

As regards electrically-driven milking-machines, the figures this year show a steady advance over those of previous years—viz., 1925, 3,581; 1926, 4,856; 1927, 6,738; 1928, 8,514; 1929, 10,161. The collection of these statistics was inaugurated in 1923, when the total number of electrically-driven machines was only 1,310. The increase in six years is thus 675 per cent., and, as there are still about 8,000 machines which are fuel- or water-driven, the work of conversion is a long way from completion, and the electric-supply authorities have still this additional load of approximately 10,000 h.p. in prospect and ready for canvassing as the reticulation extends farther into the outlying districts.

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY AND WIRING REGULATIONS.

The Electric Supply and Wiring Regulations, which were gazetted in 1927 with the intention of revising same after two years' trial, are now about to be revised, and all electric-supply authorities have been circularized for an expression of opinion and suggestions for the improvement of same as a result of their experience.

The Advisory Committee has continued to meet regularly during the year to consider various questions submitted by the supply authorities in connection with interpretations of certain regulations. During the period from 1st April, 1928, to 30th June, 1929, the Committee was convened sixteen times, and gave answers to 26 questions in connection with the Electrical Supply Regulations and 211 questions in connection with the Electrical Wiring Regulations, in addition to adjudicating on numerous electrical accessories and appliances sent in for an expression of opinion. The proceedings of all these meetings have been carefully indexed for future reference when the work of revision commences, and will be made available to members of the Committee to aid them in redrafting any regulations which are at present considered to be ambiguous. The electric-supply authorities continue to evince a keen interest in seeing that the regulations are given effect to, and the work of administration of the regulations has been materially assisted by this co-operation of the electric-supply authorities.

Amendments or additions to the following regulations were gazetted on 4th July, 1929:—

Electrical Supply: 46, 94, 106, 116, 189, and 205.

Electrical Wiring: 66, 71, 76, 86, 90, 100, 133, 164, 179, 192, 200, 204, 223, 224, 225, 227, 228, 252, 281, Second Schedule Part III, class (S) and class (T).

INSPECTION OF ELECTRIC LINES.

The periodic inspection of the electric lines throughout the Dominion has been maintained in conjunction with the inspections necessitated by the addition of new lines erected during the year.

The following fifty-five supply authorities have made extensions to their electric lines during the year ending 31st March, 1929:—

Ashburton Power Board	Poverty Bay Power Board
Auckland Power Board	Riccarton Borough Council
Banks Peninsula Power Board	Rotorua (Tourist Department)
Bluff Borough Council	South Canterbury Power Board
Cambridge Power Board	Southland Power Board
Central Hawke's Bay Power Board	Springs-Ellesmere Power Board
Central Power Board	Stratford Borough Council
Christchurch City Council	Taihape Borough Council
Dannevirke Power Board	Taranaki Power Board
Dunedin City Council	Tararua Power Board
Franklin Power Board	Taumarunui Borough Council
Grey Power Board	Tauranga Borough Council
Hamilton Borough Council	Te Aroha Borough Council
Hastings Borough Council	Te Awamutu Power Board
Hawke's Bay Power Board	Te Puke Town Board
Horowhenua Power Board	Thames Valley Power Board
Hutt Valley Power Board	Timaru Borough Council
Invercargill Borough Council	Waimairi County Council
Malvern Power Board	Wairarapa Power Board
Manawatu-Oroua Power Board	Wairoa Borough Council
Marlborough Power Board	Wairoa Power Board
Napier Borough Council	Waitaki Power Board
North Canterbury Power Board	Waitemata Power Board
Nelson City Council	Waitomo Power Board
New Plymouth Borough Council	Wanganui-Rangitikei Power Board
Otago Central Power Board	Wellington City Council
Palmerston North Borough Council	Whangarei Borough Council.
Patea Borough Council	

The following is a list of the various electric-supply authorities and companies whose lines have been inspected during the past year:—

Power Boards (31).

Ashburton	Hutt Valley	Poverty Bay	Thames Valley
Banks Peninsula	Malvern	South Canterbury	Wairarapa
Central	Manawatu-Oroua	Springs-Ellesmere	Wairoa
Central Hawke's Bay	Marlborough	Taranaki	Waitaki
Dannevirke	North Canterbury	Tararua	Waitemata
Grey	Opunake	Tauranga	Waitomo
Hawke's Bay	Otago	Te Awamutu	Wanganui-Rangitikei.
Horowhenua	Otago Central	Teviot	