

BROKEN WIRES AND POLES.

There were 1,386 broken wires reported by electric-supply authorities, with 119,432 miles of conductor erected. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 2,006 broken wires and 108,249 miles of conductor in use.

Falling trees were again the principal cause of the breaks, and accounted for 29·4 per cent. of the total, as against 28 per cent. for 1937.

As regards broken poles, 323 instances were reported for the year, of which 111, or 34·4 per cent., were New Zealand blue-gum.

For 1937 the total number of broken poles reported was 574, 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, 1938.

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 ..	6,825	329	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	329
7/18 ..	13,266	312	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	312
7/17 ..	3,018	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
7/16 ..	24,464	211	44	..	238	4	103	..	..	..	153	..	..	..	215
7/15 ..	241	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	203	..	..	..	..
7/14 ..	12,558	78	25	..	22	..	7	..	..	..	1,067	2	..	..	80
7/13 ..	1,277	..	14	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	145	2	..	..	2
7/12 ..	561	..	141	3	7	..	..	..	5	..	19	..	..	..	3
7/11 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
7/10 ..	81	..	216	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	51	..	..	..	..
7/9 ..	76	..	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7/8 ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	..	..	..	..
19/18 ..	403	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
19/17 ..	625	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
19/16 ..	1,774	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
19/15 ..	195	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
19/14 ..	642	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
19/13 ..	3,194	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19/12 ..	589	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19/10 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/16 ..	56	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/15 ..	403	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/14 ..	95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/13 ..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37/12 ..	80	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	227	..	..	..	..
66/13 ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12 ..	2,617	61	..	..	1	..	86	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	61
11 ..	285	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 ..	9,273	157	..	..	304	..	222	..	423	8	..	..	30	..	165
8 ..	13,497	103	..	..	4,796	18	5,575	22	1,111	1	..	..	..	..	144
7 ..	764	9	..	..	..	..	227	..	92	..	..	..	..	..	9
6 ..	289	1	..	..	118	2	149	..	167	2	..	..	..	..	5
5 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
4 ..	593	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	..	2	..	..	..	..
2 ..	67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
0 ..	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2/0 ..	..	..	9	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	59	..	..	..	5
3/0 ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	339	..	..	..	..
3/12 ..	149	..	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/11 ..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/10 ..	25	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/9 ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3/8 ..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4/16 ..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4/14 ..	..	..	..	..	253	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5/14 ..	..	..	..	..	209	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6/-144 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	..	..	..
7/-167 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	636	5	..	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	58	12	1	..	..	..	2	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	17
Telephone-wires	455	..	..	..	1,164	..	710	..	1,203	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	98,616	1,311	489	8	7,124	25	7,083	22	3,123	11	2,967	9	30	..	1,386
Grand total, 119,432 miles.															

No returns of conductor mileages received from Auckland, Christchurch, and Heathcote.