

ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.

The amounts available for expenditure have been less than in the years preceding the war, but even if more money had been available it would have been impossible to carry out more work, as the supplies of labour and material were so restricted. Maintenance work on the roads under the control of the Department has been carried out as efficiently as possible. Extensive surveys have been made in all districts. Of the many and varied works carried out during the year the following have been selected for brief mention :—

Duncan Road.—46 chains of road were widened from 6 ft. to 12 ft., and in addition 72 chains of 12 ft. formation, previously under construction, were completed, including one 20 ft. and one 16 ft. bridge.

Pareokawa Road.—1 mile 58 chains of road were widened, and 1 mile 18 chains of metalling completed.

Foster's Bridge.—On Main North Road a 30 ft. span bridge with approaches has been completed.

McKay's Bridge (Waipu to Ferry Farm Road) has been completed.

Barker Bridge, consisting of a 26 ft. 6 in. reinforced-concrete span, has been erected.

Omaumau River Bridge.—26 ft. 6 in. reinforced-concrete span has been erected.

Puhoi to Puhoi River Bridge Road.—53 chains of metalling have been completed.

Burch's to Wairere Road.—1 mile of metalling has been completed.

Maungaturoto to Ruawai.—On this road 1 mile of deviation has been formed, and 1 mile 18 chains of metalling have been completed.

Topuni Bridge.—A reinforced-concrete pile bridge, with five 25 ft. jarrah spans, has been erected.

Makarau to Tahekeroa Road.—3 miles 65 chains of this road have been handed over to the Kaukapakapa Road Board.

Wainui to Kaukapakapa Railway-station.—1 mile 73 chains of re-forming and 1 mile 30 chains of metalling have been completed by the Waitemata County Council.

Kitchener Road Bridge.—The old bridge has been replaced by a 12 ft. by 12 ft. concrete culvert with a reinforced top.

Waihoehoe Stream Bridge, consisting of a 20 ft. span in hardwood with concrete abutments, has been constructed by the Franklin County Council.

Kaimarama to Guntown.—This road has been widened to 12 ft. for a length of 5 miles.

Kennedy Bay Bridge.—This bridge, consisting of a 25 ft. span with wooden wing walls, has been completed.

Kirihone to Walton Road.—1 mile 28 chains of this road have been completed by the Piako County Council.

Waihou River Bridge at Tirohia.—This bridge, consisting of eighteen 25 ft. and one 61 ft. spans, has been completed.

Ohairo Creek Bridge.—This bridge, consisting of two 25 ft. and one 16 ft. spans, has been erected by the Raglan County Council.

Port Waikato to Tuakau Road.—3 miles of 16 ft. road have been formed.

Great South Road (Hamilton to Ngaruawahia).—5 miles 20 chains of metalling have been completed by the Waipa County Council.

Waikato River Bridge (Ngaruawahia).—The cylinders have been sunk to the required depths, and the erection of the bridge is well in hand.

Hamilton to Rotorua Road.—Approximately 9 miles of this road through the Mamaku Bush have been regraded and culverted by the Matamata County Council.

Tokatoka Stop-banks.—These are in hand, and 50 chains of stop-bank roads have been raised.

Mangawai Embankment.—14 chains of retaining-wall have been built.

Uraura Block.—4 miles 46 chains of roading have been formed in this block.

Taylor Block.—13 miles of 12 ft. road have been formed.

Wanganui River Bridge (Taumarunui).—Owing to inability of contractor to procure truss-rods very little progress has been made with this bridge. Two 80 ft. spans have been completed.

Owepanga Stream Bridge, which is of two 25 ft. and one 14 ft. spans, has been erected.

Taringamutu Stream Bridge.—This bridge, consisting of four 24 ft. spans, has been completed.

Pukehina Swamp Road.—2 miles of 24 ft. formation have been completed.

Rotorua to Lake Rotoma Road. 7 miles of this road have been formed with a tractor and grader, and 7 miles patched with pumice.

Rotorua-Paengaroa (Te Ngae to County Boundary).—11 miles of this road have been regraded, and three deviations formed.

Rotorua to Taupo.—14 miles of this road have been re-formed.

Tarawera Bridge (Lake Rotorua to Te Teko Road).—This bridge, consisting of five 26 ft. spans, has been removed from its original site, and has been re-erected over the new channel of the Tarawera Stream. New approaches have also been formed.

Raparapahoe Stream Bridge.—This truss bridge, of one 110 ft. span across a rocky gully and 74 ft. above stream-level, has been completed.

Wairoa Bridge Protection Works.—An additional span of 25 ft. has been built, and 2,500 concrete blocks, 3 ft. by 3 ft. by 1 ft. 3 in., have been placed in position around two of the cylinder piers.

Tutaetoko to Pakihi Stock Reserve Road.—This road was damaged by flood, and 76 chains have now been repaired.

Motu River Bridge.—The bridge spanning the Motu River at Motu Village was destroyed by flood in 1918. This has been replaced by a substantial temporary structure 110 ft. long.

Purahotangohia Block.—A further 4 miles 40 chains of 14 ft. dray-road have been formed, and one 25 ft. span bridge has been erected.