

special recommendations, think that the needs of this district would be better served, both from an administrative and economical point of view, by the retention of the Board; for since it has been in existence the needs of the district have been well attended to, while the rates have been moderate and the cost of administration low, which would not be the case if the Board were merged in the county.—J. MATHEWS, Chairman.

*Norsewood Road Board.*—For reply see Waipawa Road Board.

*Oakura Road Board.*—The Oakura Road Board are unanimously in favour of retaining the road district as at present.—JOHN LOONEY, Chairman.

*Oero Road Board.*—The Aeroa Road Board desires the Aeroa Road District should be retained, and that the existing franchise should remain unaltered.—H. B. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

*Okaaka Road Board.*—Okaaka Road Board disapprove of provision in Counties Bill, and hopes it will not become law.—R. ALLEN BENT, Chairman.

*Okain's Bay Road Board.*—This Board protests against either amalgamating with other Boards or merging into County Council, on grounds that configuration of Peninsula peculiarly unsuitable large districts, and such formation must be detrimental ratepayers' interest. Cost administration in this district only three pounds per cent., total expenditure remaining actually spent on public works proved by reference last certified balance-sheet.—W. THACKER, Chairman.

*Okato Road Board.*—*Re* Counties Bill: The Board are strongly of opinion that the Road Boards should be retained as at present, as the work upon the by-roads can be done better and more economically under the supervision of persons residing in the district, and are not in favour of amalgamating with any other district. The Board also considers that ratepayers only should have votes.—JOHN CAREY, Chairman.

*Okotuku Road Board.*—Board wishes to remain as at present constituted. Can see no advantage in any alteration, as Board is working satisfactorily.—S. NAPIER, Chairman.

*Omaha Road Board.*—The Omaha Road Board are of opinion that existing Road Boards, where working satisfactorily, should be retained; that the franchise extend only to ratepayers; that no Board be abolished or amalgamated contrary to wish of ratepayers. As it is not proposed to pay honorarium to trustees, no deposit should be required when nominated. Otherwise generally in favour of Bill.—CHAS. S. CLARKE, Chairman.

*Omaka Road Board.*—Counties Bill, 1901: Section 15, clause (a): This Board objects to the owner and occupier of a property each having a vote, and thinks the person paying the rates should be the person to vote only. Section 18: This Board considers a ratepayer should have a vote for each property on which he pays rates.

*Omata Road Board.*—Strongly urge Board district be retained as at present. If merged into county the rate will be higher, and very doubtful if road will be kept in the good and satisfactory state as under road district control now.—A. GEORGE, Chairman.

*One-tree Hill Road Board.*—Board considers Counties Bill fairly calculated to meet requirements of county, but suggests that Road Boards in the district are generally working well and economically. Possible £400 a year to Chairmen County Councils, and £100 to members, too much by one-half. Rating-powers suggest possibility of excessive burdens on land, and should be carefully watched with a view to further limitation.—H. B. MORTON, Chairman.

*Opotiki Town Board.*—We strongly object to legislation which would place affairs of this town in other hands than those of representatives elected by town ratepayers. Owing to isolation and other causes, this town's best interests would materially suffer.—STEWART BATES, Chairman.

*Oraki Road Board.*—In reply to your telegram *re* Counties Bill, I have to state that, as all the land in the Oraki district is Native land, and as there is a probability of the land being leased for building purposes shortly, seeing it is in close proximity to the City of Auckland, the Oraki Road Board desire that they should remain as at present.—WM. J. DENNISON, Clerk.

*Oruru Road Board.*—Oruru Road Board ceased to exist; merged into Mangonui County more than a year ago.—J. W. LAMBLY, late Chairman.

*Otamatea County.*—Telegram to Chairman, Whakapirau Road Board, handed to me, as Road Board inoperative for many years. Abolish Road Boards, Council only to be local governing body. Existing counties and number of Councillors be named; present electors' qualifications to remain. Sections 22 and 32: Twenty-eight days instead of fourteen; election triennial; number of public notifications excessive, and in small counties would be a heavy drain on finances. Cost of administration generally increased without corresponding means of increasing revenue except through ratepayers, who object; increase Government subsidy.—JAMES HEMPHILL, Clerk.

*Otahuhu Road Board.*—For reply see Conference of Local Authorities, Manukau County.

*Otonga Road Board.*—Object to residential occupants having a vote. Section 4: Recommend each elector should have a vote in any riding that he may own property in, as at present. Section 18: Biennial elections. Section 55: Object to this as being too costly. My Board would respectfully recommend that so far as the Otonga Road District is concerned, that it is the wish of the ratepayers to retain the road district as at present.—A. G. MACKENZIE, Chairman.

*Pakuranga Road Board.*—The Pakuranga Road Board are unanimous that present road districts should be retained, as they have done their work very economically and efficient in the past, and that only ratepayers should have the power to vote.—ALEX. BELL, Clerk.

*Panmure Township Road Board.*—The Panmure Township Road Board are unanimous in opinion that their Road Board be allowed to remain as at present; also that the power given under sections 36 and 38 to allow a salary to Chairmen up to £400 per annum, and an allowance to Councillors up to £100 per annum, is excessive.—W. H. GAVIN, Chairman.

*Papakura Road Board.*—For reply see Conference of Local Authorities, Manukau County.

*Paparata Road Board.*—Paparata Road Board desires to be left as they are, and is not in favour of the Bill.—GEORGE BALN, Chairman.

*Papatoitoi Road Board.*—For reply see Conference of Local Authorities, Manukau County.