

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY AND ELECTRICAL WIRING REGULATIONS.

The Electrical Supply and Electrical Wiring Regulations, which were gazetted in 1927 with the intention of reviewing same after two years' trial, are now being revised. It is expected that the work of revision will be completed during the early part of 1933.

INSPECTION OF ELECTRIC LINES AND PRIVATE GENERATING PLANTS.

During the year under review the additions to existing lines have been less than in previous years, due to the prevailing economic conditions, consequently there has not been the necessity or opportunity for the amount of inspection hitherto carried out. When the present depression passes and inspections are resumed it is hoped to find that the standard of maintenance demanded by the regulations has not been relaxed to any appreciable extent since previous inspections. The inspection activities in the past have undoubtedly tended towards the maintaining of a high standard by the electric supply authorities, coupled with a general willingness to co-operate with this Department in bringing electric lines up to requirements.

The following supply authorities have notified extensions to electric lines in their respective districts during the year :—

Ashburton Power Board.	North Canterbury Power Board.	Tararua Power Board.
Bluff Borough Council.	Napier Borough Council.	Taranaki Power Board.
Banks Peninsula Power Board.	Ohakune Borough Council.	Tauranga Power Board.
Dannevirke Power Board.	Opunake Power Board.	Wairarapa Power Board.
Heathcote County Council.	Palmerston North City Council.	Waitemata Power Board.
Horowhenua Power Board.	Patea Borough Council.	Waimairi County Council.
Hutt Valley Power Board.	Rangiora Borough Council.	Wanganui - Rangitikei Power Board.
Kaponga Town Board.	Riccarton Borough Council.	Wilson's Portland Cement, Ltd.
Malvern Power Board.	Southland Power Board.	Waitomo Power Board.
Manawatu-Oroua Power Board.	South Taranaki Power Board.	Westport Borough Council.
New Plymouth Borough Council.	Taumarunui Borough Council.	

It is not generally known that under the Electrical Wiremen's Registration Amendment Act, 1928, it is mandatory to give notice of the installation of private electric plants, and inspection of these plants is also called for before same are placed in service. During the year a large number of such installations came under notice, the existence of which was not previously known, and this has occasioned a good deal of additional work.

The plants dealt with totalled 243, of which 125 are located in the North Auckland District and the balance scattered throughout other parts of the Dominion.

LICENSES ISSUED.

The following water-power and electric-line licenses and permits have been issued during the period from July, 1931, to July, 1932: Licenses—Springs-Ellesmere Power Board (extensions); Patea Borough Council (revocation); Patea Borough Council (amendment); Tai Tapu Dairy Co. (revocation); Kanieri Electric Co. (consolidation); Westport Borough Council (revocation); New Plymouth Borough Council (extensions); M. King, Kingston; Tourist Department, Rotorua; Taumarunui Borough Council (amendment); McNabb Bros., Collingwood; T. Feather, Te Oka; Bignell and Holmes, Tokomaru Bay; Inglewood Borough Council (revocation); Fitzgerald Bros., Wainihinihi; Bay of Islands Harbour Board; Trembath Bros., Waitaha; J. Douglas, Waitaha; D. H. Rutherford, Makuri (amendment); Kauri Timber Co., Moerawa (revocation); W. Jacenth, Oruru (assignment); M. Ball, Omakau; H. S. Glass, Pembroke (assignment). Permits—Lyceum Theatre, Timaru; W. H. Cochrane, Rahotu; A. Macallan, Rakauora; L. P. Haycock, Pokororo; W. B. Fussell, Inglewood; W. B. Fussell, Inglewood (amendment); W. Scott, Kaikoura; S. Hall, Little River; E. P. H. Burbury, Culverden; D. S. Middleton, Cromwell; A. Rittson-Thomas, Tirohanga; A. Drummond, Wangapeka; H. Hibberd, Whangamoa; J. Hutchinson, Otoko; H. Morrison, Pori; C. C. V. Davies, Otakeho; J. P. Tylee, Makuri; P. M. Anderson, Gibbston; Hokianga Dairy Co., Motukaraka; P. T. Shand, Port Ligar; W. H. Moore, Hickory Bay.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES BOARD.

An opportunity to submit the draft Bill to give effect to the Electrical Supply Authorities' representations regarding the sale and use of unsafe electrical appliances has not presented itself during the past year.

Pressure is still being brought to bear on the Department by the supply authorities, supported by the Electrical Traders' Federation.

ELECTRICAL ACCIDENTS.

During the year there were reported to the Department thirty electrical accidents of which ten were fatal. Corresponding figures for 1931 were thirty-one and eight respectively.

(1) 11/4/31. Man electrocuted through contact with wire netting around tennis-court livened up by chafed service-lines passing through netting (Christchurch City Council).

(2) 12/4/31. Man electrocuted. Climbed power pole and made accidental contact with live H.T. (Banks Peninsula Power Board).

(3) 21/4/31. Man received shock and burns to hand from the three-cored C.T.S. of an electric drill. The C.T.S. had been accidentally bared by contact with a grinder (Wellington City Council).

(4) 12/5/31. Boy had narrow escape from electrocution through kite-string contacting with 6.6 kv. line. Line burnt through (New Plymouth).