

LIGHTHOUSES AND HARBOUR-WORKS

Maintenance of lighthouses and attached buildings has been carried out during the year; routine maintenance work on all Diesel-electric lighthouse plant has also been carried on.

At Waipapapa Point a standby electric generator has been installed, and electrification is in hand at Chickens Island, Cape Egmont, and Nugget Point Lighthouses.

A 77-chain access road to Waipapapa lighthouse is in hand.

A wind-power electric generating plant was designed and built for Kahurangi Point Lighthouse, but it has been handed over to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for the study of electricity generation by wind-power.

Extension of the Little Wanganui Wharf is well advanced, and the Okarito Wharf and shed are being repaired.

Cables and blocks have been installed at the Nuggets to enable the launching of fishing-boats from the beach.

AERODROMES

In all districts maintenance of airfields and buildings has been continued.

Ohakea.—Shifting of the general engineering shop to Ohakea from Hamilton is in hand, and an area of 55,000 square yards of hardstanding has been completed and treated with sludge oil.

Milson.—Temporary buildings have been erected and altered to accommodate the Civil Aviation and Meteorological staff. Additional workshop space, stores, and offices are in course of erection at the south end of the old hangar. A start has been made with foundations for a new Butler hangar being erected for National Airways Corporation, and 1,500 cubic yards of metal have been placed on the apron and taxiway required for the new hangar. Maintenance of the aerodrome has received continuous attention, work including the laying of 4 miles of shallow stone drains, principally on the northern side of the flying-field.

Harewood.—Because of the present considerable traffic, the facilities are being improved by the installation of a radio range 3 miles from the aerodrome. Approximately 21 chains of access road have been formed to the range-site, and alterations to fencing are in hand.

Weedons.—Only minor works have been carried out; tennis-courts fenced; rubber-storage room constructed; water-supply overhauled; and main power supply and transformer shifted.

Timaru.—Serious flooding in October breached the stop-banks, but these have been repaired and the field is again in good order. Surveys have been completed for a new aerodrome at Levels, and an anemometer has been installed there.

Hokitika.—A start has been made with construction of a new aerodrome on the Seaview site.

Pacific Islands.—Following on the decision to seal the runways at Nandi, the greater part of the preparatory work has been done and a first coat of tar has been applied to an area of 21,000 square yards.

Reconstruction of existing accommodation at Faleolo Airfield (Samoa) and Aitutaki Airfield has been carried out in order to provide passenger-handling and maintenance facilities.