924—settlement land, Education reserves, and small-farms land; all these lands are now simply Crown land subject to and administered under the Land Act, 1948. The numerous tenures under which Crown land could be held (approximately forty different tenures) are replaced by four principal ones—sale for cash, sale on deferred payments, renewable lease, and pastoral lease or licence.

The Act also provides that almost all lessees may freehold the land held by them, either for cash or on deferred payments (term up to thirty years). The freeholding price is the present-day value of the Crown's interest as determined by the Land Settlement Board or by the Land Valuation Court on appeal.

In the past the administration of Crown land under the Land Acts has to a large extent been in the hands of the Land Boards, there being a Board for each land district. The administration of land subject to the Small Farms Act was in the hands of the Land Settlement Board in Wellington. The Land Act, 1948, abolished Land Boards, reconstituted the Land Settlement Board with jurisdiction over all Crown land, and provided for the setting up of Land Settlement Committees (at least one for each land district) to whom the Land Settlement Board might delegate any of its powers under the Act. By having more than one Committee in each of the larger land districts it will be possible to utilize the services of persons with the knowledge and experience of local problems and the type of farming in that locality, while the general jurisdiction of the Land Settlement Board in Wellington will enable uniform administration throughout the Dominion.

It stands to reason that a great number of sections in the repealed Acts have been omitted from the consolidation as unnecessary. The whole aim has been to simplify procedure and administration in terms of present-day requirements.

LAND VALUATION COURT ACT, 1948

This Act establishes a Land Valuation Court to adjudicate on all matters relating to the value of land or an interest in land. Previously a Compensation Court (presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Magistrate) heard claims for compensation under the Public Works Act; the Land Sales Court dealt with applications for consent to transfer under the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act; an Assessment Court determined appeals against valuations under the Valuation of Land Act for rating purposes; and a Magistrate heard appeals against valuations for gift duty, death duty, or stamp duty. The result of having four different Tribunals was inevitably that varying values were placed on the one piece of land. All these matters will now come before the Land Valuation Court. The establishment of one Court to deal with all matters previously heard by the four Courts is aimed at obtaining more uniformity in the values placed on the one area.

The Court comprises a Judge and two other members. To be appointed a Judge of the Court a person must have the same qualifications as are required for appointment to the Supreme Court, and once appointed he can be removed from office only on the same grounds as those on which a Supreme Court Judge is removable. The other two members are appointed for terms of four years, but may be reappointed.

The Act provides for the appointment of Land Valuation Committees of not more than three members. Such number of Committees may be appointed as the Governor-General in Council considers necessary. Where an application, objection, or appeal against a valuation is filed in a registry, the Registrar refers it to the Land Valuation Committee usually exercising jurisdiction in the district in which the land is situated, and the application is heard by that Committee in the first instance. Any party may appeal from the Committee's determination to the Land Valuation Court, but if no appeal is filed the Committee's order is sealed and becomes the Order of the Court. There is no appeal against an order of the Land Valuation Court.

The Land Act, 1948, also provides that certain matters under that Act may be the subject of appeal to the Land Valuation Court—namely, the purchase-price on an application to acquire the fee-simple of land held under lease, or the renewal rent on the renewal of a lease, or the determination of the Land Settlement Board on an application for a revaluation. An ex-serviceman settled under the Land Act, 1948, or any former Land Act may appeal to the Land Valuation Court for a review of the disposal price. The Tenancy Act, 1948, also empowers the Land Valuation Court to adjudicate on certain matters under that Act.

A further section empowers the Court to hear any other matters affecting the value of land where all parties concerned consent to those matters being referred to the Court.

SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES AMENDMENT ACT, 1948

This Act extended the operation of Part II of the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, to permit of Crown land held under lease or licence being taken for the settlement of discharged servicemen in the same way as privately-owned land. The lessee or licensee is entitled to compensation for his interest in the land, and where part only of the land is taken to a proportionate reduction in the rent payable under the lease or licence.

Another section applies the provisions of section 51 of the principal Act to the transfer of a Crown leasehold. Where the Land Board (as from 1st April, 1949, the Land Settlement Board) considers that the land in a Crown lease, to the transfer of which consent is asked, is suitable or adaptable for the settlement of a discharged serviceman it may refer the application to the appropriate Land Valuation Committee for an order under section 51 permitting the Minister of Lands to take that land.

Section 7 of the Act clarifies the uncertainty which existed about the transfer of certain mining privileges by providing that a business-site licence, a residence-site licence, and a lease under section 45 or section 47 of the Mining Act, 1926, are deemed to be leasehold interests in land to the transfer of which the consent of the Court is required.

Section 8 of the Act provides that where land is being transferred to a child of the owner, and the Land Valuation Committee is satisfied that the purchaser intends to reside personally on the land and farm it exclusively for his own benefit, section 51 of the principal Act shall not apply. Section 9 authorizes a trustee of a property to apply to have the basic value of that property fixed by the Court without his first arranging a sale.

RESERVES AND OTHER LANDS DISPOSAL ACT, 1948

The thirty-eight sections of this Act are mainly of a machinery nature and deal with Crown land, reserves, endowments, and other lands. Section 38 relates to 438,000 acres of the Sounds (Fiordland) National Park and makes special provisions for the protection of flora and fauna. These provisions were designed particularly to protect the notornis colonies which were recently rediscovered in this locality.

RECEIPTS

The receipts for the year from all sources totalled £4,762,523. The receipts for the previous year totalled £3,752,988. Details are as follows:—

| Heading. | Year Ended 31st March, 1949. | Year Ended 31st March, 1948. |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Rents, royalties, and interest | 1,073,035 | 1,063,727 |
| Rates and miscellaneous receipts from drainage areas | 60,352 | 52,134 |
| Administration charges, fees, and other departmental receipts | 119,500 | 120,262 |
| Sales of land, improvements, repayment of advances, &c. | 1,481,283 | 1,046,513 |
| Farming receipts from development schemes | 2,028,353 | 1,453,660 |
| Miscellaneous | .. | 16,692 |
| | 4,762,523 | 3,752,988 |

EXPENDITURE

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1949

| Name of Vote or Account. | Amount Voted. | Gross Expenditure for Year Ended 31st March, 1949. | Gross Expenditure for Year Ended 31st March, 1948. |
|--|---------------|--|--|
| <i>Voted Expenditure</i> | £ | £ | £ |
| Vote, "Lands and Survey"— | | | |
| Subdivision I | 873,490 | 822,786 | 729,091 |
| Subdivision II | 396,732 | 356,289 | 402,041 |
| Subdivision III | 80,630 | 59,549 | 53,126 |
| Total, vote "Lands and Survey" .. | 1,350,852 | 1,238,624 | 1,184,258 |
| Vote, "Land for Settlements" | 68,410 | 52,307 | 47,128 |
| Vote, "Small Farms Development" | 6,883,181 | 5,839,402 | 4,039,625 |
| Total, voted expenditure | 8,302,443 | 7,130,333 | 5,271,011 |
| <i>Other Expenditure</i> | | | |
| Land for Settlements Account: Expenditure from capital proceeds of sales of Crown lands, &c. | .. | 158,924* | 214,045 |
| Deposits Account expenditure and miscellaneous expenditure | .. | 13,714 | 32,553 |
| | 8,302,443 | 7,302,971 | 5,517,609 |

* Includes value of Crown lands transferred to Small Farms Account, £21,672, and interest on proceeds of sales of Crown lands under section 13 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1926, £80,845.

ADVANCES TO CROWN TENANTS

| | Land Laws Amendment Act, 1929. | | Small Farms Act, 1932-33. | | | | Section 11, Finance Act, 1933. | | Total. | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|--|---------|--------------------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| | | | Small Farm Tenants. | | Waikato Land Settlement Society Tenants. | | | | | |
| | No. of Mort-gagors. | Amount. | No. of Mort-gagors. | Amount. | No. of Mort-gagors. | Amount. | No. of Mort-gagors. | Amount. | No. of Mort-gagors. | Amount. |
| Amounts advanced during the year ended 31st March, 1949— | | £ | | £ | | £ | | £ | | £ |
| On Current Account— | | | | | | | | | | |
| For improvements | 9 | 1,354 | 17 | 1,948 | 4 | 312 | .. | .. | 30 | 3,614 |
| For stock and chattels | 2 | 184 | 29 | 4,252 | 24 | 4,736 | .. | .. | 55 | 9,172 |
| Proceeds readvanced | 62 | 6,860 | 203 | 43,437 | 29 | 10,289 | .. | .. | 294 | 60,586 |
| On instalment mortgage— | | | | | | | | | | |
| For land and improvements .. | 1 | 230 | 2 | 3,063 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 3,293 |
| Total | .. | 8,628 | .. | 52,700 | .. | 15,337 | .. | .. | .. | 76,665 |
| Advances outstanding at 31st March, 1949— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Account— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Improvements | 79 | 33,265 | 71 | 13,122 | 11 | 1,623 | .. | .. | 161 | 48,010 |
| Stock and chattels | 16 | 2,696 | 119 | 31,186 | 28 | 12,336 | .. | .. | 163 | 46,218 |
| Instalment mortgage: Land and improvements | 209 | 97,930 | 344 | 279,598 | 28 | 44,144 | 1 | 124 | 582 | 421,796 |
| Total | .. | 133,891 | .. | 323,906 | .. | 58,103 | .. | 124 | .. | 516,024 |

POSTPONEMENTS, REMISSIONS, AND ARREARS OF RENT AND INTEREST

| | Year Ended 31st March, 1949. | Year Ended 31st March, 1948. |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (i) Postponements of rents and interest granted during the year .. | £ 681 | £ 437 |
| (ii) Rents and interest the payment of which remains postponed .. | 3,635 | 4,410 |
| (iii) Arrears of rents and interest (including arrears in respect of the current half-yearly charge) | 65,353 | 123,344 |
| (iv) Remissions of rents and interest granted during the year .. | 11,551 | 5,601 |

OPERATIONS UNDER THE SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES ACT, 1943

APPLICATIONS

The total number of applications for consent to transactions filed during the year ended 31st March, 1949, showed a small increase on the number for the previous year, being 41,761, against 41,352 for the year ending 31st March, 1948. The rural applications showed a marked reduction from 5,466 to 4,800, while the urban showed a corresponding increase from 35,886 to 36,961.

Applications disposed of during the year totalled 41,596, which is 165 fewer than those received. However, that difference is very small (less than half per cent.) and indicates that the Committees are keeping the work up to date.

REDUCTION IN CONSIDERATION-MONEYS

Reductions in consideration-moneys directed by Committees for the year ending 31st March, 1949, totalled £2,845,252, which shows an increase of £112,247 on corresponding figures for the previous year.

APPEALS

During the year 172 appeals were lodged, as against 259 for the year ending 31st March, 1948. Only 15 appeals had not been disposed of at the end of the year, as against 32 which were outstanding at the end of the previous year.

LAND VALUATION COURT

Consequent on the passing of the Land Valuation Court Act, 1948 (see reference under "Legislation"), the Land Sales Court and Land Sales Committees have been abolished, and their functions have been taken over by the Land Valuation Court and Land Valuation Committees. As the Land Valuation Court, in addition to exercising jurisdiction under the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, while it remains in force, will exercise jurisdiction over other matters, and is a permanent body, it is only right that it should come under the Justice Department for administrative purposes.

Administration matters were taken over by the Justice Department on 1st January, 1949. Pending the appointment of officers of that Department as officials of the Court, the officials of the Land Sales Court were seconded to the Justice Department, and the costs of administration were met to 31st March from the Lands Department's vote out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943. The appointment of officers of the Court has now been completed.

The Land Valuation Court Act provided that the Judge and other two members of the Land Sales Court should be the first Judge and members of the Land Valuation Court. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council appointed the members of Land Sales Committees to be members of the Land Valuation Committees. The same number of Committees (16) were appointed.

I should like to pay a tribute here to the efficient manner in which those members of the Lands Department who were officials in the Land Sales Court registries performed their work. To most of these officers Court work was something new. Many of the registries were often short staffed, yet the filing and handling of applications were dealt with expeditiously, and, in spite of considerable pressure of work at times, the staff endeavoured to give legal practitioners and the general public the service which was their due.

To those who have been transferred to the Justice Department I wish them every success in their new Department.

EXERCISE OF CROWN RIGHTS UNDER PART II AND PART III (SECTION 51) OF THE SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES ACT, 1943

Details of land acquired under Parts II and III (section 51) of the Act are given in a later section of this report under the heading of "Land Development and Settlement of Ex-servicemen."

RETURN OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Registry. | Brought Forward From Previous Year. | Received During Year. | Granted Without Hearing. | Granted After Hearing. | Granted Subject to Conditions | Refused or With-drawn. | Total Finalized. | Action Incom-plete. |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Farm lands— | | | | | | | | |
| Auckland | 167 | 975 | 400 | 90 | 441 | 66 | 997 | 145 |
| Hamilton | 143 | 789 | 414 | 23 | 267 | 93 | 797 | 135 |
| Gisborne | 24 | 143 | 109 | 12 | 20 | 6 | 147 | 20 |
| Napier | 37 | 227 | 167 | 4 | 63 | 9 | 243 | 21 |
| New Plymouth .. | 58 | 299 | 210 | .. | 83 | 24 | 317 | 40 |
| Wellington | 62 | 404 | 238 | 3 | 142 | 37 | 420 | 46 |
| Blenheim | 9 | 62 | 40 | 2 | 16 | 6 | 64 | 7 |
| Nelson | 28 | 227 | 135 | 3 | 64 | 20 | 222 | 33 |
| Hokitika | 5 | 59 | 40 | 1 | 14 | 2 | 57 | 7 |
| Christchurch .. | 75 | 721 | 456 | 23 | 173 | 42 | 694 | 102 |
| Dunedin | 84 | 491 | 235 | 2 | 173 | 75 | 485 | 90 |
| Invercargill .. | 72 | 403 | 219 | 5 | 124 | 59 | 407 | 68 |
| Totals .. | 764 | 4,800 | 2,663 | 168 | 1,580 | 439 | 4,850 | 714 |
| Other lands— | | | | | | | | |
| Auckland | 914 | 9,907 | 5,062 | 824 | 3,584 | 255 | 9,725 | 1,096 |
| Hamilton | 512 | 3,917 | 2,155 | 100 | 1,536 | 205 | 3,996 | 433 |
| Gisborne | 44 | 673 | 440 | 40 | 173 | 33 | 686 | 31 |
| Napier | 227 | 1,862 | 1,140 | 13 | 621 | 95 | 1,869 | 220 |
| New Plymouth .. | 116 | 1,410 | 777 | 1 | 515 | 70 | 1,363 | 163 |
| Wellington | 818 | 7,585 | 3,644 | 48 | 3,508 | 362 | 7,562 | 841 |
| Blenheim | 22 | 458 | 210 | 7 | 204 | 14 | 435 | 45 |
| Nelson | 95 | 1,058 | 592 | 2 | 367 | 66 | 1,027 | 126 |
| Hokitika | 34 | 392 | 249 | 4 | 137 | 14 | 404 | 22 |
| Christchurch .. | 463 | 5,261 | 2,539 | 131 | 2,370 | 186 | 5,226 | 498 |
| Dunedin | 372 | 2,949 | 1,267 | 5 | 1,439 | 254 | 2,965 | 356 |
| Invercargill .. | 161 | 1,489 | 711 | 7 | 660 | 110 | 1,488 | 162 |
| Totals .. | 3,778 | 36,961 | 18,786 | 1,182 | 15,114 | 1,664 | 36,746 | 3,993 |
| Grand totals .. | 4,542 | 41,761 | 21,449 | 1,350 | 16,694 | 2,103 | 41,596 | 4,707 |

RETURN OF APPEALS FILED DURING YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Registry. | Number Brought Forward from Previous Year. | Number Lodged. | Dismissed. | Allowed in Part. | Allowed in Full. | Withdrawn. | Referred Back to Committee or Adjourned. | Total Number Disposed of. | Number Remaining to be Dealt With. |
|------------------|--|----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Auckland | 7 | 52 | 8 | 12 | 3 | 23 | 5 | 51 | 8 |
| Hamilton | 2 | 24 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 22 | 4 |
| Gisborne | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 5 | .. |
| Napier | 2 | 9 | 1 | 5 | .. | 5 | .. | 11 | .. |
| New Plymouth .. | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 4 | .. |
| Wellington | 7 | 59 | 44 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 66 | .. |
| Blenheim | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 2 | .. |
| Nelson | 1 | 2 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | 3 | .. |
| Hokitika | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | .. |
| Christchurch .. | 6 | 10 | 7 | 7 | .. | .. | .. | 14 | 2 |
| Dunedin | .. | 7 | 2 | 2 | .. | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 |
| Invercargill .. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 3 | .. |
| Totals | 32 | 172 | 72 | 43 | 11 | 49 | 14 | 189 | 15 |

REDUCTIONS IN CONSIDERATION DIRECTED BY LAND SALES COMMITTEES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Registry. | Farm Lands. | | Other Lands. | | Totals. | |
|------------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | Number. | Amount. | Number. | Amount. | Number. | Amount. |
| | | £ | | £ | | £ |
| Auckland | 427 | 150,438 | 3,960 | 562,237 | 4,387 | 712,675 |
| Hamilton | 257 | 117,779 | 1,528 | 182,381 | 1,785 | 300,160 |
| Gisborne | 21 | 7,745 | 179 | 19,893 | 200 | 27,638 |
| Napier | 62 | 27,307 | 621 | 77,652 | 683 | 104,959 |
| New Plymouth .. | 83 | 40,836 | 515 | 75,716 | 598 | 116,552 |
| Wellington | 118 | 69,695 | 3,410 | 581,796 | 3,528 | 651,491 |
| Blenheim | 16 | 13,888 | 206 | 32,897 | 222 | 46,785 |
| Nelson | 40 | 9,139 | 282 | 37,196 | 322 | 46,335 |
| Hokitika | 14 | 3,702 | 136 | 27,212 | 150 | 30,914 |
| Christchurch .. | 179 | 65,833 | 2,455 | 289,459 | 2,634 | 355,292 |
| Dunedin | 174 | 86,232 | 1,441 | 212,583 | 1,615 | 298,815 |
| Invercargill .. | 127 | 60,050 | 658 | 93,586 | 785 | 153,636 |
| Totals | 1,518 | 652,644 | 15,391 | 2,192,608 | 16,909 | 2,845,252 |

LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SETTLEMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN

Tables A, B, and C appearing later in this report show details of properties purchased and acquired during the year for development and for the settlement of ex-servicemen. Summarized, the figures for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1949, and from the inception of the ex-servicemen settlement scheme up to 31st March, 1949, are :—

| | Year Ended 31st March, 1949. | | From Inception to 31st March, 1949. | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | Area (Acres). | Estimated Number of Units. | Area (Acres). | Estimated Number of Units. |
| Purchased by voluntary negotiation | 208,454 | 296 | 662,696 | 1,216 |
| Acquired compulsorily under Part II, Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943 | 32,904 | 127 | 108,301 | 338 |
| Acquired compulsorily under section 51, Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943 | 8,364 | 38 | 122,441 | 405 |
| Totals | 249,722 | 461 | 893,438 | 1,959 |
| Total for previous twelve months ended 31st March, 1948 | 205,069* | 362 | | |
| Some of these properties or portions thereof have been utilized for the following purposes :— | | | | |
| (a) To Maori Affairs Department for the settlement of Maori ex-servicemen. | | | | |
| (b) To Department of Agriculture for experimental purposes. | | | | |
| (c) To State Forest Service for afforestation purposes. (Unsuitable for farming.) | | | | |
| (d) To adjoining owners to square up boundaries. | | | | |
| (e) Requiring long-term development. | | | | |
| The total of these utilizations is | | | 54,775 | 40 |
| Balance | | | 838,663 | 1,919 |
| Prior to the war the Department had various areas of Crown land under development for civilian settlement, and those areas suitable for early settlement have been set aside for the settlement of ex-servicemen. | | | | |
| The total set aside is | | | 81,086 | 320 |
| Total area available for ex-servicemen settlement | | | 919,749 | 2,239 |
| Allotments made to ex-servicemen at 31st March, 1949— | | | | |
| (a) On fixed charges : 282,012 acres (944 units) | | | 471,682 | 1,277 |
| (b) On wages with promise of permanent allotment on completion of development : 189,670 acres (333 units) | | | | |
| Balance, area on hand for allotment to ex-servicemen on completion of development | | | 448,067 | 962 |

* After adjustments on surveys.

The number of ex-servicemen who have been established on permanent tenure or on wages or other similar basis with the promise of permanent tenure upon completion of the development programme and the area involved for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1949, and from the inception of the ex-servicemen settlement scheme up to 31st March, 1949, are :—

| Land District. | 1st April, 1948, to 31st March, 1949. | | From Inception to 31st March, 1949. | |
|------------------------|--|--------|--|--------|
| | Area. | Units. | Area. | Units. |
| | Acres. | | Acres. | |
| North Auckland | 3,235 | 33 | 12,899 | 92 |
| Auckland | 8,818 | 71 | 58,113 | 376 |
| Gisborne | 20,106 | 22 | 46,999 | 57 |
| Hawkes Bay | 9,758 | 26 | 34,139 | 103 |
| Taranaki | 2,201 | 12 | 11,438 | 75 |
| Wellington | 31,959 | 57 | 69,368 | 191 |
| Marlborough | 18,496 | 12 | 34,949 | 43 |
| Nelson | 210 | 4 | 1,379 | 16 |
| Westland | 1,012 | 2 | 1,012 | 2 |
| Canterbury | 50,639 | 70 | 124,604 | 189 |
| Otago | 15,109 | 12 | 52,919 | 66 |
| Southland | 5,661 | 17 | 23,863 | 67 |
| Total | 167,204 | 338 | 471,682 | 1,277 |

Total for previous twelve months ended 31st March, 1948 : 99,817 acres (248 units).

These figures do not include ex-servicemen who have been assisted by way of rehabilitation loans to purchase established farms on their own account.

