

TAURANGA.

Inspection, 14th February, 1921. At the inspection muster there was present the Superintendent, Deputy, eleven Firemen, and one messenger, these representing the then full strength of the brigade. The various drills required were carried out in a satisfactory manner.

As recommended, a 1-ton truck chassis was purchased, and the body, including the fitting of a CO₂ chemical outfit, was constructed locally, both design and finish reflecting great credit on the builders. The machine was placed in commission in October and has so far given every satisfaction.

The next work requiring consideration is the installation of a street fire-alarm system, the ringing of the main fire-bell by some mechanical means, and the acquisition of more ground adjoining the central fire-station.

TE AROHA.

My first inspection of the Te Aroha Fire District, its brigade and equipment, was made on the 17th and 18th of February last.

Water-supply: The "head" (300 ft. = 130 lb.) on the lower level is ample, but the conservation (130,000 gallons) is limited, the reticulation very incomplete, and the mains, in general, are under-sized.

Fire-station: This is an old dilapidated wooden building, too small and unsuitable for its purpose.

Fire equipment: Other than the motor hose-tender the equipment is very deficient.

The brigade: The members of the brigade, sixteen all told, are an active, willing body of men and of good physique, but they require more drill and instruction.

Following are the principal recommendations. A new fire-brigade station, a 35 ft. trussed-pattern telescopic ladder, 800 ft. of new hose, one hand-pump, two hand chemical extinguishers, six collapsible buckets, and four standard nozzles.

TIMARU.

Inspection, 21st March, 1921. At the inspection muster the full strength of the brigade was accounted for. Various drills with the first-aid pump, ladder, &c., were carried out in an efficient manner, and the station and equipment was in their usual good order and condition. The newly acquired 45 horse-power 300 400 G.P.M. turbine and first-aid pump combination motor machine was taken to the roof of the wharf for testing purposes. With a 17 ft. suction lift, water was shown in thirty-two seconds, and the pump gave a discharge ranging from 295 G.P.M. with 125 lb. pressure to 425 G.P.M. with 87 lb. pressure. The results were very satisfactory, and the machine as a whole appears to be quite up to specifications.

The brigade should be provided with a set of six standard nozzles.

WAIHI.

Inspection, 16th February, 1921. At the inspection muster there were present eleven members of the brigade out of a total strength of fifteen.

The various wet and dry drills were carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the appliances were found to be in good order.

The additional call-boxes have not yet been installed on the street fire-alarm circuits, nor have the collapsible fire-buckets been provided.

WAITARA.

Inspection, 3rd November, 1920. At the inspection muster there were present only ten members of the brigade out of a total strength of fifteen, and during the course of the various drills it was apparent that more drill and instruction is required. I found that, with the exception of the purchase of 500 ft. of hose and the renovation of the street hydrant-indicators, none of the recommendations contained in my report dated 6th November, 1919, had been given effect to, and commend the said report to the notice of the Board for their immediate attention.

WANGANUI.

Inspection, 9th December, 1920. At the inspection muster the full strength of the brigade—sixteen all told—was in attendance. Various practice drills were, in view of all circumstances, carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The new 60 horse-power motor, turbine pump, first-aid pump, and 60 ft. ladder combination machine was received and put into commission in March last. A new 40 horse-power motor hose-tender has also been placed in commission. The new central station is approaching completion, and the work of installing the street fire-alarm system is now in hand. The brigade should be provided with a modern-pattern smoke-helmet, and I would repeat my recommendation that a fire-main be laid along the frontage of the benzene and wool stores in Heads Road.

WHANGAREI.

Inspection, 30th November, 1921. At the inspection muster there were present fourteen out of a strength of nineteen all told. The various drills were carried out in a satisfactory manner, and improvement is manifest in that particular.