

COMMISSIONERS' TOUR OF INSPECTION.

ORBOST TO MORWELL
YALLOURN TO WARRAGUL
DROUIN TO DANDENONG.

Monday, 11th April to Wednesday, 13th April, 1949, inclusive.

Train departs from Spencer Street at 7.20 p.m. on Sunday, 10th April, '49.

TOUR PERSONNEL

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Mr. N. C. Harris | Chairman |
| " R. G. Wishart | Commissioner |
| " A. G. Fletcher | Commissioner |
| " John Elliot | |
| Col. A. C. Payne | |
| Mr. A. P. Taylor | Chief Civil Engineer |
| " M. A. Remfry | General Superintendent of Transportation |
| " G. E. Burnell | Superintendent of Locomotive Running |
| " J. S. O'Haire | District Superintendent, Flinders Street |
| " J. Noonan | Metropolitan District Rolling Stock Superintendent |
| " L. A. Reynolds | Metropolitan District Engineer |
| " A. Gilmore | Commissioners' Secretary |
| " R. Rewell | Secretary to Mr. Wishart |
| " G. Stewart | Secretary to Mr. Elliot |
| " K. Newton | Tour Clerk |

TRAIN STAFF

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Driver | F. Myers |
| Fireman | N. L. Fry |
| Guard | M. A. Dean |
| Conductor | J. Freeland |
| Steward | F. Butterfield |
| Cook | F. Williams |
| Kitchen Lad | B. Fisher |

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

ORBOST TO MORWELL.

ORBOST.

POSSIBLE RAILWAY EXTENSION ORBOST TO EDEN OR BOMBALA.

1.

(a) In January last the Chief Engineer for Railway Construction reported to the Hon. the Minister for Transport that in regard to a possible railway extension from Orbost to Eden N.S.W., investigation had shown that a coastal route appeared to be the most favourable from a railway viewpoint.

Owing to the mountainous nature of the country it is regarded as most unlikely that grades and curvature suitable for present-day requirements could be obtained on any other route.

This coastal route of 115 miles passes through difficult country East of the Cann River and near Eden, also numerous rivers and streams rising in the Alps region require to be crossed which items would involve considerable expenditure. The total construction is estimated at £4,000,000.

(b) The Chief Engineer for Railway Construction also reported in January last to the Hon. the Minister for Transport regarding three other possible railway extensions as follow :-

(i) Orbost to Bombala via Delegete.

Distance 100 miles; rough estimate of cost £3,500,000. This route would be the nearest to the projected hydroelectric works on the Snowy River for haulage of materials and equipment.

(ii) Orbost to Bombala via Cann River.

Distance 116 miles; rough estimate of cost £3,500,000. This route would provide service to the district East of Orbost to the Cann River.

(iii) Bombala to Eden.

Distance 55 miles; rough estimate of cost, say, £2,000,000. The routes from Orbost to Bombala entail crossing the Dividing Range with a rise of 2,700 feet which is greater than on any section of the Victorian Railways.

(49/1640)

PRIVATE CRANE.

2.

In July 1947 Butterfield Pty. Ltd. were given permission to erect an additional six ton crane on the new timber siding on site 490' from the end of the passenger platform (which will permit of 7 trucks being loaded at each of the two cranes on this siding) and to install a motor drive on it, the whole to be at the cost of the firm. The firm also agreed to provide any necessary filling at the site and the spreading and surfacing of the area without cost to this Department. The conditions under which this would be permitted were forwarded on 24.7.47 and included a rental charge of £1 per annum for the crane site.

In addition permission was given this form to use a mobile crane in the station yard for the loading of timber, logs, etc., for itself and other consignors under certain conditions including the making of a charge of 6d. per 100 super feet when it is used by other loaders.

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

ORBOST. (Contd).

2.

In February 1948 Butterfield Pty. Ltd. accepted the conditions set out by the Commissioners in their letter of 24.7.47 but mentioned that the space available for loading seemed to be inadequate and it seemed essential that certain extra land adjoining the present roadway should be included in the railway yard and additional filling should also be provided.

The Commissioners replied on 22.4.48 that to provide additional space for operating in the area, they were prepared, subject to approval by the Hon. the Minister for Transport, to purchase certain land, to construct a drain and to erect fences on the new railway boundaries provided the Company would agree at its expense and to the satisfaction of the Chief Civil Engineer to construct a gravel roadway deviation from the present roadway and to provide any filling that may be needed in the area.

Upon receipt of the Company's written acceptance of this offer, arrangements would be made to purchase the land in question.

In December 1948 and again on 18.3.49 the Company was reminded that it had not accepted the offer contained in the letter of 22.4.48.

On 29.3.49 Butterfield Pty. Ltd. advised that they are still desirous of acquiring a site at the Orbost siding and next day the Commissioners notified the Company that they would be glad of a reply to their letter of 22.4.48.

On 23.2.49 Broons Timbers Pty. Ltd. made application for a crane site on the siding at Orbost. The site offered to Butterfield Pty. Ltd. is the only one available without incurring a very large cost in putting in a loop siding around the rear of the goods shed.

A reply is awaited from Butterfield Pty. Ltd.

(47/7546)

IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR PIGS AND CATTLE.

3.

The Commissioners have approved of the construction of six additional pig yards with paved surface and water trough in each yard, sub-division of general receiving yard for cattle to provide an additional yard, and the provision of a double tier motor discharging ramp and crush for sheep as well as a discharging ramp for cattle and pigs; also the paving of the whole surface of the sheep and cattle yards.

The estimated cost of this work is £4,466 and instructions were issued on 3.12.46.

Tenders have been advertised for this work but only one was received and it was too high.

Tenders are to be again invited. This item has been included in the Transportation Branch Loan Bill recommendations for the last 3 years.

(45/2868)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

ORBOST. (Contd).

STATION BUILDINGS.

4.

In 1945 the Shire Councillors drew the attention of the Commissioners to the station premises which they considered were not in keeping with the importance of the township.

The Commissioners explained that the buildings had been erected in substitution for the old buildings which had been destroyed by fire and that under the existing conditions they would have to suffice for the present.

(45/3674)

STATIONMASTER'S RESIDENCE.

5.

In 1946 the Shire Council requested that the Stationmaster's residence be built adjacent to the station as a resident Stationmaster was very desirable.

The Council was informed that it is usual in towns such as Orbost for the Stationmaster to live in the town and that in any case there was no site in the station that would be satisfactory for the erection of a residence. The most suitable place for a residence would be on the town side of the River, approximately three quarters of a mile from the station.

The papers will be available on tour.

(46/2948)

EXTENSION OF LINE.

6.

In 1945 the Shire Council made further representations in regard to the extension of the line across the Snowy River to the township.

The request was again refused.

(46/3813)

COMPLETED.

7.

11.6.48 .. Extension of van goods shed and erection of shelter for bicycles (£100).

8.

20.3.48 .. Extension of goods shed by 10' and alterations to doors (£230).

9.

11.11.47 .. Erection of 6 ton derrick crane on timber siding at down end (£257). Motorized by Alstergren & Co. and permission given to charge for use of same by other firms.

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION. MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

NOWA NOWA.

10.

DEPRESSION IN YARD.

Complaint has been made by Australian Timber Workers' Union that a sloping depression at rear of sleeper stacks causes the falling of sleepers from motor trucks on their being pulled into stack to unload and this causes extra heavy work and loss of time in carrying sleepers back to trucks.

The matter has been investigated and the Union informed that the depression referred to carries surplus water from station yard and the filling of it would lead to flooding of railway tracks.

Arrangements have been made to carry out such improvements as are found practicable from time to time.

(W.&W.10720/48)

RESIDENCE.

11.

Approval has been given for the re-erection of D.R.2257 ex Tostaree at Nowa Nowa and its reconstruction (£983). The work is practically completed.

(48/3339)

BETWEEN COLQUHOUN AND BRUTHEN.

CROSSING AT 190 m. 42 ch.

12.

Instructions were issued on 29.11.48 for alterations to the cutting to improve the view at this crossing. The work is to be done in conjunction with additional siding accommodation for loading sleepers. One contract is to be obtained for both works.

(48/4016)

BRUTHEN

MOST IMPROVED D.R.

13.

In connection with the 1947 competition for the Most Improved Departmental Residence, D.R.2252, occupied by Supy. Repairer S.W. Stevens, was awarded 1st prize of £2.10.0 for places without piped water supply in the Sale Works Foreman's Section.

IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR HANDLING TIMBER AND SLEEPER TRAFFIC. 14.

The Commissioners have approved of the construction of a new dead end siding leading from the main line on the down side of the passenger platform back towards the entrance gage on the passenger side of the line. The siding will be cut through a bank and provide high stacking ground to facilitate the loading of sleepers. The estimated cost is £2,070.

Various timber firms have made representations for the provision of additional crane power. The existing 6 ton crane at the up end of the goods siding was electrified some years ago by Mr. Enright who performs all the loading with it at a charge agreed upon by the Commissioners. There is no room available for another crane on the existing sidings and to meet the position it has been decided to remove a 6 ton crane from Yarra Glen and re-erect it at Mossiface, subject to an approved loader attaching a motor unit to the crane and operating it.

Instructions have been issued for the carrying out of the work. Tenders which have been received for the earth works are now under consideration.

(46/10644)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

BRUTHEN. (Contd).

BRIDGES.

15.

Instructions have been issued for the reconstruction of the bridges at 190 m. 74 chs. 97 lks. (£505) and 190 m. 79 ch. 14 lks. (£602).

Progress: Waiting on receipt of material.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

16.

A request was received in October last that electric lighting be installed at this station, but Bruthen was not included in the list of 36 stations in the State where it was recommended that electricity should be installed in priority order. In fact, of the 43 stations recommended by the Metro. Sup't. on 30.11.45 for electric light installation at stations in the Metropolitan and Eastern district, Bruthen was 36th on this list.

There did not appear to be any justification for giving this station priority over those listed in 1946.

SAWMILL SITE.

17.

Messrs. Rawlings Bros. recently applied for a sawmill site at this station, but, in view of the proximity of the proposed site to the departmental residences, it was refused. However a storage site 100 feet from the fence surrounding the residences was offered.

Papers to the Estate Officer.

(L/132621)

STOCK YARDS.

18.

Instructions were issued on 23.3.48 for the renewal of the stock yards (£725).

Progress: Awaiting men.

(46/920)

COMPLETED.

19.

14.9.48 . Removal of lux light from stock yards.

BETWEEN NICHOLSON AND BAIRNSDALE.

20.

P.C.R. CROSSING AT 172 m. 12 ch. 32 l.

The Commissioners have approved of the bellmouthing of the above crossing to improve view. A proposal that the owner of the property on the "up" side approach to the crossing be requested to agree to 10 panels of paling fencing being replaced by chain wire has been investigated. This, however, may not effect permanent improvement since the owner of the property could not be prevented from growing shrubs or hedges. The question of acquiring sufficient land to effect permanent improvement is being pursued.

(48/3603)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

BAIRNSDALE.

STAFF EMPLOYED.

21.

| <u>Transportation.</u> | <u>Rolling Stock.</u> | <u>Way & Works</u> | <u>Refreshment Services.</u> | <u>Stores</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 12 | 10 | - | - | - | 22 |

TIMBER SIDING AND CRANE.

22.

The Victorian Sawmillers' Association complained last September of the unsatisfactory conditions obtaining here for the handling of the increasing timber traffic and requested that the 6 ton crane be relocated and electrified.