The number of allotments during the year ending 31st March, 1949, which is 338, shows a marked increase on the previous year's figure of 248. The full effect of the year's programme will not, however, be apparent until the end of June, 1949, but the notes supplied by officers in charge of development operations show that a considerable number of additional units will be made available before the commencement of the new dairy season. It is confidently anticipated that the total allotments for the season, 1st July, 1948, to 30th June, 1949, will exceed 400.

The following comments are submitted on the development and settlement operations by the officers in charge of this work in each district :—

AUCKLAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

An improvement in the supply of fertilizer had a beneficial effect on the pastures on blocks, and good weather conditions resulted in high production. As in the past, difficulty was again experienced in having buildings erected prior to the commencement of the dairying season.

Araparera, at Kaukapakapa, 389 acres. Acquired, November, 1944. Objective : Two dairy-farms—one of 180 acres allotted on fixed charges, July, 1947, the balance of 209 acres totally undeveloped.

Awaroa, at Ruawai, 461 acres. Acquired : 287 acres, February, 1945, and 174 acres, May, 1948. Objective : Five dairy-farms—three allotted on fixed charges August, 1948, and two will be allotted July, 1949.

Battens, at Waipu, 1,576 acres. An abandoned Crown security comprising sheep and cattle-grazing country. The possibilities of a full-scale development programme, including a considerable amount of clearing and grassing, is under consideration to provide two sheep units.

Bradleys, at Te Kopuru, 1,249 acres. Acquired, January, 1941. Objective: Seven dairy units, plus run-off area. Development programme: Cultivation and regrassing practically whole area, roading, water-supplies, electric power, fencing, and the erection of new buildings. Progress: Three houses, four cow-sheds, and three implement-sheds erected, roading and regrassing practically completed, and major water-supply scheme commenced. Six sections will be balloted with possession, July, 1949.

Brooklands, at Papakura, 377 acres. Acquired, February, 1945. Objective: Two dairy-farms, one mixed farm. Progress: Two dairy-farms already allotted on fixed charges. Pasture improvement on the remaining unit has been completed, and section will be allotted, July, 1949, to the ex-serviceman at present on wages with promise.

Crosland, at Helensville, 3,170 acres. Acquired, April, 1947. Objective: Five dairy farms and two sheep-farms, but possibility of obtaining an additional unit being investigated. Development programme: Erection of buildings, improving pastures, and renovating fences. Progress: Erection of buildings progressing, fencing and pasture improvement practically completed under present subdivision scheme. Five dairy units will be allotted, July, 1949.

Dargaville, at Dargaville, 237 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Two dairy-farms. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fencing, draining, cultivation, water-supplies, and farm tracks. Progress: Practically completed, and sections will be allotted, July, 1949. One ex-serviceman working on wages with promise of a section.

Glorit, at Kaipara Harbour, 206 acres. Acquired, January, 1949. Run-off area.

Henrys, at Patumahoe, 210 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit and small area for amalgamation with holding of neighbouring ex-serviceman. Development programme: Erection of buildings, extension of water-supply, and erection of fencing. Progress: Completed, and charges will be fixed as soon as compensation assessed. One ex-serviceman working on wages, with promise of a section.

Hillcrest, at Waikiekie, 661 acres. Acquired, June, 1944. Objective: Subdivision not finalized. Development programme: Owing to the nature of the country extensive development work is necessary, and the provision of a water-supply is a major problem.

Hungerford's, at Waiuku, 127 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit. Development programme: Crushing scrub, grassing, installation of water-supply, renovation of fences, planting of shelter-belts, and erection of buildings. Progress: 40 acres scrub crushed, water-supply and fencing practically completed, 1,000 shelter trees planted, but contractor not yet obtained for erection of dwelling.

Kaitaia, at Kaitaia, 2,305 acres. Acquired, April, 1934. Objective: Subdivision not finally planned. Development programme: Maintenance of the grassed area was carried out during the year. Consolidation of the paddocks, particularly on the peat areas, is still taking place, and some of these have become so rough that it is not possible to mow or harrow them. In order that reasonable control can be obtained, approximately 50 acres of the roughest paddocks were disked, levelled, oversown, and rolled.

Kapiro, at Kerikeri, 550 acres. The area of Crown land totals some 12,000 acres, of which 42 acres has been used for some years as an experimental area. During the year it was decided to proceed with development of additional 550 acres to provide one dairy unit and one sheep unit. Five hundred acres is now being ploughed and disked.

Katikati, at Tauranga, 1,347 acres. Acquired: 473 acres, October, 1946, and 874 acres, June, 1948. Objective: Subdivision not finalized, but tentative scheme provides for two mixed and four dairy units. Development programme: Erection of buildings, new pasture, fencing, electric power, water-supplies, and roading. Progress: Approximately 150 acres of fern and scrub country has been brought into grass, 71 chains of new fences erected, and 107 chains repaired.

Kokonga, at Waikaretu, 3,713 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Five sheep units on 2,960 acres, for allotment in 1950, balance indefinite. Development work completed includes the sowing of 90 acres in crops, 112 acres crushed, and 60 chains of new internal fencing erected.

Komiri, at Pukekohe, 167 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Objective: Two dairy units, for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Erection of buildings, water-supplies, electric power, new drains, and fences. Progress: Practically completed except for buildings. One ex-serviceman working on wages, with promise of a unit.

Kumi, at Awanui, 347 acres. Acquired: 258 acres, September, 1946, and 89 acres October, 1948. Objective: Three dairy units. Development on 160 acres of original area practically completed and will be allotted, July, 1949, to the two ex-servicemen at present on wages; the balance of 98 acres is poor gum land being held as a possible run-off. The area of 89 acres acquired in 1948 is not being developed until construction work on flood-gates and stop-banks is completed.

Lake View, at Ahipara, 796 acres. Acquired, June, 1945. Two dairy-farms allotted, July, 1947; balance of 540 acres unsuitable for settlement.

Littlejohns, at Hikutaia, 129 acres. Acquired, July, 1946. Objective: One dairy-unit for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Draining, grassing, fencing, erection of cow-shed, and repairs to dwelling. Progress: Draining and fencing commenced. Difficulty experienced in obtaining a contractor for building work. One ex-serviceman in occupation, with promise of allotment.

Mahuta, at Dargaville, 423 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Objective: Two dairy units. Development programme: Major water-supply scheme, roading, fencing, draining, cultivation and pasture improvement, and buildings. Progress: Good progress made with grassing, fencing, and roading; buildings are under way, but lack of materials has held up the installation of the water-supply.

Mamaramui, at Dargaville, 959 acres. Acquired, May, 1945. Objective: Four dairy units—three, of 597 acres, were allotted July, 1948; balance, 362 acres, is totally undeveloped.

Mangarai, at Mangawai, 1,862 acres. Acquired, July, 1935. Objective: Eight dairy-farms on 1,084 acres; balance unsuitable for settlement. Complete new sets of buildings have been erected and, with the exception of some cultivation on two sections and the dredging of the main canal, development work has been completed. Charges should be fixed in July, 1949, for the eight ex-servicemen who are at present working on wages.

Maraetai, at Tokoroa (Crown Land). 3,200 acres under development, but development area being extended. Subdivision not finally planned. Development programme: Clearing, cultivation, and grassing of totally undeveloped scrub country, fencing, roading, installation of water-supplies, and the erection of complete sets of new buildings. Progress: Building of cow-sheds, implement-sheds, and pump-houses commenced. Approximately 3,200 acres has been sown in permanent pasture, 560 chains of road has been formed and 2,310 chains of new fencing completed. Eight dairy sections will be allotted for the 1949–50 dairy season, and the successful applicants will be required to supply milk to the Mangakino Township throughout the year. Efforts to obtain contractors to erect houses on this block have been unsuccessful, but temporary accommodation will be provided until such time as houses are erected.

Matahuru, at Taniwha, 360 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Four dairy-farms for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Erection of new buildings, fencing, and installation of water-supplies. Progress: All work is under way, and the sections will be balloted June, 1949.

Matakohe, at Ruawai, 1,045 acres. Acquired, September, 1947. Objective : Four dairy-farms for allotment, June, 1949. Development programme : Regrassing, buildings, fencing, draining, and water-supply. Progress : 162 acres sown in new grass, over 640 chains of fencing repaired and renovated, and the installation of water-supplies almost completed.

Matariki, at Whangarei, 334 acres. Acquired, February, 1945. Objective : Three dairy-farms—one section allotted, July, 1948, and expected that the other two will be allotted, July, 1949, to the two ex-servicemen at present working on wages.

Mauku, at Patumahoe, 592 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective : Six or seven dairy-farms. Development programme : Erection of buildings, fencing, installation of water-supplies, and eradication 250 acres heavy gorse and tea-tree, and grassing. Progress : Three sets buildings completed, 200 chains fencing renovated, water-supplies completed, scrub and gorse burnt, and 150 acres pasture renovated. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Motutapu (locality, Hauraki Gulf), 3,606 acres. This area is farmed by the Department on behalf of the Army Department. With the application of fertilizer, heavier stocking has been possible, and this has resulted in a reduction of the growth of rats-tail. During the year a further 125 acres was sown in grass and 100 acres in crops, while 400 chains of fencing was renewed.

Okahukura, at Wellsford, 9,041 acres. Acquired, March, 1945. Objective : Sub-divisional scheme not finalized. Development programme : This block calls for long-term development to bring about 6,000 acres into production. Approximately 5,000 acres is in drainable swamp, and extensive roading will be necessary. Progress : Pasture-renovation has been carried out over 450 acres, and 700 acres giant-disked or rolled. Main drain completed and side drains proceeding. Approximately 20,000 ft. of pine-trees have been felled and milled for farm buildings on this block.

Opou, at Ngatea, 573 acres. Acquired, June, 1947. Objective : Subdivision three dairy-farms for allotment, July, 1949, plus run-off area. Development programme : Renovation pastures, fencing, draining, water-supply, and new buildings. Progress : 138 acres pasture reconditioned, 1,030 chains fencing renovated and renewed, 65 chains new drains, 110 chains drains reconditioned, and buildings commenced. One ex-serviceman in occupation, with promise of a section.

Patumahoe, at Patumahoe, 140 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective : Two dairy-farms allotted, September, 1948.

Potters, at Otahuhu, 21 acres. Objective : Seven market-garden (hothouse tomato) units offered for selection without buildings, with provision for applicants to apply for rehabilitation finance for buildings.

Pouarua (locality, Hauraki Plains), 12,147 acres. Acquired, October, 1937. This block is made up of the Pouarua Block proper, 10,521 acres, a deep-peat area being worked on a long-term development plan ; the Kerepeehi Block, of 1,568 acres, which is being prepared for early settlement ; and a 58-acre dairy-farm which is being used for experiments in mineral deficiency. On the main block the usual reconditioning and cleaning of drains, clearing and stumping swamp, and top-dressing was carried out. Experiments by the Animal Research Division and the Soil Fertility Branch were continued. Two ex-servicemen on wages on Kerepeehi Block, with promises of sections, will have charges fixed, July, 1949.

Pukeoware, at Waiuku, 242 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective : Two dairy units for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme : Erection of new buildings, renovations to existing buildings, fencing, and installation of water-supply. Progress : Practically completed except for buildings. One ex-serviceman in occupation, with promise of a section.

Puriri, at Kaitaia, 1,403 acres. Acquired, November, 1933. Subdivision not finalized. Pastures have made a good recovery, a healthy growth of clovers being evidenced. A decrease in the number of sheep grazed and their replacement by cattle has checked the growth of rushes, although there is still a heavy growth in some parts. Owing to labour shortage, the progress of clearing the area of timber suitable for fencing-materials is behind schedule, but it is hoped to have this work completed during the coming year.

Riponui, at Whangarei, 912 acres. Acquired: 301 acres, December, 1945, and 611 acres, September, 1947. Objective: Five dairy-farms. Development programme: Erection of houses, cow-sheds, and implement-sheds, fencing, draining, and the cultivation and grassing of about 480 acres. Progress: 480 acres grassed, 117 acres scrub rolled, 340 acres drained, 1,250 chains fencing, and two sets of buildings erected. Two sections will be allotted on fixed charges July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of section.

Riverside, at Tangowahine, 3,969 acres. Acquired, February, 1946. Objective: Four sheep-farms, for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fences, improvement and renewal of old pasture, and installation of water-supplies. Progress: Practically the whole of the cultivated areas sown in grass, and 400 chains fencing repaired. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Ruawai, at Ruawai, 528 acres. Acquired: 206 acres in May, 1944, and 322 acres in May, 1945. Development completed on 401 acres, and three ex-servicemen established on dairy units; balance, 127 acres, transferred to Maori Affairs Department for settlement of Maori ex-servicemen. This block is under control of Commissioner of Crown Land, North Auckland.

Te Kaurau, at Helensville, 3,413 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Thirteen dairy units for allotment in 1950 and two sheep units. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fences, installation of water-supplies and electric power, clearing, cultivation, regrassing, and draining. Progress: 50 chains of new boundary fences erected, 100 chains of drains reconditioned, and 485 acres sown in new grass.

Thompsons, at Kaihere, 102 acres. Acquired, November, 1944. All development completed, and section allotted July, 1948, as one dairy unit.

Tikokopu, at Helensville, 4,600 acres. Acquired, February, 1945. Objective: Seven dairy and six sheep farms. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fences, installation of water-supplies, roading, draining, and the development and renovation of pastures. Progress: 400 acres of virgin country and run-out pasture ploughed and regrassed, 800 acres renovated and oversown, and 200 acres sown in new grass, 100 acres under cultivation, and over 15 miles of fencing erected or renewed. One sheep unit allotted on fixed charges, June, 1948, and should be possible to ballot two sheep sections and five dairy units in 1950.

Waikare, at Te Kauwhata, 505 acres. Acquired: 460 acres, October, 1946, and 45 acres, June, 1947. All development work completed and five dairy sections allotted, September, 1948.

Waipapakauri, at Waipapakauri, 589 acres. Surplus area from Waipapakauri Aerodrome taken over, January, 1948. Objective: Five dairy units. Development programme: Erection of new buildings, fencing, regrassing, stumping, draining, and installation of water-supplies. Progress: 43 acres grassed and 35 acres stumped and levelled, 62 chains fencing renewed, and 67 chains drains deepened. One ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of a section.

Waitoki, at Te Aroha, 296 acres. Acquired June, 1947. All development work completed and two dairy sections allotted, September, 1948.

Watkins, at Matatoki, 93 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Renovations to house and cow-shed, fencing, draining, and water supply. Progress: 23 chains drains and 220 chains fencing and flood-gate completed. One ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of section.

Watkins, at Ngatea, 121 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Reconditioning of house, erection of cow-shed and implement-shed, fencing, and draining. Progress: Practically completed except for buildings. One ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of section.

Waynes, at Pokeno, 165 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. To be used as run-offs for Hauraki Plains areas.

Whakapara, at Whakapara, 1,325 acres. Acquired, December, 1948. Objective: Six dairy units for allotment in 1950. Development programme: New buildings, water-supply, fencing, and farm tracks. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Whangapoua, at Coromandel, 2,327 acres. Acquired: 2,110 acres, February, 1946, and 217 acres, February, 1948. Objective: Ten dairy units and three mixed units. Development programme: Buildings, fencing, roading, water-supplies, and the development and renovation of pastures. Progress: Boundary fencing and draining almost completed and 1,177 acres of new grass sown, while 130 acres of manuka crushed and ready for grassing next season. Balance of original area transferred to State Forest Service.

Wharekohe, at Whangarei, 965 acres (Crown land). Objective: Six dairy units for allotment in 1950. Development programme: Erection of buildings, clearing and cultivation, fencing and draining, and the installation of water-supplies. Progress: Three barns built, 200 acres scrub rolled, 600 acres giant-disked, and 30 chains of access tracks formed.

Whenuanui, at Ruawai, 176 acres. Acquired: 136 acres, August, 1946, and 40 acres, September, 1947. Development work completed and two dairy units allotted in August, 1948.

Whitecliffs, at Wairamarama, 1,941 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Two sheep units for allotment in 1950-51. Development programme: Buildings are required for one section, but little other work, apart from fencing and farm tracks, will be necessary.

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Aratia, at Matamata, 400 acres. Objective: Four dairy-farms for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Erection of new, and renovations existing, farm buildings, water-supply, fencing, draining, and pastures. Progress: Buildings under erection. Water-supply awaiting material. Other development nearing completion. Two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Arohena, at Te Awamutu, balance of area, 4,378 acres. Objective: Two sheep sections comprising a total of approximately 849 acres to be settled, July, 1949, and one sheep unit of approximately 509 acres in March, 1950. Balance indefinite. Development programme: Erection of dwellings, farm buildings, sheep-yards, fencing, water-supply, clearing, and grassing. Progress: All development and building on sections being settled nearing completion. Material-shortage delaying water-supply.

Ellicott's, at Te Awamutu, balance of area, 614 acres. Objective: Two sheep units. Development practically completed, and acquisition of additional land being investigated in order to make two economic sheep-farms.

Foss', at Pukeatua, 438 acres. Objective: Two mixed units for allotment in 1951. Development programme: Erection of one dwelling and necessary farm buildings, fencing, water reticulation, and pasture consolidation. Progress: 80 acres grassed.

Henderson's, at Otorohanga, balance of area, 569 acres. Objective : Three mixed units for settlement, July, 1949. Development programme : Erection of houses, farm buildings, fencing, water-supply, and draining. Progress : Nearing completion, but lack of material retarding completion of water-supply.

Horotiu, at Hamilton, 260 acres. Acquired, February, 1949. Objective : Three dairy units for settlement in 1952. Development programme : Erection of dwelling and complete set of farm buildings for each section, water-supply, and extensive fencing and pasture improvement.

Hurley's, at Cambridge, 491 acres. Acquired, February, 1949. Ultimate utilization not yet determined.

Kaeaea, at Aria, 1,639 acres. Long-term development programme of extensive clearing, grassing, swamp drainage, and fencing. Scheme of subdivision and settlement proposals will not be finalized until further development is affected.

Karakariki, at Whatawhata, balance of area, 410 acres. Considerable fencing, grassing, and breaking-in of rough country required before settlement can be envisaged. During the year 168 acres of grassing completed and dwelling and store and implement shed completed.

Kiri, at Cambridge, 699 acres. Objective : Two dairy units for settlement in 1949, one mixed unit in 1950, and two mixed units in 1952-53. Development programme : Farm buildings on all sections, fencing, water-supply, clearing, and grassing. Progress : Buildings for sections being settled this year are under construction and other work is nearing completion, apart from water-supply, which will be delayed due to material shortages. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Kohua, at Aria, balance of area, 743 acres after disposal of one sheep unit of 358 acres to an ex-serviceman in May, 1946. 224 acres is heavy bush unsuitable for settlement, 71 acres is set aside for a scenic reserve, and balance, 448 acres, will be allotted in March, 1951, as one sheep unit. Development programme : Swamp drainage, clearing, grassing, fencing, and erection of dwelling and implement-shed. Progress : Drainage, pasture consolidation, and new grassing carried out during year.

Komakorau, at Hamilton, 734 acres. Development completed and allotted as six dairy units.

Kura, at Cambridge, 404 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective : To be settled in July, 1949, as four dairy-farms. Development programme : Extensive fencing, water-supply, houses, and farm buildings. Progress : Shortage of materials delaying water-supply ; other development nearing completion. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Kuramui, at Morrinsville, 861 acres. Objective : Two dairy-farms to be settled, July, 1949, and two sheep-farms, 1950. Development programme. Erection of houses, farm buildings, water-supply, and considerable fencing. Progress : Completed for the dairy units, and is progressing on the sheep sections. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Langdons, at Te Awamutu, 456 acres. Development completed and allotted as two units.

Maihihi, at Otorohanga, balance of area, 215 acres. Objective : To be settled as one mixed unit in July, 1951. Development programme : House, farm buildings, fencing, water-supply, drainage, clearing, and grassing. During the year development on one dairy unit was completed and section settled, July, 1948.

Mangamahoe, at Otorohanga, balance of area, 454 acres. Objective : To be settled as one mixed farm in July, 1951, and one sheep-farm 1953. Development programme : Erection of dwelling and farm buildings, water-supply, fencing, clearing, and grassing. Progress : fencing and pasture establishment was carried out during the year.

Mangaorino, at Te Kuiti, 832 acres. Objective : two sheep units— one to be settled in 1951, but early settlement of the balance not contemplated. Erection of farm buildings, permanent grassing, and fencing were carried out during the year.

Mangatea, at Te Hoe, 309 acres. Development completed and allotted as three dairy units, July, 1948.

Mangati, at Pirongia, balance of area, 440 acres. Objective : To be settled as one sheep unit in March, 1951. Development programme : Pasture consolidation and sowing-down of 73 acres in grass, erection of dwelling and implement shed, and one bridge. Progress : One dairy unit was settled during the year after completion of the development programme thereon.

Mapara, at Te Kuiti, balance of area, 5,479 acres after disposal of one mixed unit of 199 acres to an ex-serviceman in July, 1945. 141 acres allotted to a civilian in July, 1946, and from the balance of 5,338 acres one sheep unit may be settled in 1950 and one mixed unit in 1951, with the remainder representing a long-term development programme, including considerable scrub-cutting, clearing, and grassing, fencing, internal roading, and farm buildings. Progress : Considerable progress made with grassing, drainage, fencing, and general pasture consolidation.

Maru, at Te Aroha, 567 acres. Objective : To be settled as four dairy-farms in July, 1949, and two in July, 1950. Development programme : Erection of dwellings and farm buildings, provision of water-supply and extensive pasture reconditioning, drainage, and fencing. Progress : Development work on sections being settled in July, 1949, nearing completion. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Matiere, at Ohura, 957 acres. Acquired, December, 1948. Subdivision proposals not yet finalized, but property will probably be settled as one sheep unit and one mixed unit after erection of farm buildings and provision of fencing, water-supply, and pasture improvement.

