

Wainihinihi Water-race.

As the season was exceptionally wet there was an excellent supply of water from this race during the year.

During the month of July a slip occurred on the side of the mountain immediately above the race, which broke down three sets of timber and filled up the ditch, but repairs were promptly effected by the men working on the Waimea Branch Race, and the water was only off for about four days.

Waimea-Kumara Water-races.

The following is a summary of the revenue and expenditure of these races for the year ended the 31st March, 1915: Sales of water, £2,372 5s. 11d.; cash received, £2,098 13s. 3d.; expenditure, £2,228 17s. 7d.; approximate value of gold obtained, £20,268 6s.; average number of miners employed, 77·83.

Although the sales of water showed an increase of £270 0s. 4d. on the previous year, the cash received only showed an increase of £41 2s. 10d., but a considerable percentage of the debit balances outstanding on the 31st March should be recovered during the ensuing year. In addition to the above sales, authorized free water to the value of £360 18s. 4d. was supplied to parties opening up new claims.

The total expenditure on the combined races was £2,228 17s., as against £1,803 7s. 4d. for the previous year, an increase of £425 10s. 3d. This increase was principally caused by repairs to the Waimea Water-race at Fox's and the long-drive tunnel at Maori Point, and the maintenance of the Erin-go-Bragh Race for twelve months as against nine months of the previous year.

Comparing the sales of water with the expenditure, the combined races show a profit of £143 8s. 4d. for the year.

Summary, showing Results of working the Waimea-Kumara Water-races during the Year ended 31st March, 1915.

Name of Water-race.	Expenditure.	Cash received.	Sales of Water.	Outstanding Moneys on 31st March, 1915.	Collateral Advantages.		
					No. of Men employed.	Ounces of Gold obtained.	Value of Gold obtained.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Waimea	716 3 1	1,027 13 4	1,027 13 2	19 12 0	29·66	2,015	7,858 10 0
Kumara	338 1 8	234 8 11	333 4 6	281 19 9	11·33	779	3,038 2 0
Callaghan's ..	512 1 7	361 14 0	430 7 6	113 9 4	11·75	1,030	4,017 0 0
Trans-Taramakau	291 2 3	260 10 0	358 12 9	147 8 0	14·25	833	3,248 14 0
Erin-go-Bragh ..	371 9 0	214 7 0	222 8 0	16 15 0	10·83	540	2,106 0 0
Totals and averages	2,228 17 7	2,098 13 3	2,372 5 11	579 4 1	77·83	5,197	20,268 6 0

MOUNT IDA WATER-RACE, CENTRAL OTAGO.—MR. J. C. BUCHANAN, Manager.

The total sales of water from the Mount Ida Water-race during the year amounted to £1,393 19s. 3d., an increase on that of last year of £146 2s. 11d. The expenditure on maintenance, cleaning, and repairs for the same period amounted to £1,552 10s. 9d., an increase on that of last year of £140 18s. 4d. The total cash received was £1,393 19s. 3d.

On account of payment in advance, free water was supplied to the value of £23 14s. 10d., and free water for washing up was supplied to the value of £112 16s. 2d.

The total value of water supplied from this race amounted to £1,530 10s. 3d., an increase on that of last year of £168 8s. 2d.

The approximate quantity of gold obtained by parties using water from this race during the year was 1,404 oz., valued at £5,405 8s., a decrease on that of last year of £743 1s.

The average number of men employed was 26·6.

From the 1st April until the 11th July, when hard frost compelled most of the claims to close down, there was a plentiful supply of water. A thaw set in on the 24th July, and most of the claims were again at work on the 27th. From then until the 8th October, when the water was turned out for cleaning and repairs, there was a full supply of water.

On the 14th September, the weather being favourable, and there being a good supply of water on the lower sections of the race, I started with all the available men to clean and repair the race from Hill's Creek upwards, and finished on the 8th October, when the water was turned out to clean and repair the lower sections. This work was completed and the water on again on the 22nd October. From this date until the Eweburn reservoir ran out, on the 17th January, there was a full supply of water. The weather at this time became very dry, and until rain set in on the 3rd March there was just sufficient water to supply the claims about half-time.

At the time of cleaning the race, and owing to the increased demand for water in Spec Gully, I found it necessary to give about five miles of the main race an extra good trimming and cleaning. I also lowered the bottom of the race from the intake of Wedderburn siphon to the head of Store Gully.