

SESSION II.
1918.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY :

DRAINAGE OPERATIONS IN HAURAKI PLAINS.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1918, TOGETHER WITH STATEMENT
OF ACCOUNTS.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 10 of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908.

SIR,—
Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 1st June, 1918.
I have the honour to submit herewith the report on the drainage operations in the Hauraki Plains for the past year, in accordance with the provisions of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908.
The total area thrown open for selection to date is 37,451 acres, valued at £227,830. It is anticipated that the next twelve months will show an increase in these figures.
The total expenditure under the Act has now been as follows :—

				£	s.	d.
For the year ended 31st March, 1908	5,070	0	0
„ 1909	11,672	5	6
„ 1910	22,235	2	11
„ 1911	32,103	14	0
„ 1912	40,084	13	1
„ 1913	26,608	1	3
„ 1914	21,467	18	2
„ 1915	20,399	10	4
„ 1916	18,331	10	10
„ 1917	18,405	17	10
„ 1918	26,588	19	7
Total	£242,967	13	6

The detailed report of the Chief Drainage Engineer is attached, together with a statement of accounts.
I have, &c.,
T. N. BRODRICK, Under-Secretary.
The Hon. D. H. Guthrie, Minister of Lands.

REPORT OF CHIEF DRAINAGE ENGINEER.

SIR,—
The year just completed has seen a great advance in the growth and prosperity of the plains. A good season has been experienced, and the settlers have prospered accordingly. The total value of cream produced from the area for the year was £75,060. There has also been a large amount of grazing, and the value of stock sold at Ngatea, Waitakaruru, and Patetonga saleyards amounts to £59,945. No figures have been supplied for Turua, which is almost wholly supported by stock from the plains and also Hikutaia, these two places being just outside the Hauraki Plains area. To date about 275 sections (excluding 10-acre and township sections) have been balloted for,
1—C. 8.