

### APPROXIMATE AREAS.

The various sections which have had the attention of the government and have been included in the general dyking scheme, are as follows:

	Acres Dyked
On the Fraser—Coquitlam.....	3,230
Pitt Meadows.....	2,500
Maple Ridge.....	8,000
Matsqui.....	10,000
	Broken Dyke
Hatzic.....	5,450
Agassiz.....	2,000
	Not Dyked
Sumas.....	20,000
	Partially Dyked
Chilliwack.....	20,000
	Broken Dyke
On Mud Bay—Surrey.....	10,000
Total.....	79,530

The above areas do not include what has been accomplished by private and municipal enterprise in the way of dyking in the municipalities of Richmond and of Delta, where large sums of money have been expended and very considerable areas protected from the waters of the Fraser.

### THE VARIOUS STAGES.

The Coquitlam was begun by commissioners under the Dyking Act in the year 1894. During the construction it came under government inspection and was completed in the year 1896. It suffered considerable damage in the same year by freshets. Repairs were commenced under the government in 1898.

Pitt Meadows began as a private measure in 1892. Was completely destroyed in 1894 by the freshets of that year. The enterprise came under control of commissioners elected under the Dyking Act in 1895 and the dyke was re-erected under the commissioners in 1895. During construction it came under government inspection. It suffered slight damage in 1896 and is now being put in thorough repair by the government.

Maple Ridge was begun under commissioners. Suffered considerable damage in 1894, repaired by commissioners in 1895, subsequently coming under government inspection. A serious break occurred in 1896, which was speedily stopped. In 1897 a new line of dyke along the Fraser was selected and commenced, but had to be abandoned for lack of funds. It is now under completion by the government.

Matsqui is one of the oldest and in fact the first dyking enterprise undertaken on the Fraser river of a public or semi-public character. It was originally begun many years ago by Messrs. Sword and Derby, but was found inadequate. The gates and much of the dyke were

abandoned. Subsequently new gates were put in, portions of a new line of dyke built and the old portions strengthened. These it is stated went cut before they were completed. Later on a new set of gates was put in, but do not appear to have been satisfactory. One of these gates has been almost completely washed away while another is a wreck. In 1896 new gates were put in. A portion of the new dyke was built and the old dyke strengthened in certain places, the work being carried on by commissioners under government inspection. In the same year much of the old dyke broke away but the gates stood. In 1897 the commissioners made an effort to repair the damage but ultimately abandoned it. The government in the same year took the matter in hand by day work. It is far from being complete but it is hoped that the work so far as it has gone will protect the lands this year pending completion next.

Hatzic dyke was begun in the year 1892 under the Municipal Act Dyking clause as a municipal undertaking. The railway embankment was used as a dyke, its bridges filled in and a set of gates inserted in the Hatzic stream. These were washed out in 1894 and the damage has never been repaired. If the old bonds can be purchased for a reasonable sum the government will probably undertake the repair of this work.

Sumas.—No works have yet been undertaken to reclaim these lands, but extensive surveys and examinations have been made with this end in view. The undertaking has not been found practicable so far but possibly in the near future it will be again considered.

Agassiz.—Trusting to the already formed railway bank the settlers of Agassiz north of the line, put in a gate into a small stream running into the Fraser and thus completed in the year 1892 the dyking of the lands. In the year 1893 a freshet of the stream (not of the Fraser) washed the gate out and the break has never since been repaired. The government now contemplates taking this matter in hand.

Chilliwack has never been dyked, and until lately no scheme has ever been formulated. Recently the settlers petitioned the government to take the matter in hand and there are examinations being made with a view to its entire reclamation. In the meantime as a matter of urgency dams are being put in the Hope, Camp, Half-Moon and Greyell sloughs, with intervening dykes.

Surrey.—A few years back the Surrey Flats bordering on Mud Bay and lying between the Nicomekel river and the high grounds north of the flats were dyked from tidal waters, and gates inserted in