

VALUATIONS.

The total area to date thrown open for selection is 40,391 acres, valued at £281,950. The land to be opened in the near future will show an increase on these figures.

AREA THROWN OPEN DURING YEAR.

Some twenty-nine sections, comprising a total area of 2,940 acres, and valued at £52,290, were thrown open and selected by discharged soldiers.

It is expected that some seventy-one sections, totalling 5,300 acres, will be available from time to time during the coming financial year. In addition some twenty-nine sections, totalling 25 acres, will be auctioned in Kerepechi Township Extension. Development is being steadily carried on, and it should be noted that the class of country being dealt with is very difficult. Subsidence takes place, and outfalls have to be deepened accordingly.

PRINCIPAL WORKS PROPOSED.

The principal works (apart from road-metalling) to be carried out in the future are as follows:—

- (1.) Continuation of Waitoa River dredging.
- (2.) Continuation of Waitakaruru-Maukoro Canal.
- (3.) Continuation of Awaiti Canal.
- (4.) Establishment of works depot, Ongarehu Block, Kerepechi.
- (5.) New areas for settlement.
- (6.) Concrete bridges, flood-gates, and culverts.
- (7.) New wharves and repairs to existing ones.
- (8.) General development work.

GENERAL.

The books in connection with the works are kept in Auckland, where vouchers for wages, contracts, supplies, and general purposes are prepared.

The officer in local charge is Mr. R. S. Logan, Land Drainage Engineer, and I have again to commend him on having so capably carried out the supervision of operations and development work.

I have, &c.,

J. B. THOMPSON,

Chief Drainage Engineer.

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

SCHEDULE OF ARTESIAN BORES SUNK DURING YEAR, 1919-20.

Artesian Bore No.	Section.	Block.	Survey District.	Total Depth. (Feet.)	Running Flow. (Gallons per Hour.)
143	Government Reserve	Waitakaruru		322	200
144	14	IV	Piako	304	90
145	19	X	Thames	286	400
146	7	X	Wharekawa	298	900
147	6	X	"	306	200
148	5	X	"	367	60
149	17	IV	Piako	393	40
150	17	IV	"	187	900
151	Near Kerepechi Wharf	..	"	177	900
152	"	..	"	247	300
153	"	..	"	396	Flow by pumping.
154	19	X	Thames	335	600
155	19	X	"	92	400, by pumping.
156*	17	X	"	303	1,000
157	33	I	"	306	No flow.
158	4	X	"	300	1,200
159	1	X	Wharekawa	250	600
160	2	X	"	266	130
161	14	I	Waihou	231	400
162	14	I	"	332	No flow.
163	5	I	"	231	200
164	2	I	"	214	600
165	33	I	"	214	200

* Road corner.