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FILE NO. 781/31.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF WORKS.

GENERAL.

Including: Various proposals for Relief Works
and Wages and Conditions of Men Employed.

(See Also BOX FILE).

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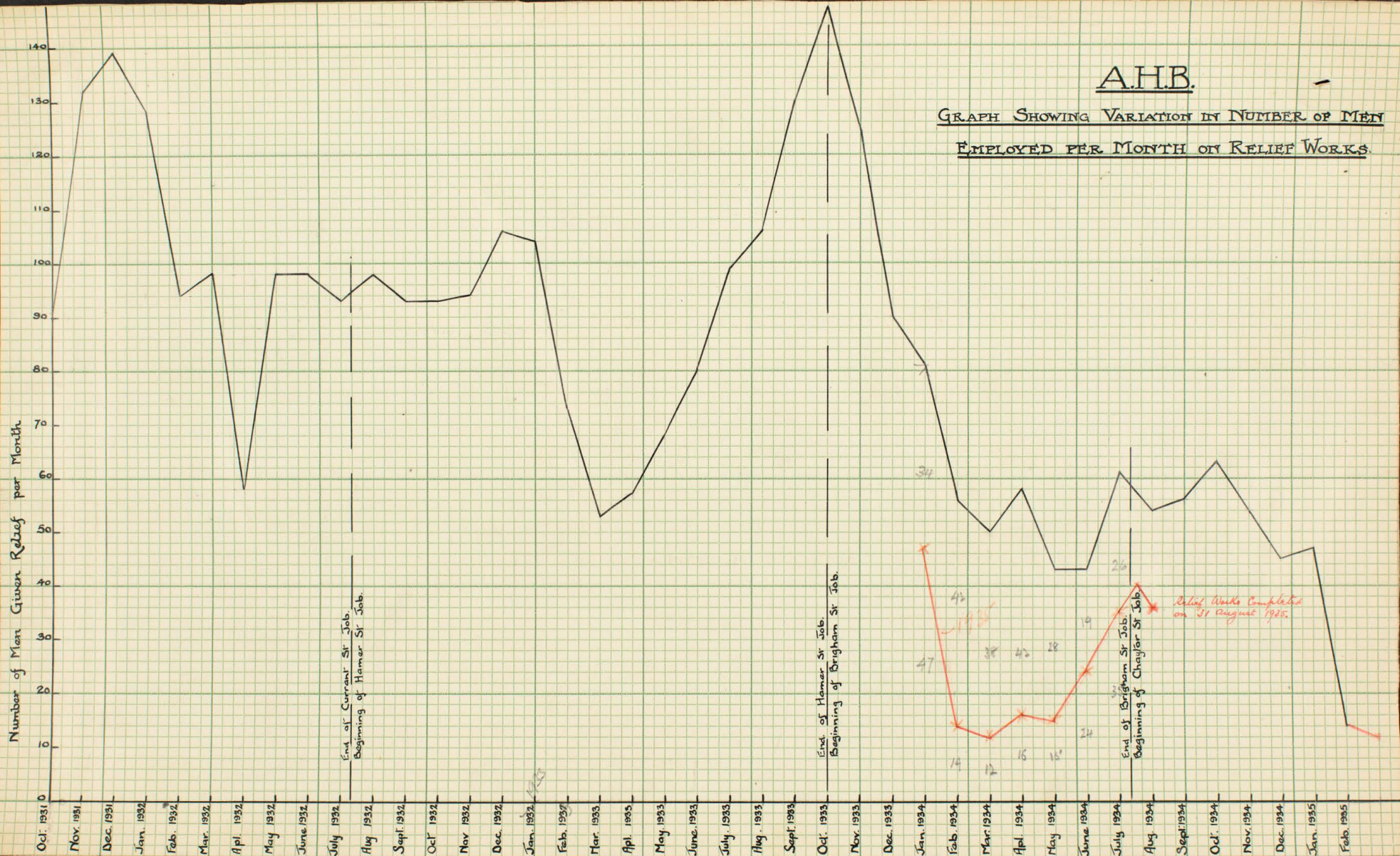
SEE ALSO THE FOLLOWING FILES FOR RELIEF WORKS

CARRIED OUT:-

<u>Boat Harbour St. Mary's Bay -</u> <u>Road Approach.</u>	<u>779.</u>
<u>Western Reclamation Roads - Hamer St.</u>	<u>779.</u>
<u>" " " - Brigham St.</u>	<u>779.</u>
<u>Eastern Reclamation No.2 - Roding.</u>	<u>834.</u>

A.H.B.

GRAPH SHOWING VARIATION IN NUMBER OF MEN
EMPLOYED PER MONTH ON RELIEF WORKS



- COPY -

U.B.10/118.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

AUCKLAND. C.1.

20th. August, 1935.

The Superintendent & Secretary,
Auckland Harbour Board,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir;

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., advising that the work at Chaytor Street for the employment of relief workers is nearing completion and that it will not be possible for your Board to employ any relief workers after the 31st idem.

I would take this opportunity of conveying to you the thanks of the Unemployment Board for the assistance which you have rendered in the past, and of assuring you that your co-operation has been much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) W. Slaughter.

Officer in Charge.

ENGINEER'S REMARKS:

Noted.

D.H.
21.8.1935.

17th. August, 35

The Superintendent.

RELIEF WORKERS.

The work at Chaytor Street for the employment of relief workers is nearing completion.

Will you please, therefore, notify the Department that it will not be possible to employ any relief workers after the 31st. of this month.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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24th. July, 35

The Superintendent.

WORKS CARRIED OUT UNDER UNEMPLOYMENT BOARD SCHEME NO.5.

- Circular letter dated 25th. June, 1935. -

At the urgent request of the Officers of the Unemployment Board, the Auckland Harbour Board has, since August 1931, inaugurated works to provide employment for unemployed Waterside Workers.

The first work, viz., the construction of embankment and road at Curran Street, was the only one which was outstandingly suitable as a relief work, inasmuch as it was possible to employ a very large amount of unskilled labour in proportion to the expenditure on materials, supervision etc., and in this case the national asset produced was appreciably in excess of the Harbour Board expenditure and only about 10 per cent below the total expenditure - Harbour Board and Unemployment Board combined.

As was pointed out when they were authorised, the more recent works, viz. - the Roading of the Western Reclamation 1932-1934, and Chaytor Street on Eastern Reclamation now in progress - were likely to show very little saving to the Harbour Board on what would have been the total cost if carried out by contract or by the Harbour Board's staff, and the total expenditure by Harbour Board and Unemployment Board combined has considerably exceeded the value of the asset produced.

The Harbour Board definitely undertook these latter works only to accommodate the Unemployment Board who were insistent that it was desirable to continue to find employment for the men.

From the Harbour Board's point of view and except in the case of the Curran Street job, it has been a difficult and unsatisfactory method of conducting works, and such small savings as have been made, compared with carrying out the work by Contract, are likely to be not more than sufficient to meet the interest on money laid out ahead of the time when it would normally have been spent.

The attached table gives the detailed information asked for. The relative amounts spent by the Unemployment Board and the Harbour Board and the present value of the works, bears out fully the predictions and estimates submitted prior to the various works being undertaken.

Letter returned herewith.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

RELIEF WORKS.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE AND VALUE OF WORK DONE.

Work.	Relief Workers Wages. (Paid by Un-employment Board).	A.H.B. Expenditure	Total Expenditure. (Including Relief Workers Wages).	Value of Work.
Boat Harbour St. Mary's Bay. (Road access from Curran Street 1931-32).	£3660.14. 8	£3154. 7. 6	£6815. 2. 2	£6200. 0. 0 (See report of Works Committee 17.2.31 adopted by Board 17.2.31)
Western Reclamation Roadways. (Brigham and Hamer Streets, 1932-1934).	£7101. 6. 1	£12957.18. 0	£20059. 4. 1	£15000. 0. 0 (See Engr's. memo to Supt. 10.2.1932)
Eastern Reclamation Roadway - (Chaytor Street).	£1373. 1.10	to date 20.7.35 £3234. 4.10	to date 20.7.35 £4607. 6. 8	about - £4400. 0. 0 when complete.
(Estimated to complete -		<u>765.15. 2</u>		
		£4000. 0. 0		

23 July 1935.

Relief Works. (Commenced August 1931)

Details of Expenditure & Value of Work Done.

Work.	Relief Workers Wages. <small>(Paid by Unemployment Board)</small>	M.H.B. Expenditure.	Total Expenditure <small>(including Relief Workers Wages.)</small>	Value of Work.
	£. s. d.			
Bootharbour - St. Marys Bay. <small>(Road Access from Curran St.)</small> 1931. 1932.	3660. 14. 8	3154. 7. 6	6815. 2. 2	£6,200 <small>see report of Works Committee 17th Feb 1931 adopted by Bd 17.2.31.</small>
Area - 1760 sqds. = 16% per sqd. <small>M.H.B. Expenditure only.</small>				
Western Reclamation - Roadways. <small>(Brigham - Hamer Streets.)</small> 1932. 1934.	7101. 6. 1	12,957. 18. 0	20,059. 4. 1	£15,000 <small>See memo to Supt. 10.2.1932</small>
Area - Roadways Only. Hamer St. 9750 sqds. Brigham St. 4650 14,400 = 19% per sqd. <small>M.H.B. Expenditure only.</small>				
Eastern Reclamation - Roadway. <small>(Chaytor St.)</small> 1934. 1935. <small>(Total to 20th July 1935.)</small> <small>(Area - Roadway only = 3993 sqds.) = 16% per sqd. <small>M.H.B. Expenditure only.</small></small>	1373. 1. 10	to date 20.7.35 3234. 4. 10 <small>Estimated to complete</small> 765. 15. 2 <hr/> 4000. 10. 0	to date 20.7.35 4,607. 6. 8	about £4750 <small>when complete</small> Value at 22 nd 1935 <u>by £4400.</u>

90' Roadway - French St.

Contract 838. Contractor. P.N. Jones. Constructed 1928.

Cost of Roadway & Footpaths only. = £4600. 12. 2

(not including 9 Crossings for Railway Dept, but including
Sewer Connection to Kings Drive [485])

but if it had been only 60ft wide and have cost £4000

= 4079 sq. yds. = 17% per sqd.

Area (Roadway only - not footpaths) = 5412 sqds.

= 17% per sqd.

Unemployment Board:

The following contributions have been received from the Unemployment Board: 7a Relief Workers' Wages

Re. Greatwater Boat Harbour Access Roadway

to 30/9/1931. 461-11-1

30/9/1932. 3199-3-7.

