

74. *The Chairman.*] In 1907 were you up the river?—I was at Turua.

75. You did not come up the river or study the question?—No, I could not get up.

76. How long was it before the river got down to its normal level?—Probably two weeks.

77. The fact of the water remaining three weeks on your place was not due to the flood in the Ohinemuri or Waihou?—It took three weeks for the water to get off the land which had come on to it in that flood. We had to clean the drains out in order to clear the water. I am speaking from memory when I say three weeks. It may not have been as long as three weeks. It was three or four days after the flood in the Ohinemuri that the water came across the Netherton district on to our land. My son took some photographs of the main road at the time which would show you the condition of that road at the time.

78. Could you post them to us, marking on them what they are?—Yes.

79. *Mr. Clendon.*] At the back of you are the Awaitei and Piako Streams?—Yes.

80. Are you not aware that as a result of this flood in January both those streams were a perfect sea of water for three or four weeks—miles in width?—Yes, I believe they were.

81. Are you not aware that there is a distinct fall to your river from both the Piako and Te Awaitei Streams—as a result of a survey recently made in the Piako?—I do not know from my own knowledge. I may say that at Kerepehi the land is much higher.

82. In 1907 was there a road or track from Turua to Kerepehi?—There was a tram-line.

83. Was it possible to walk along that tram-line dry-footed, even though your place was under water?—No, I do not think so.

84. It was a distance of four miles?—Yes.

85. Was not the flood just as bad on the Hikutaia side of the Waihou in 1907?—I was not there.

86. You know the county sustained a considerable amount of damage by the flood of 1907 washing away bridges, &c.?—I do not remember any—not this side of the Kauaerangi River. There were slips on the Coromandel Road. I do not recollect bridges being carried away.

87. As an old resident, are you not aware that the flood of January, 1907, was the biggest flood there has been for, say, forty years?—It is the biggest I remember, because we were never flooded before.

88. With regard to the indications of tailings that you saw down the river, did you make any personal examination of them?—No, the County Council has some samples.

89. *Mr. Mitchelson.*] That evidence will be produced at the Thames?—Yes.

90. *Mr. Clendon.*] You have taken no soundings of the river?—No.

91. Do big timber-vessels get right up to your place?—Yes.

92. Just as readily as they did in former years?—So far as I know.

93. *Mr. Hanna.*] What effect has a heavy north-west gale upon the tide up as far as Turua: it brings it up with great force, does it not?—Yes, it backs the tide up.

94. Do you know that when the tide comes up like that it is very much discoloured?—It is not clean.

95. Does it not bring up a lot of material from the foreshore of the Thames Harbour?—I could not say. It comes past the Thames, but whether it brings it off the foreshore I could not say.

96. Does it bring it from the gulf or the Moanataiari tip?—I could not say: I am not an analyst.

97. You know there are large quantities of stuff deposited from the Moanataiari tip, &c.?—Yes.

98. Is it natural to suppose that it should bring it?—I do not see why it should. The Moanataiari tip is not in a direct line.

99. But supposing it floats westward out into the harbour, does not the tide bring it along with it?—The tide sweeps along the foreshore, and then it comes across a shallow bank. The river runs more in a westerly direction there.

100. Do you have deposits of that material at Opani Point?—I do not know what material it brings in.

101. Still, it brings in material from the Moanataiari tip and the Thames foreshore up as far as Opani Point?—I would not like to say that.

102. *Mr. Mueller.*] How far is the tip from Opani Point?—Three or four miles, I suppose.

103. You remember the 1907 flood that has been mentioned, and the flood of last March: do you know whether the 1910 flood—whether during that flood the Waihou was in heavy flood or was only the Ohinemuri in heavy flood?—Only the Ohinemuri.

104. *The Chairman.*] Was it hearsay only as far as you are concerned?—Hearsay. I was not on the Waihou myself at that time.

105. *Mr. Mueller.*] About the back of Netherton is there not a fairly defined ridge running right down to Kerepehi?—That may be so.

106. *The Chairman.*] At what part of Netherton does the ridge commence and end?—From the Netherton School I think about a mile and a half or two miles before the ridge commences.

107. You know that land personally?—Yes.

108. You know the land right across to the Awaitei?—Yes.

109. *Mr. Clendon.*] You told us that this land of yours was submerged for about three weeks, and after the water went away you noticed white scum on the vegetation?—Yes.

110. Is it not a fact that the longer the water remains the more apparent is the remaining material on the vegetation?—Yes.

111. Is it not reasonable to suppose that after a flood of three weeks remaining on the land you might expect to notice scum remaining on the vegetation?—Very likely.