

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1923-24.

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1924.
NEW ZEALAND.

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT

(REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR 1923-24.

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

To His Excellency the Right Honourable John Rushworth, Viscount Jellicoe, Admiral of the Fleet, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Member of the Order of Merit, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Dominion of New Zealand and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency the report of the Post and Telegraph Department for the year ended 31st March, 1924.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The business of the Department continues to be satisfactory. The excess of receipts over expenditure was £568,369, approximately £4,400 less than last year. Notwithstanding this, the surplus for the year was the second largest in the history of the Department. This must be regarded as satisfactory, considering the very large reduction in rates made on the 1st October, 1923, when postage rates were reduced by $33\frac{1}{3}$ per centum.

REDUCTION IN POSTAGE-RATES.

The outstanding feature of the year's work has been the redistribution of charges for services rendered to the public. After a careful examination of the position I was able to arrange, as from the 1st October, for the reintroduction of penny postage within New Zealand, to places in the British Empire, and to countries with which New Zealand had special agreements; and for the reinstatement of the halfpenny rate for commercial papers, &c. As a result, New Zealand now enjoys the cheapest rate of postage in its history. The cost of furnishing this service is still high, on account of the depreciated value of the pound sterling. Nevertheless it is confidently expected that the reduction in postage-rates will result in a much increased volume of business. When the Commonwealth of Australia was asked to accept letters from New Zealand at the new rate the request was declined, but after further negotiations the decision was reversed.

The schedule below shows the changes in detail:—

Item.	Old Rate.	New Rate.
Letters and letter-cards for inland delivery	1½d. for first 2 oz.; 1d. for each additional 2 oz.	1d. for first ounce; ½d. for each additional ounce.
Letters and letter-cards addressed to Great Britain and British possessions, United States of America, and to all other places to which Postal Union rates (minimum 2½d.) do not apply	1½d. for first ounce; 1d. for each additional ounce	1d. for first ounce; 1d. for each additional ounce.
Post-cards (inland)	Single, 1d.; reply, 2d.	Single, ½d.; reply, 1d.
Packets (inland) comprising commercial papers, books, and printed papers, pattern and sample packets, and unregistered magazines	1d. for first 2 oz. or fraction thereof; over 2 oz. but not exceeding 4 oz., 1½d.; 1½d. for each additional 4 oz. up to 1 lb.; and 2d. for each additional pound up to 5 lb.	½d. for each 2 oz. up to 2 lb.; 2d. for each additional pound beyond 2 lb. up to 5 lb.
Registered magazines (inland)	2d. for each copy if not exceeding 8 oz.; 1d. for each additional 8 oz.	Each copy, 1d. for each 8 oz.
Government packages	For the first pound, 6d.; 2d. for each additional pound up to 10 lb.; 1d. for each additional pound beyond 10 lb. up to 28 lb.	½d. for each 2 oz. up to 2 lb.; 2d. for each additional pound beyond 2 lb. up to 10 lb.; 1d. for each additional pound beyond 10 lb. up to 28 lb.
Late fee	2d.	1d.

TELEPHONE INCOME.

The marked increase in telephone receipts (£234,503) is accounted for mainly by the fact that a considerable portion of the receipts are for service to be rendered during the financial year 1924–25.

TELEPHONE CHARGES.

One of the most important alterations during the year was the adoption of a new system of rating for private and business telephones. For very many years the telephone system has been carried on at a loss, owing to the basic rates being lower than the actual cost of the service given. The growth in the number of subscribers naturally increased the annual loss; and, after a careful examination of the telephone systems of other countries, it was decided to amend the rates in the direction of requiring a higher payment from those who make the most use of the service. The rates are designed to provide for annual charges such as interest on the capital expended, depreciation, and working-costs. Hitherto any shortage has been made up by the general taxpayer; now the service will be paid for by the users.

A noticeable increase in subscribers in suburban and country districts has resulted from the amended rates, and no doubt this will enhance the value of the telephone to business people by placing them in telephonic communication with an increasing number of customers.

TELEPHONE SERVICE.

A graph showing the remarkable development in the use of telephones during recent years will be found at page 25. Following on the Great War, the unusual demand for telephones—which it may be said is world-wide—could not be met by manufacturers. But it will now be seen that the “waiting-list” is being steadily reduced, and that the time is not far distant when the list will be abolished.

It is the aim of my Department to render more efficient service each year. Observations made during the past year at the four principal city exchanges show that the average time elapsing between a call by a subscriber and the answer by a telephone operator is 4.61 seconds, and that the average time elapsing between the termination of a conversation and the disconnection by an operator is 4.29 seconds. This must be considered very satisfactory under present conditions, when it is remembered that much of the apparatus is worn and cumbersome and that a dual system of automatic and manual working is in operation.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CIRCUITS.

The general extension of electric-power lines of extra-high voltage in practically all parts of the Dominion has necessitated a good deal of work by the Department in altering and removing telegraph and telephone circuits and installing devices for the protection of departmental lines. The conversion of all earthworking telephone-lines to metallic, and the keeping of all telephone circuits in the highest state of efficiency so as to prevent inductive disturbances from the high-power lines, are also rendered necessary. These are factors that have contributed to the increased cost of telephone circuits as compared with pre-war figures.

RADIO BROADCASTING.

In order to put broadcasting on a more satisfactory financial and developmental basis, a scheme is being developed under which an agreement covering the whole of the Dominion will be entered into with a broadcasting organization representative of the "listeners-in" and the electrical trade. Under this scheme four modern broadcasting-stations will be erected at the main centres, and operated in accordance with suitable regulations. Subject to certain conditions, this organization will be given an exclusive right to erect and operate broadcasting-stations. As soon as the necessary legislation is enacted, a Board of representative personnel will be set up to advise the Government upon the development and operation of the broadcasting service. The revenue of the broadcasting organization will comprise a portion of the license fees paid in respect of private radio receiving-stations. It is anticipated that when broadcasting is established on the lines indicated above and a high standard of transmission is reached the number of receiving-stations will greatly increase.

COOK STRAIT TELEPHONE-CABLE.

Provision will be made in this year's estimates for the purchasing and laying across Cook Strait of a submarine cable for the purpose of providing telephone communication between the North and South Islands. The cable that the Department has in view is of the four-core continuously-loaded type, so designed as to provide three telephone and four telegraph channels. Arrangements are also being made to obtain the latest type of thermionic-valve repeaters for use in conjunction with the submarine cable. The installation of this cable and the extended use of repeaters will make it practicable for telephonic communication to be provided between any two parts of the Dominion. Advantage was taken of the visit to New Zealand in March last of the Eastern Extension Cable Company's cable steamer "Patrol" to survey the route of the proposed Cook Strait telephone-cable. Provided no unforeseen circumstances arise, the new cable should be laid early in 1925.

LABOUR BUREAUX AT POST-OFFICES.

By arrangement with the Labour Department, labour bureaux were established from the 1st October, 1923, at about four hundred permanent post-offices at places other than those at which the Labour Department has its own representatives. Employers of labour and persons seeking work are now able to ascertain at these post-offices whether their needs can be met locally.

Under the scheme, Postmasters register applications for employment and applications for workers. In the event of the Postmaster being unable to offer employment to the applicant, or should there be no worker available when application for one is made by an employer, the Labour Department is communicated with. The fees charged are in accordance with those authorized under the Servants' Registry Office Act. The benefits of the innovation are already evident.

INSPECTION OF POST-OFFICES.

In the course of the year Inspectors visited 2,341 offices. The duties of an Inspector are to audit the accounts, to check irregularities in office management, and to promote the efficiency of the service generally. Reports furnished by Inspectors disclose that the manner in which the Department's business is performed is becoming more efficient from year to year. It is appreciated that all that is possible in this connection has not yet been achieved, but a very marked advance was observed during 1923.

STAFF EFFICIENCY.

The efficiency of the Department has been well maintained during the year; and, with a view to its improvement, a conference of controlling officers from the cities and provincial towns was held in Wellington in November last. Methods of improving the service to the public and reducing expenditure were discussed at length, and the results are now apparent in the smoother working of the many branches comprising the Department. It is the aspiration of the Department to carry out promptly and efficiently its duty to the public, and every effort is being made to adequately fulfil this aspiration. I have frequently had to compliment officers on the initiative displayed in meeting emergencies, and I have no doubt the general public fully appreciate the enthusiasm shown by my officers. Obviously, with a total staff of approximately eleven thousand officers, there will sometimes be instances of indifference to the claims of the public; but, generally, officers can be

relied upon to give their best services on all occasions. Unfortunately, the service numbers amongst its officers a few who might be termed “disloyalists,” and these few, with the ready assistance of persons outside the service, are only too eager to oppose—if they can do so without danger to their positions—the legitimate aim of the Department, which is to serve the public efficiently and economically. My observations and those of my advisers convince me that the officers generally do not approve of many of the actions taken by these malcontents, whose object apparently is to manage this great service for their own ends, forgetting that the service is the property of the public and that the public have elected the Government to control it. I feel that this claim of “control by the workers” is only a parrot-like repetition of that of the public servants of another country, who have indicated in one of their publications that “Workers’ control in the Post Office” is their Mecca. No doubt all officers of the Department will sooner or later realize that their duty is to serve as well as they can, and that the better their service the more easily their efforts can be recompensed. Reluctant service brings reluctant recognition; and the dissemination of a spirit of disloyalty does not make for a happy and contented service, or for general public approval of the efforts of the Department.

PROMOTION BY MERIT.

An important factor in the efficiency of the Department is the scheme of promotion by merit, introduced in 1919. The effect of this change is steadily becoming evident, and no doubt it will become increasingly noticeable as the years go by. Prior to 1919 promotion was more often governed by seniority, and, as a consequence, officers were not spurred on to their best efforts, because they felt that effort brought no reward. One result of the old system was that some officers with a limited outlook, and some with no ambition to give good service, drifted into controlling positions for which they were not suited, and consequently the service rendered under their inefficient control was frequently costly and indifferent. “Efficiency” is now the watchword of the service, and every means is being pursued to avoid obsolete or slow methods, and to study economy of management combined with a satisfactory service.

In a Government service on which the public depends so much for the transaction of its business it necessarily follows that understudies have to be trained to take up without much notice duties usually performed by others. This aspect is so carefully watched in the Department that, although absences from duty through sickness or other cause are as frequent inside as outside the Department, the public are not aware of any diminution in the service given, nor is any delay in the dispatch of business noticeable.

RECLASSIFICATION: REVALUATION OF POSITIONS.

In accordance with regulations made under the Post and Telegraph Department Act, 1918, steps were taken during the year to revalue various positions held by officers, in order that the reclassification of the service due on the 1st April, 1924, might be carried to a successful conclusion. Such a revaluation is made at intervals of not more than five years, and is necessary on account of the steady development of the service.

WORK PERFORMED FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

The Post and Telegraph Department is really a “service” rather than a “Department.” By reason of its ramifications it has probably greater potentialities for usefulness to the public than any other organization, and in New Zealand very full use is made of it.

Around the money-order and savings-bank accounts as a nucleus there has been built up a system of accounting which receives from all the departments of the Post and Telegraph Service various revenues which are due to the Treasury, and, in addition to this, the system includes a vast amount of work for other Departments of the State.

The Post Office receives amounts for credit of almost every Government Department and clears them from its central office in Wellington. In fact, it performs for the general public and the State various duties which, in quite another sphere of activity, are usually performed by a commercial bank. On account of the smallness of the majority of the individual transactions, the business, which bulks very large even from the point of view of pounds shillings and pence, is very much larger from the standpoint of the number of transactions involved, which run into millions in each of the main divisions of the business.

A very large business is done for both the Public Trust Office and the State Advances Office in connection with the receipt and payment of moneys throughout the Dominion, amounting last year in the case of the former office to £626,000, and in that of the latter to £6,027,000. Payments of all kinds, including advances on mortgages, are made upon vouchers prepared and certified in the Head Offices of these Departments, and transmitted to the Accountant's Office, General Post Office, for payment. On the other hand, lodgments are received at any money-order office in the Dominion of any moneys whatever that may be due to the Public Trustee or to the State Advances Office. A very large number of vouchers are paid on behalf of the Treasury. Last year these amounted in value to £4,176,093. This system admits of the prompt payment through the Post Office of all claims against the General Government of sums of £5 and under, without pre-audit and without reference to the central authority. This is very much appreciated by small creditors, enabling them, as it does, to receive payment immediately after completion of the service.

In addition to the items mentioned, where the Post Office acts as the agent or intermediary, there is a very considerable number of others, including such diverse matters as the collection of fees under the Arms Act; sale of fishing and game licenses; collection of Customs duty on parcels received from abroad; collection of goldfields revenue; collection of premiums for the Government Insurance Department; the payment of old-age, widows', and military pensions, Imperial pensions, and public servants' superannuation allowances; the collection of machinery fees, of amounts for the National Provident Fund, of fees in connection with the registration of births, deaths, and marriages, of valuation revenue, of land and income tax, orchard-tax, beer duty, workers' dwellings instalments, and industrial-schools receipts. All these operations entail special knowledge on the part of the officers dealing with them, and require special classes of accounts. This is particularly the case in connection with the payment of both Imperial and old-age pensions, where rules governing the payments are elaborate and intricate. There is probably no country in the world where the machinery of the Post Office is put to a greater or more varied use. Its systems and methods are so flexible that there are practically no limits to the extension of its functions.

Apart from the advantages which are enjoyed by the public under the Post Office system of the collection and disbursement of public moneys, there is a very distinct benefit to the State, as the work is performed at a fractional part of the cost which would be incurred under other conditions.

The turnover of transactions under this heading for the year 1923-24 will be found in Table No. 8 on page 39.

WAR-LOAN CERTIFICATES.

During the period from 1914 onwards the Post Office, which might fitly be described as the "handy man" of State Departments, undertook the creation and sale of war-loan certificates on behalf of the Government, and subsequently arranged repayment of the amounts as the certificates matured. A sum of £4,613,202 was raised as an aid to the Government's war effort, and, up to the 31st March, 1924, £4,642,779, including interest, had been repaid to the lenders. As might be expected, hundreds of certificates were mislaid, lost, destroyed by fire, &c., with the result that the investor was not able to produce documentary evidence of his right to the money when the certificates matured. Each case has been carefully examined, and ultimately settlement was effected to the satisfaction of the persons concerned. This may be regarded as a very satisfactory termination to a big undertaking, whereby securities for small sums were widely distributed amongst probably a quarter of a million of the population.

MONEY-ORDERS.

In the money-order business for the year there has been an increase both in the number of transactions and in the aggregate amount remitted; and this is regarded as indicating an improvement of conditions generally in the Dominion.

The improvement in the finances of the Dominion justifies a reduction in the rates of commission on inland money-orders, as a greater volume of business can be transacted at practically the same cost. Provision has accordingly been made for a new schedule to take effect from the 1st April, 1924, when the rate of commission will be reduced to 6d. for sums not exceeding £10 and 3d. for each succeeding £5 or fraction thereof.

The business with countries abroad shows increases in the amounts sent and received. Notwithstanding the extraordinary fluctuations in the exchange rates, satisfactory money-order services with the United States of America and with Canada were maintained during the year. Owing to exchange difficulties, the time is not yet opportune for the resumption of a direct exchange of money-orders with certain European Administrations, but a satisfactory service is maintained through the medium of the British Post Office.

POSTAL NOTES.

This very convenient method of remitting small sums to places within the Dominion still maintains its popularity with the public, as indicated by the returns for the year, which show an increased business. Over two and a half million postal notes were issued during the year, and approximately the same number were paid; the commission thereon produced a revenue of £18,196 11s. 11d.

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS.

This useful form of remittance, by means of which sums from 6d. to £1 may be sent to practically any part of the British Empire upon payment of commission ranging from 1d. to 6d., shows an increase of business. During the year, 115,498 orders were sold, of a value of £66,937.

SAVINGS-BANK.

A comparison of the transactions in the years ended 31st March, 1923 and 1924, will be found in Table No. 7, at page 38.

The expansion of business is indicated by an increase during the year of nearly three millions in deposits, and nearly two millions in withdrawals, over the figures for the previous year. The year ended with an excess of deposits over withdrawals amounting to £88,000, an improvement of well over a million pounds as compared with the year ended 31st March, 1923, when the withdrawals exceeded the deposits by £1,086,836. This gratifying result of the year's transactions gives promise of a return to the state of prosperity obtaining before the slump in 1921.

The total balance at credit of depositors on the 31st March, 1924, was £46,098,421, which includes interest amounting to £1,649,976 credited to depositors' accounts during the year. The proportion of accounts to population is one account to every 1.96 of the inhabitants. No greater demonstration of the confidence of the people of New Zealand in the Post Office Savings-bank could be desired.

The system of nomination, under which any depositor of the age of twenty-one years or upwards may nominate one or more persons to receive the whole or any portion of the deposits standing in the name of such depositor at the time of his decease, is growing in favour. This system has proved beneficial in cases in which the balance at credit of a deceased person's account is required urgently for the benefit of the widow or children of the depositor. In these cases payment is made without production of probate or letters of administration, as the nomination is not affected by a will, whether made before or after the nomination.

With the object of providing still further relief to the representative of a deceased depositor whose estate is small and consists largely or wholly of deposits in the Post Office Savings-bank, it is proposed to obtain legislative authority to increase from £100 to £200 the amount which the Postmaster-General may pay out without production of probate or letters of administration.

OPENING OF LEDGER OFFICES.

In order that the local savings-bank depositors in the larger country centres might be under no disability should they require money on demand, it was decided to make the savings-bank offices at Feilding, Hastings, Hawera, Masterton, and Whangarei ledger offices. The effect of this action is that depositors at the places mentioned are given practically the same facilities as those afforded depositors in the main centres of population.

The opening of these ledger offices is a development of a system introduced some years ago. As circumstances warrant, the system will be expanded, so that where the population is sufficient depositors will be able to withdraw money from the savings-bank without giving notice. While it is recognized that too many facilities for withdrawing money from a savings-bank may not be in the interests of the people concerned, the demand for ledger offices had to be met.

MARINE POST-OFFICE.

During the year the system of employing Mail Agents on the mail-steamers plying between Wellington and San Francisco and between Auckland and Vancouver was reintroduced. The result has been of considerable advantage to the business community and to residents outside the centres, in that delivery of overseas mails is made from twelve to twenty-four hours earlier than under the old system. The presence of these officers on the mail-steamers also permits the Department to accept letters up to the time of departure from New Zealand.

INLAND MAIL-SERVICES.

The coming year will be important so far as mails to and from country districts are concerned. Tenders for inland mail-service contracts throughout New Zealand will be invited early in August. The resulting contracts will take effect from the 1st January, 1925, until the 31st December, 1927, in respect of services in the North Island, and until the 31st December, 1928, in respect of services in the South Island. This action is being taken for the purpose of relieving the pressure of work that now occurs in the Head Office owing to the whole of the contracts expiring on the same date. After this, reletting contracts for services in both Islands will be let for the usual period of three years.

While these contracts are arranged primarily for the conveyance of mails, it is recognized that in many cases the mail-contractor's vehicle is really the "local railway." Frequently contracts are let because some means must be provided to enable settlers in backblock districts to visit centres or procure supplies from those centres. Obviously, it is not the function of the Post Office to make these arrangements; but, as the Government acknowledges the claims of such settlers to this consideration, the best means of securing the service is adopted—very often by arranging for a mail-service and making it a condition of the contract that a certain type of vehicle is to be used. The cost falls naturally on the Post Office; but, while it is often asserted that the Post Office must be conducted on strictly commercial lines, the effect on its finances of such humanitarian services is frequently forgotten.

RURAL-MAIL DELIVERIES.

The rural-mail-delivery system continues to progress; and, as it is based on sound lines, the Post Office is anxious to develop it as fast as possible. In another Dominion the rural-mail system is as popular as in New Zealand, but there the system is very costly to the Post Office, and naturally any development is a matter of grave concern to the Minister of Finance. Here development on the present lines can be confidently agreed to; and the benefit to the settler in having a daily or even a thrice-weekly delivery and collection of mail at his gate is inestimable. Incidentally, in many cases the rural-mail carrier brings also the local newspaper and urgently required parcels of medicine and food. The Post Office has now a well-designed galvanized-iron letter-box which it sells to settlers. The box is rain-proof, and is so constructed that it will not open accidentally. These boxes are supplied to the public at the bare cost price.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The use of motor-vehicles in the Department is being extended as rapidly as finances permit. An effort has been made to restrict the types, in order to secure the advantages resulting from uniformity of design and standardization of parts; but, owing to the need for absorbing the vehicles used by the Defence Department during the war period, it cannot be said that any great progress has yet been attained. At present there are in use—Cars, seven types; vans, four types; trucks, ten types; ambulances, two types; motor-cycles, seven types. It is hoped to reduce materially this classification in the coming year.

