

MILTON.

Inspection, 4th December, 1928. One officer and seven men were in attendance at the inspection muster. The inspection drills were carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the station and equipment were in good order. I had again to call attention to the unsatisfactory conditions of the water-supply for fire-extinction purposes, more particularly in that the supply, such as it is, is shut off at 8.30 p.m. every night, and in case of fire it would be ten minutes or more before any water at all is available, and in that respect very dangerous conditions exist in the town. Also, the motor hose-tender was not fitted with a siren, as required under the Regulations of the Motor-vehicles Act.

MOUNT ROSKILL.

Inspection, 24th January, 1929. Two officers and twelve firemen were in attendance at the inspection muster. The various inspection drills were carried out in a smart and efficient manner, and the station and equipment were found in first-class order. Attendance at the seventeen general alarms averaged 40·6 per cent. of the total membership of the brigade—a low average. Various recommendations were made, and formation of a Volunteer Fire Police Corps advocated. In view of local conditions the services of such a corps, organized on the lines explained at the time of my visit, would prove of great assistance to the brigade.

NAPIER.

Inspection, 5th November, 1928. Two officers and twenty firemen were on parade at the central station, and two officers and seven firemen at the Port station. The required inspection drills were carried out in an efficient manner, particularly so by the Port section of the brigade. Both stations, with their equipment, were found in first-class order. Certain recommendations were made in regard to some minor matters requiring attention.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Inspection, 25th September, 1928. Two officers and nineteen firemen were in attendance at the inspection parade. The inspection drills were carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the station and equipment were found in first-class order. Attendance at the twenty-four general alarms averaged 75 per cent. of the full membership of the brigade—a fair record. Attention was called to the necessity of providing alternate means of summoning the brigade in case of a breakdown of the borough electric supply; also, provision of a workshop and storeroom at the central station was again mentioned.

OAMARU.

Inspection, 30th October, 1928. Two officers and eleven firemen were in attendance at the inspection muster. The inspection drills were carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the station and equipment was found in good order and condition. Attendance at the twenty-two fire calls averaged 72 per cent. of the total membership of the brigade—a fair record.

OHAKUNE.

Inspection, 23rd January, 1929. Owing to delay by the secretary of the Board in notifying the brigade, only two officers and three firemen were in attendance at the inspection muster. The 36 ft. ladder recently purchased is unsuitable to a dangerous degree for fire-brigade work at fires. The brake-shoe on the near side of the trailer pump was broken in half, consequently the machine was without brake control at that time. The motor hose-tender was not fitted with a siren, as required by the Motor-vehicles Act. The front doors of the engine-shed require attention, and the old motor steam fire-engine housed at the Junction, useless in its present condition, should be put in working order, or sold for what it will fetch.

ONEHUNGA.

Inspection, 12th October, 1928. Two officers and fifteen firemen were in attendance at the inspection parade. The inspection drills were carried out in a smart and efficient manner, and the station and equipment were found in first-class order. Attendance at the thirty-five general alarms averaged 68·3 per cent. of the total membership of the brigade. A recommendation was made as to the advisability, for reasons set out in my report to the Board, of purchasing a second and lighter motor hose-and-ladder tender; also, attention was called to the paucity of street-lighting in the vicinity of the central fire-station.

OTAKI.

Inspection, 13th February, 1929. Two officers and eleven firemen were in attendance at the inspection muster. The inspection drills were carried out in a smart and efficient manner. The station and equipment were found in good order, but the vacant part of the section had a very neglected appearance; as pertaining to a fire-station it should be maintained in better order. Certain recommendations were made to the Board in regard to minor equipment.