

Value of Prison Labour for which Financial Credits are not received.

Owing to the fact that the Department obtained financial credits from the Public Works Fund on account of the work carried out on the Roto-aira Road, and in certain other directions during the past year, the total value of the labour employed on works, buildings, &c., during the past year is shown as amounting to less than it did in 1917-18, but the total remains sufficiently substantial to indicate that our policy of finding reproductive employment for all able-bodied prisoners is still being vigorously pursued.

As in previous years, the estimates of the value of prison labour employed on buildings, roads, &c., have been made by the Public Works Engineer for the different districts, and are all based on free-labour standards.

TABLE 2.—Total Value of Prison Labour employed on Roads, Buildings, Reclamation, Wall-building, and other Public Works, for which no Financial Credit has been received, for the Year ended 31st March, 1919.

Prison.	Buildings and Walls.	Construction and Maintenance of Roads.	Excavating for Buildings.	Block-making.	Reclamation Works.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Auckland	1,682	..	..	..	..	1,682
Invercargill	..	..	..	..	..	2,860
Paparua	3,942	..	..	1,115	..	5,057
Waikeria	870	568	540	..	..	1,978
Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	6,494	568	540	1,115	..	11,577

In addition to the large amount of developmental work that has been carried out on the different areas now under our control, which, while adding materially to the capital value of our properties, cannot be shown in balance-sheet form, the various prison industries have been carried on as heretofore. The estimated value of this part of our work, calculated on the basis of the saving to the State by the employment of prison labour in different directions, is shown in the accompanying table, No. 3.

TABLE 3.—Value of Prison Labour employed on Prison Works and Industries, for which Cash Credits are not obtained, for Year ended 31st March, 1919.

Prison.	Boot-making for Officers and Prisoners.	Tailoring (including Repairs) and Red Cross work.	Gardening and Farming.	Building-work.	Quarrying and other Work.	Domestic Employment.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Addington	..	617	437	..	..	325	1,379
Auckland	330	207	333	552	1,949	1,179	4,550
Invercargill	..	..	1,098	567	..	628	2,293
Kaingaroa	18	..	324	3	150	247	742
Lyttelton	171	..	..	..	279	486	936
Napier	16	11	35	..	57	121	240
New Plymouth	3	41	239	..	..	285	568
Paparua	457	..	1,561	..	..	420	2,438
Roto-aira	16	..	76	218	..	250	560
Waikeria	41	..	2,270	534	..	571	3,416
Wellington	77	807	783	135	..	738	2,540
Minor gaols	5	6	50	..	..	100	161
Totals	1,134	1,689	7,206	2,009	2,435	5,350	19,823

Summary.

	£
Cash and financial credits earned by the Department, 1918-19	21,654
Estimated value of prison labour on public works, 1918-19	11,577
Estimated value of prison labour employed on prison industries, domestic work, &c., 1918-19	19,823

Total value of prison labour 1918-19 £53,054

The gross expenditure of the Department for the year was £95,324. If from this is deducted our total earnings as shown above (£53,054), the net cost of the Prisons Department to the State for 1918-19 was £42,270.