

The complete wiring and illumination of the Waitomo Caves was successfully carried out on behalf of the Tourist Department, and has effected a pronounced improvement over the methods previously in use, besides showing the caves to better advantage.

For the Department of External Affairs complete sets of specifications and drawings were prepared for a hydro-electric installation in Samoa, and tenders called for the supply of the necessary pipe-line, power-house plant, overhead and underground cables, transformers, street-lighting, and watt hour meters for electric supply in Apia.

INSPECTION OF ELECTRIC LINES.

During the year the staff was strengthened by the appointment of two Electric-lines Inspectors, who have been kept fully occupied in making up arrears in the inspection of the electric lines throughout the Dominion, and also in carrying out inspections associated with the additional 2,500 miles of new lines erected during the current year. The work represented a large amount of travelling-time, and the lines and equipment of ninety-six electric-supply authorities scheduled below were inspected, and breaches of the regulations and defects in construction, &c., brought under the notice of the licensees concerned.

Power Boards (34).

Ashburton	Hawke's Bay (part)	Poverty Bay (part)	Wairarapa
Auckland (part)	Horowhenua	South Canterbury	Wairere
Banks Peninsula	Hutt Valley	Southland	Wairoa
Cambridge	Malvern	Springs-Ellesmere	Waitaki
Central	Manawatu-Oroua	Taranaki	Waitemata (part)
Central Hawke's Bay	Marlborough (part)	Tararua	Waitomo
Dannevirke	Opunake	Te Awamutu	Wanganui-Rangitikei.
Franklin	Otago	Teviot	
Grey	Otago Central	Thames Valley (part)	

Cities (4).

Christchurch	Dunedin	Nelson	Wellington (part).
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Boroughs (35).

Bluff	Motueka	Queenstown	Tauranga
Gore	Mataura	Raetihi	Te Aroha
Hastings	Napier	Rangiora	Thames
Hamilton	New Plymouth	Riccarton	Wairoa
Inglewood	Ohakune	Stratford	Waitara
Invercargill	Opotiki	Sumner	Westport
Kaitangata	Picton	Timaru	Whakatane
Kaiapoi	Palmerston North	Taihape	Whangarei.
Lyttelton	Patea	Taumarunui	

Town Districts (7).

Havelock North	Kaponga	Taradale	Waverley.
Kamo	Mangaweka	Te Puke	

County Councils (10).

Eyre	Kowai	Murchison	Waimairi.
Halswell	Kaikoura	Rangiora	
Heathcote	MacKenzie	Uawa	

Companies (6).

Hawera	Reefton	Waimea
Kanieri	Tai Tapu	Wilsons (Wairua).

As a result of the inauguration of these regular and systematic inspections it is hoped that the standard of construction hitherto erected by some electric-supply authorities will be progressively improved. It is also satisfactory to notice that some licensees have already set a high standard, and it is hoped that ultimately the standard of work throughout the Dominion will bear very favourable comparison with that of any other country.

The electric-supply authorities are apparently anxious to co-operate with the Department in endeavouring to carry out the regulations, but it is recognized that some of them are not financially able to effect immediate improvements; and the Department, in administering the regulations, and where necessary to fix a time-limit, has no desire to be other than tolerant where such is definitely known to be the cause of slow response in remedying any existing defects.

The inspection work has been confined principally to overhead lines and equipment, but it may be necessary to undertake further inspection work in connection with the Electrical Wiring Regulations, 1927, if electric-supply authorities fail to carry out the obligations imposed by their licenses. Electric-supply authorities must recognize the responsibility resting on them through their Inspectors, who are registered under the Wiremen's Registration Act, and take active steps to detect bad workmanship and unregistered wiremen. The Electrical Supply Regulations and Electrical Wiring