

WORKS EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR.

The total amount expended on the works during the year was £28,810 16s. 11d.; this includes wages, hire of teams, repairs, supplies, &c. Of this amount, £22,045 8s. 8d. was paid out of Imprest Account. Piecework contracts totalled £8,447 15s. 6d., day labour of all descriptions £10,717, hire of teams £1,436 8s. 10d.

PRINCIPAL WORKS PROPOSED.

The principal works to be carried out during the next financial year are as follows:—

1. Continuation Omehu outfall.
2. Continuation Kopeopeo deviation.
3. Dredging western drain deviation.
4. Dredging Reid's central drain.
5. Construction of White-pine Bush Road and drain.
6. Improvement to Orini River.
7. Formation of Railway Road.
8. New outlet drains and general development-work.

GENERAL.

Dredging machinery has been acquired for placing on the Tarawera River, and is now being rebuilt. A powerful boiler is being made for this machine, as none was included in the purchase. Other important structural alterations are also being made, but owing to shortage of boiler-plates, skilled labour, and the influenza epidemic much delay has arisen at Port Chalmers as regards this work. However, delivery will be given very soon now.

I would have preferred a dredge of the Dipper type from America, but it was impracticable owing to war conditions and difficulties of getting delivery. Probably from now on there will not be this disability, but certainly the next best thing was done in obtaining the Kingston plant and rebuilding it.

The wages vouchers for labour, contracts, and hire of teams, &c., are prepared at Thornton and finally dealt with in the Auckland office, and accounts for supplies, &c., are prepared in the latter office.

The officer in local charge is Mr. J. H. Treseder, Land Drainage Engineer, who has been very zealous and energetic in carrying out his duties.

I have, &c.,

J. B. THOMPSON,

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

Chief Drainage Engineer.

RANGITAIKI LAND DRAINAGE ACCOUNT

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

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
Balance in hand at 1st April, 1918	..	4,269	16	2	Drainage-works, stop-banks, clearing channels, and other expenditure incidental to drainage operations	..	27,345	18	8
Debentures issued under Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act, 1910	..	25,000	0	0	Management and engineering expenses	..	621	18	3
Rents	..	10	0	0	Travelling-expenses	..	109	6	11
Thirds and fourths	..	12	17	6	Compensation for purchase of Native land under section 8 of the Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act	..	226	3	11
Rates—	£ s. d.				Machinery and plant	..	733	13	1
Year 1917-18	..	3,876	8	0	Balance in hand, 31st March, 1919	..	4,379	2	8
.. 1918-19	..	247	1	10					
		4,123	9	10					
		£33,416	3	6			£33,416	3	6

BALANCE-SHEET.

Liabilities.		£	s.	d.	Assets.		£	s.	d.
Debentures—Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act, 1910	..	145,000	0	0	Drainage-works—Expenditure in connection therewith, including wages, supplies, administration, engineering expenses, and depreciation of plant	..	129,470	1	2
Consolidated Fund—Interest paid	..	13,666	2	9	Redemption of debentures—Rangitaiki Land Drainage Board	..	2,100	0	0
Unpaid purchase-money—Sundry Natives	..	488	16	0	Interest on debentures	..	10,109	14	7
Suspense Account	..	152	4	4	Investments—Public Trust Office	..	904	5	4
Loan Redemption Account	..	4,173	8	8	Land for Settlements Account	..	20	0	0
		£163,480	11	9	Machinery, plant, tools, and stores	..	8,510	4	0
					Sundry ratepayers	..	7,987	4	0
					Cash	..	4,379	2	8
							£163,480	11	9

J. H. O'DONNELL, Chief Accountant.

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