3660-14-8

Western Reclamation - Roadways:

to 30/9/1932. 710-3-5.

30/9/1933 4005-1-10

30/9/1934. 2386-0-10

7101-6-1

Eastern Reservoir - Chapter 21:

to 30/9/1934. 239-17-0

to 30/6/1935. 1029-14-9

1269 11-9

Total received to 30/6/1935.

£12,031.12.6

RP 3/2/35

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 10th. JULY, 1934.

1. CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD EASTERN RECLAMATION NO.2.

Letter from Commissioner of Unemployment, 29.6.1934,
approving the Board's proposal to carry out road construction
work at Eastern Reclamation No.2 under the Unemployment
Board's No.5 Scheme.

That the letter be received.

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REPORT OF BOARD IN COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 26th. June, 1934 at 2.0 p.m.

Present: The Chairman (Mr. T.B. Clay),
Messrs. A.M. Laing, A.J. Parker, A.S.
Sutherland, H.R. Mackenzie, S. Vella,
W.B. Darlow, W.A. Donald, J. Sayegh
and Hon. T. Bloodworth.

Your Committee has the honour to report as follows:-

FURTHER RELIEF WORK.

After inspecting the alternative sites of the proposed road on the Eastern Reclamation No.2, the Committee returned to the Board's Office and considered the letter from Officer in Charge, Labour Department, Auckland, 7.6.1934, asking the Board to reconsider its decision regarding relief employment and to make arrangements for further work to be put in hand on completion of the work of roading Western Reclamation.

Recommended:-

- (1) That application be made to the Unemployment Board for authority to carry out the work of roading on Eastern Reclamation No.2 under that Board's No.5 Scheme as recommended by the Board's Engineer.
- (2) That application be made to the Local Government Loans Board for its sanction to the raising of a loan of £4,200 for the carrying out of the above work.
- (3) That the work be declared a Relief Work in terms of Section 155 of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925."

(Sgd). Thomas B. Clay,
Chairman.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 26th. JUNE, 1934.

6. REPORT OF BOARD IN COMMITTEE.

Report of Board in Committee, 26.6.34, re Further Relief Work.

That the report be adopted.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 12th. JUNE, 1934.

1. RELIEF WORK.

Letter from Officer in Charge, Labour Department, Auckland, 7.6.1934, asking the Board to reconsider its decision regarding relief employment and to make arrangements for further work to be put in hand on completion of the work of roading Western Reclamation.

That the matter be referred to the Board in Committee.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD IN COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 19.6.34.

1. RELIEF WORK.

Letter from Officer in Charge, Labour Department, Auckland, 7.6.1934, asking the Board to reconsider its decision regarding relief employment and to make arrangements for further work to be put in hand on completion of the work of roading Western Reclamation.

That the Committee inspect the site of the proposed road on the Eastern Reclamation on Tuesday next, 26th inst. at 2 p.m. with a view to deciding whether or not further relief work shall be put in hand.

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 1st. May, 1934.

7. RELIEF EMPLOYMENT WORK.

Your report 12.3.1934.

That no action be taken and the Department
be notified that the work of roading the Western
Reclamation is nearing completion.

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21st. April, 34

The Superintendent.

EMPLOYMENT.

- Board's Resolution 27.3.34 -

The estimates adopted by the Board for the present financial year provided for carrying out a considerable amount of maintenance work which had been deferred during the previous two or three years owing to the difficulties of finance.

The authorisation of this work involved the employment of about twenty more hands compared with last year.

More recently (in February 1934) the Board decided to recommission the Dredge "Hapai" for urgent dredging work, and this led to the immediate temporary employment of a very large number of additional hands and (as long as the dredge remains in commission) the permanent employment of a further approximately twenty hands, so that the total increase in employment in this Department is now approximately 26% in excess of last year.

It is not desirable or economical to overtake all the leeway in maintenance works in this one year, and at the present time I would not recommend any further speeding up of maintenance works which are already proceeding at a rate above normal requirements.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY, 20th. MARCH 1934.

1. ROAD FORMATION - EASTERN RECLAMATION
NO.2 - RELIEF EMPLOYMENT.

Your report 12.3.1934, in regard to the formation
of one of the Roads on Eastern Reclamation No.2.

That the matter be referred to the
Board in Committee.

12th. March 34

The Superintendent.

RELIEF EMPLOYMENT FOR WATERSIDE WORKERS.

The construction work on Brigham Street will be completed in from three to four months depending upon the weather and the number of unemployed available from day to day.

In my estimates for 1933-34 expenditure, I submitted a proposal for the continuation of relief employment by the construction of one of the roads on the Eastern Reclamation No.2 for which the sum of£4,200 would require to be provided by the Board.

This item was deleted by the Board and unless further consideration is to be given to the matter, the Unemployment Board should be notified that on the completion of the Brigham Street works the Department will require to make other arrangements for the unemployed waterside workers.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

NEW POST OFFICE.

STAR. ————— 2. 10. 33

TENDER AND SUBSIDY.

"EXPENSIVE RESTRICTION."

CONTRACTOR'S VIEW.

(By Telegraph.—Parliamentary Reporter.)

WELLINGTON, this day.

A singular position arose over the Dunedin Post Office contract, in relation to the Unemployment Board's scheme for the building subsidy. Tenders were called when the board was offering a subsidy of 33 1-3 per cent on wages paid on buildings exceeding £650. The Government therefore called alternative tenders, one to specify price without the wages subsidy, and the other including the subsidy. The successful tenderers were Messrs. Fletcher Brothers, whose lowest-priced tender was accepted. This excluded the Unemployment Board subsidy, their price, if the subsidy was accepted with its accompanying restrictions, was actually £2500 higher.

Messrs. Fletcher Bros. were advised, on acceptance of their lowest price, that, within 14 days, they would be notified by the Government whether anything was being done in regard to the building subsidy. In due course they found that nothing was being done. In explaining to the "Star" correspondent the reasons for tendering on a higher price if the wages subsidy was to be received, Mr. Andrew Fletcher, one of the firm's principals, stated that their desire was to push through the work with every possible dispatch, therefore they considered it would be an expensive restriction if they were to be forced to work 44 hours weekly, and the matter would be greatly complicated by sub-contracting. Certain classes of concreting work had to be made a continuous job until completed, and serious losses might be incurred if, through restriction on hours, a break had to be made before the job was finished.

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(Copy see file
to 779.)

21st. September, 33

The Superintendent.

RELIEF WORKS.

If it is the Board's definite intention not to incur any expenditure on the formation of Brigham Street until the Loans Board has sanctioned the raising of the £10,000 for which application has been made, it will be necessary to notify the local office of the Labour Department that in the meantime men cannot be employed after say Saturday 30th. inst.

As has been pointed out to the Board on previous occasions, this action will seriously embarrass both the Labour Department Officers and the unemployed waterside workers as it impossible for these men to be given relief under the ordinary No.5 scheme.

There is, however, no alternative to a complete shut-down unless either the necessary approval is received from the Loans Board, or this Board approves of the work being proceeded with under General Account until formal approval is received.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

EXTRACTS FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 22nd. AUGUST, 1933.

1. ROADING OF EASTERN PORTION, WESTERN RECLAMATION.

Letter from Commissioner of Unemployment, 15.8.1933, re further road construction on the Eastern portion of Western Reclamation as a relief work, stating that, provided the Board obtained the sanction of the Local Government Loans Board to the raising of a loan to finance this work, there would be no objection to the work being carried out by relief labour under Scheme No.5 on the same conditions as approved for the present work.

- (1) That the letter be received and the work put in hand under the Unemployment Board's No.5 Scheme after completion of the existing road work.
- (2) That the work be declared a relief work in terms of Section 155 of the "Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925".

9. LOAN FOR RELIEF WORKS, £10,000.

Report of Treasurer and Accountant, 1.8.1933, re terms, rate of interest, etc., loan of £10,000 for relief works.

That the application to the Loans Board be on the 4½ 20 year table loan; and failing such being obtained for that rate, the loan be raised on a 4% table basis.

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 27th. JUNE, 1933.

5. RELIEF EMPLOYMENT FOR WATERSIDE WORKERS.

Your report 22.6.1933 re relief employment for Waterside Workers and work of forming the 42ft. road on the eastern side of Western Reclamation.

That the matter be referred to the Board in Committee; Treasurer to report.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 25th. JULY, 1933.

5. RELIEF EMPLOYMENT FOR WATERSIDE WORKERS.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK WESTERN RECLAMATION.

Your report 22.6.1933 re relief employment for Waterside Workers; Treasurers reports 11.7.1933, (2).

That application be made to the Local Government Loans Board for sanction of a loan of £10,000 and that, if and when granted, the work be authorised.

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22nd. June, 33

The Superintendent.

RELIEF EMPLOYMENT - FOR WATERSIDE WORKERS.

The road construction at Western Reclamation authorised by the Board in March 1932 as Relief Work for the Waterside Workers is now approaching completion and unless further work is authorised at a very early date it will soon be impossible to provide employment for the whole of the men.

There still remains to be constructed the 42ft. wide road on the eastern side of the Western Reclamation and if the Board intends to continue its policy of providing employment for these men this is the work which I would recommend.

It will be necessary for the Board to provide the sum of approximately,£5,000 for materials, plant and supervision, and at present rate of unemployment this should provide work for the next eight or nine months.

ENGINEER'S NOTES:

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

Estimate for Roading Western Reclamation:
 Complete roading if by Contract (See Eng. report to Super. 10.2.1932.).....£15,000
 Less saving by carrying out as a Relief work (See report to Super. 12.2.1933)..... £2,000
 78ft. Road only: £13,000
 By Contract £9,550
 Saving by Relief Labour 1,250..... £8,300
Estimated cost if 42' Road done by Relief Labour £4,700.

Board 25.6.33 amount of employment relief fund expended to date £2400.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD IN COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY

13th. JUNE, 1933.

4. WESTERN RECLAMATION ROADS.

Report of Chairman re deputation from Waterside Relief Workers regarding condition of work etc., at Western Reclamation; also report of Engineer 12.6.33:-

Resolved:

That no action be taken.

The Superintendent.

A.H.B. RELIEF WORKS.

With reference to the deputation which waited upon the Chairman on 5th inst., the following points were raised by various members of the deputation:-

- (1). Issue of gum boots to men working in wet trenches.

An adequate supply of gum boots has always been available and all men working in wet trenches are supplied with these.

- (2). Request for issue of trench coats or capes for men working in trenches.