The 6 ton crane is located a few truck lengths from the junction of the dead-end back road and the goods shed siding and can be used for loading on either siding. This location makes the crane of little use for timber loading because of the lack of room for stacking timber near the crane, semi-trailer road vehicles cannot be manoeuvred in the vicinity of the crane, and timber loading operations are frequently disturbed by shunting movements in the back road. The manual operation of the crane makes the loading of timber and logs very slow and cumbersome and uneconomical so far as labor is concerned. So far as the shed road is concerned, the crane is of little use on account of the restricted swing of the jib to that side. In addition, the loading of timber interferes with the handling of truck load traffic on the back road and, as this traffic is increasing, the crane area can be used with advantage for general loading and discharging purposes.

It has been agreed that the present crane site is not suitable and in view of the increasing timber and log traffic from this district, the Commissioners have just approved of the construction of a new siding on the up side of the McArthur Street level crossing with the necessary metalled loading frontage and road approaches to same and the relocation of the crane thereon at estimated cost £2948, the work to be taken in hand and completed as early as practicable.

When this is done a Mr. Jenner will attach a power unit to the crane at his own expense and operate it under the usual conditions. Mr. Jenner recently asked permission to install the power drive on the crane in its present position, but it has been recommended to the Commissioners that this be not approved.

(48/10047)
(49/2430)

OIL DEPOT SITE.

23.

The Caltex Oil Co. made application to lease an oil depot site on land facing McLeod Street and adjoining Ligar Street, which is just beyond the area where the new timber loading facilities are to be provided.

It has been agreed the only way in which this request can be acceded to is for the Company to construct a private siding by extending the new timber siding 150' towards Ligar Street and erect its oil valve on this private siding extension, the cost of this extension to be borne by the Company.

(49/749)

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BAIRNSDALE. (Contd).

RECONSTRUCTION OF PASSENGER ROAD APPROACH.

24.

When the extension and rearrangement of the station buildings were completed in 1941, the Commissioners approved of the reconstruction of the station entrance and passenger road approach which were to be provided with a bitumen surface, and also the construction of a beautification plot on account of the unsatisfactory conditions obtaining and its being considered that the present approach was not satisfactory or suitable for the heavy co-ordinated bus services to and from this station.

The Shire Council submitted an estimate of £400 for the work but in view of the labor and materials position the carrying out of the work was deferred.

In 1947 the Shire Council again requested the carrying out of the improvements to this approach road.

The papers are in course in the Secretary's Branch.

(46/15220).

SIDING FOR A.J. SHEARMAN.

25.

A request by Mr. A.J. Shearman for the provision of a private siding to his mill was investigated. He was informed that the cost would be approximately £3000. Nothing further has been heard from him.

(47/11194)

NEW GOODS OFFICE AND INCREASED SHED ACCOMMODATION.

26.

The Commissioners have approved of the provision of a new 20' x 14' goods office outside and at the immediate up end of the goods shed thus releasing 200 square feet of space in the shed.

Estimated cost £490.

Instructions issued 10.10.46 but work held up waiting release of men from other work.

(45/2970)

ADDITIONAL CUPBOARD FOR GOODS OFFICE.

27.

In August last the District Superintendent recommended the provision of an additional cupboard in the goods office.

The cupboard has been ordered.

(W.&W.8431/48)

LIGHT OVER CHECKER'S DESK.

In June last a request was made for the provision of a light to be installed over the goods checker's desk.

Instructions issued 22.7.48 and work is held up awaiting men.

(W.&W.6738/48)

PLATFORM.

29.

Mr. Tomkins, stock loader, recently intimated that he would not continue to clean out stock trucks unless a small platform were erected on which he could drop the truck doors. The Live Stock Agent has recommended that the work be carried out as early as practicable and the papers are now in course in the Way and Works Branch.

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

BAIRNSDALE (Contd.)

TRAIN EXAMINER'S CABIN.

30.

Instructions were issued on 25.8.48 for the rearrangement of Train Examiner's Cabin and provision of electric light therein also for rearrangement of loco. storehouse.

Progress. Awaiting men.

(W.& W.8764/48)
(W.& W.4367/48)

COMPLETED.

- 8.7.48 .. Erection of 2½ ton jib crane on goods platform. (€319). 31.
- 17.2.48 .. Provision of portable goods checker's desk in goods shed. (€10). 32.

LINDENOW

FIREWOOD MILLING SITES.

33.

Mr. Greville has recently brought under notice that his firewood mill site 50' x 30' commences at a point 100 feet from the goods shed - not 137' as shown on his lease. He also asks that he be granted an additional 10 feet depth which will make his site 50' x 40' - similar to the adjoining mill site leased to Mr. Irish.

Papers in course.

STOCK YARDS.

34.

Following complaints from the local branch of the A.P.P.U. of the bad condition of the stock yards, an inspection was made in December 1947 of the yards and they were found to be in good condition. They have a gravel foundation, very little loose top binding and are well drained.

The A.P.P.U. was so advised.

(47/11201)

FERNBANK

MOST IMPROVED D.R.

35.

In connection with the 1947 competition for the Most Improved Departmental Residence, D.R.2229, occupied by Ganger E.R. Johnson, was awarded 2nd prize of €1 for places without piped water supply in the Sale Works Foreman's Section.

STRATFORD

MOST IMPROVED D.R.

36.

In connection with the 1947 competition of the Most Improved Departmental Residence, D.R.280, occupied by Ganger C.F. Smith, was awarded 2nd prize of €1 for places with piped water supply in the Sale Works Foreman's Section.

RENEWAL OF STOCK YARDS

37.

The Commissioners have approved of the renewal of the stock yards and regrading of the stock yards siding at estimated cost €1521.

Instructions issued 1.6.48. Work held up awaiting release of men from other work.

(47/12977)

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STRATFORD (Contd.)

HOBSON STREET GATEHOUSE.

38.

The matter of providing a warning bell at Hobson Street Gatehouse is being investigated.

(W.& W.2267/49)

COMPLETED.

39.

22.2.49 .. Provision of wire rope in lieu of chain on crane also provision of two wire rope slings.

BETWEEN STRATFORD AND MONTGOMERY

BRIDGE.

40.

Instructions have been issued for the reconstruction of the bridge at 136 m. 79 chs. 93 lks. (£6714).

Progress: Work commenced but since held up account transfer of staff to urgent works at Yallourn.

BRIDGE.

41.

Instructions have been issued for the reconstruction of the bridge at 136 m. 04 chs. (£593).

Progress: Held up awaiting release of men.

SALE

STAFF EMPLOYED.

42.

| <u>Transportation.</u> | <u>Rolling Stock</u> | <u>Way & Works.</u> | <u>Refreshment Services.</u> | <u>Stores.</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 11 | 7 | 140 | 5 | 3 | 166 |

LOCO. DEPOT AND TRACKS, ETC.

43.

Approval was given some years ago for the erection of new Loco. Depot on new site on the up side of the level crossing, the re-arrangement of the tracks at the up end and the extension of the passenger platform. (£10,300).

80% of the track alterations have been completed. Tenders were invited for the erection of the new Loco. Depot but none received. Fresh tenders are to be invited shortly.

(45/8426)
(46/14613)

RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN GOODS YARD.

44.

The tender of Hasler Pty. Ltd. (£4666) has been accepted for the reconstruction and sealing of surface of roadway in goods yard.

Progress: Work in hand.

(49/1314)

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SALE (Contd.)

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM.

45.

The Commissioners have recently approved of the provision of a public address system at Sale at estimated cost £138.

(48/5589)

SIGNAL AND TELEGRAPH DEPOT.

46.

Instructions were issued for alterations and additions to Signal and Telegraph Depot.

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.& W.8597/48)

SIGNAL BOX.

47.

Instructions issued for renewal of equipment in basement of signal box.

Progress: Awaiting men and material.

(W.& W.234/48)

SITE FOR BULK OIL DEPOT.

48.

In 1947 Mr. H.C. Sleigh requested a site for bulk oil depot but the only suitable site available was on land adjoining the dead end siding on the wharf line used by the Gas Co. for their coal supplies.

It was considered that in view of the proposals to abolish the wharf as outlined in Secretary's 46/14872, the application should pend until such time as the proposals are finalized.

Estate Officer so advised.

CONDITION OF STATION BUILDINGS.

49.

In 1946 the Sale Advancement League per Hon. H. J. Hyland, M.L.A., made representations that the station buildings generally required attention.

Informed that the station buildings, including the exterior of the refreshment rooms have been listed for painting, but that owing to shortage of labor and material it is not known when it will be possible to undertake the work.

(46/11043)

WHARF.

50

In connection with the proposal of the Department of Public Works to demolish the wharf, the Gas Supply Company Ltd. which for many years handled its coal supplies at this point, has now intimated that it does not propose to seek the construction of a private siding to its works as its coal supplies can be satisfactorily dealt with in the main goods yard which is satisfactory to this Department.

In consequence, certain action involving the security of railway land and tracks is necessary before the wharf and the protective sheeting can be removed and upon receipt of advice from the Department of Public Works as to its final intentions, steps will be taken by this Department to carry out any necessary works as soon as labor and material can be made available.

(46/14872)

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SALE (Contd.)

TIMBER SIDINGS AT WHARF.

51.

These sidings were formerly used for the storage of poles and beams but since the construction of new timber storage sidings at the up end of Sale Yard they are not used and can be removed.

The Chief Civil Engineer has pointed out that before this can be done an Act of Parliament will be necessary.

TELEPHONE FROM STOCK YARDS TO GOODS OFFICE.

52.

The staff concerned requested last year that a telephone be provided between the stock yards and goods office to facilitate the waybilling, etc., of stock.

The cost of such a telephone is £62 and after investigation it was decided that its provision was not warranted. The request was therefore refused.

(W.& W.2807/44)

COMPLETED.

53.

24.11.48 .. Installation of electric floor polisher in Refreshment Rooms.

54.

6.1.49 .. Provision of wash basin for staff in Parcels Office.

55.

13.2.48 .. Erection of two additional station name plates.

56.

26.8.47 .. Substitution of 2½ ton jib crane on goods platform for 3 ton jib crane removed to Hamilton.

BETWEEN SALE, WARRAGUL AND MELBOURNE.

57.

The present telephone services between Melbourne and main line stations such as Warragul, Moe, Yallourn, Morwell, Traralgon, Sale and Bairnsdale are quite inadequate. Serious delays occur in the transaction of important business and, due to the amount of switching required at different points, much inconvenience and loss of time take place. As the existing line is a station to station service, the use of it for long distance calls holds up the making of calls between intervening stations. The practice of making use of the Selector line for urgent calls, which are not connected with train running, is not a satisfactory arrangement and interferes with the work of the Train Controller.

With the big expansion of traffic taking place on this line and which will further increase due to developments in the Yallourn Area and in the timber industry in the Bruthen and Orbost districts, it is urgently necessary that an up to date and improved telephone service be provided between Melbourne, Warragul and Sale.

The estimated cost of providing such a service is £9000 and £7612 was provided in the 1948-49 Loan Bill Application Act towards the cost of the work. Instructions are in course of preparation. The question of extending the line from Sale to Bairnsdale is to be given further consideration after the line to Sale has been provided.

(47/14553)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949

ROSEDALE

WATER SUPPLY TO STOCK YARDS.

58.

The above mentioned supply has been delayed on account of the non-availability of water from local Trust.

