

Owing to the wet and cold season experienced, the harvest will be exceptionally late, and whether the above estimates will be realized depends on the weather during the next few weeks.

The reports of the Field Inspectors as to the condition of the crops in the various districts may be briefly summarized as follows:—

Auckland.—The grain crops in this district are principally used for chaffing or for green fodder. Generally speaking, they are in fair, clean condition, although light.

Hawke's Bay.—Crops light, but in good condition. Harvesting has been commenced in parts of the district, and the weather so far is favourable.

Taranaki.—Some good crops are to be seen, but in most cases grain not well filled. Caterpillar has appeared in places.

Wellington.—Some crops, particularly oats, are good; others stunted and light in grain owing to unfavourable season.

Nelson.—There are some very fine crops, but yields generally will not be heavy. Blight is in evidence to a small extent.

Marlborough.—With the exception of Awatere County, wheat crops are in good condition. Oats fair to good throughout.

Canterbury.—Wet weather retarded growth of crops, but recently considerable improvement has taken place. Harvest will be late, but, with reasonably good weather, yields should be better than last year.

Otago.—Crops generally in good, clean condition, but heavy rains have done considerable damage in parts.

Southland.—There are some good crops, but in most cases yield will be only fair owing to continued wet and cold weather.

MALCOLM FRASER,
Government Statistician.

Soldiers' Property Boards of Trustees cancelled.

National Efficiency Board,
Wellington, 19th February, 1919.

IT is hereby notified for public information that the Minister of Defence has cancelled the appointment of the following Soldiers' Property Boards of Trustees, namely:—

1. The Reginald Roberts Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, as gazetted on the 8th day of November, 1917.
2. The Stephen Robson Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, as gazetted on the 7th day of November, 1918.
3. The James Young Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, as gazetted on the 9th day of August, 1917.
4. The Richard John Stevenson Gray Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, as gazetted on the 5th day of December, 1918.
5. The John William Neate Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, as gazetted on the 26th day of September, 1918.

WILLIAM FERGUSON,
Chairman.

CROWN LANDS NOTICES.

Rural Lands in Westland Land District classified.

Department of Lands and Survey,
Wellington, 12th February, 1919.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioners appointed under section 225 of the Land Act, 1908, have reported to His Excellency the Governor-General that the lands described in the Schedule hereto have been classified by them as therein noted.

D. H. GUTHRIE,
Minister of Lands.

SCHEDULE.

WESTLAND LAND DISTRICT.

Class A.—Pastoral lands, being lands suitable exclusively for pasturage, and not capable of being used with profit in areas of a carrying-capacity of less than 5,000 sheep:—

Run No. 34, Kawhaka River: Area, 5,000 acres; occupying the upper watershed of the Kawhaka River, wholly covered with bush, not suitable for subdivision.

Class B.—Agricultural lands, being lands adapted in part for pasturage and in part for agricultural purposes, but suitable for subdivision in areas not exceeding 5,000 acres:—

Run No. 3, Taramakau River: Area, 8,000 acres; wholly bush-covered country, adjoining Taramakau Settlement, not suitable for subdivision.

Run No. 9, Kokatahi and Toaroha Rivers: Area, 33,000 acres; all bush-covered country, occupying the upper valleys of Browning, Kokatahi, and Toaroha Rivers, not suitable for subdivision.

Runs Nos. 13, Little Wanganui River: Area, 15,000 acres; all bush-covered land, occupying the watershed of McCullough's Creek, the upper valley of the Poerua River, and part of the western slope of the Wilberg Range, not suitable for subdivision.

Run No. 58 and 349 (grouped), Evans Creek and Mount Bonar: Area, 9,080 acres; comprises the open hill-tops of Mount Bonar, together with the bush-clad

slopes of the Mount Bonar Range and the main South Road, not suitable for subdivision.

Run No. 440, Lake Mapourika: Area, 16,900 acres; rough lumber country between Okarito Township and Mapourika Lake, wholly covered with forest, not suitable for subdivision.

THOS. BROOK,
ROBT. HOULISTON,
W. CLAYTON.

Land in Wellington Land District for Disposal under Section 14 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912.

District Lands Office,
Wellington, 12th December, 1918.

NOTICE is hereby given, in pursuance of section 326 of the Land Act, 1908, that Section 15, Block X, Makotuku Survey District, Wellington Land District, will be disposed of under section 14 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1912, to the adjoining owner on or after Thursday, the 13th March, 1919.

G. H. M. MCCLURE,
Commissioner of Crown Lands

Education Reserves in Canterbury Land District for Lease by Public Auction.

District Lands and Survey Office,
Christchurch, 4th February, 1919.

NOTICE is hereby given that the education reserves described in the Schedule hereto will be offered for lease by public auction at the Courthouse, Temuka, on Tuesday, the 8th day of April, 1919, at 4 o'clock p.m., under the provisions of the Education Reserves Act, 1908, and the Public Bodies' Leases Act, 1908.

SCHEDULE.

CANTERBURY LAND DISTRICT.—FIRST-CLASS LAND.

Geraldine County.—Geraldine Survey District.

PART Section B, Lot 2, E.R. 939, Block XVI: Area, 78 acres 2 roods; upset annual rent, £86 15s.

Good swamp land, well grassed, but somewhat overgrown with rushes. Access by good road, about seven miles and a half from Temuka Railway-station.

Lot 4, E.R. 939: Area, 213 acres 2 roods; upset annual rent, £203.

Mostly good swamp land, with a quantity of timber on it.

Weighted with £200, valuation for improvements consisting of cottage, granary, and stable, which must be paid for on the fall of the hammer. Access by good road, about nine miles from Temuka Railway-station.

ABSTRACT OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LEASE.

1. Six months' rent at the rate offered, together with rent for the broken period up to 1st July, 1919, and £2 2s. lease fee, and cost of registration, must be paid on the fall of the hammer.
2. Term of lease, fourteen years, with right of renewal for further similar terms at rentals based on fresh valuations under the provisions of the Public Bodies' Leases Act, 1908.
3. Rent payable half-yearly, in advance, on 1st days of January and July in each year.
4. Lessee to maintain in good substantial repair all buildings, drains, and fences; to keep clear all creeks, drains, ditches, and watercourses; to trim all live hedges; and yield up all improvements in good order and condition at the expiration of his lease.
5. Lessee not to transfer, sublet, or subdivide without the consent of the Land Board.
6. Lessee to keep the land free from noxious weeds, rabbits, and vermin.
7. Lessee not to use or remove any gravel without the consent of the Land Board.
8. Lessee not to carry on any noxious, noisome, or offensive trade upon the land.
9. Lessee not to make improvements without the consent of the Land Board.
10. Lessee not to take more than three crops in succession, one of which must be a root crop; after the third crop the land to be left in pasture for at least three years; at least two-thirds of the area cropped to be left in pasture at the expiration of the term; penalty for breach, £2 per acre.
11. Lessee not entitled to any compensation for improvements; but if the lease is not renewed upon expiration, the new lease offered for disposal by public competition will be subject to payment by the incoming tenant of valuation for buildings and improvements effected by the original lessee with the consent of the Board; failing disposal, the land and buildings to revert to the Crown without compensation.
12. Lease liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent within six months after due date, or for breach of conditions.
13. Land Board may resume not more than 5 acres for school-site upon reduction of rent and compensation for crops.
14. Lessee to keep buildings insured.
15. Lessee to have no right to any minerals.

W. H. SKINNER,
Commissioner of Crown Lands,