There are many excellent cars and trucks on the market to-day, and salesmen are insistent on the merits of their particular types as against others. Even departmental officers have their preference for a particular type, but in a large Department using nearly five hundred motor-vehicles the only factor which should affect the selection of a particular make is the actual cost per mile over the whole period of a car's usefulness. Statistics are being carefully compiled in the Department, and by this means the Department will know which type is most economical for its purpose.

For many years motor-cycles have been used by linemen for travelling along telegraph routes when locating "faults"; but experience has proved that the motor-cycle is not economical for such work. For that reason a small four-wheeled conveyance has been designed, which serves the dual purpose of conveying a lineman and supplies for the repairing of faults. In future, motor-cycles with side-cars will not be used by the Department; and it is interesting to know that the Bell Telephone Company of America has reached a similar decision. Motor-cycles now in use are being gradually replaced as they wear out; but no more will be purchased for the above class of work.

BUILDINGS.

The development of the Dominion is indicated in the continual call for more post-offices to be placed under the control of permanent officers. In order to cope with this need a progressive building policy has to be maintained, especially as the war period, during which few buildings were erected, has left the Department somewhat behind in its building programme. So far, however, as funds permit, buildings are being erected, the practice at present being to erect offices strictly in the order of importance, either as newly-created permanent offices or as new buildings to replace old buildings which are not now suitable for post-office purposes. There are so many post-office buildings which are practically collections of old timber, and so many which are inadequate for the daily business, that the public, knowing the condition of the local office only, clamour for the erection of new buildings. The condition of each post-office building is well known; and, while it is admitted that very many should be replaced, funds for such a huge undertaking are not available at once. If conditions in New Zealand continue to improve as they have done during the past year or so, it is not unreasonable to anticipate that all the urgently necessary buildings will be erected within the next five years.

While the internal arrangement of a post-office is not of much interest to the public as a whole, it is worth recording that during the past year there has been a great improvement in design. New offices have been erected at Dannevirke and Stratford to a most up-to-date design, which will permit of the addition of any accommodation that may be required in later years without in any way affecting the internal design. These buildings are solidly built; they are practically fireproof, and are so arranged that a maximum of natural lighting is available. They are heated throughout by hot-water radiators connected with a boiler in the basement; and a feature is the presence in each building of only one fireplace, which will be used to provide heat in the telephone exchange at night when the boiler will not be in use. These two buildings are expected to meet the increasing business for at least ten years without additions.

TELEGRAPH PRESS RATES.

From the 1st May, 1923, the limit of 600 words which morning newspapers were permitted to receive at Press rates between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at or from offices not reopening in the evening was abolished.

The rates charged by the Department for Press telegrams are particularly low; and, as it has frequently been stated that no reduction in the charges on this class of traffic was made when the reduction to penny postage was instituted, it is necessary to point out that Press telegrams are to-day handled at a figure considerably below the cost of the service rendered. While I do not express the opinion that the charges should meet the actual cost of the service, I find it necessary to remark that the Department is regarded as one which works on the strictly commercial basis of providing interest on the capital expended and a full depreciation on its assets. It necessarily follows that any service given by the Department should bring in its full recompense, and that any service rendered below cost or free of charge has to be made up by another branch of the Department.

DAILY LETTER-TELEGRAMS.

A new class of cable message, known as "daily letter-telegrams," has been introduced. At present such telegrams are exchanged only with the United Kingdom and Canada. The rate to the United Kingdom is 8d. per word, with a minimum charge of 13s. 4d.; and to Canada, 6d. per word, with a minimum charge of 10s. The regulations governing deferred cable messages are applicable

to daily letter-telegrams, except that the latter are subject to a delay of forty-eight hours in transmission, and that the only special services that may be sent in connection with such messages are reply-paid and paid service telegrams inquiring into the correctness of or rectifying any message.

The popularity of these messages is indicated by the fact that during the seven months since September, 1923, nearly twelve thousand daily letter-telegrams have been lodged in the Dominion.

NIGHT LETTER-TELEGRAMS.

The removing of the restrictions in connection with night letter-telegrams had the effect of increasing the use made of this facility.

PROPOSED NIGHT LETTER-TELEGRAMS TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

It was decided to introduce, from the 1st May, 1924, a system of night letter-telegrams between New Zealand and the Commonwealth of Australia. The rate fixed was 3s. for a message of twenty words or less, and 2d. for each word in excess of twenty words. The telegrams are transmitted on the day of lodgment, and are delivered by post, from the office of destination, on the following morning.

POSTAL CONGRESS.

Mr. A. T. Markman, Secretary of the Department, was appointed to represent the Dominion at the Postal Union Congress, which opened at Stockholm in July, 1924. In addition to taking part in the Congress, at which the general regulations governing the working of the postal business of the world will be considered, Mr. Markman will examine the methods adopted by other postal and telegraph administrations. It is expected that any improvements noticed by him will be the subject of a report to the Government.

As the post and telegraph business of New Zealand is a monopoly of the Government, the importance of sending an executive officer abroad to compare the methods in operation in the Dominion with those of other countries is readily apparent. It is frequently stated that the Post and Telegraph system in New Zealand is equal to any in the world; but comparison by expert officers of the Department is necessary from time to time with the objects of ascertaining any defects in our methods and acquiring first-hand knowledge of successful innovations in other countries.

IMPERIAL RADIO COMMUNICATION.

On account of the delays that have occurred in formulating an Imperial radio policy, it has not yet been possible to take definite action in the direction of erecting in New Zealand a high-power long-distance radio-station capable of world-wide communication. Now that a decision has been reached to erect in the United Kingdom high-power stations capable of Empire-wide communication, and, in addition, to try out the possibilities of the new "beam" system, the way has been cleared for this Dominion to decide upon the lines of development best calculated to meet its requirements; and the departmental experts are now engaged in preparing a suitable scheme for consideration by Government.

DETAILS OF REVENUE, ETC.

Matters of detail with reference to the financial operations and business of the Department will be found at length in the statement and tables which follow.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

J. G. COATES,

Postmaster-General.

General Post Office, Wellington, 20th August, 1924.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS OF THE
DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1924.**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The receipts and payments of the Department for the financial year 1923-24 are shown in the following table:—

Item.	Postal.		Telegraph.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Receipts.</i>						
Postages	1,032,347	3 9½	..	..	1,032,347	3 9½
Money-order and postal-note commission	50,000	9 9	..	..	50,000	9 9
Money-order commission received from foreign offices ..	928	19 7	..	..	928	19 7
Private box and bag rents and rural delivery fees ..	36,602	5 1	..	..	36,602	5 1
Miscellaneous receipts	26,709	17 10	11,566	2 9	38,276	0 7
Paid telegrams .. .. .	..	..	700,329	2 0½	700,329	2 0½
Telephone exchange rentals and miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	830,469	16 5½	830,469	16 5½
Totals	1,146,588	16 0½	1,542,365	1 3	2,688,953	17 3½
<i>Payments.</i>						
Salaries	599,994	19 10	810,696	11 6	1,410,691	11 4
Conveyance of ocean mails	54,139	10 8	..	..	54,139	10 8
Conveyance of inland mails	136,940	5 3	..	..	136,940	5 3
Conveyance of mails by rail	101,921	18 2	..	..	101,921	18 2
Money-order commission credited to foreign offices ..	2,632	12 5	..	..	2,632	12 5
Maintenance of telegraph and telephone lines .. ..	..	..	155,724	17 10	155,724	17 10
Miscellaneous	131,073	8 6	127,460	4 10	258,533	13 4
Totals	1,026,702	14 10	1,093,881	14 2	2,120,584	9 0
Balance of receipts over payments	119,886	1 2½	448,483	7 1	568,369	8 3½
Totals	1,146,588	16 0½	1,542,365	1 3	2,688,953	17 3½

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEARS 1881-82, 1891-92, 1901-2, 1911-12, AND FOLLOWING
YEARS.**

Year.	Receipts.	Payments.	Balance of Receipts over Payments.	Excess of Payments over Receipts.
1881-1882	£ 234,529	£ 233,291	£ 1,238	..
1891-1892	320,068	268,343	51,715	..
1901-1902	488,573	465,756	22,817	..
1911-1912	1,087,710	988,911	98,799	..
1912-1913	1,167,826	1,069,272	98,554	..
1913-1914	1,269,921	1,173,314	96,607	..
1914-1915	1,359,059	1,246,850	112,209	..
1915-1916	1,695,757	1,296,522	399,235	..
1916-1917	1,809,317	1,370,810	438,507	..
1917-1918	1,837,260	1,489,446	347,814	..
1918-1919	1,972,539	1,702,048	270,491	..
1919-1920	2,106,995	1,944,161	162,834	..
1920-1921	2,590,441	2,591,786	..	1,345
1921-1922	2,811,535	2,451,571	359,964	..
1922-1923	2,687,768	2,114,994	572,774	..
1923-1924	2,688,954	2,120,584	568,370	..

PERSONNEL.

During the year Mr. R. B. Morris, Secretary of the Department, retired, and was succeeded by Mr. A. T. Markman, First Assistant Secretary. Mr. Markman was succeeded by Mr. G. McNamara, Second Assistant Secretary, and Mr. J. Robertson, Superintendent of Staff, was appointed to the vacancy created by the promotion of Mr. McNamara.

Mr. J. Laursen, Chief Inspector, retired during the year after completing forty years' service. Mr. Laursen was succeeded by Mr. R. D. Kelly, Chief Postmaster, Auckland.

The positions of Superintendent of Staff and Chief Clerk have been abolished, the work hitherto attended to by these officers being distributed amongst the administrative and principal controlling officers in the General Post Office.

ANNUAL REVENUE.

Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Branches.

For ten years ended 31st March, 1924.

F.—1.

Year ended 31st. March	150	300	450	600	750	900	1,050	1,200	1,350	1,500	1,650 thousands
Postal	1914	£695,136 Letter rate 1d.									
	1915	£698,898									
	1916	£858,583 From 23rd September, 1915, letter rate 1½d.									
	1917	£964,793									
	1918	£976,027									
	1919	£983,585									
	1920	£1,068,489									
	1921	£1,352,677 From 1st August, 1920, letter rate 2d.									
	1922	£1,499,304									
	1923	£1,378,421 From 1st Feb. 1923, rate 1½d.									
1924	£1,146,589 From 1st October, 1923, letter rate 1d.										
Telegraph	1914	£347,625 Telegraph rate 6d.									
	1915	£362,082									
	1916	£558,712 From 23rd September, 1915, telegraph rate 8d.									
	1917	£538,023									
	1918	£523,814									
	1919	£620,822									
	1920	£625,018									
	1921	£711,264 From 1st August, 1920, telegraph rate 1s.									
1922	£706,322										
1923	£723,107 From 1st February, 1923, telegraph rate 9d.										
1924	£711,896										
Telephone	1914	£232,190									
	1915	£303,856									
	1916	£287,547									
	1917	£317,275									
	1918	£344,368									
	1919	£373,169									
	1920	£419,318									
	1921	£533,535 Rates increased									
1922	£614,367										
1923	£595,967										
1924	£830,470* Rates increased										

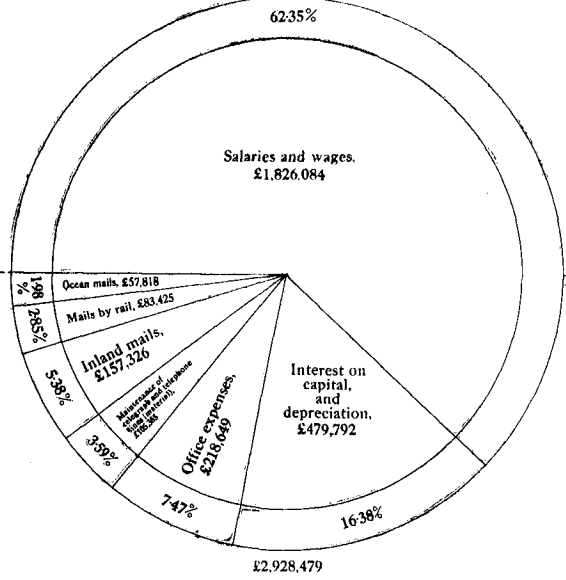
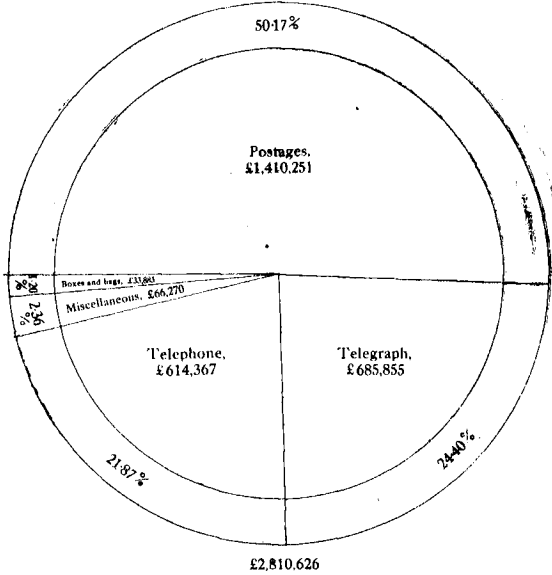
*Telephone rental received for a period of approximately fourteen months.

REVENUE :
HOW EARNED.

EXPENDITURE :
HOW PROPORTIONED.

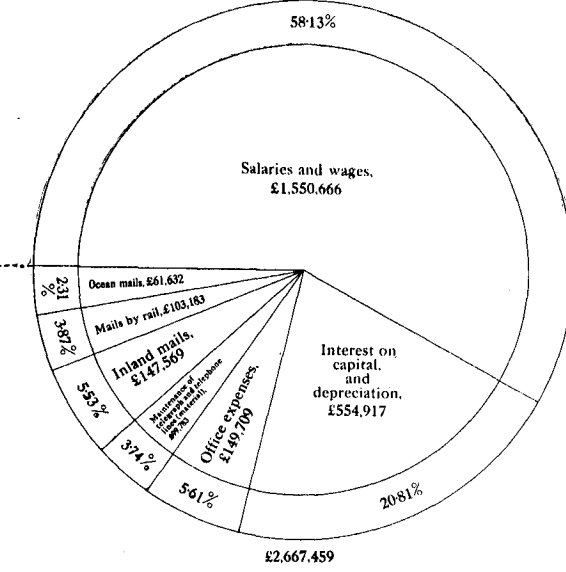
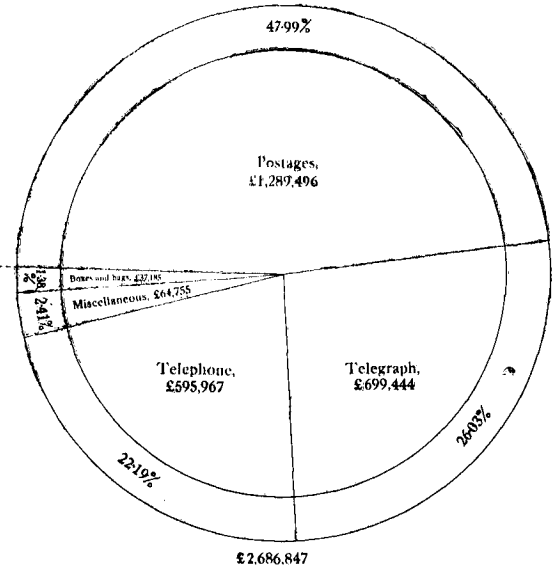
1921-22

1921-22



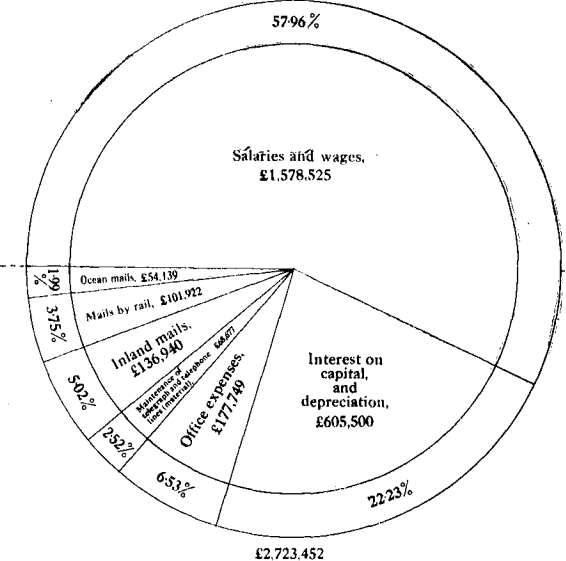
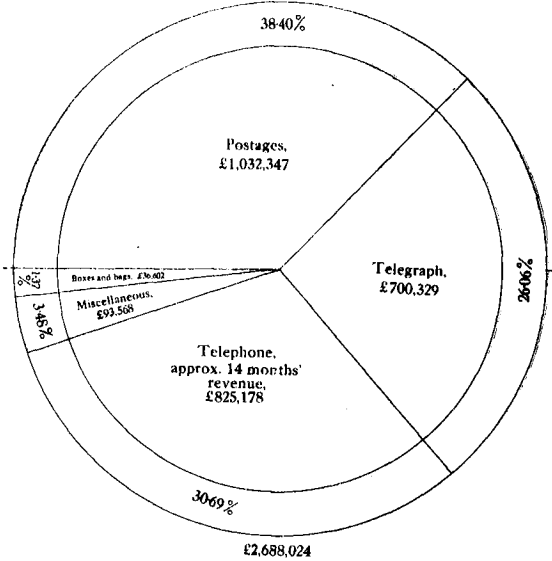
1922-23

1922-23



1923-24

1923-24

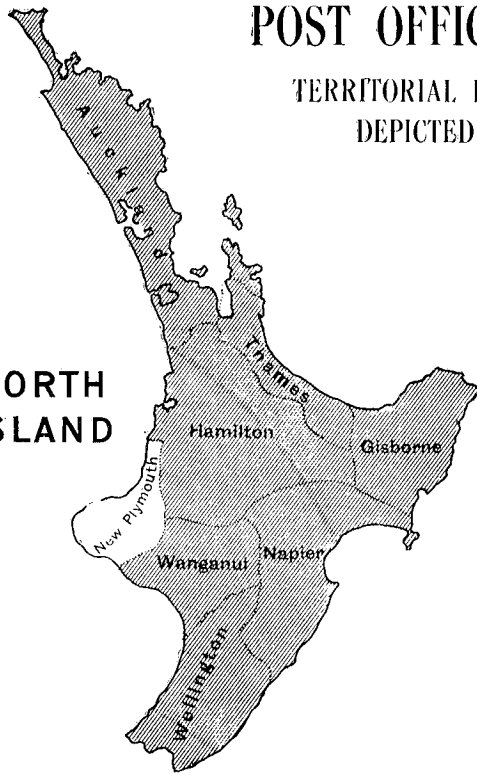


POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

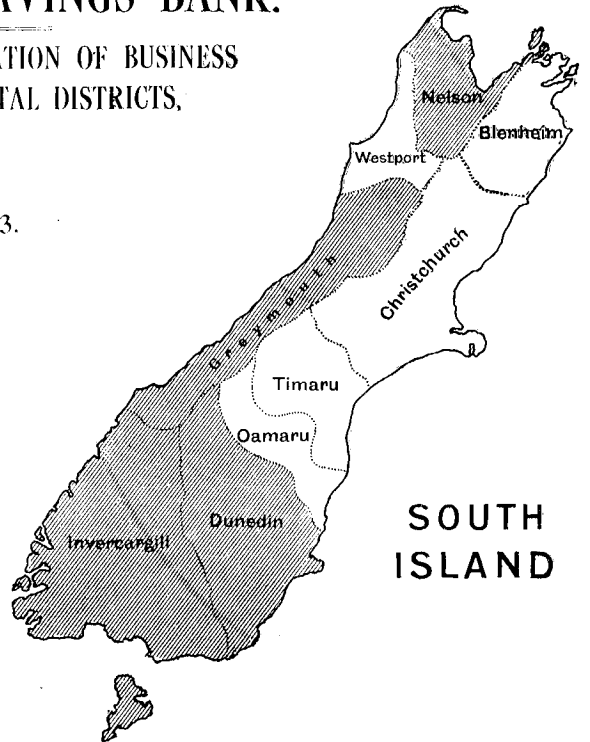
TERRITORIAL FLUCTUATION OF BUSINESS
DEPICTED IN POSTAL DISTRICTS.

1922-23.

