

Kinacraig (Locality : Balfour).—Area, 1,186 acres. Acquired, 31st August, 1947. Subdivision, three sheep-farms. Development programme comprises 600 acres of regrassing, 400 chains of draining, and the erection of 215 chains of new fences, two houses, one wool-shed, and three implement-sheds. One hundred and twenty-four acres have been regrassed to date and a further 92 acres are under crop. Apart from repairs, no progress has been made with fencing. Three hundred and eleven chains of channels have been excavated. Three ex-servicemen have been working on the property since acquisition and allotments to them on fixed charges is planned for July, 1950.

Mararua (Locality : Edendale).—Area, 359 acres. Acquired, 1st July, 1947. Subdivision, three dairy-farms. The development programme consists of the erection of three houses, three cow-sheds, three implement-sheds, and 420 chains of fencing, besides the provision of an adequate water-supply. Two ex-servicemen with promises of sections have been working on the property since acquisition. Allotment of the three sections is planned for July, 1949, assuming that fencing-materials become available.

* *Robinhood* (Locality : Mataura Island).—Area, 1,742 acres. Acquired, 10th April, 1945. Subdivision, three sheep-farms. One section comprising 533 acres was allotted in September, 1945, and it is planned to allot a second section in July, 1948. It is anticipated that the remaining section will be ready for settlement in 1950. Of the area under control during the year (1,208 acres), 349 acres have been regrassed and 296 chains of fencing have received attention, chiefly in the nature of major repairs. One implement-shed and one dip have been constructed, and a contract has been let for the erection of a second implement-shed, and the extension of a small cottage into a normal five-roomed dwelling.

Rothie (Locality : Thornbury).—Area, 828 acres. Acquired, 10th July, 1947. An area of 50 acres is being transferred to an ex-serviceman who holds an uneconomic area adjoining. It is planned to subdivide the remaining 778 acres into three sheep-farms. The development programme consists of 170 acres of regrassing, 170 chains of fencing, 230 chains of drains per excavator, and the erection of two dwellings, two implement-sheds, and two sheep-yards. Of this programme, 65 acres have been regrassed, a further area of 91 acres cultivated, and 146 chains of drains were excavated during the year. Allotment on fixed charges will be made in 1949 to three ex-servicemen who have been working on the property since acquisition.

Ruahine (Locality : Pahia).—Area, 1,195 acres. Acquired, 1st March, 1946. Subdivision, two sheep and one dairy farm. The extensive development programme planned for this property includes the clearing of 236 acres of bush, the excavation of 250 chains of main channels, 500 chains of tile drains, and the erection of two dwellings, one wool-shed, one cow-byre, and three implement-sheds. Progress to date includes the clearing of 65 acres stumps, bush, and gorse, the erection of 200 chains of new fences (chiefly old wire), and repairs to 338 chains of fences, main house, and cottage. Settlement cannot take place before July, 1950.

Southdown (Locality : Mataura).—Area, 5,645 acres. Acquired, 31st March, 1947. Subdivision, eleven sheep-farms. Complete development programme includes 17 miles of fencing, the formation of 2 miles of roads, the erection of four houses, and the enlarging of three other houses. It is proposed to concentrate upon six sections which are more advanced as regards fencing. It is hoped to have these six sections ready for allotment in July, 1949. Settlement of the other five sections will depend upon the availability of fencing-wire.

Spur Head (Locality : Edendale).—Area, 2,223 acres. Acquired, 31st March, 1941. Subdivision, six sheep-farms. Considerable development progress has been made to date. The outstanding items include the erection of four dwellings, one wool-shed,