

BROKEN WIRES AND POLES.

There were 2,006 broken wires reported by electric-supply authorities, with 108,249 miles of conductor erected. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 8,290 broken wires, and 104,499 miles of conductor in use. The large number of breaks recorded for 1936 was due to an exceptional period of violent gales.

Falling trees were again the principal cause of the breaks, and accounted for 28 per cent. of the total, as against 47 per cent. for 1936.

As regards broken poles, 574 instances were reported for the year, of which 303, or 52·8 per cent., were New Zealand blue-gum.

For 1936 the total number of broken poles reported was 451, and it is still evident that electric-supply authorities who experimented with New Zealand blue-gum and nondescript Australian hardwoods during the past decade are now being called upon to make replacements sooner than the anticipated life of fifteen years for poles used on distribution-lines.

ACTUAL MILEAGES AND SIZES OF OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS IN USE AT 31ST MARCH, 1937.

Size of Conductors (S.W.G.).	Copper.		Aluminium.		Galvanized Steel.		Galvanized Iron.		Copperweld.		Steel-cored Aluminium.		Bronze.		Total Break- ages.
	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	Miles.	Break- ages.	
7/20 ..	6,959	378	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	378
7/18 ..	11,917	439	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	439
7/17 ..	2,655	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
7/16 ..	22,325	203	18	7	120	1	141	..	..	..	177	..	..	..	214
7/15 ..	109	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	166	..	..	..	..
7/14 ..	11,714	35	8	1	49	..	..	..	..	..	894	..	..	..	36
7/13 ..	1,143	4	..	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
7/12 ..	493	4	153	1	3	..	..	..	5	..	3	..	..	..	5
7/11 ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
7/10 ..	33	..	204	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	51	2	..	..	2
7/9 ..	76	..	15	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7/8 ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	640	..	..	..	..
19/18 ..	400	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
19/17 ..	590	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
19/16 ..	1,739	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
19/15 ..	173	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19/14 ..	625	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
19/13 ..	2,999	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
19/12 ..	223	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
19/10 ..	370	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/16 ..	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/15 ..	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/14 ..	91	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/13 ..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/12 ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	227	..	..	..	..
66/13 ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12 ..	2,546	197	..	..	9	..	94	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	197
11 ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 ..	9,030	330	..	..	417	..	223	2	432	..	..	..	..	..	332
8 ..	13,223	173	..	..	4,338	8	5,320	67	537	1	..	..	..	..	249
7 ..	770	5	..	..	..	..	128	..	91	..	..	..	..	..	5
6 ..	310	5	..	..	110	..	154	..	203	..	..	..	..	..	5
5 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
4 ..	599	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	..	2	..	..	..	..
2 ..	67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
0 ..	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2/0 ..	..	..	10	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	59	..	..	..	7
3/0 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	399	..	..	..	..
3/12 ..	71	4	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
3/11 ..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/10 ..	24	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	..	..
3/9 ..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/8 ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4/16 ..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4/14 ..	..	..	..	..	253	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5/14 ..	..	..	..	..	209	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6/144 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	..
7/136 ..	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	46	20	8	1	..	..	2	..	12	..	41	..	..	..	21
Totals ..	92,107	1,907	457	17	5,520	10	6,034	69	1,391	1	2,680	2	30	..	2,006
Grand total, 108,249 miles.															

No returns of conductor mileages received from Auckland and Christchurch.