NORTH ISLAND

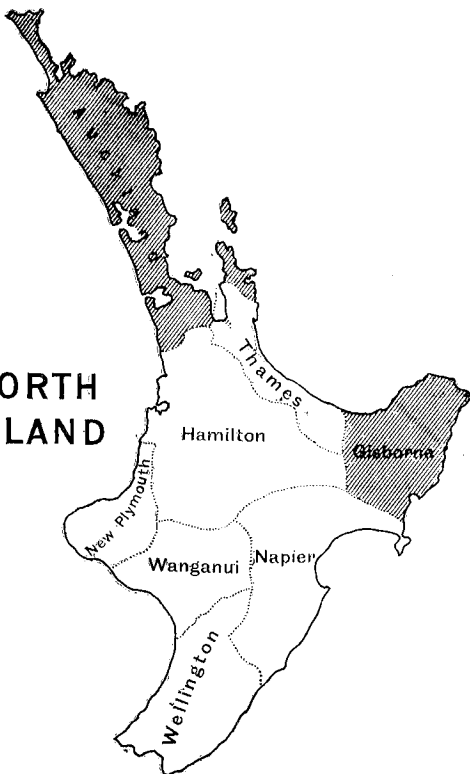


SOUTH ISLAND

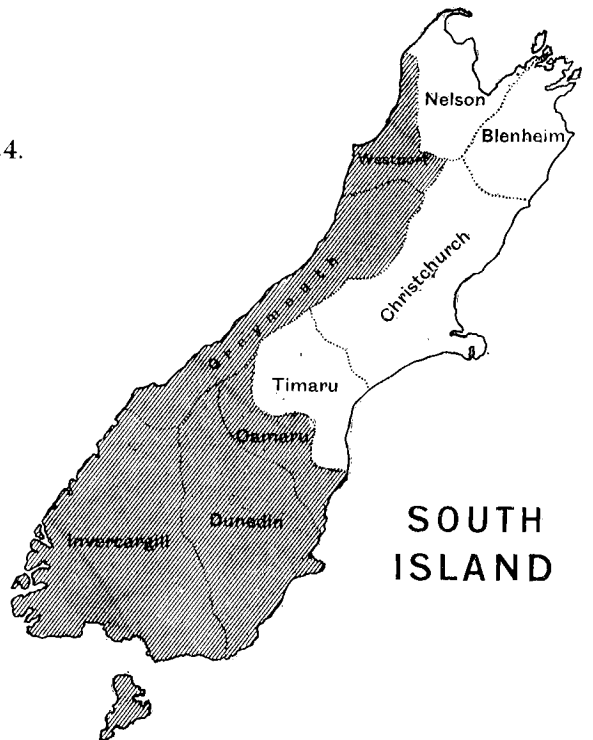



1923-24.


NORTH ISLAND



SOUTH ISLAND



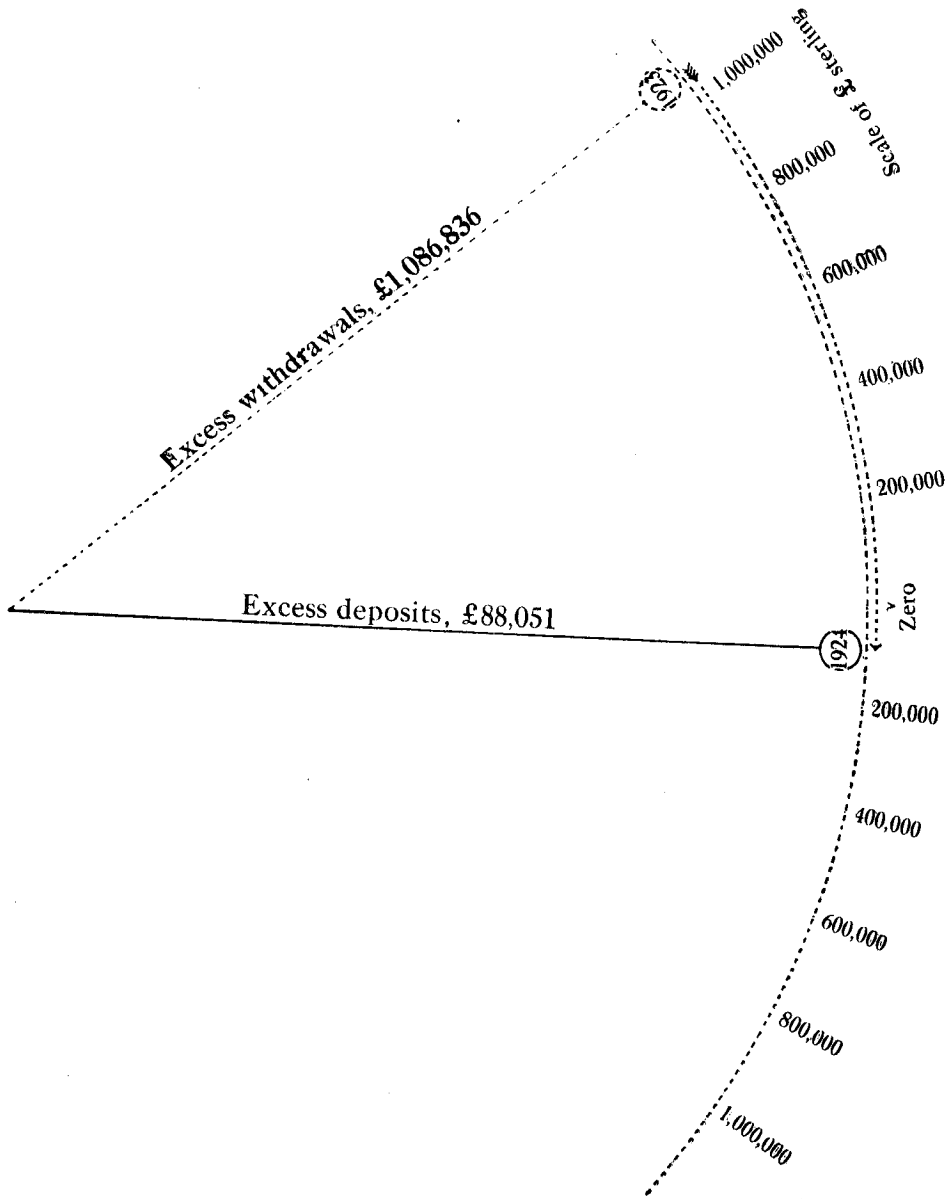
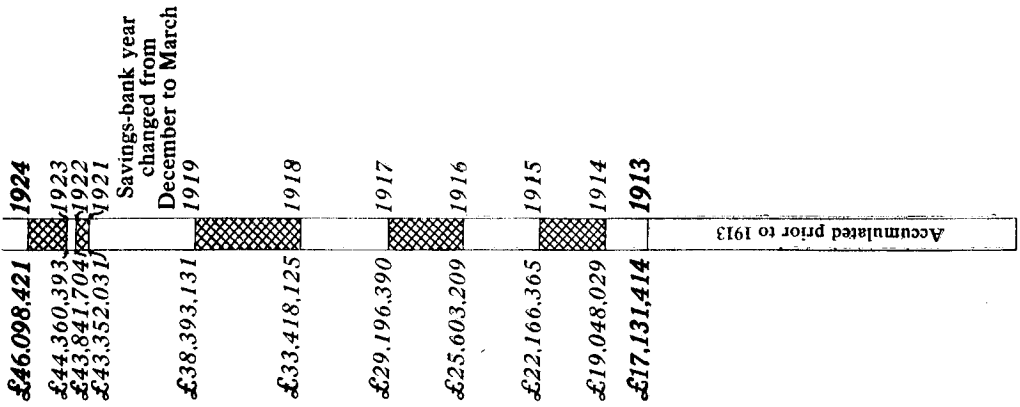
Excess withdrawals 

Excess deposits 

POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.

AMOUNT, INCLUDING ACCRUED INTEREST, STANDING TO CREDIT OF DEPOSITORS YEAR BY YEAR FROM 1913 TO 1924.

THE SWING OF THE PENDULUM.



While Mr. Markman is absent from New Zealand attending the Postal Union Congress at Stockholm Mr. McNamara will act as Secretary of the Department, and Mr. Robertson, Second Assistant Secretary, and Mr. Kelly, Chief Inspector, will act as First Assistant Secretary and Second Assistant Secretary respectively. Mr. M. B. Esson will act as Chief Inspector.

STAFF.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN THE POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT ON THE 1ST APRIL, 1923 AND 1924.

The total number of persons employed on the 1st April, 1923 and 1924, was as under :—

	1st April, 1923.	1st April, 1924.
Permanent staff—		
Administrative Division	4	4
Clerical and Engineering Divisions	3,271	3,218
General Division	4,267	4,495
	7,542	7,717
Temporary staff	395	243
Casual staff	861	970
	8,798	8,930
Non-permanent staff—		
Country Postmasters and Postmistresses	2,087	2,074
Postmasters who are Railway officers	118	102
	11,003	11,106

HEALTH OF PERMANENT STAFF.

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

	Number on Staff.	Average Absence per Sick Officer. Days.	Average Absence for each Officer employed. Days.
Men	6,393	9·7	5·4
Women	936	13·8	10·2

Thirteen officers died during the year.

APPEAL BOARD.

The Post and Telegraph Board of Appeal, under the chairmanship of E. C. Cutten, Esq., S.M., sat on two occasions during the year. Forty-eight appeals were dealt with, of which one was allowed. One appellant was called upon to pay his own expenses.

Messrs. R. B. Reynolds and R. H. Brown, the Postal and the Telegraph representatives respectively on the Board, resigned, and were subsequently re-elected unopposed.

DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE CLASSES.

The departmental correspondence classes—which previously were confined to the instruction of officers in technical matters appertaining to the Department—were extended during the year to include tuition in “English and Correspondence.” This resulted in an increased number of students, necessitating an addition to the instructional staff.

Tuition is now being provided for eight examinations, and the popularity of the classes is evidenced by the number of students participating. During the year 830 students were enrolled for instruction; and of the total number of students who presented themselves for examination 80 per cent. obtained passes. This is an indication that the high standard of instruction given hitherto is still being maintained.

EXAMINATIONS.

During the year 1923–24 the number of officers who sat for efficiency examinations was 1,900, of which number 980 were either wholly or partially successful.

“HOUSEHOLDER” CIRCULARS.

The revenue from this class of matter for the period 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924, was £4,845, as against £6,416 for the preceding twelve months. The decrease is accounted for by the reduction in postage rates, whereby printed papers up to 2 oz. may be sent for $\frac{1}{2}$ d., the initial rate also for a “householder” circular.

DISTRIBUTION BY PRIVATE PERSON OF CIRCULARS INSCRIBED “HOUSEHOLDER,” “POSTAGE-PAID.”

It was brought to the notice of the Department that several firms had been distributing to householders, otherwise than by post, circulars marked “Postage-paid,” thereby infringing the Post and Telegraph Act. Legal action was taken against one of the firms concerned, and resulted in judgment being given in favour of the Department, the Magistrate entering a conviction and ordering the company concerned to pay solicitors’ and Court fees. A nominal penalty only was asked for, as the main object of the prosecution was to give publicity to the illegality of the action taken by the

defendant company. It was not considered advisable to allow any one to mislead the public into the belief that the articles were being delivered by the Post Office, which obviously had no control over the methods adopted for safeguarding distribution.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

The Department rendered assistance during the year to the Dominion Advisory Council set up in connection with the British Empire Exhibition. The assistance included the advertising of the Exhibition by means of special "heads" in post-marking machines at the four principal centres, and by posters exhibited at principal post-offices. In addition, goods were shipped, and various articles made or obtained, by the Department for the Dominion Advisory Council.

OVERSEAS MAILS.

Correspondence for Great Britain, Ireland, and the Continent of Europe continues to be forwarded by contract steamers via Vancouver and via San Francisco, except when a vessel sailing via Cape Horn or via Panama offers a quicker despatch than the next contract steamer, or when correspondence is specially addressed for despatch by a particular vessel or route. Mails from Great Britain and Ireland are still received via Vancouver, San Francisco, Panama, and Suez.

The average time taken during 1923 by mails from New Zealand to London via Vancouver and via San Francisco was thirty-three days; from London to New Zealand via Vancouver the average time was thirty-six days, and via San Francisco thirty-five days.

The R.M.S. "Niagara" and R.M.S. "Makura" continue to be employed in the Vancouver service, and the R.M.S. "Tahiti" and R.M.S. "Maunganui" in the San Francisco service. A satisfactory service has been maintained over both routes during the year.

A new time-table was brought into operation by the Union Steam Ship Company, commencing with the sailing of the R.M.S. "Tahiti" from Wellington on the 4th March, 1924. This time-table provides for voyages from New Zealand to Vancouver and to San Francisco and *vice versa* of a duration of eighteen days, as against the times provided in the contract of nineteen days on the Vancouver route and twenty-one days on the San Francisco route.

An unusually fast passage was made by the R.M.S. "Tahiti" on the voyage commenced at Wellington on the 28th August, 1923, the time taken between Wellington and San Francisco being sixteen days fifteen hours, or four days ten hours under the contract time.

On the 17th May, 1923, the R.M.S. "Makura" arrived at Auckland from Vancouver, and, owing to an outbreak on board of alastrin, was ordered into quarantine at Motuihi Island. The mails were detained on board for spraying before being handed over to postal officers for fumigation and distribution. A portion of the letter-mail for Wellington and the South Island was forwarded by the Main Trunk express on the 18th May, and the remainder of the mail on Sunday, the 20th May.

The Vancouver and San Francisco mail contracts, which expired at the end of March, have been further extended until the end of June, 1924.

Alternative tenders are being invited for the carriage of mails between New Zealand and the Pacific coast of America, and between New Zealand and Great Britain via Panama. The conditions of contract provide that the time taken between Auckland and Vancouver and *vice versa* shall not exceed seventeen days, a reduction of two days on the present contract time; and between Wellington and San Francisco and *vice versa* the time shall not exceed seventeen days, a reduction of four days on the present contract time. On the route from New Zealand to Great Britain via Panama the duration of the voyage is not to exceed thirty days.

If contracts are let for services via Vancouver and via San Francisco and close connections are made with fast trains across Canada or the United States of America and also with fast liners crossing the Atlantic, mails should arrive in London in from twenty-eight to thirty days after their despatch from New Zealand.

INTERCOLONIAL MAIL-SERVICES.

The mail-service between New Zealand and Australia and *vice versa* was well maintained during the year.

INLAND MAIL-SERVICES.

A daily mail-service by motor-car is being maintained between Gisborne and Napier, thus providing a service more in keeping with the importance of the district.

On the 24th April, 1923, the mail-coach running between Ruatorea and Te Araroa met with a mishap in the Waiapu River. A portion of the mails, not including registered articles, was lost. A remittance of £54 12s. 2d. was not recovered. A bag from Te Araroa to Ruatorea was found, but five private bags were not found.

As the Main Trunk express train from Wellington was proceeding to Auckland on the 9th June, 1923, the railway post-office van became derailed shortly after the journey commenced. Fortunately, however, neither the officers nor the mails suffered injury.

On the morning of the 6th July the south-bound Main Trunk mail-train from Auckland ran into a landslide near Ongarue, with the result that seventeen passengers were killed and twenty-eight injured. Notwithstanding the derailment of the postal car, which was next to the engine, the Postal officials escaped unhurt. The whole of the mails were recovered intact.

On the 26th February, 1924, a motor-car owned by Messrs. Newman Bros., and conveying ten bags of mail and fourteen passengers from Westport to Nelson, was destroyed by fire at Spooner's Range. Flames from a bush-fire suddenly enveloped the car, which had to be abandoned. Although the driver made every effort to save the mails, several bags and their contents were totally destroyed. Amongst the articles lost were twenty-four registered letters and one insured parcel.

TERMINATION OF ARTHUR'S PASS — OTIRA MAIL-SERVICE.

On the day prior to the opening of the Otira Tunnel an event of historical interest took place. This was the termination of the overland mail-service between Arthur's Pass on the Canterbury side and Otira Railway-station on the Westland side. For a period of about thirty-three years this service linked the east coast of the South Island with the west coast, and for many years it was maintained by Messrs. Cassidy and Co., and at a later stage by Messrs. A. Hall (Limited), and since 1914 by these firms combined in business partnership. Originally the service was performed between Springfield (Canterbury) and Kumara (Westland); but with the advance of the railheads towards the mountains the coach service was gradually reduced, until on the 4th August the opening of the tunnel rendered the coach service no longer necessary. Notwithstanding the often perilous journey over Arthur's Pass, which was frequently blocked by heavy falls of snow in winter, Messrs. Hall and Cassidy rendered, both to the Department and to the public, long and faithful service, and discharged their obligations in an efficient manner.

RURAL-MAIL BOXES.

There are now 10,612 rural boxes in use, an increase of 544 over the number in use last year.

RETRANSFER OF CERTAIN OFFICES FROM HAMILTON TO AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

Mainly owing to the inconvenience caused savings-bank despositors in and around Mercer the Mercer Post-office, and several smaller offices for which Mercer acted as a circulating office, were retransferred from the Hamilton to the Auckland Postal District.

STORES BRANCH.

The following figures indicate the value of supplies purchased, issued, and remaining in stock for the year ended 31st March, 1924, while those for the previous year are shown for the purpose of comparison:—

	1923-24.	1922-23.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase Per Cent.	Decrease Per Cent.
	£	£	£	£		
Balance, 1st April ..	330,577	384,716	..	..	..	14
Purchases	912,923	501,389	411,534	..	82	..
Issues	953,742	555,528	398,214	..	72	..
Balance, 31st March ..	289,758	330,577	..	40,819	..	12

It will be observed that there is a large increase in the volume of purchases and issues of stores. The increase is due mainly to the purchase of additional stocks of telegraph and telephone material. The figures would have been still larger but for the difficulty in securing the delivery of telegraph poles and arms.

The number of indents placed for the year ended the 31st March last, compared with that of the previous year, is—1923-24, 611; 1922-23, 337—an increase of 274, equivalent to 81 per cent.

The total inward consignments for the year, compared with those of the previous year, are—

	1923-24.	1922-23.
Shipments	1,766	1,013
Packages	182,060	118,980

With the exception of hardwood timbers, requirements have on the whole been adequately met.

The responsibility of arranging contracts for the purchase by all Government Departments of motor-vehicles, accessories, tires, petrol, kerosene, and lubricating-oils for internal-combustion engines has been placed on the Stores Branch during the year, and this, with other work in connection with purchases under Stores Control Board Regulations, has considerably added to the extent of the duties undertaken, and at the same time resulted in economies being effected by all Departments.

Accommodation for storage of material still leaves much to be desired, and the necessity for better facilities is becoming pressing.

The supply of articles of uniform for departmental officers is more satisfactory than has obtained since 1914, deliveries now being much more regular and prompt.

WORKSHOPS.

In order to cope successfully with the growth of this branch additional accommodation and plant have been provided.

During the year the manufacture of power-driven post-marking machines was undertaken, with entirely satisfactory results. Other work successfully carried out was the manufacture of telegraph material, telephone-exchange switchboards, and apparatus for the machine-printing telegraph system recently installed.

BICYCLES.

The scheme outlined in last year's annual report under which, in consideration of the cost of upkeep being borne by the riders, bicycles issued by the Department become the property of the officers concerned on the expiry of periods of use in the Department's service varying from four to six years, is proving popular with officers. Approximately three hundred bicycles are now on issue under the scheme.

MISSING POSTAL PACKETS.

During 1923 the Department investigated 6,156 inquiries for postal packets alleged to have been posted and not delivered. In 3,153 of the cases the investigations resulted in the missing articles being traced or accounted for. These cases may be summarized as follow :—

Number of Traced Cases.	Result.
877	Sender responsible for delay.
876	Addressee responsible for delay.
375	Post Office responsible for delay.
1,025	No delay, or responsibility not fixed.

This means that 3,003 packets dealt with in the Department during last year failed in delivery. On comparing this number with the total number of articles handled, the percentage of losses is found to be 0.0016. Included in these losses are packets inadvertently mislaid before posting, or lost after delivery by the Post Office, and packets misappropriated, either inside or outside the Service.

In each case of a postal packet being reported as missing the circumstances surrounding the loss are investigated fully by special officers of the Department, and very frequently the assistance of the Police Department is obtained. On each occasion on which it is found that an officer of the Department has handled a postal packet irregularly, the circumstances of the mishandling form the subject of Police Court proceedings. Unfortunately, similar action is not always taken in cases of the theft of postal packets by persons outside the service—that is, before posting or after delivery. Employers of labour frequently refuse to furnish to the Department or to the Police, information that would lead to the prosecution of one of their employees for the theft of postal packets; indeed, in many cases in which it is believed that the thefts have occurred outside the Post Office, obstruction is placed in the way of those persons undertaking the departmental or police inquiries into the matter. It follows that in numerous instances in which persons should be punished for offences under the Post and Telegraph Act such action is not possible.

The failure of members of the public to register packets containing articles of value is a problem that has to be faced by every Postal administration. As has been pointed out frequently, registered postal packets receive special handling, and are checked not only from office to office, but also from officer to officer. This ensures that, in the event of a registered postal packet going astray—a very rare occurrence—the point at which the loss took place can be ascertained from the Department's records. The Department is in a position to state definitely whether the registered article was placed in the custody of the Post Office or not, and, in the former case, it is in possession of definite information regarding the delivery or otherwise of the packet.

