

Kawhia Harbour Lights.—Plans and proposed positions for new beacons have now been finalized, and the question of supply and installation is under consideration.

Mokau Wharf.—An inspection of the present wharf has been made, and soundings, borings, &c., taken in its vicinity. Possible alternative localities for a new wharf are under consideration.

Wharves in Sounds County.—A contract has been let for the construction of a launch jetty 80 ft. long at Ship Cove, and tenders were invited for the construction of a similar type of jetty 70 ft. long at Tennyson Inlet in Pelorus Sound.

Plans have been approved for the reconstruction of the jetty at Endeavour Inlet, and arrangements are being made to have the work commenced at an early date.

Surveys are in hand for proposed jetties at Elaine Bay, in Pelorus Sound, and at Momorangi Bay in the Grove arm of Queen Charlotte Sound. This latter jetty would serve the Ngakuta Domain.

Bruce Bay.—A survey for a proposed wharf has been completed and reported upon, and is under consideration.

Okuru.—The erection of a new wharf shed has been completed.

LIGHTHOUSES.

Cape Reinga.—From Te Pahi the access road to the new site for the Cape Reinga Lighthouse and buildings was formed over its whole length of ten miles, and three miles were metalled.

The construction of the lighthouse-keepers' cottages, direction-finding beacon, and radio telephone is in hand.

Electrical equipment for this station is at present held in Auckland ready to be forwarded when required.

Tutukaka Heads (Automatic Light).—Lighting equipment has been ordered, and the question of a suitable structure for housing the light is being investigated by the Engineer to the Whangarei Harbour Board.

Cuvier Island.—Regular maintenance-work was carried out in connection with the electrical plant and lighthouse equipment installed last year, and the exterior of the dwellings was repainted.

Moko Hinau.—During the period the installation of equipment necessary for the electrification of the station was completed, and maintenance-work has been carried out since the plant was placed in operation.

East Cape.—Proposals are under consideration in connection with access to the East Cape Lighthouse.

Stephens Island.—The lighthouse-tower, office, school, store-room, engine-room at first landing, and the shed at the top landing have been painted. Roofing and spouting have been attended to on the wireless-house, signal-house, and on the three cottages occupied by the keepers. Regular maintenance has been carried out on the electrical plant. During the early part of the year the radio-beacon equipment was installed.

Brothers.—The whole of the tram-line has been overhauled, the track has been regraded, new sleepers have been installed, and numerous rails and fishplates replaced. The line is now in good working-order. The winch-house has been extended and a new Diesel-driven winch installed in place of the existing hand-winch. A radio-telephone mast has been erected, and radio-telephone equipment installed.

Castlepoint.—A new landing-shed has been erected.

Baring Head.—Two cottages were painted and renovated, and the lighthouse has been painted. One hundred and twenty chains of fencing were erected, together with the necessary gates. Flood damage to the access road was repaired. Regular maintenance has been carried out to the electrical plant.

Akaroa Head.—Cottages have been reroofed in iron during the year. An inspection of the present crane-structure used for unloading stores from vessels was made and its replacement recommended. Proposals have now been approved for the erection of a Blondin cableway over the inlet, which will enable unloading operations to be carried out direct from the vessel at any point beneath the line of the cableway.

Centre Island.—In February, 1939, a contract was let for the erection of three lighthouse-keepers' cottages at the Centre Island Station, the material having been purchased earlier and conveyed to the site by the Public Works Department's forces. The cottages were completed at the end of October, 1939, and the lighthouse-keepers are now housed in comfortable modern quarters.

Puysegur Point.—A commencement was made on the construction of one mile and three-quarters of access road from the landing to the lighthouse, and formation and gravelling were nearing completion at the end of the year. Proposals for the improvement of the landing and the construction of a new shed at this point were approved, and a site selected for the erection of the radio beacon power-house.

Nugget Point and Cape Saunders.—Tenders have been accepted for substituting the present iron roofs with Fibrolite at both these lighthouses. However, owing to shortage of supplies and the import restrictions on Australian products, the contractors have been unable to commence the work. Supplies of Fibrolite have now come to hand, and the jobs will be commenced within a week or two. The contract prices are as follows: Nugget Point Lighthouse, £235; Cape Saunders Lighthouse, £260.

Taiaroa Head.—Fog-signal: An aerial extension light was fitted to the pole outside the petrol-store to provide light for the store, and also for the pathway to the engine-sheds. A final check was made on the repairs to engines, which were carried out last year. A new diaphragm was fitted to the fog-signal.

Kahurangi Point.—Adjustments were carried out to the Dalen flashers to rectify faulty light characteristic.

Cape Egmont.—Adjustments were made to the Dalen flashers to rectify faulty operation, and a new sun valve was fitted.