(45/1976)

COMPLETED.

59.

14. 7.48 .. Graveling surface of stock yards.

TRARALGON

STAFF EMPLOYED

60.

| <u>Transportation.</u> | <u>Rolling Stock.</u> | <u>Way and Works.</u> | <u>Refreshment Services.</u> | <u>Stores.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 28 | 76 | - | - | 2 | 106. |

STOCK YARDS.

61.

The Shire Council has made representations on many occasions during the last eight years in regard to the condition and location of the stock yards and requested their removal to a site beyond the down end of the station which site was purchased some time ago for the erection of a locomotive depot but not used for that purpose.

It was stated in 1939 that the Council intended to erect municipal sale yards adjacent to this land and in accordance with the usual practice the railway stock yards should be situated closeby.

The estimated cost of the siding to serve the new yards was £4220 which amount the Council was requested to bear. Because of the War, in 1940 the Council decided to defer the matter until hostilities ceased. Since then complaints have been made by the Council as to the fencing and surface and access to the yards. In the latter connection a proposal was approved to lease a strip of land to the Council for the formation of a lane approach to the yards so as to ease the position on the Princes Highway but the Council would not accept the conditions of the lease.

On 7.10.47 representatives of the Shire Council, local stock owners and agents met the Commissioners at Traralgon and requested that the stock yards be rebuilt on a new site on the down side of the station.

The representatives of the Shire said that the Council did not consider it should be called upon to pay for a railway connection if the trucking yards were established in a more suitable position and had decided that in view of the cost involved and the likelihood of a financial loss being sustained, it would not proceed with the proposal to construct municipal yards.

The Commissioners replied that it was recognised that the existing yards had reached the stage when they required complete renewal, but the work had not been carried out because the Council had consistently requested that the yards be not renewed on the existing site, and that no major repairs be effected because it was considering the establishment of municipal sale yards on another site. The Department did not wish to spend a lot of money on reconditioning the yards if they were to be relocated.

In cases where municipalities had decided to establish sale yards at a new site and to have them served by rail facilities, it was the practice if the existing yards required renewal, for the Department to bear the cost of reconstruction and to call upon the Shire to bear the cost of siding facilities to serve the new trucking yards and that policy had been followed at Traralgon. They did not consider it reasonable that they should be expected to bear the whole cost of relocating and rebuilding the yards due to the development of the town in the vicinity of the existing yards and the large increase in road traffic.

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949

TRARALGON (contd.)

61(contd.)

The Commissioners regretted they would not be justified in providing rail facilities in addition to rebuilding the trucking yards on a new site, and as they were anxious to improve the present facilities it was requested that finality be reached by the Council as early as possible on the question of relocation of the yards.

Recently the Hon. H.J. Hyland M.L.A. wrote regarding the matter and he was advised as above.

(47/11695)

STAFF ACCOMMODATION

62.

Approval has been given for the erection of Staff Barracks (£1700). Although the buildings are now in use the work will not be finally completed until 30.4.49.

(46/7063)

LOCO. DEPOT CONVENIENCES

63.

Approval has been given for the construction of new conveniences at the Loco. Depot (£518). Instructions issued.

Progress. Held up waiting on release of men from other work.

BRIDGE OVER RAILWAY CUTTING AT HAZLEWOOD ROAD

64.

Traralgon Shire requested on 14.1.49 the provision of a bridge over railway cutting on the west side of Traralgon to obviate traffic congestion at subway from Princes Highway to Shakespeare Street. The suggested proposed site for the bridge is near the turn off of the new Hazlewood Road. The matter is being investigated.

(49/607).

65.

FOOTSCROSSING OR SUBWAY AT "UP" END OF PASSENGER PLATFORM (COLLINS STREET)

The above mentioned matter has been investigated and the Shire informed in November 1946 that owing to the dangers incidental to station yard shunting and working the site is not suitable for construction of a footcrossing; alternatively, the heavy cost of constructing a subway would not be warranted.

(46/11669)

STATION BUILDINGS

66.

Instructions issued 9.2.49 for repairs and painting to station buildings.

Progress. Awaiting men.

(W. & W. 3194/48)

DRAINAGE AT BARRACKS.

67.

Instructions issued 17.1.49 for the diversion of drainage from street drain.

Progress. Awaiting men.

(W. & W. 10135/48)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949

TRARALGON (contd.)

D.R. 2681

68.

Instructions have been issued for repairs, etc., including provision of internal bathroom and new washhouse (£352).

Progress. Awaiting men.

(W. & W. 11307/44)

D.R. 258

69.

Instructions have been issued for the general rearrangement of D.R. 258 (£200).

Progress. Awaiting men.

(W. & W. 10487/46).

LOCOMOTIVE FUEL OIL STORAGE

70.

The locomotive fuel oil storage has been increased to 26,000 gallons and a proposal to erect a bund wall around the tanks is in course. The correspondence has been referred to the Chief Mechanical Engineer stating that the provision of the wall would seriously affect the operation of the depot.

(W. & W. 13078/48).

LOCO. DEPOT

71.

A proposal to provide an annexe adjoining the engine shed for accommodation for engine metallier is being investigated.

(W. & W. 13390/48)

BICYCLE SHELTER AT LOCO. DEPOT

72.

Plan and estimate are in course of preparation for the provision of a bicycle shelter at Loco. Depot.

(W. & W. 1001/49)

STATION YARD LIGHTING

73.

Instructions were issued on 9.3.49 for provision of shades on station yard lights.

Progress. Awaiting men and material.

(W. & W. 2573/49)

TENNIS COURTS AT V.R.I.

74.

It has been agreed that the Department supply 300 cubic yards of ashes and timber for plinths in connection with the V.R.I. proposal to rebuild two existing asphalt tennis courts. This work is to be carried out under the supervision of the Metro. District Engineer and any costs incurred including supervision will be charged against the V.R.I.

(48/7909)

RAILING PROTECTING SIGNAL WIRES

75.

A railing 118 feet long is provided along the front of the goods siding as a protection for the signal wires. Recently a Shunter fell over this railing and the shunting staff have requested that it be removed. The matter is in course.

(W. & W. 5221/48)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th, APRIL, 1949.

TRARALGON. (Contd).

BASKET LICENCE.

76.

Mrs. Avery recently made application for a licence to sell ice cream, soft drinks, etc., from a basket on the station. There was no objection so far as the Transportation Branch was concerned but the matter has been referred for the views of the Superintendent of Refreshment Services.

(E.O.49/212)

TELEPHONE BOX.

77.

Recently Messrs. Ikin Bros. were granted permission to have a telephone box erected on a post at the corner of the Guards' room under the usual conditions.

COMPLETED.

78.

4.3.48 .. Three gallon electric urn at Loco. Depot

79.

29.10.47.. Additional electric light at Loco. Depot.

80.

9.5.48 .. Alterations to electric light switches at Trucking Yards. (£4).

81.

11.9.48.. Replacing defective 5" C.I. water main by a 4" C.I. main cement lined and cleaning remainder of main leading to connection at town main.

82.

8.10.48 .. Fitting of machines at Loco. Depot with adjustable light fittings.

83.

26.10.48.. Erection of barbed wire fence on south side of yard to prevent trespassing.

TRARALGON - DANDENONG

ELECTRIFICATION LINE.

84.

Early authorisation of the electrification of the line between Traralgon and Dandenong has been recommended to the Parliamentary Public Works Committee.

YALLOURN.

MOST IMPROVED D.R.

85.

In connection with the 1947 competition for the Most Improved Departmental Residence, D.R.2736, occupied by Ganger J.Porter, was awarded 1st prize of £2.10.0 for places with piped water supply in the Sale Works Foreman's Section.

YALLOURN AND MOE.

PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE AND FACILITIES.

86.

The State Electricity Commission suggested some months ago the future provision of an appropriate passenger train service between Moe and Yallourn and a private siding to deal with same at Yallourn as it was anticipated that within 18 months at least 1,200 of the Commission's employes at Yallourn would be residing at Moe.

After investigation a summary of the position is that although it would not be reasonably practicable to operate the proposed passenger service, in addition to the goods service, under steam train conditions between Moe and Yallourn via Herne's Oak, such a service could, it is considered, be arranged under electric traction conditions via the proposed deviation route, subject to the provision of additional track and other facilities as hereunder:-

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YALLOURN AND MOE. (Contd).

At Yallourn: A dead-end passenger arrival road and platform to accommodate eight cars with an extension in an up direction to stable six cars adjacent to the Commission's Administrative Offices. Booking Office facilities.

At Moe: A train stabling road to hold 8 cars, preferably at the up end of the yard, adjoining "A" and "B" sidings.
The interlocking of sidings "A" and "B" and the additional handling road.
Enlargement of the booking office to enable the proposed increased business to be properly handled.

A suitable timetable of 7 trains each way per day can be arranged. The economics of the proposal show an excess of estimated revenue over additional operating costs of £3674 per annum representing interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ on a capital outlay of £113,046. As there appears to be reasonable prospect of the revenue being sufficient to justify the expenditure involved in providing the additional facilities required, it has just been recommended to the Commissioners that plans and estimates of cost be prepared for these facilities as an addition to the deviation and electrification schemes.

(48/11096)

YALLOURN.

NEW MARSHALLING YARD, LOCOMOTIVE FACILITIES, ETC.

87.

In order to economically and efficiently cope with the increasing brown coal and briquette traffic as a result of the vast developments to take place here within the next 12 years, some of which will be in use within two or three years, the Commissioners last year pointed out to the Parliamentary Standing Committee that the existing main yard at Yallourn for the handling of the traffic was inadequate and badly situated and lacked locomotive facilities. It was recommended to the Committee the construction of an entirely new marshalling yard and station some distance to the north and of sufficient capacity for the efficient handling of the brown coal traffic until the proposed spur line from Moe to Yallourn is built, and all briquette traffic thereafter. The scheme provided for four main gravitation sidings, a goods and live stock yard for local traffic, locomotive facilities adjacent to the marshalling yard consisting of coaling, turning and watering facilities, and includes a lead to the future Moe-Yallourn Spur Line.

The estimated cost is £150,000 and the scheme has been authorised by Parliament, and instructions issued for the carrying out of the work. Funds are provided in the current Loan Bill towards cost of the work.

Progress: Earthworks 70% completed, East and West end bridges commenced; track work will be commenced 22.4.49.

(45/3004)

ADDITIONAL SIDING TO POWER HOUSE.

88.

Instructions issued 14.9.48 (£3940).

Progress: S.E.C. now doing earthworks.

ADDITIONAL SIDING AT OLD BROWN COAL MINE (RIVER SIDINGS).

89.

Instructions issued 1.10.48.

Progress: In hand. Anticipated date of completion, 22.4.49.

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YALLOURN (Contd).

TRACKWORK AT STORAGE AREA FOR S.E.C.

90.

Instructions issued for the removal of one siding and re-conditioning others at storage area for State Electricity Commission (£981).

Progress: Nothing done. Shortage of manpower and S.E.C. not pushing work.

(W.&W.10051/47)

EXTENSION OF SIDING AT BRIQUETTE DEPOT BY 50'.

91.

The S.E.C. has been written and advised the conditions under which the Department will provide the extension. The estimated cost of the Department's work is £89. This excludes earthworks, drainage, removal of obstructions and restoration of any roads or paving which are to be carried out by the Commission. All costs to be borne by S.E.C.

(48/14687)

SIDING TO CEMENT STORE (S.E.C.)

