

## PRINCIPAL WORKS PROPOSED.

The principal works (apart from road-metalling) to be carried out in the future are as follows:—

- (1.) Continuation of Waitoa River dredging.
- (2.) Completion of Mangatarata Stream dredging.
- (3.) Continuation of Waitakaruru—Maukoro Canal.
- (4.) Continuation of Awaiti Canal.
- (5.) Replacements of wooden flood-gates and sill bridges by concrete.
- (6.) General development-work and preparation of new areas for settlement.

## LANDS PROPOSED TO BE OPENED.

Owing to many difficulties my anticipation of opening up the 3,000 acres of land were not realized. However, late in the year the services of two surveyors became available and work was at once put in hand. By the end of the year the field-work of about 4,000 acres had been completed, and plans were expected early in April, 1919. These lands will be available very shortly. Field-work of another 3,700 acres was well in hand at the end of March, and it is expected this will be ready in about six months' time. It is practically certain that about 5,000 acres of drained and subdivided land will be available for selection before the spring of 1919. Much of it is of good quality and will be eagerly sought for.

Beyond this area we are preparing for the development of further swamp lands, and now that conditions are becoming more normal good progress will be possible.

At least three more dredges are required to assist more rapid development, and I would advocate the acquisition of suitable dredges of "Dipper" type being obtained from America.

## GENERAL.

The books in connection with the works are kept in Auckland, where vouchers for wages, contracts, supplies, and general purposes are prepared.

The officer in charge is Mr. R. S. Logan, Land Drainage Engineer, who has very zealously and capably carried out the supervision of operations and development-work.

I have, &c.,

J. B. THOMPSON,

Chief Drainage Engineer.

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

## SCHEDULE OF ARTESIAN BORES SUNK DURING THE YEAR 1918-19.

Artesian Bore No.	Section.	Block.	Survey District.	Total depth in Feet.	Running Flow, Gallons per Day.
139		Part Mangawhero 3C2B		342	No flow.
140		"		374	"
141		Waitakaruru 2A1A		213	4,800
142	8	X	Wharekawa	237	4,800

## HAURAKI PLAINS SETTLEMENT ACCOUNT.

## Statement of Transactions during Year ended 31st March, 1919.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Payments.		£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward at 1st April, 1918		1,365	2	0	Drainage-works, stop-banks, clearing channels, and other expenditure incidental to conducting drainage operations, material, supplies, &c.		21,738	12	10
Debentures issued—Hauraki Plains Amendment Acts, 1913 and 1914	..	25,000	0	0	Erection of wharf, cottages, huts, and sheds	..	1,914	0	0
Cash sales	..	5,382	10	0	Machinery, plant, loose tools	..	1,798	14	2
Rents	..	9,219	17	11	Artesian wells	..	220	5	8
Miscellaneous receipts—	£ s. d.				Compensation for land acquired in connection with drainage-works	..	158	19	6
Hut-rents	..	12	4	-3	Management and engineering expenses, &c.	..	706	10	7
Flax-sales	..	576	5	9	Travelling-expenses	..	183	12	9
Grazing-rents	..	61	1	2	Interest on debentures	..	4,854	16	2
Timber	..	10	0	0	Balance at 31st March, 1919	..	10,589	4	4
Tram freights	..	325	9	4					
Artesian wells	..	196	5	7					
Old plant	..	16	0	0					
		1,197	6	1					
		£42,164	16	0			£42,164	16	0