

successful in finding it. Subsidies have from time to time been authorized to the extent of £450 on the principle of £1 for £1, and £438 10s. have been paid.

*Owharua Deep-level Tunnel, Ohinemuri, Auckland.*—This is a field where rich auriferous quartz has been worked, but the present workings only contain quartz of a low grade. It has been deemed desirable to put in a deep-level tunnel to prospect the deep levels, and £200 have been authorized as subsidy on the £1 for £1 principle for this purpose.

*Cromwell Prospecting Association, Otago.*—This association is prospecting the country in the Cromwell District; for which a subsidy of £250 was authorized on the £1 for £1 principle, of which £93 9s. have been paid.

*Oterongia Prospecting Association, Auckland.*—This association is formed of Europeans and Natives to prospect the land known as the King Country. A subsidy of £500 is authorized for this purpose on the £1 for £1 principle, and £25 6s. 8d. have been paid.

*Red Hill Gold-mining Company, Collingwood, Nelson.*—This company received a subsidy of £300 on the principle of £1 for £1 to drive a deep-level tunnel to prospect for auriferous quartz. The whole of the subsidy is paid, and the work is proceeding.

*Waipori Deep Level Association, Otago.*—This association has been prospecting the deep levels in Waipori Flat, a little above the township. The ground is very wet, requiring machinery to pump the water. One of Ashbury's patent steam-pumps was obtained to enable the association to proceed with the work. A subsidy of £300 was authorized on the principle of £2 for £1, and the whole of the subsidy paid.

*Cardrona Prospecting Association, Otago.*—This association is prospecting the Cardrona Valley for the lead that was lost some years ago. Gold has been traced and worked almost continuously for about nine miles down the Cardrona Valley; but as the gold got into the flat the ground became deeper and wet, which deterred the miners from following it. The association are prospecting some distance down the valley, at a point where it is narrow, and where the schist rocks can be seen on each side. Subsidies for this work have been authorized to the extent of £400 on the £1 for £1 principle, and £223 2s. 6d. have been paid.

*Deep Levels, Naseby, Otago.*—An association was formed at Naseby to prospect the deep ground up the Hogburn Creek, about forty chains above the township. A shaft was sunk to a depth of nearly 300ft. through the terrace or Maori bottom, where the old quartz drift-wash was got; but no gold was obtained of a payable character. A subsidy of £300 was given towards this work; and a further subsidy of £350 was authorized towards the continuation of prospecting from this shaft, but no steps have yet been taken to resume work.

*Miscellaneous Aids to Prospecting.*—Miscellaneous aids to prospecting have been authorized to the extent of £2,068 11s. 4d., of which amount £187 11s. 4d. have been paid.

ROADS UNDERTAKEN AND CONSTRUCTED WHOLLY BY GOVERNMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MINES AND OPENING LANDS.

*Track, Ahaura to Amuri, Nelson.*—A continuation of a horse-track constructed about six years ago by the Lands Department. The portion lately completed is between Granite or Randall Creek and the Ahaura River, a distance of nearly seven miles. The track is constructed throughout this distance 6ft. formation and 4ft. metal, with good grades suitable for dray-traffic. The cost of construction of this portion of the road has been £2,504 19s. 7d. This road not only gives facilities to the miners who are working in the vicinity of Haupiri Lake, but likewise to settlers in the Haupiri district, where there is a large area of good agricultural land, but which will never be of much value until the whole road to Ahaura is widened into a dray-road in order to afford the settlers an opportunity of bringing their produce to market; which would cost about £5,000. This is also the main road between the Grey Valley and Canterbury, and has been used since the first of the goldfields on this part of the West Coast for travelling stock over from the East Coast.

*Road, Brighton to Seventeen-mile Diggings, Nelson.*—A survey has been made of this road, and seven miles of the end next the Seventeen-mile Diggings is in course of construction by the Grey County Council, with subsidy from the Government. Recently plans for the remaining portion have been handed over to the Buller County Council, who have undertaken the construction within their county.

*Road, Cobden to Seventeen-mile Diggings, Nelson.*—The road from Cobden to the Seven-mile Creek, going towards the Seventeen-mile Diggings. A horse-track was constructed from Coal Creek to the Seven-mile Creek about three years ago by the Lands Department; but it was found that no suitable gravel could be obtained on the line of road for metal, and that it would require to be brought from the ocean beach. This necessitated widening the track into a dray-road. The work is in course of construction under the supervision of the Public Works Department, and has cost up to the present time £1,154 3s. 4d. It is estimated to cost an additional £800 to complete the work, which sum has been authorized.

*Track, Mokihinui to Karamea via Rough and Tumble, Nelson.*—The construction of this road until recently was under the supervision of the Public Works Department; but now the plans have been handed over to the Buller County Council, who are supervising the works. Three sections on the north side of the Mokihinui River are completed, and other sections are in progress. The total value of the work completed and that authorized is £11,818 1s. 11d., of which £6,648 16s. 4d. have been paid. This road is urgently required to give access to the Karamea settlement, where a large area of good agricultural land exists suitable for the extension of settlement.