The trenches are shallow and the men are not called upon to work when rain is falling. They are given all the privileges of and are worked under the same conditions as provided for in the various workers awards. The conditions under which the issue of capes is required do not apply in this case.

- (3). Request for relief pay to be subsidised by Board so as to increase the daily rate to 14/-.

The rate of pay to which the men are entitled is fixed by the Unemployment Board. The Harbour Board has allocated certain funds to the prosecution of the work and the results of the ~~un~~employment of relief workers do not justify any subsidy. Waterside workers who fail to earn certain specified amounts per month at their calling, are given the opportunity of making up the deficiency by working the requisite number of hours on this Board's relief works. If the monthly amounts so fixed are too low it is for the Unemployment Board to increase them.

- (4). The deputation stated that the Board pays its own employees an extra 1/2d (half-penny) per hour when spreading metal and asked that this be paid to relief workers.

The Board pays its own employees only the rates laid down by the award for the various classes of work.

- (5). Waiting Time: The deputation asked that when the weather is too wet for the men to turn to, waiting time be paid for the first two hours.

The relief workers receive the same treatment as the Board's permanent and casual employees in this respect and it would be unwise to alter it. It is usually quite apparent to anyone when the day is definitely unsuitable for work. If waiting time is paid for as a fixed practice, men would always present themselves

on each occasion when the weather was unsuitable in order to collect the two hours bonus.

I would remind the Board that in the earlier stages of its relief works, trouble was experienced on many occasions through a belief which existed among some of the men that the relief pay was purely a subsistence payment to which they were entitled irrespective of the services rendered by them.

The matter has been fully discussed with Officers of the Labour Department who maintain that all relief workers are expected to give a fair days work, and they have expressed their complete satisfaction with the manner in which the Harbour Board relief works are being conducted.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

Engineer

Monday, 5th. June, 1933, @ 11.30 a.m.

The Chairman of the Board (Mr. T.B. Clay) met a deputation from the Waterside Workers engaged on the Board's Relief Works at Western Reclamation.

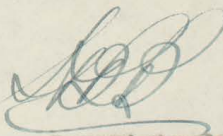
The Deputation was introduced by Mr. J. Sayegh, and the Acting President of the Waterside Workers (Mr. Pauling) accompanied him.

Mr. Kelly stated that on the drainage part of the work there were insufficient gum boots. He asked that at least six oil-skins be provided for workers in drains and that the daily wage paid be brought up to 14/- a day by subsidy from the Board, as was done by other local bodies. He asked also that metal workers receive the extra 1/6d. a hour paid to the Board's own employees.

Mr. Gould asked that waiting time up to two hours be paid for. He stated that relief workers elsewhere received two hours' pay if they turned up to work and were unable to start owing to wet weather. He also explained the position from the men's point of view regarding the allocation of work and payment for same by the Unemployment Board.

The Board's Engineer stated that he was opposed to the provision of oilskins and to payment for standing time, and gave his reasons for that attitude.

The Chairman promised that the various matters would be considered by the Board at the first opportunity.



Superintendent & Secretary.

6th. April, 33

The Officer in Charge,
Department of Labour,
Shortland Street,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir;

In reply to your urgent circular dated 5th inst.,
my Resident Engineer on the Western Reclamation Roading - Relief
Work states as follows:-

"RE PAYMENT OF MEMBERS OF DEPUTATION: As the men on this
job are Waterside Workers and have no fixed days to come
to work, I could not say who should have been at work on
the day of the deputation.

No man informed me either before or after that he
was to be on the deputation, so I am unable to submit any
names of men who could demand pay.

(Sgd.) R.D. Young. "

I trust this information is sufficient for your
purpose.

Yours truly,

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

Date-stamp.

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

(If prepaid in stamps, sender to affix stamps in this space.)

CHARGES : (ORDINARY: 12 words, 9d. Every additional word, 1d.
URGENT: Double the ordinary rate.
LETTER: 27 words, 9d. Every additional 3 words or fraction thereof, 1d.)

Code:..... Time:..... No..... Sent..18..7..32..
Instructions:..... To.....
Charges:

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 Words: By.....
Ackt:.....

Checked:

This telegram is presented for transmission by the undersigned, subject to the authorized conditions.

TO

HOLDERNESS,

HARBOUR BOARD,

NAPIER.

MEN WORKING AS USUAL.

VICKERMAN.

Note.—When it is not intended or desired that the sender's signature should be telegraphed it must be written on the back of the form.
Tel. 130. 10,000,000/12/28—13027]

NOTICE TO THE SENDER OF THIS TELEGRAM.

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2. The charges for telegrams are prepaid in postage-stamps; but at offices where a cash-register is in use payment may be made in cash. Senders of telegrams prepaid in stamps must affix the stamps in the space provided. The sender of a telegram is responsible for all charges incurred in the transmission and delivery thereof.

3. All telegrams must contain a proper address of not less than three words (except in the case of a code address), and must bear a genuine signature. Telegrams for passengers on trains should show in the address the word "northward" or "southward" (as the case may be), or other indication of direction. They are accepted at the sender's risk, owing to uncertainty of delivery.

4. Except in the case of a letter-telegram the sender may direct delivery to the addressee by telephone by the insertion of the word "Telephone" in the address.

5. The sender may prepay the cost of a reply. If the reply-form is not used its value will be refunded upon application, within three months, accompanied by the form itself, to the Controller of Accounts, G.P.O. A reply-form may be used to send a message to any address.

6. A telegram may be accepted "Collect," in which case the value will be collected from the addressee; but the sender will be held responsible for the charges, failing payment by the addressee.

7. A telegram may be repeated back from office to office, if the sender so desires, at a charge of one-half the ordinary tariff.

8. The addressee of a telegram may have it repeated on payment of one-half of the amount paid for its transmission. Should he require a portion only to be repeated, payment must be made at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each word. The minimum charge, however, is 6d. Payments for repetition will be refunded if the original telegram is found to be incorrectly transmitted.

9. Urgent telegrams take precedence of ordinary telegrams.

10. Letter-telegrams are delivered by post at the office of destination on the morning following the day of presentation.

11. Attention is called to the penalties provided in the Post and Telegraph Act, 1908, and the Post and Telegraph Amendment Act, 1919, for forging a telegram, and for the misuse of telegram forms, respectively.

12. All applications respecting this telegram should be made within three months from the date of its transmission, after which period it will be destroyed.

For further regulations see *Post and Telegraph Guide*.

Name and Address of Sender :

{ _____

1st. August, 32

The Superintendent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF WORKS.

As far as practicable the Board has assisted the unemployment situation by completing works already in hand out of its own funds thereby retaining men in its employ up to the last possible moment who otherwise would have been swelling the ranks of the unemployed.

When the Unemployment Board experienced difficulty in making provision for the large number of waterside workers who through slackness of shipping were no longer able to earn a living wage on the waterfront, the Board inaugurated relief work at St. Mary's Bay which up to the past week absorbed the whole of the men entitled to relief.

When the St. Mary's Bay work was nearing completion, as the situation showed no signs of improvement and at the urgent request of the Employment Board, the Board decided to carry out the roading of the Western Reclamation as a relief work and all unemployed waterside workers have now been transferred to this work.

The relief work at St. Mary's Bay was started on the 13th. August 1931 and a daily average of approximately 30 men have been employed and at no time since the work was inaugurated has any member of the Waterside Workers Union failed to obtain the full amount of relief unemployment to which he was entitled.

Over £3,600 of relief monies have been distributed to unemployed relief workers and the Board has already spent over £2,200 of its own funds in the prosecution of the Curran Street Extension, a work which had been postponed indefinitely and from which no return can be expected until the additional facilities required at the St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour are provided. In this connection it should be noted that all materials supplied and paid for by the Board on the Curran Street work are of local production and represented almost entirely further relief ~~work~~ by retaining men in employment in the various industries concerned.

In connection with the Western Reclamation Roading it is anticipated that a similar amount of unemployed labour will be absorbed while the amount of money to be provided by this Board for materials and other items will be approximately £8,000, the greater part of which will again directly contribute to the maintenance of men in employment in their respective industries.

Relief works have been so organised that it is possible at short notice to absorb a large number of men, and the Labour Department has been advised from time to time that any reasonable emergency can be met in the way of placing additional men on the works and I anticipate no difficulty in meeting the situation throughout the next five or six months.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 1ST. MARCH, 1932.

6. ROADING - WESTERN RECLAMATION.

Letter from Minister in Charge of Unemployment, 28.1.1932, stating that the Unemployment Board had approved the work of roading Western Reclamation being done under Scheme No.5. Report of Treasurer & Accountant, 8.2.1932, re loan money available for the work; Report of Chairman, 12.2.1932, re interview with Officer in Charge, Labour Department, Auckland, 12.2.1932; Reports of Engineer 10 & 12.2.1932 submitting estimates of cost of (a) Complete Roading, and (b) 78ft. road and 42ft. extension to Western Wharf only; Letter from Shell Co. of N.Z. Ltd. 12.2.1932, stating that, at the moment, the Company's policy of development had not been decided upon and it was therefore unable to say what the Company's intentions were in regard to building operations.

- (1) That the work be authorised under "B" Scheme as set out in the Engineer's report of 10th February 1932, and be put in hand under the Unemployment Board's No.5 Scheme after completion of the St. Mary's Bay work;
 - (2) That the work be declared a relief work in terms of section 155 of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925".
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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 8TH. DECEMBER, 1931.

6. ST. MARY'S BAY ROAD WORK - SCHEME NO.5.

The Chairman reported that he had interviewed the Minister of Public Works yesterday and had asked him not to reduce the grant under the Unemployment Board's Scheme No.5 for the St. Mary's Bay road work; also to make a grant of £2,500 towards the cost of roading of Western Reclamation. Mr. Coates had promised to refer the matter to the Unemployment Board on his arrival at Wellington.

That the action of the Chairman be approved.

PART II.

AMENDMENTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT ACT.

25. (1) This Part of this Act shall be read together with and deemed part of the Unemployment Act, 1930.

This Part to be read with Unemployment Act.

(2) In this Part of this Act the expression "the principal Act" means the Unemployment Act, 1930, and the expression "the Amendment Act" means the Unemployment Amendment Act, 1931.

26. (1) For the purposes of this section and the two next succeeding sections the term "local authority" has the same meaning as in section twenty-nine of the Amendment Act.

Authorizing local authorities, with concurrence of Unemployment Board, to undertake work for benefit of private property.

(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act, any local authority may, with the concurrence of the Unemployment Board, undertake and carry out any works in relief of unemployment, whether or not such works are within the ordinary functions of such local authority, and whether carried out on or for the benefit of privately owned property or any other property.

