

1902.
NEW ZEALAND.

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT

(REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR 1901.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

MY LORD,—

General Post Office, Wellington, 23rd June, 1902.

I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency the Report of the Post and Telegraph Department for the year 1901, with the usual statement of revenue and expenditure to the 31st March last.

I have the honour to be

Your Lordship's most obedient servant,

J. G. WARD,

Postmaster-General and Electric Telegraph Commissioner.

His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand.

REPORT.

THE results of the year are probably the most noteworthy in the history of the Department. Notwithstanding the introduction of penny postage, the gross revenue, which might have been expected to show a serious drop, is only less by £15,262 than for the previous year. The postal receipts, instead of being much below those of 1900, as might have been anticipated, have reached within £35,761 of the 1900 figures. The expansion of the telegraph business, referred to last year as remarkable, shows no signs of lessening; and the popular sixpenny telegram, although its increasing numbers have resulted in a sharp rise in the expenditure on salaries for additional telegraph staff and for telegraph maintenance, bids fair shortly to produce a balance of revenue over expenditure, instead of a deficit, as has been the case for so many years. Since the introduction of the sixpenny telegram in 1896 the number of forwarded ordinary and urgent telegrams has more than doubled in the six years—viz., from 1,701,524 to 3,521,986—an increase little short of phenomenal.

That the penny post, which involved the handling of close upon thirteen million additional letters, has been successfully introduced and carried on while the increased expenditure for postal salaries is only £6,468 may fairly be credited to careful management. As, however, the reserve capacity of the postal staff at many of the second- and third-class offices is probably near exhaustion, further increase in the volume of work will prove to be more costly in proportion than that already overtaken, and an increased expenditure on that account may be looked for.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1902:—

Item.	Postal.		Telegraph.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Receipts.</i>						
Stamps used for postage (estimated)	232,523	0 0	..	..	232,523	0 0
Money-order and postal-note commission	20,837	4 5½	..	..	20,837	4 5½
Money-order commission received from foreign offices	705	2 2	..	..	705	2 2
Private box and bag fees	6,405	4 11	..	..	6,405	4 11
Miscellaneous receipts	20,626	5 9	10,352	17 4	30,979	3 1
Paid telegrams .. .. .	..	..	141,581	2 7	141,581	2 7
Telephone exchanges .. .. .	..	..	55,542	4 9	55,542	4 9
	281,096	17 3½	207,476	4 8	488,573	1 11½
Balance of expenditure over revenue (Telegraph) .. .. .	..	..	4,939	6 4	..	..
Totals	£281,095	17 3½	£212,415	11 0	£488,573	1 11½

Item.	Postal.			Telegraph.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Expenditure.</i>									
Salaries	104,120	0	0	157,057	0	0	261,177	0	0
Conveyance of mails by sea	61,471	18	3	..	..	..	61,471	18	3
Conveyance of inland mails	42,966	3	5	..	..	..	42,966	3	5
Conveyance of mails by railway	17,318	8	4	..	..	..	17,318	8	4
Money-order commission credited to foreign offices	1,939	7	5	..	..	..	1,939	7	5
Maintenance of telegraph-lines .. .. .	..	..	..	25,878	13	0	25,878	13	0
Miscellaneous	25,525	1	0	29,245	3	0	54,770	4	0
Telegraph-cable subsidies .. .. .	..	..	..	234	15	0	234	15	0
Balance of revenue over expenditure (Postal)	253,340	18	5	212,415	11	0	465,756	9	5
.. .. . (combined Department)	27,755	18	10½	..	..	..	22,816	12	6½
Totals	£281,096	17	3½	£212,415	11	0	£488,573	1	11½

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure year by year for the past ten years is shown in the table below. The figures for 1881–82—the first year after the amalgamation of the Post Office and Telegraph services—and 1891–92, are also given.

STATEMENT showing REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the POST and TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT for the Ten Years ended 31st March, 1902, and for the Years 1881–82 and 1891–92.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Balance of Revenue over Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1881–82	234,529	8	0	233,291	10	4	1,237	17	8
1891–92	320,058	1	3	268,343	1	1	51,715	0	2
1892–93	318,758	10	4	278,394	9	1	40,364	1	3
1893–94	344,676	12	3	293,704	7	3	50,972	5	0
1894–95	357,449	14	9	299,971	1	4	57,478	13	5
1895–96	365,727	6	5	332,325	4	8	33,402	1	9
1896–97	392,117	1	0	353,699	14	5	38,417	6	7
1897–98	408,383	15	3	364,403	3	1	43,980	12	2
1898–99	445,770	7	1	390,197	8	6	55,572	18	7
1899–1900	488,245	16	4	390,448	1	7	97,797	14	9
1900–1901	503,835	19	5½	418,271	16	11	85,564	2	6½
1901–1902	488,573	1	11½	465,756	9	5	22,816	12	6½
Total for ten years .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	£526,366	8	7

The balance of revenue over expenditure for last year was £22,816 12s. 6½d., as compared with £85,564 2s. 6½d. for 1900–1.

Adding the value of the free official correspondence and Government telegrams, there is a credit balance on the year's transactions of £112,466 10s. 0½d.

The amount payable to the Railway Department for the conveyance of mails was £40,847 7s., against which the sum of £30,426 6s. was recovered by this Department for the postage on Railway correspondence, private-box rents, transmission of Railway telegrams, and maintenance of Railway telegraph wires. £9,727 was also contributed by the Post Office on account of the salaries of Railway officers who also act as Postmasters and telegraphists or telephonists, leaving a balance in favour of the Railway Department of £20,148.

48,370,816 letters were posted, equal to 62·18 letters to each head of the population, an increase of 12,185,771. The percentage of letters to each head of the population is believed to be the highest in the world. The total increase on all letters dealt with was 12,881,969.

The number of forwarded telegrams of all codes was 4,167,981, an increase of 269,853.

74 post-offices were established (including 6 reopened). The number of post-offices open at the close of the year was 1,739.

405,967 money-orders, for £1,286,508 1s. 10d., were issued; and 283,611 orders, representing £1,108,399 6s. 2d., paid.

556,316 postal notes, of the value of £173,317 5s., were sold.

£4,611,456 6s. 1d. was deposited in the Post-Office Savings-banks, and £4,230,193 6s. 2d withdrawn.

The total amount to credit of depositors on the 31st December last was £6,350,013 9s. 2d., as compared with £5,809,552 5s. 3d. at the close of the previous year.

1,067 inland-mail services (excluding services by railway) were in operation during the year.

At the close of the year there were 7,469 miles of telegraph-line, and 21,705 miles of wire.

The net expenditure on telegraph construction was £31,728 16s. 2d.

There were 9,260 telephone-exchange connections on the 31st March last. The subscriptions received amounted to £55,542 4s. 9d.

STAFF.

The total number of officers on the staff on the 31st March was as under:—

	31st March, 1902.
Postmaster-General	1
Classified staff:—	
First Division	3
Clerical Division	1,139
Non-clerical Division	627
Distributors and messengers	468
Total, classified staff	2,238
Employees not on permanent staff:—	
Country Postmasters and Postmistresses	1,601
Nightwatchmen	3
Mail-cart drivers	4
Postmasters and telegraphists or telephonists who are Railway officers	144
Total	3,990

COMPARATIVE Return of Officers of the Post and Telegraph Department for the Years ended 31st March, 1901, and 31st March, 1902.

	Mar. 31, 1901.	Mar. 31, 1902.		Mar. 31, 1901.	Mar. 31, 1902.
Postmaster-General	1	1	Brought forward	108	123
Secretary	1	1	Assistant Inspectors of Post-offices	3	3
Superintendent of Electric Lines	1	1	Chief Postmasters	17	17
Assistant Secretary and Inspector	1	1	Postmasters and Officers in Charge on Permanent Staff	119	111
Controller of Money-orders and Savings-banks and Accountant	1	1	Clerks (including Telephone Exchange cadettes and cadets in post-offices)	1,031	1,167
Chief Clerk	1	1	Operators (including cadets in telegraph-offices)		
Assistant Controller of Money-orders and Savings-banks and Accountant	1	1	Letter-carriers	227	234
Clerks in General Post Office—			Messengers (Post Office)	46	49
Secretary's Office	16	18	Linemen	73	70
Inspector's and Dead-letter Branch	6	7	Telegraph distributors and message boys	437	468
Controller of Money-orders and Savings-banks and Accountant's Branch	57	66	Nightwatchmen	3	3
Storekeeper and assistants	7	7	Mail-cart drivers .. ..	..	4
Electrician (also Telegraph Inspector)	1	1	Postmasters and telegraphists or telephonists who are Railway officers	151	144
Assistant Electricians	2	2	Country Postmasters, Postmistresses, and telephonists	1,500	1,601
Mechanicians and cadets	8	7			
Telegraph Inspectors	4	4			
Carried forward	108	123	Totals	3,715	3,990

Provision for increased staff required to overtake the rapidly expanding business was again at times a matter of some difficulty, but has been met by a thorough change in the recruiting arrangements. The policy of the Department of offering inducement to lads and others in the non-clerical division to qualify for promotion has not been disturbed, and it is gratifying to find that the spirit of emulation thus created has produced an increased desire for self-improvement among juniors in the service, and the consequent discovery of many promising officers. The classes for training telegraph cadets were not carried on throughout the whole of the summer months, but have had again to be resumed. Besides providing staff on account of resignations, deaths, and increased business, the vacancies caused by the fifty-one employees who have gone to South Africa with the several contingents had also to be filled. The positions of these officers are kept open for them, and this had always to be borne in mind when filling the vacancies. Several telegraphists have left this service for South Africa, and others contemplate applying for positions in the Transvaal now that the war has ended.

The conduct of officers has been extremely good, and the almost total absence of complaint and the loyalty of the staff on both sides of the service is a credit to its members. A word of acknowledgment should be given to the letter-carriers throughout the colony, particularly those in the principal centres, for the efficient manner in which they overtook the suddenly increased delivery of mail matter which followed the introduction of the penny post. An endeavour has been made to reward the men as a body by making as many promotions as possible from their ranks to the clerical division, and it is hoped by the establishment of a special class of sorters to give promotion to suitable letter-carriers who are not educationally or otherwise qualified for the clerical division.

It is intended to introduce to Parliament an amending Classification Bill, which will, among other things, improve the lower grades of the non-clerical division.

The employment of night staffs at Wellington and Dunedin having proved an undoubted success, it was decided in September last to appoint a night staff, consisting of a clerk and a messenger, at the Chief Post Office, Auckland. This arrangement enables mails arriving by small coastal steamers during the night to be sorted, and the clearances made from the letter-receivers to be stamped and sorted ready for the morning staff, which has now more time to attend to the despatch of the country mails.

APPEAL BOARD.

The new Board, which met in May last year, dealt with fifteen appeals, ten of which were reported against by the Board. One would have been righted in ordinary course; one referred to a question of numerical order which had resulted from a former decision of the Board; one referred to the definition of numerical position in the grouped classes under the regulations of 1900; one recommendation could not be carried out owing to the adverse opinion of the Law Office, but, as the circumstances were exceptional, the officer concerned was promoted from the non-clerical to the clerical division; in the remaining case an officer's promotion was antedated. Although the number of legitimate appeals was small, a more than usual number of important points was involved. Not the least satisfactory of the findings of the Board were two in which the principle of fitness as against mere length of service was upheld.

Heretofore officers have been allowed unusual facility for appealing—that is to say, so-called appeals have been made on account of grievances, real or imaginary, which the Postmaster-General had not first been given an opportunity to adjudicate upon. A stricter procedure should in future be followed, by requiring officers to first state their case to the Department and obtain the Postmaster-General's decision. The Board has in the past been troubled with far too many trivial appeals, in which the appellants had no real grievance, or else had some minor complaint which could or would have been settled out of hand by reference to the Department.

HEALTH OF STAFF.

The health of the staff was affected by the epidemic of influenza and measles which prevailed throughout the colony during last winter.

The following table gives the average absence of officers on sick-leave:—

—				Numbers comprised.	Average Absence per Sick Officer.	Average Sick- absence per each Officer employed.
Men	...	...	...	1,184	Days. 12·53	Days. 5·99
Women	...	...	...	148	14·13	14·61

There were four deaths.

The death of Mr. George Eliot Elliott, who was the first Secretary of the Post Office when the Department was separated from the Colonial Secretary's office in 1862, took place on the 17th September last year, at the ripe age of eighty-four. Mr. Elliott retired on pension as far back as 1872, but notwithstanding his advanced age at the time of his death he continued to take a keen interest in the developments of the Post Office. Mr. Elliott had charge of the Department during the busy period after the discovery of gold in Otago, and successfully pioneered it through the comparatively short but stirring times which saw the Maori war in the North, and the transfer of the seat of Government from Auckland to Wellington. It may be mentioned that at the time of Mr. Elliott's retirement the Department dealt with less than six and a half million articles, and at the time of his death over ninety-one and a half million were handled.

PENNY POSTAGE.

The loss on the penny post for the first year has been below anticipations. Instead of a loss of £80,000 as originally estimated, the actual loss may be put down at about £34,000. The enormous increase of mail matter for the year, including nearly thirteen million additional letters dealt with, mainly the result of the penny post, was unprecedented, but it was handled without hitch of any kind.

Since the last report the following countries have been added to the list of those with which New Zealand has reciprocal penny postage: The British Postal Agencies at Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hoihow, Liu Kung Tau, Ningpo, Shanghai, and Swatow.

The one defect in the original scheme, owing to the inability of Australia to respond to the invitation of this colony to enter either into a reciprocal agreement or one under which our letters prepaid at 1d. might be accepted and delivered without surcharge, was removed by the adoption, at the suggestion of the Postmaster-General, of the latter arrangement as from the 28th April last. It is hoped that the time is near when the Commonwealth will be in a position to enter into a fully reciprocal agreement. In the meantime the privilege of sending letters to Australia for 1d. is warmly appreciated by the people of New Zealand. As mentioned elsewhere, the extension of penny postage to Australia involved the reduction by this colony of its terminal rate on cable messages exchanged with Australia from 1d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per word; but, on the other hand, the Commonwealth made a liberal concession by reducing its terminal rate from 1d. per word per State to a uniform 1d. for the whole of Australia.

It is not anticipated that there will be any considerable addition to the countries participating in the penny post until after the International Postal Congress to be held at Rome in 1904.

The extension of the penny post to Australia means an initial loss of postage of about £4,000 a year, and the reduction of our terminal rate on New Zealand-Australian cable messages a further loss of revenue at the rate of about £2,400 per annum, based on the intercolonial traffic at the time the reduction was decided upon.

GRATUITIES ON SHIP MAILS.

On the 1st January, 1901, owing to the introduction of the universal penny postage, the gratuities payable for the carriage of ship mails by unsubsidised vessels were reduced from 1d. each

letter to 2s. per pound on letters for delivery at places beyond the colony, from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each to 1s. per pound on letters for delivery from one provincial district to another, and from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. each to 4d. per pound on letters for delivery at any place within the same provincial district. The amount paid for gratuities for ship mails, 1900-1, was £14,126 14s. 9d., as against £10,549 14s. 10d. in 1901-2.

WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AND FREE TELEGRAMS AND POSTAGE.

The ever-increasing call made upon the Post Office to perform functions which in other countries are undertaken by special State officers tends to swell very considerably the work of the Department, and to increase the number of officers employed and the salaries paid. These services have been willingly undertaken, and performed with such efficiency as to lead to their real importance being in a measure overlooked, although the saving to other departments is very much greater than the increase in Post Office salaries. The time has arrived when Post Office expenditure should no longer be debited with the cost of the increased salaries of officers because of their performing outside duties. The unreasonableness of this may be gathered from the fact that the salaries of a number of our classified officers is based on their total work, including of course the work undertaken for other departments.

During the past year the total receipts on account of other departments were £2,205,826, and the total payments on their behalf £2,247,477.

During a period of five years the vouchers paid for the Treasury have increased in number by 53 per cent., the transactions on behalf of the Public Trustee by 62 per cent., those on behalf of the Superintendent, Advances to Settlers, by 1,096 per cent.; Customs duties collected on parcels have increased 225 per cent.; fees collected for game licenses, 42 per cent.; for the Government Printer, 87 per cent.; for the Income-tax Department, 52 per cent.; for sheep rates, 54 per cent.; and for registration of births, deaths, and marriages, 32 per cent.

Among the new business undertaken may be mentioned the collection of fees under the Arms Act and Homing-pigeons Act, for fishing licenses, for baths at Rotorua and Hanmer Springs, and for the Valuation Department.

The payment of all old-age pensions, the number of which during the past three years has increased over 80 per cent., involving considerable labour, demands special mention.

The discount-stamp system, which in some centres is being freely used, in the aggregate means a considerable number of transactions.

With the following exceptions, no payment is received by the Post Office for the services performed: Old-age Pensions, Advances to Settlers, Public Trust, and game licenses. A mutual arrangement exists between the Railway Department and Post Office for settlement of the claims for services rendered.

The prepayment of Government telegrams and correspondence may here be appropriately raised again. The abolition of free telegrams is as urgent to-day as it was when the question was last reviewed. The system is still abused—diffuse and inconsequential telegrams, and matters which could be equally well dealt with by post, are too frequently being sent by wire, to the exclusion at times of more legitimate telegraph business. The franking-list is also getting beyond reasonable limits and out of hand, owing to the large number of names added to it from time to time. Economy would assuredly result were Government telegrams required to be prepaid, and to a lesser degree would this apply to the large quantity of mail matter now sent free through the Post Office. Such has been the experience in Cape Colony since the Government there decided that Government telegrams and correspondence should be paid for—more particularly in respect to the telegrams, which immediately fell off by nearly one-half. The Commonwealth Government, it may be mentioned, has determined to abolish the franking system in Australia, for good and sufficient reasons.

The value of free telegrams (GVMS) forwarded last year in New Zealand was £27,508, and free postage £62,142, making the total £89,650.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

The following is a comparative return showing number and amount of old-age pension payments made each month, for the two years ended 31st March, 1902:—

Month.	1900-1.		1901-2.	
	Number of Payments.	Amount.	Number of Payments.	Amount.
April	10,899	£ 15,601 s. 4 d. 5	11,900	£ 16,962 s. 19 d. 5
May	11,094	15,877 4 7	12,107	17,207 17 7
June	11,242	16,095 13 8	12,110	17,190 16 11
July	11,314	16,216 11 4	12,220	17,327 17 9
August	11,366	16,270 13 2	12,210	17,276 9 8
September	11,434	16,375 8 9	12,121	17,132 4 6
October	11,561	16,552 8 5	12,256	17,321 8 8
November	11,566	16,554 6 3	12,343	17,446 0 6
December	11,745	16,819 19 7	12,257	17,292 10 2
January	11,913	17,035 11 4	12,296	17,350 5 6
February	12,028	17,212 1 10	12,285	17,333 3 7
March	11,982	17,116 7 3	12,322	17,406 7 1
Totals	138,144	£197,727 10 7	146,427	£207,248 1 4

RETURN for same Period of Payments and Amounts in each Postal District.

Postal District.	1900-1.		1901-2.	
	Number of Payments.	Amount.	Number of Payments.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Auckland... ..	31,799	45,058 1 0	32,091	44,821 3 2
Blenheim... ..	1,813	2,528 12 1	1,863	2,635 19 5
Christchurch... ..	19,575	27,742 4 8	20,828	29,064 10 3
Dunedin... ..	20,755	29,730 6 10	22,283	31,486 17 10
Gisborne... ..	1,579	2,330 1 0	1,236	1,756 6 6
Greymouth... ..	5,792	8,596 4 7	6,409	9,458 11 6
Hokitika... ..	5,710	8,451 10 5	6,128	8,992 7 2
Invercargill... ..	7,803	11,317 4 5	8,848	12,620 4 7
Napier... ..	5,286	7,193 16 6	5,640	7,775 10 3
Nelson... ..	4,257	5,873 3 4	4,238	5,755 10 8
New Plymouth... ..	2,926	4,168 5 10	3,051	4,294 8 4
Oamaru... ..	2,707	3,941 4 8	2,876	4,147 7 4
Thames... ..	5,942	8,664 9 8	5,911	8,550 14 2
Timaru... ..	3,989	5,705 1 6	4,614	6,569 13 6
Wanganui... ..	3,756	5,394 17 1	4,261	6,081 11 11
Wellington... ..	11,058	16,036 12 8	12,446	17,823 6 10
Westport... ..	3,397	4,995 14 4	3,704	5,413 17 11
Totals... ..	138,144	£197,727 10 7	146,427	£207,248 1 4

INSPECTION.

1,410 offices were visited and inspected, the distance travelled being 24,517 miles.

NEW POSTAGE-STAMPS, ETC.

Postage-stamps at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. printed on thin paper watermarked "N.Z." with star were printed during the year. It is hoped soon to use watermarked paper for the other values. The introduction of new perforating-machinery has resulted in better work being turned out than formerly. All cause of complaint in respect of the adhesive properties of the gum used has now been removed.

Following on the annexation of Penrhyn Island and Niue to New Zealand, a limited supply of current New Zealand postage-stamps at 1d. was overprinted "Niue" by means of a rubber stamp in November last, and sent to the Niue Post Office for sale to the public. Since then New Zealand postage-stamps at $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. have been overprinted at the Government Printing Office for Penrhyn Island and Niue and forwarded to those offices. The overprint consists of the name of the island and the value of the stamp — " $\frac{1}{2}$ Peni," "Tai Peni," and " $2\frac{1}{2}$ Peni" respectively for Penrhyn Island, and " $\frac{1}{2}$ Peni," "Taha Peni," and " $2\frac{1}{2}$ Peni" for Niue. No change has yet been made in the Cook Islands stamps, but this is to be considered in connection with a proposal to create stamps of special design for Penrhyn Island and Niue.

Penny pictorial post-cards bearing views of the principal cities of the colony and its scenery were issued in September last. Competitive designs have been invited for new post and letter cards to bear the King's effigy in place of that of the late Queen Victoria.

PACIFIC CABLE.

Since last year's report a practical advance has been made with this important undertaking, the sections Queensland-Norfolk Island, Norfolk Island-New Zealand, Norfolk Island-Fiji having been laid by the cable steamer "Anglia," which sailed from London on the 8th January last.

Mr. Charles Henry Reynolds, C.I.E., formerly Director of Telegraphs, India, who was appointed General Manager to the Pacific Cable Board in August, 1901, visited the colony in March, and fully discussed with the Postmaster-General matters connected with the Pacific cable. His visit was of material advantage to the Governments and the Board.

The shore end of the Queensland-Norfolk Island cable was laid at Southport on the 13th March, and the "Anglia" landed the Norfolk Island end on the 20th of that month, leaving the same day for New Zealand. About thirty miles from Doubtless Bay the cable had to be cut and buoyed owing to rough weather, but the shore end was successfully landed on the 24th March, the important event being celebrated with some ceremony in the presence of the Postmaster-General, the General Manager to the Pacific Cable Board, members of the Advisory Board, officials of the Cable Construction Company, and of the New Zealand Post and Telegraph Department, one of the members of the House of Representatives for Auckland, and members of the Press. The steamer then proceeded to the buoyed end, and the final splice was made at 3.15 p.m. on the 26th March, when telegrams were forwarded by the Postmaster-General to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Imperial Postmaster-General, the Governor-General, the Premier, and the Postmasters-General of Canada and the Australian Commonwealth, the Chairman of the Pacific Cable Board, the Agent-General, and others.

The laying of the Norfolk Island-Fiji section was completed on the 10th April, when further congratulatory messages were exchanged with the Officer administering the Government of Fiji, and others.

The cable is expected to be completed to Vancouver and opened for through traffic about November next.

The cables were tested daily for thirty days on behalf of the Pacific Cable Board, and at the end of that time were found to be working satisfactorily, and taken over by the Board in terms of the contract with the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company for making and laying the cable.

A site consisting of 15 acres 2 roods 16 perches of Block IV., Mangonui Survey District, Auckland, had been reserved for cable-station purposes at Doubtless Bay, and 13½ acres were subsequently purchased. The contract for the buildings was accepted on the 10th December, 1901, and the cable-house was reported as finished on the 3rd March, 1902. The office building was completed at the beginning of April, the staff quarters at the end of that month, and the residences for the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent at the end of May. The land, buildings, &c., are to be paid for by the Pacific Cable Board and become its property.

As one outcome of Mr. Reynolds's visit it was arranged between the Pacific Cable Board and the Postmaster-General that the working of the land lines as well as the cable should be undertaken by the Board's staff, this Department paying a proportion of the operators' salaries for the land-line work. So far this arrangement has been found to work very satisfactorily. One of our experienced officers was transferred to the service of the Board and appointed to the charge of the station.

