

receivers is under the supervision of the Superintendent, Apia Radio, who is training local personnel. One hundred and forty-seven Samoan villages in Upolu and Savai'i are equipped with broadcasting sets of a type which can receive the local station only; extensions of the service are being arranged by the installation of a further 100-odd receivers. The station operates a news and musical programme between the hours of 6.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and also broadcasts an educational programme to the school-children between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m., Mondays to Fridays inclusive.

The capital cost of establishing the service and the operating-expenses to the 31st March, 1948, have been found by the New Zealand Government.

Roads

There are some 204½ miles of roads capable of carrying motor traffic in the Territory, made up as follows: 34 miles sealed; 115 miles metalled; 55½ miles earth (unmetalled).

Most of these roads are on the northern coast of Upolu. Omnibus and taxi services are active, there being thirty-four buses and forty-eight taxis registered. These public transport vehicles are owned locally by Samoans and other residents, there being no public transport facilities owned by any outside interest. On the south coast of Upolu and in the major portion of Savai'i there have been merely bridle paths and tracks for internal communication, but an extensive programme of road development in these areas is at present in hand. During the year some 22 miles of new roads in Savai'i and 15½ miles in Upolu have been constructed and are in process of being brought to the final required standard. The road-development programme calls for the completion of some 145 miles of new roads, which will practically encircle both islands. The whole programme of new roading has been greatly handicapped through shortage of transport and other equipment.

To protect existing roads from sea erosion, some 5,000 lineal feet of lava stone sea-walls have been constructed during the year.

General repairs and maintenance to roads, which has been considerable this year owing to continuous heavy rains during January and February, has included reconstruction of 2 miles of road and reformation and metalling of 9½ miles (including 4 miles from Vailima to Afiamalu, the transmitting site for the broadcasting-station), while improvements have been carried out on the 16 miles of the main East Coast Road. Three bridges have been replaced, and repairs and maintenance carried out on 9 other bridges.

Air Transport

The New Zealand National Airways Corporation operates a regular fortnightly schedule from New Zealand via Fiji to the Faleolo airfield, which is situated some twenty-two miles to the west of Apia. This airport, together with the adjoining emergency seadrome, is maintained by the Aerodromes Branch of the New Zealand Public Works Department.

Meteorological

The Apia Observatory, which is staffed and controlled by the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research at the cost of the New Zealand Government, carries out a programme of synoptic and climatological meteorology under the direction of the Director of Meteorological Services, Wellington.

The station supplies synoptic weather reports seven times daily and upper-air observations by means of pilot balloons four times daily. Reports are transmitted, together with reports from the Tokelau, Cook, and Society Islands, to Nandi, Fiji.