

VINCENT COUNTY OFFICES,

Clyde, July 24th, 1901.

REPORT ON BRIDGES AND FERRIES.

CROMWELL BRIDGE. In good order.

MACANDREW BRIDGE. In good order.

CLYDE BRIDGE. I have now nine large beams on hand, and will get them in shortly.

ALEXANDRA BRIDGE. The Bridge is in good order. The further sum of £750, which was applied for by the Council, has been paid into the account. I find that it will be necessary to take some measures for the protection of the abutment on the East bank. During the late high river considerable encroachment was made on this bank, and although there is no immediate danger, steps should be taken to prevent any further loss of material. Some years ago a large piece of this bank was excavated, to make room for the pontoons of a dredge. Two dredges were in fact built there. I attribute the encroachment which has taken place since to this disturbance of the bank. A perpendicular face was left on which the water could act more readily, and the large opening created a strong backwater current. I propose to make groins of wire netting, filled with stones, encircling the abutment, and to fill in a good deal of large quarried stone between the groins. I have therefore to ask for a vote of £150., to enable me to carry d

£150 votes

out these works.

O'CONNELL BRIDGE. This is in much the same state. No word has been received from the Govt re Vote.

MANUHERIKIA BRIDGE. A supply of timber for repairs has just come to hand, and I will get the work done as soon as possible.

LOWBURN, LUGGATE, & ALBERTOWN PUNTS, are in good order. New king posts have been procured for the first mentioned.

L.D.MACGEORGE,

County Engineer.

VINCENT COUNTY OFFICES,

Clyde, July 22nd, 1901.

REPORT ON ROADS.

CLYDE TO CROMWELL. The Surfaceman with another man, and horse and dray, have done a good many chains of gravelling, near Leaning Rock Creek, and the road is consequently much improved at this part. Other surfacing repairs have been attended to. A start has been made with the re-gravelling near Cromwell. This work is to be provided for out of Govt Grant.

CLYDE TO LAUDER CREEK. At the present time there are no men on the road. Various works were however in progress up till about June 25th, when the frost compelled cessation of operations. Surfacing works were about completed at that time, and I do not anticipate that anything more need be done, for some time to come, unless it may be, for a few days when the frost breaks up. The road formation opposite Ophir was continued until about the same time, and was then discontinued for the reason given above. About 1½ miles have been completed in a satisfactory manner.

CLYDE TO TUAPEKA COUNTY BOUNDARY. The extra men were dispensed with early in June. During the time they were employed a considerable distance of the road was formed up, and otherwise improved. Since then the Surfaceman has continued similar work, and the road was in very good order when inspected, lately.

CROMWELL TO WANAKA. The surfaceman is employed on ordinary surfacing work, and is getting the road into good order. I contemplate placing him on the Luggate-Cardrona River section shortly, there being room for many improvements on this part.

CROMWELL TO KIRTLEBURN. A considerable length of this road was formed up, while the extra labor was available, and other improvements were effected. It is in good order, but will doubtless require attention when the frost breaks up.

CROMWELL TO NEVIS. A little work was done on the Upper Nevis section in the early part of June, but frost soon made the road impassable, and stopped all works. The Bannockburn section has been kept in good order.

CROMWELL TO HAWEA. The men on the section Cromwell to Rocky Pt, were dispensed with early in June, but not until this part had been put in thorough good order. The men on the section Rocky Pt to Hawea, were kept on longer, but they did not commence at the same time as the others. Good work has also been done on this part. The surfaceman will now be shifted to the upper part of the road.

SPOTTIS HUNDRED ROADS. Forming and gravelling a piece of road opposite Section 24, Block 3, Lauder District, has been completed, and good work has been done. Repairs have also been attended to in other parts. No work can be done just now, but the Creek crossings need to be cleared now and then, from the ice which blocks them. The re-gravelling in Block 5, Lauder District, has

been finished for some time, and very good work has been done, at a moderate cost. The length of road gravelled is 91 chains, and the expenditure £105. 1. 6. The cost per chain is therefore 23/-.