As a direct result of the advent of the Pacific cable the terminal Australian rate on New Zealand-Australian traffic was reduced to a uniform 1d. per word, instead of 1d. per word per State, as hitherto, and the New Zealand terminal rate from 1d. to ½d. per word. This enabled the charges for New Zealand-Australian telegrams, except to and from Tasmania, being reduced to one uniform rate of 4½d. per word, and to Tasmania to 5½d. The additional 1d. to Tasmania is to cover the transmission over the Australia-Tasmania cable. Lengthy negotiations, however, had taken place before the terminal rates were settled, and the reduction of New Zealand's rate to ½d. was conditional on the Commonwealth accepting New Zealand's penny letters and delivering without surcharge. No change has been made in the terminal rate for international traffic.

The rate for Government telegrams *via* Pacific Cable is 1d. per word less than for ordinary telegrams.

To Norfolk Island the charge for ordinary telegrams is 3d. per word, and to Fiji 8d. per word.

In addition to the reduction of the rates for telegrams to and from Australia, the opening of the Pacific cable has, in one unexpected direction, given considerable relief to the senders of cable telegrams to places beyond Australia, by bringing about a general reduction of the rates from New Zealand, Queensland, and Victoria to the more favourable rates which had subsisted in New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia under an agreement with the Eastern Extension Company. The rates on ordinary telegrams from New Zealand to Europe were reduced, as from the 1st June, from 5s. 2d. to 3s. 4d. per word. This reduction is made under a tentative agreement between the Australian Commonwealth and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, subsequently extended to this colony by the company, whose action is highly appreciated by the New Zealand Government. The agreement, however, is subject to the whole question of rates and cable matters generally coming up for discussion in London presently.

The Pacific cable was opened for business on the 23rd April. A separate copper wire from Auckland to Doubtless Bay was erected for the cable traffic, which up to the present has in volume far exceeded anticipations.

On the completion of the Pacific cable the through rate to and from Europe by that route will be 3s. per word.

Copies of correspondence to date will be presented to Parliament in usual course.

CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

On the 1st November, 1901, the new cable between Durban in the Colony of Natal and Fremantle in Western Australia was opened for traffic. The section Fremantle to Glenelg was opened on the 1st March last. This cable is divided into five sections, as follows: (1) Durban to Mauritius; (2) Mauritius to Rodrigues; (3) Rodrigues to Cocos; (4) Cocos to Fremantle; and (5) Fremantle to Glenelg in South Australia. The rates on telegrams from New Zealand to Durban and Capetown were reduced from 7s. 6d. to 3s. and 3s. 1d. per word respectively from 1st December, 1901, a sympathetic reduction also applying to other South African stations.

STEWART ISLAND CABLE.

The laying of a cable from Bluff to Lee Bay, connecting by four miles of land line with Half-moon Bay, which was successfully accomplished on the 11th June instant, was a notable event, completing as it does telegraphic communication from one extremity of the colony to the other. The cable was laid in an unusually short space of time, showing the value of the Government possessing a cable steamer. On the 5th June the Postmaster-General directed that the work was to be done. The fixing of the cable machinery was begun the same day, the cable required taken on board without delay, and the "Tutanekai" was able to leave Wellington at noon on the 8th, and she reached the Bluff on the forenoon of the 10th. During the afternoon the landing-place at Ocean Beach, outside the Bluff, was surveyed; at daylight the following morning the operation of laying the cable commenced; seven hours later the shore end was landed at Lee Bay and connected up with the land line, which had already been erected; and a telephone-office opened the same afternoon at Half-moon Bay. The cable, which is a single-core, and weighs six tons to the knot, is a little over nineteen knots in length.

The cable, besides bringing a comparatively isolated community and district into closer touch with the rest of New Zealand, will greatly enhance the popularity of Stewart Island as a holiday and tourist resort, and be of considerable benefit to persons visiting the place either on business or pleasure. In addition to its value as a means of connecting Stewart Island with the mainland, the cable will be of great service for defence purposes.

BUSINESS OVER EXISTING CABLES.

The number and value of cable messages forwarded from New Zealand during 1901 are shown in the following statement:—

Destination.	Ordinary.		Press.	
	No. of Messages.	Value.	No. of Messages.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
International	11,879	32,744 4 4	302	2,011 13 1
New South Wales	29,868	7,336 0 6	1,052	662 6 8
Queensland	1,172	353 18 5	7	1 16 4
South Australia	1,448	476 5 4	...	...
Tasmania	2,023	734 6 4	...	...
Victoria	16,589	4,696 16 2	59	42 15 11
Western Australia	1,980	633 6 6	...	...
Total for 1901	64,959	46,974 17 7	1,420	2,718 12 0
Total for 1900	62,275	55,219 6 1	1,034	1,457 4 5

The colony's outward international and intercolonial cable business, not including Press, for the years 1900 and 1901 was as follows:—

International,—	Messages.	Value.
	Number.	£ s. d.
1901	11,879	32,744 4 4
1900	11,947	42,132 16 11
Decrease	68	Decrease ... 9,388 12 7
	or 0·57 per cent.	or 22·28 per cent.
Intercolonial,—	Messages.	Value.
	Number.	£ s. d.
1901	53,080	14,230 13 3
1900	50,328	13,086 9 2
Increase	2,752	Increase ... 1,144 4 1
	or 5·47 per cent.	or 8·74 per cent.

The total increase in 1901 was therefore 2,684 messages, but a decrease of £8,244 8s. 6d. in value.

The forwarded and received cable Press business for the past ten years ended 31st December, 1901, has been:—

Year.	Forwarded.			Received.		
	Number of		Value.	Number of		Value.
	Messages.	Words.		Messages.	Words.	
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
1892	791	44,263	898 3 9	2,884	197,477	2,796 9 4
1893	796	57,390	504 9 9	2,883	202,170	1,540 17 10
1894	994	103,366	899 4 9	3,033	203,326	1,179 13 7
1895	1,168	68,682	433 13 0	3,926	314,136	1,782 13 5
1896	1,069	92,946	531 4 9	2,946	285,369	1,576 1 3
1897	1,294	128,839	945 4 8	3,665	323,617	1,752 7 5
1898	1,154	133,342	907 7 0	3,599	282,882	1,599 7 0
1899	1,570	182,066	1,800 10 4	3,822	298,218	1,690 12 4
1900	1,034	139,295	1,457 4 5	4,014	333,300	1,878 9 1
1901	1,420	148,400	2,718 12 0	3,989	351,291	1,967 19 3

NOTE.—The intercolonial cable Press rate was reduced from 3d. to 1d. per word on the 1st April, 1893.

POST OFFICE.

ARTICLES POSTED AND DELIVERED.

Although the number of letters handled increased by 12,881,969, letter-cards and post-cards showed a decrease. This, however, was to be expected, as the tendency of the penny post is for many such articles to fall into the letter mails.

The number of articles posted in the colony, and received from places outside the colony, during the year 1901, as compared with the number in 1900, was as under :—

	1901.	1900.	Increase.
Letters—			
Posted in the colony	48,370,816	36,185,045	
Received from places outside the colony	3,173,449	2,477,251	
	<u>51,544,265</u>	<u>38,662,296</u>	12,881,969
Letter-cards—			Decrease.
Posted in the colony	1,023,295	1,236,183	212,888
Post-cards—			
Posted in the colony	1,460,589	1,858,064	
Received from places outside the colony	61,788	50,451	
	<u>1,522,377</u>	<u>1,908,515</u>	386,138
Books and pattern-packets—			
Posted in the colony	16,176,195	16,111,221	Increase.
Received from places outside the colony	2,086,371	1,604,181	
	<u>18,262,566</u>	<u>17,715,402</u>	547,164
Newspapers—			
Posted in the colony	13,858,234	12,347,374	
Received from places outside the colony	5,115,398	4,698,341	
	<u>18,973,632</u>	<u>17,045,715</u>	1,927,917
Parcels—			
Posted in the colony	233,491	199,220	
Received from places outside the colony	39,951	34,236	
	<u>273,442</u>	<u>233,456</u>	39,986

The letters increased 33·32, letter-cards decreased 17·22, post-cards decreased 20·23, books and pattern-packets increased 3·09, newspapers increased 11·31, and parcels increased 17·13 per cent.

In 1900 letters increased 3·43; letter-cards, 12·00; post-cards, 16·16; books and pattern-packets, 0·31; newspapers, 8·45; and parcels, 4·52 per cent.

The average number of letters posted per head of population was estimated to be 62·18, or 63·49 including letter-cards. The averages in 1900 were 47·39, or 49·01 including letter-cards.

The Post Office receipts for the year amounted to £281,096 17s. 3½d.—a net decrease of £35,761 0s. 3½d., or 11·29 per cent.

The expenditure was £253,340 18s. 5d., as against £223,256 15s. 6d.—an increase of £30,084 2s. 11d., or 13·48 per cent. The increase was mainly caused by unusually heavy payments for ocean mails to close the accounts of the expired San Francisco contract, and the new service. The conveyance of inland mails and mails by railway also showed a considerable increase. There was a balance of revenue over expenditure of £27,755 18s. 10½d.

The estimated value of official (free) correspondence was £62,142. The gross earnings of the Post Office for the year were therefore £343,239, and the credit balance £89,898.

WORK PERFORMED FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

Customs duties amounting to £23,671 8s. were collected on articles received through the post from places beyond the colony, and £2,093 6s. 2d. on account of ordinary Customs work.

The sum of £2,509 10s. was collected from the sale of game licenses.

Premiums amounting to £28,726 2s. 4d. were collected from policyholders on behalf of the Government Insurance Department.

£584 4s. 6d. was collected for the Government Printer on the sale of Government publications.

Income-tax amounting to £111,605 12s. 11d., and land-tax for £240,499 15s. 5d., were received at post-offices.

Fees under the Live-stock Acts amounting to £21,143 13s. were collected.

The sum of £4,487 12s. 2d. was received for machinery fees.

The receipts from the sale of miners' licenses amounted to £1,041 17s.

£11,815 was lodged at post-offices for investment in New Zealand Consols.

The receipts on behalf of the Public Trust Office were £381,390 17s. 8d., and payments £381,034 12s. 5d.

Railway receipts for £13,086 10s. 10d. were also accounted for through the Post Office Account.

The fees collected in respect of the registration of births, deaths, and marriages totalled £2,041 8s. 3d.

The Advances to Settlers Office receipts amounted to £563,976 7s. 2d., and payments £564,246 15s. 6d.

Fees, &c., were also collected on account of the Audit Office, water rates, goldfields, County Councils, Clerks of Court, Harbourmasters, Arms Act, fishing licenses, Lunacy Department,

Factories Act, Education Department, Homing-pigeons Protection Act, Hanmer Springs Sanatorium, Rotorua baths, Rotorua patients, the Treasury, Licensing Act, valuation revenue, Coal-mines Act, Immigration Restriction Act, and loan-debenture receipts.

The payments made by the Post Office on behalf of the Treasury were £580,159 0s. 2d.

1,549,360 discount-stamps, valued at £1,622 5s., were sold during the year, and 1,140,240, for £1,187 15s., redeemed.

GROSS RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The gross receipts dealt with during the year were: Departmental, £13,336,337 3s. 4d.; on account of other departments, £2,205,826 3s. 5d.; total, £15,542,163 6s. 9d.

The payments were: Departmental, £13,390,980 10s. 1d.; on behalf of other departments—to individuals, £1,732,784 19s. 8d.; to Government accounts, £514,692 3s. 4d.: a total of £15,638,457 13s. 1d.

The gross receipts and payments were therefore £31,180,620 19s. 10d. for the year.

LETTER-CARRIERS' DELIVERIES.

Deliveries by letter-carriers were established at: Blenheim—Havelock; Thames—Opotiki; Te Aroha.

Letter-carriers' deliveries were extended as follows: In Auckland (suburbs)—The twice-daily delivery now includes Grange Road and Mount Eden and Mount Roskill districts to the north of Grange Road. At Devonport (Auckland), (by subsidised carrier)—To include the whole of the Borough of Devonport and Sunnyside. Christchurch—At New Brighton, along New Brighton Road as far as Professor Bickerton's. Dunedin—At Balclutha, northwards to include the Main North Road to junction with Cemetery Road, also Yarmouth, Lyne, and Argyle Streets; and westwards to include Ryrie Street and Rosebank Road as far as junction with Ryrie Street. New Plymouth (C.P.O.)—To Vogeltown. Timaru—Geraldine, to Waihi Terrace.

NEWSPAPERS REGISTERED.

Sixteen newspapers were registered for transmission by post, and eleven ceased publication.

RECEIVING-BOXES.

Twenty-six receiving-boxes were established at: Auckland—City and suburbs, 11. Christchurch—City and suburbs, 6. Dunedin—City and suburbs, 2. Invercargill—Riverton, 3. Napier—Wairoa, 1. New Plymouth—Town, 1. Wellington—City and suburbs, 1; Woodville, 1.

Three receiving-boxes were closed at: Christchurch—City, 2. Dunedin—City, 1.

DESIGNATIONS OF OFFICES.

The designations of offices were changed as follows: Auckland—Otonga East to Marua; St. Heliers Bay (post-office) to St. Heliers. Christchurch—Conway to Conway Flat. Dunedin—Idaburn to Rough Ridge. Wellington—Manuhara to Maku; Oroua Downs to Himatangi.

Designations were corrected as follows: Auckland—Ongaruhe to Ongarue. New Plymouth—Wangamomona (post-office) to Whangamomona.

POST-OFFICES ESTABLISHED, ETC.

Seventy-four post-offices were established (of these six were reopened offices) and twenty-one closed:—

Opened.

Amodeo Bay, Auckland
Ararua (Dec., /00), Auckland
Aratiatia, Auckland
Ardgowan, Oamaru
Ashley Downs, Dunedin
Belmont, Invercargill
Benmore, Invercargill
Big Omaha, Auckland
Bulwer, Blenheim
Cape Runaway, Thames
Clydevale, Dunedin
Fencourt, Auckland
Golden Ridge, Nelson
Hamilton South (reopened), Dunedin
Hatuma, Napier
Hauturu, Auckland
Hayward's Point, Dunedin
Idaburn, Dunedin
Kahukura (reopened), Gisborne
Kanakanae, Gisborne
Karewarewa, Wellington
Kawarau Bridge, Dunedin
Korora, Wellington
Kutuku, Hokitika
Maben Road, Wanganui

Mahakipawa, Blenheim
Mangaramarama, Wellington
Matapu (reopened), Wanganui
Matuku, Invercargill
Maungaraupi, Wellington
Moneymore, Dunedin
Newton Flat (reopened), Westport
Ngatapa, Napier
Niue, Auckland
Ocean Beach, Invercargill
Ohangai, Wanganui
Omokoroa, Thames
Oparau, Auckland
Orinoco, Nelson
Paengaroa, Thames
Paerau, Dunedin
Paiaka, Auckland
Pakorari, Hokitika
Pakowhai, Napier
Paremata (reopened), Wellington
Patoka, Napier
Pukehinau, Wellington
Puketoi, Wellington
Putere, Napier
Rangitumau, Wellington

Rarotonga (as a New Zealand office), Auckland
Riponui, Auckland
Rongokokako, Wellington
St. John's, Wanganui
Springston Railway, Christchurch
Stanley Road, New Plymouth
Tangaihi, Auckland
Tatarariki, Auckland
Taumata, Dunedin
Te Rapa, Auckland
Te Wharau, Wellington
Te Whiti, Wellington
Titoki, Auckland
Tuhara, New Plymouth
Umutoi (reopened), Wellington
Victoria Bridge, Dunedin
Waikereru, Wellington
Waiowaka, Wellington
Waitapu, Nelson
Weraroa, Wellington
Whakamara, Wanganui
Whakaronga, Wellington
Wharekopae, Gisborne
Wild Bush, Invercargill.

Closed.

Blandville, Christchurch
Christchurch Exhibition (R.O.), Christchurch
Glenwood, Wellington
Hamilton South, Dunedin
Hawkeswood, Christchurch
Heawa, Auckland
Huiakama, New Plymouth

Kahukura, Gisborne
Karewarewa, Wellington
Linburn, Dunedin
Little Rakaiia, Christchurch
Newton Flat, Westport
Paremata, Wellington
Puketoi, Wellington

Rough Ridge, Dunedin
Ruakaka, Auckland
Serpentine, Dunedin
Te Kuta, Napier
Turangarere, Wanganui
Waima, Auckland
Wainuioru, Wellington.

The number of post-offices open at the end of the year was 1,739.

PARCEL-POST.

The following table shows the total number and the weight of inland, intercolonial, United Kingdom, and foreign parcels dealt with during the years 1890, 1899, 1900, and 1901:—

Postal Districts.	1890.		1899.		1900.		1901.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.
Auckland	24,589	65,406 15	46,633	153,492 14	47,320	145,640 1	53,428	178,086 4
Thames	1,731	4,334 3	3,324	9,963 12	3,496	10,767 4	4,357	11,968 12
New Plymouth	1,132	3,103 9	3,212	10,238 5	3,548	11,298 9	4,799	14,558 1
Gisborne	1,061	2,977 10	2,283	6,008 12	2,372	6,926 15	2,653	9,238 3
Napier	7,021	19,512 13	9,281	28,500 15	10,269	32,831 15	12,202	37,313 7
Wanganui	4,537	10,994 2	8,663	27,627 13	10,167	32,562 4	12,686	40,574 1
Wellington	29,052	85,226 3	51,150	185,938 12	52,500	187,716 3	63,647	229,967 5½
Nelson	5,348	15,329 8	6,124	18,845 5	6,195	20,000 2	7,023	20,924 6
Westport	1,201	2,718 4	2,089	5,157 2	2,183	5,684 15	2,676	6,549 14
Greymouth	2,821	7,102 4	3,099	8,876 3	3,036	9,305 4	3,628	11,327 10
Hokitika	1,600	4,476 11	2,865	9,645 11	2,772	10,140 2	3,505	11,587 3
Blenheim	2,090	5,050 0	1,907	6,180 15	2,258	6,956 4	2,765	8,332 13
Christchurch	21,758	67,202 8	33,707	135,437 9	36,028	135,426 6½	44,310	145,750 2
Timaru	2,263	5,600 1	1,960	5,815 2	2,040	6,274 1	2,420	8,576 1
Oamaru	978	2,409 8	1,120	3,843 12	1,324	4,739 7	1,920	7,418 13
Dunedin	25,312	74,824 15	39,976	134,014 7	40,282	144,791 10	43,503	163,322 15
Invercargill	3,883	8,614 6	5,957	16,249 4½	7,666	23,933 0	7,920	22,741 0
Totals	136,327	384,883 8	223,350	765,836 9½	233,456	794,994 6½	273,442	928,236 14½

The following table shows the number and weight of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom and the undermentioned places during the years 1900 and 1901:—

Country.	Received.				Despatched.			
	1900.		1901.		1900.		1901.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.		lb. oz.
United Kingdom and foreign countries (via London)	21,682	76,132 0	24,011	93,411 0	4,690	9,769 0	5,787	15,308 0
United States	*922	2,282 13	3,019	8,784 15	409	1,047 13	833	2,380 10
Vancouver	147	236 5	221	299 8	89	145 0	131	285 1
Victoria	3,540	12,849 8	2,853	13,235 0	1,322	3,033 12	1,456	3,045 0
New South Wales	6,229	17,629 8	7,260	21,233 0	1,809	4,774 0½	638	1,600 3
South Australia	244	715 4	284	857 6	191	526 8	245	707 1
Queensland	308	631 8	408	807 14	267	659 14	342	990 6
Tasmania	143	406 2	217	567 13	312	746 3	377	914 8
Western Australia	260	756 0	211	517 6	262	689 2	264	692 12
Samoa	15	94 7	..	..	128	415 13	155	394 4
Rarotonga	19	45 3	32	109 12	65	257 15	86	378 15
Fiji	36	98 1	60	137 2	139	447 1	168	532 8
Norfolk Island .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	5 8	..	..
Ceylon	382	864 15½	487	1,196 3½	165	372 7½	101	289 15
Uruguay .. ..	..	..	..	..	15	27 5	17	36 1
Cape Colony	309	590 8	814	860 0	707	1,400 1½	537	1,342 6
Transvaal .. ..	..	..	..	..	345	681 12	378	779 10
Natal .. ..	..	..	72	103 0	..	..	26	56 2
Malta .. ..	..	..	2	21 0	..	..	..	..
India .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	147	78 11
Totals	34,236	113,332 2½	39,951	142,140 15½	10,916	24,998 3½	11,588	29,762 1

* Six months only.

† Four months only.

The declared value of parcels received from places outside the colony in 1901 was £109,683. The Customs duty collected amounted to £22,406.

The declared value of parcels despatched to places beyond the colony was £16,154, as against £11,800 in 1900.

Direct parcel-post exchanges have been arranged with Natal and with India during the year.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The estimated volume and value of official and other free correspondence posted during 1901 is given in the statement below:—

District.	Letters.	Packets.	Registered Articles.	Newspapers.
Auckland	333,370	33,735	12,164	67,114
Thames	75,439	2,851	1,702	33,332
New Plymouth	108,747	15,000	1,850	33,570
Gisborne	31,884	3,468	660	17,868
Napier	120,116	9,596	2,310	54,750
Wanganui	262,197	6,034	7,518	90,970
Wellington	1,428,034	328,798	31,916	242,043
Nelson	109,109	6,825	5,481	40,560
Westport	35,828	440	1,443	29,224
Grey mouth	57,772	3,214	3,026	46,085
Hokitika	18,780	2,688	1,981	27,231
Blenheim	66,001	2,964	720	24,756
Christchurch	450,982	26,692	13,800	144,450
Timaru	97,461	3,750	3,194	32,000
Oamaru	51,064	2,080	1,420	34,164
Dunedin	383,256	49,844	9,500	194,664
Invercargill	239,174	18,616	4,180	79,092
Totals	3,869,264	516,595	102,865	1,191,873

The estimated value of official correspondence was £62,142.

DEAD LETTERS.

The following comparative table shows the number of unclaimed letters, letter-cards, and post-cards dealt with during the undermentioned years:—

Manner of Disposal.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1894.	1896.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Opened and returned to the writers	68,942	66,592	66,729	62,847	62,654	60,540	61,745	63,112	68,872	74,132	76,692	100,036	
Returned unopened to other countries	9,134	8,115	8,359	7,287	6,220	7,779	8,941	7,546	8,899	9,706	9,707	12,251	
Reissued	107	185	251	96	92	141	130	148	219	178	265	*5,112	
Destroyed	3,986	2,872	6,600	5,974	4,340	2,660	4,725	4,069	3,368	4,536	4,900	5,705	
Returned unopened by Chief Postmasters	17,593	19,187	21,144	20,185	21,164	21,931	22,042	26,414	33,273	22,915	40,282	44,523	
Totals	99,762	96,951	103,083	96,389	94,470	93,051	97,583	101,289	114,631	111,467	131,846	167,627	

* Including 4,911 troopers' letters.

The proportion of dead or unclaimed letters, letter-cards, and post-cards to the total number dealt with in the colony was 0·31 per cent., as against 0·34 per cent. in 1900.

24,678 book-packets and circulars were returned to foreign countries; 35,734 were returned to senders through the Dead-letter Office; 46,456 were returned by Chief Postmasters: a total of 106,868 book-packets and circulars, as compared with 123,294 in 1900.

481 letters were wrongly addressed; 29 letters were discovered to have been posted with previously used stamps; 2,106 unclaimed registered letters were dealt with.

2,518 newspapers and 1,386 books and other articles without addresses were received, many of which were subsequently applied for and delivered.

1,951 newspapers were returned to the publishers.

435 letters and 142 letter-cards were posted without addresses.

8 letters with libellous addresses were intercepted.