92.

A proposal to provide a siding to the Cement Store is being investigated.

(W.&W.2461/48)

WATER SUPPLY.

93.

Erection of 6000 gallon tank and spout (£717). Instructions issued 6.3.47.

Progress: Work held up pending track alterations.

(46/15431)

(Item 94 Non-issue).

CROSSING WORK NEAR WEIGHBRIDGE.

95.

Instructions issued 17.12.48 for relaying tracks adjacent to weighbridge.

Progress: Weighbridge will not be installed until June next. Trackwork will then be proceeded with.

(W&W.11651/48)

REARRANGEMENT OF YARD WATER SUPPLY.

96.

A plan showing the proposed rearrangement of the reticulated water supply at Yallourn yard has been forwarded to the State Electricity Commission for its approval.

(W.&W.2698/49)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

YALLOURN. (Contd).

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR RAILWAY AND S.E.C. STAFFS.

97

A building will be required at the new marshalling yards (under construction) for the accommodation of the office and yard staff and comprising offices, meal and locker room and sanitary facilities.

Associated with the railway staff are certain S.E.C. employees engaged in the work of consigning the products of the area and office space for these men will also be required.

It is understood that it is proposed to provide accommodation for S.E.C. staff other than those mentioned at a point close to the site proposed for the building required for railway purposes and the Chief Civil Engineer has suggested that one building providing for both railway and S.E.C. requirements should be erected. He has also suggested that such a building be erected and owned and maintained by the S.E.C. and the portion required for railway purposes be leased to this Department.

The S.E.C. has recently been advised accordingly and that the Commissioners will be happy to nominate officers to confer with representatives of the Commission in regard to the matter.

(49/1860)

ERECTION OF 3 PREFABRICATED HOUSES.

Instructions issued 5.11.48.

98.

Progress: One in use since 29.12.48. Other two available on 11.4.49.

(48/6714)

BRIQUETTE FACTORY INNER ROADS.

99.

Instructions issued 29.11.48 for provision of W. S. levers in lieu of spur levers on three sets of points (£561).

Progress: Awaiting W.S. levers.

(W.&W.7358/48)

LIGHTING OF YARD.

100.

In consequence of the amount of night shunting taking place on account of the increase in the brown coal traffic, it is considered essential that the sidings on the up side of the truck weighbridge should be illuminated and the matter is being looked into.

DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH AND CLEANING OF TRUCKS.

101.

On 7.11.46 the Commissioners approved of payment being made to the S.E.C. for the collection and disposal of rubbish cleaned from trucks at the Briquette Factory sidings.

The S.E.C. has recently suggested that this Department should also accept debit for cleaning the trucks but the Commissioners are not prepared to vary the present arrangement under which the S.E.C. cleans out the trucks.

The S.E.C. has been so informed.

(48/11173)

FIRST DAY OF INSPECTION, MONDAY, 11th APRIL, 1949.

YALLOURN. (Contd).

TELEPHONES AT GOODS OFFICE.

102.

The District Superintendent has recently requested that the station to station telephone and local State Electricity Commission's telephone be extended to the new goods shed.

These extensions are very necessary and the Chief Civil Engineer has been requested to have them provided.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---|------|
| <u>COMPLETED.</u> | 18.2.49 .. | Provision of 50' x 20' goods shed and platform. | 103. |
| " | 8.1.49 .. | Ballasting of line to Old Brown Coal Mine. | 104. |
| " | 8.1.49 .. | Provision of short siding for use of Train Examiners and repair of trucks. (£2498). | 105. |
| " | 29.12.48 .. | Erection of new D.R. by Housing Commission. | 106. |
| " | 23.9.48 .. | Electric light in Train Examinder's Cabin. | 107. |
| " | 18.9.48 .. | Additional siding for Briquette Factory. (£4060 borne by S.E.C.) | 108. |
| " | 25.3.48 .. | Erection of 20' x 12' portable as meal room. | 109. |
| " | 13.9.47 .. | Conversion of booking lobby into office for Stationmaster. | 110. |
| " | 12.12.47.. | Extension of sidings at Old Brown Coal Mine. (£418) | 111. |
| " | 15.4.48 .. | Provision of Selector Table Telephone (£17) | 112. |
| " | 5.1.49 .. | Alterations to lighting at S.M's office. | 113. |
| " | 18.2.49 .. | Provision of public address system to facilitate yard operations (£300). | 114. |

MORWELL.

REARRANGEMENT OF STATION, NEW BRIDGES, ETC:

In order to meet the anticipated traffic requirements arising out of the development of the brown coal resources in the neighbourhood of Morwell, it will be necessary to completely rearrange the station and yard and include in the proposals the construction of a 50' wide bridge at the up end and a 100' wide bridge at down end and subway, new station buildings, platform, goods shed, stockyards, gantry crane etc., the approximate estimate of cost being £335,500. The Central Planning Authority has been informed that the Commissions are prepared to bear an amount of £1900 towards the cost (£10,000) of the up end bridge, and to bear an amount of £24,000 in the case of the bridge at the down end the total cost of which is £31,000 and it is expected that the funds covering the remaining costs will be made available by the Government to enable the work to be carried out.

For some years extensive alterations to the tracks, crossings and drainage, as well as the interlocking of the yard, were contemplated but with the proposed complete re-arrangement of the whole of the station and yard facilities as outlined above, the original proposition will not now be proceeded with.

(48/5207)

PROPOSED SUBWAY:

116.

On 28/11/47 the Shire of Morwell was informed that investigation disclosed that only one site for the proposed subway at Morwell could be considered viz. in line with the western building line of Latrobe Street. The estimated cost is £5600, the Shire to bear the actual cost and, in addition, the capitalized cost of future maintenance viz. £250. On 6/2/48 the Shire advised that no action was contemplated at present.

The proposed renewal of the overhead bridge has been deferred pending finalization of Morwell briquetting scheme.

(48/5972)

WARNING DEVICE AT CROSSING:

117.

A suggestion was made in 1947 that a warning device should be provided at the Level Crossing opposite the post office.

The Level Crossing Committee inspected the crossing and stated that there was an excellent view of up trains for road users when approaching from both sides of line, but that the view of down trains is restricted by the station buildings. In view of the fact that down trains stop at the station or reduce to low speed to exchange the Electric Staff, the present view of the road user is considered adequate and the provision of a flashing light signal is not warranted.

Further, it is realised that it will be necessary to completely rebuild the station buildings and re-arrange the yard in connection with the anticipated traffic requirements arising out of the development of the brown coal resources and included in the proposals is the construction of a 50' wide bridge at the up end of the station and a 100' wide bridge at the down end.

(47/9219)

MORWELL. (Contd).

LEVEL CROSSING AT DOWN END OF STATION.

118.

The Morwell Shire has undertaken to carry out the following work at level crossing at down end of Morwell Station.

- (a) Trimming of all palms in the Memorial Triangle and pruning of shrubs to below height of fence. (This work has been completed).
- (b) Raising of level of eastern approach to station.

The Shire stated in its letter of 30/4/48 that it was concerned at danger to pedestrian and road traffic on the north side of the crossing at junction of Princes Highway and Church Street and is requesting Country Roads Board to negotiate with Department for purchase of strip of land 10' x 15' in width between railway station entrance and crossing to enable highway to be widened.

SEE FOLLOWING NOTE.

(49/1439

47/⁹⁴⁹/₈₃₆₁

TRANSFER OF LAND TO COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

119.

Correspondence in connection with the transfer of 15 feet of railway land on the north side of Morwell Railway station to improve traffic conditions on the Princes Highway has been submitted to the Secretary with the following recommendations :-

- (a) The Board agrees to pay actual cost incurred by this Department in altering stockyards, buildings and fences necessary to make land available. The estimated cost is £1250. This does not include moving of building on land leased to W.H. Handley.
- (b) The Board obtains and forwards to the Department an agreement in writing from tenants to the excision from their leases of land required. It will be necessary for the Board at its expense to make such arrangements as are acceptable to the lessees.

(49/1439)

ROAD BRIDGE AT UP SIDE OF RAILWAY YARDS:

120

The Shire complained of the condition of the road bridge at up side of railway yards. It was inspected and the structure was found to be in a satisfactory condition but the decking forming road surface required attention. This is the responsibility of the Shire which was informed accordingly.

(48/5568

BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION:

121.

In 1945 the Morwell Shire drew attention to the insufficiency of the barricade at the bridge located at mileage 90m. 10c. at Commercial Road and also sought information as to the reconstruction of the bridge destroyed by fire in 1944.

Informed that the railway boundary fence had been extended across the road to provide adequate safeguard to traffic; a plan had been prepared for replacement of the bridge but shortage of manpower and urgent bridge renewals elsewhere would preclude the work being undertaken for some considerable time.

(45/1769)

MORWELL. (Contd).

LIGHTING OF CROSSING:

122.

The A.R.U. requested recently that the Council light at the crossing be allowed to burn all night and not extinguished about 1 a.m. as shunting takes place over the crossing after that time and there is an element of danger because of lack of lighting.

The Station Master reported that the Council crossing light is extinguished at 1-15 a.m. and after that time there is only an average of 3 hours shunting per week over the crossing.

The station yard light 50 yards from the crossing has been fitted with a higher powered globe and it is considered that nothing further is necessary. The A.R.U. has been so informed.

PLANTATION AREA :

123.

In April last year the Shire of Morwell requested permission to establish a garden plot on an area fronting the street and between the shop sites and dead-end siding at the down end of the yard.

The Shire was advised that portion of the land required is leased to the State Electricity Commission for the storage of poles but, if the Council obtained the approval of the Commission to the excision of the area in question from its lease, the Commissioners would be pleased to advise the Council of the conditions under which the land would be made available for beautification purposes.

(48/4414)

DRAINAGE :

124.

Instructions issued for drainage of shop sites (£232).

Progress: Awaiting men.

(44/8987.)

Instructions issued for drainage at down end of goods yard (£113).

Progress: Awaiting men.

(47/14905)
(W.&W. 12834/47)

PORTABLE FOR TRACK FORCE :

125.

Instructions were issued for provision of 20' x 12' portable for track force accommodation.

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.&W.1632/47).

FOOTCROSSING AT HOYLE STREET:

126.

Instructions issued on 30/8/48 for the provision of a foot-crossing over line for convenience of school children.

Progress: Expect to start this month.

(47/13230)

SECOND DAY OF INSPECTION. TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

MORWELL. (Contd).

- COMPLETED : 27.9.49. Erection of new goods office at down end and outside shed and installation of electric light and two power points therein. 127.
- " 29.7.49. Provision of asphalt strips on goods shed floor. 128.

HERNE'S OAK.

BRIDGE AT 85m. 07ch. 129.

Instructions have been issued for the provision of a bridge at 85m. 07ch. for State Electricity Commission.

Progress:- Four piers completed.
Steel girders in position.
Anticipated date of completion 22.4.49.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING : 130.

It has been recommended that electric lighting be installed in the Signal Cabin and on the platform at an estimated cost of £328. Instructions issued 17.1.49.

Progress: Awaiting erection of electric supply line by S.E.C.

(48/14404)

CLOTHING LOCKERS :

The supply of one (1) three-compartment steel clothes locker for use of the staff employed in the Signal box is in course.

PASSENGER FACILITIES: 132.

In 1946 representatives of the Yallourn Civic Association interviewed the Commissioners and urged the provision of passenger platform facilities at Herne's Oak Siding.

