

proposing a somewhat similar form of control was rejected by the Conference. Most of the opposition to the proposal appears to be based on the suggestion that the proposed Board would be a modified form of Government control, which incidentally is not intended, and it would appear that sufficient weight has not been given to the more efficient service that would be possible under a single controlling authority.

INSPECTIONS.

It was not found possible to make a complete inspection of all brigades during the year, but the majority were visited at least once. Close touch is kept with the activities of all brigades by means of newspaper cuttings containing the reports of matters affecting the local fire-protection service. Wherever necessary special inspections were made. The conditions found were generally satisfactory, and in one or two instances where defects had previously been pointed out a considerable improvement was noted. The usual reports were made on inspections of public buildings and institutions, and advice has been given to Fire Boards and local bodies with regard to equipment, fire station sites and buildings, water-supply installations, &c. A number of reports were also made to the Local Government Loans Board on loans proposed for fire prevention, and water supply and reticulation purposes.

I have, &c.,

R. GIRLING-BUTCHER,
Inspector of Fire Brigades.

TABLE I.—MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS FOR FIRE DISTRICTS.

District.	Popula- tion.	Rateable Capital Value.	Insurance Companies Premium Income.	Number of Fire Calls.	Fires Involv- ing Loss of Pro- perty.	Insurances on Property involved in Fires.	Insured Fire Loss, Buildings and Contents.	Uninsured Fire Loss, Buildings and Contents.	Total Fire Loss.	Authorized Expenditure for Year ending 31st March, 1935.
		£	£			£	£	£	£	£
Auckland Metro- politan	183,140	70,974,657	208,986	659	145	1,229,482	71,693	724	72,417	28,100
Balclutha ..	1,650	274,120	2,080	4	1	600	5	..	5	237
Birkenhead ..	3,440	900,912	4,400	14	..	..	..	..	..	612
Cambridge ..	2,200	727,270	3,089	7	4	2,455	1,084	..	1,084	496
Christchurch ..	92,150	29,268,512	104,983	266	90	332,683	40,864	8,600	49,464	12,000
Dannevirke ..	4,580	1,406,444	6,398	10	6	18,320	2,061	257	2,318	755
Dargaville ..	2,010	489,697	3,271	9	3	3,700	125	1	126	396
Dunedin ..	69,900	17,106,487	75,191	368	56	212,601	14,750	1,618	16,368	11,750
Eltham ..	2,020	534,868	2,221	3	2	1,150	900	..	900	385
Feilding ..	4,520	1,409,893	5,675	9	2	2,750	660	112	772	825
Foxton ..	1,740	251,656	1,516	4	3	9,082	5,341	1,371	6,712	391
Gisborne ..	14,550	4,623,120	20,796	27	12	27,575	3,978	176	4,154	1,671
Greymouth ..	6,400	1,127,999	7,107	11	10	18,750	4,002	655	4,657	841
Hamilton ..	15,750	5,120,021	17,960	68	13	5,607	386	800	1,186	2,730
Hastings ..	12,400	3,524,504	15,564	41	12	7,000	2,010	935	2,945	2,715
Hawera ..	4,760	1,331,921	7,658	21	5	14,470	234	3	237	1,127
Hikurangi ..	1,250	161,986	1,062	3	1	300	300	..	300	122
Hokitika ..	2,590	390,955	2,820	4	4	1,075	1,050	3,150	4,200	605
Invercargill ..	21,200	5,174,638	24,842	109	34	93,180	6,903	1,247	8,150	5,045
Kaipoi ..	1,750	315,828	1,991	4	2	100	20	45	65	492
Kaitangata ..	1,350	102,335	1,060	2	1	..	..	3	3	128
Lawrence ..	650	56,850	705	1	1	180	9	..	9	75
Levin ..	2,800	759,576	3,398	14	5	1,390	1,081	..	1,081	531
Masterton ..	8,830	2,509,839	12,044	30	6	9,750	1,856	111	1,967	2,861
Milton ..	1,600	227,693	1,936	2	..	..	..	..	..	130
Mosgiel ..	2,120	304,310	2,005	..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Napier ..	16,400	4,210,330	25,023	43	17	13,790	5,475	1,081	6,556	4,286
Nelson ..	11,200	2,869,744	16,448	28	15	9,980	3,696	228	3,924	2,505
New Plymouth ..	16,550	5,004,996	17,728	47	16	19,585	2,944	15	2,959	1,858
Oamaru ..	7,680	1,540,468	8,311	17	10	10,622	1,678	692	2,370	924
Ohakune ..	1,400	109,110	1,121	8	2	500	225	1,000	1,225	355
Opotiki ..	1,330	326,617	1,788	6	1	11,375	3,609	..	3,609	420
Otaki ..	1,660	305,888	1,854	3	1	1,300	50	..	50	366
Pahiatua ..	1,560	345,395	3,069	5	3	2,365	1,365	575	1,940	335
Palmerston North ..	21,950	7,429,131	29,654	103	17	13,925	1,290	141	1,431	4,281
Petone ..	11,190	3,117,446	13,333	26	6	101,000	535	150	685	1,781
Port Chalmers ..	2,570	306,321	1,936	6	3	870	606	180	786	265
Pukekohe ..	2,560	796,803	2,728	9	1	..	..	5	5	654
Rotorua ..	5,250	1,462,021	6,915	27	7	20,950	5,184	..	5,184	1,009
Taihape ..	2,450	504,802	3,395	5	1	400	7	..	7	489
Taumarunui ..	2,550	630,170	2,545	13	3	647	71	40	111	502
Tauranga ..	3,190	847,995	4,149	7	2	1,650	340	..	340	620
Te Aroha ..	2,560	712,018	4,054	6	1	250	1	..	1	597
Te Awamutu ..	1,940	634,768	3,289	8	2	650	121	45	166	550
Timaru ..	17,450	5,216,077	16,960	39	8	10,650	714	40	754	2,581
Waihi ..	3,200	268,716	2,577	24	8	3,538	797	450	1,247	586
Waipukurau ..	2,030	504,634	2,541	11	3	3,825	180	..	180	355
Wairoa ..	2,420	675,606	3,540	6	5	6,865	3,946	..	3,946	677
Waitara ..	1,920	321,234	2,996	1	1	600	180	..	180	234
Wanganui ..	24,850	5,968,006	31,430	134	23	17,135	883	346	1,229	6,563
Wellington ..	114,100	52,619,290	173,907	748	123	828,393	23,662	1,918	25,580	29,424
Westport ..	4,070	511,810	4,386	6	2	900	15	20	35	700
Whangarei ..	7,880	2,331,663	8,211	13	3	4,225	725	..	725	898
Woodville ..	1,130	167,389	1,347	3	3	1,060	355	495	850	340
	758,390	248,814,539	933,993	3,042	705	3,079,250	217,966	27,229	245,195	139,280