

Good progress was made, and by the end of December some 1 mile 43 chains of the main outlet had been excavated, of which 115 chains was constructed to a completed size of 30 ft. by 9 ft., and the remaining 8 chains to 30 ft. by 5 ft. This excavation entailed the shifting of 79,141 cubic yards of spoil, which varied from very hard boulder formation to soft peat.

In January, 1930, this machine commenced the work of dredging a channel 30 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep from the southern end of Lake Poukawa through Crown land. This channel will provide for the drainage of the Crown land, as well as being the outlet for the Waipapa Stream. To the end of the period under review some 47 chains had been completed, mostly through peaty soil, with 22,949 cubic yards excavated. During the Christmas vacation the dredge was given a general overhaul and several essential parts replaced.

The continuation of the main outlet channel from where No. 5 Priestman left off is in country unsuitable for a floating plant of this nature, so arrangements were made with Dredgers Ltd., Wellington, to carry out this work with a drag-line. This work was commenced in January, 1930, and at the end of the period 17 chains had been completed, entailing the excavation of 5,337 cubic yards.

In order to obviate undue flooding of the lower country when the lake outlet is completed it was necessary to construct a hardwood sluice-gate for the purpose of controlling the flow from the lake.

For coaling and transport purposes an 18 ft. launch with 4 h.p. Standard engine was purchased during the year. Other minor works comprised building one dinghy, and painting office and cook-house.

The expenditure for the year totalled £3,109 10s. 3d. Owing to location of these works, arrangements were made with the District Lands Office, Napier, for ordering supplies, arranging for machinery repairs, &c., and I wish to accord my appreciation of the many services rendered in this connection by Mr. J. W. Harvey, Chief Clerk of that office.

I have, &c.,

R. G. MACMORRAN, Chief Drainage Engineer.

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

SWAMP LAND DRAINAGE ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1930.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Payments.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance—Cash in Public Account, 1st April, 1929	8,672	7 8	By Kaitaia Drainage District—		
Debentures issued under Swamp Land Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918, section 46	41,000		Drainage-works, &c.	11,454	18 2
Inscribed Stock issued under Swamp Land Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918, section 46	12,000	0 0	Management and engineering expenses	1,225	16 3
Temporary transfers from other accounts under section 40, Public Revenues Act, 1926	31,000	0 0			12,680 14 5
Subsidies from Consolidated Fund—			Waihi Drainage District—		
Maintenance rates—			Drainage-works, &c.	4,012	14 10
Waihi drainage area	884	18 3	Management and engineering expenses	233	12 10
Kaitaia drainage area	1,000	0 0			4,246 7 8
Special rates—Kaitaia drainage area	3,025	0 0	Poukawa Drainage District—		
	4,909	18 3	Drainage-works, &c.	1,788	4 4
Rents from letting national-endowment lands in Waihi drainage area	878	7 6	Management and engineering expenses	320	16 0
Special rate for interest and sinking fund—					2,109 0 4
Kaitaia drainage area	492	18 3	Hikurangi Drainage District—		
Waihi drainage area	4	2 5	Drainage-works, &c.	21,716	8 7
	497	0 8	Management and engineering expenses	1,523	7 4
General rate for administration and maintenance—					23,239 15 11
Kaitaia drainage area	138	12 6	Fuel and stores		11,232 1 2
Waihi drainage area	27	11 10	Plant and machinery, &c.		1,110 18 4
	166	4 4	Refund of special rates for interest and sinking fund—		
Rents	102	13 3	Kaitaia drainage area	0	4 5
Plant-hire	875	5 0	Refund of general rates for maintenance—Kaitaia drainage area	0	1 1
Interest on mortgage	6	11 6			0 5 6
Repayment in reduction of mortgage	110	0 0	Management charges on consolidated stock	22	16 10
Interest on investments	110	0 4	Stamp duty on transfers, consolidated stock	10	17 6
Credits in reduction of expenditure on works, &c.	1,025	18 9	Charges and expenses of raising loans	22	10 0
Miscellaneous	1,328	10 11			56 4 4
			Temporary transfers from other accounts repaid		41,000 0 0
			Balance, 31st March, 1930—		
			Cash	6,990	5 9
			Imprests outstanding in Dominion	17	4 9
					7,007 10 6
					£102,682 18 2
					£102,682 18 2