

this meant at that time the settlement at Karakariki illustrates. There were living there in 1936 fourteen permanent settlers and eighty children, fifty under five years of age. Upon the work of the society an agricultural expert in 1937 gave this opinion: "It must be admitted by every one taking the trouble thoroughly to investigate this scheme of what amounts to private settlement that it has so far been extraordinarily successful and that everything points to its developing into one of the outstanding examples of land settlement in New Zealand."

In the Paerangi Soldier Settlement, now being established, there may clearly be seen the influence of the Waikato Land Settlement Society. This 2,530-acre property, on which are being settled five men with long service overseas, was sold to the Bryant House Trustees. It was valued at £44,000—well below current values, and even below the value calculated on its productive capacity over the past ten years—but the owners made a further donation of £2,000 and the Bryant Trust another of £2,000. The settlers therefore get it for £40,000. It has been magnificently farmed by the former owners for thirty years, and last year there were sent off it 175 bales of wool. It carries 5,500 breeding ewes in lamb to Southdown

rams and 420 breeding cows and 3,000 wethers which are sold in the winter. Calves from the cows sold recently brought up to £8 11s. and 580 wethers 37s. 6d. on the truck. It is still being administered by the former owners, and the profit until it is subdivided next April will go to the settlers; over the two seasons which this agreement covers this may amount to over £12,000. The settlers are buying the land from the Bryant Trust, which bought it on their behalf, at 4 per cent., plus sinking fund, so that they have been admitted on favourable terms. There is one restriction, echo of the Bryant tenure: no sale may be made without the permission of the trustees for the first ten years.

In the Awakino district another settler has been established on an 8,000-acre property, part leasehold and part freehold, given to the Rehabilitation Civic League by the Bank of New Zealand through Mr. Bryant for soldier settlement on the condition that live-stock and plant should be taken over at valuation.

Through all these activities runs the principle that New Zealand owes to all its people, and particularly to the men who have returned from overseas, at least an opportunity to succeed on the land and that those who are in a position to do so ought to make their contribution.