Maungakawa, at Cambridge, 958 acres. Objective : two sheep-farms for settlement, April, 1950. Development programme : Erection of house, wool-shed, and other farm buildings, fencing, roading, clearing, and grassing. Progress : The largest proportion of programme completed. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Newstead, at Hamilton, 1,221 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective : twelve dairy sections to be settled progressively from July, 1949, to at least 1956. Development programme : Property includes large areas of burnt-over peat land that has reverted to scrub, and in addition considerable areas of worn-out pastures requiring renewing, fencing, and water reticulation. A large building programme is also envisaged. Progress : Sufficient progress made to anticipate the allotment of one dairy unit on a permanent tenure from July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Ngatamahine, at Aria, balance of area, 3,353 acres. Objective : 950 acres will possibly be settled as two sheep and three dairy units in 1951. Settlement of remainder will require some years. Development programme : Swamp drainage, scrub-cutting, clearing, grassing, and a complete building programme. Progress : Considerable drainage, fencing, and grassing completed during the year.

Oniao, at Aria, 777 acres. Objective : 690 acres could probably be settled in 1950–51 as two sheep units, but if swamp-drainage scheme undertaken, three mixed units should be possible by 1952. Development programme : Erection of buildings, fencing, drainage, and pasture improvement. Progress : During the year progress was made in drainage, fencing, and grassing, but road-construction delayed buildings.

Oparure, at Te Kuiti, 1,939 acres. Objective : Three or four sheep-farms. Settlement date at present indefinite. Development programme : Large fencing, clearing, and grassing in addition to a comprehensive water scheme. Progress : All development work is proceeding, and it is anticipated that after observing the effect of pasture improvement settlement intentions will be finalized next year. Two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Owaikura, at Otorohanga, balance of area, 251 acres. Objective : One dairy-farm to be settled, July, 1950, and one mixed to be settled in 1952. Development programme : Swamp drainage, clearing, grassing, water-supply, and fencing. Progress : All work was completed on two dairy-farms settled during the year. Buildings completed. Water-supply delayed due to shortage of materials. Ex-serviceman manager with promise of a section.

Pamotu, at Wharepungu, 1,870 acres. Objective : Five mixed and three sheep-farms—three to be settled, July, 1949, and three, July, 1950. Development programme : Considerable fencing, clearing, grassing, water-supply, and erection of buildings. Progress : During the year sufficient work was completed to enable three farms to be settled in July, 1949. Piping shortage delaying water-supply. One ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of allotment.

Paratu, at Walton, balance of area, 1,303 acres. Objective : Eight or nine mixed sections—two of which should be settled July, 1949, and three or four the following year. Development programme : Extensive roading, fencing, building, water-supply, and grassing. Progress : With the exception of water-supply, satisfactory progress was made on all aspects of development during the year, and two mixed farms will be settled in July, 1949. Two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Parau, at Oparau, 692 acres. Objective : Two sheep-farms in March, 1950. Development programme : Erecting of farm buildings, fencing, and grassing. Progress : Pasture improvement and fencing carried out during the year, and sections should be ready for settlement by March, 1950. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Piako, at Morrinsville, 501 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective : six dairy units in July, 1949. Development programme : Additional buildings, fencing, water-supply, and drainage. Progress : Due to lack of piping, limited water-supplies only can be provided. Apart from this, all sections should be ready for settlement in July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen on wages with promises of sections.

Piarere, at Matamata, 166 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective : To be settled as two dairy-farms in July, 1949. Development programme : Erection of houses, farm buildings, fencing, and extension of water-supply, drainage, and grassing. Progress : Both sections should be settled in July, 1949, with limited water-supplies. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Piu, at Mapiu, balance of area, 5,896 acres. Early settlement not contemplated. Development work includes scrub-cutting, stumping, grassing, and fencing. Fencing, clearing, grassing, and pasture consolidation progressed during the year.

Pungapunga, at Taumarunui, 617 acres. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units.

Punui, at Te Awamutu, 166 acres. Acquired, October, 1948. Objective : Two dairy-farms. Development programme : Erection of farm buildings, subdivisional fencing, and provision of water-supplies. Progress : Buildings are in course of construction and property should be ready for settlement in July, 1949, with limited water-supplies due to shortage of piping.

Pururu, at Te Kuiti, balance of 1,731 acres. Objective : One mixed farm in 1951, and two sheep units in 1953 or 1954, if efforts to obtain additional land are successful. Comprises considerable rough country, some unsuitable for development. Development programme : Erection of farm buildings, fencing, water-supply, clearing, and grassing. Progress : Clearing, grassing, and fencing was proceeded with during the year. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Raetihi, at Raetihi, balance of area, 1,768 acres. Objective : Five sheep-farms in July, 1949, and two in July, 1950. Development programme : Roading, fencing, buildings, water-supply, and pasture establishment. Progress : Five farms will be settled in July, 1949, although buildings may not be completed and water-supplies will be delayed until piping is available. One ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of allotment.

Rangarangai, at Taumarunui, balance of area, 779 acres, after having settled four sheep and four mixed units. Subdivision of remaining area delayed pending acquisition of adjoining area, but in the meantime development proceeding includes scrub-cutting, grassing, fencing, access roading, and water-supply.

Rumbles, at Pukeatua, 379 acres—one mixed unit of 257 acres allotted in September, 1948. Balance area, 122 acres, which was unsuitable for inclusion in area settled, is now being taken over by the Maori Affairs Department for incorporation in the Mamakumaru Development Scheme.

Tahaia, at Otorohanga, 770 acres, of which 556 acres is unimproved Crown land on which development at present has been deferred. The remainder should subdivide into two dairy-farms after completion of fencing, clearing, grassing, water-supply, and buildings. Settlement not anticipated until July, 1952.

Takuna, at Morrinsville, 220 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Two dairy-farms in July, 1949. Development programme: Buildings, fencing, drainage, water-supply, and pasture improvement. Progress: Development proceeding, and settlement in July, 1949, anticipated. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Tapucae, at Poro-o-torao, 3,328 acres. Settlement not anticipated at present due to special management problems, mineral deficiency, and isolation. Development during the year, although delayed due to labour shortage, included clearing, grassing, and pasture improvement.

Tauhei, at Morrinsville, balance of area, 101 acres. Objective: To be settled July, 1949, as one dairy-farm. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fencing, water-supply, and pasture improvement. Progress: Completed on one section which was settled during the year, and settlement of the remaining unit is anticipated in July, 1949. One ex-serviceman on wages with promise of allotment.

Te Hoe, at Te Hoe, 291 acres. Development completed and allotted as two dairy units, July, 1948.

Te Mimi, at Morrinsville, 789 acres. Development completed and allotted as six dairy units July, 1948, plus 23 acres to adjoining owner.

Te Puninga, at Morrinsville, 784 acres. Development completed and allotted as eight dairy units, July, 1948.

Te Rahu, at Te Awamutu, 269 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Three dairy-farms. Development programme: Buildings, water-supply, fencing, and draining. Progress: Apart from water-supply, delayed through lack of materials, development is approaching completion and settlement of all farms is anticipated in July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Toa, at Waitoa, 336 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Four dairy-farms in July, 1949. Development programme: Erection and renovation of buildings, roading, water-supply, and small amount of fencing, grassing, and drainage. Progress: Property will be settled in July, 1949.

Tokirima, at Ohura, 1,605 acres. Objective: Four sheep-farms in July, 1949. Development programme: Buildings, fencing, and roading. Progress: During the year progress was made with the fencing programme, but difficulty has been experienced in obtaining contractors for houses. Ex-serviceman manager and three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Vincent's, at Otorohanga, 196 acres. Development completed and allotted as one mixed unit, July, 1948.

Waihekau, at Te Aroha, 240 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Three dairy-farms. Development programme: Two houses and farm buildings, fencing, roading, water-supplies, and pasture improvement. Progress: Buildings are under construction, and sufficient progress made during the year to enable one unit to be settled in July, 1949, while the remaining two farms will be settled in July, 1950. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Waihuka, at Wainiha, 2,539 acres, on which early settlement is not intended. Area is subject to mineral deficiency, and, in addition to pasture improvement considerable fencing, burning, clearing, and grassing is intended. During the year, in addition to ragwort, rabbit, and fern control, fair progress was made with clearing and grassing.

Waikuku, at Morrinsville, 1,053 acres. Development completed and allotted as ten dairy units.

Wairama, at Kiwitahi, 685 acres. Objective: Four dairy-farms and one sheep-farm. Dairy-farms to be settled from July, 1949, to July, 1951, with the sheep unit settled in March, 1952. Development programme: Roothing, scrub-cutting, grassing, fencing, water-supply, and buildings. Progress: During the year roading was completed, 100 chains fencing completed, and 130 acres of the undeveloped area cleared. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Waitanguru, at Mairoa, balance of area, 11,300 acres, which should provide eight sheep-farms for settlement between 1950 and 1952. Remainder bush and broken country, settlement of which is at present indefinite. Development programme: Clearing, grassing, internal roading, fencing, and pasture improvement. Progress: Building and fencing programme progressed during the year, and two farms will be ballotted on wages in July, 1949.

Walton, at Walton, 422 acres. Objective: Four dairy-farms in July, 1949. Development programme: Internal roading, drainage, fencing, water-supply, and buildings. Progress: Although buildings have been delayed, construction is now under way, roading has commenced, and fencing is almost completed. Only a limited water-supply is available due to shortage of piping. All sections will be settled in July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager with promise of a section.

Wharepapa, at Te Awamutu, balance of area, 1,337 acres. Objective: Two sheep-farms in July, 1949, and one sheep-farm in 1950, as well as one mixed unit in 1952. Development programme: Clearing, grassing, fencing, water-supply, and buildings. Progress: The buildings and water-supply programme is approaching completion, while further progress was made with fencing and grassing during the year. Two sheep-farms will be settled on permanent tenures in July, 1949. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Whataroa, at Te Kuiti, balance of area, 489 acres, being remaining area after settlement of eight dairy sections in 1946-47. Residue is largely swamp on which extensive drainage by Mangapu Drainage Board will be required before settlement can take place. In the meantime, work will consist of maintenance of drains and fences and care of stock.

Whatauri, at Te Awamutu, 566 acres. Development completed and allotted as four mixed units.

ROTORUA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The past season has been an excellent one as regards production, and the high quality of herds and flocks has been maintained. The improved supply of fertilizer and fencing-wire has speeded up settlement, but this has absorbed the available supplies of water-piping, which is now very difficult to obtain. Although there has been an improvement in the building situation, it is still far from satisfactory.

During the year full-scale development of virgin land was resumed after the break occasioned by the war, and in this district 5,870 acres were sown in permanent pasture. The grassing of further areas will be undertaken on an extensive scale next year to provide not only farms for ex-servicemen and later civilians, but also to give vitally-needed protection, by way of grassed fire-breaks, to the large State forest plantations in the Rotorua and Taupo districts.

Atiamuri, at Rotorua, 12,236 acres. Acquired : 986 acres, May, 1947, 10,152 acres, May, 1948, and 1,098 acres, July, 1948. Long-term-development project involving extensive clearing and grassing, fencing, and buildings. Progress : 730 acres sown in new grass and further 200 acres being cultivated.

Edgecumbe, at Edgecumbe, 7,308 acres. Acquired, August, 1936. Subdivisional scheme not finalized. During the year special attention has been given to the re-establishment of pasture, which deteriorated badly during the war years owing to shortage of fertilizer. Good results have been obtained from crushing, oversowing, and top-dressing. Portions of this block are very badly watered, and a trial bore has been sunk and it is now certain that satisfactory water can be obtained on these areas. A portion (part of Orini Block) is an important ponding area and subject to floods.

Fairview, at Waimana, 1,978 acres. Acquired, June, 1945. Objective : Two dairy-farms for settlement in 1950 and two sheep-farms in 1951. Development programme : Grassing, fencing, water-supply, and buildings. Progress : 90 chains fencing and access road completed and considerable area oversown with good results, and re-establishment of pasture by crushing has been continued.

Galatea, at Murupara, 25,112 acres. Acquired, 1931. Fifteen civilians and thirty-eight ex-servicemen have been established. A further three ex-servicemen will be established on permanent tenure as at 1st July, 1949, five sections will be ballotted on wages in July, 1949, and twelve more sections will be ballotted in 1950. This will leave approximately 14,491 acres still to be settled, and it is expected that this will provide seventy to eighty sections. The portion of the block not yet settled is being farmed as a sheep-station, and surplus live-stock bred on the place are transferred to various other blocks under development in the district. During the year 630 acres were sown in swedes and 800 acres in permanent pasture. A further 1,000 acres are now being cultivated for sowing in permanent pasture by autumn, 1950. Development of the whole block should be completed in five to seven years. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Hamurana, at Rotorua, 275 acres. Acquired : 252 acres in 1947 and 23 acres in 1948. Objective : two dairy-farms for allotment, July, 1949. Development : Completed except for buildings, for which contract let.

Kaituna, at Paengaroa, 746 acres. Acquired, February, 1949. Objective : Two dairy-farms for allotment in 1950 and two sheep-farms for allotment in 1952. Contracts are being negotiated for the necessary buildings, and subdivisional fencing has been commenced. Four individual water-supplies are being installed.

Matanuku, at Tokoroa, 3,440 acres. Acquired : 2,945 acres in 1940, 334 acres in 1945, and 161 acres in 1946. Twenty-one dairy units have been allotted, and the balance area of 640 acres will provide two dairy units and one mixed unit for allotment in 1949. Two ex-servicemen, with promises of sections.

Mihi, at Reporoa, 26,994 acres, of which 23,259 acres are considered suitable for development. Acquired between 1938 and 1947. A subdivision scheme has not yet been finalized, but an estimate of the number of farm units which this block will provide is 117, comprising 95 dairy and 22 mixed. This is a long-term-development block, and its major problem is the provision of a satisfactory water-supply. Approximately 8,000 acres are in grass, of which 1,200 acres have been sown during the past year to complete the development of eleven sections formerly partially grassed, together with an extension into 500 acres of virgin country. The immediate objective is to prepare for settlement twelve sections, seven of which will have individual water-supplies installed and the other five will be watered from existing reservoirs. It is hoped to complete this work in 1951. The pasture on the twelve sections now in grass, and which can be satisfactorily watered, has received special treatment during the year so that early settlement of these can be achieved. Three trial bores have been sunk during the year, and results to date indicate that satisfactory water can be obtained on the western side.

A further 4,000 acres of the undeveloped area is to be grassed by the spring of 1950, and there will be progressive development of the remainder of the block. From 1951 onwards it is hoped, subject to availability of necessary materials, to prepare for settlement twenty to twenty-five sections each year.

Murupara, at Murupara, 180 acres. Acquired, July, 1933. One hundred acres are considered suitable for development. This block is the remaining portion of the old established Murupara Small Farm Scheme, and its final disposal has not yet been decided, as it may be required in connection with State forest proposals in this district. In the meantime, the grassed area is let on temporary tenancy to neighbouring farmers for grazing.

Ngongotaha, at Rotorua, 287 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: One mixed sheep and dairy unit. This block is badly reverted, and in the course of development will be controlled and crushed out by travelling stock belonging to the Department.

Ngutuwera, at Tokoroa, 1,301 acres. Acquired, March, 1941. Subdivisional scheme not finalized, but should provide six or seven units. Development programme: Grassing, fencing, buildings, and water-supply. Progress: Forty acres of new pasture established and approximately 100 acres old pasture oversown and fences repaired. Development of the remaining area now in fern and scrub will be undertaken next year. Settlement should be possible in 1951-52.

Pongakawa, at Pongakawa, 1,055 acres. Crown land set aside for development, September, 1948. Objective: Subdivision scheme not finalized, but it is expected that this block will provide six mixed farms. Development: The whole block which has reverted to scrub, fern, and second growth, is to be regrassed and buildings, water-supplies, and roads are to be provided.

Puketurua, at Putaruru, 544 acres. Acquired, April, 1946. Development completed and three ex-servicemen established on dairy units in July, 1948.

Putiki, at Edgecumbe, 1,326 acres. Acquired, June, 1946. Development completed and fourteen ex-servicemen settlers were established on dairy units in July, 1948.

Rerewhakaitu, at Rotorua, 12,067 acres. Acquired: 9,474 acres in 1944, and 2,593 acres in 1945. Practically all capable of development. Subdivision not yet planned. Long-term-development block. Present access is unsatisfactory, and provision for better roading must be made before settlement can be considered. This is a picturesque block of country, lying between Mount Tarawera in the north and Kaingaroa State Forest in the south. It is easy rolling country rising to peaks of 700 ft., and the lower flat area lies round Lake Rerewhakaitu. A large part of this land is covered with Rotomahana mud of varying depths and with a sprinkling of Tarawera ash, and it should after development provide a large number of high-producing farms. The immediate objective is to grass the whole area, and to date 1,500 acres have been sown and a further 1,500 acres of virgin country are now being cultivated for new grass. Apart from the value of this development for farming, the grassing of the block will provide a fire-break which will give highly desirable protection to the adjoining State forests.

Tokoroa, at Tokoroa, 5,201 acres, all of which is capable of development. Acquired in 1938 and 1944. Subdivision only partially completed, but estimated that will eventually subdivide into twenty-five farms, comprising fourteen dairy, ten mixed, and one sheep. Development to the settlement stage of nine units (eight dairy and one mixed), is practically complete and will be allotted July, 1949. In addition to the full range of new buildings erected for these sections, a new community wool-shed has also been erected. A further 1,470 acres of new country has been grassed and will be consolidated. The remainder of 794 acres undeveloped lies to the west of the Putaruru-Taupo Main Highway, and work on this area will be commenced next year. The final development should be completed in four years.

Waikite, at Rotorua, 8,702 acres. Acquired: 7,536 acres in 1938 and 1,166 acres in 1947. 8,237 acres are considered suitable for development. Tentative subdivision, sixty sections. During the year development of four dairy sections on the Whirinaki sub-block has been practically completed, and four ex-servicemen settlers will be established on these in July, 1949. The immediate objective is to prepare for settlement a further five dairy sections on the main Waikite Block. It is expected that these will be completed in 1951. During the year 570 acres of virgin country were crushed, burned, cultivated, and sown in grass, and work on a further 700 acres is under way.

Waitaha, at Tauranga, 168 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Objective: Subdivision into one dairy unit and a small area for amalgamation with adjoining ex-serviceman uneconomic unit. Development completed, and one ex-serviceman at present on wages will be established on fixed charges, July 1949.

Wharere, at Pongakawa, 4,941 acres. Acquired in 1933, 1938, and 1940. Billings portion of 895 acres should provide six dairy farms for allotment in 1951. Seven hundred acres of this portion is in grass, and balance will be grassed in 1950. Grassed area has been heavily top-dressed, with good results. Jensens portion of 1,465 acres should provide seven mixed units for allotment in 1952. During the year 280 acres of heavy scrub and fern has been cleared, cultivated and sown, and grass has established strongly. Approximately 500 acres remain to be grassed in 1950. Original Wharere area of 2,581 acres, acquired in 1933, is a long-term-development job and further development cannot proceed until comprehensive drainage completed. During the year 490 acres was isolated, mechanical pump installed, 175 acres cleared, cultivated, and grassed, with good results.

GISBORNE LAND DISTRICT

With the present greatly improved supply position more rapid progress will be made with the development of blocks, although delay is still being experienced with the building programme. Sixty-eight new dwellings are required, of which twenty-one have been completed, twenty are under construction, and twenty-seven are not yet started.

Blocks under development are:—

Hakanui, at Waerenga-o-kuri, 4,827 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Five sheep units. A severed area of 1,560 acres will require a longer term for development, owing to poor pasture and scrub reversion. Three hundred acres of manuka is being cut prior to surface sowing, and 44 acres have been cropped for autumn grassing. Five dwellings will be required, and 1 mile of access road formed and metalled.

Hihiroroa, at Rere, 4,407 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Objective: Five sheep units. Development programme: Erection of four dwellings, stock-yards, minor fencing repairs. Progress: Forty acres have been regrassed, and fencing and stock-yards attended to; buildings proceeding. Sections should be allotted on fixed charges for 1949-50 season for ex-serviceman manager and four ex-servicemen.

Hiwiniui, at Rere, 7,314 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Development practically completed except for buildings, and sections will be allotted with some temporary accommodation in May, 1949, to the six ex-servicemen with promises of allotment.

Hokoroa, at Waimata, 4,156 acres. Acquired, October, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units. Development programme: Extensive fencing, erection of two dwellings, and the formation and metalling of 3 miles of road.

Huinga, at Wairoa, 1,901 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. Objective: Two sheep and one dairy unit. Development programme: Erection of two dwellings, milking and implement sheds; cultivation and regrassing of 220 acres, 300 chains fencing repairs, and the installation of the necessary water-supplies. Progress: Regrassing will be attended to this autumn, when buildings are expected to be completed so that allotment can be made, July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of sections.

Karewa, at Ruatoria, 1,758 acres. Acquired, May, 1946. Objective: Two sheep and two dairy units, following the erection of three dwellings, implement-sheds, and two milking-sheds. Two dwellings have been completed, charges fixed, and settlers have entered into possession of the two sheep units. Sufficient progress is being made the dairy-units development to assure possession being given, July, 1949. Two with ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Kohanga, at Manutuke, 32 acres. Acquired, March, 1946. Development completed and four ex-servicemen established as small-fruit growers, July, 1948.

Makaramea, at Tolaga Bay, 3,162 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Will require erection of one dwelling and extensive renovations to a cottage. Little new fencing or development will be required to enable three sheep units to be made available in 1950. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Mangapeka, at Tolaga Bay, 596 acres. Acquired, September, 1946. In an undeveloped state, mainly swamp, and requiring an extensive development programme, comprising drainage, cultivation, pasture establishment, and all necessary fencing and buildings to establish six dairy units. To date 150 acres have been drained, cultivated, and regrassed, the major drainage scheme is nearing completion, and cultivation has been commenced on the balance of the block. One new dwelling and implement-shed erected. Ex-serviceman manager with a promise of a section.

Mangawehi, at Hangaroa, 1,348 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. Single-unit sheep-farm. The dwelling and implement-shed are practically completed, 40 chains access road has been formed and metalled, and ex-serviceman on wages should have charges fixed, May, 1949.

