

The plan for the new bridge over the Waingongoro river has been completed. The new bridge will be half a chain further down stream than the present one, thus enabling it to be erected without any disturbance of traffic. The deck level will be 3ft 6ins higher than the old bridge, thus easing the grades and allowing of a chain of level at either approach. The span will be 70 feet clear, with a rise of 6 feet at the middle of the arch. The total width is 16 feet, giving a 13 feet roadway. The bridge is to be of ferro concrete throughout, and the arch will be reinforced with 53lb rails. The parapet walls are to be of concrete, with concrete posts every twelve feet, and the traffic will be carried on 4 inch tarred macadam. The bridge will be the longest single span of its description in Taranaki, and there are few, if any, in the colony that are longer. Tenders close at the next meeting of the Council, and as the time allowed for completion is six months the new bridge should be open to traffic early next year.

“Waingongoro Bridge. — Contractor has plastered top of parapet wall, and is now making caps for posts, which he will put on as soon as he can spare time. Asphalt has been top-dressed, and is now very hard, with the exception of a small patch on one side of the bridge, which contractor is to fix up. As there was some dissatisfaction expressed with regard to the bridge, I have at my own expense obtained a report on the bridge by the Taranaki County Engineer, Mr J. Skinner, who has carried out more work of this description than any other engineer in the Dominion.—The Chairman said, after reading the report, he thought it was favorable, and the work was a credit to Mr Basham.

“Meremere Road.—Very little progress has been made on this road since last meeting, a total length of 18 chains having been gravelled. I have directed contractor to cease work.

“Claver Road.—Contractor has made