(3) The expenditure incurred by a local authority in respect of any works undertaken pursuant to this section may be paid out of its general fund or account or out of any separate account, but shall not be paid out of a loan account or a special rate account unless the moneys in such account would have been available to meet such expenditure independently of this section.

(4) The expenditure by a local authority of money under this section on or for the benefit of property belonging to a member of that local authority shall not constitute a disqualification of such member.

(5) Where any works are undertaken pursuant to this section for the purposes of the Southland Land Drainage Act, 1914, it shall not be necessary to comply with any of the provisions of subsections three to nine of section four of that Act.

(6) This section shall be deemed to have been in force as from the passing of the Amendment Act.

27. (1) In respect of any works undertaken by a local authority pursuant to the last preceding section, the local authority may agree with the owner or occupier of any land for the payment by him, in whole or in part, of the cost of such works, either in one sum or by instalments over such period as may be agreed on.

Cost of works may be recovered as rate from owner or occupier of any lands benefited thereby.

(2) Interest at such rate, if any, as may be agreed on, shall be charged on all moneys payable by the owner or occupier of any land as aforesaid, and for the time being unpaid.

(3) The sum payable in any year pursuant to an agreement under this section shall for all purposes be deemed to be a special rate duly made and levied by the local authority over the land affected, and the provisions of the Rating Act, 1925, shall, with any necessary modifications, apply accordingly:

Provided that it shall not be necessary in any such case for the local authority to provide a valuation roll or rate-book in respect of any such payment.

28. (1) For the purpose of providing works in relief of unemployment, the Minister of Public Works, on the recommendation of the Unemployment Board, may, subject to the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, undertake and carry out any drainage, irrigation, reclamation,

Authorizing Minister of Public Works to carry out works in relief of unemployment.

or other works of a reproductive character on or for the benefit of privately owned property or any other property.

(2) All works undertaken or proposed to be undertaken pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be public works within the meaning of the Public Works Act, 1928, and the provisions of that Act shall apply with respect thereto accordingly, save that it shall not be necessary to give any notices or receive any consents before proceeding to carry out any such works.

(3) The powers conferred on the Minister of Public Works by this section may, with the concurrence of the Unemployment Board, be delegated by the Minister to any local authority, and such local authority may carry out any such works in accordance with the terms of the delegation.

Unemployment-tax on salaries and wages not payable by persons who are not ordinarily resident in New Zealand.

Section 17 of Amendment Act amended.

Income received in but not derived from New Zealand liable for unemployment charge.

Extending powers of Governor-General to make regulations.

29. Section twelve of the Amendment Act is hereby amended as from the passing of that Act by inserting, after the words "Every person" in subsection one, the words "ordinarily resident in New Zealand".

30. Section seventeen of the Amendment Act is hereby amended as from the passing of that Act by inserting, after the words "the payment of any emergency unemployment charge" in subsection one, the words "or, in the case of a person absent from New Zealand on the due date of any such payment, who makes default in the payment of such charge for more than one month after his return to New Zealand".

31. Section eighteen of the Amendment Act is hereby amended as from the passing of that Act as follows:—

(a) By inserting, after the words "the classes referred to", the words "in section eighty-nine and":

(b) By adding thereto the following proviso:—

"Provided also that income derived elsewhere than from New Zealand shall be exempt from the emergency unemployment charge if and so far as the Board is satisfied that it is derived from some other country within the British dominions, and that it is chargeable in that country with a special tax levied in respect of unemployment."

32. (1) Section thirty-five of the Amendment Act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following paragraphs:—

"(e) Authorizing the refund of any moneys paid in error or in excess of the amount properly payable as unemployment relief-tax under this Act, or as unemployment levy under the principal Act:

"(f) Authorizing the payment of travelling-allowances and other allowances to members of the Board, and prescribing the rates of such allowances."

(2) All regulations issued before the passing of this Act and purporting to be made under the authority of the principal Act (including the Amendment Act) authorizing the refund of amounts paid in error as unemployment levy under the principal Act or as unemployment relief-tax, or authorizing the making of adjustments in relation to amounts paid in excess or in error as aforesaid, are hereby declared to be and at all times since the making thereof to have been valid.

(3) All payments to members of the Board as travelling-allowances or other allowances made before the issue of regulations authorizing the same (whether so made before or within one month after the passing of this Act) may be validated by such regulations.

Form C-17.]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

AUCKLAND,

17th. September, 1931.

File No.

In replying to this communication please quote above number.

Correspondents will greatly facilitate the transaction of business by communicating SEPARATELY in reference to EACH subject.

In reply to No.

The Engineer,
Auckland Harbour Board,
Engineer's Office,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir :-

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF WORKS - ST. MARY'S BAY.

In reply to your letter of the 16th. instant, I have to advise that I am not in a position to state definitely whether the arrangement suggested by you is possible. However, the matter has been placed before the Unemployment Board and you will be communicated with again at a later date.

Yours faithfully,

W. B. Laughton

Officer in Charge.

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16th. September, 31.

The Officer in Charge,
Department of Labour,
Shortland Street,
AUCKLAND.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF WORKS - ST. MARY'S BAY.

Dear Sir;

Under date 20th August, you stated in a letter to the Secretary that it would be necessary to allocate to this Board a weekly sum to meet the payments of relief workers and asked this Board to advise the average weekly amount required. This was fixed at £125/-/-.

Owing to the method of allocating relief work to the various men it is found that in some weeks comparatively few men report for work while at other times very large numbers report and expect to be started.

Both yesterday the 15th. and today the 16th. my representative was compelled to turn away men in order to keep within the weekly allocation of £125/-/-

In the interests of the men, I would be glad to know whether some more satisfactory and flexible arrangement can be entered into whereby the unexpended balance of any one week may be made available as additional expenditure during subsequent weeks.

Please let me know whether you are able to arrange this.

Yours truly,

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 1ST. SEPTEMBER 1931.

The following resolution was passed at a Special Meeting of the Auckland Harbour Board held yesterday. (1st. Sept.)

1. ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR RELIEF WORK.

That the work of constructing the road access to St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour authorised to be carried out by Resolution of the Board dated 10th. March 1931 shall be carried out as a relief work in terms of Section 155 of "The Industrial Conciliation & Arbitration Act, 1925."

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C O P Y.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD.

INSTRUCTIONS TO FOREMEN AND INSPECTORS.

Engineer's Office,

22nd. August, 1931.

Mr. J.G. Hardie.

RELIEF WORKS - ST. MARY'S BAY.

The Labour Department has asked for a statement of the average weekly amount required to cover labour costs on the Harbour Board relief work at St. Mary's Bay, and I have stated "that the estimated average weekly amount for wages is £125/-/- ".

See that this amount is not exceeded.

D. Holderness.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

per H.E.B.

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C O P Y.

(Secty's File 145).
17

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

AUCKLAND.

20th. August, 1931.

The Secretary,
Auckland Harbour Board,
Quay Street,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir;

Construction of Road Access to St. Mary's
Bay Boat Harbour.

I am in receipt of advice from the Unemployment Commissioner that so far as the Unemployment Board is concerned this work is being undertaken under Scheme No.5 and the rules of Scheme No.5 will apply^{as} in the case of all other work. The Unemployment Board has not granted specific sums to your Board for this undertaking. The funds for the carrying on of the work are to be charged in the ordinary way against the weekly allocations made to this centre under Scheme No.5 and workers will be engaged through the Auckland Unemployment Bureau to the extent of the weekly funds available.

The only difference between this work and the other work under Scheme No.5 is that in the former case the Unemployment Board has undertaken that funds under Scheme No.5 will be made available for this work up to the 31st. July, 1932.

It will be necessary to allocate to your Board a weekly sum and I shall be pleased if you will advise the average weekly amount you require to cover the labour costs.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd). W. Slaughter.
Officer in Charge.

ENGINEER'S NOTE:

Estimated average weekly
amount required for wages
£125/-/-.

D.H. 22.8.31.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 18TH. AUGUST, 1931.

5. ACCESS TO ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

Letter from Unemployment Commissioner 7.8.1931 stating that the Minister of Finance had approved of the Unemployment Board guaranteeing that the work of access to St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour may be completed under the provisions of Scheme No.5, on condition, however, that additional funds for completion of the work would not be provided subsequent to 31st. July 1932.

That the letter be received.

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20th. July, 31.

Mr. W.P. Storey,
20 Park Avenue,
Grafton,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir;

In reply to your letter re relief work, this Board is acting on the wishes of the Unemployment Board, and has signified its willingness to carry out certain works under the No.5 Scheme subject only to guarantee from the Unemployment Board, that once started the work will be allowed to proceed to completion.

The selection of men rests entirely with the Unemployment Board, and the Harbour Board has made no condition other than that referred to above.

Up to the present the guarantee asked for has not been forthcoming, and consequently the work has not yet been put in hand, but if and when it is, the allocation of men will rest entirely with the Department.

Yours truly,

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

Phone 461 310.

20 Park Avenue
Grafton
Auckland.

Dear Sir

I would like to have some particulars of the Harbour Board's proposed relief works?

If the work will be continuous work at 9/1 12/16 per day.

If the Harbour Board has the power to engage the men?

In the latter case I wish to be one of the men selected, and have previously been employed by the Harbour Board.

I have lived in the Board's area all my life many people being the early pioneers of the Sydney Auckland. Frisco Marine service about 1841-42; so if you have only a few days work I would be glad of it. Thanking you.

Yours faithfully

Herbert Storey

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7th. May, 31

The Superintendent.

APPROACH TO ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

(Unemployment Commissioner's letter dated 4/5/1931.)

The Unemployment Commissioner states that he cannot give any guarantee that this Board will be able to complete the St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour Approach Road under Scheme No.5.

The work was put forward to assist the Unemployment Board in its endeavour to find employment for relief workers, but it would not be prudent to commence operations without the guarantee asked for, as in the event of Scheme No.5 terminating the Board might find itself involved in an expenditure considerably in excess of the amount approved.

Under the circumstances I would recommend that no further action be taken in the meantime.

Letter returned herewith.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

C O P Y.

(Secty's File 122/849)

OFFICE OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT BOARD

Wellington,

4th. May, 1931.

The Secretary,
Auckland Harbour Board,
P.O. Box 1259,
AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir;

In reply to your letter of the 27th. ultimo I have to advise that the Unemployment Board cannot give any guarantee that your Board will be able to complete any individual work under Scheme No.5. You may however operate under this scheme so long as it continues in force.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) Malcolm Fraser.