Rakaukaka, at Manutuke, 1,625 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. Has been used mainly for grazing purposes, but is estimated to subdivide into ten dairy units and one fat-lamb proposition, following a fairly extensive drainage programme, considerable pasture improvement, and the erection of all necessary dwellings and farm buildings and extensive fencing. Progress: One hundred and forty acres have been cultivated and sown down in grass, 40 chains road construction commenced, and the fencing programme is making satisfactory progress.

Sherbrooke, at Waerenga-o-kuri, 2,314 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Will provide two sheep units, following the erection of one dwelling, 40 chains of roading, and a considerable amount of new fencing and repairs.

St. Leger, at Hangaroa, 5,681 acres. Acquired, June, 1946. Objective: Four sheep units. Development programme: Construction of 4 miles access roading and one new bridge, the erection of three dwellings and implement-sheds, up to 600 acres scrub-cutting, and the cultivation and regrassing of approximately 250 acres. Progress: One dwelling has been completed, two are practically completed, cultivation and grassing is completed, fencing is making good progress, and scrub-cutting is being attended to but is limited to labour force available. Slow progress with the bridge and roading contract has considerably delayed the development programme. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of allotment.

Te Wera, at Matawai, 9,858 acres. Acquired, 1927. Objective: Five sheep units. Progress: Two dwellings and two wool-sheds, implement-sheds completed, two dwellings nearing completion, minor additional fencing is being attended to. Roading completed. Five ex-servicemen have been promised allotments, and final allotment should be made, July, 1949.

Waikoko, at Waerenga-o-kuri, 6,386 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Objective: Seven sheep units. Development programme: Erection of six dwellings and implement-sheds, one small wool-shed, considerable fencing, renewal and repairs of up to 1,600 chains, cultivation, scrub-cutting, and regrassing of 1,000 acres. Progress: 1,000 chains of fencing repaired, 300 acres scrub cut and 1,000 acres of cultivation being prepared for

grassing this autumn. Fair progress with the building programme. Four ex-servicemen are working on wages and three ex-servicemen ballottees are awaiting accommodation. Allotment is expected to be made by February, 1950.

Whakamaru, at Opotiki, 404 acres. Acquired, June, 1945. Development completed and allotted as four dairy units, July, 1948.

HAWKES BAY LAND DISTRICT

The progress on blocks being developed for settlement has been retarded by the shortage of certain types of materials and labour. However, logging operations at Opowehe Bush to help timber-supplies and the scheme for building prefabricated temporary accommodation to place on blocks where inability to let building contracts has delayed settlement is proving successful and will accelerate the disposal of units in the coming year.

A dry summer after a mild winter had an adverse effect on the feed position in some areas; notwithstanding this set-back production generally was maintained, and the stock carried on most blocks is in good condition.

Ahuriri Lagoon, at Napier, 7,755 acres. Development of this area was commenced in 1934. The pasture programme is steadily progressing, a further 554 acres being laid down to permanent pasture and area of lucerne increased to 84 acres. Two more ex-servicemen have been settled on the northern end as market-gardeners, and it is anticipated that the ten servicemen settlers who are on temporary tenancies will be settled on permanent tenures at an early date.

Aupaki, at Otane, 513 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Four dairy units and one fat-lamb unit. Development programme: Five houses, four milking-sheds, five implement-sheds, and individual water-supplies. Progress: Fencing programme is well under way, and the road into the block has been completed. An extensive area of thistle has been sprayed with hormone weedicide, with excellent results. It is anticipated that the sheep unit will be balloted in February, 1950, and the dairy units in June, 1950.

Bretts, at Wanstead, 1,314 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Development on this block to provide three fat-lamb units is almost completed, except for the erection of buildings, and the three units should be balloted at an early date with temporary accommodation. Development included 800 acres top-dressing, 250 chains new and 120 chains repairs to fencing, 10 chain tracks, bulldozing house-sites, the erection of three houses, three implement-sheds, and one wool-shed, and the provision of temporary accommodation.

Bushy Range, at Waipukurau, 2,511 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units. Development programme: Erection of buildings, fencing, and regrassing. Progress: 165 chains new fencing, 120 chains fencing repaired, 150 acres cultivated, with 50 acres sown in grass. Two units should be available for disposal in 1950.

Glenalvon, at Tikokino, 1,242 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Four fat-lamb units. Road completed except for a small bridge, bores sunk for water-supplies, and fencing programme is under way. Temporary accommodation has been erected for the farm-manager as the block was totally deficient in buildings. Further development consists of erection of four houses and four implement-sheds. Units should be ready for settlement in 1950.

Gowrie, at Wanstead, 1,859 acres. Acquired: 1478 acres, February, 1946, and 381 acres, February, 1948. Development to four sheep units is almost completed except for buildings, but it is hoped to ballot the block in 1949 after providing temporary accommodation. An extensive fencing programme, a pumped-water supply, and 200 acres of pasture renewal have been completed. Inability to let contracts for the three dwellings and three implement-sheds has delayed settlement on this block.

Hakowai, at Puketapu, 1,637 acres. Acquired, March, 1945. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units, July, 1948.

Hampden, at Tikokino, 929 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Objective: Two fat-lamb units. Development programme: Erection of one house, one implement-shed, installation of pumped-water supplies, and the establishment of 50 acres new pasture, 10 acres lucerne. Progress: Development is complete except for buildings, although contracts for these have been let. This property will be balloted with temporary accommodation in 1949.

Hautope, at Waipawa, 4,063 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Seven sheep units. Four servicemen are on wages with promises of sections. Development programme: Large roading and fencing programme, the building of seven houses, seven implement-sheds, and two two-stand wool-sheds. Anticipated that charges will be fixed in 1950.

Huirangi, at Patoka, 2,913 acres. Acquired, December, 1948. Long-term-development proposition, comprising mainly scrub-cutting, destruction of rabbits, establishment and renewal of pasture, erection and renovation of buildings. Scheme of subdivision not finalized, but should provide four sheep units.

Kaheka, at Tutira, 10,505 acres. Acquired, February, 1938. Development this year has been mainly pasture development, scrub-cutting, and the bulldozing of access tracks. Three hundred acres of scrub have been cut, and a contract is in progress to cut a further 500 acres. A track has been formed to give access to some 500 to 700 acres of country capable of easy development by super giant-disking or heavy rolling. Rabbit-poisoning with phosphorized pollard has resulted in a marked decrease in the pest.

Kakariki, at Kotemaori, 19,277 acres. Acquired: 19,213 acres in 1931 and 64 acres in 1946. Approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of bulldozed tracks have been formed, and pasture development is steadily progressing. One hundred and fifty acres of scrub have been giant-disked, and 250 acres of rolling country have been giant-disked and sown down in swedes, a good crop resulting. A further 130 acres have been sown down in permanent pasture.

Kikowhero, at Matapiro, 886 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Three fat-lamb units for allotment in 1950. Mainly sub-clover flats. Development programme: Fencing, buildings, water-supplies, and power-installations.

Kokomoko, at Waipukurau, 966 acres. Acquired, 951 acres, February, 1947, and 15 acres, September, 1948. Objective: Two fat-lamb units. Development programme, which included fencing, water-supplies, cattle-stops, and the erection of a new dwelling, is almost complete except for buildings, and sections will be allotted with temporary accommodation in 1949.

Longlands, at Hastings, 25 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Allotted without development as two orchard units in August, 1948.

Makarini, at Hastings, 1,673 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Five fat-lamb farms. Development programme: Building three dwellings, three implement-sheds, installation of a pressure-water supply from a bore, approximately 3 miles of new fencing, and establishment of 120 acres of new pasture. Progress: Almost completed, and the sections will be allotted in 1949.

Mason Ridge, at Hastings, 694 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Two fat-lamb units for allotment, June, 1949. Development programme: Erecting one house and implement-shed, fencing, installation of electric power on one section, and establishing water-supplies. Progress: Building contracts have been let, and dwelling has been started.

Mecanee, at Mecanee, 164 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. To be balloted as two mixed farms without development.

Mokara, at Tutira, 1,723 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: With development this property is to provide two dairy-farms. One hundred and twenty acres have been giant-disked and sown down in permanent pasture, 6 miles of fencing have been pulled down and re-erected, 400 acres have been heavy grass harrowed and oversown with white clover. A further 80 acres of scrub has also been cut. Provided buildings can be erected in time, one section should be ready for disposal, June, 1950.

Mount Cameron, at Puketapu, 2,002 acres. Acquired, August, 1946. Subdivided into three sheep units, two of which were allotted in March, 1949. The remaining section requires a further 2 miles of subdivisional fencing and a further 20 acres to be giant-disked and cropped. Twenty acres have been sown down in permanent pasture.

Omarunui, at Fernhill, 1,514 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. One worker's home was allotted, June, 1948, and balance of area will be subdivided into nine dairy sections and one sheep unit. Section boundaries have been completed on three of the dairy sections, and the fencing-repair programme is well under way. Ten bores have been sunk to provide independent water-supplies for each section. Bulldozed tracks have been formed through the hill country. Ten new houses, nine milking-sheds, and ten implement-sheds will be required. This block may be ready for settlement in June, 1950.

Oringi, at Dannevirke, 343 acres. Acquired, February, 1946. Development completed and allotted as three dairy units, June, 1948.

Poporangi, at Kereru, 22,538 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Approximately 15,815 acres unsuitable for farming and will be used for afforestation purposes. The remaining area of 6,723 acres will be developed to obtain five or six sheep units. This is a long-term-development proposition.

Pukeatua, at Dannevirke, 4,135 acres. Acquired, July, 1945. Development completed and allotted as five sheep units in March, 1948, plus small areas to adjoining owners.

Rakaiatai, at Makotuku, 1,629 acres. Acquired March, 1948. A full pasture-development programme has been undertaken on this block to raise the carrying-capacity sufficient to produce four units. Three hundred and twenty-five chains of new and 85 chain repairs to fencing, 120 chain of tracks, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of road-formation, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles of telephone-line have been completed. Further development entails the building of houses and outbuildings, construction of an overhead bridge, four flood-gates, eight dams, and a set of stockyards.

Raupare, at Hastings, 48 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Three orchard units, comprising 37 acres, have been allotted without development, and the balance of the area of 11 acres is now amalgamated with and included in Twyford Farm Settlement.

Rauhiti, at Rissington, 2,113 acres. Acquired, February, 1946. Development completed and two sheep-breeding units allotted, March, 1949.

Salisbury, at Maraekakaho, 1,497 acres. Subdivided into three sheep units, which were allotted, February, 1949.

Sea View, at Porangahau, 2,461 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Five sheep units for settlement in February, 1950. Farm-worker's temporary accommodation has been erected, the fencing programme is well under way, 80 acres of new grass have been sown down and 500 acres top-dressed. Further development will include five houses, five implement-sheds, wool-shed, yards and dip, fifteen dams, and 85 chain of track.

Te Ara, at Waipukurau, 3,869 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. This is a long-term-development proposition. The development programme is progressing favourably. Eighty chains of new fence and 220 chains of repairs have been completed. A pump-water supply has been installed. Twelve hundred acres of scrub have been cleared and 250 acres sown down in new grass, whilst 370 acres now in crop will be sown down in permanent pasture this autumn.

Te Roto, at Takapau, 1,404 acres. Acquired, June, 1945. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units, July, 1947, and two sheep units, January, 1949.

Twyford, at Hastings, 114 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. This area is being developed to provide two dairy units for allotment in 1950. Water-supply and fencing programme completed.

Waiohiki, at Pakowhai, 67 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. To be disposed of immediately without development for establishment of five orchard units.

Waitara, at Upper Mohaka, 18,450 acres. Acquired, November, 1948. Surrender of Crown leases accepted at request of the lessee. Development held over pending discussion with State Forest Service whether part of the area should be retained for farming or used for afforestation purposes.

TARANAKI LAND DISTRICT

Ball Road, at Hawera, 442 acres. Acquired, June, 1947. Development completed and five dairy units allotted to ex-servicemen, July, 1948.

Bradford's, at Pihama, 168 acres. Acquired, October, 1948, but possession not obtainable until June, 1949. Objective: Two dairy units for allotment, July, 1950.

Fraser Road, at Eltham, 96 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Development completed and allotted as one dairy unit to an ex-serviceman, July, 1948.

Mangaheua, at Waitara, 264 acres. Acquired, November, 1948. Objective: Two dairy units for allotment, July, 1949, and one dairy unit for allotment, July, 1950. Development: Three sets of buildings, water-reticulation, fencing, and some pasture improvement.

Mokoia, at Hawera, 467 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Three dairy units and one sheep unit for allotment, 1949. Development: Two new dwellings and outbuildings, renovate two dwellings and outbuildings, fencing, and water-reticulation. Progress: Completed and will be allotted, June, 1949, to four ex-servicemen, with promises of sections.

Normanby, at Hawera, 174 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Development completed and two dairy units allotted to ex-servicemen, July, 1948.

Okato, at Okato, 209 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Development completed and two dairy units allotted to ex-servicemen, July, 1948.

Punaho, at Okato, 241 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Two dairy units for allotment, July, 1949. Development: One new dwelling and outbuilding, renovate one dwelling and outbuildings, 70 chains fencing, and water-reticulation. Progress: All work under way and should be completed for allotment, July, 1949.

Stevenson's, at Pihama, 142 acres. Acquired, November, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit for allotment in 1951. Development: One set buildings, 150 chains fencing, regrassing 60 acres, and water-reticulation. Progress: 80 chains fencing completed and 30 acres cultivated. Ex-serviceman in occupation, with promise of section.

WELLINGTON LAND DISTRICT

Allerton, at Masterton, 549 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Three fat-lamb units for allotment, June, 1949. Development programme: Fencing, buildings, regrassing of 71 acres, and crops for supplementary feeding. Progress: Nearly completed, one new house and one implement-shed still to be built. Two units to be settled with disabled servicemen. Final settlement of whole area in June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and an ex-serviceman on wages with promises of sections.

Awahuri, at Awahuri, 375 acres. Acquired, February, 1949. Objective: Five dairy units for allotment, July, 1950. Development programme: Full set of buildings for each unit, 80 chains of roading, water bores and reticulation, considerable internal fencing, and farm tracking. Roading may be started this autumn. Settlement in 1950 will depend on the buildings being started early. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Avatea, at Tinui, 5,954 acres. Acquired in two portions: 3,195 acres in May, 1946, and 2,759 acres in March, 1948. Objective: Five store-sheep units; of these, two were settled 1st August, 1948, and the balance will be settled in 1949. Development programme: Two new houses, one implement, one wool-shed, conversion of shearers' quarters into a further dwelling, considerable fencing, 140 acres approximate in new grass, stock dams, yards, &c. Progress: Most of the work is nearing completion, the last house is under construction, but wool-shed not yet started. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Aicawaro, at Kimbolton, 5,127 acres. Acquired, April, 1947. Objective: Seven sheep units. One unit allotted without buildings in February, 1949; balance for allotment, autumn, 1950. Development comprises three new houses, one wool-shed, four implement-sheds, considerable fencing, and cutting of scrub over 1,500 acres. Fencing and clearing of scrub nearly completed. If buildings can be completed settlement will be effected by 1950.

Cannock, at Martinborough, 4,191 acres. Purchased, 1st April, 1948. Objective: Six sheep units, for allotment, 1951. Development comprises a set of buildings for each unit, three wool-sheds, 3½ miles of roading, and considerable fencing. Progress being made with the fencing, but as the road in will not be formed before 1950 buildings on four units cannot be commenced. Difficulty in obtaining contractors may delay settlement. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Cherrybank, at Wanganui, 383 acres. Acquired, March, 1946. Development completed and allotted as three dairy units, July, 1948.

Eastwood, at Tinui, 3,199 acres. Purchased: July, 1948, and March, 1949. Objective: Three sheep units for settlement, May, 1949. Development comprises new buildings on two units, renovate homestead, fencing, yards, farm tracking, and metalling of 2 miles of access road. Contracts have been arranged for the buildings. Settlement will be effected in 1949 by using temporary accommodation on two units.

Elslea, at Waverley, 780 acres. Purchased: March, 1949. Objective: Six dairy units for allotment, July, 1951. Development will comprise a full set of buildings for four units, cow-sheds on the other two units, internal fencing, water reticulation, &c. but final scheme not yet decided. Ex-serviceman manager with promise of a section.

Fairmont, at Masterton, 504 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Allotted as one sheep unit, August, 1948.

Gibbs, at Taihape, 176 acres. Acquired, March, 1949.

Glenstrae, at Masterton, 3,306 acres. Acquired, 16th July, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units for allotment, June, 1949. Development comprises two new dwellings, implement-sheds, one wool-shed, yards, fencing, and farm tracks. Buildings not yet started, but settlement will be effected in 1949 by using temporary accommodation. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Halcombe, at Halcombe, 873 acres. Acquired: 380 acres on 1st June, 1948 and 493 acres on March, 1949. Objective: Four fat-lamb units for allotment, June, 1949. Development comprises two new dwellings, two implement-sheds, yards, farm tracks, and subdivisional fencing. Labour has been difficult to find; buildings not yet started. By using temporary accommodation on two units settlement will be effected in 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Healey's, at Mangaweka, 1,061 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Will be allotted without development as one sheep unit and small area to adjoining owner.

Hurepo, at Palmerston North, 1,364 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units, July, 1948.

Itakara, at Levin, 561 acres. Acquired, May, 1946. Development completed and allotted as one dairy and one mixed unit, July, 1948.

Jellicoes, at Greytown, 271 acres. Acquired, February, 1949. A small area to be allotted to an adjoining ex-serviceman to make his holding economic. No development work is being undertaken.

Kahu, at Mangaweka, 358 acres. Acquired, March, 1945. Development completed and allotted as one sheep unit, October, 1948.

Kaimatarau, at Rongatea, 308 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Development completed and allotted as five dairy units, July, 1948.

Kainui, at Karioi, 2,097 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units for allotment, April, 1950. Development comprises buildings for two units, yards, some internal fencing, and 120 chains of roading. Labour is difficult to obtain owing to isolation of this block. Settlement by 1950 will depend on completion of the roading and buildings. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Kaitieke, at Kaitieke, 2,748 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Will be allotted as it stands as one sheep unit.

Karere, at Longburn, 203 acres. Acquired, July, 1946. Development completed, and allotted as three dairy units, July, 1948.

Keritane, at Wanganui, 157 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. Objective: Two dairy units, for town milk supply, for allotment, July, 1950. Development comprises one new house, cow-shed, internal fencing, water-reticulation, approximate 20 chains of new roading, and rejuvenation of pastures.

Koneira, at Pohangina Valley, 1,836 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. Objective: Two sheep units for allotment, May, 1949. Development comprises one new house, implement-shed, extension of water-supply, repairing of subdivisional and boundary fencing. Contracts let for buildings, while balance of programme nearly complete. Settlement will be effected by June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and an ex-serviceman on wages, with promises of sections.

Kotuku, at Marton, 495 acres. Acquired, January, 1946. Development completed and allotted as four dairy units, July, 1948.

Makirikiri, at Marton, 1,452 acres. Acquired, 1947. Objective: Six fat-lamb units and two small areas to adjoining owners. Allotment in June, 1949. Development comprises new buildings for four units, regrassing of 800 acres, considerable fencing, mole draining, yards, dip, power-reticulation, and 40 chains of roading. Programme nearly completed with exception of two houses and two implement-sheds, while roading is under construction. Settlement will be effected in 1949 by use of temporary accommodation on two units. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Manchester, at Feilding, 152 acres. Acquired, August, 1947. Objective: Two dairy units for allotment, July, 1949. Development comprises full set of buildings for each unit, fencing, water-reticulation, 20 acres tile draining, and 24 chains of farm tracking. Programme complete with exception of one house and one cow-shed to be finished. Settlement will be effected in 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Mark Hall, at Waverley, 200 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Two dairy units. Development work comprises one new house, two cow-sheds, 1 implement-shed, internal fencing, 35 chains of farm roading, piggeries, &c. Providing buildings can be completed, most of the work will be finished by June, 1949. If there is no hold-up with the cow-sheds, settlement will be effected in June, 1949, by using temporary accommodation on one unit. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Matai, at Kairanga, 374 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Five dairy units. This settlement comprises two separate areas, one of which is subject to bad flooding. This area may not be ready for allotment before 1951. The other area comprises three units for allotment in 1950. Programme for this area comprises three sets of buildings, subdivisional fencing, bridging, tracking, one artesian bore. Buildings started, and area should be ready for settlement in 1950.

Mount Stewart, at Rongotea, 767 acres. Acquired 28th May, 1947. Objective: Three fat-lamb units and two dairy units for allotment, June, 1949. Development comprises two new houses, two cow-sheds, four implement-sheds, two houses renovated,

water-reticulation, access tracks, and 500 chains of fencing. Programme will be completed in time for settlement in June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Moutoa, at Shannon, 62 acres. Acquired, 1st October, 1948. One dairy unit. Development comprises one set of buildings, water-reticulation, and regrassing of 27 acres. Buildings under erection; Programme will be completed for settlement in June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Newton Lee, at Wanganui. 3,170 acres. Acquired, 4th June, 1947. Objective: Three fat-lamb and two dairy units, with a further area which after development may make a further sheep unit. Development comprises three new houses, two cow-sheds, four implement-sheds, one wool-shed, 68 chains of public road, farm tracking, mole draining, internal fencing, and water-supply. Programme is progressing well. With completion of the road in autumn, 1949, and letting of contracts for buildings, five units should be settled in 1950.

Ngai, at Shannon, 741 acres. Acquired: 232 acres in July, 1947, and 509 acres in May, 1948. Objective: Ten dairy units with settlement completed by 1951. Development necessary is the grassing of the 232-acre portion, three sets of buildings on this area, a through road of 120 chains, five dwellings, cow-sheds, and implement-sheds on the 509-acre portion, internal fencing, water-reticulation, and drainage. This property is all reclaimed swamp with special drainage problems. The 232 acres has been grassed or is in crop, while fencing is proceeding satisfactorily. Providing buildings and roading can be completed, settlement will be effected in 1951. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Nireaha, at Eketahuna, 197 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Development completed and allotted as two dairy units, July, 1948.