The undermentioned articles of value were found in letters opened in the Dead-letter Office, and returned to senders where practicable:—

347 post-office orders	...	...	...	...	...	959	10	3
31 bank drafts	...	...	...	...	...	2,144	8	6
225 cheques	...	...	...	...	...	1,954	17	3
2 dividend warrants	...	...	...	...	...	6	12	0
4 promissory notes	...	...	...	...	...	43	8	3
Postal notes	...	...	...	...	...	93	9	6
Stamps	...	...	...	...	...	21	18	2
Bank-notes	...	...	...	...	...	191	0	0
Gold	...	...	...	...	...	43	0	0
Silver and copper	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	8

Representing a total of £5,465 5 7

In addition, 1 ladies' gold watch and chain, 3 silver watches, 1 silver watch and chain, 1 silver keyless watch, 2 keyless metal watches, 2 metal watches, 1 metal watch and clasp, 1 Waterbury watch, 1 gold-mounted silk watch-guard, 1 rolled-gold chain, 1 gold watch-chain bar, 4 silver chains, 2 pairs gold sleeve-links, 1 pair greenstone links, 2 gold scarf-pins, 1 ladies' gold scarf-pin, 1 ladies' gold tie-clip, 5 gold rings, 5 gold brooches, 6 silver brooches, 3 brooches, 3 gold-mounted greenstone brooches, 5 greenstone brooches, 1 pair gold-mounted greenstone

earrings, 1 pair greenstone earrings, 2 gold-mounted greenstone charms, 1 gold-mounted greenstone pendant, 5 silver-mounted greenstone pendants, 1 greenstone pendant, 1 silver-mounted greenstone spoon, 1 silver butter-knife with greenstone handle, 1 Railway Servants' Society's pendant, 1 gold tooth-pick, 1 pair gold-rimmed eye-glasses, 1 gold bangle, 1 gold-mounted tusk, 1 small piece of gold, 1 set silver spoons, 1 silver serviette-ring, 1 silver match-box, 1 cut-glass salve-pot with silver lid, 1 red leather purse, 2 books foreign stamps, 4 sheets foreign stamps, 47 packets foreign stamps, 1 certificate of title and memo. of mortgage, 1 gum license, 1 steamer ticket (single, Melbourne to Wellington), 4 feathers for hat, and violin-strings were dealt with.

The number of inland, intercolonial, and international articles received and disposed of during the years 1900 and 1901 was as under :—

	1900.					1901.				
	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Packets.	News-papers.	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Packets.	News-papers.
<i>Inland.</i>										
Returned, delivered, &c., through Dead-letter Office	62,751	2,085	1,704	59,258	798	88,115	1,726	1,360	34,215	1,951
Returned by Chief Postmasters direct ..	36,660	..	3,622	38,514	..	40,909	..	3,614	46,456	..
Destroyed in accordance with law ..	3,987	142	108	1,453	38,394	4,746	118	86	9,139	42,736
<i>Australian.</i>										
Originally addressed to other States :—										
Returned to writers ..	4,249	..	91	789	..	5,475	..	91	556	..
Destroyed in accordance with law ..	270	..	6	48	..	291	..	10	34	..
Returned to other States as unclaimed	4,025	39	26	5,814	..	4,969	48	32	3,959	..
<i>International.</i>										
Originally addressed to other countries :—										
Returned to writers ..	5,949	..	128	998	..	8,272	..	109	963	..
Destroyed in accordance with law ..	379	..	8	47	..	439	..	15	45	..
Returned to other countries as unclaimed	5,529	53	35	17,921	..	7,091	67	44	20,719	..
Totals	123,799	2,319	5,728	124,842	39,192	160,307	1,959	5,361	116,086	44,687

MISSING LETTERS.

1,090 inquiries for letters and 861 for other articles alleged to have been posted and not delivered were made during 1901. In 626 of the inquiries for letters and 533 for other articles—over one-half the total number—the investigations by the Department resulted in the missing articles being traced or accounted for. These may be summarised as follows :—

Number of "Traced" Cases.

Letters.	Other Articles.	Found to have been
62	53	Missent, misdelivered, or otherwise delayed through fault of Post Office.
20	17	Delayed in delivery through fault of addressees.
34	29	Not posted.
64	55	Posted later than advised; forwarded by slower routes than letters of advice, &c.
114	96	Defectively or wrongly addressed.
61	51	Mislaidd or lost after delivery.
37	32	Returned through Dead-letter Office as unclaimed, &c.
234	200	Delivered. Reason for inquiry not given, but probably in most cases omission by addressees to acknowledge receipt.
626	533	

REGISTERED LETTERS.

The number of registered articles dealt with in 1901, compared with the numbers in 1890, 1899, and 1900, is shown below :—

Postal Districts.	1890.			1899.			1900.			1901.		
	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.	From Places beyond the Colony.	Registered in the Colony.	Totals.
Auckland ..	7,119	34,398	41,517	17,209	105,710	122,919	18,108	101,533	119,641	18,577	117,891	136,468
Thames ..	130	4,781	4,911	295	18,659	18,954	267	19,912	20,179	302	22,768	23,070
New Plymouth ..	341	3,372	3,713	1,246	15,560	16,806	1,310	16,903	18,213	1,498	18,306	19,804
Gisborne ..	118	2,120	2,238	327	3,868	4,195	421	7,193	7,614	421	6,468	6,889
Napier ..	999	10,911	11,910	1,115	24,024	25,139	1,659	26,685	28,344	1,952	26,404	28,356
Wanganui ..	211	6,060	6,271	1,850	22,929	24,779	2,151	24,980	27,131	2,364	32,707	35,071
Wellington ..	6,129	30,369	36,498	14,340	78,947	93,287	9,513	85,915	95,428	13,595	106,859	120,454
Blenheim ..	92	3,193	3,285	97	5,471	5,568	116	6,371	6,487	116	8,071	8,187
Nelson ..	322	3,430	3,752	656	12,002	12,658	644	14,726	15,370	1,018	14,814	15,832
Westport ..	112	3,254	3,366	337	7,713	8,050	354	6,974	7,328	880	8,518	9,398
Greymouth ..	102	8,879	8,981	583	8,497	9,080	680	11,606	12,286	602	13,776	14,378
Hokitika ..	95	2,579	2,674	84	4,363	4,447	94	4,344	4,438	503	6,634	7,137
Christchurch ..	3,659	20,404	24,063	5,143	48,169	53,312	5,404	49,049	54,453	5,690	56,399	62,089
Timaru ..	312	3,551	3,863	1,068	8,130	9,198	1,196	9,973	11,169	1,260	10,736	11,996
Oamaru ..	278	2,505	2,783	163	7,244	7,407	120	8,880	9,000	116	7,815	7,931
Dunedin ..	4,615	19,696	24,311	6,427	39,544	45,971	6,954	44,003	50,957	7,746	53,324	61,070
Invercargill ..	1,740	9,819	11,559	3,431	23,936	27,367	3,352	24,989	28,341	5,107	26,071	31,178
Totals ..	26,374	169,321	195,695	54,371	434,766	489,137	52,343	464,036	516,379	61,747	537,561	599,308

INLAND MAILS.

The general contracts for inland mail-services would in the ordinary course expire at the end of this year. In view, however, of the great inconvenience caused by the services terminating so near the time of the parliamentary election, the Postmaster-General has decided to extend as many of the contracts as possible for one year, so that future lettings will not fall into the same year as the general election. The majority of the contractors has decided to accept the Department's offer of renewal on existing terms.

A steam service from Wanganui to Pipiriki, in addition to that carried out by Messrs. Hatrick and Co., has been arranged with the Wanganui Settlers River Steamship Company

To meet the growing requirements of the Auckland District a railway travelling post-office was established as from the 19th May last. As at present arranged the sorting-vans run to and from Auckland and Hamilton. The vans cross at Mercer, where the sorting clerks exchange.

The number of contracts for inland mails in operation in 1901 was 648.

There are in addition 419 services not under bond.

The length of inland postal routes by road (counted one way only) was 10,310 miles, and the total number of miles travelled 2,518,094, at an average cost of 3·37d. per mile. In 1900 the respective mileages were 10,137 and 2,510,152, and the average cost 3·26d. per mile.

Ordinary railway-trains with mails travelled 2,982,764 miles.

The estimated sum payable to the Railway Department for the conveyance of mails by ordinary trains was £40,847 7s.

INLAND MAIL-SERVICES.

The following services were established during the year :—

Auckland—

As required : Big Omaha Post-office-steamers.

Daily : Fencourt Post-office-Railway-station.

Thrice weekly : Porootarao Post-office-train.

Twice weekly : Oparau-Kawhia Road ; Towai-Ruapekapeka.

Weekly : Amodeo Bay Post-office-steamer ; Hukerenui-Paiaka : Hukerenui-Riponui ; Kawhia-Hauturu ; Kawakawa-Opua ; Russell-Opua.

Blenheim—

Weekly : Blenheim-Seddon (continued).

Dunedin—

Daily : Hayward's Point-Purakanui ; Wedderburn Post-office-Railway-station.

Thrice weekly : Idaburn-Ophir-Chatto Creek-Alexandra South : Milton-Money-more ; Patearoa-Waipia ; Rough Ridge-Idaburn ; Waiwera South-Ashley Downs-Taumata-Clydevale.

Twice weekly : Waipia-Hamilton South (re-established).

Weekly : Patearoa-Paerau.

Gisborne—

Twice weekly during eight months of year, weekly four winter months : Te Karaka-Kanakanae ; Patutahi-Ngatapa.

Weekly : Ngatapa-Wharekopae ; Port Awanui-Kahukura (re-established).

Invercargill—

Twice daily : Ocean Beach Post-office-Railway-siding.

Twice weekly : Wild Bush-Main Road.

Weekly : Mossburn-Matuku.

Monthly : Te Oneroa-Cromarty (continuation).

Napier—

Daily : Maharahara East Post-office-Oringi Railway-station ; Napier-Pakowhai.

Weekly : Dannevirke-Weber (while coach runs : service resumed) ; Petane-Te Kuta ; Putere-Wahanui.

Nelson—

As required : Port Wharf-vessels in roadstead.

Thrice weekly : Ngatimote-Orinoco.

New Plymouth—

Daily : Midhirst-Stanley Road.

Thames—

As required : Paeroa Post-office-Te Puke Wharf.

Thrice weekly : Paeroa-Netherton ; Omokoroa-Junction on Tauranga Road.

Twice weekly : Omahu-Cryer's Landing.

Fortnightly : Raukokore-Cape Runaway-Hicks Bay.

Timaru—

Twice weekly : Fairlie, round service in Raincliff district (rural delivery).

Wanganui—

Daily : Hawera-Manaia (making a twice-daily mail) ; Mokoia Railway-station-Whakamara (new office)-Meremere-Ohangai (new office) ; Te Roti-Matapu.

Twice weekly : Patea-Maben Road ; Wanganui-Makirikiri-Koriniti-Jerusalem-Pipiriki (in addition to existing service).

Weekly : Pipiriki-Putikituna (extension provided for in Wanganui-Pipiriki contract) ; Wanganui-Koriniti-Jerusalem-Pipiriki (1st May-31st October ; winter service resumed under agreement up to 24th May for 1901, and extended to correspond with previous winter periods).

Wellington—

As required : Eketahuna Post-office-Railway-station ; Hukanui Post-office-Railway-station.

Daily : Pahiatua-Mangaramarama ; Palmerston North-Terrace End-Whakaronga (see "Extended").

Thrice weekly : Colyton-Spur Road ; Hukanui-Maungaraupi ; Mangamahoe-Hastwell's (giving Hastwell's a daily mail) ; Porirua-Paremata (delivery of letters) ; Rangitumau-Opaki ; Te Nui-Annedale-Manawa.

Twice weekly : Carterton-Gladstone-Te Wharau-Land's End (no post-office) ; Home-wood-Flat Point-Waikekinu ; Korora-Pongaroa ; Masterton-Te Whiti ; Rakau-nui-Waikereru.

Weekly : Glendhu (no post-office)-Glenburn (no post-office) ; Kaitawa-Pori ; Puke-hinau-Maku ; Waikereru-Waiowaka.

The following services were extended :—

Auckland—

Birkenhead-Birkdale (letter-delivery) to include Borough of Birkenhead as far as Hadfield's Corner on Roberts Road.

Dunedin—

Dunedin-South Dunedin tram-service to include conveyance of mails between Dunedin, North-east Valley, and Caversham, and also conveyance of letter-carriers ; St. Bathans-Cambrian to Beck's.

Nelson—

Collingwood-Parkeston to Golden Ridge (new office : Parkeston closed).

New Plymouth—

Whangamomona-Kohuratahi to Tuhara.

Wanganui—

Mangaweka-Kawatau to junction of Kawatau Valley and Auputu Roads, and to Upper Kawatau and Mangakoheka, weekly.

Wellington—

Alfredton-Waterfalls and Alfredton-Pori to Saunders Road (new office) ; Karori letter-delivery to Creswick and Northlands, and to Tinakori Road boundary ; Pahiatua-Konini-Hamua-Newman to Eketahuna ; Palmerston North-Terrace End to Whakaronga ; Utuwai-Apiti to Umutoi (post-office reopened).

The frequency of the following services was increased :—

Auckland—

Once to twice daily : Te Awamutu-Hairini.

Twice to thrice weekly : Manurewa-Alfriston-Brookby ; Pirongia-Karamu ; Tauhoa-Mangakura.

Twice and once weekly (summer and winter) to thrice and once weekly (1st November-30th April, 1st May-31st October) ; Taupo-Tokaanu.

Once to twice weekly : Coromandel-Cabbage Bay ; Mangapai-Ruarangi-Waikiekie ; Porootarao-Ongarue.

Christchurch—

Daily to twice daily : Christchurch-Glentunnel ; Tinwald-Christchurch.

Five times weekly to daily (in afternoon), with morning mails twice weekly : Christchurch-Methven-Lauriston-Lyndhurst-Cairnbrae.

Twice weekly to daily (5/12/01 to 30/4/02 ; twice weekly for remainder of year) : Kowai Bush-Springfield.

Dunedin—

Thrice weekly to daily : Outram-Woodside-Maungatua.

Gisborne—

Thrice weekly to daily : Gisborne-Kaiteratahi-Te Karaka-Whatatutu.

Fortnightly to weekly : Te Araroa-Hicks Bay section of Port Awanui-Hicks Bay service (whole service now weekly).

Greymouth—

Four times weekly to daily : Greymouth-Paroa section of Greymouth-Dunganville service.

Hokitika—

Twice to thrice weekly : Kumara-Westbrook-Greenstone.

New Plymouth—

Weekly to twice weekly : Purangi-Matau.

Timaru—

Thrice weekly to daily : Timaru-Fairview-Claremont-Priest's Corner (no post-office)-Southburn-Pareora (terminal point)-Otipua-Kingsdown (no post-office)-Salisbury-Timaru (round service).

Wanganui—

Twice and once weekly (summer and winter) to thrice and twice weekly (1st November-30th April, 1st May-31st October) ; Tokaanu-Waiouru-Karioi-Ohakune-Raetihi-Mangaituroa-Pipiriki.

Wellington—

Once to twice weekly : Utuwai-Apiti.

The frequency of the following service was diminished :—

Christchurch—

Twice to once daily : Springston Post-office-Railway-station.

The following services were curtailed :—

Auckland—

Whakapara—Hukerenui—Kaikohe, by Whakapara—Hukerenui section (railway extended to Hukerenui).

Dunedin—

Wedderburn—Clyde and Wedderburn—St. Bathans, by extension of railway from Wedderburn to Idaburn.

Wellington—

Homewood—Flat Point—Waikokino, to stop at Flat Point.

The following services have been otherwise altered :—

Blenheim—

Havelock—Te Puru, by inclusion of Bulwer (new office).

Christchurch—

City, clearing receivers to include Addington (new receiving office).

Dunedin—

Chief Post-office—Woodhaugh (letter-delivery) to include delivery of daily mail at Leith Valley (new office).

Hokitika—

Gillespie's Beach—Jackson's Bay, by inclusion of Pakorari (new office).

Napier—

Napier—Mohaka, carried by coach by Inland (Turner's) Road, making continuous coach-service between Chief Post-office, Napier, and Tolaga Bay, Gisborne district; Napier—Wairoa, by inclusion of Spit and Petane.

The following services were abolished :—

Auckland—

Kawakawa—Ruapekapeka (replaced by Towai—Ruapekapeka).

Ohaeawai—Waimate North.

Porootarao—Ongarue.

Te Aroha—Manawaru.

Blenheim—

Seddon (two subsidised services).

Christchurch—

Blandville Post-office—Railway-station (office closed).

City, conveyance of letter-carriers on tramways.

Southbridge—Little Rakaia.

Dunedin—

Dunedin—North-east Valley.

Dunedin North—Woodhaugh—Leith Valley (now performed by letter-carrier).

Patearoa—Hamilton South—Waipiata.

Patearoa—Serpentine.

Rough Ridge—Idaburn.

Gisborne—

Port Awanui—Kahukura (service re-established 16/11/01).

Invercargill—

Gorge Road Post-office—Railway-siding (as a subsidised service: office now near siding).

Mararoa—The Key (on another line of road).

Napier—

Maharahara—Maharahara East.

Thames—

Opotiki—Motu.

Timaru—

Morven Post-office—Railway-station.

Wellington—

Gladstone—Wainuioru—Craigielea (no post-office).

Homewood—Glenburn (31/12/00).

Porirua—Paremata (delivery of letters).

OCEAN MAIL-SERVICES.

In last report it was mentioned that the Government had under consideration an offer from Mr. Spreckels for continuing the San Francisco service for five years. The offer provided for seventeen trips, and payment of a subsidy of £25,622 a year. This offer was not entertained, but Mr. Spreckels was given the refusal of a five years' contract at a fixed payment of £12,000 per annum, which he declined. The service meanwhile was being carried on under an unexpired temporary arrangement with Mr. Spreckels. The question of the continuance of the service was submitted to the House of Representatives on the 18th October last, when the following resolutions were agreed to :—

San Francisco Mail-service.

“ Resolved,—

“ 1. That, in view of the temporary agreement with the J. D. Spreckels and Brothers Company (the Oceanic Steamship Company, of San Francisco) for the performance of a three-weekly service between San Francisco and Auckland for one year expiring next month,—

“(a.) This House authorises the Government to enter into a contract with the said company for a renewal of the present San Francisco mail-service for a term of one year and six months, subject to the following conditions:—

“(b.) That the payment for the conveyance of mails from New Zealand to San Francisco shall be at the rate of 7s. 6d. per lb. for letters, 1s. per lb. for books, packets, &c., and 6d. per lb. for newspapers, with a minimum of £15,000 and a maximum of £20,000 per annum; or

“(c.) That, in lieu of the foregoing payments, a fixed annual subsidy of £20,000 be paid, provided that one British-owned steamer, registered in New Zealand, be employed in the service.

“(d.) That the time between San Francisco and Auckland shall not exceed seventeen days.

“(e.) That no bonus shall be paid for early arrival, and a penalty at the rate of £4 an hour shall be enforced only when late delivery exceeds forty-eight hours.

“(f.) That all mails tendered to the contractors at Auckland and San Francisco by or on behalf of the Postmaster-General of New Zealand shall be conveyed by the contract vessels, and sufficient and secure accommodation provided for the same.

“(g.) That suitable accommodation and lighting shall be provided for the purpose of sorting the mails on board the contract vessels, and first-class accommodation provided, without charge, for a mail agent and an assistant, or, if required, two assistants.

“(h.) That during the continuance of the contract and so long as the same shall be faithfully carried out by the contractors no charge for harbour dues, dock dues, or other rates shall be made or levied under “The Harbours Act, 1878,” or any amendment thereof, or under any special Act in that behalf, at the Port of Auckland, for any of the steam-vessels employed in carrying out the contract.

“(i.) That any agreement entered into between the Postmaster-General of New Zealand and the J. D. Spreckels and Brothers Company shall, where applicable, follow the provisions of the agreement entered into between the Postmaster-General and the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand (Limited) on the 14th day of August, 1895, and the renewed agreement made on the 11th day of April, 1899.

“(j.) And that the terms and conditions of clause 7 of the agreement of the 14th day of August, 1895, providing for the detention of the vessels at San Francisco for the mails from Great Britain, shall be given effect to as far as may be consistent with the contract subsisting between the J. D. Spreckels and Brothers Company and the United States Government.”

On the purport of the resolutions being communicated to Mr. Spreckels, he at first declined to accept the terms because the payment for letters was reduced from 10s. 5d. to 7s. 6d. per pound. Further negotiations, however, resulted in his practically agreeing to carry on the service in terms of the resolutions. The contract, after revision, has been sent Mr. Spreckels for execution by his company.

The service, unfortunately, has not been performed with that regularity which was expected when the initial difficulties connected with the machinery of the new vessels had been overcome. The irregular running has been due to several causes, amongst others the quarantine restrictions, which have more or less interfered with the due despatch of the vessels from Auckland, delaying their arrival at San Francisco. The late arrival there of a few hours only may mean, and has resulted in, three or four days' delay in the delivery of the mails in London—whenever the connection with the Saturday fast steamer from New York was missed, which has caused much dissatisfaction among the business people in London. After repeated representations Mr. Spreckels has agreed to put forward the departure of the steamers from Sydney and Auckland by one day, a change which it is hoped will enable the mails to connect regularly with the Saturday fast steamer from New York, and assure their delivery in London on due date.

The question of opening up negotiations for a Vancouver and for a Federal mail-service was also discussed by the House of Representatives last session, and the following resolutions agreed to:—

Vancouver Mail-service.

“Resolved,—

“2. That this House authorises the Government to enter into negotiations for establishing a three-weekly or a four-weekly Vancouver mail-service, subject to the following conditions:—

“(a.) That the contract shall be for a term of not less than three or more than five years.

“(b.) That the payment shall not exceed £20,000 a year.

“(c.) That the service shall be performed by vessels of not less than 6,000 tons, having first-class passenger accommodation and fitted with all modern improvements, and also refrigerating-chambers, and chilled chambers for fruit and dairy produce.

“(d.) That the time shall not exceed eighteen days between Vancouver and a New Zealand port, the selection of which to be at the contractor's option.

“(e.) That the terms and conditions of contract proposed in respect of the San Francisco service shall be applied to the Vancouver service so far as they can be adopted.”

Federal Mail-service.

“Resolved,—

“3. That the Government shall also negotiate for a fortnightly intercolonial service to provide prompt connection with the Federal mail-service at Melbourne and Sydney,—

(a.) Between Wellington and Sydney; and

(b.) Between Melbourne and the Bluff;

and, in addition, in the event of the San Francisco service not being arranged,

(c.) Between Sydney and Auckland.”

It has been impracticable to do anything respecting a Vancouver service, as the present contract between the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Line and the Governments of Canada, New South Wales, and Queensland does not terminate until 1903. Advantage is taken of the service whenever circumstances are suitable. Since the steamers have again called at Fiji, mails for both America and the United Kingdom are forwarded regularly from Auckland, the Auckland-Fiji steamer being timed to reach Suva one or two days in advance of the departure of the contract vessel for Vancouver.

It has not been considered advisable to reopen negotiations for an intercolonial service connecting with the Federal mail-service at Sydney and Melbourne. Nothing will now be done until after the Premiers' Conference in London, which it is understood is to consider the whole question of ocean mail-services as affecting the Commonwealth and New Zealand.

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS on Account of the SAN FRANCISCO, PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL, and ORIENT MAIL-SERVICES for the Year 1901.

San Francisco Service.

DR.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments by weight—									
On mails from New Zealand	18,958	1	5						
On mails from the Australian States, Fiji, &c....	1,289	1	6						
(from 1st January to 30th June only)				20,247	2	11			
Interprovincial service, mail agents, &c. ...				5,582	6	4			
Transit charges { San Francisco to New York ...				4,300	7	5			
{ New York to Queenstown ...				1,822	10	9			
							31,952	7	5
CR.									
Postages collected in the colony				13,569	5	9			
Contributions from non-contracting colonies ...				1,289	1	6			
							14,858	7	3
Net cost to the colony							£17,094	0	2

816,054 letters, 9,912 post-cards, 506,667 books, and 1,065,486 newspapers were received from, and 917,437 letters, 11,142 post-cards, 184,085 books, and 905,751 newspapers were despatched to, the United Kingdom *via* San Francisco. The average time within which mails were delivered by the San Francisco service was—From Auckland to London, 30·88 days, as against 30·85 days in 1900; and from London to Auckland, 30·94 days, as compared with 31·71 days in the previous year. The shortest delivery was made in 28 days.

Peninsular and Oriental and Orient Lines (Federal Mail-service).

DR.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments to P. and O. and Orient lines	3,604	12	10			
Transit charges across Australia	219	17	9			
Transit charges across Europe	468	5	7			
Gratuities (to and from Australia)	1,756	9	8			
				6,049	5	10
CR.						
Postages collected in the colony	2,051	8	2			
Postages, &c., from London and foreign offices ...	1,323	16	4			
				3,375	4	6
Net cost to the colony				£2,674	1	4

The number of letters, post-cards, books, and newspapers conveyed from and to the United Kingdom by the Peninsular and Oriental and Orient packets were: Received—745,357 letters, 9,052 post-cards, 403,396 books, and 1,657,104 newspapers; despatched—144,036 letters, 1,749 post-cards, 23,612 books, and 135,211 newspapers.

