

1938.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY.
SWAMP DRAINAGE.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1938, TOGETHER WITH STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS.

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 13 of the
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915.*

Department of Lands and Survey,
Wellington, 1st June, 1938.
SIR,—
In pursuance of section 13 of the Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, I have the honour to forward the report of the Land Drainage Engineer covering operations on lands proclaimed under the Swamp Drainage Act and amendments.
I have, &c.,
W. ROBERTSON,
Under-Secretary for Lands.
The Hon. Frank Langstone, Minister of Lands.

REPORT OF LAND DRAINAGE ENGINEER.

SIR,—
I have the honour to submit my annual report on the areas proclaimed under the Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, and its amendments.

KAITAIA DRAINAGE AREA (61,430 ACRES), MANGONUI COUNTY.

During the year the only work undertaken was the maintenance of completed works. As usual, tenders for the drain-cleaning contracts were called for in the late summer, and all this work was satisfactorily carried out by the contractors. Engineering surveys were completed for the enlargement of an outlet to Waipapakauri, which, when completed, should give great relief to the Kaitaia small farms area and bring in further areas, besides benefiting the established settlers along its route of approximately 3½ miles. Monighan Dredge No. 18, at present in the district, is to be refitted for this work, which will be undertaken by day labour under the supervision of the Overseer in Charge. Similar surveys were carried out for the widening and deepening of Puckey's outlet drain, which will provide a considerably better outlet for the drainage of the neighbouring country. The contracts for this work have been let and will be completed early in the coming year, to give relief for the winter season.

Further surveys for work entailing the removal of approximately 5,000 cubic yards of spoil were completed, and tenders called for without response. The work on these drains will now be curtailed and included in the ordinary maintenance cleaning. The antipathy of contractors towards tendering for this work is on account of the considerable amount of timber to be met with.

Rainfall and river-gauge readings taken throughout the year are shown on the schedule hereunder.

Month.				Rainfall (Inches).	Wet Days in Month.	Highest Rain- fall for Twenty-four Hours (Inches).	Kaitaia River-gauge, Wai- kuriki Bridge.	
							Highest.	Lowest.
1937.								
April	..	..	..	6.86	20	1.35	57.2	53.2
May	..	..	..	5.81	21	1.36	62.0	53.7
June	..	..	..	5.91	15	2.40	65.0	53.4
July	..	..	..	4.31	23	0.70	61.2	54.0
August	..	..	..	1.83	11	0.59	65.0	53.5
September	..	..	..	4.47	19	0.93	58.7	54.0
October	..	..	..	0.55	2	0.46	54.3	52.7
November	..	..	..	2.62	10	1.05	59.8	52.4
December	..	..	..	2.65	4	1.67	55.5	52.4
1938.								
January	..	..	..	2.76	6	1.23	54.5	52.2
February	..	..	..	2.70	11	2.46	58.5	52.5
March..	..	..	..	0.74	3	0.42	52.5	52.2
Totals	..	..	..	41.21	145			

Drains.—Some sixty-two miles of drains were cleaned during the year.

Stop-banks.—The repairing of the stop-banks undertaken last year was carried on this year to the extent of the vote, and the repairs effected should provide a better safeguard against ordinary spring tides, but not against the exceptional spring tides which are experienced occasionally in this locality.

River Protection.—Severe erosion occurred on a bend in the Awanui River adjoining the Kaitia small farms. Immediate remedial measures were taken, and the bank is now holding satisfactorily behind a protection of raking piles and sheathing.

Works Expenditure.—The total expenditure for the year was £1,039 10s. 4d.

Drainage Rates.—The following schedule shows the position of the rates struck and collected in the two wards :—

		Capital.		Maintenance.	
		Struck.	Collected.	Struck.	Collected.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Town	.. ..	406 18 10	301 16 9	199 4 6	126 18 4
Rural	.. ..	2,898 16 3	585 4 11	1,485 5 3	294 17 5

HIKURANGI DRAINAGE AREA (50,000 ACRES), WHANGAREI COUNTY.