Nirana, at Eketahuna, 3,088 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units. Development has been mainly renovations to one dwelling, some fencing, and yards. This work is well advanced, and the three ex-servicemen now on wages will take over the farms in April, 1949.

Ohingaiti, at Ohingaiti, 1,146 acres. Acquired, 28th February, 1949. Objective: Two sheep units for allotment, June, 1949. Development necessary: Two new dwellings, two implement-sheds, 1½ miles of fencing, and two sets sheep-yards. Work will be sufficiently advanced, except on buildings, to settle both units with temporary accommodation in 1949.

Okapea, at Hihitahi, 3,359 acres. Acquired, March, 1947 and 1949. Objective: Six sheep units for allotment in 1949. Development necessary is four new dwellings, five implement-sheds, one new wool-shed, considerable fencing, and extension of roading. Work well advanced, roading is complete, and three new houses are under construction. Delays have been experienced owing to wire shortage, also difficulty with buildings because of isolation; settlement, however, will be effected in June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and four ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Otahoua, at Masterton, 568 acres. Acquired, 28th February, 1949. One sheep unit. Development necessary is one new dwelling, one implement-shed, and some fencing. Buildings not yet started, but settlement will be effected by using temporary accommodation on 1st April, 1949.

Pakihikura, at Hunterville, 2,030 acres. Acquired, August, 1946. Development completed and allotted as three sheep units, June, 1948.

Paruwai, at Martinborough, 7,724 acres. Acquired, March, 1946. Objective: Six sheep units for final allotment in 1950. Development necessary is houses, implement-sheds for five units, two wool-sheds, 4 miles of new roading, considerable fencing, &c. Roading completed, and a start should shortly be made on four houses and sheds and the two wool-sheds. One unit will be settled in 1949, the balance will be ready for settlement in 1950.

Pokaka, at Taihape, 2,320 acres. Acquired, February, 1947. Development completed and allotted as three sheep units, July, 1948, plus an area to an adjoining owner.

Pongaroa, at Pongaroa, 12,528 acres. Acquired, 4th March, 1948. Objective: Thirteen sheep units, one mixed, and one dairy. Final allotment will not be effected until 1950, but by June, 1949, it is hoped to have settled five sheep units, one mixed, and one dairy unit. Development necessary is mainly buildings on ten units, considerable fencing, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of new roading, scrub-cutting on about 3,000 acres, and regrassing of 500 acres. Development is proceeding somewhat slowly as the isolation of this block has made it very difficult to let building contracts. Temporary accommodation is being used in effecting settlement this year. Three ex-servicemen on wages with promises of sections.

Pukehou, at Bulls, 1,220 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Development completed and allotted as two dairy and one sheep unit, August, 1948.

Pukenui, at Bulls, 214 acres, previously part of the Ohakea Aerodrome. Objective: Two dairy units. Development necessary is one house, two cow-sheds, two implement-sheds, piggeries, tile and plug draining, and water-reticulation. All work nearing completion. Settlement will be effected in June, 1949, of at least one unit. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Rangitane, at Tokomaru, 260 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Development completed and allotted as four dairy units, July, 1948.

Rata, at Hunterville, 1,595 acres. Acquired in various portions since March, 1946. Objective: Seven dairy units, one fat lamb, and one store sheep. Four of the dairy units were finally settled in August, 1948, the two sheep units will be settled this year, and the balance in 1950. Development work comprises eight new houses, seven cow-sheds, nine implement-sheds, 1 mile of roading, considerable fencing and draining, a large community water-supply, and grassing of 200 acres. With the exception of buildings work has progressed reasonably. Providing buildings can be completed, settlement will be effected in 1950. Five ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Raukawa, at Ashhurst, 190 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Development completed and allotted as one sheep unit, July, 1948.

Reids, at Waitotara, 94 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. This is one dairy unit, and will be incorporated with adjoining land when purchased.

Reva Rewa, at Mangaweka, 1,872 acres. Acquired, 14th April, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units. Development necessary: Two houses, one implement-shed, and fencing. One house now completed, rest of work well in hand. Settlement of all three units will be effected in June, 1949, using temporary accommodation on one unit. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Riverdale, at Linton, 415 acres. Acquired, 25th March, 1948. Objective: Five dairy units. Development necessary is a full set of buildings for each unit, internal fencing, half mile of roading, and water-reticulation. Work other than buildings has progressed sufficiently to enable settlement in June. However, shortage of cement has delayed the erection of the cow-sheds and settlement will probably not be possible until June, 1950. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Rongomai, at Eketahuna, 1,463 acres. Acquired, 4th March, 1949. Two sheep units. The only work on this block has been fencing and renovations to one house. Settlement will be effected in May, 1949.

Rongotea, at Rongotea, 152 acres. Acquired, 23rd March, 1949. Objective: Two dairy units. Development necessary: One new house, two cow-sheds, internal fencing, water-reticulation, and bringing-back of pastures. It is estimated that this programme will take two years. Settlement will be effected in June, 1951. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Ruamahanga, at Greytown, 4,388 acres. Acquired part in March, 1946, part February, 1948, and part July, 1948. Objective: Two dairy units, one mixed, and six fat-lamb units. One dairy unit was settled in October, 1947, while the mixed unit

and two fat-lamb units will be settled this year, the balance in 1950. Complete development programme comprises six new houses, six implement-sheds, three cow-sheds, one wool-shed, considerable fencing, regrassing of 700 acres, mole draining, water-supplies, and farm tracks. Programme is progressing satisfactorily. Providing buildings are completed, final settlement will be effected next year. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Santoft, at Marton, 9,632 acres. Acquired, 13th December, 1948. This is a large block with a considerable area of sandy coastal country. Schemes have not yet been finalized, but it is estimated it will subdivide into thirty dairy units, and five fat-lamb units. Complete settlement will probably take from five to seven years, but it is hoped to settle some units by 1951.

Tangimoana, at Tangimoana. This is a block of Crown land at the mouth of the Rangitikei River. It is mainly sandy coastal country, with a large area in plantations. Development is proceeding on part of the area with the grassing of 500 acres, fencing, draining, and water-supply. The development is still in the initial stages.

Taonui, at Kairanga, 136 acres. Acquired, 1st December, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit and two small areas for two disabled ex-servicemen. The dairy unit is to be settled in May, 1949, no development work being undertaken. A complete set of buildings, is necessary on each of the two farmlets; work has not yet started, but they should be finally disposed of in 1950. Ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of a section.

Tarapouri, at Kai Iwi, 763 acres. Acquired, 1st February, 1949. Objective: Two dairy units, one mixed, and one fat-lamb. Development programme comprises three new houses, three cow-sheds, three implement-sheds, piggeries, fencing, water-reticulation, and top-dressing to revitalize the pastures, which are in poor state. No development work has yet been commenced, but it is expected settlement will be effected by 1951. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Taueru, at Masterton, 3,488 acres. Acquired in two portions: 2,073 acres in February, 1948, and 1,415 acres in March, 1949. Objective: Four fat-lamb units and one store-sheep unit. Development mainly full set of buildings for each unit, one wool-shed, one mile of new roading, considerable fencing. Two units were settled on 31st March, 1949, while balance will be settled by 31st May, 1949. Temporary accommodation is being used on four units. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Taurao, at Pahiatua, 1,623 acres. Acquired, October, 1946, and February, 1947. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units, August, 1948.

Te Horo, at Te Horo, 668 acres. Acquired, 28th February, 1948. Objective: Four dairy units for town milk supply, one mixed unit. Development comprises a full range of buildings for each of the four dairy units, internal fencing, three-quarters of a mile of road, and water-reticulation. Excepting buildings, all work is progressing well. Two houses are under construction, and it is expected that buildings will be finished this year with settlement effected in February, 1950. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Tikilapu, at Masterton, 4,776 acres. Acquired, June, 1946, and March, 1947. Development completed and allotted as four sheep units, August, 1948.

Tiramea, at Eketahuna, 1,143 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. This is part of a settlement for ex-servicemen of the previous war. Adjustments are intended to make the remaining settlers economic. The area is being farmed only.

Turakina, at Turakina, 249 acres. Acquired, April, 1946. Development completed and allotted as two dairy units, July, 1948.

Upoko, at Masterton, 4,117 acres. Acquired, April, 1947, and June, 1948. Development completed and allotted as three sheep units, July, 1948, plus an area to adjoining owner.

Waimioru, at Masterton, 5,450 acres. Acquired, 1946/1948. Objective: Seven store-sheep units. Development comprises mainly houses, implement-sheds for six units, three new wool-sheds, 4 miles of new road, sheep-yards, and considerable fencing.

Two units have been completed and were settled in July, 1948. Work on the road is progressing slowly, but, apart from buildings, other work is well ahead. Two more units will be settled in April, 1949, and the balance in June, 1949, using temporary accommodation. Three ex-servicemen on wages, with promises of sections.

Waiohine, at Greytown, 266 acres. Acquired, July, 1946. Allotted as one dairy-farm, four small-fruit farms, and one worker's home.

Waipawa, at Masterton, 1,176 acres. Acquired, February, 1948. Development completed and allotted as one sheep unit, August, 1948.

Wairepu, at Taihape, 1,621 acres. Acquired, 23rd February, 1948. Objective: Two store-sheep units. Development programme includes new houses and sheds for both sections, one wool-shed from salvage, sheep-yards, dip, farm tracking, fencing, and cutting of 500 acres of scrub. All work should be completed by 31st May, 1949, with the exception of buildings. Settlement with temporary accommodation on one unit will be effected by 31st May, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Whareroa, at Paekakariki, 2,262 acres. Purchased at various dates since 1945. No development work is being undertaken. The area is being farmed with a standard flock of sheep and a herd of cows milked for town supply.

Whitaunui, at Shannon, 965 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Thirteen dairy units. Development programme includes a full set of buildings on each unit except one house and shed, 1½ miles of new roading, all internal fencing, water-reticulation, and approximately 300 acres to be stumped, logged, and put in grass. Approximately 166 acres have now been stumped and are in crop. A further 109 acres have been stumped only. A fairly lengthy programme is necessary, and immediate settlement is not envisaged.

Willowmere, at Feilding, 425 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: Two fat-lamb units. Development mainly house, implement-shed for one unit, 80 chains of new fencing, sheep-yards, and water-reticulation. Work is nearing completion, including buildings. Settlement will be effected in June, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

NELSON LAND DISTRICT

Moutere, at Upper Moutere, 306 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: Two tobacco units. Development programme: Planting tobacco and erection of additional buildings. Progress: 9 acres Grade IV tobacco land in tobacco. An area was used for experiments with manures and varieties of leaf in conjunction with Tobacco Research Station. Building programme deferred pending results of tobacco experiments. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of allotment of a section.

Orinoco, at Orinoco, 827 acres. Acquired, June, 1947. Objective: Three tobacco units, balance area poor grazing country. Development programme: Experimenting with growing of tobacco on Grade IV tobacco land to determine suitability for establishment of ex-servicemen. Progress: One set of buildings erected. Eight acres planted in tobacco, and while season's results satisfactory, suitability for commercial tobacco growing still doubtful.

Pangatotara, at Pangatotara, 164 acres. Acquired, October, 1948. Allotted immediately after acquisition as three tobacco units.

Sarton, at Stoke, 76 acres. Acquired, June, 1946. Approximately 1 acre allotted to disabled ex-serviceman for house-site, and balance leased for five years to three ex-servicemen for grazing.

Te Namu, at Karamea, 431 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Development completed and allotted as two dairy units, August, 1948.

MARLBOROUGH LAND DISTRICT

Avondale, at Avon Valley, 21,939 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Four sheep units for allotment, July, 1949. Development, comprising new sheep-yards, new fencing and fences repaired, new dams and dams repaired, regrassing, new drains, track graded, and erection of buildings, is nearing completion. Ex-serviceman manager, with right of a section.

Blairich, at Awatere Valley, 18,982 acres. Acquired, 2nd April, 1948. Objective: Three sheep units. A start has been made with draining, fencing, scrub-cutting, and regrassing programmes. About three years' development.

Claverley, at Claverley, 3,738 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Development completed and allotted as four sheep units—two in 1947 and 2 in 1948.

Craiglockhart, at Avon Valley, 7,915 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Three sheep units. Development, comprising new sheep and cattle yards, fencing, and draining, nearing completion. Building contracts let. For ballot and fixing of charges, July, 1949.

Dashwood, at Awatere Valley, 6,410 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: One sheep unit, two mixed-sheep and cropping units. Buildings, yards, sheep-dip, wells, dams, drains, and fencing are being completed. Ex-serviceman manager, with right of a section.

Davidson's, at Kaikoura, 54 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Single-unit dairy-farm. Development work, comprising new cowshed, new implement-shed, draining, fencing, and water-supply, completed. New house nearing completion. For allotment on fixed charges, August, 1949. Ex-serviceman in occupation, with promise of section.

Elms, at Kaikoura, 2,034 acres. Acquired, August, 1945. Objective: Two dairy units and one sheep unit. An area of 32 acres with the old homestead and the two dairy units have been allotted. Development on the sheep unit, comprising buildings, yards, dip, drain, fences, water-supplies, and regrassing, has been completed. For allotment on fixed charges, July, 1949.

Greenhills, at Lynton Downs, 4,912 acres. Acquired, March, 1944. Objective: Two sheep units. Development, comprising regrassing, renewal of fencing, buildings, yards, and water-supply nearing completion. Allotment on fixed charges, August, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Hille's, at Blenheim, 1,083 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. No development. Uneconomic and to be amalgamated with neighbouring properties under negotiation.

Kenepuru, at Kenepuru Sound, 1,384 acres. Single unit. Acquired, December, 1947, and allocated from that date to an ex-serviceman who, after ten months' occupation, finally declined allotment in October, 1948. It is intended to rebalot this property shortly. No development.

Lakes, at Kaikoura, 362 acres. Acquired, January, 1949. Two dairy units. Start made on new buildings, water-supply, and regrassing. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section. For allotment on fixed charges, June, 1950.

Ludstone, at Kaikoura, 907 acres. Acquired, 30th March, 1949. Two sheep units and three dairy units. Ballot for sheep units, July, 1949. Two to three years' development on dairy units.

McDonald's, at Kaikoura, 127 acres. Acquired, October, 1947. To be amalgamated with Lakes Farm Settlement. Uneconomic.

Molesworth, 239,624 acres. Favourable weather conditions have been experienced in the past twelve months; the winter was again mild, although the seasonal thaw and spring rains caused extensive flooding in September and October, particularly in the back country. A continued improvement is evidenced in the pastures, particularly in the thickening of the tussock cover and the spread of sorrel. With the persistent reduction in the number of rabbits, the reclothing of the soil may be expected to progress. Together with the care of stock, rabbiting operations were again the chief preoccupation

of the employees, the results continuing to be satisfactory. For the trading year ended 30th June, 1948, the number of rabbits caught was 52,950, a considerable reduction on previous tallies. The stock have wintered well, and it is expected that a draft of 700 cattle—300 bullocks and 400 fat and cull cows—will be ready for sale in April. With ample feed available and with good weather conditions, the cattle are in good condition to go into the winter. Apart from the erection of a cottage and major repair to the cookshop, little development work was carried out in the period under review. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have continued work on experimental plots in the homestead area.

Speed, at Koromiko, 797 acres. Acquired, March, 1945. Objective: One sheep and dairy and two dairy units. Dairy units allotted on fixed charges, 1948. Development nearing completion on mixed unit, for allotment on fixed charges, August, 1949, to ex-serviceman at present on wages.

Upton, at Awatere Valley, 1,628 acres. Acquired, November, 1947. Objective: One sheep unit and two sheep and cropping units. Development, comprising regrassing, fencing, new dams, and water-supplies, is proceeding. Ex-serviceman manager, with right of a section. Probably two years' development.

Wairau, at Wairau Valley, 15,978 acres. Acquired, September, 1947. Objective: Four sheep units. Stud block, 4,695 acres, taken over by ex-serviceman 1st April, 1948; back block, 4,713 acres, taken over by civilian (displaced purchaser), 1st June, 1948. Development, comprising buildings, yards, water-supplies, fencing, and regrassing practically completed. For ballot on fixed charges, July, 1949.

WESTLAND LAND DISTRICT

Kopara, at Haupiri, 2,685 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Four sheep units for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Reconditioning of pastures and erection of fencing. Progress should be sufficiently advanced for allotment, July, 1949. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Whitcombe, at Koiterangi, 445 acres. Acquired, December, 1946. Objective: Three dairy units for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Reconditioning of pastures, erection 395 chains fencing, two new dwellings and outbuildings, and water-supply. Progress: Buildings erected. Fencing and reconditioning pastures nearing completion. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

CANTERBURY LAND DISTRICT

Progress with the erection of dwellings and farm buildings has improved during the year, and contracts are more readily accepted by builders. Delay in the offering on fixed charges occasioned by lack of suitable accommodation affects only a few blocks, and this is being overcome by the provision of suitable temporary accommodation where practicable.

On blocks in the Ashburton-Lyndhurst Irrigation Scheme a further area totalling 700 acres has been bordered and sown down with permanent pasture and lucerne during the year. Two hundred and twenty-five acres has also been bordered in the Mayfield-Hinds Irrigation Scheme.

Ashlyn, at Lyndhurst, 582 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Objective: Two irrigation units. In run-down condition when acquired; requires clearing and fertility built up before bordering and sowing of permanent pasture. Four hundred acres under cultivation during the year. Twenty-nine acres of permanent pasture on dry land, 9 acres bordered and sown with lucerne, and the balance of the area sown with fodder crops. One new dwelling, one new store and implement shed, one new wool and store shed, and renovations to existing dwelling completed. Two ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections.

Barkerfield, at Hinds, 1,922 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Four irrigation units; settlement anticipated early 1952. Light plains land in the Mayfield-Hinds Irrigation Scheme. The preparation of paddocks for irrigation started in late spring, and 225 acres border-dyked and sown in permanent pasture, and 16 acres border-dyked and sown in lucerne. Water is available to these areas. Progress made with the erection of three new houses and sheds, and with renovations to existing homestead. Fencing-material is now coming forward, and the subdivision of the large border-dyked paddocks will be started this winter. Three ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections.

Beckleigh, at Winchester, 377 acres. Acquired, September, 1947. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit and one dairy unit. Development completed and allotted, November, 1948.

Blytheburn, at Stonyhurst, 5,084 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Four sheep and cropping units. The building programme, which includes four new dwellings, two implement-sheds, and two wool-sheds, is progressing and should be completed by August, 1949. Roading and access tracks have been completed and electric power available. Approximately 200 acres regrassed, and further development work to be carried out comprises 500 acres regrassing, and the erection of 463 chains fencing. An ex-serviceman manager, and three ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections. Settlement on fixed charges anticipated for autumn of 1950.

Charteris, at Diamond Harbour, 1,768 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Two sheep and cattle units. These units were settled on fixed charges in September, 1948, temporary accommodation being provided. The building programme, which includes two new dwellings, one implement-shed, and one wool-shed, is nearing completion. Work is progressing on dip and yards.

Cheviot Hills, at Cheviot, 5,060 acres. Acquired, February, 1946. Objective: Four sheep units and one dairy unit. Three sheep units and one dairy unit were allotted on fixed charges in August, 1947, and the remaining sheep unit was selected on permanent tenure, April, 1948.

Clarkville, at Kaiapoi, 217 acres. Acquired, June, 1947. Objective: Three town supply dairy units. The building programme, comprising two new dwellings, three new milking-sheds, two utility sheds from part salvage materials, has been completed, also formation of access tracks, sinking of two wells, approximately 30 chains drains, and grass and lucerne establishment. The erection of 201 chains fencing and the installation of 1,300 ft. piping and troughs for water-supply is well advanced. Two ex-servicemen employed on the block have promises of sections. Final allotment is anticipated, July, 1949.

Cone's, at Rakaia, 266 acres. Acquired: 134 acres, 7th October, 1947, and 132 acres, 16th March, 1948. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. The existing dwelling has been renovated and 37 acres of pasture sown. When compensation fixed, section will be allotted on fixed charges to the ex-serviceman at present employed on wages.

Coutts Island, at Belfast, 177 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Two town supply dairy units. The building programme provides for the erection of two new milking-sheds, one new barn-implement shed, and renovations to house and feed-shed. Considerable regrassing is required before settlement. Owing to the dry summer retarding pastures, the ex-serviceman manager and the ex-serviceman on wages have both asked, and it has been agreed, that settlement be deferred until 1950.

Craiglea, at Methven, 970 acres. Acquired: 772 acres, April, 1948, and 198 acres, March, 1949. Objective: Three sheep and cropping units. The building programme provides for two new dwellings, two new store and implement sheds, and conversion of granary to wool-shed. Contract work has commenced, and steady progress is being made. Two hundred acres new permanent pasture has been sown down. Further

development work comprises formation 31 chains access tracks and 30 chains fencing. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section. Settlement on permanent tenure is anticipated autumn, 1950.

Croftlea, at Arundel, 1,950 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Three sheep and cropping units. Three sections settled on fixed charges, August/September, 1948. Development work still to be completed comprises erection of wool-shed and sheep-yards.

Dromore, at Ashburton, 665 acres. Acquired, December, 1941. Objective: One sheep-farm. Development completed and allotted on permanent tenure, April, 1948.

Eiffelton, at Eiffelton, 497 acres. Acquired, 459 acres, April, 1948, and 38 acres, November, 1948. Objective: Two sheep and cropping units. The building programme comprises erection of new dwelling and renovations to existing dwelling and granary. Approximately 3 miles subdivisional fencing is required. Two ex-servicemen, with promises of sections, are employed. Allotment on fixed charges is anticipated, August, 1949.

Fighting Hill, at Rakaia Gorge, 3,319 acres. Acquired, July and August, 1946. Objective: Four sheep and fattening units. The building programme has been completed, and comprises three new dwellings, one utility shed, and two wool-sheds. 450 acres has been regrassed, and approximately 40 chains water-race and 40 chains access tracks constructed. Approximately 320 chains fencing has been completed, and the construction of further boundary and road fencing is progressing steadily. Four ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections. It is anticipated that all sections will be allotted on permanent tenure by July, 1949.