Unemployment Commissioner.

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Circular Memorandum for

Local Unemployment Committees, Government Certifying Officers, and Local Governing Authorities.

Office of the Unemployment Board,
Wellington, 7th April, 1931.

I FORWARD herewith for your information a copy of the amended rules governing Scheme No. 5 as adopted by the Unemployment Board. These rules and the instructions embodied in this circular cancel all previous instructions regarding Scheme No. 5.

1. In order to enable Certifying Officers, who are also local labour bureau officers, an opportunity of placing their registers of unemployed men on a proper working-basis, and in order that arrangements may be made for the scheme to operate satisfactorily under the amended rules, the scheme as at present in operation will be suspended as from the 11th April, 1931, and will resume on the amended basis on and from the 27th April, 1931.

2. If possible, copies of Form U.B. 32 should be handed to workers under Scheme No. 5 before its suspension on the 11th April, with an instruction that the forms are to be completed and handed in during the following week. The particulars supplied on these forms will enable bureau officers to determine the eligibility or otherwise of applicants in accordance with rules, and act under Rule 4 if necessary.

3. During the fortnight referred to, when the scheme is not in operation, officers in charge of labour bureaux (including post-offices acting as such) must arrange to have all doubtful cases on their rolls of unemployed investigated, so that men not eligible for work under the amended rules are not given relief on resumption of operations on the 27th April. Where necessary, form U.B. 5 should be utilized in making inquiries.

4. Although numerous amendments have been made in the rules, the essential points on which the amended scheme differs from the original scheme are as follows:—

- (a) The tightening-up of the qualifications for relief, so that work will be provided only to genuinely unemployed wage-earners who are definitely in need of such relief.
- (b) A further rationing of the relief work given, whereby men will receive employment for only three weeks in every four weeks. It should also be noted particularly that married men and widowers with two dependant children under sixteen years of age will be eligible for only three days work each week, instead of four days. Applicants for relief under the scheme are divided for convenience of reference into three classes as follows:—
 - Class A.—Single men, and widowers with no dependant children in New Zealand under sixteen years of age.
 - Class B.—Married men, widowers, and divorced men who are maintaining in New Zealand a wife and/or not more than two dependant children under sixteen years of age.
 - Class C.—Married men, widowers, and divorced men who are maintaining in New Zealand a wife and/or three or more dependant children under sixteen years of age.
- (c) More careful supervision of expenditure by local authorities with the idea of conserving the Board's funds as much as possible.
- (d) The adoption of the principle "No levy—no relief."

5. It will assist Committees, local authorities, and particularly Certifying Officers, if the points enumerated above are elaborated on. Attention is therefore specially directed to the succeeding paragraphs:—

6. Relief work should be refused to those men not eligible for such work, particularly where the Local Committee or Certifying Officer is satisfied that a man's financial position does not warrant his receiving relief under the scheme.

7. A Native within the meaning of the Native Land Act, 1909 (*i.e.*, a full-blooded Maori, a half-caste Maori, or a person intermediate in blood between these two) must on no account be employed unless he has obtained the Board's consent to become a contributor and has paid the due instalment of the levy.

NOTE.—The Native's first instalment is the one due at the date of the Board's notification of his acceptance as a contributor.

8. If a man has not paid the due instalment of the levy after thirty-one days have elapsed from the due date thereof, or if he is exempted from payment of the current instalment, he is not eligible

for employment. In other words, only actual contributors who are not in arrears with payment of the levy may obtain relief work under the amended rules of this scheme.

9. The amended rules encourage the applicant to look for other employment, and he will not lose his eligibility for relief work unless he obtains fourteen days' continuous work other than under Scheme No. 5.

10. The definition of the word "unemployed" aims to eliminate all those who do not usually work for wages, but who have recently registered as unemployed in order to take advantage of the Board's scheme as auxiliary to a business, farm, superannuation, pension, or private income.

11. To ensure strict observance of the provisions laid down in the amended rules, all labour must in future be engaged through the Employment Bureau of the Labour Department or Post Office, and the Certifying Officer, who is also the labour bureau officer, must exercise a check so that this rule is strictly observed and must not authorize refund of wages paid to any person not so engaged.

12. The limitation of employment to any three weeks out of four must be rigidly enforced, but local authorities will have the option of deciding in which weeks the work will be done. This is a matter for arrangement between the Certifying Officer and the Engineer or Foreman of the local authority employing the labour. If possible, it should be so arranged that all men are not off in the same week. There will be no objection to time lost through wet weather being made up in the week during which work would not ordinarily be done.

13. The scale set out in Rule 8 must be strictly adhered to, and its provisions cannot be varied under any circumstances. The fact that a single man has dependants does not make him eligible for more than two days' work each week, while dependent children of married men and dependent children of widowers *must* be under sixteen years of age to be taken into account for the purposes of this scheme.

14. It would appear necessary to reiterate that the Unemployment Board does not fix the rate of wages for workers under this scheme. Local bodies themselves determine the rates of wages to be paid, having regard, of course, to the necessity of paying award rates when the work to be done would in ordinary circumstances require to be done by skilled labour (Rule 13). The Board, however, cannot refund wages in excess of the rates operating on Government relief works, which are now 12s. 6d. per day for married men and 9s. per day for single men.

15. Work undertaken under Scheme No. 5 must comply with Rule 10, and it must be clearly understood that local authorities cannot obtain a refund of any expenditure in respect of materials, supervision, transport, or cartage. Where works estimated to cost more than £400 are undertaken on main highways under this scheme, the local authority must first obtain the consent of the district representative of the Main Highways Board.

16. It should be noted that the expression "trade or business" used in the definition of "unemployed" in Rule 1 includes farming. Farmers living on and working or assisting to work their own or their wives' farms are not eligible for employment under Scheme No. 5, nor are farmers' sons living at home and ordinarily assisting in the work of their parents' farms.

17. Work under Scheme No. 5 is only for the genuine unemployed who have been unemployed fourteen days and have been registered as such for that period. Men who are in regular employment but may be temporarily on short time, and men who regularly obtain casual employment for two or three days a week should not be given relief under the scheme.

18. The purpose of the Unemployment Act must be kept constantly in mind. The Act and the Fund were not introduced to benefit any persons or classes of persons other than genuinely unemployed wage-earners, and only the necessity for providing relief for such persons justifies the putting into operation of this or any other of the Unemployment Board's relief schemes. It is recognized that hardship will be created through certain sections of the community being debarred from employment under the scheme, but the amendments are considered to apportion the available relief in proportion to the needs of the applicants now eligible. This being the case, such hardship, although the Board is in sympathy with those experiencing it, is not the responsibility of the Board.

19. The Unemployment Board wishes to affirm the principle (which is the accepted policy of the Government) that, all other things being equal, where it is necessary to exercise preference it should be given to returned soldiers.

20. The principle of providing the relief work through the medium of local bodies is maintained, but closer supervision over the expending of the money by the local bodies is required. It might also be noted by local authorities generally that work done under this scheme should be useful and necessary wherever possible, subject, of course, to Rule 10. The Unemployment Fund is contributed by the individual, by means of the levy, plus subsidy from the Consolidated Fund, and care should be taken, therefore, that the expenditure from the Fund should be spent to the best possible advantage. Reasonable value should be given for the work done, which should enable the greatest possible benefit to accrue to the community as a whole.

21. In order to facilitate the auditing of vouchers and to avoid correspondence, administrative officers of local bodies are asked to ensure that the claims for refunds of wages and the supporting wages sheets are free from irregularities. The following specific points are mentioned for guidance in this matter:—

- (a) Workers' acquittances for wages due must be obtained on the Unemployment Board's Wages-sheet U.B. 23.
- (b) Such wages sheets must be completed in every particular before the claim for refund is presented for certifying.
- (c) The certificate by the responsible officers of the local body must be furnished at the foot of each pay-sheet, and any alteration or erasure on a pay-sheet must be initialled by these officers.

- (d) Coupon-book numbers must be entered on the pay-sheets in each case by the local-body officers.
- (e) The names of workers shown on the pay-sheet should not be inconsistent with the signature of the worker appearing on the sheet.
- (f) Vouchers for refund of wages paid under Scheme No. 5 are required to be certified by the Certifying Officer at the local labour bureau through which the men were engaged. Consequently, where a local body engages men through more than one bureau separate claims, supported by the relative pay-sheets, will require to be prepared in respect of the men engaged at each bureau. At the end of each week Certifying Officers should without delay complete on Form U.B. 27 a return of vouchers certified by them during that week, and despatch the return immediately to the Unemployment Commissioner, Wellington. Commencing with the resumption of Scheme No. 5 in the week ending 2nd May, a revised print of form U.B. 27 will be used for this purpose. Supplies of this form will be forwarded to Certifying Officers. On receipt of such supplies stocks of the previous print of the form should be destroyed.

22. Rule 18—Telegraphed Estimates: Particular attention is directed to this rule, as the authority of the Minister of Finance to expenditure under Scheme No. 5 must be obtained in advance. This authority is obtained on the weekly telegraphed estimate. Should this estimate for any reason (more men qualifying, &c.) prove insufficient to meet the expenditure for the week, the estimate cannot be exceeded without fresh authority being obtained for the excess required.

With regard to the estimate in respect to the week ending 2nd May, which is to be telegraphed in the week ending 13th April, it is probable that in some cases the investigation of the unemployment registration records will not be complete enough in the latter week to enable the Certifying Officers to make a very reliable estimate of the number of men to be employed in the week ending 2nd May. In such cases the Certifying Officers should estimate the probable position as accurately as they can with the information at their disposal, and telegraph the Unemployment Commissioner.

23. Officers concerned with the administration of the Board's scheme are reminded of the provisions of section 69 of the Public Revenues Act, 1926, under which the Audit Office may exercise the powers of surcharge in the event of neglect of duties, &c.

24. Certifying Officers should, in addition, make themselves conversant with the duties and responsibilities of Certifying Officers as set out in the Treasury Regulations.

MALCOLM FRASER,
Unemployment Commissioner.

Unemployment Act, 1930.

**SCHEME NO. 5.—AMENDED RULES FOR THE GRANTING OF RELIEF
BY PLACING UNEMPLOYED WORKERS WITH LOCAL BODIES.**

1. ONLY persons—

- (1) Who have been resident in New Zealand for not less than six months ;
- (2) Who have paid the last due instalment of the unemployment levy ;
- (3) Who are "unemployed" (as hereinafter defined) ;
- (4) Who have been unemployed at least fourteen days ; and
- (5) Who have been registered as unemployed for not less than fourteen days at any labour bureau (Labour Department or Post Office), are eligible to receive relief under this scheme.

