

EX-SERVICEMEN SETTLED ON DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS

The number of ex-servicemen who have been established on permanent tenure, or on wages or other similar basis with a promise of permanent tenure on completion of the development programme, is shown in the following return. Details of the areas concerned are also given, the return covering the period of twelve months ended 31st March, 1950, and giving also the total figures from the inception of the scheme to the 31st March, 1950.

These figures do not include ex-servicemen who have been assisted by way of rehabilitation loans to purchase established farms on their own account.

Land District.	1st April, 1949, to 31st March, 1950.		From Inception to 31st March, 1950.	
	Area.	Units.	Area.	Units.
	Acres.		Acres.	
North Auckland	5,018	34	17,917	126
South Auckland	14,304	91	72,417	467
Gisborne	2,885	5	49,884	62
Hawke's Bay	17,046	43	51,185	146
Taranaki	2,154	14	13,592	89
Wellington	66,225	110	135,593	301
Marlborough	22,767	13	57,716	56
Nelson	195	2	1,574	18
Westland	2,437	6	3,449	8
Canterbury	32,426	42	157,030	231
Otago	22,299	28	75,218	94
Southland	4,905	14	28,768	81
Total	192,661	402	664,343	1,679
Total for previous twelve months ..	167,204	338

The number of allotments for the year—namely, 402—is the highest to date for any one year since the inception of the ex-servicemen settlement scheme and reflects the high purchase figures for the previous two years.

It represents an increase of 64 on the previous year's figure of 338 units, which in itself was an increase of 90 on the 1947-48 figure of 248.

RETURN OF EXPENDITURE UNDER APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS AND FOR DEVELOPMENT AND FARMING OPERATIONS

Item.	Year Ended 31st March, 1950.			Total for Year Ended 31st March, 1949.
	Vote "Settlement of Ex- servicemen."	Vote "Crown Lands."	Total.	
Acquisition of land and interest therein ..	£ 1,991,883	£ 3,539	£ 1,995,422	£ 2,262,798
Development operations—				
Chattels	105,998	15,364	121,362	152,747
Materials and services	1,701,542	239,332	1,940,874	1,096,242
Development wages	186,210	56,520	242,730	161,158
Farming operations—				
Live-stock	807,017	112,714	919,731	1,041,281
Seasonal expenditure	513,732	150,600	664,332	677,659
Seasonal wages	291,219	78,784	370,003	366,071
Total	5,597,601	656,853	6,254,454	5,757,956