1917. NEW ZEALAND.

FIRE BRIGADES OF THE DOMINION

(REPORT ON THE) BY THE INSPECTOR OF FIRE BRIGADES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30rm JUNE, 1917.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The Inspector of Fire Brigades to the Hon. the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Office of the Inspector of Fire Brigades, Wellington, 26th July, 1917. Sir,-Herewith I have the honour to lay before you my ninth annual report, for the year ended 30th June, 1917, relative to the working of the Fire Brigades Act and including matters in connection

During the year the Ohakune Fire Board was dissolved, and accordingly the Borough of Ohakune ceased to be a fire district; but the Borough of Waihi was proclaimed a fire district on the 11th June, 1916, consequently the number of proclaimed districts remain the same as last year, and are-Auckland, Christchurch, Dannevirke, Dunedin, Feilding, Gisborne, Greymouth, Hamilton, Hastings, Hawera, Hokitika, Lawrence, Masterton, Milton, New Plymouth, Oamaru, Palmerston North, Petone, Rotorua, Tauranga, Timaru, Waihi, Whangarei, and Woolston.

I have officially inspected the brigades, with their stations and equipment, at present working under the control of Fire Boards, as follows:-

Auckland—22nd and 25th June, 1917.

Christchurch—30th January, 1917.
Dannevirke—20th September, 1916; 8th May, 1917.

Dunedin-15th and 16th March, 1917.

Feilding—19th April, 1917.

Greymouth—19th January, 1917. Hamilton—26th February, 1917.

Hastings-7th May, 1917.

Hawera—4th September, 1916; 16th April, 1917. Hokitika—22nd January, 1917.

Lawrence—7th March, 1917.

Masterton—3rd May, 1917.

Milton—8th March, 1917.

New Plymouth—5th September, 1916; 17th April, 1917.

Fitzroy—5th September, 1916. Oamaru—31st October, 1916.

Palmerston North-14th June, 1917.

Petone-28th June, 1917.

Rotorua-23rd February, 1917.

Tauranga—21st February, 1917. Timaru—24th January, 1917.

Whangarei—16th and 17th November, 1916.

Woolston-2nd November, 1916; 22nd May, 1917.

In addition to the statutory inspections, in accordance with requests received from local and other bodies, visits were paid for special purposes as follows:-

Devonport—5th July, 1916: Inquiry into organization of brigade, &c. Trentham Camp—19th July, 1916: Inspection of manual and equipment. Trentham Camp—14th August, 1916: In connection with outbreak of fires.

Cambridge—10th October, 1916: In connection with licensing of picture-theatre. Hamilton—11th October, 1916: Special visit.

Devonport—20th November, 1916: Inspection of brigade.

Waihi 22nd and 23rd November, 1916: Report upon water-supply, equipment of brigade, &c.