Findlays, at Eiffelton, 264 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. Development completed and settled on permanent tenure, July, 1948.

Forsyth, at Little River, 2,492 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Three sheep and cattle units. This settlement was allotted on permanent tenure in July, 1948. The only development work covering erection of new dwelling has been completed.

Fraser's, at Hakataramea, 3,461 acres. 1 sheep unit acquired and allotted in December, 1948.

Grassy Hills, at Waimate, 2,893 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Two sheep and cattle units. Settlement of both units on permanent tenure was made in May, 1948.

Hakataramea Fish Hatchery, at Hakataramea, 26 acres. Acquired from the Marine Department in July, 1947, and allotted as worker's home in August, 1948.

Henleys, at Lincoln, 97 acres. Acquired, May, 1946. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. Seventy-five acres has been regrassed and is now in permanent pasture. The block on its own is uneconomic and has been let for temporary grazing pending the acquisition of an additional area required to make an economic unit.

Holme, at Timaru, balance of area, 2,605 acres. Acquired, June, 1946. Objective: Six sheep and cropping units. Settlement of all units on permanent tenure was made in July, 1948.

Kelmont, at Waikari, 1,766 acres. Acquired: 429 acres, 1st May, 1947, and 1,337 acres, 31st March, 1948. Objective: Four sheep and cropping units. The building programme, which is nearing completion, comprises three new dwellings, two new sheds, and one wool-shed, and repairs to existing buildings. Considerable repair work to fences has been completed; also 210 tons lime applied to pasture. Further development work covers the erection 423 chains fencing, 400 acres regrassing, sinking of two bores, erection of sheep dip and yards. Two ex-servicemen, with promises of sections, are employed. Final allotment is anticipated in autumn, 1950.

Kings, at Timaru, 251 acres. Acquired, September, 1946. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. This block was settled on permanent tenure in October, 1948, with temporary accommodation. Sheep-yards and subdivisional fencing erected. The erection of a new dwelling and new wool-shed commenced.

Lauriston, at Lauriston, 329 acres. Acquired, October, 1940. Objective: One irrigated unit. Irrigation water will not be available on this block for a number of years, and temporary tenancies have been granted to adjoining Crown lessees meantime.

Leader, at Parnassus, 6,719 acres. Acquired: 1,210 acres, April, 1948, and 5,509 acres, March, 1949. Objective: Two store-sheep units, and one sheep and cropping unit and an area for amalgamation with neighbouring owner. The building programme provides for two new dwellings, one wool-shed, one shearers' quarters, two sheds. Approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of roading is to be formed. Provision for temporary accommodation is being made to allow of settlement, June, 1949.

Levels Valley, at Timaru, 674 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Two sheep and cropping units. Allotted on permanent tenure, August, 1948.

Longs, at Pendarves, 703 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. There are no buildings on the property, and tenders have been called for erection of new dwelling and wool and store shed. Other development work required covers 100 acres regrassing, 160 chains fencing, metalling of 71 chains access road. At the present time 484 acres of grazing land is let on temporary tenancy. Permanent settlement is dependent upon completion of building programme.

Lowland Lees, at Rangiora, 670 acres. Acquired, March, 1946. Objective: Two sheep and cropping farms. The building programme has been completed and two sections allotted on fixed charges in July, 1948.

Lyndale, at Lyndhurst, 599 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Two irrigated units when 100 acres additional land is acquired. Building programme provides for one new dwelling, one new wool and store shed, and one new hut. Further development work covers preparation of 310 acres for irrigated pastures, erection of 310 chains new subdivisional fencing, construction of sheep-yards. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section. The block may be ready for settlement in 1951.

Meadowvale, at Pleasant Point, 274 acres. Acquired, April, 1947. Objective: Two dairy units. The building programme provides for one new house, renovations to existing house, two new milking-sheds, two implement-sheds, two piggeries. The erection of milking-sheds and piggeries is well advanced. Two hundred and thirty-two acres of pasture has been limed, 20 chains new boundary fencing and 70 chains internal fencing has been erected. Further development work covers erection of approximately 110 chains internal fencing. An ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section. Settlement on fixed charges is anticipated, August, 1949.

Medway, at Hammer, 8,312 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Two store-sheep units. Building programme provides for two new dwellings, one new wool-shed, two sheds, modified shearers' quarters, dip and yards. The construction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of roading has been approved, and the erection of buildings and final settlement largely depends on its construction. Approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of sectional boundary fencing has been completed. An ex-serviceman manager and an ex-serviceman on wages with promises of sections. Settlement is anticipated, autumn, 1950.

Middlerigg, at Dunsandel, 523 acres. Acquired, August, 1946. Objective: Four dairy units. Buildings completed on one unit, and settlement on permanent tenure was made in November, 1948. Buildings on the other three units are nearing completion, and settlement on permanent tenures is anticipated, spring, 1949.

Montalto, at Mayfield, 2,631 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Four sheep and cropping units. One unit was allotted on permanent tenure in August, 1947, and settlement on permanent tenure is now being made of the remaining three units. Building programme for three remaining units provides for two new houses, two new combined sheds, construction of sheep-yards. Settlement on fixed charges is anticipated for June, 1949.

Mount Paul, at Waiau, 19,401 acres. Acquired, March-May, 1947. Objective: Four store-sheep units and four sheep cattle and cropping units. The building programme provides for erection of four new houses, five utility sheds. The contract for renovation of existing buildings has been completed. The construction of two new dwellings has commenced. One and three-quarter miles roading has been completed, and there is about 12 miles of fencing to be erected. A contract for erection of 82 chains fencing has been let, with 110 chains to follow. When the two dwellings now in course of erection are completed and with steady progress being made in erection of fencing, there is every possibility that the five ex-servicemen at present on wages, with promises of sections, will be settled by autumn, 1950. This will be dependent, however, on the two store-sheep units being run as a partnership until such time as a further 2 miles of sectional boundary fence is completed.

Newlands, at Ashburton, 369 acres. Acquired: 299 acres in July, 1946, and 70 acres in November, 1947. Objective: One irrigated unit. Previously part of Winchmore Farm Settlement and now used as a separate unit for costing and management information. Further area of 45 acres bordered and sown down this season with 30 acres permanent grass and 15 acres lucerne. The area is now fully developed as an irrigated unit.

Oaklands, at Methven, 1,037 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Three irrigated sheep and cropping units. The building programme provides for two new dwellings, two new barn-implement sheds, and renovations to existing dwelling and wool-shed. Two hundred acres of this block were under irrigation at time of purchase, but further development for irrigation and fencing is required. It is anticipated that one unit may be settled autumn, 1950, but the other two units will not be ready for at least two years.

Pyramid, at Waikari, 5,136 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit and two store-sheep units. The only development was the erection of one wool-shed, now completed. Three units were settled on permanent tenure, April, 1948.

Ritchies, at Geraldine, 487 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit (partly irrigated). The block at present provides an uneconomic unit under "dry farming," but with the Hinds-Mayfield Irrigation Scheme available a single irrigation unit will be developed. Preliminary work has been carried out, but no border-dyking has yet been done. An ex-serviceman employed on wages has promise of the unit. Settlement on permanent tenure is anticipated, autumn, 1951.

Riverview, at Ealing, 546 acres. Acquired, August, 1946. Objective: One sheep and cropping unit. Water was not available to enable this property to be settled as an irrigation block. Settlement on permanent tenure was made in August, 1948, as a "dry" sheep and cropping unit.

Rocklea, at Lyndhurst, 525 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: One or two irrigated units, dependent upon acquisition of additional land up to 175-200 acres. The existing dwelling has been renovated and painted. One hundred and sixty acres now bordered and sown down in permanent pasture, and 30 acres new dry pasture sown. Part of material for the erection of 300 chains fencing is on block, and contract fencer is now employed. An ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Rokeyby, at Mitcham, 659 acres. Acquired, 31st March, 1949. Objective: Three sheep and cropping units. The building programme provides for two new dwellings, two new combined sheds, renovations to existing buildings.

Rowallan, at Winchmore, 814 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Two irrigated sheep and cropping units. This property will require cleaning and building up before being developed for irrigation. The building programme will provide for two new dwellings, new implement-shed, and renovations to existing buildings. Considerable subdivisional fencing will be required. An ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a unit.

Sefton, at Sefton, 508 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Objective : Four dairy units. All development work, including the erection of buildings, is completed. Three ex-servicemen employed on wages, with promises of units. All sections should be allotted on fixed charges in July, 1949.

Spring Creek, at Methven, 337 acres. Acquired, December, 1946. Objective : One sheep and cropping unit. Settlement on permanent tenure was made, July, 1948.

Stamford, at Makikihi, 1,049 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective : Two sheep and cropping units, plus an area for amalgamation with uneconomic unit held by an ex-serviceman. All development work nearing completion. This includes renovations to existing house and buildings, erection of new house and combined shed, erection of boundary fencing. Two units were settled on permanent tenure, September, 1948, with provision for temporary accommodation.

Stonehaven, at Ruapuna, 1,285 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Objective : Two sheep and cropping units. Two units settled on permanent tenure, July, 1948. Temporary accommodation provided for one settler. Erection of new house and shed and renovations to existing house are under way.

Stormlea, at Methven, 1,017 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Objective : Three sheep and cropping units. The building programme has been completed and settlement of three units on fixed charges was made July, 1948.

Stowells, at Esk Valley, 570 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Objective : One sheep and cropping unit. Four hundred and ninety acres settled as one unit on permanent tenure in August, 1948, with a temporary lease of 80 acres. Efforts being made to acquire further land to add to balance area to provide a further sheep and cropping unit.

Strathallan, at Fairlie, 2,469 acres. Acquired : 1,841 acres, March, 1948, and 628 acres, March, 1949. Objective : Three sheep and cropping units. The building programme provides for one new house, one new wool-shed, one new combined shed, and renovations to two houses and one wool-shed. The erection of internal fencing has yet to be carried out. Access road over the swamp on Section 3 is to be formed to give access to the arable portion of farm. One ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman are employed, with promises of sections. Settlement of two units on fixed charges is anticipated, August, 1949, and the remaining unit, autumn, 1950.

Strathconan, at Fairlie, 497 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective : One sheep and cropping unit. Renovations to house and shed to be carried out and erection of new barn. One ex-serviceman is employed, with promise of a section. Settlement on permanent tenure is anticipated in 1949.

Templetons, at Geraldine, 184 acres. Acquired, June, 1943. Objective : One dairy unit. Settlement on permanent tenure completed, December, 1948.

Trent, at Templeton, 20 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective : Three raspberry-growing units. Settlement on permanent tenure completed, September and December, 1948.

Tripp, at Geraldine, 665 acres. Acquired, May, 1940. Objective : One sheep and cropping unit. This block has been developed by tile and mole draining, and further development by way of fencing and liming will be completed in 1949.

Valetta, at Ashburton, 8,815 acres. Acquired, 1940-1947. Objective : Indefinite. This block lies within the proposed Valetta-Tinwald Irrigation Scheme. No water will be available for some years, and the block is being farmed on a maintenance basis meantime.

Viewbrae, at Methven, 485 acres. Acquired, October, 1946. Objective : Two irrigated units. The erection of a new dwelling and wool-shed has been completed, and a further 90 acres has been bordered and sown down. Two ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections. Allotment on fixed charges is anticipated, August, 1949.

Waikakahi, at Waimate, 766 acres. Acquired, August, 1940. Objective: Five dairy units. Four dairy units were settled on permanent tenure, August, 1947, and the remaining unit in December, 1948.

Winchmore, at Ashburton, 4,072 acres. Acquired, November, 1944, to May, 1947. Objective: Ten to twelve irrigated units. The building programme for this block has now been completed by the erection during the year of the three new houses, with store and implement sheds, and repairs to two existing dwellings. Established areas of irrigated pasture have received up to 2 ft. of water. Following the dry season, irrigated pastures have been fairly heavily stocked. Stock have done well, and lambs have fattened and killed at satisfactory weights. During the year 270 chains of fencing was erected. Fencing material is now coming to hand, and the erection of further fencing is proceeding as labour is available. Eight ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections. Four units are to be allotted on permanent tenure in 1949.

Wingfield, at Rakaia, 1,500 acres. Acquired, March, 1945. Objective: Three sheep and cropping units. During the season 95 acres of new pasture has been sown, making a total of 502 acres. Two hundred and forty-six chains new fencing have been erected. Further cultivation work is necessary on the block, and it is anticipated that settlement on permanent tenure will be made, autumn, 1950. Two ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of units.

OTAGO LAND DISTRICT

Awamangu, at Hillend, 2,944 acres. Acquired, 1944 and 1945. Objective: Five sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 1,068 acres; erect 85 chains fencing; erect three dwellings, three barn-implement sheds, and one cow-byre; repair three houses and one wool-shed; erect new sheep-yards; and metal road and put in culverts. Progress: Development practically completed, and five sections will be allotted on fixed charges, June, 1949. Four ex-servicemen already on the block, with promises of sections.

Beacon Hill, at Wairuna, 1,487 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Three sheep units for allotment, 1952. Development programme: Erect two dwellings and one wool-shed, and repair and renovate one dwelling and convert stable to barn-implement shed; erect 260 chains and repair 225 chains fencing; regrass 348 acres; install 280 chains drains; erect sheep-yards; erect four bridges and put in three culverts; and eradicate gorse. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of section.

Berwick, at Berwick, 393 acres. Acquired, November, 1946. Objective: Three dairy units for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 47 acres; erect 40 chains fencing; erect two dwellings, two cow-byres, remove and re-erect one implement-shed, renovate one cow-byre; sink two bores and reticulate; erect stock bridge; and metal sixty chains road. Progress: 47 acres regrassed, cow-byre renovated, two bores sunk, and two new dwellings commenced. Two ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Clydevale, at Clydevale, 1,147 acres. Acquired, 1947. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment—one in 1949 and one in 1950. Development programme: Regrass 300 acres, erect 76 chains fencing and repair 100 chains, renovate existing dwelling and provide water-supply, provide a further dwelling, and erect one barn-implement shed. Progress: 127 acres regrassed. Existing dwelling renovated. Further dwelling provided—still requires water-supply, drainage and sundry repairs, &c. Barn-implement shed almost completed. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Cranleigh, at Tuapeka Mouth, 1,911 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 445 acres, erect 130 chains fencing and repair 200 chains fencing, erect two dwellings and one barn-implement shed, and eradicate gorse. Progress: 445 acres regrassed, 90 chains fencing repaired, area of gorse grubbed, and erection of buildings commenced. It is

proposed to allot the sections on fixed charges in June, 1949, using two old cottages for accommodation pending erection of the new dwellings. Two ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Downlands, at Palmerston, 3,183 acres. Acquired, September, 1948. Objective: Two sheep-farms or partnership proposition for allotment possibly 1949, but probably 1950. Development programme: Provide one dwelling and one barn-implement shed, erect 160 chains new fencing, and provide water-supply. Final decision as to disposal of this property is held up pending further details regarding water-supply.

Goodwood, at Palmerston, 1,720 acres. Acquired, July, 1946. Objective: Four sheep-farms for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Regrass 346 acres; erect or repair 885 chains fencing; erect four dwellings and three barn-implement sheds; repair two cottages for temporary accommodation; remove, renovate, and extend woolshed; construct sheep-yards and dip; repair stable; construct dams: and form and metal road. Progress: Two cottages repaired; two implement-sheds built: woolshed moved, renovated, and extended; stable repaired; sheep-yards and dip constructed: six dams constructed: 180 chains fencing erected or repaired; 220 acres regrassed; road formed and metalled; and two dwellings almost completed. This property should be ready for allotment as planned. Two ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections.

Green Valley, at Dunback, 11,860 acres. Acquired, March, 1949. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1951. Development programme: Erect two dwellings, one woolshed, two sheds and loose-boxes, renovate cottage and outbuildings; erect 510 chains fences; and erect sheep-yards and dip. Ex-serviceman manager, with the promise of section.

Invermay, at Wingatui, 1,262 acres. Acquired, February, 1946. Objective: Three dairy-farms for allotment, 1949, and one sheep-farm for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Regrass 389 acres; erect 80 chains fencing and repair 60 chains; and erect three dwellings, three cow-byres, three implement-sheds, and one wool-implement shed. Progress: 347 acres regrassed; 58 chains fencing erected; 80 chains fencing repaired; and excellent progress made with erection of three dwellings, two implement-sheds, and wool-implement shed.

Island Cliff, at Tokarahi, 2,465 acres. Acquired, 1944. Objective: Five sheep-farms for allotment—one in 1947 and four in 1950. Development programme: Regrass 855 acres; erect or rebuild 1,906 chains of fencing; erect dwellings, two implement-sheds, and one woolshed; extend water-supply; and grade and metal 45 chains of road. Progress: 1,723 chains fences erected or rebuilt, 828 acres regrassed water-supply extended but not completed, 45 chains road graded and metalled, and progress made with erection of two implement-sheds and woolshed. One unit was allotted in September, 1947. Difficulty is being experienced in obtaining a suitable tender for the erection of the dwellings. Three ex-servicemen are employed on wages, with promises of sections.

Koum, at Inch Clutha, 411 acres. Acquired: 257 acres, July, 1948, and 154 acres, February, 1949. Objective: Four dairy-farms for allotment—two in 1950 and two in 1952. Development programme: Erect three dwellings, four cow-byres, and three barn-implement sheds: extend water-supply; erect 200 chains fencing and repair 250 chains: and regrass 150 acres. Progress: 50 acres regrassed and 47 chains fences repaired. It is anticipated that the building contract for this block will be let shortly, and two sections should be ready for allotment on fixed charges in 1950. The manager is an ex-serviceman, with the promise of a section.

Kuriwao, at Waiwera, 453 acres. Acquired, 1941. Objective: One sheep-farm for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 110 acres, erect 30 chains fences and repair 400 chains, erect combined wool-implement shed, and renovate existing house. Progress: Practically completed. Property will be allotted to the ex-serviceman manager, who has the promise of the section, as from April, 1949.

Macfarlane Downs, at Clydevale, 5,073 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Four sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 400 acres, erect one dwelling and one barn-implement shed, and repair 100 chains fencing. Progress: 115 acres regrassed. Arrangements made for lease of adjoining Wharetoa Schoolhouse pending the erection of new dwelling. One ex-serviceman is employed with the promise of a section.

Matau, at Inch Clutha, 202 acres. Acquired, June, 1947. Objective: Two dairy-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 170 acres; erect 80 chains barbed-wire fencing and repair 40 chains; erect one dwelling, two cow-byres, and one barn-implement shed; repair flood damage by regrassing a further 105 acres; and extend water-supply. Progress: 170 acres regrassed, including area damaged by flood, 80 chains fencing erected and 20 chains repaired, and new dwelling commenced. Difficulty being experienced in obtaining a satisfactory tender for erection of cow-sheds, and possible that allotment will have to be held over until 1950. The manager is an ex-serviceman, with the promise of a section.

Moa Flat, at Heriot, 15,036 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Regrass 504 acres, erect 300 chains and repair 200 chains fencing, erect three new dwellings and three barn-implement sheds, repair existing buildings and sheep and cattle yards, and install water pumps. Progress: 251 acres regrassed, 260 chains fences repaired, sheep and cattle yards repaired, existing buildings repaired, new dwellings commenced, and pumps installed. This property has actually been subdivided into four sheep-farms, but one is reserved for a member of the family from which it was acquired. It is anticipated that the three sections for ex-servicemen settlement will be allotted on fixed charges in May, 1950. Three ex-servicemen on the property, with promises of sections.

Moeraki, at Moeraki, 4,634 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Twelve sheep-farms for allotment—ten in 1951 and two in 1952. Development programme: Erect 8 new dwellings, one wool-shed, and nine barn-implement sheds; remove one dwelling and resite, extend, and renovate; renovate 2 existing dwellings; erect sheep yards and dip; extend water-supply (major operation); form and metal 200 chains of road; erect 850 chains and repair 200 chains fences; and regrass 1,666 acres.

Progress: 501 acres regrassed; 50 chains fences repaired; and erection of five dwellings, four barn-implement sheds, and one wool-shed substantially completed. Development is delayed because there is insufficient accommodation for staff. When the new dwellings are completed it will be possible to engage a further five ex-servicemen, with promises of sections. At present three ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections.

Moyola, at Heriot, 973 acres. Acquired, May, 1946. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 265 acres, erect 70 chains and repair 60 chains fencing, convert large homestead into two separate dwellings, erect one barn-implement shed, and renovate and repair men's quarters. Progress: Development completed, and the two sections will be allotted on fixed charges in June, 1949. One ex-serviceman is employed, with the promise of a section.

Papanui, at Cape Saunders, 1,092 acres. Acquired, March, 1934. Development completed and property allotted to two ex-servicemen and to two civilians, who had promises of sections. Balance area, 199 acres, to be subdivided between these men.

Rippleburn at Balclutha, 733 acres. Acquired, July, 1945. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 266 acres, erect 80 chains fencing, erect one new dwelling and one barn-implement shed, and metal 20 chains access track. Progress: New buildings completed, 183 acres regrassed, and 20 chains access track metalled. Development has reached such a stage that the two sections can be allotted on fixed charges in June, 1949.

Silver Peak, at Waikouaiti, 10,584 acres. Acquired 1948. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Erect three dwellings, one wool-shed, and men's quarters; erect 10 miles of fences; metal 6 miles road; provide 20 chains farm tracks; and erect huts for temporary accommodation. Progress: 28 chains fencing erected, two huts erected, and 10 chains farm tracks formed. The settlers on this property are to be given the option of residing on or off their sections. The manager, who has the promise of a section, has indicated his intention of residing in Waikouaiti. It should be possible to allot all three sections in 1950.

