



The Northern Steamship Co. Ltd.

Time-Table for February.

(Weather and other circumstances permitting.)

S.S. Hauiti.

FOR OREWA, WAIWERA, MAHURANGI AND WARKWORTH.

Leaves Auckland:	Leaves Warkworth:
Fri 1st, 9 a.m.	Fri 1st, 3 p.m.
Mon 4th, Noon	Tues 5th, 7 a.m.
Wed 6th, 2 p.m.	Thurs 7th, 5 a.m.
Sat 9th, 7 a.m.	Sun 10th, 10 a.m.
Mon 11th, 5 p.m.	Tues 12th, 11 a.m.
Fri 15th, 7.30 a.m.	Fri 15th, 2.30 p.m.
Mon 18th, 10.30 a.m.	Tues 19th, 6 a.m.
Wed 20th, Noon	Thurs 21st, 7 a.m.
Fri 22nd, 2 p.m.	*Sat 23rd, 8.30 a.m.
	Mon 25th, 10 a.m.
	Thurs 28th, 11 a.m.
	Fri 29th, 2 p.m.

Wed 27th, 7.30 a.m.
Fri 29th, 7.30 a.m.
*Trip to Waiwera Show.
Vessel leaves Waiwera at 6 p.m. for Warkworth

S.S. Kawau

FOR KAWAU, LEIGH AND MANGAWAI.

Leaves Auckland:	Leaves Mangawai:
Fri 1st, 6.30 a.m.	Sat 2nd, 4 a.m.
Fri 8th, Noon	Sat 9th, 9 a.m.
Fri 15th, 4 p.m.	Sat 16th, 2.30 p.m.
Mon 25th, Noon	Tues 26th, 10 a.m.
Fri 29th, 4 p.m.	Sat Mar. 1st, 2 p.m.

FOR LITTLE AND BIG OMAHA KAWAU ISLAND, TE PE AND TAKATU

Leaves Auckland:	Leaves Omaha:
Wed 6th, 11 a.m.	Thurs 7th, T. Wharf, 7.30 a.m.
	Thurs 7th, Leigh 9 a.m.
Wed 13th, 11 a.m.	Thurs 14th, T. Wharf, 1.30 p.m.
	Thurs 14th, Leigh, 3 p.m.
Wed 20th, 10 a.m.	Thurs 21st, T. Wharf, 7 a.m.
	Thurs 21st, Leigh, 8.30 a.m.
Wed 27th, 11 a.m.	Thurs 28th, T. Wharf, Noon
	Thurs 28th, Leigh 1.30 p.m.

S.S. Kotiti.

FOR MATAKANA AND MULLET POINT.

Leaves Auckland:	Leaves Matakana:
Mon 4th, 11 a.m.	Tues 5th, 6 a.m.
Mon 11th, 4 p.m.	Tues 12th, 11 a.m.
Mon 18th, 10 a.m.	Tues 19th, 5 a.m.
Fri 22nd, Noon	*Sat 23rd, 8 a.m.
	Sun 24th, 8.30 a.m.
Mon Mar. 3rd, 9.30 a.m.	Tues Mar. 4th, 5 a.m.
*Waiwera Show.	Leaves Waiwera at 6 p.m.

PUHOI.

Leaves Auckland:	Leaves Pihoi:
Wed 6th, 2 p.m.	Thurs 7th, 7 a.m.
Wed 13th, 7 a.m.	Thurs 14th, Noon
Wed 20th, 1 p.m.	Thurs 21st, 6 a.m.
Wed 27th, 6 a.m.	Thurs 28th, Noon
	†Cargo Tuesday and Tiri Tiri Trip.

Church Services.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Whangaparaoa 10.30 a.m.
Silverdale 2.45 p.m.
Lower Waiwera 7.30 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leigh 10.30 a.m. Rev. Poole
Matakana 2.30 p.m. Rev. Poole
St Columba's 7 p.m. Rev. Poole
(*Phone No. 49.)

METHODIST CHURCH

Warkworth, 7.30 p.m. Rev. Thornley
Dome Valley, 11 a.m. Rev. Thornley
Mullet Point 2.30 p.m. Rev. Thornley
Warkworth, 11 a.m. H. Phillips

WARKWORTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of the school committee held on Jan. 24th, information was received from the Education Board that Miss K. A. Carroll had been appointed secondary assistant at Warkworth High School. Miss Carroll hails from Hawera, and, amongst other qualifications, holds a B.A. degree.

The committee has been successful in retaining Mr Duke's services as ferryman for a further term. The launch will commence running as formerly on Feb. 4th.

It was resolved to hold the annual school picnic to Waiwera as usual, the date to be arranged later.

