H.—15

Flat Rock Beacon.—In connection with the proposal to establish an automatic acetylene light on Flat Rock, off Kawau Island, a tender has been accepted for the manufacture of the iron surmount to carry the lantern, and the construction of the concrete pedestal is in hand. This latter work is proving very arduous and difficult. Very little time can be spent on the rock, as it is only workable in fine weather, while the finished work often suffers serious damage through heavy seas.

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Maori Rock Beacon.—A survey has been made and estimates prepared in connection with the

proposal to erect a pole beacon on this rock, which is in the vicinity of Kawau Island.

Wade River.—Sundry reports and estimates have been supplied in connection with improvements at the turning-basin.

Tiritiri Lighthouse.—Steps are being taken to proceed with the erection of the two cottages for which materials were obtained some time ago.

Auckland: D'Urville Rock Beacon.—Arrangements are being made to erect a pole beacon on this rock to replace one which has been destroyed.

Auckland: Albert Park Observatory.—Some minor repairs and improvements have been

Cuvier Island Lighthouse.—The fog-signal apparatus has been overhauled, and a new crane is being obtained for use in connection with the landing.

Waitakaruru.—Some snags have been removed from the fairway, and a leading-light and breastwork have been erected.

Thames.—A report was prepared in connection with the proposed extension of the limits of the Port of Thames.

Tauranga.—At the request of the Harbour Board the Department has erected a dolphin light at The Narrows. Sundry reports and rough estimates have been prepared in connection with dredging proposals.

Maketu Harbour.—Copies of sundry plans and reports relating to the Tumu Outfall have

been supplied for the information of those concerned.

Whakatane.—A plan and description of the proposed harbour-limits were supplied, also

sundry reports in connection with the harbour-improvement works.

Waikato River.—In connection with the erection of the new bridge at Ngaruawahia suitable provision was made for lights to facilitate navigation. Reports and estimates were supplied in connection with repairs and additions to Port Waikato Wharf, also with regard to rocks and shoals at various places.

Gisborne.—A brief report was prepared in connection with the proposed harbour improve-

ments.

Portland Island Lighthouse.—A revolving cowl similar to those supplied to other lighthouses

has been provided for the purpose of improving the ventilation of the tower.

Wairoa.—The marine survey of the Wairoa roadstead, mentioned in my last report, has been completed and notices issued. A report has been supplied in connection with damage sustained by the training-walls at the river-entrance.

Castle Point Lighthouse.—The roofs of the cottages, which had become very leaky, have been

repaired.

Marakopa River.—Proposals, with estimates, have been submitted in connection with proposed leading-beacons at this place.

Mokau River.—Various matters have been attended to in connection with a large scheme of

channel-improvement which will be carried out by the Mokau Harbour Board at an early date.

Wanganui.—Reports have been supplied in connection with foreshore accretions at Castlecliff and the closing of a road at the same place.

Waikanae River.—A report was prepared with reference to some erosion that has occurred near the mouth of the river.

Titahi Bay.—Rough estimates were supplied in connection with a proposal to make Titahi Bay the terminus of a Cook Strait ferry service.

Island Bay.—A proposal to construct a fish-landing and cool storage was reported upon, with estimates.

Ohiro Bay.—The removal of shingle from beaches in this vicinity has been the subject of various reports.

Pencarrow Lighthouse.—Further trouble has been experienced with the fog-signal gear, and steps have been taken to overcome the difficulties.

Marine Yard, Pipitea.—A derrick crane for handling heavy stores has been purchased and is now being fitted up.

Admiralty Bay.—Reports have been supplied in connection with a proposed new wharf.

Jackson's Head Lighthouse.—The use of Pintsch gas was discontinued, and an acetylene-gas apparatus was temporarily installed until after the war, when the old apparatus will be removed.

Elmslie Bay, French Pass.—Plans, specifications, and estimates were prepared for a new wharf at this place.

D'Urville Island.—Reports and estimates were furnished in connection with a proposed wharf at Ohana Bay.

Stephen Island Lighthouse.—The landing-crane has been brought to Wellington for repairs, and arrangements are being made to raise the concrete pedestal slightly to place the crane above the reach of the waves.

Waikawa Bay (Current Basin).—A report was prepared in connection with repairs to the wharf.

Nelson Lighthouse.—Two rooms attached to the tower have been dismantled and the material sold.