

Development of the areas made available was dealt with by breaking up the raupo and rush covered land on those portions which were not subject to leases to Europeans or retained by the Natives for the carrying of their own stock. It was hoped that by cropping these areas the Department would be reimbursed for its outlay, and, while the first season's operations were successful, it has been found that, with the return of wet seasons throughout Marlborough, cropping on such low-lying land must always be attended with a considerable risk. However, cultivation during two or three seasons has resulted in the major portion of the area handled by the Department being now in good heart for pastoral farming, and it is hoped to establish grass on approximately 150 acres during this coming season. An area of 97 acres retained by the Native owners is at present covered with heavy rushes, and it is hoped to break up and recondition this portion during the next year.

To realize the ultimate objective of the scheme and establish the Native owners as self-supporting farmers, further improvements are required by way of subdivisional fencing, grassing, and the planting of shelter-belts. The land is ideally suited, both as to quality and location for dairying, and to this end future activity will be directed.

The area under the scheme at the 31st March last was 828 acres, on which 18 men supporting 40 dependants were engaged. The receipts for the past season totalled £909. The year's activities embraced 18 chains of new fencing, with 120 chains of repairs; 94 chains of new drains, with the cleaning of 800 chains of old drains.

STATISTICAL DATA ON IKAROA AND SOUTH ISLAND SCHEMES (SCHEME AND UNIT).

Subject.	Heretaunga.	Kaiwhare.	Manawatu.	Southland.	Wairau.	Totals.
1. Date first gazetted/acquired	Aug., 1931	Dec., 1935	Aug., 1931	July, 1930	April, 1931	..
2. Number of schemes	..	..	..	..	..	5
3. Area gazetted to date Acres	2,000	514	809	2,500	828	6,651
Area developed to date Acres	2,000	300	617	1,600	280	4,797
Area ultimately to be developed .. Acres	2,000	514	809	900	480	4,703
Native area improved by flood-protection Acres	..	..	..	..	675	675
4. Units: Tenure not settled	17	..	5	18	..	40
Additional labourers	..	7	..	13	18	38
Other dependants (wives and children) ..	78	20	44	63	40	245
Total dependants	95	27	49	94	58	323
5. Unemployed labourers (included above) ..	..	7	..	..	18	25
6. Live-stock tallies—						
Cows	196	..	190	355	..	741
Cows in milk at flush season	196	..	176	355	..	727
Other dairy stock	..	..	15	115	..	130
Run cattle	..	60	..	30	..	90
Sheep—						
Rams	..	3	..	13	..	16
Other	..	100	..	336	..	436
Horses	15	..	8	16	..	39
Bulls	13	..	8	11	..	32
Pigs	..	..	51	..	..	51
7. Carrying-capacity (estimate)—						
Cattle Acres	N/A	N/A	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	..	..
Sheep Acres	N/A	N/A	..	N/A	..	..
8. Receipts—						
Butterfat—						
Total poundage lb.	32,510	..	27,369	37,222	..	97,101
Department's proportion £	579	..	770	518	..	1,867
Wool—						
Weight lb.	..	..	..	596	..	596
Total proceeds £	..	..	..	34	..	34
Sheep sales £	..	..	..	491	..	491
Cattle sales £	..	..	55	137	..	192
Crops and sundries £	237	22	10	16	909	1,194
Total cash to Department £	816	22	835	1,196	909	3,778
9. Year's activities—						
Bush felling and clearing: Year .. Acres	400	300	..	285	..	985
Fencing—						
New Chains	715	118	60	77	18	988
Repairs Chains	200	186	200	50	120	756
Draining—						
New Chains	140	..	30	78	94	342
Cleaning Chains	225	20	260	9	800	1,314
Grassing—						
New Acres	80	22	..	20	..	122
To date (approximate) Acres	160	22	150	308	..	640
Other cultivation—						
New Acres	40	..	20	12	..	72
To date Acres	85	..	..	37	265	387
Roading and repairs Chains	20	..	190	0.5	..	210.5
Cottages erected—						
Year	..	..	3	..	..	3
To date	4	..	6	..	..	10
Cow-sheds erected to date	8	..	4	..	..	12