Refused and informed it was considered that the provision of this facility here had little or no justification as it is too far from Yallourn to be of any real value to that town where the bulk of the population resides.

(46/13694)

- COMPLETED : 133.
- 22.12.48 Provision of crossing loop, additional siding accommodation, switching instruments etc. (£17,491).
- " 13.9.48 Provision of Tilley lamp in signal box. 134.
- " 11.12.48 Erection of 3 Prefabricated houses (£6770) 135.
- " 20.12.48 Reconditioning of dead-end siding (£1,039) 136.
- " 15.3.49 Provision of lamp room ex North Carlton. 137

SECOND DAY OF INSPECTION, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

BETWEEN
HERNE'S OAK AND YALLOURN NORTH.

STRENGTHENING TRACK:

138.

In order to enable 'C' class engines to be utilised on this line approval has been given for the strengthening of the track (£6500). Instructions have been issued and the work is in hand.

Herne's Oak-Yallourn section completed.
Yallourn Brown Coal Mine - main line completed.

BETWEEN
HERNE'S OAK AND MOE.

COMPLETED : 20.11.47 Reconditioning of track (£9554) 139

BETWEEN
MOE AND YALLOURN

CONSTRUCTION OF SPUR LINE : 140.

In consequence of the Government's decision to expand the use of raw brown coal in this State as well as of further increasing the manufacture of briquettes involving vast developments in the Latrobe Valley, and in order to overcome the main difficulties in the handling of this traffic and the haulage of longer trains, due to grades on various sections of the line, the Commissioners strongly recommended to the Parliamentary Standing Committee last year that the proposed deviation between Moe and Yallourn be proceeded with immediately at estimated cost £180,000. This recommendation was approved by the Government. Funds are provided in the current Loan Bill towards cost of the work.

Instructions have been issued for the carrying out of the work.

Progress: Earth works and culverts are in progress by private contractor.

(45/3004)

MOE.

STAFF EMPLOYED:

141.

| Transportation | Rolling Stock | Way & Works | Refreshment Services | Stores | Total |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|--------|-------|
| 12 | 26 | - | - | - | 38 |

REARRANGEMENT OF YARD & PROVISION OF CONNECTION FOR MOE-YALLOURN SPUR. 142.

The above mentioned work is required because of local development and for anticipated additional requirements due to increased brown coal traffic. Matter not yet finalised. Scheme involves interlocking of yard in connection with the construction of the Yallourn Spur line by the Construction Branch. Approximate total estimate is £39,000.

MOE. (Contd).

NEW BROAD GAUGE SIDING, GOODS SHED AND CRANE.

143.

The Shire Council made representations in 1945 that a loop line be constructed behind the goods shed to enable local trucks to be unloaded and loaded with reasonable convenience and to obviate the frequent ceasing of these operations which takes place under present conditions during the conduct of shunting in the yard.

The local business has increased and most of the down trains reduce loads at Moe, which has accentuated the unsatisfactory working of the yard both from the departmental and public point of view.

It is considered there is justification for the provision of an additional broad gauge siding to handle the local goods traffic.

The original plan prepared was not considered suitable to adequately meet anticipated requirements and the papers are now with the Chief Civil Engineer to supply an amended plan and estimate of cost to provide for increasing the length of the goods platform to 150', increasing the goods shed to 60' x 18' with a 14' x 18' office immediately at the down end and outside the shed, providing a verandah on each side of the shed and installing a 2½ ton platform crane at the up end of the goods platform. This matter is to be considered in conjunction with the re-arrangement of the yard.

(45/7523)

ACCOMMODATION FOR STAFF :

144.

In order to provide accommodation for 8 Rolling Stock and 4 Transportation employes here in connection with the handling of the increasing briquette and brown coal traffic from Yallourn, the Commissioners have just approved of the provision of sleeping, meal and other accommodation at estimated cost of £2954.

It is proposed to re-erect the surplus barracks from Stony Crossing and the Railway Transport Officer's office from Spencer Street to provide bedroom accommodation for 14 employes. A 20' x 25' double portable leased by the Moe Railway Social Club will be converted on the site to provide a kitchen and living room and a new ablutions block erected to provide hot water service, shower, bathroom, W.C., urinal, laundry, bicycle and fuel storage, together with the necessary connections to the septic tank system. The buildings will be erected on the site of the disused tennis court at the up end of the passenger platform.

Progress: Instructions in course of preparation.

(48/8803)

BRIDGE OVER PRINCE'S HIGHWAY EAST :

145.

The question of altering and extending the bridge which passes over the railway line at down end of Moe station is being investigated. On 1.8.47 the Country Roads Board was informed that the approximate estimated cost of the work was £3,350 and provided for the bridge being widened to an overall width of 42 feet including one 6ft. footway on each side, the Board to refund to the Commissioners all expense incurred by them in connection with the work and to pay in addition to actual cost the capitalised cost of the future maintenance of the additions to bridge structures.

The Board subsequently requested that no action be taken pending determination of the proposal to construct the Moe-Yallourn line.

An amended plan and estimate are now in course of preparation
(cont).

SECOND DAY OF INSPECTION, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

MOE. (Contd).

145.

with certain aspects under discussion with Country Roads Board's Engineers.

46/638.

RENEWAL OF STOCK YARDS :

146.

Plans and estimates have been prepared for the renewal of the stock yards. The matter has been deferred pending re-arrangement of trackwork.

(49/1881)

PROVISION OF ASH PIT:

147.

A proposal to provide an ash pit at up end of passenger platform has been deferred pending experience to be obtained under altered conditions obtaining when the Yallourn scheme has been completed.

(W.&W.1326/47)

ASHPIT AT COAL STAGE :

148.

Approval has been given for the extension of the ashpit at the coal stage (£266). Instructions issued.

Progress: Held up waiting release of men from other work.

(44/14398)

YARD LIGHTING :

149.

Approval has been given to the carrying out of improvements to the yard lighting. Instructions issued.

Progress: Held up waiting release of men from other work.

(5222/48)

REARRANGEMENT OF OFFICE :

150.

Approval has been given for the re-arrangement of the office accommodation to provide better working facilities for the staff and ensure the safe custody of the cash (£405). Instructions issued.

Progress: Held up waiting receipt of material.

(W.&W.5554/48)

IMPROVED LIGHTING IN STATION OFFICE.

151.

The question of improved lighting at station office is being investigated.

(W.&W.5526/48)

SPARE TANK:

152.

Instructions were issued on 15/2/49 for removal of 4,000 gallon tank serving narrow gauge engines.

49/633.

SECOND DAY OF INSPECTION, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

MOE.(Contd).

153.

WATER TANK AT S.M'S RESIDENCE :

The town water supply is connected to the Station Master's residence and it is at times cloudy and dirty.

The S.M. has made application for a tank to be supplied to ensure a supply of good drinking water.

The papers are in course in the Way and Works Branch.

POWER POINT. IN S.M'S RESIDENCE:

154.

Late last year the S.M. advised that he intended purchasing an electric stove and asked that a power point be provided for it.

Instructions have been issued and a quotation from contractor is awaited.

(W.&W.12624/48)

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|---|------|
| <u>COMPLETED:</u> | 6.7.48 | Alteration to pedestrian entrance to station and provision of parking area. | 155. |
| " | 7.7.48 | Extension of siding for broad gauge engines by 60'. | 156. |
| " | 8.1.48 | Blinds for two windows in goods office | 157. |
| " | 12.8.47 | Extension of postal telephone to goods shed office. | 158. |
| " | 6.12.47 | Relocation of lockers and locking of lavatory for staff. | 159. |
| " | 1.4.48 | Additional room to D.R.2508 (£149) | 160. |
| " | 29.3.49 | Provision of 3 lockers at Rest House. | 161. |

SECOND DAY, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

TRAFALGAR.

RELOCATION OF P.C.R. CROSSING. 162.

Plan and estimate (£828) have been prepared for the proposed relocation of P.C.R. from 74M. 15Ch. 30Lks. to 74M. 21Ch. 36Lks. but no action is considered necessary at present as duplication of this section of track will not be carried out for some time.

(W.&W.1099/48)

EXTRA LIGHTING AT STOCK YARDS. 163.

The Chief Civil Engineer has recently been requested to carry out improvements to the lighting at the stock yards at estimated cost of £13. An additional light is to be provided and each light will be separately switched.

(W.&W.11334/48)

VAN GOODS SHED 164.

The van goods shed 15' x 6" x 12' x 6" at the down end of the passenger platform is spare and on 20/12/48 the Chief Civil Engineer was advised that it could be removed when required elsewhere.

(49/198)

COMPLETED: 165.

28.11.47 Repairs and painting to D.R.1870 (£128)

5.11.47 Water Supply at stock yards. 166.

YARRAGON.

P.C.R. CROSSING AT "UP" END. 167.

Commissioners have recently approved of the provision of a new P.C.R. crossing at 68M. 20Ch. 72Lks. and the abolition of the existing crossing at 68M. 71Ch. 02Lks. and instructions have been issued for the carrying out of the work.

(48/2113)

GOODS PLATFORM: 168.

The question of the provision of additional goods platform, chiefly for the handling of the potato traffic, has been under notice for some time but additional facilities are not warranted. The present platform is 48' x 16'.

(48/11166)

SALE OF LAND TO COUNTRY ROADS BOARD. 169

The Country Roads Board requested the purchase of railway land for road purposes extending some distance along the main line in the Yarragon area. The land was offered to it and offer accepted but Board did not pay money.

The Commissioners offer was recently withdrawn as the land, with the exception of one small piece, will be required for duplication.

(40/13655)

SECOND DAY, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

YARRAGON. (Contd).

COMPLETED

170.

- 23.7.48 Repairs and painting to D.R.2397 and D.R.248
171
11.6.48 Removal of wash basin and screens from Ladies
Waiting Room.
172
16.7.48 Erection of six posts to prevent motor cars
blocking entrance to station.

BETWEEN
YARRAGON - LONGWARRY - MELBOURNE.

DUPLICATION AND REGRADING OF LINE, ADDITIONAL SIDINGS AND
ELECTRIFICATION. 173

In connection with the vast developments taking place in the Latrobe Valley to increase the production of raw brown coal and briquettes at the State Electricity Commission's Works and in order to economically and efficiently handle the increasing traffic between Yallourn and Melbourne, the Operating Improvements Committee submitted a programme of works considered necessary to cope with the traffic. This was investigated last year by the Parliamentary Standing Committee who recommended the duplication and regrading of the main line between Yarragon and Longwarry, extension of the yard at Dandenong and the provision of side-tracking facilities for up trains at Springvale, at a total estimated cost £778,000. This was approved by the Government and funds provided in the current Loan Bill towards the cost of carrying out the work.

Instructions have been issued for the duplication and regrading work approved of and it is now in hand.

Progress: Culverts 25% completed, bridges 4 in course of erection, earth works 70% completed. Anticipated date of completion 29/12/50. The Dandenong and Springvale works will be commenced as soon as practicable.

The next items on the Committee's programme to be considered are the duplication between Dandenong and Narre Warren, and between Officer and Tynong followed then by the installation of automatic signalling between Oakleigh and Dandenong (already approved so that the material can be assembled) and the provision of side tracking facilities for up trains at Oakleigh. Later items include duplications between Yarragon and Moe, between Narre Warren and Officer and between Tynong and Longwarry.

