

DEPOT.

1872 The depot for the buoys of the thirteenth district is now at Astoria, at the mouth of the river Columbia, but it is proposed to remove it to Cape Disappointment, and place it under charge of the light-house keeper.

DEPOT.

An. Rep.
1888. *Tongue Point, Columbia River, Oregon.*—At present the light-house wharf and buoy-depot are at Tongue Point, 3 miles above Astoria. It is a bad location, as it is at an exposed point, and there is often so much sea that vessels can not lie at the end of the wharf. The water is shoaling rapidly at this point. It is very inconvenient on account of the shoal water and currents for vessels to get to the wharf, and it therefore costs from 20 to 30 cents more per ton to get coal landed at this wharf than it would if it were located at Astoria. It is also quite inconvenient in case of repairs to buoys or to the tender, as it is 3 miles from a machine-shop. If the wharf and depot were at Astoria the crew of the tender could frequently be employed in cleaning buoys and similar work while small repairs were being made to its engine or boiler. There is no telegraphic communication nearer than 3 miles from the buoy-depot, and it is not possible to learn the condition of the bar at the mouth of the river. At Astoria it is generally possible to learn whenever it is too rough to work outside. As a rule the emergencies of the service require that the tender should lie at Astoria instead of at Tongue Point, consequently she must lie at a private wharf instead of at a Government wharf. Before long the wharf at Tongue Point will need expensive repairs, and will have to be extended on account of the shoaling of water, if it is retained there. It will therefore be less expensive to relocate the wharf at Astoria than it will be to rebuild and extend it at Tongue Point.

The Board estimated that it would cost \$15,000 to establish the buoy-depot at Astoria and recommended that an appropriation of that amount be made. The Senate passed a bill for this purpose and it was referred to the House Committee of Commerce. The Senate afterwards added this item to the sundry civil appropriation bill, but it was stricken out in committee on conference. The Board therefore renews its recommendation that this appropriation be made.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

1908 *Astoria, Oreg.*—A coal bin for the storage of fuel for tenders was erected and the wharf repaired at a cost of \$6,124.10. The wharf and buildings are in fair condition, but increased area is required for the storage of bulky and heavy material.

The following is an estimate of the cost of improvements needed during the next fiscal year: Construction of a carpenter shop and sheds, for the machine and blacksmith shops, and the storage of lumber, \$3,000.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

1909. *Astoria, Oreg.*—This is the general depot of the Thirteenth district. The depot is well fitted for carrying on the work assigned it, but increased area is required for the storage of bulky and heavy material. Repairs to the wharf should be made during the coming fiscal year at an estimated cost of \$500.