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MONTHLY MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Wairere Power Board was held yesterday at Pio Pio, when there were present Messrs E. Tolme (chairman), Smyth, Nelson, McKenzie, Boddy, Wilson, and Harvey (Engineer-Manager).

Some discussion arose out of a letter received from a defaulting consumer, who offered to pay so much weekly off his account. Mr C. K. Wilson said that the Board would have to watch this matter closely, as if a precedent were established in any particular case, there was danger of advantage being taken of it. Another member suggested that a little latitude in this direction might be allowed in exceptional cases. The offer of

the instalment was accepted.

Mr Boddy gave notice of motion for next meeting, that the Power Board's Regulations be rescinded so that the clause in the Regulations which provided that 25 per cent of the estimated cost of installation be paid after installation was commenced and before connection of power—to a clause stipulating that 25 per cent be deposited before installation is commenced. It was reported that when the original conditions of the installation drawn up there was no power available, whereas now the Board was in a position to make installation and supply power to consumers straight away.

Mr Boddy reported that an electrical cooking demonstration had been given by a certain firm on behalf of the Board at the Aria sports on Thursday. He was of the impression that the demonstration had been more of an advertisement for a particular stove for which the firm in question were agents. This was not the object of the demonstration. It should have shown that any stove could be used for this purpose.

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pose.

Mr Boddy further moved that: "If the Electrical Federation were unable to give a demonstration (as has been suggested) along these lines at the Pio Pio sports on Easter Monday, not demonstrating any particular stove that the Board put up a tent and give a demonsration by their own staff." The motion was seconded by the chairman and carried.

A complaint had been voiced by a number of consumers that the amount of time taken in regard to services and house-wiring P. C. Tarrant's and J. Macdonald's houses at Hunt's Road,

The Engineer (Mr Harvey) submitted a report showing that at the time the particular work in question was being done a great number of other jobs had also been completed. The report also showed that had the work been carried out by contract as previously it would have cast £20 1s 6d, whereas, whilst the work had been done by the Board's staff, it had cost only £18. The committee agreed that the work in question had been carried out in good time, and under contract rates. The report was received.

Some discussion arose out of the application of Messrs Boddy and Wall for a reticulation without accepting the responsibilities of a rate, should it

be necessary to levy such rate.

It was stated that the two applicants were not in the Board's inner area, and they had made application for light and power on the above conditions.

Mr C. K. Wilson emphatically protested against such a procedure. He There was some discussion as to the wisdom of adopting such a measure. Finally it was decided that the matter be adjourned till the next meeting, when the Engineer would make a report as to the cost of bringing the two applicants in question within the Board's inner area.

Accounts amounting ta £268 5s 10d

were passed for payment.

It was decided to write to the Audit Department and ask them to give early attention to the Board's balance sheet, which they now had in hand.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

The Engineer reported as follows:—Scale of Charges.—A meeting of the committee constituted by the Board at its meeting on 3rd December was held at Aria on 14th February, and gave consideration to the Engineer's recommendations for the modifications of the scale of charges, as required by the resolution of the Board dated 8th February. There were present the chairman, Mr Boddy, and the Engineer, and it was decided to recommend to the Board for adoption at the quarter comencing 1st April, 1927, the following modifications in the scale of

charges :---

"That the paragraphs relating to the quantity of electricity to be used by consumers before the reduced price is charged, in the Board's scale of charges as set out in the application forms be amended as follows:—Each country consumer using current for driving milking machinery, who in any one quarter consumes current costing such consumer £3 10s shall be charged on any units consumed during that quarter over and above the number so costing £3 10s as aforesaid at one quarter of the nett rates aforesaid. Each country consumer using current for domestic purposes who in any one quarter consumes current costing such consumer £1 10s, shall be charged on any units consumed during that quarter over and above the number so costing £1 10s as aforesaid at one quarter of the nett rate aforesaid. Consumers in Pio Pio and Aria having

monthly accounts shall be charged as

above pro rata.

"That the charge for water heating be as follows:—500 watts, 9s per month; 750 watts, 13s; 1000 watts, 15s; 1500 watts, 18s 6d; 2000 watts, 21s per month. That the rate of charging for power remain as at present."

Extensions .- The southern end of the Kohua Road was made the object of a preliminary line survey and a further canvass taken. It was found that seven prospective consumers can be reached with an expenditure of £1623 5s by the Board, of which material to the amount of £382 3s 4d is at present in stock. The first four and a-half miles of this line will be designed to serve as the commencement of the Mokauiti feeder, and £700 should be transferred from the Mokauiti Loan Account, when raised, and placed to the credit of the present account acordingly. A further half-mile extension of this line costing £120 will serve a prospective dairy farm consumer who should provide a further £25 per annum in revenue. The revenue from the above-mentioned seven consumers, all of whom have signed forms, would be a minimum of £122 10s per annum, with early prospect of an increase by a further £50 per annum. A route of line was surveyed to Messrs Wall, Newcombe and Boddy. These prospective consumers can be reticulated at a cost of £395 15s 6d, of which material to the amount of £190 16s is on hand. The minimum revenue from this extension would be £76 per annum with a possible additional £35 per annum at an early date.