

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

All lines in this district were in perfect order during the year ending 31st December, 1891. The lines overhauled and placed in good repair were: from Foxton to Wanganui, from Foxton to Palmerston North, from Feilding to Greatford, and from Wellington to Lyell's Bay. The remainder of the sections are due for overhaul in 1892 and 1893, in accordance with an arrangement by which all lines receive a careful overhaul and close inspection once every three years.

Cook Strait Cables.

These cables during the year worked well, and have given no trouble. The usual tests for insulation will be found amongst the tables attached to this report.

NELSON DISTRICT.

Construction.—41 miles of line erected, and $48\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire run as follows: Westport to Charleston, Motueka to Stanley Brook, Takaka to Waitapu Wharf, and Nelson to Stoke.

Overhauls and Repairs.—Richmond and Farewell Spit section, and Motueka and Spit. The Motueka and Richmond section will be rebuttet presently. Ahaura to Kumara has been overhauled; also line from Nelson to Westport.

All other sections in this district are in very fair working order.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

Reconstruction.—Christchurch to Kaikoura: Three miles of this section has been entirely reconstructed, and an overhaul as far as Amberley will be completed as soon as possible. Overhauling Rolleston and Loopline: The work of overhauling the portion of the section between Sheffield and Loopline is in hand, and will be completed shortly. About a mile of line at the Bealey River is being diverted, and half-a-mile near Rocky Point will be shifted to clear the Teremakau River, and a mile between Rangiora and Old John's will be taken out of the low-lying flats over which the Teremakau River runs during floods. In all, about 60 new poles are being used for the work. Amberley to Waiau: Seven miles of this line at the Waiau end has been overhauled. Christchurch to Akaroa: Twelve miles of the Christchurch end of this line has had a thorough overhaul. The Christchurch to Waitaki section will shortly be overhauled and strengthened. Between 4 and 5 miles between Addington and Hornby will require rebuilding. All other wires are in good order, and will require no repairs beyond ordinary maintenance.

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND DISTRICT.

Construction.—Cromwell to Mount Pisa and Tarras, 5 miles of poles and 23 miles of wire; Dunedin to Kew, Half-way Bush, and Maori Hill, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire; Naseby to Gimmerburn, 16 miles of poles and wire; Hindon to Flax Stream, 7 miles of wire; Fairfax line, from Thornbury, 6 miles of wire; Invercargill to Kennington, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire; Otautau to Merrivale, 9 miles of poles and 10 miles of wire; Wairio to Birchwood and Mount Linton, 11 miles of poles and wire; Brighton and Taieri Beach wire extended to Dunedin, 6 miles of wire; Middlemarch wire extended to Dunedin, 6 miles of wire; Lawrence to Tuapeka Mouth, 16 miles of poles and 17 miles of wire; Lawrence to Beaumont, 12 miles of wire; Maori Point, on Skipper's line, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of poles and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire; Pembroke to Hawea Flat, 6 miles of poles and 9 miles of wire; Dunedin to Milton, 35 miles of wire; Milton to Balclutha, 16 miles of wire; Gore to Riversdale, 18 miles of wire; Hampden to Hillgrove, 3 miles of wire; Balclutha to Romahapa, 11 miles of poles and 12 miles of wire; Winton to Drummond, 10 miles of poles and 11 miles of wire; Alexandra to Baldhill Flat, 9 miles of wire; Invercargill to Bluff, 17 miles of poles and 34 miles of wire.

Overhauls.—Arrowtown to Queenstown, and Arrowtown to Cromwell. Many minor repairs have been made on different sections, and generally all lines put in safe condition. The work in progress is the reconstruction of sections Dunedin to Waitati, and Clinton to Kelso.

The principal requirements for maintenance for the ensuing year are the renewal of poles and reconstruction of line between Merton and Palmerston, 16 miles; and about 10 miles of line between Oamaru and Waitaki; also the erection of new line from Riversdale to Waikaka, 14 miles. All other sections in this district are in good working order.

The usual circuit plans accompany the report.