Spylaw, at Moa Flat, 7,389 acres. Acquired: 5955 acres, September, 1948, and 1,434 acres, March, 1949. Objective: Four sheep-farms for allotment, 1951, and one sheep-farm for allotment, 1953. Development programme: Erect four houses, four barn-implement sheds, one wool-shed, and shearers' quarters; erect 200 chains and renew 80 chains and repair $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles fences; regrass 700 acres; renovate existing house, wool-shed, and stable; form and metal internal road and widen and reform existing farm track. Progress: 311 acres regrassed and one house erected. Two ex-servicemen are employed, with promises of sections. When further accommodation is provided it will be possible to employ further ex-servicemen with a speeding-up of development work. The section for allotment in 1953 is an area recently acquired, and is badly infested with rabbits, and little development work can be done on it meantime.

Taipo Hill, at Kakanui, 463 acres. Acquired, March, 1944. Development completed and allotted as two sheep units to ex-servicemen in August, 1948.

Te Houka, at Waiwera, 1,462 acres. Acquired, 1941. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment in 1949. Development programme: Regrass 253 acres, repair 400 chains fences and erect forty-five gates, and renovate two houses and install concrete tank. Progress: Development completed and two sections can be allotted on fixed charges in June, 1949. One ex-serviceman is employed, with the promise of a section.

Thorndale, at Edievale, 1,766 acres. Acquired, April, 1946. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme: Regrass 324 acres, repair 300 chains and erect 50 chains fences; move one house to new site and renovate; and renovate other two houses; erect one wool-shed and rebuild dip and yards; and plant 2,000 trees. Progress: Development completed except for wool-shed, and the three sections can be allotted in June, 1949—two to ex-servicemen with promises and one by ballot.

Waipori, at Henley, 440 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: When further land adjoining is acquired will provide three dairy-farms for allotment—two in 1952, and one in 1953. Development programme: Erect two dwellings, three cow-sheds and three barn-implement sheds; repair and renovate existing dwelling; regrass 320 acres; erect 270 chains fencing and repair 350 chains; and install water-supply. Progress: 55 acres regrassed, 35 chains fences erected, and minor repairs to existing dwelling carried out.

Waiwera, at Waiwera, 1,763 acres. Acquired, 1948. Objective: Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Regrass 350 acres; erect 300 chains and repair 725 chains fencing; move and re-erect one house and renovate two houses; convert stable into two barn-implement sheds; and erect wool-shed, sheep-yards, and dip. Progress: 156 acres regrassed and minor repairs to one house carried out. Two undefined sections have been offered on wages but there were no applicants.

Wakatipu, at Queenstown, 1,002 acres. Acquired, March, 1948. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Regrass 152 acres, repair 60 chains fencing, erect one dwelling and one barn-implement shed, renovate existing dwelling and install septic tank, and widen creek-bed and clean. Programme is being reviewed. Progress: 65 acres regrassed, existing dwelling renovated and septic tank installed, and 6 chains creek-bed widened and cleaned. The manager is an ex-serviceman, with the promise of a section.

Wharetoa, at Clydevale, 1,440 acres. Acquired, 1948. Objective : One sheep-farm for allotment, 1949, and one for allotment, 1950. Development programme : Regrass 300 acres, erect 220 chains fencing, erect one dwelling and one barn-implement shed, and repair existing buildings. Progress : Barn-implement shed almost completed ; one house shifted and re-erected, but still requires drainage and water supply ; 181 acres regrassed ; and 20 chains fences erected. One section will be ready for allotment on fixed charges in 1949. Two ex-servicemen have promises of sections.

Willowburn, at Clinton, 4,694 acres. Acquired, April, 1946. Objective : Three sheep-farms for allotment, 1949. Development programme : Regrass 200 acres, erect 240 chains and repair 100 chains fences, erect one dwelling and one combined wool-implement shed, install septic tank, and provide farm tracks, replace bridges, and provide culverts. Progress : 220 acres regrassed ; one farm track formed, four culverts built, and two bridges replaced ; septic tank installed ; and 30 chains fences repaired. It has not been possible as yet to let a contract for the erection of new buildings. Other development, however, has reached the stage where charges can be fixed, and it is proposed to allot the three sections by ballot with possession in June, 1949. One of the settlers will be required to accept temporary accommodation in the existing homestead pending the erection of the new house.

SOUTHLAND LAND DISTRICT

Balfour, at Balfour, 1,363 acres. Acquired, January, 1946. Development : Completed and allotted as three sheep units during 1948-49.

Dacre, at Dacre, 634 acres. Acquired, June, 1946. Development : Completed and allotted as two sheep units, July, 1948.

Drumfern, at Dipton, 7,320 acres. Acquired, October, 1947. Objective : Three sheep farms for allotment, 1952. Development programme : 670 acres regrassing, 440 chains new fencing, 850 chains repairs to fences, 600 chains draining, three new dwellings, one wool-implement shed, two implement shed/barns, one sheep-dip, three sheep-yards, one cattle-yard, repairs and renovations to existing dwelling and outbuildings, and twenty-five stock crossings. Progress : 50 acres regrassed, 130 chains fences repaired, 400 chains drains excavated, one cattle-yard built, one cottage repaired, and seven stock crossings constructed.

Eastern Bush, at Orawia, 938 acres. Acquired, December, 1945. Objective : One sheep unit of 444 acres allotted, July, 1948, and one sheep unit of 494 acres for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme (for remaining unit) : 87 acres regrassed, 88 chains fencing, and provision of water-supply. Progress : 87 acres under cultivation will be grassed in spring, 1949. Fencing programme has been held up by lack of wire and labour, but can now proceed. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of allotment.

Grannue, at Otautau, 578 acres. Acquired, May, 1947. Objective : Two sheep-farms for allotment in July, 1949. Development programme : 107 acres regrassing, 110 chains new fencing, one new dwelling, and one new implement shed/barn, repairs to existing dwelling and outbuildings. Progress : Regrassing completed and one sheep-yard constructed. The fencing programme has been held up by shortage of wire, but can now proceed. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman on wages, with promise of sections.

Hedgehope, at Hedgehope, 514 acres. Acquired, October, 1948. Objective : Two sheep-farms for allotment, 1951. Development programme : 200 acres regrassing ; 90 chains deepening and widening of channel drain ; 16 chains new channel drain ; 100 chains tile drain ; 180 chains new fencing ; 305 chains repairs to fences ; cottage resited, enlarged, and renovated ; implement-shed resited ; repairs to existing dwellings ; two new sheep-yards ; water-supply ; and 5 chains of farm track. Progress : 30 acres regrassed, 8 chains tile drain, and 66 chains fences repaired. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman on wages, with promises of sections.

Hokonui, at Balfour, 12,821 acres. Acquired: 300 acres, July, 1948, and 12,521 acres, March, 1949. Scheme of subdivision and development programme not yet finalized.

Karara, at Tuatapere, 709 acres. Acquired, September, 1947. Objective: Two sheep-farms for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: 300 acres regrassing, 250 chains new fencing, 30 chains farm track, two new dwellings, one wool/implement shed, one implement shed/barn, two sheep-yards, and water-supply. Progress: 151 acres regrassed, 70 chains new fencing erected, and buildings in course of erection. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman employed on wages, with promises of sections.

Kenilworth, at Waimahaka, 3,055 acres. Acquired: 1,736 acres in September, 1945, and 1,319 acres in February, 1947. Objective: Seven sheep-farms for allotment—six in July, 1949, and one in July, 1950. Development programme: 1,344 acres regrassing, 700 chains new fencing, 190 chains drainage, 128 chains roading, five new dwellings, five implement shed/barns, six new sheep-yards, two sheep-dips, and repairs to existing dwellings. Development progress: 1,289 acres regrassed, 320 chains new fencing, drainage and roading programme completed, one sheep yard and dip, and existing dwelling renovated. Ex-serviceman manager and three ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Kinacraig, at Balfour, 1,187 acres. Acquired, August, 1947. Objective: Three sheep units for allotment, July, 1950. Development programme: 600 acres regrassing 400 chains drainage, 215 chains new fencing and repairs to existing fences, two new dwellings and repairs to existing dwellings, two implement shed/barns, one wool/implement shed, three sheep-yards, and provision of water-supply. Progress: 167 acres regrassed, drainage completed, 33 chains new fencing and 218 chains fences repaired, four bores sunk, three pump-houses erected, and one pump installed. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Mararua, at Edendale, 359 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Objective: Three dairy-farms for allotment, August, 1949. Development programme: 420 chains new fencing, three new dwellings, three implement shed/barns, three cow-byres, and water-supply. Progress: 117 chains new fencing, water supply completed except for piping to troughs, one implement shed/barn erected. Contract for three houses let. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman employed on wages, with promises of sections.

Oreti, at Winton, 439 acres. Acquired, December, 1948. Objective: One sheep unit for allotment in July, 1954. Development programme: 432 acres regrassing, 184 chains new fences, demolition of 119 chains of internal fence, clearing 150 chains road-line gorse, 34 chains of channel drain, 55 chains of tile drain, repairs to dwelling, one new implement shed/barn, and sheep-yards and dip. Progress: 140 acres under cultivation to be sown in 1950, 110 chains old fencing demolished, 29 chains road-line gorse cleared, draining programme awaits completion of a channel to be excavated by the Southland Catchment Board. Ex-serviceman manager employed on wages, with promise of section.

Pukewao, at Waimahaka, 4,301 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Development programme and scheme of subdivision not yet been finalized, but will probably provide five sheep units. Progress: 140 acres limed and regrassed, 12 chains drain, 12 culverts, and 30 chains of farm track.

Robinhood, at Mātaura Island, 1,715 acres. Acquired, April, 1945. Objective: one sheep unit allotted in 1945, one sheep unit allotted in 1948, and one sheep unit of 664 acres for allotment in 1950. Development programme (for the remaining unit): Enlarging and renovating cottage, erecting implement shed/barn, conversion stable to wool-shed, sheep yards and dip, 34 chains new drain, 155 chains new fencing and repairs to existing fencing, and 335 acres regrassing. Progress: Enlarging and renovating cottage nearing completion, implement shed/barn completed, sheep yards and dip, 20 chains of fences repaired, and 255 acres regrassed.

Rothie, at Thornbury, 754 acres. Acquired, July, 1947. Objective 50 acres sold to adjoining ex-serviceman to give him economic unit; three sheep-farms for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: 170 acres regrassing, 170 chains fencing, 203 chains draining, two dwellings, two implement shed/barns, two sheep-yards, and provision of water-supply. Progress: 152 acres regrassed, 122 chains new fences erected, 276 chains draining, and contract let for the erection of buildings. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Ruahine, at Pahia, 1,195 acres. Acquired, March, 1946. Objective: two sheep-farms for allotment in 1950. Development programme: Being revised. Progress: House and cottage repaired and painted; cattle-yards and sheep yards and dip erected; stable and barn re-erected; 90 chains of channel drain excavated; 50 chains tile drains; 382 chains fences repaired; 25 chains farm track; 35 acres gorse cleared; 40 acres bush felled, burnt, and surface sown; 60 acres stumped; 228 chains new fencing. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Southdown, at Glencoe, 5,645 acres. Acquired, March, 1947. Objective: Eleven sheep units—4 for allotment in July, 1949, and seven in June, 1950. Development programme: 16½ miles new fencing, 4 new dwellings, three cottages to be enlarged and renovated and one dwelling repaired, 142 chains of roading, seven sheep-yards, eight implement shed/barns, and one barn. Progress: 72 chains new fence, 34 chains of roading and 571 acres regrassed. Ex-serviceman manager and three ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Spurhead, at Dacre, 2,223 acres. Acquired, March, 1941. Objective: Six sheep units for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: 1,716 acres regrassing, excavation of six miles channels, five new houses, one wool/implement shed, two implement shed/barns, one barn, six sheep-yards, two dips, repairs to dwelling and out-buildings, 24 miles of fencing, and water-supply. Progress: Drainage and regrassing completed, fencing progressing, water supply almost complete except for one unit, and erection of four new houses well advanced. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Te Peka, at Waimahaka, 1,145 acres. Acquired, May, 1948. Objective: Two sheep units for allotment, July, 1950. Development programme: 360 acres regrassing, 600 chains fencing, two dwellings, one implement shed/barn, one wool/implement shed, two sheep-yards, one dip, and water-supply. Progress: 55 acres regrassed, 66 chains new fences, one sheep-yard, contract for outbuildings let. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of a section.

Titipua, at Dacre, 2,838 acres. Acquired: 2,128 acres, April, 1948, and 710 acres, September, 1948. Objective: Nine sheep units for allotment—five in 1950 and four in 1952–53. Development programme: 425 acres regrassing, 120 chains access road, two dwellings to be renovated, one renovated and enlarged, five new dwellings, 300 chains channel drain to be cleaned, 230 chains new channel drain, 365 chains tile drain, one shearing/implement shed, seven sheep-yards, 900 chains fencing, and one sheep-dip. Progress: 136 acres regrassed, 25 chains channel drain excavated, formation of roading commenced. Five ex-servicemen employed, with promises of sections.

Titiroa, at Matura Island, 409 acres. Acquired, August, 1948. Objective: Three dairy units for allotment, 1950. Development programme: Erection of two dwellings and renovations to existing dwellings, three new cow-byres, two implement shed/barns, 155 chains fencing, 50 chains internal fencing to be taken down and re-erected, and provision of water-supply. Development progress: Contract let for renovations to existing dwelling, 59 chains of new fencing erected. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman employed, with promises of sections.

Tokanui, at Tokanui, 484 acres. Acquired, December, 1948. Objective: One sheep unit for allotment, July, 1949. Development programme: Repairs to existing dwelling, conversion of stable to wool-shed, repairs to fencing, and top-dressing of 330 acres. Progress: Repairs to existing building commenced, top-dressing completed. Ex-serviceman manager, with promise of section.

Waimea, at Balfour, 2,002 acres. Acquired, June, 1948. Objective: Four sheep units for allotment June, 1950. Development programme: Provision of new subdivisional and boundary fences, repairs to existing internal fencing, 300 chains draining, three dwellings, one implement shed/barn, two barns, resiting and renovation of two implement-sheds, three sheep-yards, 500 acres regrassing, repairs to existing dwelling, and provision of water-supply. Progress: 54 chains fencing repaired, 170 chains drain widened and deepened, and 108 acres regrassed. A further 90 acres under crop will be regrassed in the spring of 1949. Ex-serviceman manager and two ex-servicemen, employed with promises of sections.

Waipango, at Riverton, 214 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: One dairy unit for allotment, 1950. Development programme: 114 acres regrassing, 182 chains fencing, repairs to 110 chains boundary fences, 55 chains open drain, 92 chains tile drain, one dwelling, one cow-byre, one implement shed/barn, and provision of water-supply. Progress: 93 acres ploughed out of lea and cropped prior to regrassing, 30 chains fencing repaired, and 130 chains draining. Ex-serviceman manager employed, with promise of section.

Wairoto, at Tuatapere, 5,697 acres. Acquired, April, 1948. Objective: Probably four sheep units after six to seven years development. Development programme: Not yet finalized. Progress: 440 chains repairs to fencing, 35 chains new drain, and 18 acres new grass, and dwelling repaired.

Woodstock, at Dacre, 529 acres. Acquired, July, 1948. Objective: Two sheep units for allotment in July, 1949. Development programme: Erection two dwellings, two implement shed/barns, 44 acres regrassing, 77 chains fencing, and provision of water supply. Progress: Regrassing and subdivisional fencing completed. Ex-serviceman manager and one ex-serviceman employed, with promises of sections.

TABLE A—RETURN OF PROPERTIES PURCHASED BY NEGOTIATION AND POSSESSION TAKEN DURING PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Name of Owner. | | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | | | Date of Possession. |
|---|----|-----------------|--------------------|--------|---|------|---------------------|
| North Auckland Land District | | | | | | | |
| H. M. Wilson | .. | Ruawai .. | Part Awaroa .. | 174 | 3 | 13.5 | 31/5/48 |
| Estate of T. Coates | .. | Kaiwaka .. | | 5 | 3 | 2.4 | .. |
| W. Rose | .. | Awanui .. | Part Kumi .. | 89 | 1 | 1.4 | 1/10/48 |
| C. F. and T. S. Shipherd | .. | Pukekohe .. | Part Komiri .. | 0 | 1 | 32.8 | 22/5/47* |
| Auckland Land District | | | | | | | |
| E. J. Curlett | .. | Waikaretu .. | Kokonga .. | 3,713 | 1 | 0 | 28/4/48 |
| R. O. Unsworth | .. | Hamurana .. | Part Hamurana .. | 22 | 2 | 22 | 29/4/48 |
| A. H. Storey | .. | Te Awamutu .. | Te Rahu .. | 268 | 2 | 2 | 31/5/48 |
| Estate of Walter Hill | .. | Rotorua .. | Part Atiamuri .. | 10,151 | 2 | 13.8 | 7/5/48 |
| Y. H. and E. E. Nolan | .. | Cambridge .. | Kura .. | 402 | 3 | 15 | 31/5/48 |
| L. W. Eggleton | .. | Te Aroha .. | Waihekau .. | 240 | 0 | 18.7 | 4/6/48 |
| G. Preece | .. | Waitoa .. | Toa .. | 335 | 3 | 19 | 3/5/48 |
| Estate of E. C. Pilkington | .. | Hoe-o-Tainui .. | Maori Sett. .. | 418 | 1 | 29.7 | 1/6/48 |
| E. A. Ralph | .. | Rotorua .. | Ngongotaha .. | 287 | 0 | 25 | 20/8/48 |
| R. W. Wayne | .. | Pokeno .. | | 164 | 1 | 2 | 30/9/48 |
| Health Department | .. | Te Awamutu .. | Puniu .. | 168 | 0 | 0 | 2/10/48 |
| J. Paterson and Estate of M. | .. | Hamilton .. | Horotiu .. | 260 | 0 | 0 | 28/2/49 |
| E. W. P. and Estate of E. J. Matthews | .. | Paengaroa .. | Kaituna .. | 746 | 0 | 0 | 28/2/49 |
| Maori Trustee | .. | Te Kuiti .. | Part Waitanguru .. | 916 | 0 | 0 | 28/2/49 |
| Estate of F. W. Rutherford | .. | Wairamarama .. | Whitecliffs .. | 1,940 | 3 | 21 | 1/3/49 |

TABLE A—RETURN OF PROPERTIES PURCHASED BY NEGOTIATION AND POSSESSION
TAKEN DURING PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949—*continued*

| Name of Owner. | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | Date Possession. |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <i>Gisborne Land District</i> | | | | |
| Estate of F. Hall | Waimata | Hokoroa | 4,156 1 3 | 1/10/48 |
| Estate of F. Stafford | Waerenga-o-kuri | Sherbrooke | 2,314 3 3 | 10/3/49 |
| F. Stafford | Rere | Part Hiwinui | 6 1 18 | 30/12/47* |
| <i>Hawkes Bay Land District</i> | | | | |
| Estate of J. D. Goring-Johnstone | Waipawa | Hautope | 941 2 24·4 | 31/5/48 |
| Estate of W. S. F. Goring-Johnstone | „ | „ | 1,589 0 0 | 31/5/48 |
| W. T. Goring-Johnstone | „ | „ | 1,532 1 34 | 31/5/48 |
| Estate of A. M. Williams | Otane | Aupaki | 400 0 28 | 31/5/48 |
| E. A. Williams | „ | „ | 112 1 39 | 31/5/48 |
| Sir G. Hunter | Porangahau | Seaview | 2,461 0 0 | 30/6/48 |
| W. T. Carlton | Maraekakaho | Mason Ridge | 693 3 15 | 26/7/48 |
| Estate of H. J. C. Syme | Hastings | Longlands | 24 3 34·1 | 31/8/48 |
| A. S. Bennett | Patoka | Huiarangi | 2,913 0 9 | 15/12/48 |
| Estate of J. Anderson and Mary T. Munro, Eliz. Anderson, I. B. Logan, T. H. R. Gifford | Kereru | Poporangi | 22,538 0 25 | 31/3/49 |
| Estate of W. Shrimpton | | Kikowhero | 886 1 31 | 28/3/49 |
| Mrs. E. M. Shrimpton | Pakowhai | Waiohiki | 67 0 23 | 28/3/49 |
| <i>Taranaki Land District</i> | | | | |
| Mrs. E. D. McEldowney | Okato | Puniho | 240 3 35 | 30/6/48 |
| C. J. Hawken | Hawera | Part Mokoia | 3 1 14·8 | 15/9/48 |
| C. E. and F. M. Stewart | Ohura | Matiere | 969 0 39·9 | 20/12/48 |
| <i>Wellington Land District</i> | | | | |
| L. T. McLean | Mangaweka | Rewarewa | 1,872 2 33 | 14/4/48 |
| E. C. X. White | Masterton | Allerton | 548 3 30·77 | 30/4/48 |
| G. H. Hawken | Waverley | Marks Hall | 200 0 0 | 17/5/48 |
| C. H. Spiers | Shannon | Part Ngai | 509 1 25·6 | 31/5/48 |
| Maori interests | Masterton | Part Wainuioru | 97 3 13·3 | 5/48 |
| Public Works Department | Bulls | Pukenui | 214 3 1·6 | |
| R. J. Managh | Halcombe | Halcombe | 380 0 14·8 | 1/6/48 |
| W. Ritchie | Masterton | Part Upoko | 105 0 0 | 30/6/48 |
| J. R. O'Hara | „ | „ | 497 0 0 | 30/6/48 |
| M. D. McGregor | „ | Glenstrae | 3,306 1 1·2 | 20/7/48 |
| W. H. Dickens | Tinui | Eastwood | 2,871 1 32 | 7/7/48 |
| Whitaunui Ltd. | Shannon | Whitaunui | 965 0 0 | 16/7/48 |
| Mrs. I. A. Booth | Carterton | Part Ruamahanga | 27 3 20 | 16/7/48 |
| Estate of W. R. Godfrey | Eketahuna | Nirvana | 3,088 2 24·4 | 2/8/48 |
| C. B. Minogue | Karioi | Kainui | 2,097 1 0 | 2/8/48 |
| S. C. Younger | Felding | Willowmere | 425 0 25 | 2/8/48 |
| C. L. and Estate of E. Bull | Hunterville | Part Rata | 546 1 0 | 8/48 |
| S. A. Crichton | Wanganui | Keritone | 157 2 13 | 13/9/48 |
| Mrs. F. Bennett | Kairanga | Taonui | 135 2 16 | 1/12/48 |
| Santoft Ltd. | Marton | Santoft | 9,632 0 26 | 13/12/48 |
| J. F. Knight | Kai Iwi | Tarapouri | 762 2 0 | 1/2/49 |
| Mrs. M. Perry | Felding | Part Awahuri | 375 1 16 | 28/2/49 |
| Estate of A. E. Russell | Ohingaiti | Ohingaiti | 950 0 0 | 28/2/49 |
| Rawhiti Farms, Ltd. | Masterton | Otahoua | 568 0 0 | 28/2/49 |
| Estate of A. M. Healey | Mangaweka | „ | 1,061 0 0 | 1/3/49 |
| Estate of C. Wybourne | Waverley | Elslea | 780 1 36 | 1/3/49 |
| F. W. Bartholomew | Tinui | Part Eastwood | 328 0 0 | 1/3/49 |
| Mrs. J. Lowes | Eketahuna | Rongomai | 1,462 1 32 | 3/3/49 |
| R. Mace | Masterton | Part Tauaru | 1,415 0 0 | 4/3/49 |
| Estate of C. Managh | Halcombe | Part Halcombe | 493 0 0 | } 7/3/49 |
| J. M. B. Collier | | Kaitieke | 2,748 0 0 | |
| R. J. Gibbs | | Hihitahi | 162 0 0 | |
| | Taihape | Part Okapea | 176 1 1 | 23/3/49 |