The maximum, minimum, and average number of days within which the mails were delivered at and from London and Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin, and Bluff during 1901 by the San Francisco service and by the Peninsular and Oriental and Orient Lines was:—

	San Francisco Service.				P. and O. Line.				Orient Line.			
	Max.	Min.	Average.		Max.	Min.	Average.		Max.	Min.	Average.	
London to Auckland..	..	33	30	30·94	..	43	36	37·62	..	43	38	39·46
Auckland to London..	..	33	28	30·88	..	42	38	40·00	..	45	40	41·38
London to Wellington	..	35	31	32·24	..	41	36	39·00	..	42	39	39·92
Wellington to London	..	36	29	32·53	..	44	36	42·23	..	47	40	43·68
London to Dunedin..	..	36	33	33·53	..	43	39	39·63	..	46	38	40·13
Dunedin to London..	..	37	31	33·94	..	43	38	40·35	..	46	41	41·98
London to Bluff	37	34	34·28	..	42	38	38·88	..	45	37	39·38
Bluff to London	38	32	34·69	..	42	37	39·60	..	45	40	41·23

The several subsidised mail sea-services, the subsidy-payments for the year 1901, the dates when established, and the date on which each terminates are shown as follows :—

Service.	Annual Subsidy or Payment.	Duration of Service.		Number of Voyages per Annum.	Mileage for Complete Voyage.	Cost per Mile.			
		When established.	When terminated or terminable.						
Auckland and San Francisco ..	£ 18,958	s. 0	d. 0	April, 1871	May, 1903	17	11,850	s. 1	d. 6-92
Auckland and Fiji ..	1,630	0	0	June, 1880	..	13	2,334	1	1-37
Auckland and South Pacific Islands ..	1,200	0	0	June, 1885	..	12	6,992	0	3-43
Auckland and Devonport ..	60	0	0	Aug., 1863	Dec., 1902	939	6	0	2-56
Auckland and Great Barrier ..	250	0	0	Oct., 1891	Dec., 1902	52	120	0	9-62
Dargaville and Tangiteroria ..	100	0	0	Nov., 1893	Dec., 1902	52	46	0	10-08
Helensville and Matakoho ..	550	0	0	Jan., 1881	Dec., 1902	52	118	0	5-54
Helensville and Dargaville ..				104	170				
Horeke, Kohukohu, Rawene, Waitapu, and Opononi ..	233	0	0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1902	52	43	1	10-40
Russell and Opua ..	90	0	0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1902	104	16	1	0-98
Whangaroa and Totara North ..	25	0	0	Jan., 1891	Dec., 1902	52	2	..	..
Wellington, Ketu Bay, Homewood, Maori Bay (and other offices), and Havelock ..	350	0	0	Dec., 1891	Dec., 1902	26	183	1	5-65
Nelson, Motueka, Totaranui, Takaka, and Collingwood ..	125	0	0	..	Dec., 1902	52	130	0	4-44
Westport and Karamea ..	400	0	0	June, 1886	Dec., 1902	36	102	1	8-62
Westport and Little Wanganui ..				Jan., 1895	Dec., 1902	12	82		
Hokitika, Okarito, Bruce Bay, Paringa, Haast, Okura, and Jackson's Bay ..				Jan., 1886	Dec., 1902	6	384		
Lyttelton and Chatham Islands (including Pitt's Island) ..	300	0	0	..	Mar., 1902	6	1,050	0	11-43
Bluff and Half-moon Bay ..	245	0	0	July, 1886	Dec., 1902	52	48	1	11-56
Bluff, Te Oneroa, and Cromarty ..	360	0	0	April, 1893	Nov., 1901	12	208	2	10-62
Interprovincial service in connection with San Francisco line ..	300	0	0	Nov., 1901	Nov., 1902	12		2	4-85
	4,577	0	0	Nov., 1886	Mar., 1901	13		..	..

BUILDINGS.

The alterations carried out at the Auckland Chief Post-office have been entirely satisfactory, and the accommodation is now convenient and sufficiently commodious, it is believed, for many years.

The acquiring of the land adjoining the General Post-office, Wellington, to enable additions to be made to the building for the growing requirements of the service is being arranged for. Notwithstanding the location of the money-order office and the post-office savings-bank in temporary quarters, every other branch of the post and telegraph service at Wellington is still in need of increased accommodation, and additions to the present building are urgently required.

At Christchurch the business has quite outgrown the present accommodation, and enlargement and rearrangement of the building have become imperatively necessary.

The necessary steps are being taken to utilise the rooms recently occupied for Court purposes at Dunedin for providing improved accommodation for the chief post-office.

New chief post-offices are proposed for Greymouth and Nelson, and additions to the buildings at New Plymouth, the present accommodation having become much too small for the business. New buildings are also proposed at Bull's, Eltham, Woodville, Carterton, Hunterville, Palmerston North, and Levin. A suitable site has now been acquired at the latter place.

The business of the Department also demands buildings at Tuparoa, Tokomaru Bay, Norsewood, Urenui, Taihape, Waikaka, and Whakatane.

New offices at Spit, Raetihi, Te Puke, Paparua, and Dargaville, and an addition to the telegraph-office at Dunedin, are being proceeded with.

The following general repairs, additions, &c., were carried out during the year :—

Completion of new building, furniture, &c., Alfredton; completion of new building, Aratapu; completion of new building, furniture, &c., Ashburton; alterations, furniture and fittings, and purchase of site for and erection of caretaker's cottage, Auckland; postal accommodation at railway-station, Avondale; alterations, additions, furniture, and fittings, Blenheim; asphaltting, &c., Bluff; completion of new building, furniture, &c., Caversham; erection of strong-room, renovations, repairs, &c., Christchurch; additions, alterations, &c., Clyde; additions, alterations, furniture, &c., Cromwell; repairs and painting, Dannevirke; purchase of land, erection of new building, &c., Denniston; purchase of land for and erection of building for Pacificable Station, Doubtless Bay; additions, alterations, and renovations, Dunedin; completion of new building, Eketahuna; completion of new building, furniture, fittings, &c., Feilding; painting, repairs, furniture, &c., Foxton; new building (in course of construction), Gisborne; erection of new building, Gore; completion of new building, furniture, fittings, &c., Hamilton; new building, furniture, and fittings, Hanmer Springs; renovations, drainage, new clock, &c., Hawera; new building, Inglewood; additions, Kai-iwi; Postmaster's residence, Kaikoura; completion of new building, fittings, &c., Karangahake; erection of new building, Kawhia; erection of new office at railway-station, Leeston; additions, Lyttelton; installation of drainage, lineman's storeroom, &c., Masterton; temporary office building, Mercer; purchase of land, Mornington; new building, furniture, fittings, &c., Motueka; completion of new building, Naseby; additions, &c., New Plymouth; repairs and renovations, Newton; erection of new building, One-

hunga; repairs to Postmaster's residence, Ophir; new building, furniture, &c., Opunake; telephone bureau, Orepuki; postal accommodation at railway-station, Ormondville; repairs, painting, &c., Otaki; installing water-supply Papanui; additions, drainage, &c., Renwicktown; providing accommodation at railway-station, St. Andrew's; additions, &c., South Dunedin; erecting new office at railway-station, Springston; completion of new building, new clock, &c., Sumner; postal accommodation at railway-station, Takapau; erection of Postmaster's residence, Tarawera; new building, Temuka; new building, furniture, and fittings, Toko; erection of new building, Tolaga Bay; increasing accommodation at railway-station for post-office, Waitahuna; repairs and renovations, Waiwera; new building (in course of construction), Wanganui; new building, furniture, fittings, &c., Weber; excavations, alterations, &c., General Post Office, painting, alterations, and installing electric light in old Colonial Bank buildings for money-order office, additions to Post and Telegraph Store, Wellington; renovations and repairs, Westport.

MONEY-ORDERS.

Twenty-six money-order offices were opened during the year—namely, Bunnythorpe, Karori, Kokonga, Little Akaloa, Mahakipawa, Moawhango, Nireaha, Okarito, Omahu, Onewhero, Ongarue, Otakeho, Papatoetoe, Portobello, Prebbleton, Rakaunui, Springston Railway, Sumner, Tahekeroa, Te Karaka, Tokaanu, Waipiata, Wedderburn, Weraroa, Whakapirau, and Wimbledon.

Three offices were closed—namely, Cullensville, Hamilton South, and Springston.

The number of offices open at the end of the year was 477, as against 454 twelve months previously.

405,967 money-orders were issued for £1,286,508 1s. 10d., as compared with 369,834 for £1,214,852 16s. 5d. in 1900—an increase of 36,133 in number and £71,655 5s. 5d. in amount.

283,611 money-orders, amounting to £1,108,399 6s. 2d., were paid, as against 264,018 for £1,042,348 4s. 5d. during 1900—an increase of 19,593 orders and £66,051 1s. 9d.

There were 46,570 telegraph money-orders issued for £147,524 14s. 9d., as compared with 39,311 for £127,551 12s. 6d. in 1900—an increase of 7,269 in number and £19,973 2s. 3d. in amount.

150,623 orders for £284,451 9s. 9d. were issued on places beyond New Zealand, as against 130,269 orders for £262,992 9s. 1d. during 1900.

27,770 orders for £103,821 19s. 2d. were issued at places beyond New Zealand for payment in the colony, as compared with 25,613 orders for £95,318 15s. 9d. during the previous year.

The commission received for money-orders amounted to £17,518 11s., as against £16,512 12s. 9d. received during 1900.

POSTAL NOTES.

The following offices were created postal-note offices during the year ended 31st March, 1902:—

Bannockburn.	Mangatoki.	Prebbleton.	Tarata.
Canvastown.	Manurewa.	Rata.	Te Wharau.
Hastwell's.	Northcote.	Ruanui.	Tokaanu.
Hawea Flat.	Omahu.	Saies.	Wainui.
Ketu Bay.	Onewhero.	Skipper's.	Waipiata.
Little Akaloa.	Ongarue.	Springston Railway.	Whakapirau.
Mahakipawa.	Papatoetoe.	Strathmore.	
Mamaku.	Portobello.	Tahekeroa.	

Total opened, 30; 9 closed—namely, Cullensville, Hamilton South, Hawea Flat, Huiakama, Makarora, Mandeville, Motupiko, Purekireki, and Springston.

The number of offices at which postal notes were sold at the end of the financial year was 550, as compared with 529 on the 31st March, 1901.

556,316 notes, of the value of £173,317 5s. were sold, as against 490,505, for £154,434 1s., sold during the previous year.

The postal notes paid numbered 552,878, of the value of £172,522 15s. 6d., as compared with 486,553, for £153,586 12s., paid during 1900-1.

The postal-note commission amounted to £3,790 15s. 11½d.

SAVINGS-BANKS.

There were twenty-four offices opened during the year for the transaction of savings-bank business—namely, Bunnythorpe, Karori, Kokonga, Little Akaloa, Mahakipawa, Moawhango, Okarito, Omahu, Onewhero, Ongarue, Otakeho, Papatoetoe, Portobello, Prebbleton, Rakaunui, Springston Railway, Sumner, Tahekeroa, Te Karaka, Tokaanu, Waipiata, Wedderburn, Weraroa, and Whakapirau.

Three offices were closed—namely, Cullensville, Hamilton South, and Springston.

There were 466 offices open at the end of 1901, as against 445 at the end of the previous year.

50,046 accounts were opened and 35,018 closed, the net gain on the year's working being 15,028 accounts. The number of depositors on the 31st December was 212,436, and the proportion of accounts per head of population was 1 in 3.66, as compared with 1 in 3.90 at the end of the previous year.

The deposits numbered 380,808, representing £4,611,456 6s. 1d., an average of £12 2s. 2d. per transaction. The withdrawals numbered 247,854, for £4,230,193 6s. 2d., an average of £17 1s. 4d. for each withdrawal.

The net amount added to the depositors' savings during the year was therefore £381,262 19s. 11d. plus £159,198 4s. interest earned, making a total of £540,461 3s. 11d.

The total amount at credit of depositors increased from £5,809,552 5s. 3d. at the close of the previous year to £6,350,013 9s. 2d. on the 31st December last, representing a sum equal to £8 3s. 3d. per head of the entire population, and £29 17s. 10d. per depositor. Last year the figures were £7 10s. 9d. and £29 8s. 7d. respectively.

The interest credited to depositors since the Post-Office savings-banks were established in 1867 now amounts to £2,346,161 2s. 8d.

The cost of working the savings-banks amounted to 4·39 pence per transaction, or £11,500 for the year.

The cost of management per cent. on total amount at credit of depositors was 0·181 per cent., or 3s. 7d. per £100.

Average number of deposits per day, 1900 ...	...	...	...	1,134
" " " " 1901 ...	...	...	...	1,244
Increase per cent. ...	...	...	...	9·7
Average number of withdrawals per day, 1900 ...	...	...	...	742
" " " " 1901 ...	...	...	...	810
Increase per cent. ...	...	...	...	9·16
Average daily amount deposited, 1900 ...	...	...	...	£13,628 17s. 1d.
" " " " 1901 ...	...	...	...	£15,070 2s. 4d.
Average " daily amount " withdrawn, 1900 ...	...	...	...	£12,507 17s. 11d.
" " " " 1901 ...	...	...	...	£13,824 3s. 2d.

TELEGRAPHS.

The total value of the telegraph and telephone business for the year ended the 31st March last, including Government telegrams and miscellaneous telegraph receipts, was £234,984 2s. 2d., as compared with £222,305 8s. 0½d.—an increase of £12,678 14s. 1½d., or 5·7 per cent.

The following is a comparison of the traffic in paid telegrams during the last seven years:—

	Number.		Value.	
1895-96 ...	1,899,632	...	£92,289	
1896-97 ...	2,285,001	Increase, 20·29 per cent.	97,453	Increase, 5·60 per cent.
1897-98 ...	2,469,415	" 8·07	96,537	Decrease, 0·94
1898-99 ...	2,717,548	" 10·05	101,104	Increase, 4·73
1899-00 ...	3,159,093	" 16·25	114,383	" 13·13
1900-01 ...	3,534,444	" 11·88	126,382	" 10·49
1901-02 ...	3,850,391	" 8·94	141,581	" 12·03

TELEGRAPH BUSINESS.

Table showing the number of telegrams forwarded, and the revenue derived therefrom, during the four quarters of the financial years 1900-1 and 1901-2 respectively:—

Quarter.	Number of Telegrams forwarded.		Increase per Cent.	Revenue.		Increase per Cent.
	Year ended 31st March, 1901.	Year ended 31st March, 1902.		1900-1.	1901-2.	
June quarter ...	827,137	951,480	15·03	£ 29,359 6 10	£ 34,983 9 5	19·16
September quarter ...	793,385	874,759	10·26	27,905 3 1½	32,333 13 2	15·87
December quarter ...	924,231	980,310	6·07	32,675 14 2½	35,773 9 9	9·48
March quarter ...	989,691	1,043,842	5·47	36,441 10 4	38,490 10 3	5·62
	3,534,444	3,850,391	8·94	126,381 14 6	141,581 2 7	12·03

The number of telegrams of all codes forwarded during last financial year was 4,167,981—an increase of 269,853, or 6·92 per cent., over 1900-1.

The proportion of telegrams per head of population was 5·33, as compared with 5·10 the previous year.

The number of ordinary telegrams forwarded was 3,046,421, of the value of £107,633 2s. 10d., compared with 2,840,426 for £96,186 0s. 6d., in 1900-1—an increase of 205,995 and £11,447 2s. 4d.

The urgent telegrams numbered 164,541 of the value of £10,913 2s. 9d.—an increase of 4,113 in number and £363 15s. 8d. in amount.

328,405 Press telegrams, of the value of £13,878 17s. 1d., were forwarded in 1901-2, as compared with 275,738, valued at £12,291 17s. 4d., forwarded in 1900-1—an increase of 52,667, or 19·1 per cent., in number, and 12·91 per cent. in value.

The value of each Press telegram averaged 10·14d., as against 10·70d. in 1900-1.

The bureau messages numbered 311,024, of the value of £9,195 9s. 4d., as compared with 257,852, of the value of £7,354 9s. 7d.—an increase of 53,172 in number and £1,840 19s. 9d. in amount.

The average value of each bureau message was 7·09d., as against 6·85d. in 1900-1.

The number of Government telegrams forwarded was 317,590, valued at £27,507 17s. 6d., as compared with 363,684, of the value of £35,327 6s. 2d.:—a decrease of 46,094 in number and £7,819 8s. 8d. in amount. This decrease is due to the cessation of the departmental war reports which were forwarded to places not served by newspapers on the day of issue, and of the franking privileges extended to Mayors and other local authorities in connection with the despatch of the contingents to South Africa, &c.

46,570 money-orders for £147,524 14s. 9d. were transmitted by telegraph, as against 39,311 for £127,551 12s. 6d. in 1900-1—an increase of 7,259 telegrams.

The number of forwarded telegrams to every hundred letters posted in New Zealand for delivery within the colony was 7·96, as against 10·77 in 1900-1.

The Telegraph receipts for the financial year, including telephone-exchange subscriptions, private-wire rents, &c., amounted to £207,476 4s. 8d., compared with £186,978 1s. 10½d. in 1900-1,—an increase of £20,498 2s. 9½d., or 10·96 per cent.

The expenditure was £212,415 11s., as compared with £195,015 1s. 5d. for the previous year—an increase of £17,400 9s. 7d., or 8·92 per cent.

There were 7,469 miles of line and 21,705 miles of wire at the close of the year—an increase of 220 and 1,023 miles respectively.

The net expenditure out of Public Works Fund for telegraph extension was £31,728 16s. 2d., as compared with £50,100 19s. 7d. in 1900-1.

The number of private wires and subsidised lines was 365, compared with 313 in 1900-1. The amount received for rent, maintenance, &c., was £1,959 19s., as against £1,861 16s. 10d. in 1900-1.

The total number of telegraph and telephone offices open at the close of the year was 1,038. Of these, 240 were telegraph-offices and 798 telephone-offices.

OFFICES OPENED and CLOSED during Financial Year ended 31st March, 1902.

Opened.

Adam's Flat.	Kawarau Bridge.	Paemako.	Tahereroa.
Auroa.	Kerikeri.	Paremata.	Tamumu.
Awatuna.	Kimbell.	Patangata.	Te Arai.
Awatuna East.	Koiterangi.	Pencarrow.	Upper Kokatahi.
Barkly Village.	Kowai Bush.	Pohokura.	Waikowhai.
Cave.	Limestone Island.	Pongaroa.	Waitapu.
Cricklewood.	Lower Kokatabi.	Queen's Wharf.	Waitapu.
Elsthorpe.	Mahakipawa.	Rai Falls.	West Melton.
Fencourt.	Mamaku.	Raumai.	Whakapirau.
Flat Creek.	Mangamahu.	Robinson's Bay.	Whangamoa.
Hautapu.	Mangaramarama.	Rough Ridge.	Whangamomona.
Hill Top.	Mangawhero.	St. John's.	Woodstock.
Huiakama.	Nireaha.	Saunders Road.	
Kaitawa.	Omahu.	Springston Railway.	
Kauangaroa.	Ongarue.	Sutherland's.	

Closed.

Ararimu South.	French Farm.	Kaikorai.	Te Kao.
Canville.	Heawa.	Otamatea.	
Douglas Road.	Huiakama.	Otira Gorge.	

Opened during year, 57; closed 10.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

There were on the 31st March last 23 central exchanges and 35 sub-exchanges.

The following is a comparative return of the telephone-exchange connections for the years 1900-1 and 1901-2:—

Exchange.	No. of Subscribers or Connections:	
	Mar. 31, 1901.	Mar. 31, 1902.
Ashburton	106	107
Auckland	1,263	1,371
Blenheim	91	98
Christchurch	1,048	1,164
Akaroa	—	33
Rangiora	13	13
Dunedin	1,204	1,291
Balclutha	16	20
Kaitangata	5	5
Milton	20	20
Palmerston South	15	18
Port Chalmers	19	20
Waikouaiti	8	8
Feilding	98	99
Gisborne	184	215
Greymouth	114	128
Hawera	105	117
Eltham	12	13
Manaiā	14	18
Otakeho	—	1
Patea	—	24

Exchange.	No. of Subscribers or Connections:	
	Mar. 31, 1901.	Mar. 31, 1902.
Hokitika	—	95
Invercargill	278	291
Bluff	23	25
Edendale	5	6
Gore	63	66
Lumsden	14	16
Mataura	9	10
Otautau	24	26
Riversdale	16	17
Riverton	18	19
Winton	17	19
Woodlands	5	4
Wynndham	13	12
Masterton	104	111
Carterton	—	22
Eketahuna	—	14
Napier	316	334
Hastings	48	54
Nelson	107	138
New Plymouth	230	253
Inglewood	11	17
Waitara	14	14
Oamaru	161	173
Ngapara	1	1
Pahiatua	63	71
Woodville	15	17
Palmerston North	157	187
Stratford	68	86
Thames	78	81
Paeroa	—	17
Timaru	123	162
Fairlie	—	10
Temuka	—	15
Wanganui	284	328
Hunterville	—	6
Marton	25	29
Wellington	1,585	1,731
Total	8,210	9,260

The connections may be classified as follows: Paying, 8,501; free, 217; bureaux, 542: total, 9,260.

The telephone-exchange receipts amounted to £55,542 4s. 9d., or £6,425 4s. 1d. more than the previous year.

The working-expenses, *plus* 5 per cent. interest on the capital cost, amounted to £50,772 8s. 9d. for the year.

The following are the particulars of telegraph and telephone wires, &c., in the colony on the 31st March, 1902:—

	Telegraph.	Telephone.
Miles of line, 1st April, 1901	7,249	545
" 31st March, 1902	7,469	601
Miles of wire, 1st April, 1901	20,682	6,987
" 31st March, 1902	21,705	7,767
Increase during the year—		
Miles of line	220	56
Miles of wire	1,023	780
Submarine cables, 1st April, 1901	244 knots	11·6 knots.
" 31st March, 1902	248·7 knots	12·5 knots.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

AUCKLAND.

Construction.

The following new lines have been erected and completed:—

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Pahi to Whakapirau	0½	0½
Whangarei to Limestone Island	3	3
Auckland to Rotorua	—	171

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Avondale Racecourse, loop in on No. 2	0½	1
Mount Roskill to Waikowhai	3½	3½
Auckland to Ellerslie Racecourse	—	4½
Cambridge to Hautapu	4	4½
Waitekauri to Waikino	—	3½
Thames to Paeroa (trunk wire)	—	22
Waiotapu and Police-station, Rotorua	0½	0½
Tahekeroa to Ahuroa	5½	5½
Ongarue to Taumarunui	14	14
Taumarunui to Tunanui	7	7
For Railway Department:—		
Avondale railway signals	—	0¼
Ellerslie—Penrose (block and telephone)	—	2
Totals	38½	242½

The additions for the year make a grand total of 1,890 miles of poles and 4,717 miles of wire in this district.

Cables.

The following cables were laid during the year:—

	Miles of Three-core.	Miles of Single-core.
Mainland to Limestone Island	—	1½
Pahi to Whakapirau	—	0½
Motuihi Island to Waiheke Island	—	2¼
Ponsonby to Northcote	1	—
Totals	1	4¼

Offices.

The following changes were made: Karangahake, Waiwera, and Putaruru were converted from telephone to Morse offices, and Kuaotunu converted from Morse to telephone. Two quadruplex sets were fitted at Auckland to correspond with quadruplex repeater sets installed at Paeroa and Hamilton respectively. These repeaters have given most satisfactory results, providing much-needed outlets for the increased traffic at a minimum cost.

New offices were erected at Aratapu, Hamilton, and Onehunga, and are now occupied. A bureau has been opened at the latter office. Drury, Paeroa, and Rotorua offices were refitted.

In addition to the above, offices were opened for the Public Works Department at Ahuroa, Opotiki, Taumarunui, and Tunanui on the Central Railway route.

The erection of an extra wire from Auckland to Doubtless Bay to meet the Pacific cable has been started, and will be finished early in the year.

The whole of the Auckland—Mangonui section of line requires rebuilding, the present poles being small and much decayed.

Maintenance.

The section Auckland—Mercer is undergoing an extensive overhaul, the line being largely strengthened. The Mercer—Hamilton section is also receiving attention.

The Rotorua—Taupo section was completed to Atiamuri, and alterations are being made further south, where several deviations from the existing route will be made to improve the working conditions of the main line.