"Unemployed" under these rules means any person out of employment who is ordinarily entirely dependent on wages, and is not engaged on his own account in any trade or business. This will not disqualify a person who, due to trade depression, has been forced out of business and is now offering to work for wages in a trade or calling. A person shall not be deemed to be unemployed who is still either directly or indirectly connected with a business which is being carried on by the person's wife and/or family to enable such person to class himself as unemployed for the purpose of taking advantage of this scheme, nor shall a person be deemed to be unemployed who has been engaged on farm work but not regularly in receipt of wages.

2. The following classes of persons are not qualified to be given relief :—

- (a) A person who has not yet attained the age of twenty years :
- (b) A person on superannuation or pension whose income from superannuation or pension is equal to or greater than the amount he would receive as relief under this scheme :
- (c) A person over the age of sixty-five years, unless he can furnish proof to the labour bureau officer that he has been ordinarily in employment for wages throughout the preceding twelve months.
- (d) A person exempted from payment of the last due instalment of the unemployment levy, or a person who has not paid, within thirty-one days of the due date, any instalment of the unemployment levy, and is still in arrears with such instalment of levy.

3. The labour bureau officer must make searching inquiries into an applicant's circumstances if he has reason to doubt the applicant's eligibility for relief work. No applicant shall be granted relief until all information required of him by a labour bureau officer relative to his status under this scheme has been satisfactorily supplied.

4. Where in the opinion of the local labour bureau officer the financial resources of the applicant or of his wife, or any other circumstances, warrant the refusal of relief, he shall place the facts before the Local Committee, who shall decide the matter.

5. Any worker in continuous employment for fourteen days shall be required to requalify before being eligible to receive further relief. Relief work provided by the Unemployment Board shall not be considered as part of the fourteen days' continuous employment.

6. Any person who declines or neglects to accept work offered, or who, without good and sufficient reason, leaves a job which has been provided for him, shall be refused further employment under any of the Board's schemes for a period of fourteen days or such longer period as may be determined by the Local Committee.

7. Subject to funds being authorized (as defined in Rule 18) by the Unemployment Board and the Minister of Finance, relief, as set out in Rule 8, may be given to a person qualified under these rules for any three out of every four consecutive weeks; to the effect that there shall be one week in every four when no relief shall be given to such person under this scheme.

8. Relief will be given in the form of work which will be rationed out on the following basis:—

Subject to Rule 7 hereof,—

- (a) Single men may be given two days' work each week:
- (b) Married men who furnish proof to the local labour bureau that they are maintaining in New Zealand a wife, or a wife and not more than two dependant children under sixteen years of age, may be given three days' work each week:
- (c) Married men who furnish proof to the local labour bureau that they are maintaining in New Zealand a wife, and three or more dependant children under sixteen years of age may be given four days' work each week:
- (d) A widower with dependant child or children under sixteen years of age to be treated as a married man; in all other cases a widower to be treated as a single man:

NOTE.—“Dependant child” means an applicant's own child, step-child, or adopted child dependent upon him for support, but does not include any other child and specifically does not include a ward of the State or any child in respect of whose maintenance or towards whose maintenance payment is received from the State or from any source other than the applicant:

Provided that unemployed persons who have been given the appropriate number of days' relief per week under this scheme and owing to wet weather have not been able to perform the work provided may be permitted to work off the arrears during the three weeks following the week for which the work was originally allotted to them; this proviso does not apply to relief days lost through any other cause, nor will any days not worked be paid for.

9. Relief work will be provided through the medium of City Councils, Borough Councils, County Councils, Harbour Boards, Town Boards, River Boards, Road Boards, Drainage Boards, Domain Boards, Hospital Boards, Education Boards, School Committees, Tramway or Transport Boards, and such other classes of local bodies and such Departments of State as may be approved by the Unemployment Board.

10. The work approved for this scheme must be other than (1) work which is provided for on the current year's estimates, or (2) work which would in ordinary circumstances be provided for on the next year's estimates, or (3) work which has been merely left off the estimates in anticipation of an unemployment subsidy.

11. The work carried out must be under the proper supervision of the local authority's Engineer or foreman in charge, and the workers will be subject to the same discipline as all other employees of the local authority.

12. All labour under this scheme *must* be engaged through the local labour bureau (Labour Department or Post Office). Certifying officers will be instructed not to authorize refund of payments of wages for men not so engaged.

13. The rates of wages to be paid shall in each case be determined by the local authority employing the men: Provided, however, that where any work done would in ordinary circumstances require to be done by skilled labour the rate paid must be not less than the minimum rate prescribed in the Arbitration

Court awards governing the particular class of work. It must be understood, however, that the Unemployment Board will refund wages only up to the amount of the public works standard relief rates for the time being in force, and where the rates paid by the local authority are in excess of these rates the excess shall be paid by the local authority concerned.

14. The local authority must provide all materials required, all supervision, and cartage; and each local body employing men under this scheme is required to make its own arrangements for insurance and transport of workers. The Board has definitely decided that it cannot undertake any liability in regard to accidents to employees under this scheme.

15. Local authorities employing labour under this scheme must exercise at least the same supervision and care regarding the recording of time worked by each individual worker and the proper co-ordinating of records on to pay-sheets, as will be expected for their ordinary purposes. The expenditure of these moneys will be subject to audit by the Audit Office, and a complete check by a responsible officer of the local authority must be made weekly of all time-sheets with the pay-vouchers.

16. Wages under this scheme must be paid weekly by the local authority, and workers' acquittances obtained on sheet U.B. 23. Refunds must be claimed in one sum weekly from local Postmaster on form Ty. 39, supported by U.B. 23 and certified by the local bureau officer, who will be recognized as Government Certifying Officer for this purpose.

Wages due in respect of different weeks must be shown on separate wages sheets, and in the case of arrears for any one week which are worked off during a subsequent week a separate wages sheet should be submitted with the claim for refund. Such sheet should show on the line "Schedule for week ending _____," the date on which ended the week in which the work was originally allotted to the workers concerned, and there should follow a statement that "owing to wet weather the workers were unable to perform the work until the week-ending _____."

Local bodies must prepare vouchers in triplicate, presenting the original and duplicate to the certifying officer and retaining the triplicate for audit purposes. The certifying officer will pay on the original and retain the duplicate for his own records. All vouchers certified at his centre by the certifying officer must be numbered consecutively by him in the space "Departmental Number" provided on the voucher Ty. 39.

17. The moneys under this scheme must be treated by the local bodies concerned as part of their own funds and be incorporated in such a manner as to render them part of the accounts which are subject to the audit of the Audit Office. The same care and rules must be observed as obtains for usual local-body wage-payments, and the audit officer has power to challenge any irregular payments not made in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

In this connection attention is drawn to the provisions of section 69 of the Public Revenues Act, 1926, under which the Audit Office may exercise the powers of surcharge.

18. The certifying officer at the local labour bureau shall at the end of each week estimate the number of men *that will be engaged through his bureau* to work under the scheme in the second week following that in which the estimate is made. Such estimate shall as nearly as possible allow for the men entitled under these rules to receive relief, and for whom work can be found by the local authorities, having regard to the restriction contained in Rule 7. Having regard to the rates of wages to be paid by the local bodies concerned the certifying officer shall immediately telegraph the estimate to the Unemployment Commissioner in the following form:—

"Employment, Wellington.

"Week ending 2nd May—A 25 B 29 C 31 estimated wages £154 7s. 6d."

In the telegram "A" means single men or widowers entitled to two days' work under the scheme; "B" married men or widowers entitled to three days; and "C" married men or widowers entitled to four days.

No expenditure thereon shall be incurred until such estimate has been approved by the Unemployment Board and no commitments in excess of such approved estimate shall be incurred except under special sanction of the Unemployment Board, given upon a supplementary requisition in which the special circumstances shall be narrated. **No refund will be made by the Unemployment Board of wages expended in excess of the approved estimates.**

19. If more work is available than there are qualified men available on the local register the labour bureau officer must get into touch with the nearest labour bureau to see if there are men available, or, failing that, advise the Unemployment Commissioner at once.

20. The local labour bureau officer is required to report also to the Commissioner from time to time, but not less than once each week, the number of eligible men for whom no work has yet been provided.

SPECIAL RULE GOVERNING RELIEF FOR WATERSIDERS, COAL-MINERS, AND RAILWAY GOODS-SHED EMERGENCY CASUAL WORKERS.

21. This rule applies only to a worker who is (1) by occupation a waterside worker, being a member of the Waterside Workers' Federation, or (2) a coal-miner, or (3) a person employed in a railway goods-shed who is an emergency casual as defined by the regulations made under the Government Railways Act, 1926, and certified as such by a responsible officer of the Railways Department.

Where any waterside worker, coal-miner, or railway goods-shed emergency casual worker registers as unemployed he may be offered work under Scheme No. 5 on the following basis: On registration at beginning of month he should be required to produce certificate (Form U.B. 28) from employer as to his coming within definition, &c., as to number of days on which he was unemployed on wharf, in coal-mine, or in goods-shed during the previous month, and as to total amount of his earnings during that month.

If so unemployed for six working-days or more, he is to be given by the labour bureau officer an order on a local authority for work on the following scale:—

Class A.—One day for each four complete days unemployed.

Class B.—One day for each three complete days unemployed.

Class C.—One day for each two complete days unemployed.

Provided that no order for work will be given to an applicant under this scheme in any month when his earnings for the previous month exceed in the case of a single man a total of £8, and in the case of a married man a total of £12. When the earnings for the previous month are less than the amounts shown, relief work to be provided must be not more than sufficient to allow him to earn the difference between such earnings and £8 or £12, as the case may be.

The Officer in Charge, local labour bureau, or certifying officer acting in his stead, should endeavour to arrange matters with local authority to make such arrangement as indicated above work with least inconvenience to all concerned.

The order will be effective for one month from date of issue, and if not availed of within that time lapses.

22. These rules shall come into force on and after 27th April, 1931.

Wellington, 8th April, 1931.

MALCOLM FRASER,
Unemployment Commissioner.

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C O P Y.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD.

REPORT OF WORKS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 17th. March, 1931 - at 3.20 p.m.

Present:- The Chairman (Mr. M.H. Wynyard),
Messrs. A.J. Parker, T. Bloodworth, and E.A.
Greenslade.