No work was carried out on this area during the year. The only expenditure was the overseer's wages, amount to £230.

WAIHI DRAINAGE AREA (20,000 ACRES), TAURANGA COUNTY.

The drainage outlets, stop-banks, and flood-gates in this area were again maintained by the Department, the bulk of the hand drains being maintained by contract labour. The total length of drains maintained annually is 37 miles 73 chains. A length of drain totalling 168 chains was reconditioned during the year. One length of drain totalling 184 chains was handed over to the flax-milling company leasing portion of the area for maintenance purposes. Repairs were carried out to several flood-gates during the year.

Flax-milling was carried on for the greater part of the year by the company leasing a portion of the unsettled swamp area. Late in the year this company surrendered its lease of an area totalling 1,600 acres between the Wharere and Pongakawa Canals, and this area will be developed by the Department.

Satisfactory progress was made in the development of the block of 1,000 acres of swamp lands west of the Wharere Canal. An electric flood-pump was installed to serve an area of 400 acres, and this has already effected a marked improvement. The five dairy-farms established have done well, and a further dairy-farm will be established in the coming year. The balance of the area is being consolidated with cattle and sheep before being settled.

The expenditure during the year was £849 14s. 2d.

Drainage rates struck totalled : Capital £752 15s. 1d., maintenance £1,247 6s. 2d. : whilst the amount collected was : Capital £285 6s. 9d., maintenance £712 16s. 6d.

POUKAWA DRAINAGE AREA (15,567 ACRES) HAWKE'S BAY.

Maintenance of completed works was carried out during the year, and I am indebted to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Napier, for carrying out the inspections of the cleaning contracts.

The expenditure during the year was £128 1s. 7d.

Rates struck amounted to £1,121 1s. 5d. (capital only), whilst £187 17s. 11d. was collected by the District Office at Napier.

I have, &c.,
R. L. INNIS,
Land Drainage Engineer.

The Under-Secretary for Lands, Wellington.

SWAMP LAND DRAINAGE SCHEME.

RATE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1938.

KAITAIA DRAINAGE AREA.

Special Rate Accounts : Capital.

<i>Dr.</i>	Rural Subdivision. £ s. d.	Town Subdivision. £ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.	Rural Subdivision. £ s. d.	Town Subdivision. £ s. d.
Transfer to Reserve Fund	409 1 5	55 18 2	Balance .. ..	.. ..	1,208 0 6	68 14 2
Interest charge	2,320 18 7	354 1 10	Rates levied	3,183 9 9	.. ..	406 19 1
Remissions	19 6 5	0 11 6	Less rebate	285 7 7	2,898 2 2	.. ..
Adjustment of overcharged rates .. ..	.. ..	5 4 6				
Adjustment of overcharged penalty on rates .. ..	.. ..	0 0 7				
Balance	1,356 16 3	59 16 8				
	£1,106 2 8	£175 13 3			£4,106 2 8	£475 13 5

General Rate Accounts : Maintenance.

<i>Dr.</i>	Rural Subdivision. £ s. d.	Town Subdivision. £ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.	Rural Subdivision. £ s. d.	Town Subdivision. £ s. d.
Cost of maintenance	1,144 1 3	165 9 10	Balance .. ..	.. ..	257 9 10	103 15 5
Remissions	8 6 11	2 15 2	Rates levied	1,485 5 3	199 4 4	.. ..
Balance, 31st March, 1938	590 6 11	134 14 9				
	£1,742 15 1	£302 19 9			£1,742 15 1	£302 19 9

WAIHI DRAINAGE AREA.

Special Rate Accounts : Capital.

<i>Dr.</i>	Pukehina Ward. £ s. d.	Kaikokopu Ward. £ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.	Pukehina Ward. £ s. d.	Kaikokopu Ward. £ s. d.
Remissions	855 17 1	3 18 7	Balance .. ..	.. ..	990 11 1	76 8 6
Transfer to Reserve Fund	35 13 2	53 10 1	Rates levied .. ..	.. ..	339 9 7	413 5 6
Interest charge	214 6 10	321 9 11				
Balance, 31st March, 1938	224 3 7	110 15 5				
	£1,330 0 8	£489 14 0			£1,330 0 8	£489 14 0

General Rate Accounts : Maintenance.