Helensville to Warkworth.—As the main north line between Northcote and Warkworth is being thoroughly strengthened, this route may be discarded, as all tracks have been abandoned, the culverts and bridges being washed away. It has been a very bad piece of line to maintain, all material having to be packed at great expense; and, moreover, a line is being erected along the railway-line towards Warkworth.

It may be necessary to abandon the line running *via* Miranda to Thames and erect additional wires on the main line, to avoid the swamps and rivers, which cause considerable trouble at times.

Telephone Exchanges.

The Auckland Exchange continues in a satisfactory condition, and a steady increase of subscribers has taken place, amounting to 110 during the year. The total connections are 1,371, including 47 bureaux.

Thames.—This exchange is in good order, and has 81 subscribers, including 8 bureaux.

Paeroa.—A sub-exchange was installed here during the year with 17 subscribers. A trunk wire connects with Thames. The total subscribers to the exchanges in the district now number 1,469, connected by 119½ miles of poles and 1,550¼ miles of wire.

One mile of single-core cable has been laid between Ponsonby and Northcote for telephone-exchange purposes.

WELLINGTON.

Construction.

New lines and wires, as shown below, have been erected in connection with the opening of new offices, and providing much-needed extra outlets for increased traffic:—

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Muritai to Pencarrow Lighthouse	6	6
Strathmore to Whangamomona	17	17
Ti-tree to Wimbledon	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Pahiatua to Kaitawa	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
Wanganui to Mangamahu	22	25
Pahiatua to Hamua	—	9
Otakeho to Auroa	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Kaponga to Awatuna	7	7
Waipawa to Tamumu, Patangata, and Elsthorpe	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	19
Eketahuna to Nireaha	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lead off Kaitawa line to Mangaramarama ...	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Lead off Eketahuna-Alfredton line to Rongomai	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Gisborne to Kaiteratahi	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Queen's Wharf Bureau	—	0 $\frac{8}{8}$

Trunk telephone lines have been erected between the following offices:—

Masterton to Carterton (metallic circuit)	—	18
Masterton to Eketahuna	—	26
Hastings to Napier (metallic circuit)	—	25
Patea to Hawera	—	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hunterville to Silverhope	—	3

	Poles. Miles.	Wire. Miles.		
For the Railway Department—				
Aramoho to Kai-Iwi (block wire)	—	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	}	246 $\frac{1}{4}$
Running-shed foreman, Palmerston North	—	0 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Summit semaphore wire	—	0 $\frac{5}{8}$		
Upper Hutt semaphore wire	—	1		
Wanganui (running-shed foreman)	—	0 $\frac{3}{8}$		
Wanganui to Aramoho (block wire)	—	3		
Featherston to Cross Creek (block wire) ...	—	7 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Kai-Iwi to Waverley (block 2 wires)	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	40 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Waverley to Manutahi (block 2 wires)	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 $\frac{1}{3}$		
Manutahi to Hawera (block wire)	—	10		
Lower Hutt to Upper Hutt (block wire) ...	—	23 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Wangaehu to Marton (block 2 wires)	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Woodside to Greytown North (block wire)	3	3		
Wanganui to Aramoho (block 2 wires)	—	6		
Wanganui to Hawera	—	60		
Featherston to Carterton (block)	—	12 $\frac{1}{8}$		
Palmerston North to Longburn (block)	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Kaitoke semaphore wire	—	0 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Totals	157 $\frac{3}{4}$		461 $\frac{1}{2}$

Making a grand total in the district of 2,069 $\frac{3}{8}$ miles of poles and 6,899 $\frac{1}{8}$ miles of wire.

Maintenance.

The lines throughout the district are in good order, and there were no serious interruptions to communication during the year. The following sections have received a thorough overhaul, viz.: New Plymouth to Sentry Hill, 12 miles; Carterton to Masterton, 9 miles; Wellington to Porirua, 13 miles; Ongaonga to Tikokino, 7 miles; Wairoa to Opoutama, 29 miles (some 60 poles were raised or lowered as required where sand had shifted); Nuhaka to Moeangiangi, 60 miles (Gisborne-Napier line); and a number of poles on the sandhills on the Wairoa-Nuhaka section were also lowered or raised, as found necessary. Owing to the recurring trouble and expense on this part of the section, it will be necessary to shift the line to avoid the sand-drifts.

Several larger poles were erected in the Feilding-Bunnythorpe section to raise wires at road-crossings. Other lines are in course of overhaul, principally Greytown to Carterton, 6 miles, and Woodville to Dannevirke, 17 miles, in connection with trunk wires being erected on these sections.

A considerable number of minor alterations has also been effected tending to improve the working condition of the main lines.

New test-boards have been fitted at Upper Hutt and Stratford, and a testing-box at Paikariki, and sound-proof boxes have been put in at Masterton and Muritai.

Offices.

A quadruplex set has been installed at Gisborne, and a corresponding set at Napier, which fully meets traffic requirements.

A quadruplex repeater set has been installed at Masterton, amply providing for much-needed extra communication between that office and Wellington, and at the same time allowing the latter office to work through to Dannevirke and intermediate offices.

It is intended to instal similar sets of instruments at Hawera and Palmerston North in the near future.

Herbertville and Porangahau have been converted from Morse to telephone offices; and Midhirst from telephone to Morse.

The "local" batteries in the Wellington office have been replaced by storage-cells, a change which has proved both beneficial and economical.

Alfredton, Feilding, Inglewood, Opunake, Toko, Tolaga Bay, and Weber have been transferred to new offices erected at those places.

Cables.

On the 27th January, No. 4 Lyell Bay cable developed a fault, which has been located close to White's Bay. The cable can still be used for duplex purposes, but owing to the fault its capacity for work is reduced.

Repairs will be effected as soon as the s.s. "Tutanekai" is available for the work.

The three cables from Oterangi Bay to White's Bay, and the cable from Wanganui to Waka-puaka, have given no trouble during the year, and all are testing well.

Telephone Exchanges.

Preparations are being made to enlarge the switchboard-room at the Wellington Exchange to accommodate two additional sections of 300 each, which will soon be required to meet the steadily increasing number of subscribers.

The total number of subscribers on the 31st March was 1,731, an increase of 146 for the year. Of this number 1,644 are paying connections, 43 free, and 44 bureaux. The aggregate of all telephones connected with this exchange is 2,041.

8½ miles of poles and 131 miles of wire were erected during the year, making a total of 46 miles of poles and 1,613½ miles of wire now connected with the exchange.

Feilding.—The removal to the new post-office necessitated practically the reconstruction of the exchange. 82 subscribers are connected.

Wanganui.—The number of subscribers is 321. A large amount of reconstruction work has had to be done to strengthen the lines, which were overloaded in several of the main streets.

Napier.—A metallic circuit has been erected between the Napier and Hastings Exchanges, practically eliminating induction. This exchange has 326 subscribers.

Other Exchanges.—The Manaia Sub-exchange has been refitted with a 50-number annunciator and modern apparatus.

The transfer of the Inglewood Exchange to the new office necessitated the reconstruction of the principal lines.

All the telephone exchanges in this district, of which there are now 23, are in good working-order. Five new branch exchanges were opened during the year—viz., Carterton, Eketahuna, Hunterville, Patea, and Otakeho—while three more are in course of construction—viz., Dannevirke, Greytown North, and Waverley.

The subscribers connected with the several exchanges in the district total 3,761, an increase of 437 during the year. The number of telephones in use connected with the exchanges is 4,078.

There are 200½ miles of poles and 2,815½ miles of wire now in use in connection with the exchanges in this district.

NELSON.

Construction.

The following lines and wires were erected during the year:—

Greymouth to Reefton, 48 miles, to enable the former office to have direct communication with Wellington; Blenheim to Nelson, 95½ miles, enabling Nelson also to work with Wellington direct.

Kokatahi, Upper Kokatahi, Koiterangi, Rai Falls, Flat Creek, Whangamoā, Waitapu, Maha-kipawa, and Woodstock were connected with the main system. The Okura River was spanned with 1 mile of line, and connected by telephone for signalling purposes. The total miles of poles and wire in this district is now 948½ and 2,699½ respectively.

Maintenance.

There has been a thorough overhaul during the year of the lines Ahaura-Greymouth, Greymouth-Hokitika, Hokitika-Okarito, and Lyell-Reefton. The line between Otira Gorge and Taipo has also been overhauled and put in order.

The lines across the rivers south of Okarito are all working well. The Waiho River will presently also be spanned for ferry purposes.

The sections Nelson-Hope Junction, Nelson-Wakapuaka Junction, Picton-Pelorus Bridge, have received a thorough overhaul, and spans shortened where necessary.

The Blenheim-Kaikoura section has also received attention, but requires extensive overhauling.

All telephone-offices have been supplied with the latest bridging bell telephones, considerably improving the conditions of working. The business throughout the district is increasing, and the wires are fully occupied.

Offices.

Nine new offices were opened during the year and one closed (Otira Gorge).

Kaikoura office has been transferred to the charge of the Nelson Inspector.

Telephone Exchanges.

An exchange was opened at Hokitika during the year with 42 subscribers, which increased to 95 by 31st March.

The exchanges at Nelson (138 subscribers), Greymouth (128), and Blenheim (98) are in good order, and the number of subscribers steadily increasing. The total number in the district is now 459, an increase of 147 for the year, connected by $46\frac{1}{2}$ miles of poles and 238 of wire.

CANTERBURY.

Construction.

The following lines were erected and wires run during the year:—

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Timaru to Temuka (trunk, metallic circuit) ...	—	24
Yaldhurst to West Melton ...	7	7
Christchurch to Akaroa (trunk) ...	—	49
Springfield to Kowai Bush ...	—	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Darfield to Coalgate ...	—	$7\frac{1}{2}$
For Public Works Department—		
Waipara to Cheviot Railway ...	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$22\frac{1}{2}$
For Railway Department—		
Christchurch to Christchurch Railway ...	—	1
Rangiora to Southbrook ...	—	2
Totals ...	$18\frac{1}{2}$	$113\frac{1}{2}$

Morse instruments were placed in the offices at Bennett's and Doyleston. One office was closed (French Farm).

Maintenance.

The Christchurch—Lyttelton section has received considerable attention between Christchurch and Heathcote, 30 ft. poles being substituted for 25 ft. The line is good now for some time, but existing poles over the hill are heavily loaded, and the question of a duplicate line, or substitution of larger poles on existing line, will have to be considered.

Christchurch—Akaroa line has been overhauled, strengthened where necessary, and portions of it shifted from the hills to the road.

Other sections have been attended to when necessary, but a large amount of work will be necessary during the coming year on the south and west coast lines.

Telephone Exchanges.

The telephone exchanges and sub-exchanges are working satisfactorily. A new sub-exchange, with 10 subscribers, was opened at Temuka, and placed in metallic circuit with Timaru. It works most satisfactorily. Another sub-exchange was opened at Akaroa with 21 subscribers, and is in circuit with Christchurch Exchange. All the telephone-offices connected with Akaroa are now bureaux. There are now three exchanges and four sub-exchanges in the Canterbury District, with two more of the latter to be constructed shortly.

The Christchurch Exchange is increasing. 116 new subscribers have been connected during the year, making a total of 1,164.

Timaru list has increased to 162.

The total subscribers of all exchanges in the district numbers 1,504. The poles and wires connecting subscribers total $116\frac{1}{4}$ and $1,663\frac{1}{4}$ miles respectively.

OTAGO.

Construction.

The following extensions were carried out during the year:—

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Dunedin to Port Chalmers (second trunk wire) ...	—	16
Wedderburn to Rough Ridge ...	—	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Otautau to Orepuki (Morse circuit) ...	5	$30\frac{1}{2}$
Main line to Hamilton South... ..	$0\frac{1}{4}$	$0\frac{1}{4}$
Mount Stewart to Adam's Flat ...	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Arrowtown to Kawarau Bridge ...	—	6
Ranfurly to Waipiata ...	—	5
Main line to Barkly Village ...	—	$0\frac{1}{8}$
South Dunedin to Caversham ...	—	1
For the Railway Department—		
Ida Valley to Ophir... ..	10	16
Waitati—Mosgiel (tablet block system) ...	4	37
Milton—Clarksville	2	2
Sundry telephone and indicator wires ...	$0\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Totals ...	$25\frac{1}{4}$	$130\frac{7}{8}$

Offices.

The telephone bureau at Kaikorai Valley has been closed, and the telegraph-office at Caversham moved from the Railway-station to new Post-office.

Maintenance.

There have been no serious interruptions during the year. 320 miles of line have been overhauled and put in good working-order.

With extensions this year, the total mileage of lines in this district now amounts to 1,666½ of poles, and 4,084½ of wire.

A much-needed addition to the Dunedin Telegraph-office is now being carried out.

Telephone Exchanges.

A steady increase of subscribers to the various exchanges in the district has taken place, the total now being 2,067; increase, 133. Of this number, the Dunedin Exchange claims 1,291, an increase of 87 for the year.

The total length of telephone-exchange lines now amounts to 118½ miles of poles, and 1,500 miles of wire.

Table No. 1.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Money-orders issued and of Money-orders payable in New Zealand since the Year 1863.

ISSUED IN THE COLONY.														
Year.	Commission received.		Where payable.						Total.					
			In the Colony.		United Kingdom and Foreign Offices.		Australia and other British Possessions.							
			No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		
1863	£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.			
	1,057	9 0	2,201	9,613	11 11	4,740	21,944	2 1	4,645	24,145	7 5	11,586	55,703	1 5
1873	3,562	3 2	34,288	142,642	4 10	11,913	48,547	11 4	6,150	28,068	5 5	52,351	219,258	1 7
1883	9,022	10 6	132,232	402,558	12 11	26,211	91,634	4 7	14,113	46,939	17 11	172,556	541,132	15 5
1884	9,525	3 8	144,227	430,446	18 10	28,712	96,901	14 0	13,113	45,317	12 4	186,052	572,666	5 2
1885	9,553	0 7	146,406	439,870	3 9	28,722	95,920	9 10	13,494	45,604	15 2	188,622	581,395	8 9
1886	8,541	7 10	113,598	412,276	3 0	27,389	87,904	9 10	14,693	47,574	9 11	155,680	547,755	2 9
1887	8,532	10 5	119,091	426,194	13 9	26,057	84,264	12 9	14,431	45,285	6 11	159,579	555,744	13 5
1888	8,377	6 4	122,042	432,056	6 2	26,636	81,488	10 3	13,709	42,451	4 4	162,387	555,996	0 9
1889	8,696	13 5	127,323	458,469	7 7	26,206	79,167	0 4	18,547	51,909	6 10	172,076	589,545	14 9
1890	8,823	10 0	130,641	472,967	4 7	25,053	74,566	13 9	20,733	54,543	3 7	176,427	602,077	1 11
1891	9,649	14 9	138,555	504,834	16 9	26,590	77,481	2 9	30,094	69,674	0 0	195,239	651,989	19 6
1892	9,452	0 0	140,672	540,763	15 0	27,451	78,848	1 7	31,315	75,235	7 10	199,438	694,847	4 5
1893	10,248	14 5	146,133	576,358	17 2	29,616	86,544	19 11	35,208	88,025	8 9	210,957	750,929	5 10
1894	10,600	19 7	155,534	608,042	2 11	28,513	79,348	10 2	38,631	89,392	11 10	222,678	776,783	4 11
1895	11,433	13 8	162,600	635,062	17 11	28,882	78,465	0 4	52,015	99,076	16 8	243,497	812,604	14 11
1896	12,671	6 7	181,505	717,217	19 1	29,238	82,498	15 6	58,823	102,443	1 0	269,566	902,159	15 7
1897	13,835	15 4	193,867	762,592	10 3	31,770	93,649	1 3	68,002	114,589	3 5	293,659	970,830	14 11
1898	14,747	9 6	206,265	798,725	15 8	35,377	107,140	7 5	76,728	123,375	4 6	318,370	1,029,241	7 7
1899	15,533	4 6	221,354	864,513	4 9	38,528	122,064	3 1	84,782	132,230	17 9	344,664	1,118,808	5 7
1900	16,512	12 9	239,565	951,860	7 4	40,925	122,934	10 4	89,344	140,057	18 9	369,834	1,214,852	16 5
1901	17,518	11 0	255,344	1,002,056	12 1	45,701	125,549	5 11	104,922	158,902	3 10	405,967	1,280,508	1 10

DRAWN ON THE COLONY.

DRAWN ON THE COLONY.												
Year.	Where issued.						Total.					
	In the Colony.		United Kingdom and Foreign Offices.		Australia and other British Possessions.							
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		
1863		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
	2,067	9,169	4 6	415	1,824	0 8	558	3,077	13 7	3,040	14,070	18 9
1873	34,288	142,642	4 10	1,482	6,625	14 5	1,668	7,689	6 8	37,438	156,957	5 11
1883	132,232	402,558	12 11	3,725	15,553	3 11	5,697	23,299	12 11	141,654	441,411	9 9
1884	144,227	430,446	18 10	4,535	17,679	0 6	6,755	27,429	18 6	155,517	475,555	17 10
1885	146,406	439,870	3 9	5,204	20,091	17 4	7,725	30,724	6 4	159,335	490,686	7 5
1886	113,598	412,276	3 0	5,824	22,650	1 10	9,545	36,513	3 11	129,242	471,185	7 0
1887	119,091	426,194	13 9	6,334	23,423	16 2	8,963	33,254	2 3	133,910	482,437	17 4
1888	122,042	432,056	6 2	7,336	26,262	14 5	15,365	56,141	4 1	144,450	513,728	8 2
1889	127,323	458,469	7 7	7,469	26,887	17 9	15,859	56,402	1 4	150,651	541,759	6 8
1890	130,641	472,967	4 7	7,775	27,975	15 5	13,331	47,890	2 6	151,747	548,833	2 6
1891	138,555	504,834	16 9	7,910	28,518	14 0	13,604	48,700	9 6	160,069	582,054	0 3
1892	140,672	540,763	15 0	8,152	29,349	14 7	11,291	41,064	6 6	160,115	611,177	16 1
1893	146,133	576,358	17 2	8,746	32,616	17 2	10,679	40,929	2 5	165,558	649,904	16 9
1894	155,534	608,042	2 11	9,293	33,786	17 6	10,690	38,571	3 1	175,517	680,400	3 6
1895	162,600	635,062	17 11	9,938	35,155	7 9	11,520	39,862	18 10	184,058	710,081	4 6
1896	181,505	717,217	19 1	10,254	35,553	7 1	11,507	40,836	4 7	203,266	793,607	10 9
1897	193,867	762,592	10 3	10,085	35,238	10 3	11,407	40,105	1 11	215,359	837,936	2 5
1898	206,265	798,725	15 8	10,671	36,106	9 10	12,753	44,558	10 10	229,689	879,390	16 4
1899	221,354	864,513	4 9	10,624	37,290	8 7	13,399	48,533	15 11	245,377	950,337	9 3
1900	239,565	951,860	7 4	10,342	36,014	6 3	15,271	59,304	9 6	265,178	1,047,179	3 1
1901	255,344	1,002,056	12 1	11,082	40,021	14 4	16,688	63,800	4 10	283,114	1,105,878	11 3

Table No. 2.

TABLE showing the Money-orders issued in New Zealand on Offices beyond the Colony, and Money-orders issued at Offices beyond the Colony on New Zealand, during the Years 1900 and 1901.

ISSUED IN NEW ZEALAND.				
Where payable.	1900.		1901.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
United Kingdom and Foreign Offices ..	35,470	£ 109,325 9 3	38,092	£ 107,571 2 7
United States of America	4,873	11,671 2 2	6,829	16,013 15 3
Canada	306	1,024 17 11	389	1,468 16 11
Cape Colony	181	591 18 9	183	484 15 8
Ceylon	46	108 19 4	87	216 14 8
Cook Islands	63	289 18 7	201	934 7 1
Fiji	43	103 4 3	87	286 12 0
Germany	577	1,927 15 2	780	1,964 8 1
Hawaii	5	10 3 9	..	..
Hongkong	203	975 8 6	200	842 5 3
India	557	2,119 1 5	519	2,031 9 2
Natal	58	226 2 6	64	189 6 5
New South Wales	14,924	40,539 3 1	15,951	44,203 5 1
Queensland	843	2,537 11 9	1,097	3,344 16 4
South Australia	847	2,059 6 5	957	2,408 2 0
Straits Settlements	65	189 3 1	62	150 15 11
Tasmania	56,004	53,593 2 10	69,012	62,184 1 8
Victoria	14,225	33,462 8 8	15,410	38,095 13 8
Western Australia	979	2,237 11 8	703	2,061 2 0
Totals	130,269	262,992 9 1	150,623	284,451 9 9

DRAWN ON NEW ZEALAND.

Where issued.	1900.		1901.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
United Kingdom and Foreign Offices ..	9,030	£ 30,836 2 2	9,351	£ 31,429 9 8
United States of America	1,217	4,712 18 4	1,390	5,934 18 3
Canada	346	2,074 13 4	293	1,621 15 3
Cape Colony	410	1,893 16 4	545	3,016 2 6
Ceylon	26	64 16 5	30	101 4 8
Cook Islands	55	436 15 1	189	1,562 9 2
Fiji	334	937 1 4	370	1,234 11 10
Germany	78	409 3 5	341	2,657 6 5
Hawaii	17	56 2 4	..	..
Hongkong	39	123 0 5	48	159 9 9
India	216	601 3 1	183	413 19 10
Natal	102	387 3 3	195	1,111 11 10
New South Wales	4,958	17,631 12 3	5,227	18,525 7 6
Queensland	1,028	4,469 2 3	1,082	4,776 3 9
South Australia	503	1,850 0 7	584	2,012 5 0
Straits Settlements	57	173 19 1	30	84 6 3
Tasmania	2,526	11,464 18 6	3,114	12,994 7 0
Victoria	3,328	10,428 11 9	3,513	10,424 14 9
Western Australia	1,343	6,767 15 10	1,285	5,761 15 9
Totals	25,613	95,318 15 9	27,770	103,821 19 2

Table No. 3.

TABLE showing the Number and Value of Postal Notes sold from the 1st January, 1886—the date upon which they were first issued—to the 31st March, 1902.

Year.	Number of Postal Notes sold.													Total.			
	At 1s.	At 1s. 6d.	At 2s.	At 2s. 6d.	At 3s.	At 3s.	At 4s.	At 4s. 6d.	At 5s.	At 5s. 6d.	At 10s.	At 12s. 6d.	At 15s.	At 17s. 6d.	At £1.	At £5*.	Number.	Value.
Quarter ended Mar. 31, 1886	3,019	2,046	..	1,012	..	2,039	969	2,379	695	992	525	2,866	..	16,542	6,997	16,542	6,997
1886-87 ..	16,605	12,283	..	6,647	..	11,566	5,729	13,103	4,090	5,187	2,375	14,961	..	92,546	37,659	92,546	37,659
1887-88 ..	22,467	17,167	..	9,162	..	15,553	7,671	17,487	5,278	6,940	2,952	17,578	..	122,255	47,729	122,255	47,729
1888-89 ..	27,428	21,900	..	11,912	..	19,741	9,477	21,149	6,618	8,243	3,633	19,778	..	149,879	56,841	149,879	56,841
1889-90 ..	32,754	25,387	..	14,478	..	23,550	10,894	24,011	7,809	9,386	4,158	22,596	..	175,023	65,484	175,023	65,484
1890-91 ..	35,915	28,559	..	16,092	..	25,204	12,229	25,906	7,969	10,172	4,366	23,503	..	189,915	69,721	189,915	69,721
1891-92 ..	42,416	33,722	..	19,383	..	29,550	14,019	30,132	9,058	11,611	4,953	25,839	..	220,683	79,325	220,683	79,325
1892-93 ..	48,612	38,849	..	22,038	..	33,012	16,072	32,747	9,904	12,330	5,369	28,969	..	247,902	87,856	247,902	87,856
1893-94 ..	56,761	44,706	..	25,461	..	37,771	18,096	37,687	11,016	13,800	6,156	33,935	..	285,389	101,002	285,389	101,002
1894-95 ..	62,306	49,846	..	28,975	..	43,829	20,423	43,167	11,864	15,567	6,790	36,601	..	319,368	112,307	319,368	112,307
1895-96 ..	68,454	56,185	..	32,801	..	49,204	22,802	47,787	13,601	17,191	7,020	38,390	1,192	349,627	123,368	349,627	123,368
1896-97 ..	74,534	62,056	..	35,322	..	54,219	24,871	51,963	14,365	18,102	7,406	32,868	1,090	376,796	129,011	376,796	129,011
1897-98 ..	81,958	69,981	..	38,617	..	60,843	26,968	55,748	15,463	19,477	7,904	32,179	728	409,866	134,378	409,866	134,378
1898-99 ..	86,529	72,710	..	41,991	..	64,386	28,448	59,631	16,202	19,990	8,193	32,696	673	431,449	139,957	431,449	139,957
1899-1900 ..	93,762	77,431	..	44,384	..	70,416	30,680	63,787	16,957	21,393	8,539	33,491	607	461,447	147,686	461,447	147,686
1900-1901 ..	85,460	68,066	13,834	52,691	14,702	80,629	24,534	70,999	13,363	23,745	6,855	35,067	560	490,505	154,484	490,505	154,484
1901-1902 ..	49,529	30,255	62,285	70,683	65,467	109,663	..	92,708	..	32,128	..	43,042	556	556,316	178,317	556,316	178,317

* First issued on 17th June, 1885.