TABLE A—RETURN OF PROPERTIES PURCHASED BY NEGOTIATION AND POSSESSION
TAKEN DURING PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949—*continued*

| Name of Owner. | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | Date of Possession. |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <i>Marlborough Land District</i> | | | | |
| H. O. and H. B. Goulter .. | Awatere Valley | Blairich .. | 18,981 3 25 | 2/4/48 |
| G. M. Hugonin and Estates of R. and F. E. Bullen | Kaikoura .. | Lakes .. | 362 0 38 | 20/1/49 |
| J. Y. Seales and W. B. Hitt .. | „ .. | Ludstone .. | 907 0 19 | 30/3/49 |
| <i>Nelson Land District</i> | | | | |
| P. S. Williams | Upper Moutere | Moutere .. | 306 1 39 | 11/8/48 |
| Hillsborough Investment Co., Ltd. | Pangatotara .. | Pangatotara .. | 163 2 05 | 21/10/48 |
| P. V. Kenning | Nelson .. | Part Saxton .. | 3 3 25 | 1/11/48 |
| <i>Westland Land District</i> | | | | |
| Drayton Bros. | Hauipiri .. | Kopara .. | 2,685 1 35.2 | 31/5/48 |
| <i>Canterbury Land District</i> | | | | |
| Estate of J. N. McGowan .. | Little River .. | Forsyth .. | 635 0 0 | 8/4/48 |
| Estates of R. H. and M. Birdling | „ .. | „ .. | 1,853 1 3 | 8/4/48 |
| P. D. Hall | Waikari .. | Pyramid .. | 5,075 2 25 | 8/4/48 |
| A. Pithie | Arundel .. | Croftlea .. | 1,949 2 34 | 9/4/48 |
| M. J. Mechan | Makikihi .. | Stamford .. | 1,046 3 4 | 20/4/48 |
| G. G. Rich and J. C. Montgomery | Eiffelton .. | Eiffelton .. | 458 2 25 | 30/4/48 |
| P. L. Alfeld | Templeton .. | Trent .. | 20 0 0 | 31/5/48 |
| Estate of T. H. Wilkinson | Parnassus .. | Part Leader .. | 1,209 2 10.8 | 12/4/48 |
| Ex Marine Department | Hakataramea .. | „ .. | 22 0 4 | 7/47* |
| Estate of Wm. Long | Pendarves .. | „ .. | 709 3 0 | 29/9/48 |
| J. H. Grigg | Longbeach .. | Part Eiffelton .. | 38 1 32 | 23/11/48 |
| W. A. Fraser | Hakataramea .. | „ .. | 3,461 1 22 | 23/12/48 |
| Estate of J. G. Wright | Lyndhurst .. | Lyndale .. | 599 0 0 | 23/3/49 |
| A. R. R. Keith | Winchmore .. | Rowallan .. | 814 2 0 | 1/3/49 |
| Estate of G. L. Rutherford and the G. L. Rutherford Trust | Parnassus .. | Leader .. | 5,509 0 29 | 23/3/49 |
| <i>Otago Land District</i> | | | | |
| A. C. Kee | Clydevale .. | Part Wharetoa .. | 568 0 32 | 1/4/48 |
| Buckland and Tillard | Waikouaiti .. | Silver Peak .. | 7,899 0 12.1 | 1/4/48 |
| Waiwera Farms, Ltd. | Waiwera .. | Part Waiwera .. | 605 1 0 | 30/6/48 |
| R. Aitken | Clydevale .. | Macfarlane Downs | 5,072 2 18 | 5/7/48 |
| Alfred Hastings and Estate of R. Hastings | Inchelutha .. | Koau .. | 256 2 20 | 19/7/48 |
| W. A. and H. M. Yardley and A. M. Isbister, A. M. Quin | Moa Flat .. | Spylaw .. | 5,955 0 0 | 1/9/48 |
| G. C. and M. E. Seers | Palmerston .. | Downlands .. | 3,183 1 16 | 29/9/48 |
| J. McDiarmid | Wairuna .. | Part Beacon Hill | 539 1 22 | 28/2/49 |
| J. and Estate of Chas. Lawson | Inchelutha .. | Part Koau .. | 154 3 24 | 28/2/49 |
| F. W. D. and G. E. Bell | Dunback .. | „ .. | 11,800 0 0 | 29/3/49 |
| <i>Southland Land District</i> | | | | |
| Titipua Ltd. | Daere .. | Titipua .. | 2,127 3 22 | 9/4/48 |
| Miss M. Kirkpatrick | Tuatapere .. | Wairoto .. | 1,604 0 0 | 1/4/48 |
| A. Bluc | Balfour .. | Waimca .. | 2,002 0 20 | 30/6/48 |
| Estate of J. Cowie | „ .. | Part Hokonui .. | 300 0 0 | 31/7/48 |
| G. A. Collis | Wainmahaka .. | Pukewao .. | 4,300 3 0 | 30/7/48 |
| H. G. Pinckney | Daere .. | Part Titipua .. | 710 2 31 | 15/9/48 |
| J. H. Georgeson | Winton .. | Oreti .. | 439 0 23 | 1/12/48 |
| Estate of W. F. Turner | Tokanui .. | Tokanui .. | 483 2 1.8 | 1/12/48 |
| C. O. McKellar | Balfour .. | Part Hokonui .. | 6,476 3 25 | 30/3/49 |
| T. G. McKellar | „ .. | „ .. | 6,043 2 9 | 30/3/49 |
| Total | „ .. | „ .. | 208,454 3 7 | |

* Not previously reported.

TABLE B—RETURN OF PROPERTIES ACQUIRED UNDER PART II OF THE SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES ACT, 1943, DURING THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Name of Owner. | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | | | Date of Vesting. |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|----------|------|-------|------------------|
| North Auckland Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of M. and M. A. Buckland | Helensville .. | Te Kawau .. | A. 3,412 | R. 2 | P. 07 | 4/6/48 |
| Auckland Land District | | | | | | |
| P. H. Saxton and Co., Ltd. | Morrinsville .. | Piako .. | 501 | 0 | 16·3 | 30/6/48 |
| K. W. Dalrymple .. | Matamata .. | Aratia .. | 417 | 2 | 0 | 15/6/48 |
| T. M. Smith .. | Walton .. | Part Paratu .. | 241 | 3 | 25 | 31/5/48 |
| W. J., T., and F. Marks | Taniwha .. | Matahuru .. | 36·0 | 1 | 0 | 1/6/48 |
| Estate of E. R. Chudleigh | Te Aroha .. | Maru .. | 566 | 3 | 36 | 2/7/48 |
| H. K. Whitechurch .. | Morrinsville .. | Tahuna .. | 219 | 3 | 36 | 16/7/48 |
| Pollock and Duncan .. | Matamata .. | Piarere .. | 165 | 2 | 10 | 3/9/48 |
| J. and Estate of T. Scott | Hamilton .. | Newstead .. | 1,225 | 0 | 30 | 21/2/49 |
| Gisborne Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of S. T. Wall .. | Waerenga-o-kuri .. | Hakanui .. | 4,827 | 0 | 39 | 14/7/48 |
| Kiore Sheepfarming Co. | Tolaga Bay .. | Makaramaea .. | 3,162 | 1 | 36·8 | 7/7/48 |
| Hawkes Bay Land District | | | | | | |
| J. N. Lowry .. | Fernhill .. | Part Omarunui .. | 589 | 0 | 20 | 9/4/48 |
| J. W. McNutt .. | Wanstead .. | Bretts .. | 1,314 | 0 | 0 | 21/5/48 |
| Napier High School Board | Wairoa .. | .. | 616 | 2 | 4·9 | 14/2/49 |
| Taranaki Land District | | | | | | |
| C. J. Hawken .. | Hawera .. | Mokoia .. | 463 | 2 | 24·5 | 30/6/48 |
| L. R. and F. Sarten .. | Waitara .. | Mangahewa .. | 264 | 1 | 23·5 | 30/11/48 |
| R. M. Fleming .. | Pungarehu .. | Cape .. | 114 | 0 | 10 | 30/6/49 |
| Wellington Land District | | | | | | |
| W. H. Smith .. | Shannon .. | Part Moutoa .. | 28 | 2 | 10 | 1/10/48 |
| Estate of A. W. I. Cameron, F. M. Cameron, I. D. A. Cameron, and D. A. Thompson | Tinui .. | Part Awatea .. | 2,758 | 0 | 0·8 | 24/6/48 |
| H. and E. L. M. Alder .. | Rongotea .. | Rongotea .. | 152 | 0 | 29 | 23/3/49 |
| L. F. Jellicoe .. | Greytown .. | .. | 271 | 1 | 36·6 | 28/2/49 |
| Estate of H. T. Hume .. | Masterton .. | Taueru .. | 2,073 | 2 | 0 | 10/2/49 |
| Marlborough Land District | | | | | | |
| A. M. Pennall .. | Blenheim .. | Motukawa .. | 304 | 1 | 0 | 1/4/49 |
| Canterbury Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of D. McKendry .. | Methven .. | Oaklands .. | 1,037 | 0 | 31 | 7/5/48 |
| Estate of W. H. Turner .. | Waikari .. | Kelmont .. | 1,332 | 3 | 10 | 3/6/48 |
| G. B. Law .. | Mitcham .. | Rokeby .. | 659 | 1 | 5 | 31/3/49 |
| A. M. Stephens .. | Rakaia .. | Cones .. | 132 | 2 | 6 | 23/7/48 |
| Estate of Thos. Nee .. | Methven .. | Part Craiglea .. | 198 | 0 | 35 | 31/3/49 |
| Otago Land District | | | | | | |
| Angus Couston .. | Gore .. | Beacon Hill .. | 947 | 3 | 20·3 | 31/3/49 |
| Estate of A. H. Smellie .. | Millers Flat .. | Part Spylaw .. | 1,434 | 1 | 35 | 30/3/49 |
| Southland Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of Sir W. D. Hunt .. | Dacre .. | Woodstock .. | 528 | 3 | 38·3 | 15/7/48 |
| A. H. Perkins .. | Mataura .. | Tuturau .. | 2,582 | 2 | 34·1 | 31/3/49 |
| Total .. | .. | .. | 32,904 | 2 | 10 | |

TABLE C—RETURN OF PROPERTIES ACQUIRED UNDER SECTION 51 OF THE SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES ACT, 1943, DURING THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949

| Name of Owner. | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | | | Date of Vesting. |
|--|----------------|--------------------|----------|------|--------|------------------|
| (1) PROPERTIES CAPABLE OF SUBDIVISION | | | | | | |
| North Auckland Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of A. C. J. Lupton | Whakapara | Whakapara | A. 1,325 | R. 0 | P. 9.3 | 16/12/48 |
| Hawkes Bay Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of J. King | Meeanee | Meeanee | 163 | 2 | 39.4 | 14/7/48 |
| Taranaki Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of W. J. Bradford | Pihama | | 168 | 0 | 26.7 | 22/10/48 |
| Southland Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of G. Lawrence | Hedgehope | Hedgehope | 514 | 0 | 28 | 1/10/48 |
| J. Carmichael | Mataura Island | Titiroa | 409 | 0 | 0 | 2/8/48 |
| Total of properties capable of subdivision | | | 2,580 | 0 | 23 | |
| (2) SINGLE-UNIT PROPERTIES | | | | | | |
| North Auckland Land District | | | | | | |
| L. A. Garvey | Titirangi | | 13 | 2 | 14 | 5/5/48 |
| A. Morley | Warkworth | | 49 | 0 | 0 | 10/8/48 |
| H. and R. Rouse | Hukerenui | | 140 | 1 | 19 | 18/10/48 |
| P. E. Smith | Manurewa | | 7 | 0 | 20 | 20/12/48 |
| R. W. Blackburn | Glorit | | 206 | 1 | 0 | 19/1/49 |
| W. Turnwald | Helensville | | 428 | 0 | 19 | 31/3/49 |
| " | " | | | | | 31/3/49 |
| Auckland Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of J. T. Findlater | Te Awamutu | | 10 | 3 | 13.06 | 23/11/48 |
| T. Hurley | Cambridge | | 490 | 2 | 12.1 | 18/2/49 |
| Hawkes Bay Land District | | | | | | |
| M. M. Amyes | Napier | | 7 | 1 | 32 | 9/5/49 |
| Taranaki Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of A. M. Newland | Midhurst | | 100 | 0 | 0 | 21/9/48 |
| Estate of A. H. Stevenson | Pihama | | 141 | 3 | 32.7 | 18/11/48 |
| Wellington Land District | | | | | | |
| H. H. Fitzsimmons | Utiku | | 138 | 1 | 24 | 1/12/48 |
| Marlborough Land District | | | | | | |
| Mrs. E. R. Hille | Blenheim | | 1,083 | 2 | 0 | 12/5/48 |
| D. E. and V. L. Wells | Havelock | | 22 | 0 | 13.1 | 15/9/48 |
| A. M. Simmonds | " | | 85 | 1 | 30 | 29/9/48 |
| Canterbury Land District | | | | | | |
| Estate of G. Manson | Darfield | | 216 | 2 | 23 | 28/4/48 |
| E. E., M. M., and K. J. Coffey | Temuka | | 594 | 3 | 28 | 7/5/48 |
| J. Rennie | Motukarara | | 121 | 2 | 10 | 30/8/48 |
| J. N. Ritchie | Geraldine | | 487 | 0 | 30 | 21/8/48 |

TABLE C—RETURN OF PROPERTIES ACQUIRED UNDER SECTION 51 OF THE SERVICEMEN'S SETTLEMENT AND LAND SALES ACT, 1943, DURING THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949—*continued*

| Name of Owner. | Locality. | New Name of Block. | Area. | Date of Vesting. |
|---|--------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|
| <i>Otago Land District</i> | | | | |
| L. E. Smith | { Henley .. | Waipori F.S. .. | { 263 2 10 | 12/8/48 |
| L. M., J. W., and J. H. Dunn .. | Waiwera .. | Part Waiwera .. | 176 2 30 | 12/8/48 |
| J. W. Lucas | Balelutha .. | .. | 281 3 8.2 | 1/12/48 |
| | | | 503 1 23 | 20/12/48 |
| <i>Southland Land District</i> | | | | |
| F. G. Peterson | Riverton .. | Waipango F.S. . . | 214 0 27 | 1/7/48 |
| Total of single-unit properties | | | 5,784 2 18 | |
| Total of properties capable of subdivision and single-unit properties | | | 8,364 3 01 | |

RETURN OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURE UNDER ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ON THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS AND ON DEVELOPMENT AND FARMING OPERATIONS

| Item. | Year Ended 31st March, 1949. | | | Total for Year Ended 31st March, 1948. |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|
| | Vote "Small Farms Development." | Vote "Land for Settlements." | Total. | |
| Acquisition of land and interests therein .. | £ 2,256,631 | £ 6,167 | £ 2,262,798 | £ 1,735,380 |
| Development operations— | | | | |
| Chattels | 152,434 | 313 | 152,747 | 134,744 |
| Materials and services | 1,095,542 | 700 | 1,096,242 | 616,713 |
| Development wages | 160,927 | 231 | 161,158 | 128,280 |
| Farming operations— | | | | |
| Live-stock | 1,040,012 | 1,269 | 1,041,281 | 678,265 |
| Seasonal expenditure | 674,010 | 3,649 | 677,659 | 388,416 |
| Seasonal wages | 361,538 | 4,533 | 366,071 | 283,929 |
| Totals | 5,741,094 | 16,862 | 5,757,956 | 3,965,727 |

RETURN OF PROFITS AND LOSSES ON DISPOSAL OF BLOCKS ASCERTAINED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL, 1948, TO 31ST MARCH, 1949

| (1) Block. | (2) Locality. | (3) Number of Units Settled. | (4) Profit or Loss on Disposal After Charging Interest Shown in Column (5). | | (5) Interest Charged. |
|---|------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------------|
| | | | Profit. | Loss. | |
| <i>Superintendent of Land Development, Auckland</i> | | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Hapuakohe | Morrinsville .. | 4 | .. | 7,645 14 4 | 868 6 5 |
| Nukuhou | Taneatua .. | 2 | .. | 1,044 19 6 | 517 4 11 |
| Onewhero | Onewhero .. | 1 | .. | 3,532 2 10 | 797 5 11 |
| <i>Auckland</i> | | | | | |
| McCutchan's (group settlement) | Glen Murray | 4 | † | † | † |
| <i>Hawkes Bay</i> | | | | | |
| Te Ohu | Dannevirke .. | 2 | .. | 1,253 13 5 | 255 19 6 |
| <i>Taranaki</i> | | | | | |
| Manutahi | Hawera .. | 6 | .. | 89 0 9* | .. |
| Pennington and Butler | Eltham .. | 2 | .. | 294 8 3 | 917 2 7 |
| <i>Marlborough</i> | | | | | |
| Draper's | Blenheim .. | 1 | 102 7 10 | .. | 223 10 0 |
| <i>Canterbury</i> | | | | | |
| Anderson's | Kaituna .. | 1 | 211 8 9 | .. | 154 15 10 |
| Mains | Dunsandel .. | 3 | .. | 1,486 16 10 | 1,010 12 6 |
| <i>Otago</i> | | | | | |
| Brockhill | Oamaru .. | 2 | 885 2 5 | .. | 1,181 15 9 |
| <i>Southland</i> | | | | | |
| Menzie's Ferry | Menzie's Ferry | 2 | .. | 503 14 5* | .. |
| Waimumu | Waimumu .. | 2 | .. | 1,361 0 11 | 721 7 11 |
| Total | .. | 32 | 1,198 19 0 | 17,211 11 3 | 6,648 1 4 |

* These losses are in addition to those reported last year—viz: Manutahi, £12,162 12s. 3d., and Menzie's Ferry, £3,392 2s. 9d. The amounts represent additional expenditure on water supply for Manutahi and housing for Menzie's Ferry incurred after the final balance-sheets were prepared.

† Disposed of at cost.

NOTE.—Profits and losses are ascertained only after a block has been fully disposed of and the accounts audited. Blocks partially settled are therefore excluded from this return.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS SETTLEMENT ACT, 1915

The following particulars are supplied pursuant to section 14 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915:—

TOTAL AREA PROCLAIMED SINCE INCEPTION OF THE SCHEME

| Class of Land. | Area (Acres). |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Ordinary Crown land | 1,053,157 |
| Land-for-settlements land | 405,976 |
| Cheviot Estate land | 3,356 |

1,462,489

Proclamations have been issued revoking the setting-apart of 258,143 acres of Crown land and 108,419 acres of land-for-settlements land.

From the inception of the soldier-settlement scheme in 1915 the total applications received number 15,181 and the allotments made number 4,114 covering a total area of 1,450,887 acres.

The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Account was abolished by section 6 of the Finance Act, 1937.

STAFF

This report would not be complete without some reference to the good work which has been accomplished by the staff, both office and field, during the past twelve months. The volume of work has been heavy and constant, and will continue to be so for some time yet, but with the assistance of a keen and efficient staff I am confident that the Department will be able to cope with whatever demands are made on it.

STATISTICAL SCHEDULES

The statistical schedules give information on the acquisition, development, farming, and disposal of blocks which were on hand at 31st March, 1948, and of blocks which were purchased or acquired and of which possession was taken during the twelve months ending 31st March, 1949. Single-unit properties acquired under section 51, Servicemen's Settlement and Land Sales Act, 1943, for immediate allotment without development are not included.

In order that all these properties may be included in one schedule it is not possible to show the separate dates of acquisition of areas making up any one block or to show the individual dates of disposals, but more detailed information on these points and on the types of units is available in the notes supplied by officers in charge of the development operations.

Abbreviations used—Type of farm—D = Dairy ; S = Sheep ; O = Orchard ; WH = Workers' home ; MG = Market garden ; T = Tobacco ; I = Irrigation. S & C = Sheep and Crop. References : § = Acquisition price of area utilized ; Z = Gallons milk ; X = City supply ; † = Balance after £60,000 recovered from vote, "Lands and Survey".

Where properties were under development prior to the war for civilian settlement and have subsequently been set aside for ex-servicemen settlement the transfer between accounts was at valuation at the date of transfer. Any losses or profits on the civilian accounts will be reported to Parliament when the blocks are finally disposed of and the final profit or loss ascertained.

House cows on sheep-farms have been excluded from cows milked. Where land has been alienated on leasehold tenure the rental value has been included in the "Total Disposal Price." The "Area Farmed" is, generally speaking, the land within the ring fences including shelter-belts and small unusable areas, but excluding large areas of bush, swamp, &c., of no grazing value. Areas shown have been adjusted to agree with any surveys made subsequent to the acquisition of the properties.

Price 1s. 3d.]