Your Committee has the honour to report as follows;

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Engineer's report 13.3.1931 re construction of stop bank across the Onepoto Stream at the entrance to Tuff Crater, Northcote, as an unemployment work and letter from T.C. Arblaster 17.3.1931 agreeing to give the necessary clay filling for the work and authorising the Board and its Officers to enter upon his property for the purpose of removing such filling.

Recommended:

That the Board will agree to the Northcote Borough Council constructing the embankment as an unemployment work under scheme 5 subject to the approval of the Board's Engineer and of the Marine Department, on conditions that, before the flood gates are put in, the surrender of all riparian rights will be obtained by the Council.

(Sgd.) M.H. WYNYARD,
CHAIRMAN.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF 17TH. MARCH, 1931.

Report of Works Committee 17.3.1931 re construction of stop bank at entrance to Tuff Crater, Northcote.

That the report be adopted (copy herewith). *(See above)*

*Engineer's Note:
Plans for Marine
Dept. sent to
Super. 18.3.31.*

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18th. March 31

The Superintendent.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

RECLAMATION OF ONEPOTO BASIN.

Herewith for submission to the Marine Department, blue-
print in duplicate of B.849 shewing the area proposed to be
reclaimed by the Northcote Borough Council as a relief work.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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13th. March, 31.

The Superintendent.

(See also file 502)

UNEMPLOYMENT.

By resolution of the Works Committee on 17.2.31 I was instructed to report on the proposal to construct an embankment across the mouth of the Tuff Crater known as Onepoto Basin in the Borough of Northcote. This proposal is put forward by the Borough with the view to providing work for the unemployed.

On various occasions proposals have been discussed for dealing with the area, and conditional approval to the exclusion of tidal water from the Onepoto Creek and Basin has been given by the Board, but so far no finality has been reached.

approximately 470 feet long

It is now suggested that a stop-bank, with flood gates, approximately 470 feet long, should be constructed across the mouth of the Onepoto Basin thus providing an area of about 44½ acres for development as playing fields etc.

The proposal is a practicable one and would provide work for a considerable number of men provided arrangements can be made with the owners of the point on the western side of the basin for the excavation of suitable clay for staunching the bank.

The basin is the property of the Board and the question of its alienation is one of policy, but in any case I am of opinion that approval of the work should be contingent upon the Borough's ability to arrange finance for carrying the work of the stop-bank and flood gates to completion when once it is commenced.

I understand that the riparian rights over a large section of the water frontage have already been forfeited and that the Borough anticipates little difficulty in dealing with the remainder, but this responsibility should be placed upon the Borough.

Plan herewith. *(See B.849 in Drawing Office)*

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD.

REPORT OF WORKS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 10th. March 1931, at 2.45p.m.

Present:- The Chairmen (Mr. M.H. Wynyard), Messrs. A.J. Parker, H.R. Mackenzie, A.E. Greenslade, and W.F. McCallum. Councillor Dempsey, Chairman of the City Council's Works Committee, and Mr. J. Tyler, City Engineer, were also present.

(See file 779)

Your Committee has the honour to report as follows:-

ACCESS TO ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

Question of access to St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour was discussed. The Chairmen explained the position as far as the Board was concerned, and asked if the Council would agree to the trimming of the cliff. Mr. Tyler submitted an amended plan and explained the proposal now agreed to by the Council which would involve a cost to the Council of £2740, and to the Board £3342, leaving £3614 to be supplied by the Unemployment Board under Scheme No.5.

The Sub-committee of the City Council agreed to the trimming of the cliff as suggested and to the work proceeding; details of the work to be left to the Engineers of the two Bodies; the work not to include kerbing, channelling, metalling or finishing which would be the subject for further consideration between the parties when a proper settlement of the filling had taken place.
Recommended:-

That application be made, jointly with the City Council, to the Unemployment Board, giving particulars of the proposal and requesting the application of Scheme No.5 to same and for the extension of that scheme till the work projected is carried out; and, subject to a favourable reply from the Board, that the work be put in hand.

(sgd.) M.H. WYNYARD.

CHAIRMAN.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD IN COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY
10TH. MARCH, 1931.

2. ACCESS TO ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.
(Committee had power to act)

Report of Works Committee 10.3.1931. That the report be adopted.

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C O P Y.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD.

25th. February, 1931.

The Engineer,
A.H.B.

The following resolutions were passed by the Board in Committee at a meeting held yesterday afternoon:-

1. ROAD ACCESS TO ST. MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

(The Committee had power to act).

Report of Works Committee dated 17th February 1931 re Road Access to St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour (Copy herewith).

That the report be adopted.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

(The Committee had power to act).

The Chairman explained that efforts to arrange a conference between the Board's Works Committee and the City Council's Parks' Committee prior to this meeting, had been unsuccessful and there was, therefore, no report to be considered. The Engineer reported on the 23rd February 1931 that he had conferred with the City Engineer in regard to this work and the latter had concurred in the view that, if the filling were provided by cutting down the cliff, it would give occupation to a large number of unemployed. It would be necessary, however, to determine first, whether the Council would agree to the cutting down of the cliff, and secondly, the basis upon which the Unemployment Board would be prepared to subsidise the work.

It was decided to write again to the Auckland City Council and to forward with the letter a copy of the Engineer's report.

(Sgd) H.B. Burnett.

Superintendent.

Auckland Harbour Board

REPORT OF WORKS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 17th. February, 1931, @ 11.30 a.m.

Present:- The Chairman (Mr. M.H. Wynyard),
Messrs. T. Bloodworth, W.F.
McCallum and A.E. Greenslade.

Your Committee has the honour to report as follows:-

ROAD ACCESS TO ST MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

Report of Engineer 21.1.1931 re road access to St Mary's Bay Boat Harbour, stating that he had conferred with the City Engineer on the matter and that the proposals had been considerably modified, division of the cost now to be £4,200.0.0 by the Council and £6,200.0.0 by the Board; and recommending that the matter be finalised on this basis; together with letter from Auckland City Council 9.2.1931. Recommended:-

That the report of the Engineer be adopted.

(Sgd.) - M.H. Wynyard,
Chairman.

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23rd. February 31

The Superintendent.

(See also Boat Harbour file 779)

UNEMPLOYMENT.

- Board's Resolution dated 17.2.1931 -

I have conferred with the City Engineer who agrees that the plans of the approach road to the St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour could be amended to enable the filling to be provided by cutting down the cliff and thus enable the work to be carried out with a large percentage of labour as compared with the materials required.

The City Engineer concurs in the view that this would give occupation to a large number of unemployed.

Before further steps are taken it will be necessary to determine first, whether the Park's Committee and the City Council are prepared to agree to the cutting down of the cliff, and secondly, the basis upon which the Unemployment Board would be prepared to subsidise the work.

ENGINEER TO THE BOARD.

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C O P Y.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD.

M E M O R A N D U M.

18th. February, 1931.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Please note that at a meeting of the Works Committee held yesterday the following resolution was passed.

That the Engineer report on the proposal to construct an embankment at the mouth of Tuff Crater, Northcote.

(Sgd) H.B. Burnett.

Superintendent.

Phone 18,014

Unemployment

Northcote

12th February, 1931

Mr. D. Holderness
Engineer
Auckland Harbour Board.

Dear Sir

Unemployment Relief.

In connection with the proposal that the Works Committee should consider if works could be put in hand to absorb unemployed under No. 5 Scheme, I would suggest that the following might be suitable: -

Grid at Gold-hole, Northcote -

The Board has agreed to find the material, but unemployed men might be used to construct this in lieu of the Voluntary labour of the Yachtsmen, if the work put in hand forthwith.

Timber being supplied
Approved by Board
See res. 25.11.30
9/10/31 Borough Council has agreed which would be put in hand forthwith

Hauling-up Facilities, Sulphur Beach, Northcote. -

The Borough Council has provided pleasure craft with excellent sheltered ground for winter quarters. Yachtsmen would greatly appreciate the provision of hauling-up facilities. If sufficient old rails and sleepers or other suitable material for the purpose were available, the labour could be provided from unemployed sources.

no old rails available
material not had
applied for
if this is a necessity
it should come from in ordinary way

{over}

Bayswater Wharf Wind Screen.

Board agreed to loan
half cost only. ~~the~~
Maintenance would be
fully 2/3 cost of
the wind screen.

Possibly this could now be undertaken;
the Board providing the material, and
drawing the labour from the
Unemployment Bureau.
This in lieu of the contribution asked from
residents.

Onepoto Tuff Crater, Northeast --

This is a policy matter which the Board has
banned down see Sect. 154 Act to 9th B.C. 14.9.1927.

Twenty men could be absorbed in
throwing-up a stop-bank 10 ft to 12 ft
wide (for a start) at the outlet, at
either end, leaving the middle of the
tidal stream open for the present.
The floodgate would be located on the
eastern side. The distance from E. bank
to W. bank is approximately ten chains.
Lum boats would be needed for the men.
If this could be entertained, Mr J.S. Mays,
Borough Overseer, would be pleased to
Co-operate in every way; and if the Board
sent over the gear, he would be prepared
to supervise this work, should the Board
prefer this. This tidal area is a
prospective sports ground for the district, a
lease being offered to the local body, but not
yet finalised. This would be an excellent opportunity
to assist in starting the work, at comparatively
little cost to the Board.

I would be pleased to elaborate these
proposals should they be deemed worthy of adoption.
Yours very truly
Arthur E. Greenblade

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EXTRACT FROM BOARD IN COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS OF

TUESDAY 10TH. FEBRUARY 1931.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

That the matter of providing work for the enemployed be referred to the Works Committee to report to the Board at next meeting.

EXTRACT FROM BOARD'S RESOLUTIONS OF TUESDAY 17TH.

FEBRUARY, 1931.

REPORT OF WORKS COMMITTEE.

Report of Works Committee dated 17.2.1931 re road access to St. Mary's Bay Boat Harbour; (2) Unemployment; (3) Sites for Clubhouses, Auckland and St. Georges Rowing Clubs. (Clause 1 was referred to the Board in Committee with power to act).

That the report as amended be adopted. (Copy herewith).

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Auckland Harbour Board

REPORT OF WORKS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 17th. February, 1931, @ 11.30 a.m.

Present:- The Chairman (Mr. M.H. Wynyard), Messrs. T. Bloodworth, W.F. McCallum and A.E. Greenslade.

Your Committee has the honour to report as follows:-

1. ROAD ACCESS TO ST MARY'S BAY BOAT HARBOUR.

Report of Engineer 21.1.1931 re road access to St Mary's Bay Boat Harbour, stating that he had conferred with the City Engineer on the matter and that the proposals had been considerably modified, division of the cost now to be £4,200.0.0 by the Council and £6,200.0.0 by the Board; and recommending that the matter be finalised on this basis; together with letter from Auckland City Council 9.2.1931. Recommended:-

That the report of the Engineer be adopted.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT.