Table No. 4—continued.

TABLE showing the Number and Amount of Transactions at the several Money-Order and Savings-Bank Offices in New Zealand during the Year 1901—continued.

Table with columns: Office, Money-Orders (Issued: No., Commission, Amount; Paid: No., Amount), Savings-Banks (New Accounts opened, Deposits: No., Amount; Accounts closed, Withdrawals: No., Amount). Rows list offices from Auckland to Upper Riccarton with numerical data in pounds, shillings, and pence.

Table No. 5.—POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE showing the Business of the Post-Office Savings-Banks in New Zealand, Year by Year, from the Date they were established, in February, 1867, to the 31st December, 1901.

Table with 15 columns: Post-Office Savings-Banks, Number of Office Deposits, Total Amount of Deposits, Average Amount of Deposit, Number of Withdrawals, Total Amount of Withdrawals, Average Amount of Withdrawal, Excess of Deposits over Withdrawals, Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits, Cost of Management, Average Cost of Transactions, Interest for the Year, Number of Accounts Opened, Number of Accounts Closing, Total Amount standing to Credit, and Average Amount starting to Credit. Rows include districts like Auckland, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dunedin, Gisborne, Greymouth, Hokitika, Invercargill, Napier, Nelson, Oamaru, Thames, Timaru, Wanganui, Wellington, Westport, and Totals for Colony in 1901.

Totals for Colony from 1st Feb. to 31st Dec., 1867

Table No. 7.

SECURITIES, &c., standing in the Name of the Postmaster-General on Account of the Post-Office Savings-Bank Fund on the 31st December, 1901.

Description of Securities, &c.	Nominal Value.		Value at Cost Price.		Accrued Interest on 31st December, 1901.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
"The Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act 1896" Debentures, 3½ per cent.	350,000	0 0	350,000	0 0	5,101	7 5
"The Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act 1899" Debentures, 3½ per cent.	125,000	0 0	125,000	0 0	731	3 3
"The Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act 1896-97" Debentures, 3 per cent.	65,000	0 0	65,000	0 0	203	0 3
"The Consolidated Loan Act 1867" Debentures, 4 per cent. ..	13,000	0 0	12,480	0 0	109	13 11
"The Consolidated Stock Act 1884" Debentures, 3½ per cent. ...	571,600	0 0	571,600	0 0	6,632	2 6
"The Dairy Industry Act 1898" Debentures, 3½ per cent. ..	1,781	0 0	1,781	0 0	8	7 11
"The Defence and other Purposes Loan Act 1870" Debentures, 4 per cent.	75,000	0 0	72,000	0 0	632	17 6
"The Defence and other Purposes Loan Act 1870" Debentures, 4½ per cent.	8,100	0 0	8,100	0 0	..	
The District Railways Purchasing Acts, 1885 and 1886, Debentures, 4 per cent.	42,000	0 0	36,076	17 8	418	17 0
The District Railways Purchasing Acts, 1885 and 1886, Scrip, 4 per cent.	34,100	0 0	34,100	0 0	340	1 3
Dunedin Garrison Hall Debentures, 5 per cent.	6,000	0 0	6,000	0 0	129	17 3
"The General Purposes Loan Act 1873" Debentures, 4 per cent.	5,200	0 0	4,342	0 0	43	17 7
"The Government Loans to Local Bodies Act 1886" Debentures, 3½ per cent.	231,500	0 0	231,500	0 0	2,295	15 2
Greymouth Harbour Board Debentures, 4 per cent.	100,000	0 0	100,000	0 0	2,000	0 0
Hamilton Borough Debentures, 5½ per cent.	3,000	0 0	3,000	0 0	68	14 3
Hokitika Harbour Board Debentures, 5 per cent.	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	1,918	9 10
"The Immigration and Public Works Loan Act 1870" Debentures, 4 per cent.	174,200	0 0	167,272	0 0	1,469	19 2
"The Immigration and Public Works Loan Act 1870" Debentures, 4½ per cent.	20,900	0 0	20,527	10 0	198	8 2
"The Immigration and Public Works Loan Act 1870" Debentures, 4 per cent. (Imperial guaranteed)	400,000	0 0	400,000	0 0	1,315	1 4
Inscribed Stock, 3 per cent.	1,884,940	0 0	1,879,614	0 0	14,011	2 11
"The Land for Settlements Act 1894" Debentures, 3½ per cent.	731,066	0 0	731,066	0 0	4,276	4 9
The Land for Settlements Act Debentures, 3½ per cent. ..	62,000	0 0	62,000	0 0	541	0 3
"The Lands Improvement and Native Lands Acquisition Act 1894" Debentures, 4 per cent.	264,000	0 0	264,000	0 0	2,661	14 0
"The Lands Improvement and Native Lands Acquisition Act 1894" Debentures, 3½ per cent.	35,000	0 0	35,000	0 0	250	5 5
Oamaru Borough Consolidated Loan 1893 Debentures, 5 per cent.	13,800	0 0	13,800	0 0	345	0 0
Oamaru Harbour Bonds, 5½ per cent.	31,000	0 0	31,000	0 0	714	14 0
Patea Harbour Board Debentures, 4½ per cent.	13,000	0 0	13,000	0 0	292	10 0
Thames Harbour Board Debentures, 4 per cent.	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	99	14 6
"The Public Revenues Act 1893" (Treasury bills), 3½ per cent.	629,200	0 0	629,200	0 0	..	
Westport Harbour Board Debentures, 4 per cent.	474,500	0 0	474,500	0 0	9,443	3 0
Accrued interest on Post Office Account .. .. .	..		..		681	8 0
Totals	6,384,887	0 0	6,361,959	7 8	56,934	10 7

Table No. 8.

POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.

Balance-sheet for the Year ended 31st December, 1901.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of depositors, 1st January, 1901'	5,809,552	5	3	Withdrawals during 1901	4,230,193	6	2
Deposits during 1901	4,611,456	6	1	Balance to credit of depositors, 31st December, 1901	6,350,013	9	2
Interest credited depositors, 1901	159,198	4	0				
	<u>£10,580,206</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>£10,580,206</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>

Liabilities and Assets.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of depositors, 31st December, 1901	6,350,013	9	2	Securities (<i>vide</i> Table No. 7).. ..	6,361,959	7	8
Amount of accumulated profits invested	11,945	18	6				
	<u>£6,361,959</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>£6,361,959</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>

Profit and Loss.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance forward, 1st January, 1901	172,396	13	3	Interest credited to depositors, 1901	159,198	4	0
Interest received	£204,381	16	11	Accrued interest written off	47,989	17	8
Interest accrued on 31st December, 1901	56,934	10	7	Paid Public Account, for expenses of management	11,500	0	0
	<u>261,316</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	Savings-bank profits carried to postal revenue	20,000	0	0
Premium for release of loan	975	0	0	Interest on debentures purchased, ex div.	46	0	6
	<u>£434,688</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	Balance to next account	195,953	18	7
					<u>£434,688</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>

Table No. 9.

RETURN showing the Total Number of Post-Office Savings-Bank Accounts open on the 31st December, 1901, classified according to the Balances at Credit, compared with the Number open at the end of 1900.

Postal District.	Not exceeding £20.	Exceeding £20 and up to £50.	Exceeding £50 and up to £100.	Exceeding £100 and up to £200.	Exceeding £200 and up to £300.	Exceeding £300 and up to £400.	Exceeding £400 and up to £500.	Exceeding £500.	Total Number of Accounts open.
Auckland	19,633	3,196	2,229	1,998	758	233	136	116	28,299
Blenheim	2,981	334	221	190	65	18	12	9	3,830
Christchurch	29,412	4,240	2,716	2,743	1,014	300	137	123	40,685
Dunedin	21,392	3,754	2,263	1,884	695	204	101	106	30,399
Gisborne	2,220	378	217	159	34	13	12	7	3,040
Greymouth	2,638	451	308	264	117	20	20	10	3,828
Hokitika	978	209	147	169	59	11	12	8	1,593
Invercargill	5,794	1,127	729	582	219	48	25	18	8,542
Napier	7,024	1,050	627	537	195	62	37	29	9,561
Nelson	4,466	680	448	430	167	41	31	22	6,285
New Plymouth	4,188	640	398	316	99	30	17	12	5,700
Oamaru	2,167	472	305	263	74	20	10	6	3,317
Thames	5,378	827	512	371	145	43	21	18	7,315
Timaru	4,291	811	476	381	159	40	18	24	6,200
Wanganui	8,249	1,191	603	499	165	59	32	43	10,841
Wellington	31,013	4,062	2,344	1,818	727	230	139	114	40,447
Westport	1,769	321	162	193	73	22	8	6	2,554
Totals, 1901	153,593	23,743	14,705	12,797	4,765	1,394	763	671	212,436
Totals, 1900	142,368	22,333	13,704	11,173	5,151	1,238	773	668	197,408

Table No. 10.—SAN FRANCISCO MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the undermentioned Places by the San Francisco Mail-service.

FROM LONDON VIA SAN FRANCISCO.

AUCKLAND.			WELLINGTON.			DUNEDIN.			SYDNEY.			MELBOURNE.		
Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Dunedin.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Sydney.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	No. of Days.
1901. January 12	1901. February 12	31	1901. January 12	1901. February 13	32	1901. January 12	1901. February 14	33	1901. January 12	1901. February 16	35	1901. January 12	1901. February 18	37
February 2	March 5	31	February 2	March 6	32	February 2	March 8	34	February 2	March 9	35	February 2	March 11	37
February 23	March 26	31	February 23	March 27	32	February 23	March 28	33	February 23	March 30	35	February 23	March 31	37
March 16	April 18	33	March 16	April 20	35	March 16	April 21	36	March 16	April 23	38	March 16	April 25	40
April 6	May 6	30	April 6	May 8	32	April 6	May 9	33	April 6	May 11	35	April 6	May 13	37
April 27	May 27	30	April 27	May 29	32	April 27	May 30	33	April 27	May 31	34	April 27	June 3	37
May 18	June 18	31	May 18	June 19	32	May 18	June 21	34	May 18	June 23	36	May 18	June 25	38
June 8	July 9	31	June 8	July 10	32	June 8	July 11	33	June 8	July 13	35	June 8	July 16	38
June 29	July 30	31	June 29	July 31	32	June 29	August 1	33	June 29	August 5	37	June 29	August 8	40
July 20	August 20	31	July 20	August 22	33	July 20	August 23	34	July 20	August 24	35	July 20	August 26	37
August 10	September 10	31	August 10	September 12	33	August 10	September 13	34	August 10	September 16	37	August 10	September 17	38
August 31	October 1	31	August 31	October 2	32	August 31	October 4	34	August 31	October 7	37	August 31	October 10	40
September 21	October 22	31	September 21	October 23	32	September 21	October 24	33	September 21	October 26	35	September 21	October 28	37
October 12	November 12	31	October 12	November 13	32	October 12	November 14	33	October 12	November 16	35	October 12	November 18	37
November 2	December 3	31	November 2	December 4	32	November 2	December 6	34	November 2	December 8	36	November 2	December 9	37
November 23	December 24	31	November 23	December 25	32	November 23	December 26	33	November 23	December 28	35	November 23	December 30	37
December 14	January 13	30	December 14	January 14	31	December 14	January 16	33	December 14	January 17	34	December 14	January 18	35
Maximum	...	33	...	...	35	...	...	36	...	...	38	...	...	40
Minimum	...	30	...	...	31	...	...	33	...	...	34	...	...	35
Average	...	30.94	...	...	32.24	...	...	33.53	...	...	35.53	...	...	37.24

TO LONDON VIA SAN FRANCISCO.

MELBOURNE.			SYDNEY.			DUNEDIN.			WELLINGTON.			AUCKLAND.		
Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Dunedin.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.
1901. January 16	1901. February 24	39	1901. January 17	1901. February 24	38	1901. January 18	1901. February 24	37	1901. January 19	1901. February 24	36	1901. January 22	1901. February 24	33
February 1	March 10	37	February 2	March 10	36	February 4	March 10	34	February 5	March 10	33	February 6	March 10	32
February 26	March 30	32	February 26	March 30	32	February 27	March 30	31	February 28	March 30	30	March 2	March 30	28
March 18	April 25	38	March 19	April 25	37	March 20	April 25	36	March 21	April 25	35	March 24	April 25	32
April 8	May 15	37	April 9	May 15	36	April 10	May 15	35	April 11	May 15	34	April 13	May 15	32
April 28	June 13	36	April 29	June 13	35	April 30	June 13	34	May 1	June 13	33	May 13	June 13	31
May 8	June 26	37	May 9	June 26	36	May 10	June 26	35	May 11	June 26	34	May 25	June 26	32
May 20	July 17	37	May 21	July 17	36	May 22	July 17	35	May 23	July 17	33	May 25	July 17	32
June 10	August 17	38	June 11	August 17	37	June 12	August 17	36	June 14	August 17	34	June 15	August 17	32
June 29	September 6	38	July 2	August 6	35	July 2	August 6	35	July 3	August 6	34	July 5	August 6	32
July 22	August 28	37	July 23	August 28	36	July 24	August 28	35	July 26	August 28	33	July 27	August 28	32
August 12	September 14	33	August 13	September 14	32	August 14	September 14	31	August 15	September 14	30	August 17	September 14	28
September 2	October 9	37	September 3	October 9	36	September 4	October 9	35	September 5	October 9	34	September 7	October 9	32
September 23	October 28	35	September 24	October 28	34	September 25	October 28	33	September 27	October 28	31	September 28	October 28	30
October 14	November 17	34	October 15	November 17	33	October 16	November 17	32	October 18	November 17	30	October 19	November 17	29
November 4	December 7	33	November 5	December 7	32	November 6	December 7	31	November 8	December 7	29	November 9	December 7	28
November 25	January 1	37	November 26	January 1	36	November 27	January 1	35	November 29	January 1	33	November 30	January 1	32
December 16	January 20	35	December 17	January 20	34	December 18	January 20	33	December 20	January 20	31	December 21	January 20	30
Maximum	...	39	...	...	38	...	...	37	...	...	36	...	...	33
Minimum	...	32	...	...	32	...	...	31	...	...	29	...	...	28
Average	...	36	...	...	34.94	...	...	33.94	...	...	32.53	...	...	30.88

Table No. 11.—PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Peninsular and Oriental Line.

FROM LONDON BY THE P. AND O. PACKETS.

MELBOURNE.			SYDNEY.			BLUFF.			CHRISTCHURCH.			WELLINGTON.			AUCKLAND.		
Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival at Sydney.	Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival at Bluff.	Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival in Christchurch.	Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	Date of Despatch from London.	No. of Days.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.
1901. Jan. 4	33	1901. Feb. 6	1901. Jan. 4	39	1901. Feb. 12	1901. Jan. 4	40	1901. Feb. 13	1901. Jan. 4	40	1901. Feb. 13	1901. Jan. 4	40	1901. Feb. 13	1901. Jan. 4	40	1901. Feb. 14
Jan. 18	31	Feb. 18	Jan. 18	38	Feb. 25	Jan. 18	39	Feb. 26	Jan. 18	39	Feb. 26	Jan. 18	36	Feb. 26	Jan. 18	36	Feb. 25
Feb. 1	4	March 1	Feb. 1	38	March 11	Feb. 1	38	March 1	Feb. 1	38	March 1	Feb. 1	40	March 1	Feb. 1	40	March 1
Feb. 15	31	March 15	Feb. 15	32	March 27	Feb. 15	40	March 28	Feb. 15	41	March 28	Feb. 15	38	March 28	Feb. 15	38	March 23
March 1	2	April 1	March 1	33	April 9	March 1	39	April 10	March 1	40	April 10	March 1	40	April 10	March 1	40	April 13
March 15	32	April 15	March 15	34	April 23	March 15	39	April 24	March 15	40	April 25	March 15	41	April 25	March 15	41	April 22
March 29	30	April 28	March 29	32	May 6	March 29	38	May 7	March 29	39	May 8	March 29	40	May 8	March 29	40	May 6
April 12	30	May 12	April 12	32	May 21	April 12	39	May 22	April 12	40	May 22	April 12	39	May 22	April 12	39	May 20
April 26	31	May 27	April 26	32	June 4	April 26	39	June 5	April 26	40	June 5	April 26	38	June 5	April 26	38	June 3
May 10	30	June 9	May 10	32	June 18	May 10	39	June 19	May 10	40	June 19	May 10	38	June 19	May 10	38	June 15
May 24	32	June 25	May 24	33	July 2	May 24	40	July 3	May 24	41	July 4	May 24	38	July 4	May 24	38	July 15
June 7	31	July 8	June 7	32	July 15	June 7	39	July 16	June 7	40	July 16	June 7	38	July 16	June 7	38	July 15
June 21	30	July 21	June 21	32	July 30	June 21	39	July 31	June 21	40	July 31	June 21	38	July 31	June 21	38	July 27
July 5	31	August 5	July 5	32	August 13	July 5	39	August 14	July 5	40	August 14	July 5	38	August 14	July 5	38	August 12
July 19	32	August 20	July 19	33	August 27	July 19	40	August 28	July 19	41	August 29	July 19	39	August 29	July 19	39	August 26
August 2	30	Sept. 1	August 2	32	Sept. 10	August 2	39	Sept. 11	August 2	40	Sept. 11	August 2	38	Sept. 11	August 2	38	Sept. 7
August 16	31	Sept. 15	August 16	33	Sept. 17	August 16	40	Sept. 18	August 16	41	Sept. 19	August 16	39	Sept. 19	August 16	39	Sept. 2
August 30	30	Sept. 30	August 30	32	October 1	August 30	38	October 2	August 30	39	October 3	August 30	38	October 3	August 30	38	Sept. 22
Sept. 13	30	October 13	Sept. 13	32	October 15	Sept. 13	39	October 16	Sept. 13	40	October 17	Sept. 13	38	October 17	Sept. 13	38	October 7
Sept. 27	32	October 29	Sept. 27	33	October 30	Sept. 27	40	November 1	Sept. 27	41	November 2	Sept. 27	39	November 2	Sept. 27	39	October 19
October 11	31	Nov. 11	October 11	32	Nov. 12	October 11	39	Nov. 13	October 11	40	Nov. 14	October 11	38	Nov. 14	October 11	38	Nov. 4
Nov. 25	31	Dec. 25	Nov. 25	32	Dec. 26	Nov. 25	38	Dec. 27	Nov. 25	39	Dec. 28	Nov. 25	37	Dec. 28	Nov. 25	37	Nov. 17
Nov. 8	31	Dec. 8	Nov. 8	32	Dec. 10	Nov. 8	39	Dec. 11	Nov. 8	40	Dec. 12	Nov. 8	38	Dec. 12	Nov. 8	38	Nov. 30
Nov. 22	32	Dec. 24	Nov. 22	33	Dec. 25	Nov. 22	40	Dec. 26	Nov. 22	41	Dec. 27	Nov. 22	39	Dec. 27	Nov. 22	39	Dec. 15
1902. Dec. 6	31	1902. Jan. 6	1902. Dec. 6	32	1902. Jan. 7	1902. Dec. 6	39	1902. Jan. 8	1902. Dec. 6	40	1902. Jan. 9	1902. Dec. 6	38	1902. Jan. 9	1902. Dec. 6	38	Dec. 30
Dec. 20	31	Jan. 20	Dec. 20	32	Jan. 21	Dec. 20	39	Jan. 22	Dec. 20	40	Jan. 23	Dec. 20	38	Jan. 23	Dec. 20	38	Jan. 11
Maximum	33	...	Maximum	42	...	Maximum	41	...	Maximum	41	...	Maximum	41	...	Maximum	41	...
Minimum	30	...	Minimum	38	...	Minimum	39	...	Minimum	39	...	Minimum	38	...	Minimum	38	...
Average	31.04	...	Average	38.88	...	Average	39.81	...	Average	39.81	...	Average	39	...	Average	39	...

Table No. 11.—PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL MAIL-SERVICE—continued.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the under-mentioned Places by the Packets of the Peninsular and Oriental Line—continued.

TO LONDON VIA BRINDISI (P. AND O. PACKETS).

AUCKLAND.			WELLINGTON.			BLUFF.			SYDNEY.			MELBOURNE.		
Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Bluff.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.
1901. January 7	1901. February 16	40	1901. January 5	1901. February 16	42	1901. January 8	1901. February 16	39	1901. January 15	1901. February 16	32	1901. January 16	1901. February 16	31
January 23	March 2	38	January 19	March 2	42	January 24	March 2	37	January 29	March 2	32	January 30	March 2	31
February 4	March 15	39	February 2	March 15	41	February 5	March 15	38	February 12	March 15	31	February 13	March 15	30
February 18	March 30	40	February 16	March 30	42	February 19	March 30	39	February 26	March 30	32	February 27	March 30	31
March 5	April 12	38	March 2	April 12	41	March 5	April 12	38	March 12	April 12	31	March 13	April 12	30
March 18	April 26	39	March 16	April 26	41	March 19	April 26	38	March 26	April 26	31	March 27	April 26	30
April 1	May 12	41	March 30	May 12	43	April 2	May 12	40	April 9	May 12	33	April 10	May 12	32
April 15	May 25	40	April 13	May 25	42	April 16	May 25	39	April 23	May 25	32	April 24	May 25	31
April 29	June 10	42	April 29	June 10	42	April 30	June 10	41	May 7	June 10	34	May 8	June 10	33
May 13	June 24	42	May 11	June 24	44	May 14	June 24	41	May 21	June 24	34	May 22	June 24	33
May 28	July 7	40	May 25	July 7	43	May 29	July 7	39	June 4	July 7	33	June 5	July 7	32
June 10	July 22	42	June 8	July 22	44	June 10	July 22	42	June 18	July 22	34	June 19	July 22	33
June 24	August 4	41	June 22	August 4	43	June 25	August 4	40	July 2	August 4	33	July 3	August 4	32
July 9	August 19	41	July 6	August 19	44	July 10	August 19	40	July 16	August 19	34	July 17	August 19	33
July 22	Sept. 1	41	July 20	Sept. 1	43	July 22	Sept. 1	41	July 30	Sept. 1	33	July 31	Sept. 1	32
August 5	Sept. 14	40	August 3	Sept. 14	42	August 6	Sept. 14	39	August 13	Sept. 14	32	August 14	Sept. 14	31
August 21	Sept. 29	39	August 17	Sept. 29	43	August 19	Sept. 29	41	August 27	Sept. 29	33	August 28	Sept. 29	32
Sept. 3	October 13	40	August 31	October 13	43	Sept. 3	October 13	40	Sept. 10	October 13	33	Sept. 11	October 13	32
Sept. 16	October 26	40	Sept. 14	October 26	42	Sept. 17	October 26	39	Sept. 24	October 26	32	Sept. 25	October 26	31
October 1	November 9	39	October 4	November 9	36	Sept. 30	November 9	40	October 8	November 9	32	October 9	November 9	31
October 14	November 23	40	October 12	November 23	42	October 12	November 23	42	October 22	November 23	32	October 23	November 23	31
October 30	December 8	39	October 26	December 8	43	October 26	December 8	40	November 5	December 8	33	November 6	December 8	32
November 12	December 21	39	November 9	December 21	42	October 29	December 21	39	November 19	December 21	32	November 20	December 21	31
November 25	1902. January 4	40	November 23	1902. January 4	42	November 12	1902. January 4	40	December 3	1902. January 4	32	December 4	1902. January 4	31
December 9	January 18	40	December 7	January 18	42	December 25	January 18	39	December 17	January 18	32	December 18	January 18	31
December 24	February 2	40	December 20	February 2	44	December 23	February 2	41	December 31	February 2	33	January 1	February 2	32
Maximum	..	42	..	..	44	..	..	42	..	..	34	..	..	33
Minimum	..	38	..	..	36	..	..	37	..	..	31	..	..	30
Average ..	..	40	..	..	42.23	..	..	39.6	..	..	32.5	..	..	31.5

Table No. 12.—ORIENT MAIL-SERVICE.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the undermentioned Places by the Packets of the Orient Line.