OPHIR TO IDA VALLEY & IDA VALLEY ROADS. These are in good order at present, but will probably cut up a little when the frost breaks. Part of the main road which was formed up, is decidedly improved. Not much has been done, however, during the past two months.

ROAD TO D. BROWNS SMALL GRAZING RUN. The cutting on this road has been finished. The material turned out to be very hard, and the work consequently took rather longer than was expected. The cost of the road has been £109, which is only slightly in excess of the estimated cost. This expenditure will of course be charged against the Small Grazing Runs benefitted.

ROAD TO WILSONS COAL PIT. The sum of £40 has been spent on this road, the Collieries Co providing half that sum. The work which included the reducing of a grade, on a narrow road, in use every day, was very awkward to carry out; and consequently the money did not go nearly as far as it otherwise would have done.

HAWEA LAKE TRACKS. A man has been employed on this track for some little time, and it is now I understand in good order. Messers Cotter Bros have also carried out the works for which the sum of £18 was allowed, but the person who inspected it on my behalf informs me that the value of the work done does not exceed half that sum, Cotters estimate as will be remembered being £25. I have therefore allowed the sum of £10.

L. S. Macgeorge
County Engineer.

VINCENT COUNTY OFFICES,

Clyde, July 23rd, 1901.

REPORT ON CONTRACTS.

CONTRACT No 415. Pitching between Clyde and Alexandra. (McLean)
Progress has as usual been slow. There are now about two chains or perhaps a little more, of the pitching completed. The work is well done and the material good. I have lost all count of the time.

CONTRACT No 423. Forming, Hawea-Lindis Road. (Collings)
The Contractor informs me that the work is completed, but I find there is still a little to do before I can pass it.

CONTRACT No 424. Forming Hawea-Lindis Road. (Redhead)
This Contract is finished, and has been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

CONTRACT No 425. Forming, Hawea-Lindis Road. (Redhead)
I find that some of the slopes are not quite up to the mark, but in other respects the work is well done.

CONTRACT No 426. Forming, Conroys Gully Road. (Drummeay)
Fair progress is being made with this work, and it is well done. I understand that the Contractor will make an application for extension of time, but I have not received it.

CONTRACT No 427. Forming and gravelling, Nevis. (Manson)

This work has I understand been completed for some time, but I have not been able to visit it.

CONTRACT No 428. Forming, Galloway-Ida Valley. (Jackson)

This work is also completed, but I have not seen it since. It was however being carried out in a proper manner when last inspected.

CONTRACT No 429. Forming and gravelling, Luggate. (McLoughlin)

With the exception that one of the grades was not properly carried out the work was completed. This fault the Contractor will remedy. In other respects the work was well done.

CONTRACT No 430. Forming, Block 3, Poolburn District. (McDonald)

I found that the formation was not in proper shape, and was altogether very roughly done. These matters must be attended to before the Contract is finally passed, and this the Contractor has promised to do.

CONTRACT No 431. Forming, Hawea-Lindis Road. (Collings)

The works on this Contract are in an unfinished state, and have been suspended for the present, owing to the unfavorable weather. The time allowed has been considerably exceeded, and I understand the Contractor is making an application for extension.

CONTRACTS Nos 432a, 433, & 434. Forming, Bendigo-Matakanui.

(Pascoe & Party, and R. Redhead) These works have been so lately undertaken, that I have not yet visited them. I understand

that a start has been made at 433 but very little is done.

CONTRACT No 435. Boundary Creek Bridge. (ALLEN)

The work has not been commenced.

CONTRACT No 436. Gravelling, Bridge Hill, Bannockburn. (Elliott)

The Contract is probably completed by this time. I found it necessary to order as addition to some parts of the work, and the Contractor promised to attend to it.

CONTRACT No 437. Widening road, Butchers Gully Crossing. (Arthur)

The retaining walls were not being properly built when I inspected the work, and I instructed the Contractor to have them altered. Since then not much has been done, the frost setting in shortly after.

L. D. MACGEORGE,

County Engineer.