

Waikokopu.—This port has continued to be operated under the direct control of the Wairoa Harbour Board for the Public Works Department.

The wharf has been in regular use, and during the year seventy-six coastal boats and one warship worked the harbour. Minor repairs have been made to the wharf and buildings as required. Three blocks totalling 100 tons have been cast to repair storm damage to the breakwater. Depth soundings adjacent to the wharf have shown that no siltation has taken place.

Waitangi Wharf, Chatham Islands.—The contract for the erection of this wharf has been satisfactorily completed. The wharf is a timber structure 202 ft. long and 26 ft. wide, of brush box decking carried on stringers, caps, braces, and wales of ironbark supported on iron-bark pile piers. The approach is 385 ft. long, and is built of similar timbers. At the shore end a shed 97 ft. long by 30 ft. wide has been erected.

Pitt Island Jetty.—The contractors for the Waitangi Wharf have undertaken to erect a jetty at Pitt Island, and all materials are on the site.

Tryphena Wharf.—The approach to the wharf on the north side of the harbour consists of the construction of a stone-faced wall 80 ft. long by 12 ft. wide on top with an average height of 9 ft., and work is well in hand. On the southern side the approach consists of stone breastwork 50 ft. long, average width 30 ft., and height 9 ft. This work is well in hand.

Okupu Wharf Approach.—This work which comprises 80 ft. of stone breastwork 12 ft. wide on top has been completed.

Elmslie Bay Wharf.—Extensive repairs and replacement were carried out to the piling, bracing, stringers, and decking. Plans have been prepared for a new wharf on a more suitable site.

General.—A number of applications have been received from local bodies and private individuals for the approval of works involving marine interests. Among the various applications were the following :—

Foreshore Licenses : Paremata, Hutt County ; Pukerua Bay, Hutt County ; Weymouth, Manukau Harbour ; Horeke, Hokianga Harbour ; Cambridge, Waikato River.

Wharves and Jetties : Waihou River, Te Aroha ; Pilot Bay, Tauranga Harbour ; Port Charles, Coromandel ; Napier ; Point Howard (extension), Wellington Harbour ; Pouto Point, Kaipara Harbour ; Big Wanganui River ; Karamurama Island, Hauraki Gulf ; Okura Point, Whangaroa Harbour.

Boat-sheds and skids : Kohukohu, Hokianga Harbour ; Balena Bay, Wellington ; Seatoun, Wellington ; Hamilton, Waikato River ; Mercer, Waikato River ; Evans Bay, Wellington (2).

Bridges : Combined flood-gate and bridge over Styx River, Harbour Road, Brooklands ; Wairoa River, Hawke's Bay ; Railway Bridge, Patea ; Taruheru River Pipe Lines Suspension Bridge, Gisborne ; Waitangi River, Bay of Islands.

Retaining-walls : Whananaki Inlet, Whangarei County.

LIGHTHOUSES.

Very little work has been done during the year, and maintenance and improvements have been carried out where necessary.

Kahurangi Lightkeeper's Cottage.—A cottage for the lightkeeper at Kahurangi was assembled at the Public Works Workshops, Wellington, and despatched to Kahurangi and erected on the site.

Baring Head.—In January last a tender was accepted for the erection of two cottages in timber and a reinforced concrete tower. Good progress has been made, and on the 31st March the tower was completed with the exception of balcony handrailings and iron stairways. Both cottages are well advanced. Two 500-gallon underground concrete tanks have been constructed for the storage of water.

Centre Island Lighthouse.—A quantity of ruby glass for replacement of the ruby screens at the Centre Island Lighthouse was purchased, and is held in store pending the visit of an expert to place same in position.

HARBOUR BOARD LEGISLATION.

During the year the following legislation affecting harbours in the Dominion was passed :—

Harbours Amendment Act.—This Act generally gives legislative effect to certain requests made by the Harbours Association on matters affecting the administration and control of harbours.

Auckland Harbour Board Empowering Act.—This Act provides for the determination and payment by certain lessees of the Board of contributions to the cost of formation and dedication of certain streets and rights-of-way on land in the vicinity of the old railway-station.

Bluff Harbour Board and Bluff Borough Council Empowering Act.—This Act validates an agreement between the local authorities mentioned in regard to the control of the water supplied to shipping at Bluff.

Bluff Harbour Board Empowering Act.—This Act authorizes the Board to make an annual contribution not exceeding £200 to the Bluff-Stewart Island steamer service.

Napier Harbour Board and Napier Borough Enabling Act.—This Act authorizes the Board to lease to the Borough Council certain of its endowment lands and extends the boundaries of the borough to include such lands.

Napier Harbour Board Empowering Act.—This Act authorizes the Board to sell a small area of its endowment land for church purposes.

Napier Harbour Board Loan Act.—This Act authorizes the Board to borrow a sum not exceeding £335,700 for the purpose of constructing harbour works at Napier, subject to a poll of the ratepayers of the harbour district.

New Plymouth Borough Council and New Plymouth Harbour Board Empowering Act.—This Act, *inter alia*, empowers the Board to lease to the Council certain endowment lands near the foreshore