A further review of the handling of the traffic between Melbourne and Traralgon and Yallourn has been made in recent months and recently the Commissioners recommended strongly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee that approval be given to extending electric operation to the sections Dandenong to Traralgon and Moe to Yallourn; to portion of the Melbourne Yard, certain sidings in the Spotswood-Newport Power Station Area and all sidings at wayside stations (excepting certain roads at Warragul and Moe) a total of 103 track miles at estimated cost of £1,950,000 of which £1,121,000 would be chargeable to Loan Funds, £800,000 to R.R.F. and £29,000 W.E. The estimated annual saving under this work as compared with steam operation, would amount to £130,750. This proposal will eliminate the carrying out of any duplicating or regrading works beyond those already approved.

(45/3004)

SECOND DAY, THESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

BETWEEN
YARRAGON AND DARNUM.

COMPLETED.

174.

23.1.49 Replacement of large type electric staff instruments and staff locks, by miniature type.

DARNUM.

TREE PLANTING AND DECORATION OF STATIONS.

175.

In connection with 1947 Tree Planting and Decoration of Stations Competition, this station was awarded 1st prize of £2.10.0 for the Maintenance of Existing Trees, Gardens, etc. at stations without piped water supply in the Eastern District and the prize money was divided equally between Messrs. L. Colson and A. Hammond, Assistant Station Masters.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AT STOCKYARDS.

176

Last year the local graziers requested installation of electric light at the Stockyards.

Refused and informed traffic did not justify particularly as it would be necessary to bring the power a distance of appriximately 120 yards.

D.R. 247

177.

Relocation of D.R. 247 which is in the alignment of duplication. Instructions issued 25/10/48.

Progress: House moved.

(W.&W.11120/48)

COMPLETED.

178.

3.4.47 Additional sheep loading facilities at Stock Yards (£158)

7.1.49 Repairs and improvements to D.R. 414.

179.

16.4.48 Installation of two additional lights in D.R. 414 and provision of 10' x 8' hut.

180.

BETWEEN.
DARNUM AND WARRAGUL.

COMPLETED.

181.

23.1.49 Replacement of large type electric staff instruments and staff locks by miniature type.

NILMA.

CLOSING OF STATION

182.

In reply to enquiries the Progress Association was informed on 31st March 1949 that it has now been decided to close Nilma station during the period the regrading and duplication works on this section are in progress, and when these works have been completed the question as to the necessity for re-opening the Station will be reviewed.

It is expected that the Station will be closed about the end of this year.

(49/3379)

SECOND DAY, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

NILMA. (Contd).

FLASHING LIGHT SIGNAL AT P.C.R. CROSSING AT 183.
"DOWN" END OF STATION YARD.

A request by the local Progress Association for the above mentioned facility was received in December, 1947. On 9/2/48 the Commissioners advised the Association that the question of improving conditions at the crossing was under consideration some years ago when following an inspection by the Level Crossing Committee the following improvements were effected.

- (a) Shortening dead-end siding by 60'.
- (b) Removal of large goods shed and platform on which it stood and substitution of a smaller shed on a site further away from the crossing.

The Level Crossing Committee on a later inspection advised that with reasonable care the **crossing** could be negotiated with safety.

In May 1948 an additional crossing sign was erected to give road users turning off Princes Highway better warning of the existence of the Crossing.

(48/114)

COMPLETED. 184.

21.10.47 Additional room and repairs to D.R. 2442 185.
10.5.48 Additional crossing sign at Level Crossing.

NERRIM.

MOST IMPROVED D.R. 186.

In connection with the 1947 competition for the most improved Departmental Residence, D.R. 2314, occupied by Ganger R.J. Rowe, was awarded 1st prize of £2,10,0 for places without piped water supply in the Oakleigh Works Foreman's Section.

NAYOOK.

GOODS PLATFORM. 187.

12/7/48. Earth filling portion of goods platform. Instructions issued

Progress: Awaiting men.

(47/12977.

COMPLETED. 188.

4.10.48 Extention of siding for Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (£303).

189.

27.11.47 Reduction in size and renewals to stock yards.

SECOND DAY. TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

NOOJEE

190.

LEASE OF CRANE AT GOODWOOD SIDING.

Mr. B. Ryan who has loaded timber and logs at Noojee for years for various consignors made application recently to lease the 6 ton crane site used by Miss Hale who is transferring her interests to Cudgewa.

She has not yet relinquished the site leased by her at Goodwood Siding, and until such time as she does so, it is not possible to grant Mr. Ryan a lease of that site on which the crane is erected. The papers are in course.

LIGHTING.

191.

In December last the Stationmaster made application for a light to be installed over the twenty steps leading from his quarters down on to the roadway as he considered such steps dangerous at night. He also desired an additional light in the station office.

The papers are in course in the Way and Works Branch.

LEASES.

192.

It has recently been agreed to lease to the Noojee Logging Coy allotments 9,10,11 and 12 and to Messrs. Suckling & Son allotments 13 and 14.

This arrangement will provide 100' siding frontage for each applicant.

(L133045)

COMPLETED.

193.

18.12.47 Repairs and painting to D.R.2838 and provision of additional electric light therein (£275).

BETWEEN
NOOJEE - NEERIM SOUTH

194.

A programme of repairs and renewals to bridges and culverts (£7000) on this line is in hand.

BETWEEN
NOOJEE - CROSSOVER.

COMPLETED.

195.

24.1.49 Reconditioning track between Noojee and Crossover (£24051).

BETWEEN
NOOJEE AND WARRAGUL.

COMPLETED.

196.

24.1.49 Renewals to sleepers etc. (£26,928).

SECOND DAY, TUESDAY, 12th APRIL, 1949.

NERRIM SOUTH.

D.R.2313.

197.

Instructions issued 19/3/48 for installation of electric light to sleepout of D.R.2313.

Local Contractor written to for quotation on three occasions.

(W.&W.2807/48)

D.R.410

198.

Repairs and renovations (£179) Instructions issued.

Progress: 50% completed. Now waiting on staff to complete plaster sheeting.

(W.&W.2445/45)

COMPLETED.

199.

20.4.48. Motor discharging ramp at stock yard and water supply to pig yards.

BETWEEN
CROSSOVER AND WARRAGUL.

COMPLETED.

200.

21.2.47. Renewals to sleepers, etc. (£4872).

ROKEBY

LEASE OF CRANE.

201.

A request made in June last by Stoll Bros to rent the 6 tons crane at Rokeby was refused as it had been ascertained that the applicants had been using the crane to load road transport vehicles.

D.R.409.

202.

Instructions issued for provision of electric light to D.R.409.

Progress: Local Contractors written to 24/2/49. No reply.

(W.&W.3796/48)

BULN BULN.

REDUCTION OF PASSENGER PLATFORM.

203.

On 16/10/48 the District Officers reported that the passenger platform which is 200' long could be reduced to 100'.

Instructions were issued on 17/1/49 for the carrying out of the work which is held up awaiting men.

(49/133)

STACKING SITE.

204.

Mr. W.K. Eyles recently applied for the lease of an area of land on which to stack timber required for pulpwood by the A.P.M. at Maryvale. No objection to the granting of site away from level crossing.

Papers to the Estate Officer.

BETWEEN
LILLICO AND WARRAGUL.

COMPLETED:

205.

1.2.48 Siding at 62½ miles transferred from Department of Air to Warragul Shire Council.

WARRAGUL TO DANDENONG

206

WARRAGUL

STAFF EMPLOYED

| Transportation | Rolling Stock | Way & Works | Refreshment Services | Stores | Total |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|--------|-------|
| 47 | 70 | - | 17 | 1 | 135 |

WARRAGUL

207

RE-ARRANGEMENT OF YARD

The above proposal is in connection with facilitating the handling of increased traffic due to development in Latrobe Valley.

Plans have recently been prepared and are in course.

TRACKS

208

Approval has been given for the carrying out of renewals to the crossing work (£5,656) instructions issued.

Progress: Non-interlocked portion completed. Awaiting release of men from other work to complete remainder.

EXTENSION OF NO. 4 ROAD

209

A suggestion that No. 4 road at Warragul be extended by approximately 160 feet with a slightly rising grade towards the buffer stops to obviate instances of vehicles being damaged through running away in "B" Siding has been received. Owing to the manpower position the proposal has been pended for review on 15. 6.49.

(W & W 6590/44)

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM IN YARD

210

The District Superintendent has recently reported that in view of the volume and importance of the yard work at this station, a public address system in the yard is a necessity.

He considers two speaker points would be necessary; one between the weighbridge road and the stock siding with a two-way speaker, and the other at the up end, near the lead to No. 6 road, a two-way speaker; microphones to be provided in the station office and in "B" Signalbox.

The papers are in course.

ALTERATION TO PASSENGER PLATFORM LOUD SPEAKER SYSTEM

211

When at this station recently the Stationmaster drew the attention of the General Superintendent to the difficulty experienced in satisfactorily operating the present loud speaker system on the passenger platform as the announcements are made from inside the office and approaching trains cannot be seen. The estimated cost of providing a microphone in a small cabinet to enable each platform to be operated independently of the other is £196.

Papers in course.

(46/1839)

ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION FOR STAFF

212

The present barracks accommodation is inadequate for the staff requiring to use it, and approval has been given for the enlarging of the buildings (£542). Instructions issued.

Progress: Held up - awaiting receipt of material.

(W & W 5090/47)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

WARRAGUL (Cont'd.)

STAFF BARRACKS

213

Instructions are in course of preparation for lining the kitchen and provision of urinal at the staff barracks.

An estimate of cost is being prepared for the provision of a hot water service.

(46/2083)

BOOKING & PARCELS OFFICE

214

Approval was given last year for the re-arrangement and modernising of the booking, Stationmaster's and Parcels Offices (£1,365), one of the main features being to stop the use of the office as a thoroughfare. The work is practically completed.

(36/2348)

FURNITURE FOR GOODS SHED AND PASSENGER OFFICE

215

A clothing locker, chair and office table have been ordered for the female assistant in the Goods Office and a swivel chair has been ordered for the use of the staff in the passenger office who perform telegraph and train running duties.

ACCOMMODATION FOR SHUNTERS & TRAIN EXAMINERS

216

The Commissioners have just approved of the erection of a room 25' x 12' as meal and locker room for the use of the Shunters and Train Examiners. A 2 gallon electric urn, sink and water supply, mess table and forms will be provided. An 8' storeroom will be provided at the up end. (£745).

(48/4679)

TELEPHONE FACILITIES

217

The office staff at Warragul have requested that a combined receiver and transmitter type table telephone be supplied for the selector circuit to facilitate the work. There is a heavy volume of telephone business at this station and a table handset telephone can be provided for £7.

The Chief Civil Engineer has recently been requested to provide this facility.

(W.W. 1006/49)

POWER RINGER FOR TELEPHONE

218

The Chief Civil Engineer has recently been requested to instal a power ringer for the telephone at this station because of the volume of telephone business handled. Estimated cost £25.

(W.W. 705/49)

REFRESHMENT ROOMS

219

Approval has been given for the carrying out of improvements to the centre bathroom at the refreshment staff quarters (£222). Instructions issued.

Progress: Waiting on local contractor to do the plumbing.

(47/2240)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

WARRAGUL (Cont'd.)

PROPOSED FACILITIES AT REFRESHMENT ROOMS 220

A proposal to provide a building to house bicycles and the Manager's car has been pended. The Superintendent of Refreshment Services was informed that material could only be made available at expense of more urgent work.

