

schedule, the damage was of no extent, and only what might be expected on country roads, and should be provided for in their general maintenance contracts.

ERIC C. GOLD-SMITH,
Chief Surveyor, Hawke's Bay.

J. D. LOUCH,
Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department.

SCHEDULE.

Particulars.	Estimate of Damages by Gold-Smith and Louch.			Estimated Cost of erecting New Bridges or Repairs to Old Ones by Gold-Smith and Louch.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Omahu Bridge	1,500	0	0	2,982	0	0
Kuripapanga Bridge	1,500	0	0	1,890	0	0
Redclyffe Bridge	500	0	0	735	0	0
Waitangi Bridge	500	0	0	1,050	0	0
Bridges on Taupo Road (four)	750	0	0	1,315	5	0
Kikowhero Bridge	300	0	0	420	0	0
Okawa Bridge	350	0	0	525	0	0
Ohiwia Bridge	50	0	0	264	12	0
Rissington Bridge	500	0	0	840	0	0
Replacing culverts over 406 miles of road, &c.	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
Napier-Te Aute Road (thirty miles)	200	0	0	...	...	...
East Clive-Clifton (seven miles)	150	0	0	...	...	...
Clive Grange-Longlands (five miles)	125	0	0	...	...	...
Havelock Middle Road (twenty miles)	250	0	0	...	...	...
Hastings-Kereru Road (twenty-six miles)	200	0	0	...	...	...
Maraekakahu-Hampden (ten miles)	150	0	0	...	...	...
Bridge Pa-Raukawa (seven miles)	175	0	0	...	...	...
Roads about Hastings (fifteen miles)	300	0	0	...	...	...
Farndon-Korikipo (eight miles)	200	0	0	...	...	...
Awatoto-Papakura and cross-roads (eight miles)	400	0	0	...	...	...
Napier-Redclyffe (seven miles)	200	0	0	...	...	...
Taradale-Meanee Road (two miles)	100	0	0	...	...	...
Napier-Meanee, <i>via</i> river-bank (five miles)	100	0	0	...	...	...
Meanee-Taradale cross-roads (six miles)	100	0	0	...	...	...
Redclyffe-Moawhango, <i>via</i> Okawa (seventy miles)	500	0	0	...	...	...
Taradale-Barricade Creek, <i>via</i> Konini (twenty-six miles)	250	0	0	...	...	...
Taradale-Greenmeadows-Wharerangi-Patoka (fifty miles)	500	0	0	...	...	...
Napier-Pohue Road (twenty-five miles)	300	0	0	...	...	...
	11,150	0	0	11,021	17	0

WELLINGTON.

THE published accounts and statements by settlers show that the greatest damage and loss to local bodies and settlers occurred in the Rangitikei Valley. The *Rangitikei Advocate* of Saturday, the 17th April last, states that the rain commenced on the previous Thursday (the 15th), and the river attained a higher level than ever before known. From Mangaweka southwards the river is reported to have presented an amazing volume of water, extending from high terrace to high terrace on each side, and rushing headlong to the sea, bearing upon its surface wrecks of bridges, homesteads, and forests.

The floods, unfortunately, took place during spring-tides; the waters rose rapidly to a height never previously known or anticipated by Europeans, or probably even by Maoris. The consequence was that the lower farm-lands were inundated before the settlers had time to remove their stock. As the banks of the Rangitikei in its course as it approaches the sea are exceedingly low, the flood-waters inundated the whole of the adjacent lands and flowed through long-disused channels, particularly near Parawanui, into the low-lying area inside the sandhills on the coast.

As regards the settlers along the course of the Rangitikei, all freeholders and lessees owning low river-flats suffered more or less seriously. In the higher reaches of the river, the flats being generally limited in area and at a higher relative level, settlers were not affected so much as on the flats further down the river below the Rangitira Block and thence to the sea. Mr. Hammond and the Natives on and above Tarakete Block and adjacent islands are reported to have suffered heavily in stock. Mr. John Marshall's lower flats were all under water, badly silted over in places, old channels opened out, and much driftwood deposited here and there. His loss in stock was only about a hundred sheep, due to the fact that the main flock had been driven off previous to the rising of the waters. The farms of the Messrs. Signal Brothers, near Onepuhi Bridge, were