

Pursuant to section 10 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1929, the following summary of operations up to 31st March, 1937, is recorded:—

(a) *The Several Areas of Unoccupied Crown Lands in respect of which Development-works have been undertaken during the Year.*

Auckland Land District:—

Ngakuru Block, of 14,755 acres of light pumice land, fifteen miles from Rotorua: Development-work commenced in February, 1930, and results have been highly satisfactory. There are now thirty-nine dairy-farms at Ngakuru (including the sharemilkers' farms), with an aggregate area of 7,830 acres. The number of cows carried last season was 1,710.

Galatea Estate, of 22,326 acres, near Murupara: Pending the completion of developmental work and the offering of this land for selection, the major portion is being successfully farmed as a sheep and cattle station. As at 31st March, 1937, the station stock consisted of 20,504 sheep and 5,902 cattle. The remainder of block comprises ten sharemilking farms and a demonstration farm. The stock carried by these eleven farms consists of 633 dairy cows, 20 bulls, 20 horses, 320 pigs. Towards the end of the year twenty-two sections with an area of 2,391 acres were offered for selection, and of these, sixteen sections with an area of 1,777 acres were selected on renewable lease.

Particulars of the developmental work being undertaken are given in Appendix III in the report of the Land Drainage Branch of the Department.

Hawke's Bay Land District:—

Kakariki Estate, a purchased estate of 17,688 acres at Kotemaori: This block is intended to provide about ten holdings for sheep-farming. An area of 9,291 acres of new grass has been established, and live-stock carried is as follows: 15,800 sheep, 1,360 cattle, 32 horses. A successful farming year has been experienced, a net profit resulting after charging interest on all capital expenditure.

Taranaki Land District:—

Tapuwae Estate, of 3,350 acres, a purchased estate in the King-country: This block is estimated to provide approximately eleven mixed farms. Two thousand two hundred and sixty acres have been developed, and bush sickness has been successfully dealt with. The season has ended with a net farming profit after meeting interest on all capital expenditure. Live-stock consists of 5,730 sheep and 850 cattle.

(b) *Total Cost of Development-works carried out to 31st March, 1937.*

Block.	Expenditure on Development to 31st March, 1936.	Expenditure on Development during Year ended 31st March, 1937.	Total Expenditure on Development to 31st March, 1937.	Net Expenditure on Live-stock as at 31st March, 1937.
NORTH AUCKLAND LAND DISTRICT.				
Wharekohe Block	£ 11,535	£ 1,616	£ 13,151	£ ..
AUCKLAND LAND DISTRICT.				
Ngakuru Block	84,698	25	84,723	1,402
Te Kauwhata Block	32,176	..	32,176	..
Onepu Block*	20,120	..	20,120	..
Koromatua Block	4,163	303	4,466	..
Galatea Estate	82,834	16,262	99,096	5,452
Whangamarino Block*	8,445	..	8,445	..
Mangatutu Block	3,715	..	3,715	..
Pongakawa Block*	3,764	..	3,764	943
Arohena Block	207	207	..
HAWKE'S BAY LAND DISTRICT.				
Kakariki Estate	30,398	12,453	42,851	..
TARANAKI LAND DISTRICT.				
Tapuwae Estate	13,873	9	13,882	9,686
	295,721	30,875	326,596	17,483

* Whangamarino, Pongakawa, and part of Onepu Blocks taken over by Small Farms Board.

In addition to the expenditure on blocks set out above, expenditure has been incurred on the roading, survey, &c., of various areas which are being developed by the settlers themselves. The total expenditure £386,871 for development, stock, roading, and surveys (apart from roading-costs payable out of Public Works Fund) up to the 31st March, 1937, provides for 616 farms.