

the coming into operation of the amending Act of 1914 the certificates were made out in the Head Office and sent to the Inspectors for signature, and were then posted by them to the post-offices at which the inspection fees were to be paid. Under the new system they are completed at the Head Office and sent direct to the post-office; a notice that this has been done, with a note of the fees payable, being at the same time posted to each owner.

Certificates have been issued to 414 land engineers and land engine-drivers, and a list of the persons receiving them is appended hereto.

The Hon. the Minister of Marine, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE ALLPORT, Secretary.

The MARINE ENGINEER to the SECRETARY, MARINE DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—

15th April, 1915.

I have the honour to report as follows upon the various works dealt with during the year ended the 31st March, 1915:—

*Cape Maria van Diemen Lighthouse.*—A revolving cowl is being manufactured for the purpose of improving the ventilation.

*Hokianga: Taheke River Improvement.*—A scheme for improving the river-channel has been prepared, and some work has been done in the way of removing rocks, destroying willows, &c. The remainder of the work can only be done when the river is at its lowest, and will be attended to at the first opportunity.

*Hokianga: Kohukohu Reclamation.*—Contracts were prepared and tenders invited for the erection of a protective wall and other works, but the tenders received were considered excessive, and the work is being carried out under the direction of the Department. Small contracts have been let for the supply of steelwork, and also for pile-driving, &c. The work is approaching completion, and the area behind the walls is being filled in.

*Hokianga: Harbourmaster's and Boatman's Houses.* Arrangements are being made for the removal of the boatman's cottage from the Heads to Rawene, and for some additions and improvements; also for the erection of a new residence for the Harbourmaster at the same place.

*Hokianga: Beacon at the Narrows.*—It is proposed to construct a beacon with automatic acetylene light on a rock at The Narrows, Hokianga. Plans, &c., have been prepared, and arrangements made for the construction of the concrete base, and for the manufacture of the pedestal. The lighting-apparatus is on order.

*Hokianga: Launch-landing at Rawene.* Reports and estimates have been prepared in connection with a proposed launch-landing at Rawene.

*Hokianga: Mangamuka and Orira Rivers.* A small vote for the improvement of these rivers has been expended in snagging, but further expenditure is necessary to complete the work satisfactorily.

*Hokianga: Karaka Point Wharf.*—A proposal to erect a wharf at Karaka Point was investigated and reported upon.

*Mokohinou Lighthouse.*—A revolving cowl, similar to that which is being installed at Cape Maria, has been ordered for this lighthouse.

*Flat Rock Beacon.*—It is proposed to instal an automatic acetylene light on the beacon at Flat Rock, Kawau Island, and the necessary information is being obtained.

*Great Barrier Wharf.*—Surveys have been made in connection with the road approaches.

*Kaipara: Mititai Wharf.*—A further report was supplied regarding channel improvement, with estimate for a suitable training-wall.

*Kaipara: Beacon Reach Light-buoy.*—A tender has been accepted for the manufacture of a buoy to carry an automatic light for use in Beacon Reach, Northern Wairoa River. The work is not yet complete. The lighting-apparatus is being obtained.

*Manukau Harbour.*—A report was prepared in connection with a stock route across the mud-flat at Otahuhu.

*Puhoi River.*—A report was supplied with regard to a private reclamation.

*Paparoa River Wharf.* A report was prepared in connection with some suggested improvements and repairs.

*Auckland: Turanga Creek Wharf.*—A proposal to erect a wharf at Turanga Creek was reported upon.

*Auckland: Taikata Creek Bridge.*—A difference of opinion having arisen between the local authorities concerned as to the class of navigation to be provided for in connection with this bridge, a report and recommendation were made. Plans, &c., have since been approved.

*Auckland: Channel Island Light.*—A wire ropeway has been constructed and the pedestal erected ready for the lighting-apparatus, which has since been fitted up and the light exhibited.

*Auckland Waterways Commission.*—A certain amount of business has been dealt with in connection with this Commission.

*Piako River Entrance.*—Two leading-lights are being erected to facilitate navigation.

*Whangapoua.*—A report was furnished regarding the condition of a wharf at this place.

*Tauranga Harbour.*—A report was prepared in connection with a complaint that certain land-owners had encroached upon the foreshore. Sundry reports have been furnished in connection with wharf and harbour improvements at Tauranga. The matter is complicated by the proposed railway-line and station-yard in the vicinity, and a conference between representatives of the Government Departments and local authorities concerned has been arranged in order to devise a scheme which will meet all requirements.