

During the year under review a new storage battery to replace the old one, which has been in use since about July, 1914, was installed. The work of installing a large battery of this type, despite the isolation of the station and difficulties in materials and labour, was successfully carried out without interfering in any way with the running of the station. The plant is in a fair condition, with the exception of the Leyden-jar condensers. These are in a very bad state, and are unobtainable except from Germany and Austria. At Awanui-Radio (New Zealand) Marconi oil condensers have recently been installed to replace the Leyden-jar glass type, and a similar replacement is under consideration here.

The radio station serves international purposes as well as the purposes of Samoa, and because it is consequently continuously open an annual deficit must be expected. Samoan revenue should not be called upon to find this deficit, and consideration is being given to a proposal to relieve Samoan revenue in this respect by an annual subsidy from the New Zealand Treasury.

DETAILS OF ENGINE-RUNNING AND OIL-CONSUMPTION AT APIA-RADIO FOR PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1920, TO 31ST MARCH, 1921.

Month.	Total Engine-running Time.		Monthly Consumption of Crude Oil.		Consumption per Hour.
	Hrs.	min.	Gallons.		Gallons.
1920—April	94	15	255		2.70
May	90	0	267		2.92
June	111	0	258		2.32
July	102	0	266		2.60
August	94	15	267		2.80
September	85	15	262		2.70
October	149	45	246		1.60
November	179	45	377		2.10
December	62	30	292		4.50
1921—January	60	0	175		2.83
February	71	0	211		2.97
March	71	15	250		3.23

TRAFFIC HANDLED BY APIA-RADIO, 1ST APRIL, 1920, TO 31ST MARCH, 1921.

Month.	Forwarded.		Received.		Transmits.	
	Messages.	Words.	Messages.	Words.	Messages.	Words.
1920—April	322	4,548	292	5,039	734	9,404
May	373	5,065	336	5,107	748	9,301
June	389	5,684	394	5,947	893	10,919
July	346	5,499	332	4,440	886	10,248
August	267	4,730	315	4,225	599	8,548
September	308	3,527	307	3,341	785	9,612
October	360	3,943	331	3,834	727	8,973
November	313	3,937	304	3,408	750	8,969
December	341	3,696	391	4,069	749	8,560
1921—January	252	2,821	298	3,501	699	8,784
February	254	2,791	266	3,192	620	8,112
March	304	3,319	267	3,167	729	8,027
Totals	3,829	49,560	3,833	49,269	8,919	109,457

Amount earned by Apia, £5,112 14s.

POPULATION.

The Native population for 1902 onward is recorded as follows:—

1902	32,815
1906	34,962
1911	34,063
1917	37,223
September, 1918 (before epidemic)	38,302
December, 1918 (after epidemic)	30,738
April, 1921	32,953

It will be observed that for the sixteen years from 1902 to September, 1918, the Native population increased by 5,487, whilst during the succeeding two years and a half to April, 1921, the increase was 2,215, a greater rate of increase than previously. It is confidently anticipated that under the progressive policy with regard to the medical service already adopted and now in course of realization, and the propaganda to be carried out in matters hygienic under the direction of the Department of Health, and attention to the care and health of children, the population will steadily increase.