New pupils are being enrolled for the high school and it is expected that the accommodation will be fully taxed when school re-opens on Monday next.

INCREASED MAIL FOR WARKWORTH.

Business people and residents of Warkworth will be pleased to learn that owing to the representations of the Rodney Chamber of Commerce, the coach will now carry a mail to and from Kaipara Flats on Wednesday in addition to the former service. This will be a great convenience especially when the steamer is not running the Wednesday trip.

Don't wait until you are right out of receipts or other printing before sending your order to the "R. & O Times" office.

Billheads, letterheads, and all other printing turned out promptly at the TIMES Office.

The Rodney and Otamatea Times

Terms of Subscription—Twelve Shillings and Sixpence per annum, in advance. Advertisements received without the number of insertions being stated will be continued and charged for until ordered out, except in the case of announcements where the date conveys the limit to the number of insertions. Casual advertisements are inserted at the rate of 4s per inch per insertion.

Quotations for standing advertisements may be obtained on application. The rates are very liberal.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

THANKS.

Mrs R. J. BLAIR desires to thank all those who so kindly sent messages of sympathy and floral emblems in her recent sad bereavement; also special thanks to Dr. Osborne and Nurse Kirk.

WEDNESDAY, JAN 30, 1924.

COUNCIL INSPECT ROADS.

MEMBERS AND SETTLERS CONFER ON PROBLEMS.

On the invitation of a strong deputation from a public meeting of settlers, the chairman and members of the Rodney County Council made a tour of inspection of some of the roads in the district on Wednesday last.

The party consisted of Cr Hodgson (Chairman of Council), and Councillors Boler, Becroft, Gubb, Knaggs, Matheson and Schollum; Mr Dow (County Engineer), and Mr Goodman (County Clerk), and a R. & O. TIMES representative.

A number of settlers met the party in Warkworth and pointed out the principal needs of the roads as travelled over; different settlers taking the position of pilot or guide for different parts of the road.

Leaving Warkworth about 9.30 in five motor cars the party proceeded to inspect the Warkworth-Kaipara Flats Road; stopping at various points and inspecting work done, drains, work requiring doing, etc. It was patent that much required to be done before the road could be said to be in good order. Long stretches of sandstone spalls remain uncovered by harder metal, and are thus exposed to weather which quickly reduces the stone to mud. Drains have become blocked, and are full of raupo, etc. Hard metal which has been spread is being kicked off the road by vehicle and motor traffic, etc. Arriving at Kaipara Flats a halt was made for luncheon which was served in the Public Hall. After lunch a general discussion ensued, a number of residents coming along to meet Councillors.

Mr Roy Ellis, as spokesman for the settlers, put the case before Councillors, and asked for their co-operation in getting the road finished.

The Chairman, in reply, said it was all a question of money. £8,000 had been raised to do a job, the Government estimate for which at that time (some years back), was £9,000, and which at present prices would cost £12,000 to £13,000. They had practically spent all the original loan, and had now a free grant of £900 in addition, but would need considerably more to finish. It was waste to put down more sandstone until they could see their way to cover it. The Council only spent the money provided by the settlers, either by rates or loans; it had no money of its own to draw on. The only thing to do was to devise some scheme of raising the money to finish the job.

Several speakers advocated striking a rate over the whole County, or over an extended portion beyond the present rating area for this particular road. It was thought that as it benefited all the ratepayers as far across

as Leigh, that they should help to pay for it. Others thought that the Government should take over the road and finance its formation.

Among other things brought up was the need for some comprehensive scheme of drainage. All along the road from the soldiers' farms out, one could see that the willows and rubbish on the streams were greatly increasing the difficulties of road making, damming up the drains and culverts, and causing soakage and floods on the roads. Mr Ellis pointed out that they had been ring-barking willows with considerable success, and others also were working in that direction, but a general scheme was required. Mr Dow (County Engineer), also strongly emphasized this point, advocating starting from the Hoteo River, and clearing up everything to allow water to get away. Several speakers advocated the formation of a Drainage Board.

After general discussion all round, Mr Roy Ellis on behalf of the settlers, thanked Councillors and the Chairman for responding to their invitation, and hoped that as a result they would be able to evolve some scheme which would be satisfactory.

The party then moved on toward Woodcocks, stopping by the way to inspect drains, etc., at Messrs Vennell's and Barrer's properties, when the urgent need for clearing out water-courses was again apparent.

At Woodcocks station another stop was made, and a cheering cup of tea dispensed together with scones, baked by one of the famous cooks of that district, which were much appreciated by the travellers.

