

COUNCIL TO BUY LANDING STAGE FOR MUDEFORD

C.T. March 30, 1946

A LANDING stage on Mundeford Beach is the latest sea front project to be embarked upon by Christchurch Town Council, and this week Christchurch Times is able to reveal the details of the proposed structure.

It was discussed by the Council in committee at their meeting last week, when a tender submitted by the Priory Engineering Co., Ltd., was accepted for its construction. It will cost £566 and there is every possibility that it will be in use before the summer season starts.

Plans of the new landing stage were shown to a Christchurch Times reporter by Mr. A. Bendall Isaac, of the Priory Engineering Co. In design it looks somewhat like a Bailey Bridge structure, but actually it is not made on this principle. It is to be built in two sections, each of which will be 80ft. in length.

The first section will be anchored at the beach end, the other end being supported by two wheels 5ft. 6ins. in diameter. The second section will be supported by similar wheels at either end and will be joined to the first by special steel bracing. To compensate for the difference of sea levels at high and low tides the wheel axles will be adjustable so that their distance from the gangway can be varied. This will ensure that the landing stage is always level.

TWO GANGWAYS.

There are to be two gangways, one for passengers boarding the boats and the other for those leaving. They will be divided by a handrail. The sides of the staging will be constructed on the laticed girder principle and will be of heavy angle steel. The total width of the two gangways will be 5ft, the gangways themselves being of inch thick timber.

Asked how it was proposed to transport the structure to the site on the beach, Mr. Isaac said that it would have to be floated down on pontoons. He estimated that it would take about five weeks to complete the work, although the timber position was still very difficult.

The Borough Engineer told the members of the Council that it would also be necessary to provide pontoons and a gangway at the beach end and a channel would have to be dredged to enable boats to draw up alongside the landing stage at low water.

The chairman of the Beach Committee, Councillor Cobb, and the Borough Surveyor, have been authorised to make the necessary arrangements for this work.