

The following figures show the growth of the traffic in bureau messages as compared with ordinary telegrams:—

			Average Value.	
			Year	Year
			1905-6.	1904-5.
The total number of ordinary telegrams increased by	275,884, or 7.42 %	and relative receipts by ...	8.12d.	8.16d.
The total number of bureau communications increased by	138,042, or 22.04 %		5.14d.	5.30d.
			£2,534 11s. 9½d., or 18.32 %	

The number of official telegrams forwarded was 289,135, valued at £24,168 10s. 4d., as compared with 259,250, of the value of £20,597 11s. 10d.—an increase of 29,885 in number, and of £3,570 18s. 6d. in amount.

63,682 money-orders, for £228,423 5s. 10d., were transmitted by telegraph, as against 61,057, for £210,790 7s. 6d., in 1904—an increase of 2,625 telegrams.

The number of paid forwarded telegrams to every hundred letters posted in New Zealand for delivery within the colony was 8.26, as against 8.08 in 1904-5.

TELEGRAPH MESSENGERS' DELIVERIES.

Telegraph messengers' deliveries (by departmental messenger) were established as follows: Christchurch—Amberley, St. Albans. Dunedin—Omakau. Invercargill—Mataura. Napier—Ormondville, Takapau, Weber. Timaru—Pleasant Point, Winchester. Wanganui—Raetihi. Wellington—Johnsonville.

OFFICES OPENED and CLOSED during Financial Year ended 31st March, 1906.

Opened.

Ahipara	Islington	Niagara	Springburn
Ahuriri Flat	Kaihiku	Ohinewai	Taikorea
Allanton Bureau	Kaikoura Suburban	Ohura	Tapawera
Aponga	Kaipara Flats	Oruanui	Tawai
Ashley Downs	Kaurihohore	Otara	Te Anau
Barrhill	Kelchers	Ouruha	Te Haroto
Bishops	Kiritaki	Pakipaki	Te Maire
Blind River	Koeke	Pakowhai	Te Moechau
Braemore	Komako	Parkvale	Te Pare
Cardiff	Korere	Paterangi	Te Tatua
Carnarvon	Levels	Pohonui	Te Teko
Clydevale	Little Wanganui Ferry	Progress Junction	Te Uku
Dromore	Lowcliffe	Pukenui	The Key
Edievale	Mabel Bush	Pukeroa	Tokonui Gorge
Greenfield	Makahu	Puniwhakau	Totara Valley
Green Hills	Manapouri	Puponga	Tututawa
Grove Bush	Mangamaire	Purangi	Twelve-mile Landing
Hairini	Matatoki	Quarry Hills	Umutoi
Hangatiki	Matau	Rakauhauka	Upper Waiwera
Hazelburn	Matiere	Rangiheke	Utuwai
Herbert Bureau	Merton	Raurimu	Waihaorunga
Herekino	Miramar	Reikorangi	Waikawa
Highbank	Moana	Rewa	Waikawa Valley
Hillend	Moewhare	Rongokokaho	Waikiekie
Holmeslea	Mokoia	Rotomana	Waimai
Huiroa	Momona	Ruatangata	Waimea West
Ida Valley	Moumahaki Farm	Ruataniwha	Wakatahuri
Ihuraua Valley	Myross Bush	Seaward Moss	Whangape.
Islay Downs	Ngaputahi	Shag Valley	

Closed.

Kawarau Bridge	Tokatea	Upper Mohaka.
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Summary.

Number of offices open on the 31st March, 1905, 1,200; opened during year, 115; closed during year, 3; increase, 112. Number of offices open on the 31st March, 1906, 1,312.

OCEAN CABLE SERVICES.

There has been an increase of 6.2 per cent. in the number of messages, but a decrease of 0.37 per cent. in the value of the colony's ordinary outward international cable traffic for the year; while the ordinary traffic from Australia shows increases of 3.37 per cent. in the number of messages, and 0.54 in the value. The proportion of cable messages to and from New Zealand transmitted by the Pacific cable exceeds 75 per cent. of the total traffic.

The working of the Pacific cable has been satisfactory. Delays due to weather conditions and forest fires occurred occasionally on the Canadian land lines, but as a rule they were trifling.

New Zealand's proportion of the deficit of £75,849 18s. 6d. on the third year's working of the Pacific cable amounted to £8,427 15s. 4d.

The receipts and working-expenses of the Pacific cable for the year ended the 31st March, 1906, are estimated as under:—

Traffic Revenue	£ 82,000	Annuity and Renewals	£ 111,545
Estimated Deficit	86,017	Working-expenses	56,472
		£168,017			£168,017