Particulars of two recent cases in which valuable packets were forwarded by post as unregistered articles may prove of interest. A person calling at the delivery counter of a post-office for his correspondence was tendered a packet wrapped in brown paper and tied with string in the ordinary manner. Because the corners of the brown paper were frayed somewhat he asserted that the packet had been tampered with in the post-office. The delivering officer then inquired as to the nature of the contents of the packet, and was informed that it contained £400 in bank-notes. In view of the condition of the wrapping, the packet was opened in the presence of the Postmaster at the office concerned, and the contents were checked. They were found to be intact. In the other case, while a mail-bag was being emptied at a chief post-office, a large number of loose bank-notes was found. The bag had been conveyed approximately twenty miles by rail. A subsequent check of the contents disclosed that the bank-notes had become dislodged from a packet wrapped in tissue paper and tied with string. The amount contained in the packet was posted for lodgment in a commercial bank, which it duly reached.

A system somewhat similar to that obtaining in connection with registered articles is followed in respect of parcels forwarded through the post. The sender is given a receipt for each parcel posted, and a receipt is obtained by the Post Office from the addressee when delivery is effected. If, therefore, the Department is unable to produce the addressee's receipt for an article forwarded by parcel-post, there is no doubt as to the point at which the parcel went astray. The percentage of parcels failing in delivery is very much lower than the percentage of letters. This is an indication that the Post Office is not responsible in the case of a large number of the untraced letters.

Each misappropriation of departmental moneys or material results in the circumstances of the theft being reported to the police, and the officer concerned being dealt with according to law. This action is taken whether restitution of the amount stolen is or is not made. As is well known, this rule does not apply in the business community generally. This differentiation of treatment between officers of the Department and persons employed by outside firms results in the impression being conveyed to the public that Government employees are less honest than the men and women employed in other walks of life. Obviously, a comparison is possible only if the same conditions regarding punishment are observed throughout the whole community.

POST OFFICE.

ARTICLES DELIVERED.

The number of articles delivered in the Dominion, including those received from places beyond New Zealand, during the year 1923, compared with the number in 1922, was as under :—

	1923.	1922.	Increase.
Letters	129,463,663	122,949,819	6,513,844 (5.30 %)
Post-cards	3,653,179	3,435,489	217,690 (6.34 %)
Parcels	3,544,650	3,480,127	64,523 (1.85 %)
All other articles	59,201,429	52,192,220	7,009,209 (13.43 %)
	195,862,921	182,057,655	

AVERAGE NUMBER OF LETTERS POSTED PER UNIT OF POPULATION.

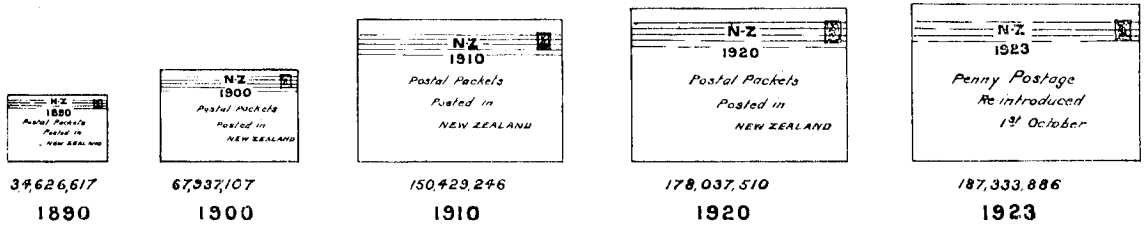
1923, 96.2 ; 1922, 93.5.

NUMBER OF POST-OFFICES IN DOMINION.

Offices opened during year, 35 ; offices closed during year, 52 ; offices remaining open on 31st December, 1923, 2,126.

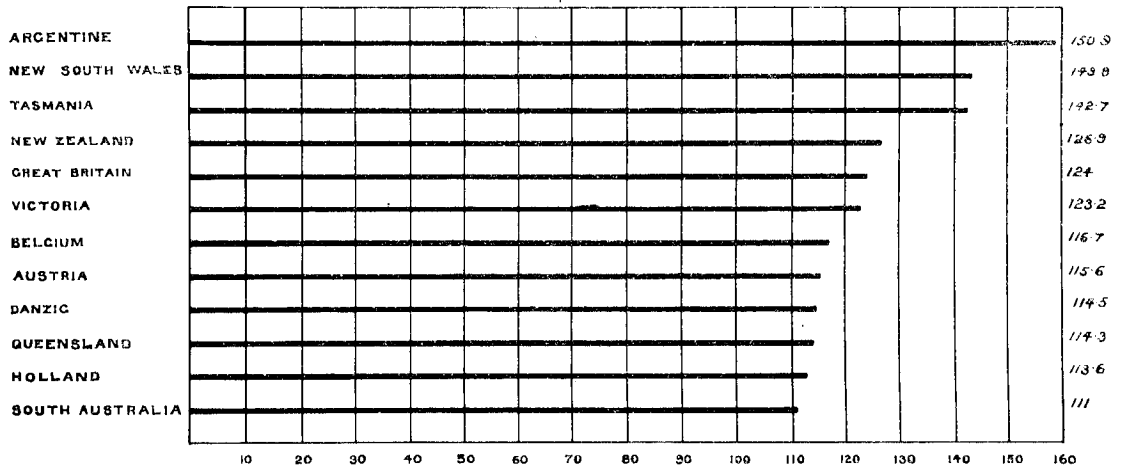
NUMBER OF POSTAL PACKETS POSTED IN THE DOMINION

FOR THE YEARS: 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1923.



NUMBER OF POSTAL PACKETS POSTED PER HEAD OF POPULATION

FOR THE FIRST TWELVE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD.



UNDELIVERABLE POSTAL PACKETS.

The following is a comparison of letters and other articles dealt with as undeliverable during the year, compared with those dealt with during 1921 :

Year.	Returned direct to Senders through Chief Offices.	Returned direct to Senders through Dead Letter Office.	Returned to other Administrations through Chief Offices.	Returned to other Administrations through Dead Letter Office.	Destroyed (Senders unknown and Contents of no Value).	Total.
<i>Letters.</i>						
1923 ..	239,807	225,439	50,184	36,857	16,810	569,097
1922 ..	275,553	201,465	46,061	32,272	25,664	581,015
<i>Other Articles.</i>						
1923 ..	127,907	4,193	40,653	19,725	..	192,478
1922 ..	108,101	3,266	34,467	6,996	..	152,830

The proportion of undeliverable letters to the total number of letters delivered was 0.43 per cent., as against 0.46 per cent. in 1922.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	1923.	1922.
Letters and letter-cards posted without addresses	16,173	11,553
Letters imperfectly and insufficiently addressed	20,823	17,849
Letters bearing libellous addresses intercepted	56	63
Registered letters unclaimed	9,047	8,604
Newspapers received without addresses	3,893	4,331
Other articles received without addresses	3,635	4,371
Newspapers returned to publishers as undeliverable	27,780	23,642
Articles bearing previously used stamps	104	66

PROHIBITED POSTAL PACKETS.

During the year 1,428 letters addressed to persons or firms for whom the transmission of correspondence is prohibited under section 28 of the Post and Telegraph Act, 1908, were withheld from transmission.

REGISTER OF NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES.

Thirty-five newspapers were registered for transmission by post, and ten were removed from the register. Three magazines were registered, and twenty were removed from the register.

POSTAGE-STAMPS.

The only new postage-stamp issued by the Dominion during the year was a 1d. stamp to mark the reversion to penny postage on the 1st October, 1923. The main feature of the design is a map of New Zealand.

The reductions in postage-rates from the 1st February and 1st October, 1923, were responsible for current issues of letter-cards, post-cards, and newspaper wrappers being withdrawn and reissued overprinted with a lower rate of postage. After the February reduction, letter-cards bearing the 2d. stamp of the King George series were overprinted "1½d.," 1½d. post-cards of the same series were overprinted "1d.," and wrappers bearing the universal 1d. stamp were overprinted "¾d." After the October reduction the 2d. and 1½d. letter-cards of the King George series were overprinted "1d.," and the post-cards bearing the 1½d. and 1d. stamps of the King George and universal series respectively were overprinted "¾d." In November a letter-card bearing the new 1d. stamp of the Dominion was issued. In March, 1924, a wrapper bearing a ¾d. stamp of the King George series was issued.

From the 1st October, 1923, the sale of social and business embossed envelopes was resumed. On account of the high cost of production, their sale had been suspended for about three years.

New medium-size registered-letter envelopes embossed with 4d. postage were issued in March, 1924.

On the 1st February, 1924, postage-stamps of the island dependencies of New Zealand (Aitutaki, Niue, Penrhyn, and Rarotonga), and of the mandated Territory of Western Samoa were placed on sale at the chief post-offices at Christchurch and Dunedin. Hitherto such stamps had been on sale in New Zealand at Auckland and Wellington only.

PARCEL-POST.

UNDELIVERABLE PARCELS.

During the year the simplified system of dealing with undeliverable parcels was extended to parcels from and for nearly all countries of the world. Under this system, parcels which bear only one address are held at the disposal of the addressee for thirty days; and if not delivered within that period, and not marked "Abandon," are returned to the senders. But if the parcels bear an alternative address they are held at the disposal of the first addressee for fifteen days; and if not delivered at the expiration of that period they are held at the disposal of the second addressee for a similar period. If finally undelivered, the parcels (except those marked "Abandon") are returned to the senders. Parcels marked "Abandon," if not delivered within the prescribed period, are forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

CUSTOMS PARCELS.

The following table shows the declared value of goods received from abroad by parcel-post and the Customs duty thereon, and also the declared value of goods despatched by parcel-post for the year 1923, compared with 1922:—

	1923.			1922.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Declared value of received parcels	1,343,726	0	0	1,332,719	0	0
Customs duty	307,022	6	3	276,864	14	11
Declared value of forwarded parcels	73,793	0	0	67,324	0	0

BUILDINGS.

The efforts of the Department to overtake the leeway in its building programme caused by the war and the subsequent financial depression have been successful to the extent of enabling increased or improved accommodation to be provided at many places at which it was urgently required.

The expenditure on new post and telegraph buildings during the year far exceeded that of any previous year.

Owing to the great building activity in the Dominion, and the consequent difficulty in obtaining tradesmen, the cost of building is still comparatively high. The Department is therefore restricting its operations to cases in which improved accommodation is essential for the efficient conduct of its business.

During the year buildings were erected at the following places (the list includes a number of post-office buildings of the smallest type): Awakino (lineman's residence), Dannevirke, Dunedin (automatic-telephone exchange), Kopaki, Ngongotaha, Ohinewai, Onewhero, Patea, Springburn, Tinui, Waharoa, Waimauku, Waitoa, Wellington (workshop, store, and garage).

Additions were made to the post-office buildings at Inglewood, Kaiapoi, and Motueka, and to portions of the railway-station buildings used for post-office purposes at Midhirst and Normanby. At New Plymouth and Tokomaru Bay internal alterations were made, in order to incorporate in the post-office buildings accommodation previously occupied by another Department, and by the Postmaster as residential quarters, respectively.

It was necessary during the year to purchase at Maungakarama, Plimmerton, Riccarton, and Waipahi buildings to accommodate the post-offices at those places. At Kohukohu a residence was bought for the Postmaster.

The extended use of motor-vehicles rendered necessary during the year the provision of workshop and garage accommodation at Invercargill, Palmerston North, Wanganui, and Wellington. Small garage buildings were provided at Matamata, Morrinsville, Opotiki, Papakura, Rotorua, Whakatane, and Whangarei; and a garage and store building was erected at Masterton.

A portion of the new building erected for the Department in Hereford Street, Christchurch, has been occupied by the Telegraph Branch, thus releasing for postal purposes accommodation urgently required in the Chief Post-office building. Necessary alterations are now being made to the latter building.

A portion of the old post-office building at Patea was moved to Whenuakura for use as a post-office.

At Lichfield and Okaramio small post-office buildings were provided by the settlers. In each case the cost of the work was subsidized by the Department.

In consequence of the opening of the Otira Tunnel, the post-office building at Otira was moved to a position nearer the western end of the tunnel and the site of the railway-station.

The new post-office building at Stratford has been completed, and a building to house the automatic-telephone exchange in Wellington, is nearing completion.

The post-office building at Paeroa, which has served its period of usefulness, is to be replaced by an up-to-date structure on a new site.

Owing to increased business, additional accommodation for post-office purposes is required at Gisborne, Greymouth, Invercargill, Masterton, and Nelson, and the question of making additions to the post-office buildings at these places will require to be faced shortly. In the case of Gisborne, it is hoped to proceed during the ensuing year with an extensive addition to the existing building.

MONEY-ORDERS.

Money-orders issued during the year numbered 684,979, for a total of £4,390,159; those paid 580,836, for £4,034,239. The total commission received for the transaction of money-order business amounted to £28,357.

POSTAL NOTES.

Twenty-one offices were opened and five closed, leaving 1,099 postal-note offices in operation at the end of the year. At these offices 2,652,777 postal-notes, for £804,343 6s. 11d., were issued, and 2,633,537 were paid.

TELEGRAPHS.

TELEGRAPH AND TOLL TRAFFIC.

The following comparative tables show the position in regard to telegraph and telephone traffic:—

—	1923-24.	1922-23.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase per Cent.	Decrease per Cent.
<i>Ordinary Telegrams.</i>						
Number	5,581,185	5,285,175	296,010	..	5·601	..
Revenue	£291,225	£324,771	..	£33,546	..	10·329
<i>Urgent Telegrams.</i>						
Number	265,772	228,904	36,868	..	16·106	..
Revenue	£27,686	£27,448	£238	..	0·867	..
<i>Press Telegrams.</i>						
Number	432,120	389,607	42,513	..	10·912	..
Revenue	£58,619	£50,297	£8,322	..	16·546	..
<i>Night Letter-telegrams.</i>						
Number	106,219	32,880	73,339	..	223·050	..
Revenue	£5,287	£2,554	£2,733	..	107·009	..
<i>Government Telegrams (for which no payment is received).</i>						
Number	69,597	170,385	..	100,788	..	59·153
Value	£4,930	£9,727	..	£4,797	..	49·316
<i>Toll Communications.</i>						
Number	8,021,973	7,406,257	615,716	..	8·313	..
Revenue	£317,512	£294,374	£23,138	..	7·860	..

TELEGRAPH AND TOLL TRAFFIC—continued.

	1923-24.	1922-23.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase per Cent.	Decrease per Cent.
<i>Total of all Classes of Message and Value thereof.</i>						
Number	14,476,866	13,513,208	963,658		7.131	..
Value	£705,259	£709,171	..	£3,912	..	0.552
<i>Telegraph and Telephone Receipts.</i>						
	£	£	£	£		
Telegraph receipts ..	711,896	713,380	..	1,484	..	0.21
Telephone receipts ..	830,470	595,967	234,503	..	39.35	..
Total ..	1,542,366	1,309,347	233,019	..	17.79	..
<i>Telegraph and Telephone Payments.</i>						
	£	£		£		
Total ..	1,093,882	1,117,726	..	23,844	..	2.134

SCHEDULE OF PAID TELEGRAMS, CABLE MESSAGES, AND TOLL COMMUNICATIONS.

	Number.	Value.
		£
Ordinary	5,581,185	472,091
Urgent	265,772	27,686
Press	432,120	61,661
Night-letter	106,219	5,287
Toll communications	8,021,973	317,512
	14,407,269	884,237
Less net amount paid to other Administrations on cable and radio messages .. ..	..	183,908
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1923-24	14,407,269	700,329
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1922-23	13,342,823	699,444

TABLE SHOWING USE BY THE PUBLIC OF TELEGRAPH AND TOLL SERVICES.

	1923-24.	1922-23.
Number of ordinary telegrams sent per unit of population	4.38	3.98
Number of toll communications per unit of population	5.81	5.58
Number of paid messages, telegrams, or toll communications per unit of population	10.38	10.27
Number of paid telegrams for every 100 letters posted	5.08	5.07

CABLE TRAFFIC.

The number of cable messages, excluding Press, sent from New Zealand to International offices during the year shows an increase of 10.1 per cent. on the number sent during 1922-23, and the number sent to Australian offices shows an increase of 7.18 per cent. Messages received from International offices increased by 8.62 per cent., and messages from Australia increased by 7.62 per cent.

The proportion of cable messages sent "via Pacific" was less than that sent by the same route the previous year, the percentages being 65.9 and 67.4 respectively.

The following table shows the total number of cable messages, excluding Press, forwarded by each route during each of the past five years, and also the percentage of such traffic falling to each.

PACIFIC.			EASTERN.		
Year.	Messages.	Percentage of Total.	Year.	Messages.	Percentage of Total.
1919-20	139,772	67	1919-20	68,832	33
1920-21	159,896	70	1920-21	68,406	30
1921-22	147,781	68	1921-22	69,515	32
1922-23	157,895	67.4	1922-23	76,455	32.6
1923-24	167,922	65.9	1923-24	86,797	34.1

Press messages numbering 2,674 were sent via Pacific and 4,177 via Eastern, compared with 2,051 and 2,835 respectively during 1922-23. The number received via Pacific was 6,817 and via Eastern 3,483, compared with 7,081 and 2,922 respectively.

The following table shows the total number of each class of message, excluding Press, forwarded during 1923-24, as compared with the number forwarded during 1922-23.

	1923-24.		1922-23.	
	Forwarded.	Received.	Forwarded.	Received.
Full-rate international cable messages	79,824	76,454	80,481	76,622
Deferred international cable messages	16,149	17,010	17,868	16,220
Daily letter-telegrams	11,803	6,343	..	..
Week-end telegrams	25,216	15,568	22,434	13,369
Australian cable messages	121,727	115,937	113,567	107,723
Totals	254,719	231,312	234,350	213,934

WIRELESS TRAFFIC.

The number of forwarded and received radio messages shows an increase of 16.47 per cent. and 14.51 per cent. respectively. The amounts earned by New Zealand show an increase under both headings of 15.77 per cent. and 16.06 per cent. respectively. The number of words of forwarded radio Press telegrams decreased from 107,293 to 98,607.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE TOLL LINES.

POLES AND WIRE.

During the year 142 miles of pole-line and 2,151 miles of wire were erected for telegraph and telephone (toll) purposes, while 47 miles of pole-line and 144 miles of wire were dismantled, or, in localities where no longer required by the Department, sold to settlers for use as private telephone-lines.

The length of pole-line and wire in use for telegraph and telephone toll purposes on the 31st March, 1923, and 1924, respectively, was as follows:—

Pole-line and Wire.	Year ended 31st March, 1923.	Year ended 31st March, 1924.	Increase.
Miles of pole-line	12,859*	12,954	95
Miles of wire	50,903*	52,910	2,007

* Revised figures for 1923.

The telegraph and telephone wire in use—viz., 52,910 miles—is classified as under:—

Miles of wire used exclusively for telegraph traffic	12,124
Miles of wire used exclusively for telephone toll traffic	7,958
Miles of wire used conjointly for telegraph and telephone toll traffic	32,828

The total length of wire available for telephone toll traffic is therefore 40,786 miles; the total length available for the transmission of telegrams, 44,952 miles; the length of wire gained for telegraphic transmission by superimposing, 9,397 miles; and the length of telephone toll lines over which telegrams may be transmitted by telephone, 14,032 miles. Phantom circuits were increased by 594 miles, and superimposed circuits by 2,013 miles.

NEW WORKS.

The more important of the telegraph and telephone circuits completed during the year are as follow:—

Auckland-Waimauku.	Palmerston North - Shannon.	Amberley-Omihi.
Taipa-Parapara.	Shannon-Levin.	Christchurch-Ashburton.
Hamilton-Cambridge (2).	Levin-Otaki (2).	Christchurch-Prebbleton.
Hamilton-Ngaruawahia.	Otaki-Waikanae.	Sockburn-Dunsandel.
Taumarunui-Matiere.	Wellington - Palmerston N. (2)	Fairlie - Te Kapo.
Te Awamutu - Ohaupo.	Featherston - Cross Creek.	Dunedin-Lawrence.
Stratford-Whangamomona.	Christchurch-Greymouth.	Lawrence-Heriot.
Wanganui-Raetihi.	Kumara-Otira.	Balclutha-Clydevale.
Uruti-Urenui.	Kumara-Hokitika.	Dunedin-Seacliff.
Tahora-Tatu.	Ross-Harihari.	Tapanui-Kelso-Heriot.

In addition to the above, the rearrangement of circuits consequent upon the erection of new wires enabled additional or improved telegraph or telephone facilities to be provided between the following places:—

Tangiteroria-Tangowahine.	Hamilton-Rotorua.	Palmerston North - Napier.
Auckland - Te Kuiti.	Hamilton-Huntly.	Palmerston North - Masterton.
Te Kuiti - New Plymouth.	Ngaruawahia-Taupiri.	Wellington-Napier.
Hamilton - Te Awamutu.	Taupiri-Huntly.	Wellington-Taranaki.
Te Awamutu - Otorohanga.	Wanganui-Kakatahi.	Geraldine-Woodbury.
Otorohanga - Te Kuiti.	Wanganui-Pipiriki.	Leeston-Brookside.
Te Kuiti - Ongarue.	Wanganui - Waimarino County.	Waimate - Waihao Downs.
Ongarue-Taumarunui.		

