

The following is a comparative statement showing the length of new lines and wires erected in Telegraph Engineers' districts during the last five years :—

	1905.		1906.		1907.		1908.		1909-10.	
	Poles.	Wire.	Poles.	Wire.	Poles.	Wire.	Poles.	Wire.	Poles.	Wire.
Auckland ..	M. ch. 63 30	M. ch. 101 50	M. ch. 135 60	M. ch. 494 40	M. ch. 139 60	M. ch. 350 60	M. ch. 228 60	M. ch. 795 0	M. ch. 191 36	M. ch. 952 78
Christchurch ..	57 20	165 40	111 30	170 8	90 47	266 20	62 30½	641 50	17 78	268 40
Dunedin ..	136 50	400 20	48 40	392 20	121 0	518 20	248 60	644 60	64 0	286 40
Nelson ..	25 15	152 1	146 67	217 49	245 16	484 77	52 22	254 58	38 16	189 72
Wellington ..	128 71	592 78	156 35	641 40	104 43	696 74	157 2½	974 52	192 55	490 53
Totals ..	411 26	1,412 29	598 72	1,915 77	701 6	2,311 11	749 15	3,310 60	504 25	2,188 43

Arrangements are being made to immediately erect two copper wires between Wellington and Auckland for telegraph purposes by a new route on the Main Trunk Railway line which is much shorter than the existing routes. These wires will also be used during certain hours for telephonic purposes between the two cities.

Between Auckland and Whangarei (126 miles) a telephone circuit was superimposed on two telegraph wires, with most satisfactory results.

The two wires (Morse and telephone) between Nelson and Motueka have been utilised to form a trunk metallic circuit with the Morse superimposed over it.

A similar circuit has been arranged between Nelson and Wakefield.

Additional telephone circuits have been superimposed over existing metallic circuits between Ashhurst and Palmerston North, Masterton and Greytown, and Masterton and Eketahuna; and Morse circuits have been superimposed over metallic circuits between New Plymouth and Waitara, Manaia and Opunake, and Wellington and Levin.

MAINTENANCE OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE TRUNK LINES.

The following are principal lines overhauled and strengthened during the year :—

	Miles.
Morrinsville-Putaruru	36
Henderson-Helensville	22
Waipu - Parua Bay	18
Waipu - Pollok Settlement	13
Paekakariki - Palmerston North	61
Gisborne-Opoutama	50
Tikokino - Makaretu - Ashley Clinton	31
Hawera-Opunake	29
Woodville-Dannevirke	17
Omoana-Eltham	26
Greymouth-Ahaura	22
Hokitika-Ross	22
Blenheim-Kekerangu	55
Blenheim-Tophouse	60
Christchurch-Timaru, main line (Hinds-Timaru section)	36
Palmerston-Dunedin	41
Dunedin-Clinton	73
Mataura-Clinton	34
Gore-Edendale	17
Invercargill-Bluff	17
Dunedin-Akatore	42

A section, one mile in length, of Ohiwa line had to be removed back and reconstructed on account of sea-encroachment.

Arrangements have been made to overhaul the Frankton-Otorohanga and Frankton-Kawhia lines.

Owing to frequent washing-out of poles at the Wairau Ford river-crossing, eight sets of iron pipes (four in each set) have been driven 20 ft. into the Wairau River bed as supports, and wooden poles braced thereto.

The supervision of the Ross Goldfields electrical installation was undertaken by this Department under the powers conferred by the Board of Control.

The work of rebuilding the line between Christchurch and Timaru was completed simultaneously with the running of the new 300 lb. copper Morse wire for Dunedin, and the two wires for the Timaru trunk circuit.