

principally by the intermittent use of the boiler, possibly working only two days in the week, the rest of the time standing full of water. To counteract the effects of this, soda-ash (caustic soda), and in some cases lime, has been used with good results.

In the table of notices of repairs, the item double-furnace Cornish-tubular is due entirely to wear and tear; these boilers having been in use for the last twenty years or more, but at a low pressure (16), the engines being condensing.

In the table of notices to remove dangerous parts of machinery: In one case I found, in the upper part of a circular breaking-down bench, a fracture in the centre in a T-shape extending 12in. in length; in another case a saw had been removed, which was shown me, where the centre had come entirely out, and which could not be seen until the washer was removed.

There were only six cases requiring fencing, and the notices given were all verbal.

The number of boilers reported to me as being sold, that is, those which have already been in use, was 26. New boilers imported, portable, 21; ditto, vertical, 4; second-hand imported return tubular, 4; locally made, 12: total, 41.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 505; of these, 81 were made by Mr. Blackwood in the northern part of the district.

In conclusion I may state that there are still a number of boilers remaining to be inspected, but which, with the additional assistance now granted, will be taken up during the year, as there are a number of widely-scattered inspections, which will necessarily take some time to get into regular form.

The Chief Inspector of Machinery, Wellington.

ALEXANDER CRAWFORD.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of LAND BOILERS INSPECTED in the OTAGO DISTRICT during the Financial Year ended the 31st March, 1886.

Name of District.	Number of Portable Boilers.			Number of Stationary Boilers.			Total.
	5 h.p. and under.	5 to 10 h.p.	Over 10 h.p.	5 h.p. and under.	5 to 10 h.p.	Over 10 h.p.	
Otago	27	156	13	132	56	121	505

RETURN of FEES payable for the INSPECTION of BOILERS and MACHINERY in the OTAGO DISTRICT during the Financial Year ended the 31st March, 1886.

Name of District, &c.	Fees payable in respect of Boilers.	Fees payable in respect of Machinery.	Total.
Otago—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Portable	330 0 0	...	854 0 0
Stationary	524 0 0	...	

RETURN of MACHINERY INSPECTED in the OTAGO DISTRICT during the Financial Year ended the 31st March, 1886.

Description of Machinery.	Steam.	Steam and Water.	Description of Machinery.	Steam.	Steam and Water.
Aërated water	1	...	Copper and brass works ...	3	...
Agricultural-implement shops ...	8	...	Coffee and spice works ...	2	...
Bakeries	3	...	Confectionery	3	...
Boiling-down	7	...	Cranes	15	...
Bone-mills	5	...	Dairy factories	3	...
Brick and tile works	6	...	Dredges, harbour	4	...
Breweries	10	...	Dye works	1	...
Cabinet-making	5	...	Engine-shops	4	...
Cement works	1	...	Engine-shops and foundries ...	5	...
Chaff-cutting	16	...	Foundries	5	...
Chemical works	2	...	Fellmongeries	5	...
Chicory works	1	...	Flour-mills	10	7
Cooking	2	...	Flock-mills	2	...
Collieries	6	...	Fish-preserving	1	...
Corn-crushers	4	...	Fire-grate and range works ...	4	...