NUMBER OF TELEGRAPH-OFFICES IN DOMINION.

Offices opened during the year, 38; offices closed during year, 50; offices remaining open on 31st March, 1924, 2,295. Of this number 334 are operated by Morse and 1,961 by telephone, 9 having been converted from telephone to Morse-working during the year and 8 from Morse to telephone. The excess of offices closed over the number opened is due to the extension of the telephone-exchange system to rural and backblocks districts by means of party lines.

MACHINE-PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Additional multiplex telegraph instruments have been installed at Wellington and Auckland as part of the general scheme for linking up the more important of the provincial towns by means of the multiplex system of telegraphy.

On the 23rd October, 1923, direct communication over machine-printing circuits was provided between Christchurch and Auckland through the medium of multiplex repeating apparatus at Wellington.

Multiplex telegraph instruments are now being installed at Dunedin to provide for direct communication by multiplex from Dunedin to Christchurch, Wellington, or Auckland.

UNIVERSAL BATTERY.

The telegraph instrument-room at Christchurch has been transferred to the new building in Hereford Street. More modern methods of telegraph working have been introduced, including the universal-battery system, which is the first installation of the kind in New Zealand. The installation of this system involved the replacement of a large number of primary batteries by storage cells, which, in addition to providing a more efficient source of battery power, will effect a considerable saving in maintenance charges. Action is being taken to replace the primary-battery telegraph system at other chief centres.

NEW ZEALAND SUBMARINE CABLES.

Only one of the Cook Strait cables was interrupted during the year, and this was repaired in September last with the assistance of the Pacific Cable Board's staff and steamer "Iris."

WIRELESS.

GOVERNMENT STATIONS.

During the year radio communication has been satisfactorily maintained by all Government coast stations. An effective watch has also been kept for signals of distress from ship stations.

In September last arrangements were made to enable masters of vessels at sea to communicate with coast stations for the purpose of obtaining reports on the weather conditions prevailing in important nautical localities.

RADIO-AWARUA.

Satisfactory communication was maintained by Radio-Awarua with the Norwegian Whaling Expedition, headed by the factory steamer "Sir James Clark Ross," during the whole period of its operations in Ross Sea. Radio-telegraphic communication with the expedition was effected at 2,000 miles, and radio-telephone traffic was handled from the "Sir James Clark Ross" at a distance of 1,400 miles. Although conversations by radio-telephone have been conducted on many previous occasions by vessels trading in these waters, this in the first case in which this agency has been employed for the transmission of a radio-telegram to a New Zealand coast station.

The transmitting equipment at Radio-Awarua is being supplemented by an efficient short-wave transmitter, in order to provide a more effective means of communicating in daylight with ships on the southern steamship routes. When this transmitter is installed the period of transmission at Awarua will be increased and the duration of the watch extended.

RADIO-WELLINGTON.

In June last the two wooden masts at Radio-Wellington, which had been in service since 1912, were replaced by a new 165 ft. steel self-supporting tower. The semi-umbrella type of antenna erected on the new structure is proving equally as efficient as the "T" antenna erected on the old masts.

Consideration is now being given to the matter of equipping Radio-Wellington with a continuous-wave valve transmitter. The installation of this equipment would permit of the use of different types of transmissions for fixed and mobile service, facilitate long-distance communication with ship stations, and reduce to a minimum interference with adjacent radio-telephone broadcasting transmissions.

RADIO CHATHAM ISLANDS.

Reliable and uninterrupted communication has been maintained during the year between Radio-Chatham Islands and the mainland.

With a view to facilitating the despatch of radio-telegrams over long distances, and also reducing interference, arrangements were made in May last for Radio Chatham Islands to work overseas vessels on the Cape Horn and Panama transpacific routes on long waves.

RADIO-AWANUI.

The proposed modernization of the radio-stations at Awanui (New Zealand) and Apia (Samoa) by the installation of continuous-wave transmitters in place of the present spark equipment is being held in abeyance pending possible developments in connection with the erection in New Zealand of a high-power station, which would probably incorporate the specific services at present performed by Radio-Awanui.

RADIO-APIA AND RADIO-RAROTONGA.

In January last a direct-coupled semi-Diesel engine and charging generator were installed at Radio-Apia to replace the plant disabled by an accident in February, 1923.

A system of broadcasting meteorological forecasts and hurricane warnings throughout the Southern Pacific has been developed during the year by the Naval Department, and is now in operation. Radio-Apia receives meteorological reports daily from Tonga, Tahiti, Rarotonga, Fiji, Norfolk Island, New Hebrides, and New Zealand. These reports are correlated with the observations made at the Apia Observatory, and a forecast is broadcasted twice daily during the hurricane season, and once daily during the non-hurricane season.

An independent rotary discharger was installed during the year at Rarotonga with a view to increasing the transmitting efficiency of that station.

COOK ISLANDS.

Investigations have been continued during the year on behalf of the Cook Islands Department with a view to providing suitable wireless apparatus for installation at outlying islands in the Cook Group. In this connection two $\frac{1}{2}$ kilowatt radio-stations will shortly be erected at Aitutaki and Mangaia to act as feeder stations into Radio-Rarotonga. A radio-telephone station is proposed for Niue Island as a feeder into Radio-Apia.

PRIVATE STATIONS.

The Radio-telegraph Regulations for Amateur, Experimental, and Broadcasting Stations, gazetted in January, 1923, have proved an effective means of regulating the operation of private radio-stations. Already 2,900 amateur receiving-station licenses have been issued. Assistant Radio Inspectors were appointed during the year in the Auckland and Wellington districts.

The reduction of mutual interference between "listeners-in," due to reaction effects causing radiation from the receiving antennæ, presents considerable difficulties, of which, judging by the reports received, this country possesses no monopoly. A very considerable relief has been obtained by the prohibition by regulation of certain well-known types of receiving circuits which strongly energize the antenna system. It is recognized that practically any valve circuit may be caused to oscillate and to communicate a portion of its energy to the radiating member of the system, and for this reason complete immunity from interference of this kind is impossible. It is considered, however, that the nearest approach to immunity will be achieved by forbidding the use of those types in which radiation is inherent and in which reaction is not under convenient control. The reduction of mutual interference then becomes, in a large measure, the responsibility of "listeners-in" and of the amateur associations which represent them. The Department will, if necessary, take strong legal measures against persons found to be disregarding regulations designed to reduce the evil effects of interference.

During the year several broadcasting stations of comparatively small power have been erected and operated by private enterprise with a considerable measure of success, but through lack of funds and other causes the development of this class of station has been retarded.

TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE SERVICE.

RATING SYSTEM.

A comprehensive revision of the telephone rating system was undertaken early in the year, and on the 17th September last regulations were gazetted prescribing new rates and conditions under which telephone service should be furnished. The new rates became operative on the 1st October. The Department's action in submitting its original proposals to the various Chambers of Commerce and other organizations throughout the country was approved of on all sides, and the discussions that ensued—affording as they did opportunity for difficulties to be explained and differences of opinion adjusted—contributed largely to the generous manner in which the new rates were received by those who were eventually called upon to pay higher charges.

The chief object of the new rating system was to provide a more equitable scale of charges; and this was accomplished by increasing the rates for business stations and reducing, as far as possible, the rates for residential stations in suburban and rural areas. At the same time an attempt was made to obtain by way of revenue an amount sufficient to provide for annual charges in the shape of maintenance, depreciation, and interest, and thus relieve to some extent the general taxpayer.

The chief features of the new rating system are:—

- (1.) The granting of an unlimited number of calls for a fixed rental: a prominent feature of the old system, and a factor which has contributed largely to the popularity and development of the telephone system in New Zealand.
- (2.) The dividing of the exchanges into four classes according to their size, and providing for each class of exchange a separate schedule of charges. Formerly the exchanges were classified under the headings of (a) continuous attendance, and (b) non-continuous attendance.
- (3.) Defining for each exchange a zone or base-rate area within which the respective classes of service are furnished on a flat-rate basis.
- (4.) An increase in the previous ratio of charges between business and residential stations.
- (5.) Extended hours of attendance at country exchanges.
- (6.) Extension of the party-line system at all (except Class 1) exchanges to provide for as many as ten stations being connected with the same circuit, the annual rentals varying from £3 upwards.

- (7.) Providing for the joint use of telephones by persons occupying the same premises.
- (8.) Providing a fixed scale of charges for telephone removals and installations of miscellaneous equipment.
- (9.) The providing of annual charges in respect of all miscellaneous equipment, the upkeep of which was previously on a very unsatisfactory basis.
- (10.) The providing of a uniform extra mileage rate in respect of stations beyond base-rate areas, with proportionate charges for party-line stations.

In addition to the foregoing, the new rating system contains a number of minor innovations designed to increase the popularity and foster the development of the telephone system.

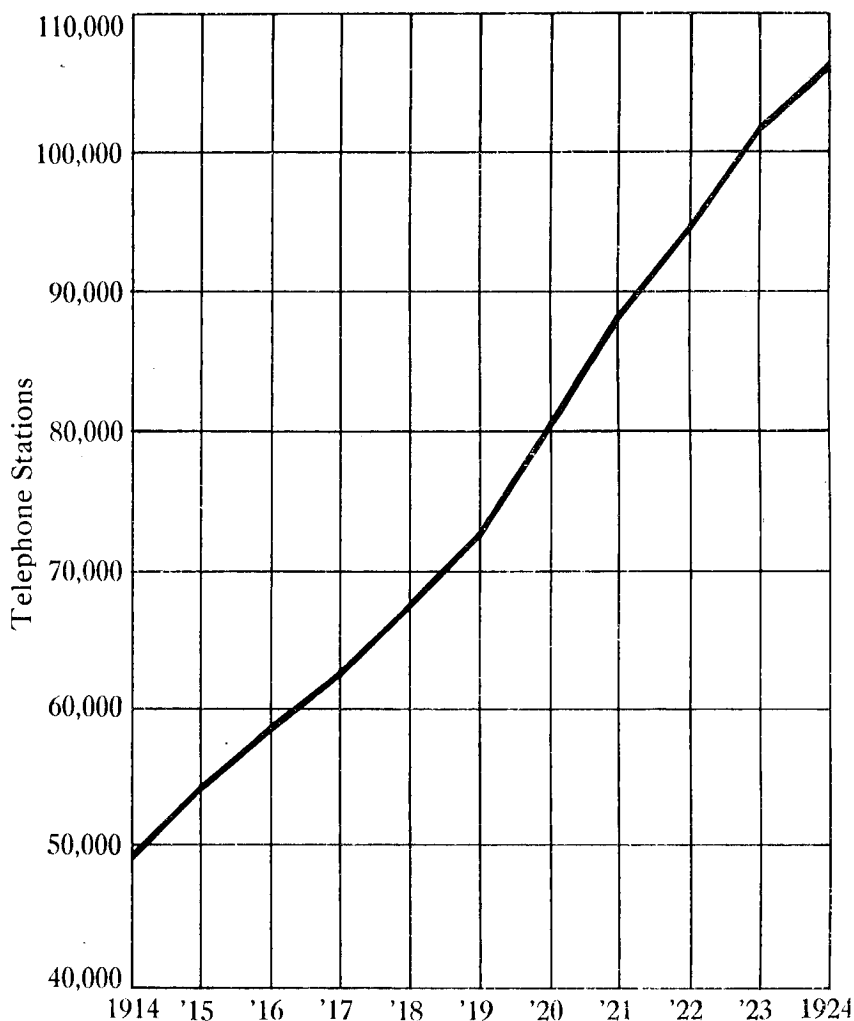
The new rates for business stations (individual-line service) vary from £8 per annum at the small country exchanges to £15 per annum at the Class I (four city) exchanges, while the rates for residential stations vary from £6 to £8 10s. per annum respectively. The base-rate areas within which these rates are applicable vary from thirteen square miles at Class IV (non-continuous attendance) exchanges to twenty-eight square miles at Class I exchanges. Two- to four-party line service is available at Class I exchanges, and two- to ten-party line service at all other exchanges. Within base-rate areas the annual rates for two-, three-, and four-party business stations, respectively, vary from £6, £5 10s., and £5 at Class IV exchanges to £10, £9 5s., and £8 10s., respectively, at Class I exchanges, with correspondingly lower rates for residential stations. The charges for five- to ten-party line service (which is not available within base-rate areas) are computed on the distance of the respective stations from the exchange, the minimum rental being £3 per annum.

Although sufficient time has not elapsed to determine the full effect of the new system of rating upon telephone business, development in the suburban and country districts has already been stimulated. This will undoubtedly enhance the value of the telephone to business people by placing them in telephone communication with an increasing number of customers.

The fact that the number of applications for new connections shows no signs of diminishing, and that comparatively few connections were relinquished when the new rates came into operation, indicates that the new scale of charges is not unreasonable. The habit of using the telephone grows steadily, and all indications point to an increasing rather than a diminishing demand for telephone service.

TELEPHONE-STATIONS.

CURVE SHOWING THE GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE STATIONS IN NEW ZEALAND DURING THE PERIOD 1923-24.



TELEPHONE STATISTICS.

The manner in which the exchanges are classified, the number of exchanges in each class, and the number of stations connected therewith on the 31st March last, are shown in the following table :—

	Class I. Exchanges or Net- works observing Continuous Attendance and having more than 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations con- nected therewith	Class II. Exchanges or Net- works observing Continuous Attendance and having 1,001 to 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations con- nected therewith.	Class III. Exchanges or Net- works observing Continuous Attendance and having 201 to 1,000 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations con- nected therewith.	Class IV. Exchanges or Networks where the Attendance is restricted.	Dominion Totals.
Subscribers' main stations ..	29,297	18,371	17,355	21,582	86,605
Toll and service stations ..	543	416	699	2,248	3,906
Public call offices ..	284	57	27	3	371
Extension stations—					
P.B.X.	3,856	857	254	64	5,031
Ordinary	6,161	2,524	1,351	815	10,851
Telephone stations : Class totals ..	40,141	22,225	19,686	24,712	106,764
Number of exchanges in each class	4	11	41	271	327
Percentage of new connections made with each class of exchange during the year	23%	14%	14%	49%	..

In addition to the above there are 4,263 stations connected by private telephone-lines with departmental toll stations, and 414 stations connected with non-departmental rural exchanges, which do not have communication with the departmental system, making a grand total of 111,441 telephone-stations on the 31st March, 1924.

The following table shows, for each class of exchange, the percentage of business and residential stations, also the percentage of individual and party-line stations :—

Percentage of	Class I Exchanges.	Class II Exchanges.	Class III. Exchanges.	Class IV Exchanges.	Dominion Percentages.
Business stations	48	36	33	27	37
Residential stations	52	64	67	73	63
	100	100	100	100	100
Individual-line stations	83	75	61	46	68
Party- and rural-line stations	17	25	39	54	32
	100	100	100	100	100

The number of party lines now stands at 7,635, with a total of 27,467 stations connected therewith—an increase of 992 and 3,314 respectively on the figures for last year.

Despite the lack of switchboard accommodation at a number of the larger exchanges, a factor which affected to a great extent the joining-up of new subscribers, the new connections made during the year totalled 11,135, a number which has not been exceeded in any previous year. Of the new connections 2,550 were with Class I exchanges, 1,596 with Class II exchanges, 1,592 with Class III exchanges, and 5,397 with Class IV exchanges. The waiting-list at these exchanges now stands at 1,265, 394, 579, and 1,848 respectively: total, 4,086—a reduction of 120 on the figures for the year ended 31st March, 1923. Although the waiting-list has not been greatly reduced, a number equivalent to those now waiting are provided with telephone connections every four months, so that, except at comparatively few exchanges where conditions are abnormal, applicants have not been waiting for telephone service more than four months. The waiting-list includes 700 applicants for connections at telephone exchanges authorized but not yet opened; the figures for the previous year under this heading were 676.

The number of subscribers' stations (main and extension) connected with each of the twelve principal exchanges on the 31st March, 1924, was—Wellington, 12,751; Auckland, 11,697; Christchurch, 9,238; Dunedin, 6,453; Wanganui, 2,750; Hamilton, 2,370; Gisborne, 2,368; Invercargill, 2,304; Napier, 2,285; Palmerston North, 2,196; Hastings, 2,163; Masterton, 1,640.

In the telephone statistics of the world the United States of America leads as regards density, with 12·7 telephones per 100 of population; Canada is second, with 10·2 telephones; Denmark is third, with 8·2 telephones; while New Zealand takes fourth place, with 7·6 telephones. Australia and Great Britain occupy seventh and twelfth places respectively, with 4·4 and 2·1 telephones per 100 of population. The number of telephones per 100 of population of the world is 1·3.

NEW EXCHANGES, EXTENSIONS, ETC.

Many inquiries have been made during the year respecting the installation of new exchanges. Wherever possible, petitioners for new exchanges in adjacent areas have been encouraged to combine their interests with a view to obtaining a centrally situated exchange capable of serving a comparatively large number of subscribers, and thus becoming eligible for extended hours of attendance. For the same reasons, negotiations are in progress for the amalgamation of certain small exchanges already existing which can be better served by one exchange system. By this means the upkeep of a number of very small exchanges, which remain unattractive on account of the small number of subscribers connected and the very limited hours of attendance, is avoided:—

Among other operations, the year's work included—

The opening of new manual exchanges at Clydevale, Hawea Flat, Hinds, Karamca, Matakana, Paraparaumu, Plimmerton, St. Heliers, Uruti, and Waipiro Bay:

The conversion to automatic of the Wanganui Exchange:

The extension of the automatic equipment at five exchanges:

The extension of switchboard accommodation at thirty-five exchanges:

The installation of underground and aerial cables at a number of the smaller exchanges:

The extension of the cable system at sixty-nine exchanges:

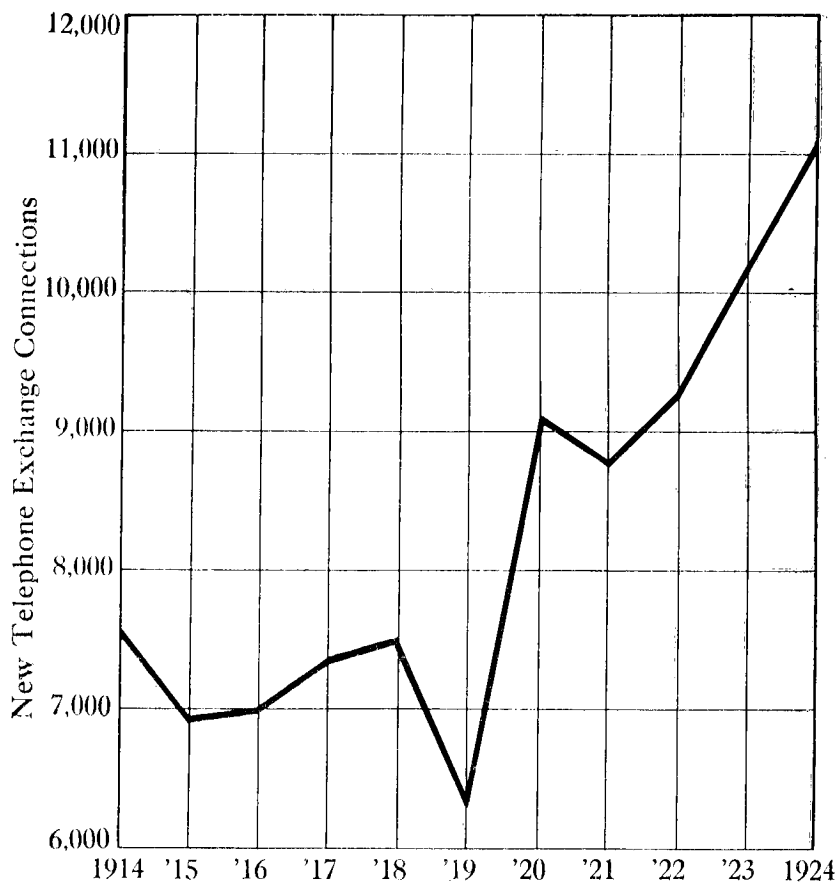
The reconstruction of the aerial system at a number of exchanges:

The prosecution of the new automatic installations at Wellesley Street (Auckland), Ponsonby, Mount Eden, Remuera, Onehunga, Devonport, and Takapuna:

The maintenance of 106,764 telephone-stations.

NEW CONNECTIONS.

CURVE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF NEW TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE CONNECTIONS EACH YEAR SINCE 1914.



TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS FOR BACKBLOCK SETTLERS.

Backblock settlers and others continue to avail themselves of the very favourable terms under which materials may be purchased from the Department for the erection of private telephone-lines to connect with departmental exchanges and toll offices. During the year 335 licenses were issued for the erection of private telephone-lines, and by making use of the party-line system these private lines provided telephone communication for 694 settlers.

TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE RECEIPTS.

The telephone-exchange receipts for the year ended 31st March, 1924, were £830,470, an increase of £234,503 on the previous year's figures, due largely to the reinstatement of the system of collecting rentals half-yearly in advance, the growth of the telephone-exchange system, and the institution of increased charges for business stations.

PUBLIC CALL OFFICES.

Public call offices (coin-in-the-slot telephones) continue to prove remunerative in business and densely populated residential areas. During the year twenty new public call offices were established, bringing the total number in use up to 371. The number of offices of this class connected with each of the four principal city exchanges has now reached the maximum, and further provision cannot be made for additional connections until these exchanges are converted to full automatic working.

The revenue from public call offices during the year amounted to £23,734, being an increase of £1,713 over the previous year.

PRIVATE-LINE CIRCUITS BETWEEN PLACES OF BUSINESS.

The receipts for the year in respect of rental and maintenance fees for private-line circuits between places of business &c., amounted to £5,292.

TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE PLANT.

The length in miles of the various items of telephone-exchange plant in existence on the 31st March, 1923 and 1924 respectively was as follows:—

	Pole line.	U.G. Cable.	Aerial Cable.	Wire in U.G. Cable.	Wire in Aerial Cable.	Open Aerial Wire.	Wire under all Headings.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
In existence on 31st March, 1923	6,872	310	558	109,215	66,612	48,671	229,882
Erected during year ..	479	100	43	33,118	4,349	5,985	43,598
Dismantled during year	16	4	12	1,368	1,619	329	4,059
In existence on 31st March, 1924	7,605	406	589	140,965	69,342	54,327	269,421

The percentage of the total wire-mileage in underground cables grows steadily from year to year, thus adding to the stability of the plant through the lessening liability to storm damage. The percentages in this respect for the years 1919 and 1924 respectively are shown hereunder:—

	1919. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.
Telephone-exchange wire in underground cables	41	52
Telephone-exchange wire in aerial cable	37	26
Telephone-exchange wire in open aerial wire	22	22
	100	100

AUTOMATIC-TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE INSTALLATIONS.

AUCKLAND METROPOLITAN AREA.

In view of the early completion of the full automatic system, no additions were made to the auxiliary automatic switching-apparatus installed in the Auckland Exchange area during the year. The number of waiting subscribers is approximately the same as at the 31st March last year, and, as stated in last year's report, no appreciable number of additional subscribers can be connected until the full automatic plant is brought into operation.

Three-hundred pair trunk cables have been laid from the new main automatic exchange at Wellesley Street to the Remuera, Mount Eden, and Ponsonby Exchanges, and a 200-pair trunk cable has been laid to the Devonport Exchange. The subscribers' cable distribution from all but the last-mentioned of these exchanges is now practically complete, and will be ready for use when the full automatic apparatus is cut into service.

Steady progress has been made with the installation of the permanent apparatus at the Wellesley Street, Remuera, Mount Eden, and Ponsonby Exchanges, but the non-arrival of certain material delayed some sections of the work. The material outstanding is now being delivered, and is being installed as quickly as circumstances will permit. In a few months' time, when the air-conditioning plant is installed and in running-order, final adjustments and testing-out of the apparatus will be proceeded with.

The work at the smaller exchanges—Devonport, Onehunga, and Takapuna—is not so far advanced, owing to the non-arrival of essential material; and it is probable that these satellite exchanges will not be worked as automatic until some few months after the "cut-over" of the central area.

When the exchanges now under installation at Auckland were originally planned it was hoped that a hot-water-radiator heating-system would meet all the requirements of automatic-exchange operation. Subsequent experience has shown that some more efficient dehumidifying system is essential in a climate with the average relative humidity existing at Auckland. It has been found necessary to equip the Auckland exchanges with up-to-date air-conditioning systems suitable for correcting the existing conditions of humidity, without at the same time creating unbearable and unhealthy conditions for the staff, as is the case with the simpler dehumidifying systems which rely solely upon the heating of the air for the reduction of the relative humidity.

WELLINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.

The capacity of the automatic equipment in the Wellington Exchange area has been increased during the year as follows: Courtenay Place, 200 individual lines, 100 two-party lines; Wellington South, 140 individual lines, 100 two-party lines; Kelburn, 400 individual lines. On the 31st March, 1924, there were 9,313 subscribers' main stations in Wellington, of which number 5,431 were operated automatically and 3,882 manually. In addition to these there were 3,438 extension stations, 899 of which were associated with automatic stations and 2,539 with manual stations.

The erection of the new automatic-exchange building at Stout Street has proceeded satisfactorily during the year. The switching-apparatus will be installed on the top floor, which is now being finished off in advance of the remainder of the building to enable a start to be made with the installation work. It is anticipated that the automatic equipment can be installed and brought into operation within eighteen months of the completion of the building. When this equipment is brought into use the telephone service of the Wellington Exchange area will be wholly automatic except for a small number of long-distance party lines.

CHRISTCHURCH METROPOLITAN AREA.

The auxiliary automatic apparatus temporarily installed in the Christchurch Exchange area continues to give good service, and will not be extended in view of the proposed installation of a homogeneous full automatic system.

The work of placing the subscribers cables underground, which is necessary for the satisfactory automatic operation of the area, is proceeding.

The building at Hereford Street to house the main-office full automatic equipment was completed during the year. The apparatus to be installed in this building will commence to arrive shortly, when arrangements will be made for its installation. A portion of the apparatus for the branch exchanges is on hand, and will be installed in conjunction with the equipment at the main office.

DUNEDIN METROPOLITAN AREA.

The erection of the automatic-exchange building at Upper Dowling Street to house the main-office full automatic equipment was completed in December last. None of the material to be installed in this building has yet been received, but the initial shipment is expected shortly. The progress that will be made with the installation work is dependent to a large extent on regular supplies of material being maintained, but it is planned to have the installation completed and working before the opening of the International Exhibition at Dunedin in 1925.

A start has also been made with the installation of equipment at the Roslyn Automatic Exchange, and good progress is being made. The South Dunedin automatic-exchange building was affected to some extent by the heavy floods experienced during the year. Certain alterations are now in progress, and upon their completion this installation will be proceeded with. The Roslyn and South Dunedin Exchanges will be cut over in conjunction with the main equipment of the central exchange at Upper Dowling Street.

HAMILTON.

Material for the extension of the toll-board at Hamilton to provide two new positions was ordered during the year, and is now coming to hand. When this is installed it will enable rural lines, which are at present accommodated on separate switchboards, to be worked from the toll-board.

Owing to the excessively humid conditions prevailing at Hamilton it was found necessary to arrange for an up-to-date air washing and dehumidifying plant to be installed at this exchange. The installation of the plant was completed in August, and since that date it has been possible to control the atmospheric conditions inside the building and to operate the exchange with greater efficiency.

WANGANUI.

The installation of the equipment at the automatic exchange at Wanganui has been completed, and the change-over to automatic took place in December. The cut-over was accomplished with a minimum of trouble, and the installation has since been giving satisfactory service.

AUTOMATIC EXTENSIONS.

Extensions to the automatic system during the year to meet the increasing demands for telephone service comprised the following: Courtenay Place, 200 individual lines, 100 two-party lines; Wellington South, 140 individual lines, 100 two-party lines; Kelburn, 400 individual lines; Masterton, 200 individual lines; Palmerston North, 200 individual lines; Wanganui (new exchange), 2,000 individual lines, 100 four-party lines.

Hereunder is a return showing automatic-exchange equipment installed and in use in the Dominion on the 31st March, 1924:—

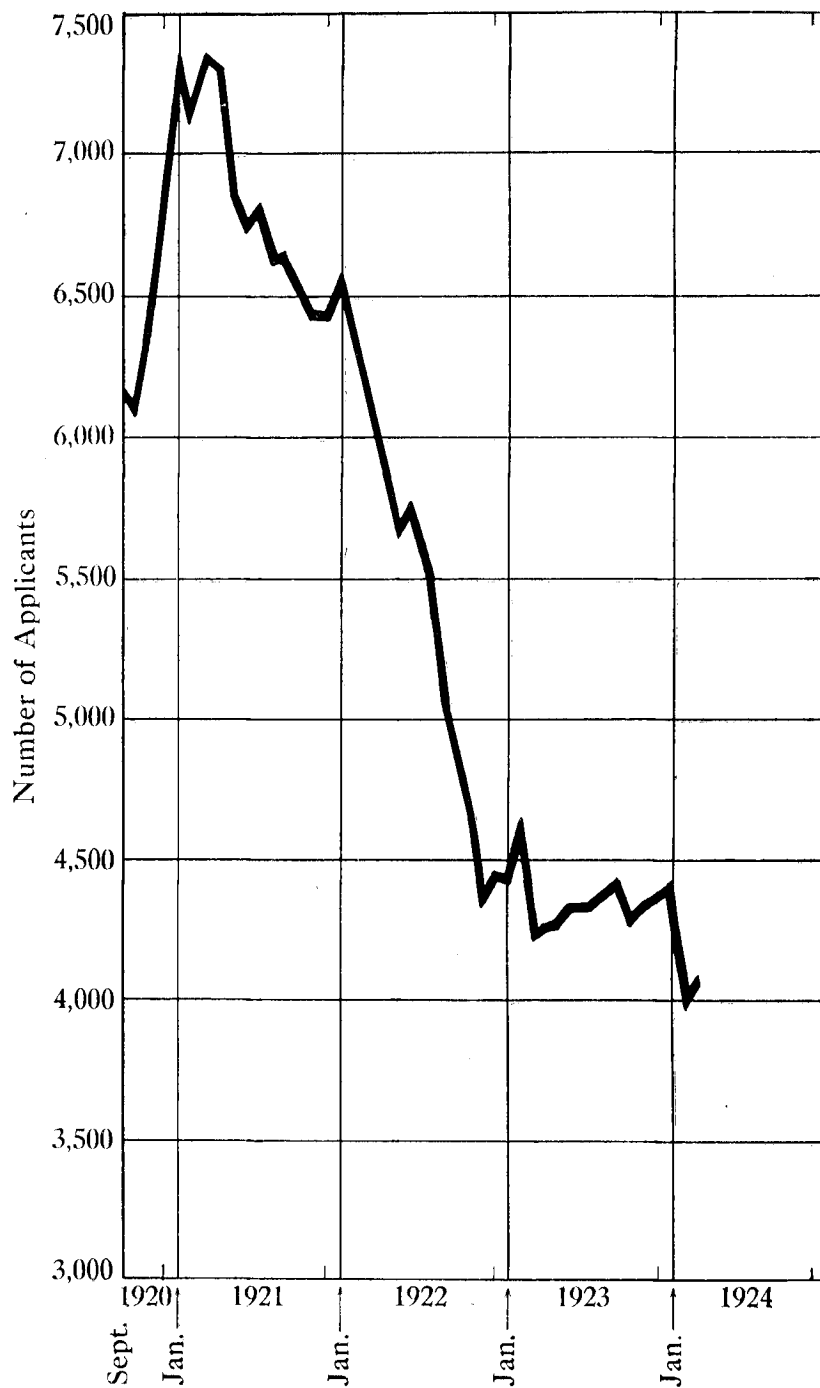
Exchange.	Number of Individual Lines installed.	Number of Party Lines installed.		Number of Individual Line Stations.	Number of Party-line Stations.	Total Number of Main Stations.	Number of Extension Stations.	Total Number of Automatic Telephone Stations.
		Two-party.	Four-party.					
Auckland Exchange Area—								
Fort Street*	1,900	..	..	1,866	34	1,900	377	2,277
Remuera*	600	..	..	599	2	601	109	710
Mount Eden*	500	..	..	496	8	504	39	543
Christchurch Exchange Area—								
Hereford Street*	1,500	..	..	1,433	..	1,433	130	1,563
St. Albaus*	500	..	..	500	..	500	48	548
Sydenham*	300	..	..	294	..	294	29	323
Wellington Exchange Area—								
Courtenay Place	3,400	100	100	2,943	146	3,089	757	3,846
Wellington South	1,000	100	100	885	399	1,284	87	1,371
Kelburn	1,200	..	..	779	..	779	48	827
Khandallah .. ..	..	100	100	62†	217	279	7	286
Single-office exchanges—								
Blenheim.. ..	700	..	100	648	92	740	81	821
Hamilton.. ..	1,400	..	100	1,384	327	1,711	322	2,033
Masterton	1,000	..	100	884	194	1,078	190	1,268
Oamaru	600	..	100	600	64	664	86	750
Palmerston North	1,800	..	100	1,546	151	1,697	283	1,980
Wanganui	2,000	..	100	1,857	226	2,083	323	2,406
Totals	18,400	300	900	16,776	1,860	18,636	2,916	21,552

* Auxiliary apparatus.

† 62 lines used for individual stations.

WAITING-LIST.

CURVE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS AWAITING TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1920.



APPENDIX.

DESIGNATION OF OFFICES CHANGED.

Postal District.	Changed from	Changed to
Auckland	Auckland East (B.O.)	Auckland East.
Auckland	Onerahi Railway Bureau	Onerahi Railway.
Auckland	Whakarapa	Panguru.
Dunedin	Dunedin Railway Bureau	Dunedin Railway.
Gisborne	Matarehua	East Cape.
Greymouth	Kumara Railway Bureau	Kumara Railway.
Hamilton	Ngatunui	Ngutunui.
Napier	Matatera	Piripiri.
Wellington	Muritai Park	Muritai.

CABLE BUSINESS.

The Dominion's outward International and Australian cable business, excluding Press, for the years 1923-24 and 1922-23 was as follows:—

INTERNATIONAL.

	Number of Messages.	Value. £
1923-24	132,992	175,788
1922-23	120,783	172,767
	Increase 12,209 = 10·1 per cent.	Increase £3,021 = 1·74 per cent.

AUSTRALIAN.

	Number of Messages.	Value. £
1923-24	121,727	26,555
1922-23	113,567	24,912
	Increase 8,160 = 7·18 per cent.	Increase £1,643 = 6·59 per cent.

There was a total increase of 20,369 messages, and an increase in value of £4,664. Of the total revenue received on forwarded cable messages—viz., £202,343—£192,144 was paid to other Administrations and £10,199 retained by New Zealand.

RECEIVED CABLE MESSAGES.

The number of cable messages received in New Zealand during the years 1923-24 and 1922-23, exclusive of Press, was as follows:—

	International.	Australian.
1923-24	115,375	115,937
1922-23	106,211	107,723
	Increase 9,164 = 8·62 per cent.	Increase 8,214 = 7·62 per cent.

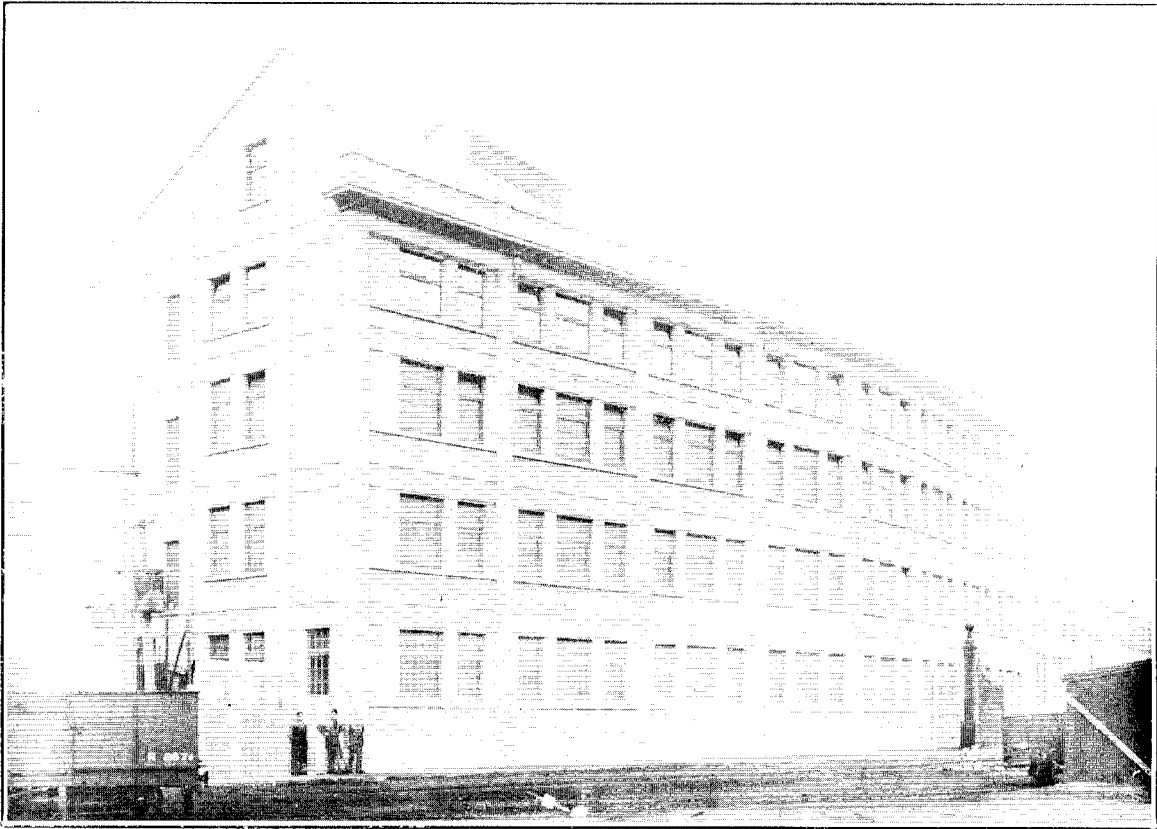
The total revenue earned by New Zealand on received cable messages during the year 1923-24 was £8,441 as compared with £8,028 for 1922-23.

RADIO-TELEGRAMS.

The radio business transacted by the New Zealand coast stations during the years 1923-24 and 1922-23 was as follows:—

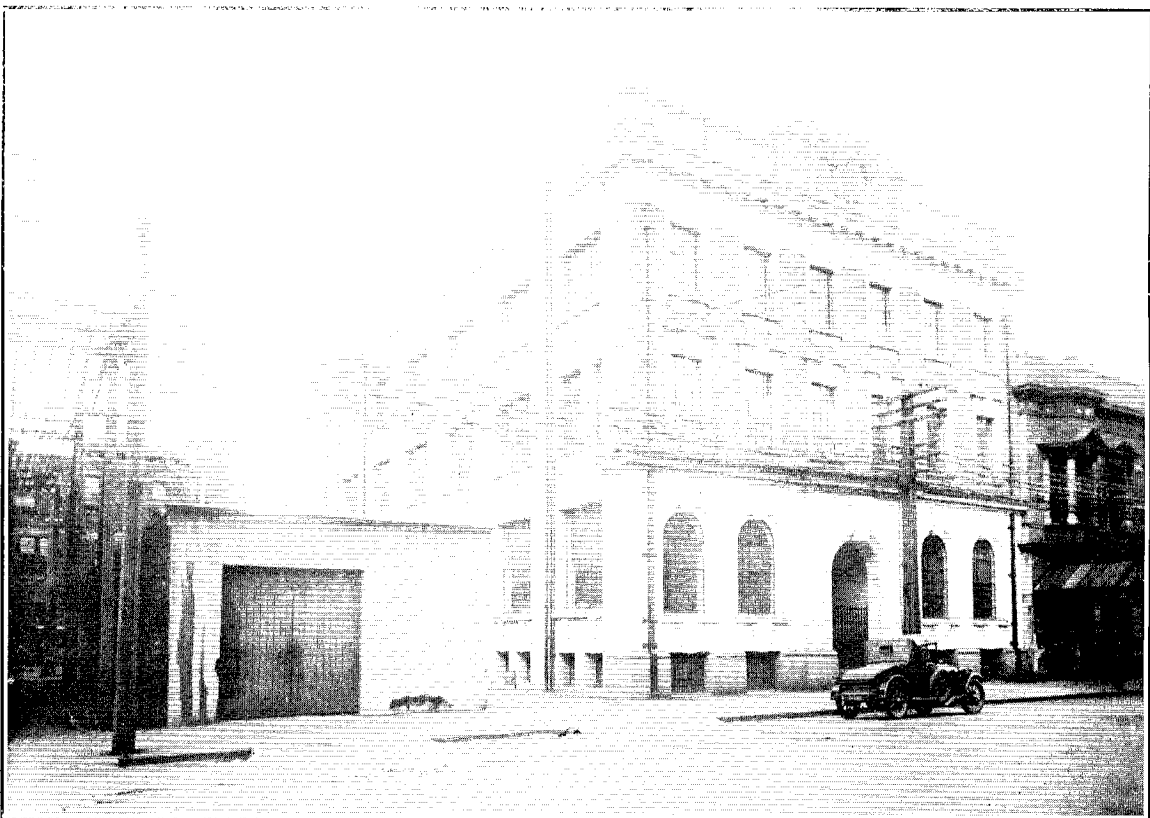
Year.	Forwarded.				Received.		
	Number of		Amount earned by New Zealand.	Total Value.	Number of		Amount earned by New Zealand.
	Messages.	Words.			Messages.	Words.	
1923-24	13,907	244,955	£ 3,075	£ 6,414	22,576	242,390	£ 4,401
1922-23	11,940	230,481	2,656	5,628	19,715	215,013	3,792
Increase	1,967	14,474	419	786	2,861	27,377	609

GROWTH OF MOTOR TRANSPORT.



