

I am glad to place on record the praiseworthy efforts of all classes of officers and men to give effect to the Government's policy of opening the Hauraki Plains area for settlement as quickly as possible consistent with safety. Mr. J. B. Thompson has shown an intelligent interest in the whole scheme, and has been most indefatigable in giving effect to it. He has had the able assistance of Mr. George Purchas in carrying out the engineering details. In future it is intended, as being a more economical procedure, to keep the control of the whole operations under the District Surveyor, Mr. J. B. Thompson, Mr. Purchas being transferred to the staff of the Chief Surveyor, Auckland.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (as required by Section 10 of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908) for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1909.			1910.		
April 1. To Balance—Cash in Public Account	327	14 6	Mar. 31. By Expenditure—		
1910.			Salaries	578	15 0
Mar. 31. To Advances from Loans to Local Bodies' Account, under clause 4 of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908	19,000	0 0	Travelling allowances and expenses, camp allowances, and general expenses of administration	197	16 2
Advances made by the New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Office	10,000	0 0	Purchase and equipment of dredges and launches, maintenance and working expenses	4,262	5 9
			Buildings, erection and maintenance of	363	6 10
			Cattle, purchase of	1,129	16 6
			Drainage works: Clearing channels, building stop-banks, tramways, and all expenses incidental thereto	15,703	2 8
				<u>22,235</u>	<u>2 11</u>
			Balance—Cash in Public Account	5,387	6 1
			Advances in hands of officers of the Government	1,705	5 6
				<u>7,092</u>	<u>11 7</u>
				<u>£29,327</u>	<u>14 6</u>
	<u>£29,327</u>	<u>14 6</u>			

LOAN ACCOUNT.

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1910.			1909.		
Mar. 31. To Balance	42,108	19 9	April 1. By Balance due to Loans to Local Bodies' Account	12,125	2 11
			„ 16. Advance from Loans to Local Bodies' Account, under clause 4 of the Hauraki Plains Act, 1908	1,000	0 0
			May 7. Ditto	5,000	0 0
			July 6. „	5,000	0 0
			Sep. 20. „	1,000	0 0
			Oct. 16. „	2,000	0 0
			Nov. 15. „	5,000	0 0
			1910. Interest on above to 31st March, 1910	983	16 10
			Mar. 21. Advance made by New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Office	5,000	0 0
			„ 31. Ditto	5,000	0 0
				<u>£42,108</u>	<u>19 9</u>
	<u>£42,108</u>	<u>19 9</u>			

REPORT UPON HAURAKI PLAINS DRAINAGE OPERATIONS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1910, BY THE DISTRICT SURVEYOR IN CHARGE.

SIR,—

Thames, 25th April, 1910.

In this my first annual report since taking control of drainage and survey operations, I would briefly state that on Mr. William C. Breakell, C.E., retiring from the service on the 30th September, 1909, I was appointed as District Surveyor in Charge of Drainage-works and Surveys, and, working under your instructions, have controlled same as from the 1st October, 1909. Mr. G. H. Purchas has been associated with me as Engineer in Charge of Drainage-works as from the same date.

I have to report that the various operations carried out during the past year have been very successful both as regards drainage and survey branches.

Many other works of an experimental nature have also been undertaken, and in the great majority of cases have been entirely successful.

There has been sufficient work done to date to clearly demonstrate the fact that the expenditure so far undertaken has been more than justified; that the ultimate successful settlement of the whole