

18 in. by 12 in., eight 6 in. by 8 in., three 8 in. by 10 in., one 36 in. by 24 in., and one 24 in. by 24 in.), of a total length of 280 ft., have been laid. The maintenance has extended over two miles and a half.

*Umutoi Road (Umutoi Block).*—The length of road-line which the previous year was felled and cleared of bush has this year been formed 6 ft. wide. The following is a detailed account of the work done: 1 mile 59 chains of formation, 1,582 cubic yards of slips cleared, 1,543 cubic yards of rock excavated, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  chains of drains cut; twenty-one culverts (two 24 in. by 24 in., one 18 in. by 12 in., three 12 in. by 12 in., two 10 in. by 12 in., and thirteen 6 in. by 8 in.), aggregating 252 ft., have been laid, and 2 miles 23 chains of horse-road maintained.

*Tunupo Road, Apiti-Norsewood (Salisbury Block).*—A considerable amount of work has been done on this road during the year—viz., 1 mile 37 chains of road-line has been graded and pegged; 1 mile 64 chains of bush felled and cleared; 1 mile 70 chains of road formed, and 4 chains metalled; 949 cubic yards of slips has been removed; 719 cubic yards of rock excavated; 6 chains of drains cut, and half a chain of embankment formed. Twenty-six culverts have also been laid, of a total length of 306 ft., the sizes being—one 36 in. by 24 in., twenty-one 12 in. by 12 in., one 6 in. by 8 in., one 15 in. by 12 in., one 24 in. by 24 in., and one 24 in. by 20 in. The maintenance was 2 miles 57 chains.

*Makoura Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).*—This road was practically completed last year, leaving for the year under review only maintenance of four miles and three-quarters. This involved the removal of 1,529 cubic yards of slips.

*Coal Creek North Block.*—In my last annual report it was shown that the Government had granted the sum of £100 to the Pohangina County Council to assist in the construction of a track from Coal Creek to the Main Bridge Road, and that a mile and a half of road-line had been felled and cleared of bush, and 6 chains of horse-track formed. Since then, in order to obtain an easier grade, it has been found necessary, during the period under review, to make a deviation from the junction with the main road. The distance is about 30 chains, and the road has been formed to a width available for wheel traffic. The work is being carried out by the County Council, and the cost defrayed out of the above-mentioned £100 Government subsidy.

*Makiekie Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).*—This road is now completed to the southern boundary of the Delaware Block, and is now open for traffic for three miles and a quarter. It connects with a road constructed by the Pohangina County Council, and is of great service to the surrounding settlers. The construction and maintenance of this road has involved the following operations during the period under review: 60 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 10 chains of bush felled and cleared, 76 chains of road formed 6 ft. wide, 274 cubic yards of slips removed, 153 cubic yards of rock excavated; and eight 12 in. by 12 in. culverts, 80 ft. in length, have been laid. This road has now been handed over to the Pohangina County Council.

*Umutoi Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).*—According to my last annual report a very considerable amount of work was performed during that year. This year the record is not so great. The following are the details: 33 chains of road-line graded and pegged, 61 chains of road formed 6 ft. wide, 412 cubic yards of slips cleared, and 55 cubic yards of rock excavated; fifteen culverts (one 10 in. by 8 in., eleven 6 in. by 8 in., one 18 in. by 12 in., one 24 in. by 24 in., and one 12 in. by 12 in.), of a total length of 157 ft., have been laid. A distance of six miles and a half has been maintained.

*Takapari Road, Upper Pohangina Valley (Salisbury and Delaware Blocks).*—No further work was done on this road during the year until January last. Since then 2 miles 7 chains of road-line has been graded and pegged, and 1 mile 2 chains of road formed 6 ft. wide. This formation completes a distance of 1 mile 2 chains. This horse-road passes through forest country, and has been maintained during the year for a distance of one mile.

*Upper Pohangina Valley Road.*—The only work done on this road during the year has been two miles and a quarter of engineering survey, and half a mile of 8 ft. formation.

*Pohangina Valley Road (Forest Reserve).*—As will be seen in my last report, it was considered in the interest of the settlers in the valley to open a road-communication into this reserve, and accordingly the sum of £150 was granted to the Pohangina County Council for this purpose. In order to avoid expensive protective works it was deemed advantageous to make a deviation, the engineering survey of which has now been completed, but nothing further has been done.

*Kimbolton-Wairaki Road.*—During the year one mile of this road has been metalled and maintained to a width of 12 ft., and is now in excellent order.

*Kimbolton Road.*—In my last report it was stated that 1 mile 45 chains had been metalled. During this year the metalling has been continued on portions of the road between Beef Creek and Whare Road (Pemberton). This work has been supervised by the Kiwitea Council, and the cost defrayed out of a Government grant.

*Pakihikura Road and Bridge.*—This work, which was practically completed last year, has been inspected and passed during this, the final payment of the grant being paid to the Kiwitea County Council in May, 1897.

*Oporae Road.*—During the year 43 chains of road has been formed 6 ft. wide, and 8 chains of drains and 12 chains of river-crossing tracks cut. Formation contracts are at present in operation which when completed will bring the road within 50 chains of the main road at Oporae Station. When this connection is made it will prove of great convenience to the settlers in the Rising Sun Association Block. As soon as funds are available it is intended to erect two large bridges on this road-line.

*Dannevirke-Weber-Wimbledon Road.*—The sum of £400 was granted by the Government to be expended by the Weber Board on this road. A plain bridge 20 ft. long has been erected, and contracts for the following work are at present in operation: 15 chains of 16 ft. formation and