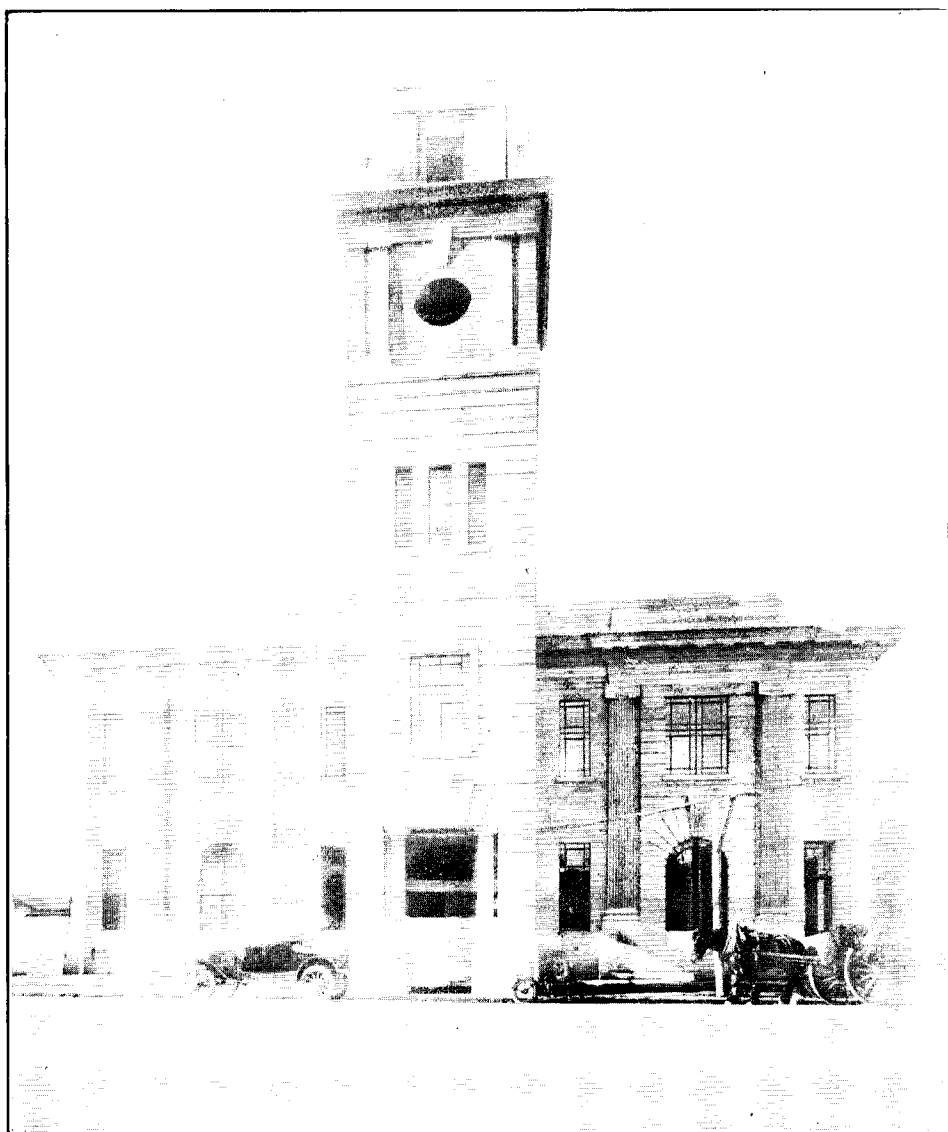
NEW GARAGE AND WORKSHOPS, WELLINGTON.

EXTENSION OF THE AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE SYSTEM.



NEW AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE, HEREFORD STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.
Face p. 32.

GROWTH OF POST AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS.—TYPE OF BUILDING
RECENTLY ERECTED.

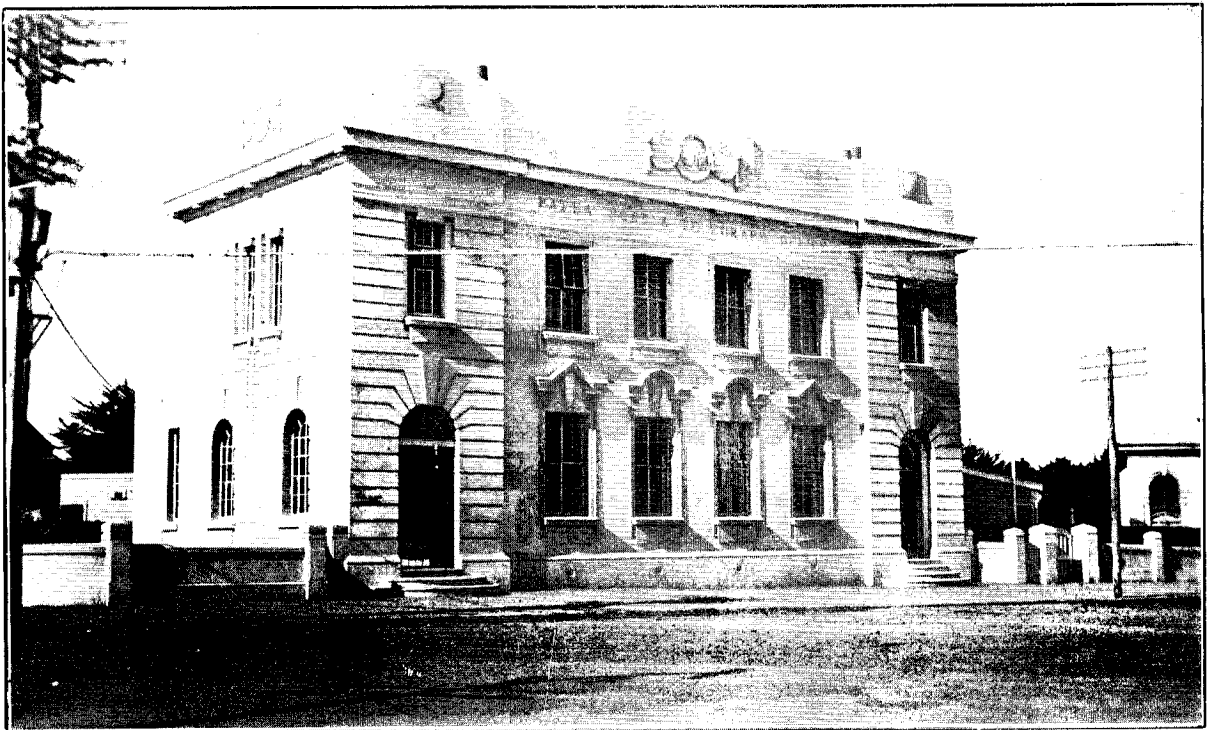


STRATFORD.

GROWTH OF POST AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS. TYPES OF BUILDINGS RECENTLY ERECTED.

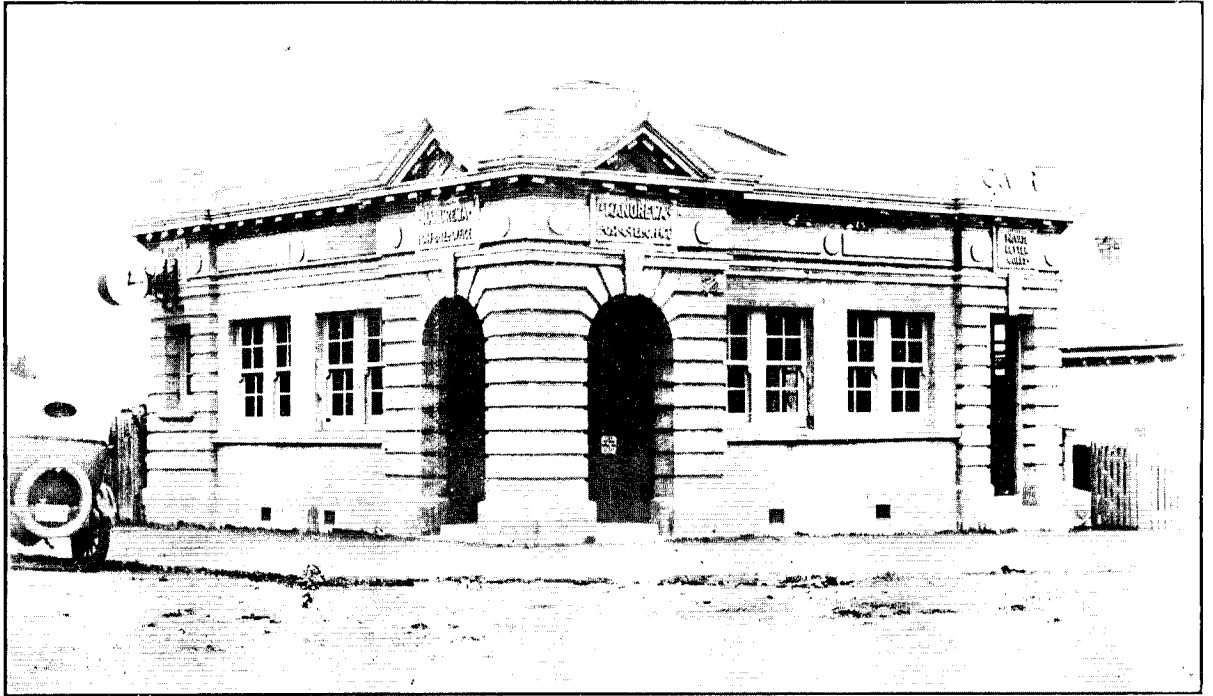


DANNEVIRKE

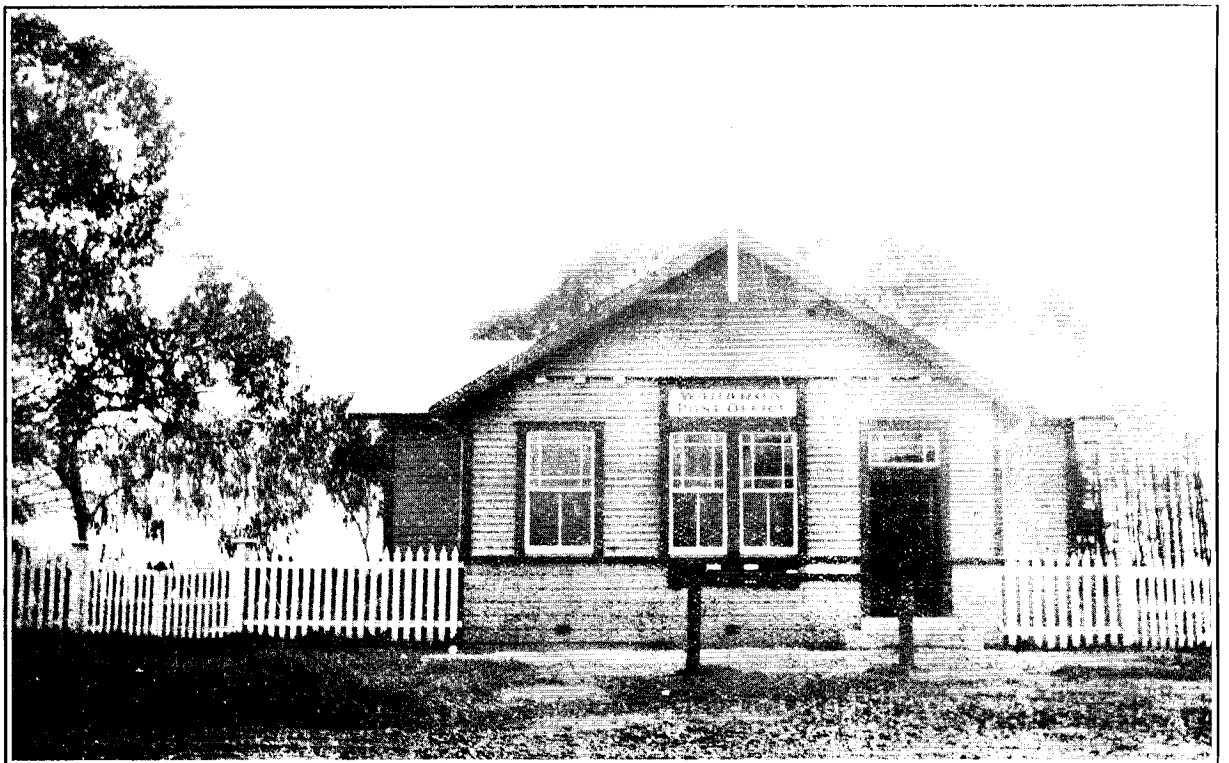


PATEA

GROWTH OF POST AND TELEGRAPH BUSINESS. TYPES OF BUILDINGS RECENTLY ERECTED.

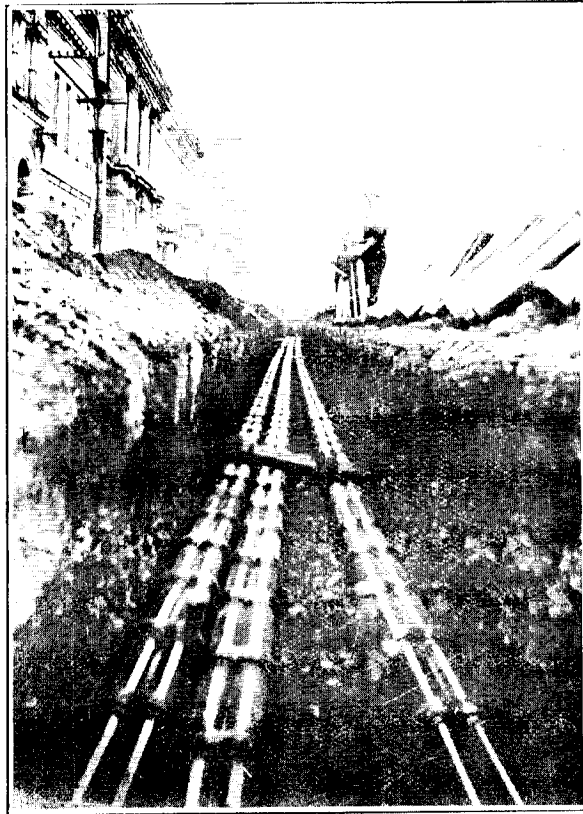


MANUREWA.

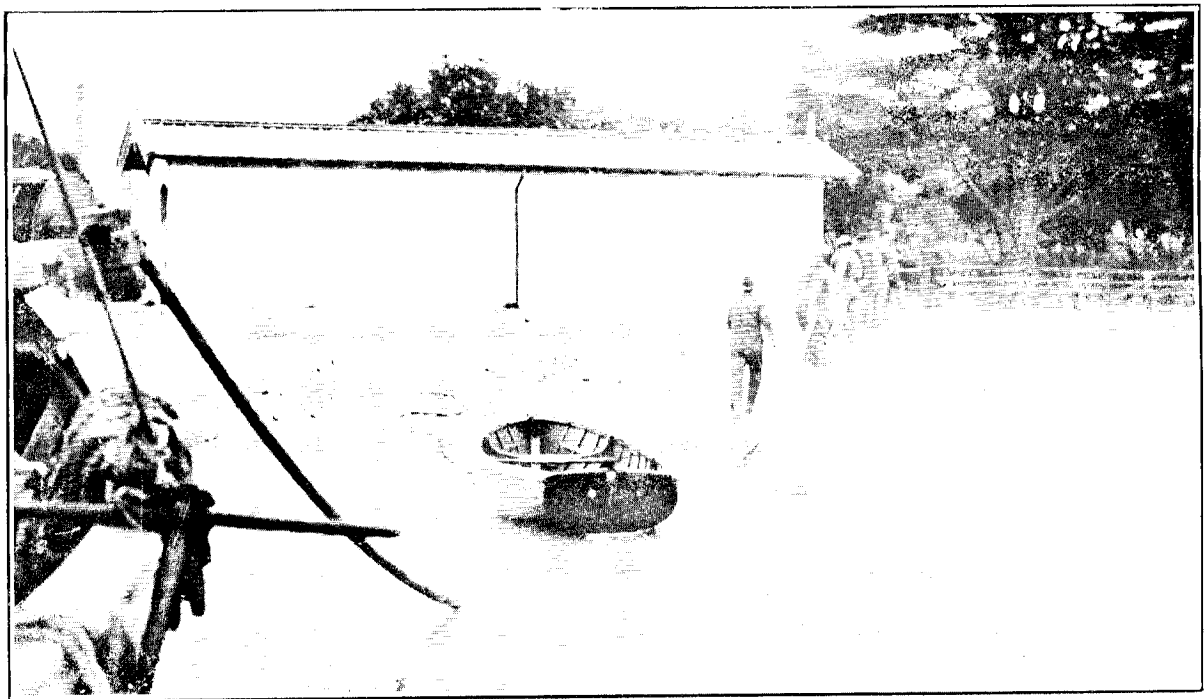


WAHAROA.

HOW TELEPHONE-CABLE IS LAID.

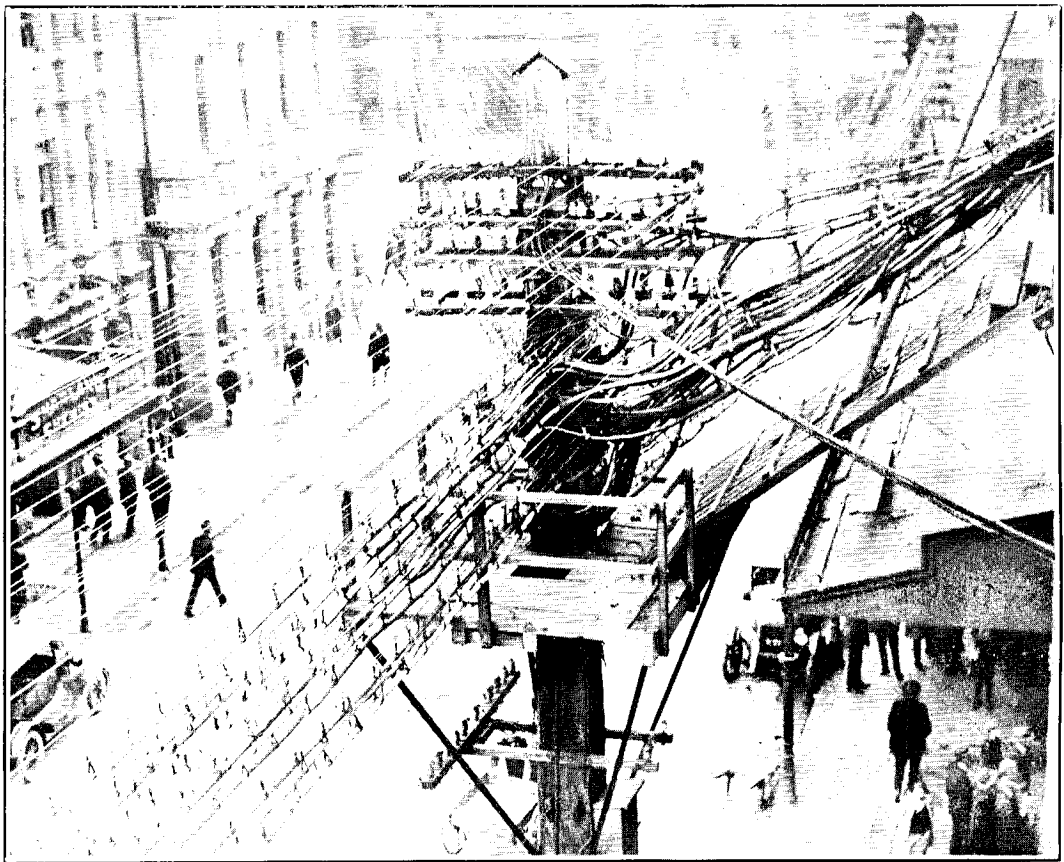


EARTHENWARE DISCS FOR TELEPHONE CABLES CHRISTCHURCH



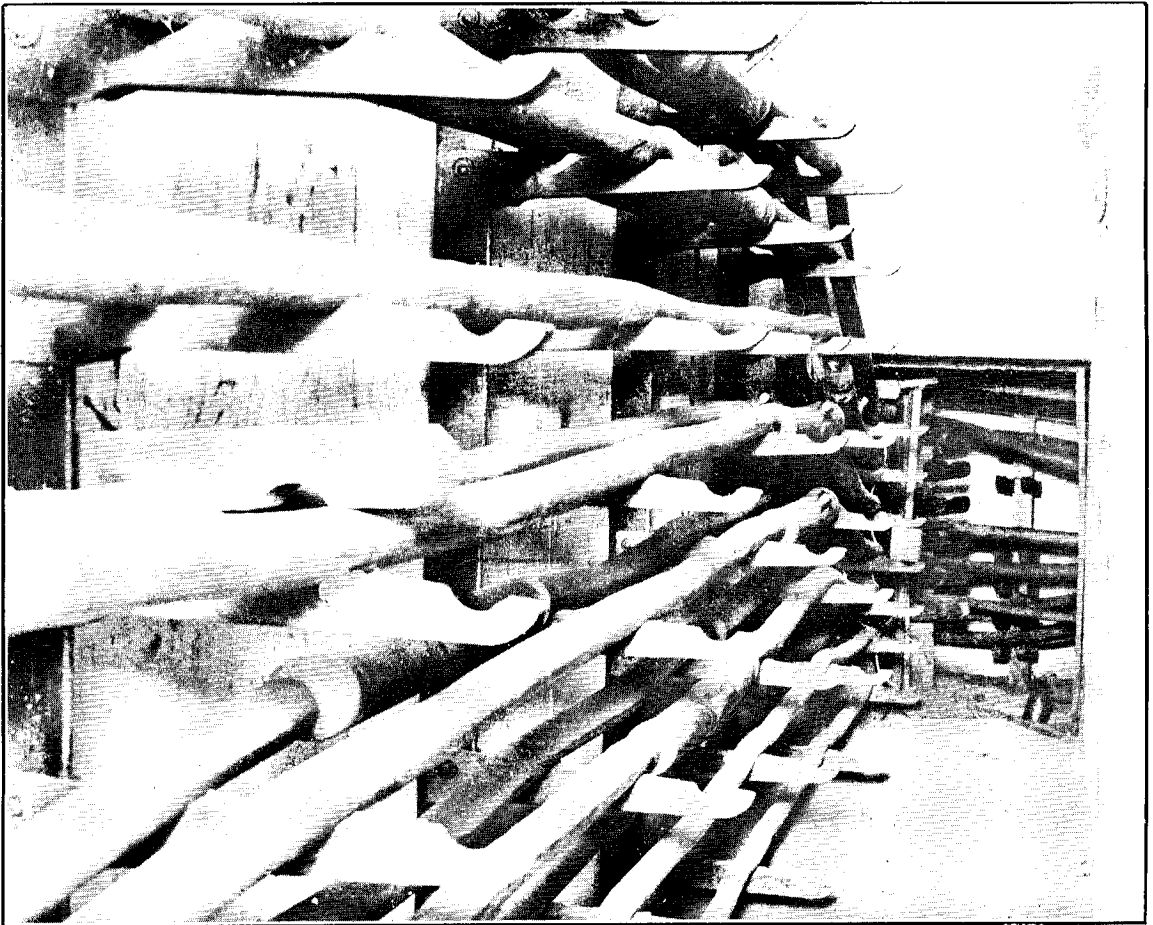
LANDING AT DEVONPORT OF 200 PAIR SUBMARINE TELEPHONE CABLE FROM AUCKLAND.