FROM LONDON BY THE ORIENT LINE.

MELBOURNE.				SYDNEY.				BLUFF.				CHRISTCHURCH.				WELLINGTON.				AUCKLAND.			
Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Melbourne.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Sydney.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival at Bluff.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Christchurch.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Wellington.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from London.	Date of Arrival in Auckland.	No. of Days.						
1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 14	34	1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 15	35	1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 22	42	1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 21	41	1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 20	40	1901. Jan. 11	1901. Feb. 22	42						
1901. Jan. 25	1901. Feb. 27	33	1901. Jan. 25	1901. Feb. 28	34	1901. Jan. 25	1901. March 4	38	1901. Jan. 25	1901. March 5	39	1901. Jan. 25	1901. March 6	40	1901. Jan. 25	1901. March 8	42						
1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 14	34	1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 16	36	1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 25	45	1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 22	42	1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 20	40	1901. Feb. 8	1901. March 23	43						
1901. Feb. 22	1901. March 26	32	1901. Feb. 22	1901. March 27	33	1901. Feb. 22	1901. April 2	39	1901. Feb. 22	1901. April 3	40	1901. Feb. 22	1901. April 2	39	1901. Feb. 22	1901. April 15	38						
1901. March 8	1901. April 9	32	1901. March 8	1901. April 10	33	1901. March 8	1901. April 16	39	1901. March 8	1901. April 17	40	1901. March 8	1901. April 16	39	1901. March 8	1901. April 29	38						
1901. March 22	1901. April 23	32	1901. March 22	1901. April 24	33	1901. March 22	1901. April 30	39	1901. March 22	1901. May 1	40	1901. March 22	1901. April 30	39	1901. March 22	1901. May 13	38						
1901. April 5	1901. May 7	32	1901. April 5	1901. May 8	33	1901. April 5	1901. May 13	38	1901. April 5	1901. May 15	40	1901. April 5	1901. May 14	39	1901. April 5	1901. June 13	38						
1901. April 19	1901. May 22	33	1901. April 19	1901. May 23	34	1901. April 19	1901. May 27	38	1901. April 19	1901. May 28	39	1901. April 19	1901. May 29	40	1901. April 19	1901. June 10	38						
1901. May 3	1901. June 4	32	1901. May 3	1901. June 5	33	1901. May 3	1901. June 10	38	1901. May 3	1901. June 11	39	1901. May 3	1901. June 11	39	1901. May 3	1901. June 10	38						
1901. May 17	1901. June 19	33	1901. May 17	1901. June 20	34	1901. May 17	1901. June 25	39	1901. May 17	1901. June 26	40	1901. May 17	1901. June 27	41	1901. May 17	1901. June 29	43						
1901. May 31	1901. July 3	33	1901. May 31	1901. July 5	35	1901. May 31	1901. July 13	43	1901. May 31	1901. July 12	42	1901. May 31	1901. July 10	40	1901. May 31	1901. July 11	41						
1901. June 14	1901. July 16	32	1901. June 14	1901. July 17	33	1901. June 14	1901. July 22	38	1901. June 14	1901. July 23	39	1901. June 14	1901. July 23	39	1901. June 14	1901. July 22	38						
1901. June 28	1901. July 29	31	1901. June 28	1901. July 30	32	1901. June 28	1901. August 6	39	1901. June 28	1901. August 7	40	1901. June 28	1901. August 6	39	1901. June 28	1901. August 5	38						
1901. July 12	1901. August 13	32	1901. July 12	1901. August 14	33	1901. July 12	1901. August 19	38	1901. July 12	1901. August 20	39	1901. July 12	1901. August 22	41	1901. July 12	1901. August 20	39						
1901. July 26	1901. August 27	32	1901. July 26	1901. August 28	33	1901. July 26	1901. Sept. 1	37	1901. July 26	1901. Sept. 2	38	1901. July 26	1901. Sept. 5	41	1901. July 26	1901. Sept. 2	38						
1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 10	32	1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 11	33	1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 17	39	1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 18	40	1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 18	40	1901. August 9	1901. Sept. 16	38						
1901. August 23	1901. Sept. 24	32	1901. August 23	1901. Sept. 25	33	1901. August 23	1901. Sept. 30	38	1901. August 23	1901. Oct. 23	39	1901. August 23	1901. Oct. 23	40	1901. August 23	1901. Sept. 30	38						
1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 8	32	1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 9	33	1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 15	39	1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 16	40	1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 17	41	1901. Sept. 6	1901. Oct. 14	38						
1901. Sept. 20	1901. Oct. 24	34	1901. Sept. 20	1901. Oct. 25	35	1901. Sept. 20	1901. Nov. 2	43	1901. Sept. 20	1901. Nov. 1	42	1901. Sept. 20	1901. Oct. 31	41	1901. Sept. 20	1901. Nov. 2	43						
1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 5	32	1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 6	33	1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 12	39	1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 13	40	1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 13	40	1901. Oct. 4	1901. Nov. 11	38						
1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 19	32	1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 20	33	1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 25	38	1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 26	39	1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 26	39	1901. Oct. 18	1901. Nov. 25	38						
1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 3	32	1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 4	33	1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 9	38	1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 11	40	1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 11	40	1901. Nov. 1	1901. Dec. 9	38						
1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 17	32	1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 18	33	1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 23	38	1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 24	39	1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 24	39	1901. Nov. 15	1901. Dec. 23	38						
1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 2	34	1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 3	35	1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 13	45	1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 11	43	1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 10	42	1902. Nov. 29	1902. Jan. 11	43						
1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 15	33	1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 16	34	1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 20	38	1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 22	40	1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 22	40	1902. Dec. 13	1902. Jan. 22	40						
1902. Dec. 27	1902. Jan. 28	32	1902. Dec. 27	1902. Jan. 29	33	1902. Dec. 27	1902. Feb. 4	39	1902. Dec. 27	1902. Feb. 5	40	1902. Dec. 27	1902. Feb. 5	40	1902. Dec. 27	1902. Feb. 3	38						
Maximum	...	34	...	...	36	...	...	45	...	...	43	...	...	42	...	...	43
Minimum	...	31	...	...	32	...	...	37	...	...	38	...	...	39	...	...	38
Average	...	32.46	...	...	33.54	...	...	39.38	...	...	39.92	...	...	39.92	...	...	39.46

Table No. 12.—ORIENT MAIL-SERVICE—continued.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Days occupied in the Delivery of Mails between London and the undermentioned Places by the Packets of the Orient Line—continued.

TO LONDON VIA NAPLES (ORIENT PACKETS).

AUCKLAND.			WELLINGTON.			BLUFF.			SYDNEY.			MELBOURNE.		
Date of Despatch from Auckland.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Wellington.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Bluff.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Sydney.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.	Date of Despatch from Melbourne.	Date of Arrival in London.	No. of Days.
1901. January 14	1901. February 24	41	1901. January 12	1901. February 24	43	1901. January 1	1901. February 10	40	1901. January 8	1901. February 10	33	1901. January 9	1901. February 10	32
January 28	March 10	41	January 29	March 10	40	January 15	February 24	40	January 22	February 24	33	January 23	February 24	32
February 12	March 24	40	February 9	March 24	43	February 12	March 24	40	February 5	March 10	33	February 6	March 10	32
February 25	April 7	41	February 23	April 7	43	February 26	April 7	40	March 5	April 7	33	March 6	April 7	32
March 11	April 22	42	March 23	April 22	44	March 12	April 22	41	March 19	April 22	34	March 20	April 22	33
March 26	May 7	42	March 23	May 7	45	March 26	May 7	42	March 26	May 7	35	March 30	May 7	34
April 9	May 19	40	April 6	May 19	43	April 9	May 19	40	April 16	May 19	33	April 17	May 19	32
April 22	June 16	41	April 20	June 16	43	April 23	June 16	40	April 30	June 16	33	April 30	June 16	32
May 7	June 16	40	May 4	June 16	43	May 7	June 16	40	May 14	June 16	33	May 15	June 16	32
May 20	July 1	42	May 18	July 1	44	May 21	July 1	41	May 28	July 1	34	May 29	July 1	33
June 3	July 16	43	June 1	July 16	45	June 4	July 16	42	June 11	July 16	35	June 12	July 16	34
June 18	July 29	41	June 15	July 29	44	June 17	July 29	42	June 25	July 29	34	June 26	July 29	33
July 1	August 12	42	June 29	August 12	44	July 2	August 12	41	July 9	August 12	34	July 10	August 12	33
July 15	August 29	45	July 13	August 29	47	July 15	August 29	45	July 23	August 29	37	July 24	August 29	36
July 30	Sept. 8	40	July 27	Sept. 8	43	July 29	Sept. 8	41	August 6	Sept. 8	33	August 7	Sept. 8	32
August 13	Sept. 23	41	August 10	Sept. 23	44	August 12	Sept. 23	42	August 20	Sept. 23	34	August 21	Sept. 23	33
August 26	October 8	43	August 24	October 8	45	August 26	October 8	43	August 30	October 8	35	August 31	October 8	34
Sept. 11	October 21	41	Sept. 7	October 21	44	Sept. 9	October 21	42	Sept. 17	October 21	34	Sept. 18	October 21	33
Sept. 23	November 3	41	Sept. 23	November 3	43	Sept. 23	November 3	41	Sept. 30	November 3	33	Sept. 31	November 3	32
October 7	November 18	42	October 21	November 3	43	October 8	November 18	41	October 15	November 18	34	October 16	November 18	33
October 22	December 1	40	October 19	December 1	43	October 23	December 1	41	October 29	December 1	33	October 30	December 1	32
November 4	December 18	44	November 2	December 18	46	November 5	December 18	43	November 12	December 18	36	November 13	December 18	35
November 18	December 29	41	November 16	December 29	43	November 18	December 29	41	November 26	December 29	33	November 27	December 29	32
December 3	1902. January 13	41	November 30	1902. January 13	44	December 2	1902. January 13	42	December 10	1902. January 13	34	December 11	1902. January 13	33
December 16	January 26	41	December 14	January 26	43	December 16	January 26	41	December 24	1902. January 26	33	December 25	1902. January 26	32
December 30	February 9	41	December 28	February 9	43	December 30	February 9	41	January 7	February 9	33	January 8	February 9	32
Maximum	..	45	..	..	47	..	..	45	..	..	37	..	..	36
Minimum	..	40	..	..	40	..	..	40	..	..	33	..	..	32
Average	..	41.38	..	..	43.68	..	..	41.23	..	..	33.78	..	..	32.77

Table No. 13.

TABLE showing the Estimated Number of Letters, Letter-cards, Post-cards, Book-packets, Newspapers, and Parcels dealt with in the several Postal Districts of New Zealand during the Year ended 31st December, 1901.

Postal Districts.	Posted in the Colony.					Received from Places outside the Colony.					Total Correspondence dealt with.						
	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.
Auckland	9,161,568	189,072	248,248	2,577,037	2,620,527	45,131	567,928	10,788	502,021	1,205,191	8,297	9,729,496	189,072	259,036	3,079,058	3,825,718	53,428
Thames	912,951	14,196	18,447	189,748	194,337	3,763	66,889	1,210	26,042	77,966	594	979,840	14,196	19,657	215,790	272,393	4,357
New Plymouth	1,556,490	51,324	65,130	373,568	420,986	4,203	109,392	2,658	48,986	163,355	596	1,665,882	51,324	67,788	422,554	584,321	4,799
Gisborne	395,941	3,120	4,485	103,687	156,109	2,243	23,093	310	13,968	45,966	410	419,034	3,120	4,795	202,135	262,135	2,653
Napier	2,087,969	41,028	73,021	504,135	513,708	10,543	156,214	3,189	86,948	210,087	1,659	2,244,183	41,028	76,210	591,083	723,795	12,202
Wanganui	2,424,240	70,278	82,628	717,893	503,074	11,143	157,771	4,987	123,100	199,010	1,543	2,582,011	70,278	87,615	840,993	702,084	12,686
Wellington	9,095,632	161,694	226,468	3,207,962	2,085,330	54,398	596,684	9,114	359,034	835,224	9,249	9,692,316	161,694	235,522	3,507,596	2,920,554	63,647
Nelson	1,022,437	23,985	24,271	256,855	224,445	5,931	64,596	1,491	29,669	74,975	1,092	1,087,033	23,985	25,672	286,464	299,420	7,023
Westport	324,428	8,580	8,580	56,914	107,159	2,307	20,588	108	6,083	48,801	369	345,016	8,580	8,688	62,997	155,960	2,676
Greymouth	635,804	6,123	10,673	130,104	221,572	3,076	41,390	483	29,323	83,627	552	677,194	6,123	11,156	159,427	305,199	3,628
Hokitika	278,213	2,652	6,110	32,227	104,559	2,993	19,588	143	4,137	37,754	512	297,801	2,652	6,253	36,364	142,313	3,505
Blenheim	585,702	10,452	10,153	138,585	121,472	2,417	37,254	536	15,733	45,971	348	622,956	10,452	10,689	154,318	167,443	2,765
Christchurch	7,086,573	201,630	262,873	2,987,052	2,732,340	38,308	469,588	9,032	271,715	745,867	6,002	7,556,161	201,630	271,925	3,258,767	3,478,267	44,310
Timaru	1,282,853	36,062	41,132	271,427	186,992	2,072	84,286	2,577	59,375	75,375	348	1,367,139	36,062	43,709	330,802	262,367	2,420
Oamaru	781,911	22,139	29,029	140,426	148,252	1,715	53,457	1,394	21,750	55,205	205	835,368	22,139	30,423	162,176	203,457	1,920
Dunedin	7,395,115	126,204	212,355	3,588,932	2,624,687	36,400	475,628	9,460	370,023	854,029	7,102	7,870,743	126,204	221,815	3,958,955	3,478,716	43,503
Invercargill	3,342,989	59,800	137,046	899,643	892,645	6,848	229,103	4,378	117,924	356,995	1,072	3,572,092	59,800	141,424	1,017,567	1,249,640	7,920
Totals	48,370,816	1,023,295	1,460,589	16,176,195	13,858,234	233,491	3,173,449	61,788	2,086,371	5,115,398	39,951	51,544,265	1,023,295	1,522,377	18,262,566	18,973,632	273,442
Previous year	36,185,045	1,236,183	1,858,064	16,111,221	12,347,374	199,220	2,477,251	50,451	1,604,181	4,698,341	34,236	38,166,296	1,236,183	1,908,515	17,715,402	17,045,715	233,456

Table No. 14.

TABLE showing the Number of Letters, Letter-cards, Post-cards, Packets, Newspapers, and Parcels posted in New Zealand, and the Number received from beyond the Colony, during the Year ended 31st December, 1901.

Service.	Articles subject to Postage.										Articles exempt from Postage.					Parcels.		Declared Value.
	Letters.		Letter-cards.		Post-cards.		Packets, including Printed Matter (except Newspapers), Commercial Papers, and Samples of Merchandise.		Newspapers.	Registered Articles.	Packets.	Letters.	Registered Newspapers.	Numbet.	Weight.	Postage.		
	Ordinary.	Registered.	Single.	Reply paid.	Ordinary.	Registered.	Ordinary.	Registered.										
									lb.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Inland ..	40,993,818	263,432	1,023,295	1,426,638	1,287	15,444,041	41,185	10,734,123	3,827,966	484,397	100,094	1,106,315	221,903	756,335	12,714	9	9	..
Intercolonial ..	780,336	87,769	..	15,632	..	143,209	3,978	539,390	30,253	10,869	1,773	48,086	3,322	7,949	380	18	10	..
International ..	1,371,325	32,510	..	17,032	..	265,905	5,322	1,392,848	11,045	21,329	998	37,472	8,266	21,812	607	5	7	16,154
Totals ..	43,145,479	383,711	1,023,295	1,459,302	1,287	15,833,155	50,985	12,666,361	3,869,264	516,595	102,865	1,191,873	233,491	786,096	13,702	14	2	16,154

Posted.

Received.

Intercolonial ..	1,212,688	17,141	..	38,636	..	805,496	2,330	1,488,525	18,402	1,326	1,030	2,016	11,233	37,218	1,108	17	0	109,688
International ..	1,863,570	35,646	..	23,152	..	1,271,933	4,888	3,624,204	4,560	398	412	653	28,718	104,923	2,527	8	3	..
Totals ..	3,096,258	52,787	..	61,788	..	2,077,429	7,218	5,112,729	22,962	1,724	1,442	2,669	39,951	142,141	3,636	5	3	109,688

Table No. 15.

TABLE showing the Number of Letters, Letter-cards, Post-cards, Books, Newspapers, and Parcels delivered by the Letter-carriers from the Post-offices within the several Postal Districts during the Year 1901.

Postal Districts.	Letters.	Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books. &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.
Auckland	3,555,607	75,157	135,681	842,333	754,186	13,347
Thames	534,262	11,293	29,002	195,037	161,181	4,007
New Plymouth	482,249	10,194	31,290	68,103	190,519	4,274
Gisborne	143,980	3,043	2,954	19,842	44,533	1,755
Napier	557,003	11,773	20,950	196,682	140,398	5,930
Wanganui	614,259	13,055	42,729	415,827	232,864	5,881
Wellington	3,210,149	67,855	120,394	871,949	767,591	10,024
Nelson	249,961	5,284	14,510	65,456	147,634	1,605
Westport	116,385	2,460	7,057	34,394	62,877	2,472
Greymouth	249,971	5,284	16,580	106,293	69,840	4,401
Hokitika	90,812	1,920	4,444	14,381	38,178	961
Blenheim	129,048	2,728	4,344	40,598	36,835	1,052
Christchurch	2,259,706	47,765	75,056	849,385	558,531	11,483
Timaru	408,559	8,636	20,201	116,864	75,841	1,828
Oamaru	260,636	5,509	26,522	38,121	48,847	946
Dunedin	2,382,548	50,361	118,765	870,393	639,566	7,450
Invercargill	831,451	17,576	62,265	378,846	210,200	922
Totals	16,076,586	339,893	732,744	5,124,504	4,179,621	78,338
Previous year	13,238,490	451,774	747,050	4,299,379	3,831,292	58,569

Table No. 16.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Progress of the Telegraph Department during the Financial Years ended 30th June, 1866, to 30th June, 1879; 31st March, 1880, to 31st March, 1882; and Calendar Years ended 31st December, 1882, to 31st December, 1893.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Offices	Number of Telegrams forwarded during the Year.		Telegraph Revenue from all Sources.	Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Business done during the Year.	Cost of Maintenance of Stations.		Cost of Maintenance of Lines, excluding Australian Cable Subsidy.	Total Expenditure.	Cost of Maintenance of Lines per Mile.	Tariff in Operation.			
				Private, and Press.	Government.				£	s. d.					£	s. d.	
30th June, 1866	699	1,390	13	24,761	2,746	27,407	£ 483	s. 2	d. 2	£ 3,934	s. 3	d. 4	£ 6,377	s. 6	d. 3	£ 9 10	
" 1867	757	1,498	21	55,621	15,331	70,952	3,770	14	8	2,541	4	11	10,558	19	6	3 7 1	Mileage tariff.
" 1868	1,110	2,223	31	72,241	26,244	98,485	6,672	3	10	9,489	17	10	14,896	5	1	4 17 4	
" 1869	1,329	2,495	45	106,070	50,097	156,167	13,430	11	9	14,266	12	7	22,813	17	4	6 8 6	
" 1870	1,661	2,897	56	122,545	62,878	185,423	12,252	6	0	16,417	7	4	30,537	12	2	8 9 11	
" 1871	1,976	3,247	72	253,582	59,292	312,874	9,876	17	6	21,254	4	3	32,598	7	11	5 19 6	Mileage tariff in operation up to 1st Sept., 1866; unit form as for tariff from 1st Sept., 1869 to 1st March, 1870; and 1s. tariff from 1st April, 1870.
" 1872	2,185	3,823	81	344,524	67,243	411,767	11,043	3	9	23,593	9	9	32,452	9	4	4 2 3	
" 1873	2,356	4,574	93	485,507	83,453	568,960	11,105	2	0	27,040	18	10	36,520	4	2	4 1 11	
" 1874	2,530	5,782	105	645,067	107,832	752,899	12,618	11	6	38,801	19	4	53,823	17	3	6 3 11	
" 1875	2,986	6,626	127	786,237	130,891	917,128	13,679	10	9	45,814	11	4	60,955	10	11	4 16 4	
" 1876	3,154	7,247	142	890,382	160,704	1,051,086	16,154	6	0	61,696	14	5	82,771	3	1	5 18 10	
" 1877	3,259	7,423	155	952,283	172,159	1,124,442	17,024	8	9	82,669	4	0	81,284	18	10	5 12 11	
" 1878	3,434	8,035	182	1,065,481	194,843	1,260,324	19,148	12	4	92,432	14	2	87,599	6	5	5 10 0	
" 1879	3,512	8,117	195	1,201,982	246,961	1,448,943	26,949	2	2	112,351	2	4	96,801	8	3	5 0 9	From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free.
31st March, 1880	3,638	9,333	214	824,734	183,675	1,008,409	19,707	6	3	77,827	9	6	83,409	15	3	4 3 4	
" 1881	3,758	9,587	227	1,058,342	246,370	1,304,712	27,021	3	8	100,023	5	8	101,378	9	11	6 6 7	
" 1882	3,824	9,653	234	1,215,849	222,923	1,438,772	22,737	16	4	101,566	16	0	87,457	18	4	4 17 4	

Table No. 16—continued.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Progress of the Telegraph Department during the Financial Years ended 30th June, 1866, to 30th June, 1879; 31st March, 1880, to 31st March, 1882; and Calendar Years ended 31st December, 1882, to 31st December, 1893—continued.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Offices Open.	Number of Telegrams forwarded during the Year.		Telegraph Revenue from all Sources.	Value of Government Messages.		Total Value Business done during the Year.	Cost of Maintenance of Stations.		Cost of Maintenance of Lines excluding Australian Cable Subsidy.		Total Expenditure.	Cost of Maintenance of Lines per Mile.	Tariff in Operation.					
				Private and Press.	Government.		£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.				£	s. d.			
31st Dec., 1882	3,974	9,848	264	1,361,817	208,372	1,579,189	£	90,633	11 2	20,608	11 11	£	111,242	3 1	73,554	9 122,451	6 3	96,005	15 4	5 17 5	From 1st November, 1873, address and signature given in free. From 1st Jan., 1886, delayed telegrams posted to addressees immediately after their receipt at their offices of destination.
" 1883	4,974	10,037	302	1,379,483	219,917	1,599,400	£	93,822	3 3	21,555	19 2	£	115,378	2 5	73,954	4 619,210	6 6	92,264	11 0	4 16 8	
" 1884	4,204	10,474	330	1,433,458	220,847	1,654,305	£	95,634	5 5	20,855	19 7	£	116,490	5 0	70,936	6 220,041	15 0	90,078	2 0	4 18 4	
" 1885	4,463	10,931	375	1,533,406	240,867	1,774,273	£	101,652	8 0	24,860	9 0	£	126,512	17 0	77,082	4 420,900	6 2	97,982	10 6	4 15 9	
" 1886	4,546	11,178	412	1,583,717	252,549	1,836,266	£	106,638	12 2	27,281	4 9	£	133,919	16 11	77,473	10 721,402	18 2	98,875	8 9	4 15 11	
" 1887	4,646	11,375	437	1,589,771	245,623	1,835,394	£	106,548	4 0	30,205	11 0	£	136,753	15 10	70,580	10 021,321	2 9	97,901	12 9	4 13 9	
" 1888	4,790	11,617	473	1,548,233	217,630	1,765,863	£	106,311	11 6	23,104	13 11	£	129,416	5 5	72,201	13 523,262	1 0	95,463	14 5	5 0 1	
" 1889	4,874	11,827	489	1,589,157	213,830	1,802,987	£	106,462	18 4	24,218	9 3	£	130,681	7 7	75,426	9 726,007	1 5	101,433	11 0	5 8 7	
" 1890	5,148	12,812	520	1,734,381	226,780	1,961,161	£	110,696	17 8	26,070	12 7	£	136,767	10 3	85,845	1 1027,546	2 0	104,391	3 10	5 13 0	
" 1891	5,349	13,235	573	1,746,115	222,149	1,968,264	£	117,633	9 2	24,840	5 7	£	142,474	4 4	85,058	4 1128,586	10 10	114,644	15 9	5 12 7	
" 1892	5,479	13,459	615	1,686,064	218,079	1,904,143	£	103,813	8 6	24,342	7 0	£	128,155	15 6	87,472	13 329,580	10 11	117,053	4 2	5 8 0	
" 1893	5,513	13,515	640	1,825,640	244,045	2,069,691	£	112,465	15 9	28,317	7 10	£	140,783	3 7	92,109	17 029,141	6 0	121,251	3 0	5 5 9	

For the Financial Years ended 31st March, 1895, to the 31st March, 1902.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Offices Open.	Number of Telegrams forwarded during the Year.			Revenue (including Miscellaneous Receipts).		Value of Government Messages.	Total Value of Business done during the Year.	Total Expenditure (excluding Cable Subsidy).	Remarks.									
				Private and Press.	Government.	Total.	Telegraph.	Telephone.													
31st March, 1895	5,961½	14,881½	705	1,802,182	231,618	2,033,800	£	88,459	10 11	21,552	12 10	£	136,062	11 2	26,050	7 5	135,791	0 7	6,492	11 8	Cable subsidy,
" 1896	6,245½	15,764½	743	1,899,632	224,579	2,124,211	£	97,178	14 0	25,933	12 9	£	148,955	18 8	25,843	11 11	143,665	14 0	4,774	5 5	"
" 1897	6,284½	16,470½	780	2,285,001	235,168	2,520,169	£	100,385	16 1	29,248	19 5	£	152,752	18 0	23,118	2 6	153,484	6 8	3,972	8 1	"
" 1898	6,484	18,024	824	2,469,415	226,818	2,696,233	£	99,798	8 10	36,422	6 8	£	160,725	5 2	24,504	9 8	165,198	13 5	1,849	2 9	"
" 1899	6,736	18,746	878	2,717,548	243,190	2,960,738	£	105,576	6 0	39,178	7 7	£	170,794	19 5	29,500	5 10	173,152	16 6	1,427	19 11	"
" 1900	6,910	19,228	915	3,159,093	310,538	3,469,631	£	119,641	11 6	43,303	2 10	£	192,376	13 4	29,431	19 0	181,634	11 3	1,608	7 1	"
" 1901	7,249½	20,682½	991	3,534,444	363,684	3,898,128	£	137,861	1 2	49,117	0 8	£	222,305	8 0	35,327	6 2	194,014	12 11	1,900	8 6	"
" 1902	7,469	21,795	1,038	3,850,391	317,590	4,167,981	£	151,933	19 11	55,542	4 9	£	234,984	2 2	27,507	17 6	212,186	16 0	234	15 0	"

NOTE.—Tariff, 1890: 1s. for ten words, and free address and signature up to ten words; delayed telegrams, 6d. 1892: For twelve words, and free address and signature, ordinary telegrams, 1s.; delayed, 6d. Later in 1892 the number of words in text and signature made eighteen. 1896: First twelve words, 6d.; each additional word, 1d.; address and signature paid for.