From Woodcocks the return journey to Woodcocks was made through the Streamlands Soldiers' Settlement, the soldiers meeting the councillors at the boundary of the settlement, and escorting them through their portion of the road, pointing out the very urgent need of better communication with port and railway in order to get manure and farm requisites in, and to get cream out. As the road was at present it meant a heavy tax on all their products to pay for carting. Certain money had been granted for this road and they asked that this money be spent on the "swamp road," instead of further along as proposed.

The engineer did not approve of putting metal on the swamp road, because it had no bottom, and the metal might go out of sight, but the soldiers wanted to know how they were to get along without the metal.

Several schemes for loan areas were discussed, and the chairman assured the men that they had the sympathy of the Council, who would do all they could for them. It would have to be out of grants or loan, as the Riding member had practically no money to spend from Riding funds.

After leaving the settlement an inspection was made of a proposed loan area from Edwards' to Town Board boundary, and the party reached Warkworth again at 4.30.

Although no definite scheme could be arranged just at once, this trip will do much good by letting ratepayers and councillors hear each other's views, and it would be an excellent thing for the County if a general tour round all the principal roads could be arranged in the early summer each year—preparatory to laying off three year's work. Each member would then have a general idea of the whole of the work of the County, instead of as at present—only knowing one or two sections of it.

The outstanding need of the area visited on Wednesday appeared to be the urgent need for a Drainage Board to clear up the water-courses. Not only is the road suffering, but many acres of the best land of the district—unless something is done shortly—will be water logged and useless. Places were pointed out where the summer level of the creeks was 6 to 8 feet higher than it was 20 years ago, all owing to willows and growth in creeks. As the whole country is so flat, a start would have to be made down at the Hoteo River, and clear out and perhaps straighten the water courses from there right up to Woodcocks, and in to the Soldiers' Settlement.

The country is good, and worth saving, and this appears to be the only way to do it, and in doing this the road problem will be much simplified.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The cricket match—Rodney v. Whangarei—took place at Matakana yesterday, and there was a good attendance of spectators. The local players had a decisive and meritorious win, defeating their opponents by an innings and over a century besides. Report next issue.

An advertisement in another column of the unreserved auction sale of Mr C. Straka's pedigree Shorthorn cattle offers a splendid opportunity for the farmers of the district to improve their herds. The sale will be conducted by the N.Z. Loan, in conjunction with Messrs Alfred Buckland & Sons at Kaukapakapa on Wednesday, 13th Feb. next. See advertisement.

Have you paid those rates? Ten per cent. penalty after to-morrow (Thursday.)

RODNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held in the Library on Friday, January 25th, the President (Mr G. T. Civil), in the chair.

There was but a small attendance. Mr Jas. Blair, secretary, gave a report of his visit to the annual conference in Auckland, as delegate from the Chamber, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his report.

Correspondence on various matters were dealt with.

As a result of the Chamber's request for more frequent mail service, notification had been received that instructions had been issued to carry a mail to and from the train on Wednesdays, thus making a five days a-week mail service by train. The new service will commence from to-day.—It was resolved to write thanking the Department for this improvement.

Re stocking rivers with fish.—Mr Blair had had an interview with Mr Ayson, the head of the Fisheries Department, who had promised to come to Warkworth and make an inspection of the streams with a view to advising best method of stocking.

In reply to request of the Chamber that a solicitor should be appointed in Warkworth to act as official solicitor for State Advances business, a reply had been received that any borrower wishing a certain solicitor to act can arrange for him to do so, so long as the solicitor is of good repute, which will mean that in future any one wishing to deal with the State Advances Office can get his own lawyer to act.

A number of minor matters were dealt with, and leaflets, etc., circulated among members.

The question of remaining affiliated with the Associated Chambers of Commerce was left over for another meeting.

WHANGATEAU.

(Our Own Correspondent.)

GIRL GUIDES' ENTERTAINMENT.

The Cavell troupe of girl guides who were camping here lately gave a very enjoyable entertainment on the 11th January. The hall was decorated with ferns and other greenery by the girls, which looked very artistic, and the building was packed to its utmost capacity, many coming long distances. The entertainment opened under subdued light, showing the girls sitting round the camp fire singing choruses, and each one giving a song or recitation. Then followed an exhibition of pole drill and first aid. A little girl charmed the audience with a butterfly dance, and two little girls sang sweetly and were several times recalled. The programme closed with two dramatic sketches entitled "The Education of Bridget" and "The Last Rehearsal." The acting was very good, the chief characters in each being taken by Miss Burgin (the captain) who displayed great histrionic ability. A vote of thanks to the fair entertainers was carried with cheers, after which the hall was cleared for a dance.

This entertainment was repeated at Leigh on the 17th inst. to a large and appreciative audience. Mr Gus Nealey very kindly provided conveniences to take the girls back to their camp.