(W.W. 13469/46)

REFRESHMENT ROOMS 221

Instructions issued for the provision of 3 power points for operation of electric floor polisher.

Progress: Contractors written to. No reply received.

(W.W. 11659/48)

YARD LIGHTING 222

The matter of improving the lighting of the yard has been under notice and alterations have been made to the shades to avoid affecting certain signal lights. However, it has been stated that these alterations have adversely affected the illumination of the yard and the matter is to be looked into further. An additional light was provided on the overhead bridge to light up the points leading from No. 3 road to the yard.

(W.W. 13651/48)
(Suggestion 47289)

"B" SIGNAL BOX 223

Instructions issued for provision of floor hatches at "B" Signal Box.

Progress: In hand.

(W.W. 2594/48)

POINTS RODS 224

Following a request from the A.R.U. in 1945, it was recommended that the covering of points be extended by 50 yards.

The Chief Civil Engineer has been requested to carry out the work.

ASPHALTING OF SHED FLOOR 225

The volume of business handled in the shed is heavy and, in order to facilitate the moving of goods and to obviate damage to fragile consignments, the Chief Civil Engineer has recently been requested to asphalt the floor of the shed at an estimated cost of £80. Instructions issued.

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.W. 11801/48)

FENCE AT REAR OF BUTTER FACTORY 226

Instructions issued for the erection of 6' weldmesh fence at rear of Butter Factory and enclosing of huts within a 5' paling fence.

Progress: Weldmesh not yet available.

(46/15111)

COAL STAGE 227

Approval was given some time ago for the carrying out of renewals to the coal stage (£2,004). The work is practically completed.

(47/3885)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

WARRAGUL (Cont'd.)

ASH PIT AT LOCO DEPOT

228

Instructions have been issued for repairs to 50' of Ash Pit at Loco. Depot (£550).

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.W. 7727/48)

COAL STAGE AT 61M. 50 Ch.

229

Instructions have been issued for raising section of deck at "up" end of coal stage to facilitate coaling of "X" class engines.

Progress: In hand.

(W.W. 9331/48)

OIL STORAGE AT LOCO DEPOT

230

Instructions issued for alterations at Loco Depot to allow of additional storage accommodation for oil.

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.W. 2327/48)

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT LOCO DEPOT

231

Instructions issued for the provision of a sanitary block at Loco Depot to include shower cubicle and dressing room. (£468)

Progress: Awaiting Contractor.

An additional closet has been recently provided at the loco sheds pending sewerage. The Council effects a weekly clearance of the two conveniences.

(47/1241)
(46/6632)

IMPROVED LIGHTING AT COAL STAGE

232

Instructions have been issued for the provision of improved lighting at Coal Stage. A new S.E.C. independent supply to Loco Depot is required before the improved service can be provided.

(W.W. 955/49)

WATER SUPPLY

233

Instructions issued for repairs to 10,000 gallon tank and stand.

Progress: Awaiting men.

(W.W. 2503/48)

STOCK YARDS

234

A scheme has been prepared for the renewal of the stock yards but has been pending in connection with duplication alterations.

(W.W. 2276/46)

COMPLETED

235

24. 2.49. Standard bicycle rack in locker room.

29. 9.48. Installation of power point for Ice Cream Cabinet in Refreshment Rooms.

236

1. 9.48. Installation of electric light in three additional huts at staff barracks.

237

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

WARRAGUL (Cont'd.)

COMPLETED (Cont'd.)

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| 6.10.48. | Provision of Dumpy stove in Signal Box. | 238 |
| 20. 8.48. | Installation of electric light and urn in Single Men's Barracks. | 239 |
| 30. 6.48. | Electric light under overhead bridge for illumination of points leading from No. 3 road to yard. | 240 |
| 10. 6.48. | Erection of barracks accommodation for single men (£1,943). | 241 |
| 9. 4.48. | Electric light on water tank at coal stage. | 242 |
| 23. 4.48. | Installation of public address system at station. (£196) | 243 |
| 3. 8.48. | Extension of telephone from loco office to store. | 244 |
| 12. 5.47. | Provision of two gallon electric urn at Loco Depot. | 245 |
| 4. 6.47. | Repairs to 20,000 gallon water tank. | 246 |
| 28. 2.49. | Resurfacing of footpath on northern side of station. | 247 |
| 21. 3.49. | Sale of 10' x 8' portable hut to Contractors, Theiss Brothers for use as office accommodation (£109). | 248 |

BETWEEN
WARRAGUL AND DROUIN

COMPLETED

| | | |
|----------|---|-----|
| 5. 9.47. | Relaying track from 56M. to 61M. (£23,378). | 249 |
|----------|---|-----|

DROUIN

INTERLOCKING OF YARD - LEVEL CROSSING. 250

A suggestion that the yard at Drouin be interlocked and an interlocked gate be provided at "up" end crossing has been received.

The interlocking of the yard will be carried out in conjunction with the duplication and regrading of the section of line Longwarry - Yarragon.

Arrangements are at present in course to close the level crossing at the "up" end of the station.

(45/4241)
(W & W 23294/42)

D.R. 2209

251

Repairs and painting to D.R.2209 (£287). Instructions issued. The work is approaching completion.

(W & W 5795/45)

CROSSOVER

252

Instructions for the relocation of the crossover at 56 m. 32 chs. 78 lks. have been cancelled on account of duplication of the line. Arrangements have been made for the existing crossover to be maintained in a safe condition.

(47/8673)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

DROUIN (Cont'd.)

SCOUT HALL

253

The local Boy Scout Committee recently inquired whether the railway duplication will interfere with the Scout Hall and was advised that a decision would be reached in the matter towards the end of April.

When something definite is known the Committee will be advised.

(49/2958)

COMPLETED

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| 14. 3.47. | Repairs to light at entrance to station. | 254 |
| 21. 4.48. | Repairs to footbridge over railway. | 255 |
| 19.12.48. | Up distant signal moved 90 yards further out from platform. | 256 |
| 15. 3.49. | W.S. Lever, in lieu of existing spur lever on main line. | 257 |

LONGWARRY

PROVISION OF CROSSING OVER LINE ON EAST SIDE OF STATION.

258

The Longwarry Progress Association requested (A) provision of a crossing over the line on the east side of Longwarry station and (B) the removal of a mound at the approach to the cattle yards.

On 27/11/47, it was informed that the existing wicket gates in the boundary fences of the goods yard at Longwarry were provided as a means of access to the goods shed and sidings. The request that a footpath be erected between these gates has been investigated by the Level Crossing Committee who decided the location most unsuitable for a crossing because of dangers attendant upon crossing a shunting yard and main line track. The Progress Association was informed accordingly.

In regard to (B) the Association was informed that it is understood the local Council intends to construct a culvert at the approach to the cattle trucking yards and when this is done the difficulty at present experienced by motor trucks backing over an existing mound will be removed.

(47/12174)

STATION PLATFORM AND FENCE AT CROSSING

259

The Longwarry Progress Association wrote in May, 1948, drawing attention to the condition of the wooden platform at the station and requesting renewal of fence at level crossing.

It was informed on 2/7/48 that only minor repairs were necessary to the platform and these had since been effected also that the post and rail fences at P.C.R. crossing are in good condition and when they become due for renewal, consideration will be given to replacing them by wire fences with concrete posts.

(48/5471)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

LONGWARRY (Cont'd.)

TROLLEY LINE

260

Mr. W. Janicke has recently written seeking permission to construct a small trolley line through his timber yard site to the siding track.

No objection so far as Transportation Branch concerned provided the surface of the line is flush with the roadway and that suitable clearances are observed where it meets the rail track. It is understood that this portion of the goods siding will not be interfered with by regrading proposals.

Papers in course in the Way and Works Branch.

LOADING PIT

261

In January last^{year} the Longwarry and District Dairymen's Association requested a site at the down end of the yard for the purpose of constructing a loading pit below ground level for the receipt of its supplies of briquettes and brown coal. However, there has been less trouble with spillage of the coal and briquettes in the last twelve months and the matter has been allowed to pend.

DRAINAGE OF YARD

262

In the course of maintenance, drainage improvements have been executed and have proved satisfactory.

Owing to manpower position the complete scheme has not been carried out and the correspondence has been pended till 1/7/49.

(44/9276)

COMPLETED

23. 5.47. Realignment of fences to enable widening of footpaths. 263

23. 5.47. Watering facilities at stock yard. 264

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949

BUNYIP

P.C.R. CROSSING AT 48 m. 7 chs. (IONA ROAD)

265.

In 1946 representations were made by the Shire of Berwick and Bunyip Progress Association for the provision of a flashing light signal the above-mentioned crossing.

Both bodies have been advised that an adequate view of the crossing is available in all directions and the installation of a flashing light is not warranted.

(46/10295)

SHEEP DRAFTING YARD:

266.

In 1945, the local Progress Association requested provision of a sheep drafting yard.

Enquiries indicated that during the previous four years the average annual sheep loading amounted to 16 trucks and the drafting facility was therefore not warranted.

(45/7989)

LEASE OF LAND FOR BUSINESS SITES:

267.

The local Progress Association expressed regret in September 1947 that land adjacent to the station was to be let for business purposes. It was informed on 19th September, 1947, that provision was made in leases of this nature for the lessee to first obtain approval of local municipality to plan of any building to be erected on land and this should obviate erection of unsightly structures.

(46/7586)

COMPLETED:

268.

17/9/48 Removal of open fronted Milk Shed from station and making good fencing.

GARFIELD

FLASHING LIGHT SIGNAL AT P.C.R. CROSSING AT 45 m. 75 chs.

269.

In December 1948, the local Progress Association wrote requesting the installation of a Flashing Light Signal at this crossing. The matter is being investigated by Level Crossing Committee.

In 1946, the Progress Association was informed that the Commissioners considered the installation of the facility was not warranted but approved of the following works being carried out to improve the view:-

- (1) Sluing of dead and stock siding and removal of branches of tree near stock races,
- (2) Removal of three old pine trees on railway land on either side of roadway on southern approach.

This work has been done.

(46/3452)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949

GARFIELD (contd.)

PARKING OF CARS:

270.

People who travel by train frequently park their cars on the station approach which is on an up grade from each end.

The Stationmaster warned some owners of cars but, at week ends and on holidays, cars are still parked at the side of the station approach and thus interfere with other traffic to the station.

In 1946, the Berwick Shire Council was leased an area on the right hand side of the down end ramped approach to the station for a car park but has not yet prepared the area. This proposed car park is at the up end of the strip of land leased by the Council for some years for beautification purposes.

The matter is being followed up with the Council.

(46/8460-

COMPLETED:

| | | |
|---------|--|------|
| 25/8/47 | Topdressing of passenger platform. | 271. |
| 7/2/47 | Power Points at D.R.2481. | 272. |
| 25/8/47 | Reduction in length of low level goods platform from 205' to 75' and removal of facing of earthen low level platform on the dead end extension at "down" end of yard | 273. |
| 29/9/47 | Watering facilities at trucking yards. | 274. |

GARFIELD - TYNONG

COMPLETED:

| | | |
|---------|---|------|
| 19/5/47 | Reduction in height of cutting down side of P.C.R. at 45 m. 48 chs. to 3' above rail level and grading high ground. Sluing siding and removal of trees at P.C.R. 45 m. 75 chs. | 275. |
|---------|---|------|

(£345)

TYNONG

PROPOSED PROVISION OF A P.C.R. CROSSING ON "DOWN" SIDE 276.

