

and Somes Island; hospital and water-supply at the latter station; and provision for these works is made on the estimates accordingly. Provision is also made for subsidies for Infectious Diseases Hospitals at Auckland, Waihi, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill; and for annexes for consumptives at New Plymouth, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, and Invercargill.

LIGHTHOUSES, HARBOUR-WORKS, AND HARBOUR DEFENCES.

The expenditure on lighthouse-works amounted to £2,168 only, and was incurred on works at Kahurangi Point, Jack's Point, and Cape Campbell. For the current year provision is made for completing the works at Cape Campbell, and also for connecting some of our lighthouses with the colonial telegraph system. Application has been made to the Government to provide a low-level light at Pencarrow Head. This, however, is, strictly speaking, a harbour light, and as such it is the duty of the Harbour Board to provide for same. In view, however, of any possible benefit to coastal shipping, the Government will favourably consider providing for the annual maintenance of the light if the Harbour Board will provide for its first cost.

The expenditure on harbour-works was again small, being even less than last year's. On the current year's estimates new votes are provided for wharves at Horeke, Deep Creek (Waitemata), Orua, Graham Beach, and Moeraki, and for protective works at the Western Spit, Napier. Several unexpended votes of last year are also renewed.

On harbour defences at the chief ports the sum of £2,515 was spent during the late financial year. A number of other works are still required, and a vote of £4,000 is asked for to provide for the same.

UTILISATION OF WATER-POWER.

Two reports on this subject were submitted to Parliament last session—one by Mr. Hancock, of San Francisco, and the other a Public Works Departmental report, giving more complete and detailed information than Mr. Hancock was able to supply. A further report by Mr. Allo has been submitted during the present session.

Surveys have been put in hand during the year to procure the necessary data for the design of works to utilise the power available at Huka Falls on the Waikato River and in the Tauherinikau, Clarence, Opihi, and Teviot Rivers; also further surveys will in a short time be started at the Hutt River, Lakes Rotoiti, Coleridge, and Hauoko. The places indicated appear to be the most suitable in the first instance to give supplies of power to the present industrial centres of the colony.

The Huka Falls and Rotoiti-Kaituna schemes would be alternative; whichever appears on an exhaustive examination to be the better would be first developed. The same remark holds for the Hutt and Tauherinikau Rivers. In Canterbury it is a question to be decided whether a central scheme at Lake Coleridge or two schemes, one at Hanmer using the Clarence River and another at Opihi, would be the more favourable. The two schemes combined would command the whole of Canterbury in a very efficient manner, and the conditions of the Clarence scheme at Jollies Pass are very favourable. If carried out an electric railway from Culverden to Hanmer would easily be possible, or even from Christchurch to Hanmer.

The survey of the Teviot River shows that a scheme of about 25,000-horse power should easily be practicable. A series of power schemes is obtainable on this river, as there is a fall of nearly 1,800 ft. between Lake Onslow and the flood-level of the Clutha just below Roxburgh. This is after deducting the fall in the conduits. There would be, say, four schemes, in series, along the Teviot River. The last of the series—that next the Clutha River—shows a fall of 870 ft., and would have a conduit two miles and a quarter in length, and about one mile and a quarter of pipes. The power available