<i>Dr.</i>	Pukehina Ward. £ s. d.	Kaikokopu Ward. £ s. d.	Central Ward. £ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.	Pukehina Ward. £ s. d.	Kaikokopu Ward. £ s. d.	Central Ward. £ s. d.
Balance .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	37 11 7	Balance	832 11 6	170 2 8	.. ..	.. ..
Cost of maintenance	213 1 11	416 15 6	455 0 6	Rates levied	190 3 4	496 18 5	590 4 5	.. ..
Adjustment of overcharged penalty on rates .. ..	.. ..	1 8 5	.. ..	Balance, 31st March, 1938 .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1,843 13 3	.. ..
Remissions	719 7 2	2 4 2	1,906 12 1					
Adjustment of overcharged rates .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4 13 6					
Balance, 31st March, 1938	90 5 9	246 13 0	.. ..					
	£1,022 14 10	£667 1 1	£2,493 17 8		£1,022 14 10	£667 1 1	£2,493 17 8	

POUKAWA DRAINAGE AREA.

Special Rate Account : Capital.

<i>Dr.</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.
Transfer to Reserve Fund	151 11 1	Balance	366 17 4
Interest charged	942 18 11	Rates levied	1,121 1 5
Balance, 31st March, 1938	410 8 9		
	£1,487 18 9		£1,487 18 9

General Rate Account : Maintenance.

<i>Dr.</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.
Cost of maintenance	128 1 7	Balance	218 14 4
Balance, 31st March, 1938	90 12 9		
	£218 14 4		£218 14 4

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1938.

<i>Receipts.</i>	Public Works Fund. £ s. d.	Consolidated Fund. £ s. d.	<i>Payments.</i>	Public Works Fund. £ s. d.	Consolidated Fund. £ s. d.
Rents from national-endowment land in Waihi Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	386 4 0	Kaitaia Drainage Area : Maintenance, completed works .. ..	.. ..	985 4 9
Special rate for interest and sinking fund—			Waihi Drainage Area : Maintenance, completed works .. ..	.. ..	849 18 2
Waihi Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	285 6 9	Poukawa Drainage Area : Maintenance, completed works .. ..	.. ..	128 1 7
Kaitaia Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	879 1 7	Hikurangi Drainage Area : Drainage works, &c.	323 17 1	.. ..
Poukawa Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	187 17 11	Plant, &c. (general)	587 11 2	.. ..
General rate for administration and maintenance—			Transfer receipts to Treasury Adjustment Account .. ..	.. ..	3,152 1 2
Waihi Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	712 16 6	Transfer receipts to Public Works Fund Account	935 7 11	.. ..
Kaitaia Drainage Area .. ..	.. ..	421 3 11			
Poukawa .. ..	.. ..	.. ..			
Rates paid in advance .. ..	.. ..	0 3 9			
Thirds .. ..	.. ..	142 6 1			
Sundry rents .. ..	.. ..	6 0 0			
Miscellaneous .. ..	.. ..	131 0 8			
Credits in reduction of expenditure	935 7 11	.. ..			
Transfer of expenditure to Treasury Adjustment Account .. ..	.. ..	1,963 4 6			
Transfer of expenditure to Public Works Fund Account	911 8 3	.. ..			
	£1,846 16 2	£5,115 5 8		£1,846 16 2	£5,115 5 8

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1938.