A request in September 1948 by the Progress Association for the provision of a new P.C.R. Crossing on down side of Tynong was investigated and the Association informed on 15/11/48 that the site is totally unsuitable for use as a public thoroughfare because of extremely limited views of trains approaching it. In addition the slight inconvenience occasioned to a few local residents by having to use crossing at "up" end does not warrant provision of a crossing at a more suitable location at down end.

A further letter from the Association on 14/1/49 has requested that a pedestrian crossing be provided if vehicular crossing not possible.

This matter is under consideration.

(48/10313)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949

TYNONG (contd.)

DRAINAGE OF STATION:

277.

The Shire wrote requesting that attention be given to roadways and drains at railway station. The correspondence is with the District Engineer for report and instructions to carry out any minor repairs necessary.

(49/1646)

NEW HOUSES:

278.

Approval has been given for the erection of two prefabricated houses here. It is anticipated they will be delivered by Housing Commission by 20.4.49.

(48/5816)

COMPLETED:

20/10/47 Closing crossing giving access to the goodsyard at down end. 279.

NAR NAR GOON

NEW STOVE FOR D.R.

280.

A new stove was installed in January in the Stationmaster's residence but he subsequently complained that it was not satisfactory.

The papers relating to the matter have been borrowed by the Staff Board.

(W. & W. 9558/48)

PAKENHAM

STATION BUILDINGS:

281.

A proposal to rearrange the station buildings has been pending for review until 1/7/49 because of manpower and material shortage.

(38/7908)
(W. & W. 7665/44)

FOOTPATH AND LIGHTING:

282.

The Pakenham and District Progress Association requested in July 1947 the erection of a street light halfway between Pakenham station and Main Street. It also desired the construction of a footpath inside the existing fence line from the station to Main Street.

The Shire and Progress Association were informed that the conditions under which the roadway between Main Street and Pakenham station is leased provide inter alia-that the Shire is responsible for the maintenance in good repair of a pathway on the land and for the provision of any artificial lighting.

(47/8205)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949

PAKENHAM (contd.)

D.R. 2248: 283.

Instructions issued for repairs and painting including provision of additional room (£445).

The work is in hand.

(W. & W. 5388/46)

D.R. 2455: 284.

(£169). Instructions issued for repairs and painting to D.R. 2455

The work is in hand.

(W. & W. 7012/43)

WATER SUPPLY TO D.R. 231: 285.

The occupant of the gatehouse at Racecourse Road requested that water supply be connected to his residence.

Because of shortage of manpower and piping the matter has been deferred for a further twelve months.

(W. & W. 6338/48)

ELECTRIC LIGHT TO D.R. 231: 286.

This matter has been investigated but State Electricity Commission advised that owing to manpower and material shortages it cannot indicate when service can be provided.

(W. & W. 8553/48)

COMPLETED:

17/8/48 Provision of motor discharging ramp at stock yards and relocation of water trough. Wing fence altered. 287.

17/11/47 Substitution of wire rope for chain on crane. 288.

BERWICK

RAT PROOF CAGE: 289.

As a result of damage to goods caused by rats, it has been recommended that the floors of the goods shed and office be repaired or concreted and that two ratproof cages be provided - one 7' x 6'6" in the goods shed, one 5' x 5' in the vangoods shed.

Papers in course in Way & Works Branch to supply.

(W. & W. 8963/47)

COMPLETED: 290.

5/8/47 Erection of new D.R. 3108 for Ganger including electric light and power points (£1450).

29/9/47 Watering facilities to stock yards. 291.

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949

BETWEEN BERWICK AND NARRE WARREN

COMPLETED:

4/9/48 Relaying and reconditioning curve from 26 m. 44 chs. 54 lks. to 26 m. 66 chs. 52 lks. (£1867) 292.

BETWEEN BERWICK AND DANDENONG

COMPLETED:

3/7/48 Reconditioning of track from 26 m. to 19 m. 40 chs. (£21,490). 293.

NARRE WARREN

WATER SUPPLY:

294.

Correspondence in connection with an application by the Stationmaster to have water laid on to his residence has been deferred pending advice from the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission as to the provision of a reticulated supply for the town ship.

(W. & W. 3013/44)

COMPLETED:

29/4/47 Attention to approach to trucking yards and cleaning out drains. 295.

31/8/47 Repairs and painting to D.R. 2443, extending kitchen and provision of 3 additional electric lights in the residence. 296.

DANDENONG

ROAD VEHICLES IN STATION YARD:

297.

In January last the Dandenong Chamber of Commerce wrote complaining of the confusion which arises from the congestion of passenger buses, private and hire cars in the station yard at peak hour travelling times and invited the Department to send a representative to attend a meeting to be held at Dandenong Town Hall 17/2/49 to consider the matter.

The Metro. Superintendent attended this meeting and has submitted his report regarding the various items considered. Briefly the main features of the Chamber's plan were:-

- (1) Parking of distant buses at the west end of yard against cream shed;
- (2) Local buses to pick up and set down west of parcels office;
- (3) Hire Car stand to remain as at present;
- (4) Present "No Parking" area (under the hoardings) to be made private car park when graded and resurfaced;
- (5) Car park near turntable to be closed and beautified by Council;
- (6) Opening of extra exit from station for country bus passengers at western end of platform;
- (7) Widening of both entrances from Foster Street to Station Yard;
- (8) Bus time tables and signs to be erected at station;
- (9) Central booking office to be established for all bus services using Dandenong.

DANDENONG (Cont'd.)

ROAD VEHICLES IN STATION YARD (Cont'd.)

297 (Contd)

The Metro. Superintendent reported as follows in regard to each of these items:-

- (1) No structural or road alterations are necessary for this to be effected.
- (2) No structural or road alterations are necessary and there is no objection providing the buses do not block the entrance to the parcels office;
- (4) The chipping of grass from land adjacent to hoardings at the foot of the bank along the Foster Street frontage and surfacing with screenings or ashes and removal of "No Parking" signs from this area could be done without much expense and is recommended;
- (5) It would be necessary to close the car park near the turntable if the beautification scheme advocated be approved. The cars would then park in the area referred to in clause (4);
- (6) No structural alteration necessary. Platform staff would not be available to attend to this additional barrier gate for all trains but would be used as far as practicable;
- (7) The widening of the two station entrances leading from Foster Street could be approved providing the Dandenong Shire Council is prepared to undertake the work and bear the cost thereof;
- (8) The placing of bus time tables and signs relating to buses should be undertaken only after the substance of such time tables and signs has been submitted and approved by the Railways Department and cost to be borne by bus owners or the Dandenong Chamber of Commerce;
- (9) The central booking office for all bus services using Dandenong is to be provided at a point in the main street and not at the railway station.

The papers will be available on tour.

(49/729)

PROPOSED STOCK MARKET TO BE ERECTED BY SHIRE COUNCIL

298

A plan has been submitted by the Council for the department's views on its proposal to erect large municipal sale yards.

On 17/3/39 a representative of the Council called on the General Superintendent of Transportation and discussed the matter generally. He was told that the department's attitude was that the existing railway stock yards would reasonably meet the requirements of this area and that if he had any doubt in connection with the yards, the Council should reserve a piece of land which the Department could make use of to enlarge its facilities if necessary. He stated he would talk the matter over again with the Council and have an official letter written setting out what their proposals are.

(W & W 9262/47)

70' TURNTABLE

299

A proposal to provide a 70' turntable at Dandenong in lieu of existing 53' turntable at an estimated cost of £5,219 has been pending for review on 1/7/49.

On 1/8/48, the General Superintendent of Transportation advised that during the period 1/1/48 to 16/7/48 - 73 special trains were run from Dandenong to Warragul but it was necessary for engines of only three of such trains to be divided at Dandenong for turning purposes.

(44/7523)

THIRD DAY OF INSPECTION, WEDNESDAY, 13th APRIL, 1949.

DANDENONG (Cont'd.)

P.C.R. CROSSING AT 19 M. 67 CHS.

300

The Level Crossing Committee has investigated a request from Progress Association for the provision of a flashing light signal at the abovementioned crossing.

At this crossing, in addition to the well defined indication of the crossing by two standard crossing signs, there are placed on the roadway on each side of the crossing

- (a) advance warning sign 100 yards away;
- (b) cross with word "Rail" painted on the bitumen surface approximately 200' further ahead;

At 120' from the crossing clear views of trains at least 10 chains away and at 100' at least $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away are obtainable in each direction.

A recommendation that the request be not acceded to is being forwarded.

(48/10658)

FRANKSTON ROAD LEVEL CROSSING

301

The Dandenong West Progress Association wrote requesting attention be given to the roadway at this crossing. The correspondence is with the District Engineer for report and he has been instructed to carry out minor repairs necessary.

(49/2640)

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

302

The Gippsland Co-operative Bacon Curing Coy., requested permission to construct a footpath over the railway adjacent to its factory.

The Level Crossing Committee made an inspection and a reply was forwarded the Company that in view of future developments in the area a suitable site for a footcrossing is not available.

(48/11108)

FIRE PLUGS

303

On the recommendation of the Fire Prevention Committee approval has been given for the provision of fire plugs and hydrant in the goods yard (£150). Instructions issued.

Progress: Held up awaiting release of men from other work.

(47/1724)

ELECTRIFICATION OF CRANE

304

In order to facilitate the handling of the timber and other heavy traffic dealt with here, approval has been given for the installation of electric motor on the 6-ton Derrick crane (£580). Instructions issued.

Progress: Waiting on receipt of material.

(47/12567)

DANDENONG (Cont'd.)

ASH PITS AND WATER CRANE

305

Owing to the poor quality coal now being used, drivers frequently find it necessary to clean fires at Dandenong and hot ashes are consequently dropped on the tracks.

The Asst. General Superintendent agrees with the Metro. Superintendent that as there is every indication that the class of coal now being used is not likely to improve sufficiently to lessen the cleaning of fires at Dandenong, an ashpit and water crane be provided at the "down" end of "P" Siding and an ashpit at the up end of No. 3 road.

Papers in course.

YARD LIGHTING

306

Last year the local branch of the A.R.U. on behalf of the portering staff who clean cars, requested the installation of electric lighting on "C," "D" and "E" Sidings where the trains are stabled.

Refused and informed conditions at Dandenong no different from those at other points where cars are cleaned. The car cleaner's lamp, considered to be sufficient and extra yard illumination therefore unnecessary.

PRIVATE SIDING FOR INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER CO. (AUST.) PTY. LTD. 307

On 3/2/49, the Architects to the Company wrote requesting provision of a siding to International Harvester Company's works at Dandenong. They were informed on 10/2/49 that it was practicable to provide desired rail facilities on a site adjacent to the junction of Princes Highway and the South Gippsland Highway although at considerable cost. It would be necessary for the Company to lodge £100 towards expenditure involved in making preliminary survey and preparing plan and estimate of cost, and give a written undertaking to pay the actual cost of such siding.

Nothing further has been heard from the Company.

(49/1430)

COMPLETED

- | | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| 20. 9.47. | Electrification of portion of "C" Siding (£326). | 308 |
| 14.11.47. | Repairs and painting to D.R.219. | 309 |
| 24.11.47. | Installation of Electric Starting Bell. | 310 |
| 8. 3.48. | Provision of three 9'10" gates to stock yards. | 311 |
| 28. 2.49. | Installation of direct postal telephone line to Goods Clerk's table. | 312 |