

	Length. Miles. ch.	Excavation. Cub. yd.
Drains cleaned by manual labour .. .. .	97 0	..
Drains widened and deepened by manual labour .. .. .	29 51	51,546
Drains (new construction) by manual labour .. .. .	21 67	57,736
Stop-bank repairs by manual labour .. .. .	0 5	800
Total quantity of drainage excavation by manual labour .. .. .	..	110,082
New canals constructed by machines .. .. .	5 32	233,311
River and canal improvement, machine construction .. .. .	9 35	362,254
Total quantity excavated by machines .. .. .	..	595,565
Stop-banks constructed or partially constructed in conjunction with river-improvements and canal-construction .. .. .	7 10	..
Roads metalled .. .. .	2 72	4,388
Roads metalled, base course only .. .. .	8 12	9,637
Roads resurfaced with metal .. .. .	2 8	1,146
Total quantity of road metal laid .. .. .	..	15,171
Roads reconstructed and improved .. .. .	8 70	..
Roads graded .. .. .	0 50	..
Clay carted for ballasting peat roads and haunching metal .. .. .	..	8,828
Fences erected .. .. .	2 74	..
Levels taken for road and drainage work .. .. .	62 00	..
Traverses taken for road and drainage work .. .. .	15 40	..
Area cleared of scrub .. .. .	..	63
Area planted in flax .. .. .	..	319
Road-bridges constructed .. .. .	..	No. 3
Road-culverts constructed .. .. .	..	4
Flood-gates constructed, single-barrel 4-ft.-diameter pipe .. .. .	..	3
Flood-gates constructed, reinforced concrete 3-4 ft. by 4 ft. barrels .. .. .	..	1
Cross-sections of roads, river-channel, and canals .. .. .	..	377

## FLAX LEASES.

The area leased for flax-growing purposes is 3,173 acres in nine holdings. The annual rental totals £439 8s. 6d., and rentals totalling £488 19s. 6d. were paid during the year.

## GRAZING-AREAS.

The area leased for grazing purposes under temporary tenancies is 9,143 acres, held by 49 settlers, on which the annual rental totals £601 7s. Rental actually collected totalled £552 14s. 3d.

## FUTURE PROPOSALS.

The principal future constructional activities will be confined to the completion of the works now in hand, viz :—

- (1) Piako River improvements and flood-prevention.
- (2) Road construction and metalling.
- (3) Completion of Elstow-Awaiti flood-protection scheme.
- (4) Continuation Waitakaruru-Maukoro and Pouarua Canals.
- (5) Development of peat area lying to the west of Pouarua Canal.

## WORKS EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure recorded was £48,673 10s. 10d., of which day-labour absorbed £17,104 11s. 10d., and 119 piecwork and co-operative contracts accounted for £5,437 3s. 11d.

The drainage rate struck for 1929-30 totalled £3,977 2s. 2d., entailing the issuing of 434 rate notices.

The sum of £12,163 11s. 3d. was collected during the period under review, of which £4,672 2s. 2d. was in respect of drainage rates.

## GENERAL.

The field and office staff has experienced a busy year, as the special work undertaken for the relief of unemployment caused a great deal of extra work, and I desire to place on record my appreciation of the manner in which all concerned carried out their respective duties.

I have, &c.,

R. G. MACMORRAN,

Chief Drainage Engineer.

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.