Table No. 17.

TABLE showing the Cash Revenue derived from Private and Press Messages, the Value of Government Messages, and the Number of Messages transmitted in the several Postal Districts of New Zealand for the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1902.

Postal Districts.	Revenue derived from Private and Press Messages.			Value of Government Messages.			Total Value of Messages of all Codes.			Number of Private and Press Messages.	Number of Government Messages.	Total Number of Messages of all Codes.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Auckland	21,969	6	1	3,935	19	7	25,905	5	8	619,505	45,767	665,272
Blenheim	2,109	16	2½	473	2	3	2,582	18	5½	55,816	6,748	62,564
Christchurch	16,590	6	2	2,555	7	4	19,145	13	6	417,207	28,948	446,155
Dunedin	17,914	2	9	2,454	4	11	20,368	7	8	491,054	29,597	520,651
Gisborne	3,315	14	5	335	16	0	3,651	10	5	74,409	4,908	79,317
Greymouth	3,952	1	6	855	15	8	4,807	17	2	102,234	8,167	110,401
Hokitika	1,760	14	4	252	19	6	2,013	13	10	43,146	2,594	45,740
Invercargill	7,565	3	5	871	13	4	8,436	16	9	220,084	12,893	232,977
Napier	7,536	6	8	841	19	4	8,378	6	0	198,882	12,115	210,997
Nelson	3,279	3	3½	1,014	12	10	4,293	16	1½	180,846	13,281	194,127
New Plymouth	4,992	0	9	802	14	9	5,794	15	6	131,521	11,597	143,118
Oamaru	2,229	11	4½	286	19	9	2,516	11	1½	54,335	3,814	58,149
Thames	4,600	11	0½	541	19	4	5,142	10	4½	120,112	9,209	129,321
Timaru	3,663	16	1	450	13	1	4,114	9	2	88,492	6,366	94,858
Wanganui	8,360	3	5	1,354	17	11	9,715	1	4	230,548	14,303	244,851
Wellington	29,140	17	2	9,979	9	6	39,120	6	8	757,249	100,227	857,476
Westport	2,601	7	11	499	12	5	3,101	0	4	64,951	7,056	72,007
Totals, 1901-2	141,581	2	7	27,507	17	6	169,089	0	1	3,850,391	317,590	4,167,981
Totals, 1900-1	126,381	14	6	35,327	6	2	161,709	0	8	3,534,444	363,684	3,898,128

Table No. 18.

RETURN of Paid Telegrams of all Codes forwarded during the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1902, and the Revenue received.

Class of Telegrams.	June Quarter, 1901.		September Quarter, 1901.		December Quarter, 1901.		March Quarter, 1902.		Totals.	
	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.
Ordinary ..	755,204	£ 38,148 13 6½	690,910	£ 34,990 2 7½	775,025	£ 36,860 15 4	825,282	£ 39,979 12 0	3,046,421	£ 149,979 3 6
Urgent ..	41,842	2,866 8 10	33,564	2,315 6 1	42,733	2,707 0 8	46,402	3,024 7 2	164,541	10,913 2 9
Press ..	81,115	3,826 1 7	75,654	3,680 11 10	83,529	3,954 11 2	88,107	4,160 13 4	328,405	15,621 17 11
Bureau ..	73,319	2,112 0 5	74,631	2,196 11 8	79,023	2,358 9 6	84,051	2,528 7 9	311,024	9,195 9 4
Gross totals	..	46,953 4 4½	..	43,182 12 2½	..	45,880 16 8	..	49,693 0 3	..	185,709 13 6
Less other lines and credits	..	11,969 14 11½	..	10,848 19 0½	..	10,107 6 11	..	11,202 10 0	..	44,128 10 11
Net totals, 1901-2	951,480	34,983 9 5	874,759	32,333 13 2	980,310	35,773 9 9	1,043,842	38,490 10 3	3,850,391	141,581 2 7
Net totals, 1900-1	827,137	29,359 6 10	793,385	27,905 3 1½	924,231	32,675 14 2½	989,691	36,441 10 4	3,534,444	126,381 14 6

Table No. 19.

RETURN of the Number and Value of Telegraph Money-orders issued within the several Postal Districts during the Year ended 31st December, 1901.

Districts.	Number.	Telegraph Commission.	Value of Orders.
Auckland	6,865	£ 343 5 0	£ 22,645 8 3
Blenheim	927	46 7 0	2,807 12 5
Christchurch	3,634	181 14 0	12,620 14 1
Dunedin	3,752	187 12 0	13,526 16 9
Gisborne	1,395	69 15 0	4,609 13 0
Greymouth	2,120	106 0 0	6,865 9 11
Hokitika	656	32 16 0	1,983 8 8
Invercargill	1,644	82 4 0	5,268 19 2
Napier	3,570	178 10 0	11,028 3 7
Nelson	1,013	50 13 0	3,145 15 2
New Plymouth	2,237	111 17 0	6,400 13 3
Oamaru	399	19 19 0	1,238 19 9
Thames	2,879	143 19 0	8,181 2 2
Timaru	849	42 9 0	2,713 16 5
Wanganui	4,138	206 18 0	11,751 15 11
Wellington	9,150	457 10 0	28,572 16 10
Westport	1,342	67 2 0	4,163 9 5
Totals, 1901	46,570	2,328 10 0	147,524 14 9
Totals, 1900	39,311	1,965 11 0	127,551 12 6

Table No. 20.

RETURN showing the Capital Cost, Working-expenses, and Revenue of the Telephone Exchanges, Year by Year, from the Date of their Establishment.

Year.	Number of Connections.	Capital Cost for Instruments, Wire, Poles, Labour, Freight, Superintendence, &c.		Revenue.		Working-expenses.					Balance of Revenue over Working-expenses.	Annual Rate per Cent. yielded on Capital Cost.		
		Average Cost of each Connection.	Total for all Connections.	£	s.	d.	Salaries and Allowances of Clerks, &c.	Materials Linemen.	*Wear-and-tear, &c.	Rent, Fuel, Light, Paper, Printing, Binding, &c.			Total.	
														£
Total for the year ended 31st March,—														
1882	116	21 16 6	2,531 14 0	613 5 2	285 0 0	275 0 0	253 0 0	150 0 0	963 0 0	207 16 0	8 17			
1883	379	21 16 6	8,271 13 6	5,014 9 2	595 0 0	595 0 0	827 0 0	300 0 0	2,317 0 0	4,492 8 8	54 31			
1884	715	21 16 6	15,604 17 6	7,746 16 7	695 0 0	770 0 0	1,560 0 0	350 0 0	3,375 0 0	3,653 7 4	23 41			
1885	1,075	21 18 6	23,461 17 6	10,008 3 6	1,770 0 0	1,590 0 0	2,346 0 0	475 0 0	6,181 0 0	3,827 3 6	16 31			
1886	1,710	20 8 6	37,319 12 1	12,294 1 2	2,849 1 3	1,704 0 0	3,731 19 2	700 0 0	8,985 0 5	5,011 19 7	13 42			
1887	2,038	19 19 5	40,686 3 1	15,477 16 2	2,873 0 0	1,580 10 0	4,068 12 2	320 0 0	8,842 2 2	6,635 14 0	16 30			
1888	2,153	22 19 0	49,407 5 0	16,881 8 6	3,119 10 0	2,252 0 0	4,940 14 6	330 0 0	10,642 4 6	6,239 4 1	12 63			
1889	2,249	23 18 10	53,849 11 6	17,613 4 0	3,315 10 0	2,249 7 0	5,344 9 2	335 0 0	11,244 6 2	6,368 17 10	11 82			
1890	2,402	24 4 1	58,229 3 0	18,581 11 7	3,790 0 0	2,206 10 0	5,823 0 1	375 0 0	12,194 10 1	6,337 1 6	11 00			
1891	2,587	24 17 1	64,294 4 4	19,961 4 2	4,192 0 0	2,249 18 5	6,429 8 5	394 3 9	13,265 10 7	6,695 13 7	10 43			
1892	3,080	24 16 11	76,579 1 8	18,571 7 8	4,630 0 0	2,345 2 9	7,658 7 11	393 1 6	15,026 12 2	3,544 15 6	4 63			
1893	3,690	24 16 11	91,687 11 1	19,155 11 5	7,405 0 0	2,695 19 10	9,168 15 1	464 6 2	19,734 1 1	-578 9 8	Loss.			
1894	4,244	24 12 1	104,425 3 0	21,771 4 4	7,720 0 0	3,313 1 1	10,442 10 4	741 18 9	22,217 10 2	-446 5 10	Loss.			
1895	4,616	25 6 3	116,845 10 4	21,552 12 10	9,285 0 0	4,253 11 4	11,684 11 0	817 19 5	26,041 1 9	-3,420 1 9	Loss.			
1896	5,143	24 6 6	125,108 4 1	25,933 12 9	9,686 0 10	5,303 11 9	12,510 16 5	1,952 8 3	29,452 17 3	-3,519 4 6	Loss.			
1897	5,747	23 7 4	134,299 11 4	29,248 19 5	12,306 9 7	7,398 0 10	13,429 19 1	1,856 13 2	34,991 2 8	-5,742 3 3	Loss.			
1898	5,787	24 11 6	142,218 11 8	36,422 6 8	14,181 18 0	11,834 2 11	7,110 18 7	1,881 11 11	35,008 11 5	1,413 15 3	0 99			
1899	6,203	24 5 3	150,490 18 9	39,718 7 7	15,030 7 1	16,190 4 0	7,524 10 11	1,861 2 3	40,606 4 3	-887 16 8	Loss.			
1900	7,150	22 14 1	162,333 1 2	43,303 2 10	15,710 13 2	20,847 13 6	8,116 13 0	1,892 10 8	46,567 10 4	-3,264 7 6	Loss.			
1901	8,210	21 9 7	176,349 1 8	49,117 0 8	16,304 6 3	18,225 18 9	8,817 9 0	2,000 15 10	45,348 9 10	3,768 10 10	2 14			
1902	9,260	20 18 0	193,511 16 2	55,542 4 9	18,448 3 5	20,570 0 9	9,675 11 9	2,078 12 10	50,772 8 9	4,769 16 0	2 46			

* This column includes 5 per cent. for wear-and-tear, and 5 per cent. for debenture capital, except in 1897-98 and following years, in which only 5 per cent. for debenture capital is included.

Table No. 21.

RETURN of the COST of MAINTENANCE of TELEGRAPH LINES for the Year ended 31st March, 1902.

District.	No. of Miles.	Travelling-expenses of Inspectors and Linemen.	Extra Labour.	Cost of Material purchased.	Value of Material issued from Stores.	Salaries of Inspectors and Linemen.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average Cost per Mile
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland ..	1,890	944 9 3	1,839 15 11	3,144 13 11	2,673 13 0	2,840 0 0	11,442 12 1	6 1 1
Wellington ..	2,069½	1,041 10 8	1,293 13 6	151 4 7	1,538 12 5	2,930 0 0	6,955 1 2	3 7 3
Nelson ..	948½	1,311 16 6	3,186 6 8	2,504 9 2	2,548 15 0	1,501 0 0	11,052 7 4	11 13 2
Canterbury ..	895	527 5 4	925 16 6	720 7 8	1,030 8 0	1,935 0 0	5,138 17 6	5 14 10
Otago ..	1,666½	818 9 2	1,360 17 9	709 11 8	793 14 3	1,455 0 0	5,137 12 10	3 1 8
	7,469½	4,643 10 11	8,606 10 4	7,230 7 0	8,585 2 8	10,661 0 0	39,726 10 11	5 6 5
Cables .. (knots)	248·7	92 10 6	1,095 6 9	11 17 9	405 11 4	..	1,605 6 4	0 12 11
Stores ..	..	138 15 10	477 8 7	524 12 1	..	..	1,140 16 6	..
Totals ..	..	4,874 17 3	10,179 5 8	7,766 16 10	8,990 14 0	10,661 0 0	42,472 13 9	..

Table No. 22.

STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on, and the COST of, TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION during the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1902.

Line.	Expenditure.	Material from Stores.	Total Cost during the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telephone exchanges,—			
Ashburton ..	4 8 1	57 3 8	61 11 9
Auckland ..	203 11 4	1,036 13 0	1,240 4 4
Blenheim ..	..	20 14 1	20 14 1
Christchurch ..	426 12 2	1,629 13 6	2,056 5 8
Dannevirke ..	0 4 0	257 0 5	257 4 5
Dunedin ..	1,173 18 10	1,287 13 8	2,461 12 6
Feilding ..	8 17 6	75 10 5	84 7 11
Gisborne ..	80 10 0	267 8 8	347 18 8
Greymouth ..	8 11 2	124 14 2	133 5 4
Hawera ..	149 1 10	575 12 9	724 14 7
Hokitika ..	390 9 6	693 1 5	1,083 10 11
Invercargill ..	131 14 9	276 2 6	407 17 3
Masterton ..	299 4 5	1,064 3 6	1,363 7 11
Napier ..	52 15 2	286 18 1	339 13 3
Nelson ..	23 13 6	173 13 5	197 6 11
New Plymouth ..	5 12 5	307 18 2	313 10 7
Oamaru ..	41 17 2	139 1 8	180 18 10
Pahiatua ..	32 8 7	93 12 0	126 0 7
Palmerston North ..	30 4 6	329 7 0	359 11 6
Stratford ..	6 6 10	134 18 3	141 5 1
Thames ..	152 10 4	60 7 9	212 18 1
Timaru ..	154 1 1	398 2 3	552 3 4
Wanganui ..	136 0 5	517 8 5	653 8 10
Wellington ..	661 0 8	2,821 18 8	3,482 19 4
Westport ..	..	359 12 10	359 12 10
Total exchanges ..	4,173 14 3	12,988 10 3	17,162 4 6
Doubtless Bay ..	220 14 1	2,491 7 9	2,712 1 10
Horeke-Rawene ..	..	27 12 7	27 12 7
Kerikeri ..	71 2 8	..	71 2 8
Whangarei-Limestone Island ..	86 19 10	153 5 7	240 5 5
Mangawai-Te Arai ..	14 14 0	..	14 14 0
Pahi-Whakapirau ..	19 14 11	57 18 10	77 13 9
Helensville-Tahekeroa ..	2 19 1	..	2 19 1
Henderson-Swanson ..	..	19 12 1	19 12 1
Auckland-Mahoenui ..	273 5 3	..	273 5 3
Auckland-Rotorua ..	296 12 1	1,308 14 0	1,605 6 1
Ellerslie Racecourse ..	..	17 3 5	17 3 5
Mount Roskill-Waikowai ..	26 9 8	12 13 10	39 3 6
Manurewa Bureau ..	6 4 11	..	6 4 11
Tuakau-Onewhero ..	2 3 3	44 3 4	46 6 7
Cambridge-Hautapu ..	73 2 6	28 2 5	101 4 11
Thames-Paeroa ..	32 17 8	..	32 17 8
Thames-Hikutiaia ..	..	4 13 11	4 13 11

Table No. 22—continued.

STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on, and the COST of, TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION during the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1902—continued.

Line.	Expenditure.			Material from Stores.			Total Cost during the Year.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Waikino—Waitekauri	18	2	4	14	8	1	32	10	5
Motuihi—Waiheke Island	89	2	4	76	11	8	165	14	0
Rotorua—Waiotapu	263	15	8	...	...	...	263	15	8
Postmaster's Bath, Rotorua	2	18	3	33	9	2	36	7	5
Paemako	4	11	2	5	7	11	9	19	1
Porootarao—Ongarue	0	14	1	4	14	0	5	8	1
Ongarue—Taumarunui	82	0	0	...	...	...	82	0	0
New Plymouth—Auckland	53	8	2	0	16	9	54	4	11
Opunake—Pihama—Manaia	4	10	0	...	...	...	4	10	0
Strathmore—Whangamomona—Huikama	432	13	4	22	8	10	455	2	2
Otakeho—Auroa	45	13	2	37	4	2	82	17	4
Kaponga—Awatuna	58	2	9	189	8	5	247	11	2
Wanganui—Hawera	9	12	0	...	...	...	9	12	0
Wanganui—Okioia ... ..	...	...	...	7	0	1	7	0	1
Wanganui—Castlecliff ... ..	...	...	...	49	10	10	49	10	10
Wanganui—Fordell—Mangamahu	634	16	7	155	5	11	790	2	6
Rongotea—Glenoroua	10	18	0	...	...	...	10	18	0
Feilding ... ..	...	...	...	130	19	6	130	19	6
Awahuri—Rongotea ... ..	...	...	...	36	2	9	36	2	9
Weraroa	3	7	6	...	...	...	3	7	6
Paremata ... ..	...	...	...	6	7	9	6	7	9
Taradale—Fernhill	56	13	9	32	6	11	89	0	8
Waipawa—Tamamu—Patangata—Elsthorpe	368	13	5	152	4	3	520	17	8
Wimbledon—Ti-tree	120	11	9	...	...	...	120	11	9
Papatawa ... ..	...	...	...	4	18	5	4	18	5
Pahiatua—Kaitawa	22	11	6	83	4	1	105	15	7
Pahiatua—Hamua	8	10	0	90	0	10	98	10	10
Mangaramarama	0	14	0	6	3	7	6	17	7
Alfredton—Pongaroa	181	1	4	10	2	9	191	4	1
Alfredton—Saunders Road ... ..	...	...	...	0	11	5	0	11	5
Eketahuna—Rongomai	107	5	2	17	17	5	125	2	7
Eketahuna—Nireaha	103	18	2	27	15	5	131	13	7
Raumai ... ..	...	...	...	3	11	0	3	11	0
Masterton—Carterton	54	0	0	...	...	...	54	0	0
Trentham ... ..	...	...	...	0	12	2	0	12	2
Muritai—Pencarrow	91	4	1	...	...	...	91	4	1
Blenheim—Nelson ... ..	...	...	...	1	13	2	1	13	2
Cullensville—Pelorus Sound	10	17	5	0	12	9	11	10	2
Mahau ... ..	...	...	...	71	15	7	71	15	7
Mahakipawa	2	17	0	10	0	2	12	17	2
Waitapu	3	6	6	...	...	...	3	6	6
Motupipi	3	19	0	...	...	...	3	19	0
Whangamoā	0	8	6	4	5	3	4	13	9
Rai Valley ... ..	...	...	...	5	10	0	5	10	0
Flat Creek ... ..	...	...	...	6	0	6	6	0	6
Hope—Tophouse ... ..	...	...	...	130	14	10	130	14	10
Greymouth—Reefton	62	13	6	1	15	11	64	9	5
Kanieri—Woodstock—Rimu ... ..	...	...	...	11	1	6	11	1	6
Rimu—Kokatahi	214	17	10	187	0	0	401	17	10
Kokatahi—Koiterangi	78	7	9	180	14	5	259	2	2
Kokatahi—Upper Kokatahi ... ..	...	...	...	25	8	9	25	8	9
Okura Ferry	38	11	1	42	18	11	81	10	0
Kowai Bush	1	17	0	4	1	9	5	18	9
Darfield—Coalgate ... ..	...	...	...	29	8	7	29	8	7
Prebbleton	3	9	6	...	...	...	3	9	6
Yaldhurst	0	18	11	...	...	...	0	18	11
West Melton Bureau	67	19	6	222	5	4	290	4	10
Kaikoura—Christchurch ... ..	...	...	...	4	11	4	4	11	4
Christchurch—Akaroa trunk	87	13	5	242	1	1	329	14	6
Hilltop Bureau ... ..	...	...	...	3	15	5	3	15	5
Timaru—Temuka	45	11	11	...	...	...	45	11	11
Timaru—Fairlie Creek	5	12	2	...	...	...	5	12	2
Pleasant Point Bureau ... ..	...	...	...	3	15	10	3	15	10
Sutherland's Bureau ... ..	...	...	...	4	1	1	4	1	1
Cave " ... ..	...	...	...	4	1	1	4	1	1
Albury " ... ..	...	...	...	3	15	9	3	15	9
Cricklewood " ... ..	...	...	...	4	13	4	4	13	4
Kimbell " ... ..	...	...	...	5	8	8	5	8	8

Table No. 22—*continued.*

STATEMENT showing the EXPENDITURE on, and the COST of, TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION during the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1902—*continued.*

Line.	Expenditure.	Material from Stores.	Total Cost during the Year.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Waihao Ferry ... ..	...	0 19 9	0 19 9
Georgetown-Ikawai	4 14 7	88 12 4	93 6 11
Blackstone Hill-Ophir	121 9 4	...	121 9 4
Wedderburn-Idaburn	26 6 8	51 12 10	77 19 6
Ranfurly-Waipiaata	14 8 4	29 8 3	43 16 7
Hamilton's	1 19 6	...	1 19 6
Dunedin-Port Chalmers	56 2 1	40 7 6	96 9 7
South Dunedin-Caversham ... ..	...	10 12 4	10 12 4
Milton-Adams Flat	42 13 8	24 10 2	67 3 10
Heriot-Dunrobin	3 7 2	...	3 7 2
Arrowtown-Kawarau	15 6 8	30 2 9	45 9 5
Waikaia Bureau	11 8 7	...	11 8 7
Invercargill-Lumsden	2 12 0	5 11 7	8 3 7
Riverton-Colac Bay-Orepuki	106 0 9	154 9 1	260 9 10
Titiroa	0 0 9	6 3 8	6 4 5
	9,165 13 9	20,007 3 4	29,172 17 1
Purchase of material	22,563 2 5		
Total expenditure 1901-2	31,728 16 2		
Total expenditure to 31st March, 1901	906,158 6 1		
Total expenditure out of Public Works Fund to 31st March, 1902	£937,887 2 3	Total cost of lines during 1901-2	£29,172 17 1

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (1,875 copies), £57 14s.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1902.