Question of finding work for the unemployed under the Unemployment Board's Scheme No.5 was discussed and suggestions made by Mr. Greenslade for work at Northcote and Bayswater were considered. Recommended:-

That the Committee confer with the Parks Committee of the Auckland City Council with a view to the possibility of work at St Mary's Bay being started for relief work under Scheme No.5 of the Unemployment Board; meantime the Board's Engineer and the City Engineer to confer. *Report to the Board in Committee. Rd. in Comm. to have power to Act.*

3. SITES FOR CLUBHOUSES, AUCKLAND & ST GEORGE'S ROWING CLUBS.

Letter from St George's Rowing Club 5.2.1931 re sites for Clubhouse, stating that the suggested amalgamation with the Auckland Rowing Club had not eventuated, and asking the Board to grant sites near the Eastern Tide Deflector in order to meet the requirements of both Clubs. Recommended:-

That sites be granted as shown on plan S/384 to the St George's and Auckland Rowing Clubs inside the Eastern Breakwater and north of the present site occupied by the Akarana Yacht Club, the permission to be granted in each case on the same terms and at the same rental as were agreed upon in the case of the Akarana Yacht Club.

(Sgd) - M.H. Wynyard,

Chairman.

AUCKLAND HARBOUR BOARD SECRETARY'S OFFICE	
REC'D	5 FEB. 1931
ACK'D	
ANS'D	

UNEMPLOYMENT ACT, 1930.

SCHEME No. 5 - FOR PLACING UNEMPLOYED WORKERS WITH
LOCAL BODIES.

1. Workers who have been resident in New Zealand for six months and have paid a contribution to the Unemployment Fund, or have been granted exemption by the Board, and are unemployed, and have been registered as such for fourteen days at the labour exchanges, or, where no labour exchanges exist, at the local post offices, are eligible for employment under this scheme during the months of February and March. Ordinary employees must not be discharged to take advantage of this offer.
2. Work will be rationed out on the following basis :-
 - (a) Single men to be given two days' work each week at the ruling rate of wages for the work undertaken.
 - (b) Workers who furnish proof to the Local Unemployment Committee, or local body officer where no local committee exists, that they are maintaining in New Zealand a wife or a wife and one dependent child under six teen years of age, will be given three days' work each week.
 - (c) Workers who furnish proof to the Local Unemployment Committee, or local body officer where no local committee exists, that in addition to maintaining a wife they are maintaining two or more dependent children under sixteen years of age will be given four days' work each week.
 - (d) A widower with dependent child or children under sixteen years of age to be treated as a married man.
3. Work will be provided through the medium of City Councils, Borough Councils, County Councils, Harbour Boards, Town Boards, River Boards, Road Boards, Drainage Boards, Domain Boards, Hospital Boards, Education Boards, Tramway Boards, and all similar local bodies as approved by the Unemployment Board.
4. The work approved for this scheme must be other than that which is provided for on this year's estimates or which would in ordinary circumstances be provided for on the next estimates, or work which has been merely left off the estimates in anticipation of an unemployment subsidy.
5. The work carried out must be under proper supervision of the engineer or foreman in charge of the local authority and the workers will be subject to the same discipline as all other employees.
6. Any worker who is dismissed for misconduct, or who leaves the work of his own free will, or who refuses to take the work when offered, will not be entitled to further work for two weeks, or until all other registered workers have been given work, whichever is the longer period.
7. Local authorities are to be invited to furnish a return to the nearest Unemployment Committee immediately setting out the number of men for whom work can be organized. The Board will provide the full amount to cover wages paid to the men so employed, not exceeding the standard rates current on public works relief works, the local authority providing all materials required, all supervision transport, and cartage.
8. The local committee, in conjunction with the labour exchange, to select out the men to be employed in accordance with requirements.

(2)

9. Where there are more men offering for work than there are jobs available, married men with greatest number of dependents are to have preference. Consideration to be also given to length of time the applicant has been out of work, and where greatest hardship exists.

10. Where no labour exchange is in existence the placing of the men will be carried out by the local committee. Where there is no local committee the engineer of the local authority is to engage the labour on the terms set out above.

11. Wages to be paid by the local authority weekly to the men engaged under this scheme. The local authority to claim refund from the local Postmaster on one voucher for total weekly sum. Local committee, or local body officer where no committee exists, to wire to Unemployment Commissioner each Monday estimate of wages to be paid for the coming week, naming the Postmaster to be imprested.

12. If more work is available than there are men available the local committee or local body officer to get in touch with the nearest local committee to see if there are men available, or failing that to advise the Unemployment Commissioner at once.

13. Advice to be forwarded by the local committee, or where no committee exists by the local body officer, each Monday to the Unemployment Commissioner of the number of men employed during the previous week, showing the separate number under each heading of two, three, or four days, and the total wages paid for that week.

14. The local committee to report also to the Commissioner from time to time, but not less than once each week, the number of eligible men for whom no work has yet been provided.

MALCOLM FRASER.

Unemployment Commissioner.

WELLINGTON, 30th. January, 1931.

SCHEME No. 5:
FOR PLACING UNEMPLOYED WORKERS WITH LOCAL BODIES.
Some Probable Queries and the Replies thereto.

1. What type of work are the men to be employed on ?

As long as the work complies with Rule 4, the Unemployment Board leaves the matter entirely to the discretion of the local body concerned. But it is to be clearly understood that local authorities cannot obtain a subsidy from the Public Works Department or from any Government funds in respect of the materials, supervision, transport, and cartage, which is required by Rule 7 to be provided by the local authority.

Where works estimated to cost more than £400 are undertaken on main highways under this scheme, the local authority must first obtain the consent of the district representative of the Main Highways Board.

2. What do the words "exempted by the Board" in Rule 1 precisely mean ?

This exemption refers to all workers who have been exempted by the Act or under regulations and who are able and willing to work ; it does not include those physically incapacitated for work.

3. What is ruling rate of wages for work offered ?

"Ruling wage" here means the wage usually paid for the class of relief work undertaken. The wage for local-body labourers varies in different places, and the wage-rate under this scheme will vary accordingly. If any work involves skilled labour governed by awards, the award rate must be paid ; but the Board's subsidy in no case will exceed the amount operating on Government relief works, the difference in wages to be made up by the local body in cases where the award rate is higher than the Government relief-work rates.

4. Does the Board think two days' work per week sufficient for a man to live on ?

The Board's scheme, an alternative to sustenance, provides better relief in a better way, but is not claimed to provide a living-wage. A worker can look elsewhere for additional work, other than work subsidized by the Board.

5. Can a worker who is selected for work under the No. 5 Scheme also be given work under the No. 2 Scheme ?

No. A worker can be given work only under one of the Board's subsidized schemes in the same week. This does not, however, debar a worker from himself obtaining private work not subsidized by the Board during the days of the week when he is not employed under Scheme No. 5 or any other of the Board's schemes.

6. Will a man who has not paid his levy be entitled to work under this scheme ?

The payment of sustenance was confined by the Act to contributors. This scheme, however, is extended to cover every worker who has paid his levy instalment or who has been exempted. If he has neither paid nor gained exemption, it is evident that he is flouting the Act wilfully, and cannot be considered until he puts himself "on side."

7. Is the scheme to be extended beyond March ?

This scheme is more generous than the proposed sustenance. Until it is tried out the Board cannot determine the full financial obligation. It must therefore in the meantime be considered definitely as covering the months of February and March only. The Board will make an announcement regarding extension or otherwise as soon as the necessary information has been obtained by experience.

8. What proof must a Local Committee get that a man has a wife and dependents ?

The Committee is expected to take every precaution. If not already known to members of the Local Committee, then the applicant should furnish names of responsible citizens who can verify his statements. Applicants must be treated as single until proof to the contrary has been furnished.

9. Rule 8 talks of selection of men. Will this not mean that favourites will get preference?

This scheme is intended to reach every worker according to his needs. Selection here only refers to fitting in the men employed for two or more days so that the maximum number may be employed each day. This further refers to selecting men for the class of work for which they are most suited. Selection of this kind covers cases also referred to in Rule 9.

10. How do you classify "ordinary" employees?

What the Board means here is that workers may not be employed under this scheme on jobs from which other workers or they themselves have been dismissed (except for misdemeanour) by the local authority. Nor must local bodies put men off other jobs other than relief works with a view to finding them work under this scheme. In the interest of the scheme, Local Committees and local bodies are asked to observe this strictly.

11. Is a worker under this scheme to be engaged from week to week?

No. The worker is engaged for two or more days per week, according to classification, until dismissed, but not further than to the end of March. This will not prevent his leaving for a better job if he can obtain one, nor prevent his dismissal for misconduct.

12. What objection has the Board to letting a single man work a full week and then two weeks off?

The same objection it would have to paying him two weeks' sustenance allowance in advance. The Board is endeavouring to provide for his needs each week.

13. Will local bodies get allocation under this scheme similar to practice under the No. 2 Scheme?

No. Wages are to be paid by the local body in the first place. The local bodies are requested to place all, if possible, of the men registered in the district, provided the men are engaged in accordance with the rules laid down. The local body will be repaid each week the amount expended.

14. How will local bodies be reimbursed for amounts spent in wages under the scheme?

The claim should be made on voucher form Ty.-39, to which must be, and must remain, attached the pay-sheet bearing the receipts of the men. Provided the voucher is duly certified by the Government certifying officer in the district, it will be paid on presentation at the principal local money-order office. In no case is payment to be made in advance.

15. How will Rules 11 and 13 be complied with?

It will be sufficient if the local certifying officer, immediately vouchers for the week have been checked and certified, will telegraph the Unemployment Commissioner the total amount of wages certified for the week for all local bodies in his district who have had men engaged under Scheme No. 5 during the week.

This telegram is to be followed by a confirming letter giving also the particulars required under Rule 13—viz., for each local body employing men under Scheme No. 5, the number of men engaged for two, three, and four days respectively, with the total wages paid for each class, the aggregate for all classes for all local bodies, of course, agreeing with the total amount given in the telegram.

16. What is the position in regard to workers' compensation insurance under this scheme?

Each local body employing men under this scheme is required to make its own arrangements for insurance of workers. The Board has definitely decided that it cannot undertake any liability in regard to accidents to employees under this scheme.

Wellington, 5th February, 1931.

MALCOLM FRASER,
Unemployment Commissioner.