Liabilities.				Assets.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Capital Account, Public Works Fund	691,840	15	2	Kaitiaki Drainage Area—			
Reserve: Repayment capital costs ..				Allocated cost of works on which			
Kaitiaki Drainage				rates are levied—			
Area—	£	s.	d.	Rural subdivision	60,000	0	0
Rural subdivision	2,832	16	10	Town subdivision	8,200	0	0
Town subdivision	387	2	11				68,200 0 0
			3,219 19 9	Excess cost of works not recover-			
Waihi Drainage				able	155,984	16	11
Area—				Interest Account: Proportion			
Pukehina Subdi-				chargeable to area	150,121	16	4
vision	272	9	9				306,106 13 3
Kaikokopu Subdi-				Waihi Drainage Area—			
vision	408	15	0	Allocated cost of works on which			
			681 4 9	rates are levied—			
Poukawa Drainage Area			730 4 4	Pukehina Subdivision	5,000	0	0
			4,631 8 10	Kaikokopu Subdivision	7,500	0	0
Rate accounts—				Central Subdivision	49,414	3	6
Special Rate Accounts: Capital—							61,914 3 6
Kaitiaki Drainage				Excess cost of works not recover-			
Area—	£	s.	d.	able	24,526	0	0
Rural subdivision	1,356	16	3	Interest Account: Proportion			
Town subdivision	59	16	8	chargeable to area	44,898	16	4
			1,416 12 11				69,424 16 4
Waihi Drainage				Poukawa Drainage Area—			
Area—				Drainage works	15,984	13	2
Pukehina Subdi-				Interest Account: Proportion			
vision	224	3	7	chargeable to area	1,865	2	8
Kaikokopu Sub-							17,849 15 10
division	110	15	5	Hikurangi Drainage Area—			
			334 19 9	Drainage works	247,819	17	11
Poukawa Drainage Area			410 8 9	Interest Account: Proportion			
			2,162 0 8	chargeable to area	146,951	2	5
General Rate Accounts: Main-							394,771 0 4
tenance—				Mangawai Drainage Area—			
Kaitiaki Drainage				Drainage works	1,877	19	3
Area—	£	s.	d.	Interest Account: Proportion			
Rural subdivision	590	6	11	chargeable to area	1,508	8	1
Town subdivision	134	14	9				3,386 7 4
			725 1 8	Harihari Drainage Area—			
Waihi Drainage				Drainage works	4,355	2	11
Area—				Interest Account: Proportion			
Pukehina Subdi-				chargeable to area	3,106	15	10
vision	90	5	9				7,461 19 9
Kaikokopu Sub-				Buildings			1,596 8 1
division	246	13	0	Wharves			53 12 0
			336 18 9	Plant and machinery			28,449 10 9
Poukawa Drainage Area			90 12 9	Loose tools			236 4 11
			1,152 13 2	Stores on hand			3,668 3 7
Sundry creditors—				Motor-vehicles			173 15 6
Miscellaneous			18 14 3	Sundry debtors for rates—			
Departmental			4 1 6	Drainage Area.			
			22 15 9	Capital.			
Rents charged in advance			219 0 0	£	s.	d.	£
Payments in advance—				Kaitiaki	17,099	5	4
Rent			10 12 5	Waihi	4,879	18	7
Rates			4 6 7	Poukawa	3,143	6	8
			14 19 0		169	4	0
Suspense Account			0 6 6	Sundry debtors—			
Writings-off in Suspense			121 8 0	Rent under section 4 (2), Swamp			
Treasury Adjustment Account			315,281 4 4	Land Drainage Amendment Act,			
				1926			416 5 10
				House rent			9 5 0
				Law-costs			687 0 10
				Miscellaneous			41 2 6
				Departmental			328 3 2
							1,481 17 4
				Rate Account—			
				General Rate Account: Maintenance—			
				Waihi Drainage Area: Central Subdivision			1,843 13 3
				Maintenance costs (Hikurangi)			434 8 9
				Premiums on conversion			127 10 0
				Revenue Account—Waihi Drainage Area: Central			
				Subdivision			12,172 9 1
				Losses in Suspense			121 8 0
				Cash in transit from Post-office			154 6 1

W. ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary for Lands.
WM. E. SHAW, Chief Accountant.

I hereby certify that the Rate Accounts and Balance-sheet have been duly examined and compared with the relative books and documents submitted for audit, and correctly state the position as disclosed thereby subject to the explanatory notes dealing with departmental accounts generally as appearing at commencement of parliamentary return [B.-1, Pt. IV].—J. H. FOWLER, Controller and Auditor-General.

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