

(c) Transmission-lines.

Overhaul of lines is being carried out by a small gang.

Pile-driving by contract has been proceeding at both Oreti and Aparima River crossings. The Oreti River crossing is now complete, while the Aparima Crossing is nearing completion. These installations remove weak links in the 66 kV. transmission-lines between Monowai and Winton.

At Ohai Substation two automatic reclosing oil-circuit breakers were installed in the 11 kV. feeders.

At Bluff Outdoor Substation the existing 300 kVA. transformer-bank was duplicated by the installation of a further 300 kVA. bank of Moloney transformers.

(d) General Distribution.

New transformer installations numbering ninety-three give an increase of 693 kVA. in feeder-transformer capacity.

A considerable amount of both high- and low-tension line overhaul was carried out in all areas.

Transformer overhaul has been carried out regularly at the Invercargill Workshop, while the field overhaul vehicle has recently been put into commission again.

Tests have been carried out on transformers, relays, instruments, rubber gloves, consumers' meters, and appliances, and also on various other apparatus.

(e) Concrete-pole Factory at Winton.

This factory has been in regular production during the year, the total number of poles cast to date being 609, of which 273 have been put into service.

(f) Accommodation.

Accommodation has been provided as follows: One faultman's cottage and garage built at Edendale; two cottages and single men's quarters built at Gore Substation; two cottages and single men's quarters and combined garage and store office built at Winton Substation; two faultsman's cottages are in course of construction at Balfour and Tapanui; and one faultsman's cottage was purchased at Riverton.

Preparations are being made for the erection of a social hall at Monowai.

(g) General.

In addition to routine work on records activity in the Draughting Office has been chiefly centered about works proceeding at Invercargill and Winton Substations, and also at Ohai and Bluff Outdoor Substations, as mentioned under those headings. Work on reticulation alterations has also been carried out as required, while the overhaul of distribution maps is proceeding.

Other work in conjunction with Winton Pole-factory has also been carried out from time to time as required.

C. NELSON DISTRICT: COBB RIVER SCHEME.

(a) General.

The negotiations for the acquisition of the generating-station at Cobb River were completed, and possession taken of the plant, &c., on the 22nd May, 1940. The 900 kW. Diesel station at Stoke, which was in running-order, was immediately leased to the Waimea Power Board to help that authority to meet its demand until such time as supply is available from the Cobb Station. The capital outlay at 31st March, 1941, was £362,772.

(b) Power-station.

The power-station building had been erected by the vendors, and practically all the generating-plant had been delivered to the site. The erection of the machines, &c., is a condition of the suppliers' contract, and will be commenced shortly.

(c) Substations.

Upper Takaka.—Land had been acquired and one cottage erected by the vendors. An additional parcel of land has since been purchased to provide space for the 66 kV. switchgear, and cottages for the maintenance staff.

Motupipi.—Land has been selected and Proclamation plans are being prepared.

Motueka.—A site has been purchased and drawings prepared for the layout of this substation.

Stoke. The 11 kV. switchgear and transformers necessary to take supply from Cobb are at the site, and erection will be commenced shortly.

(d) Transmission-lines.

1. *Stoke-Cobb.*—The necessary poles, conductors, insulators, &c., had been purchased by the vendors and stored at various locations along the proposed route. Erection was commenced in January, 1941, and 138 pole structures have been completed.

2. *Stoke-Blenheim.*—A preliminary survey has been made for a possible line to give supply to Marlborough.