OLD METHOD OF TELEPHONE-CABLE CONSTRUCTION.



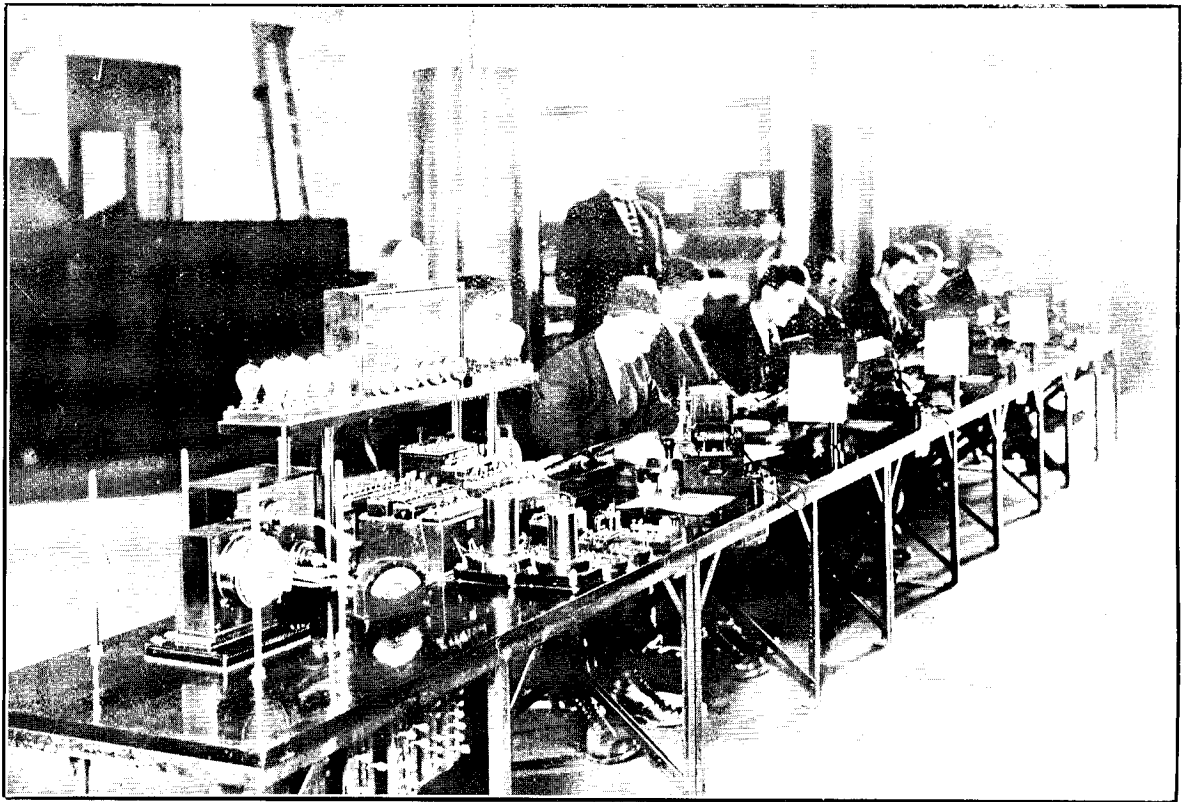
AERIAL TELEPHONE-CABLE (OLD SYSTEM) SHORTLAND STREET, AUCKLAND.

NEW METHOD OF TELEPHONE-CABLE CONSTRUCTION.



UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE-CABLE (NEW SYSTEM) WELLESLEY STREET, AUCKLAND.

TELEGRAPH INTERCOMMUNICATION BY THE MURRAY MULTIPLEX MACHINE PRINTER.



EIGHT MESSAGES TRANSMITTED SIMULTANEOUSLY OVER ONE LINE, EACH MESSAGE AT THE RATE OF FORTY WORDS PER MINUTE.

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 Dominion.

Year.	Commission received.	Where payable.								Total.	
		In the Dominion.		United Kingdom.*		Australia and other British Possessions.		Foreign Countries.†			
		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
1863	£ 1,057	2,201	£ 9,614	4,740	£ 21,944	4,645	£ 24,145	..	£ ..	11,586	£ 55,703
1873	3,562	34,288	142,642	11,913	48,548	6,150	28,068	..	..	52,351	219,258
1883	9,023	132,232	402,559	26,211	91,634	14,113	46,940	..	..	172,556	541,133
1893	10,249	146,133	576,359	29,616	86,545	35,208	88,025	..	..	210,957	750,929
1903	15,882	273,535	1,108,067	63,309	157,790	59,468	150,368	..	..	396,312	1,416,225
1913	16,872	516,536	2,821,624	100,634	336,992	73,575	199,158	..	..	690,745	3,357,774
1914	16,336	536,674	2,933,911	87,774	299,155	67,070	194,439	..	..	691,518	3,427,505
1915	15,819	511,487	2,986,021	81,483	263,371	71,890	222,426	..	..	664,860	3,471,818
1916	15,966	520,476	3,108,197	60,876	214,254	70,817	221,700	17,186	62,936	669,355	3,607,087
1917	16,077	508,209	2,977,997	54,852	216,835	63,662	212,144	15,960	69,669	642,683	3,476,645
1918	17,487	508,813	3,120,183	48,133	198,452	61,899	217,512	19,655	113,224	638,500	3,649,371
1919	19,329	558,344	3,994,055	48,592	224,667	58,974	240,437	24,381	144,900	690,291	4,604,059
1920	31,302	572,432	4,691,717	49,184	235,295	66,027	310,409	12,031	39,355	699,674	5,276,776
1921	31,268	535,897	4,276,158	52,021	254,342	67,893	292,036	13,572	28,284	669,383	4,850,820
1922	27,431	526,906	3,776,896	53,079	221,447	64,523	249,454	15,435	30,732	659,943	4,278,529
1923	28,357	545,605	3,849,423	54,461	223,143	68,044	284,778	16,869	32,815	684,979	4,390,159

Drawn on the Dominion.

Year.	Where issued.								Total.	
	In the Dominion.		United Kingdom.*		Australia and other British Possessions.		Foreign Countries.†			
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
1863	2,067	£ 9,169	415	£ 1,824	558	£ 3,078	..	£ ..	3,040	£ 14,071
1873	34,288	142,642	1,482	6,626	1,668	7,689	..	..	37,438	156,957
1883	132,232	402,559	3,725	15,553	5,697	23,300	..	..	141,654	441,411
1893	146,133	576,359	8,746	32,617	10,679	40,929	..	..	165,558	649,905
1903	273,535	1,108,067	13,035	49,181	17,777	68,340	..	..	304,347	1,225,589
1913	516,536	2,821,624	12,693	70,084	31,450	110,487	..	..	560,679	3,002,194
1914	536,674	2,933,911	11,439	60,324	30,974	110,032	..	..	579,087	3,104,268
1915	511,487	2,986,021	12,409	58,189	30,356	107,510	..	..	554,252	3,151,720
1916	520,476	3,108,197	8,337	39,908	35,800	128,370	2,445	10,587	567,058	3,287,162
1917	508,209	2,977,997	6,872	34,973	36,978	123,390	2,311	10,348	554,370	3,146,708
1918	508,813	3,120,183	6,802	40,365	33,868	114,652	2,281	12,055	551,764	3,287,255
1919	558,344	3,994,055	8,498	65,526	25,697	104,093	2,410	12,353	594,949	4,176,027
1920	572,432	4,691,717	8,806	67,552	22,946	111,325	1,416	4,420	605,600	4,875,014
1921	535,897	4,276,158	8,696	65,818	24,197	122,938	1,366	6,104	570,156	4,471,018
1922	526,906	3,776,896	8,788	65,516	25,095	121,331	1,587	6,124	562,376	3,969,867
1923	545,605	3,849,423	11,042	63,313	26,042	123,703	1,813	8,669	584,502	4,045,108

* Includes foreign offices to year 1915.

† In previous years included in United Kingdom and foreign offices.

Table No. 2.

TABLE SHOWING THE MONEY-ORDERS ISSUED IN NEW ZEALAND ON OFFICES BEYOND THE DOMINION, AND MONEY-ORDERS ISSUED AT OFFICES BEYOND THE DOMINION ON NEW ZEALAND, DURING THE YEARS 1922 AND 1923.

Issued in New Zealand.

Where payable.	1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
United Kingdom and Foreign Offices through United Kingdom	54,773	£ 229,348	56,499	£ 230,508
United States of America	13,660	22,312	14,582	24,447
Canada	1,137	4,044	1,233	4,974
Ceylon	134	629	139	575
Fiji	314	2,116	277	1,627
Hong Kong	228	954	242	1,187
India	1,580	14,388	1,488	12,954
New South Wales	33,055	129,163	36,125	157,037
Norway	81	519	70	337
Queensland	3,104	14,715	3,533	14,569
South Australia	1,320	5,564	1,321	5,381
Straits Settlement	32	218	42	399
Tasmania	3,588	10,130	2,905	9,272
Tonga	57	460	30	353
Union of South Africa	471	2,242	425	2,355
Victoria	17,632	59,611	18,519	67,740
Western Australia	1,871	5,220	1,944	7,021
Totals	133,037	501,633	139,374	540,736

Drawn on New Zealand.

Where issued.	1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
United Kingdom and Foreign Offices through United Kingdom	8,903	£ 66,156	11,139	£ 64,066
United States of America	1,467	5,470	1,727	8,048
Canada	780	2,546	742	3,160
Ceylon	8	21	11	24
Fiji	909	5,081	966	5,549
Hong Kong	33	130	50	130
India	93	400	110	423
New South Wales	10,659	51,097	11,347	51,349
Norway	5	14	5	16
Queensland	1,754	7,884	1,758	7,942
South Australia	1,045	4,497	993	4,431
Straits Settlements	22	204	40	343
Tasmania	1,717	8,580	1,586	7,369
Tonga	587	6,702	623	6,170
Union of South Africa	326	1,964	388	2,404
Victoria	6,137	27,475	6,375	29,602
Western Australia	1,025	4,750	1,037	4,659
Totals	35,470	192,971	38,897	195,685

Table No. 4.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF TRANSACTIONS AT THE MONEY-ORDER OFFICES DURING THE YEAR 1923, AND SAVINGS-BANK OFFICES OF NEW ZEALAND DURING THE YEAR 1923-24.

Postal District.	Money-orders.					Number of New Accounts opened.	Savings-banks.				
	Issued.			Paid.			Deposits.		Number of Accounts closed.	Withdrawals.	
	Number.	Commiss-ion.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		Number.	Amount.		Number.	Amount.
		£	£		£			£			£
Auckland ..	124,819	5,689	759,208	150,980	1,019,608	17,504	226,033	5,659,241	14,042	218,938	5,851,899
Blenheim ..	8,444	327	48,087	4,488	36,745	898	13,255	314,083	765	11,725	305,749
Christchurch ..	61,168	2,845	399,236	62,980	525,730	10,276	195,394	4,662,093	7,290	176,700	4,584,432
Dunedin ..	55,166	2,236	321,160	55,849	376,041	5,987	109,912	2,430,423	5,311	89,567	2,570,334
Gisborne ..	14,740	644	94,287	7,826	59,443	1,846	26,418	560,256	1,596	22,975	566,020
Greymouth ..	19,241	748	109,746	9,895	61,400	1,332	15,746	351,572	1,199	11,276	379,792
Hamilton ..	69,983	2,560	420,547	36,592	227,395	7,035	68,176	1,424,641	4,582	52,402	1,367,039
Invercargill ..	28,947	1,066	166,472	18,864	121,015	2,605	35,888	857,320	2,197	29,482	869,059
Napier ..	35,126	1,424	237,679	23,671	189,862	6,948	61,886	1,683,584	5,974	50,706	1,661,081
Nelson ..	16,307	658	96,987	12,145	81,458	1,505	21,565	500,828	1,213	18,758	488,598
New Plymouth ..	27,907	1,104	173,378	17,870	141,217	5,309	48,407	1,342,774	4,436	36,953	1,286,561
Oamaru ..	9,439	327	97,270	4,174	28,879	1,011	13,845	370,455	768	11,649	371,536
Thames ..	29,950	1,122	186,395	13,102	90,712	2,854	28,075	631,872	2,241	19,050	602,605
Timaru ..	17,894	673	206,144	8,873	63,250	2,361	33,162	922,010	1,782	26,971	921,036
Wanganui ..	38,231	1,328	239,343	19,464	126,073	3,959	54,188	1,157,301	3,195	45,977	1,138,049
Wellington ..	114,279	5,031	758,163	129,252	853,673	20,166	300,650	6,544,298	15,747	245,338	6,341,122
Westport ..	11,851	486	66,805	4,624	30,725	729	7,446	163,104	661	5,847	180,902
Western Samoa ..	1,487	89	9,252	187	1,013	140	1,095	22,517	99	723	24,507
Grand totals..	684,979	28,357	4,390,159	580,836	4,034,239	92,465	1,261,141	29,598,372	73,098	1,075,037	29,510,321

Table No. 5.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS OF EACH DENOMINATION SOLD AND PAID IN THE DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND DURING THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1922-23 AND 1923-24.

Denomination.	Sold.		Paid.	
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923-24.
s. d.				
0 6	1,167	1,186	185	229
1 0	5,118	5,871	765	882
1 6	2,439	2,767	307	443
2 0	6,904	8,106	790	863
2 6	6,818	8,239	1,349	1,465
3 0	4,759	4,978	699	750
*3 6	..	..	201	210
*4 0	..	..	300	375
*4 6	..	..	100	129
5 0	12,782	14,580	2,590	3,001
*5 6	..	..	149	135
*6 0	..	..	629	647
*6 6	..	..	168	199
*7 0	..	..	129	145
*7 6	..	..	196	242
*8 0	..	..	124	161
*8 6	..	..	44	52
*9 0	..	..	56	84
*9 6	..	..	36	46
10 0	17,634	19,495	2,600	2,788
*10 6	..	..	105	95
*11 0	..	..	90	94
*11 6	..	..	100	99
*12 0	..	..	194	243
*12 6	..	..	183	172
*13 0	..	..	78	91
*13 6	..	..	50	40
*14 0	..	..	76	66
*14 6	..	..	23	34
15 0	5,515	6,279	641	807
*15 6	..	..	18	27
*16 0	..	..	59	81
*16 6	..	..	40	25
*17 0	..	..	56	61
*17 6	..	..	65	67
*18 0	..	..	63	87
*18 6	..	..	35	23
*19 0	..	..	41	48
*19 6	..	..	36	37
20 0	41,073	43,997	8,415	9,400
*21 0	..	..	547	608
Number ..	104,309	115,498	22,341	25,051
Value ..	£61,538	£66,937	£13,381	£14,943

* British Postal Orders of these denominations have been withdrawn from issue at all offices in the Dominion.

Table No. 6.
POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE SHOWING THE BUSINESS OF THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS IN THE VARIOUS POSTAL DISTRICTS IN NEW ZEALAND DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Postal Districts.	Number of Post Office Savings-banks Open at the Close of the Period.	Number of Deposits received during the Period.		Total Amount of Deposits received during the Period.		Average Amount of each Deposit received during the Period.		Number of Withdrawals during the Period.	Total Amount of Withdrawals during the Period.		Average Amount of each Withdrawal during the Period.		Excess of Deposits over Withdrawals during the Period.		Cost of Management during the Period.	Average Cost of each Transaction, Deposit or Withdrawal.	Interest for the Period.		Number of Accounts opened during the Period.	Number of Accounts closed during the Period.	Number of Accounts remaining Open at Close of the Period.	Total Amount standing to the Credit of all Open Accounts, inclusive of Interest to the Close of the Period.		Average Amount standing to the Credit of each Open Account at Close of the Period.						
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.				d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auckland ..	182	226,033	5,659,240	17	5	25	0	218,938	5,851,899	6	1	26	14	7	192,658	8	8	266,781	16	8	17,504	14,042	125,106	7,432,125	18	9	59	8	1	
Blenheim ..	16	13,255	314,082	15	4	23	13	11,725	305,748	13	8	26	1	6	..	..	..	21,841	7	10	898	765	9,742	599,371	7	3	61	10	6
Christchurch ..	73	195,394	4,662,092	15	0	23	17	176,700	4,584,432	2	4	25	18	11	..	..	..	263,445	19	5	10,276	7,290	106,540	7,347,820	7	8	68	19	4
Dunedin ..	72	109,912	2,430,422	19	4	22	2	89,567	2,570,333	15	9	28	13	11	..	..	..	174,622	3	10	5,987	5,311	69,510	4,720,867	6	3	67	18	4
Gisborne ..	23	26,418	560,255	12	6	21	4	22,975	566,019	13	10	24	12	9	..	..	..	34,244	6	7	1,846	1,596	17,032	958,035	7	7	56	5	0
Greymouth ..	25	15,746	351,572	9	3	22	6	11,276	379,792	8	2	33	13	8	..	..	..	29,755	7	6	1,332	1,199	12,366	797,445	15	1	64	9	9
Hamilton ..	83	68,176	1,424,641	7	9	20	17	52,402	1,367,038	16	7	26	1	9	..	..	..	70,050	2	0	7,035	4,582	29,083	2,003,615	13	9	68	17	10
Invercargill ..	36	35,888	857,319	18	4	23	17	29,482	869,059	1	1	29	9	7	..	..	..	69,270	6	0	2,605	2,197	27,637	1,882,985	12	10	68	2	8
Napier ..	45	61,886	1,683,583	11	6	27	4	50,706	1,661,080	16	6	32	15	2	..	..	..	82,000	19	7	6,948	5,974	36,311	2,309,193	7	8	63	11	10
Nelson ..	31	21,565	500,827	10	7	23	4	18,758	488,598	8	9	26	0	11	..	..	..	34,171	7	7	1,505	1,213	15,590	955,763	19	4	61	6	2
New Plymouth ..	34	48,407	1,342,774	1	1	27	14	36,953	1,286,560	10	11	34	16	4	..	..	..	64,292	1	3	5,309	4,436	26,681	1,833,879	12	8	68	14	4
Oamaru ..	11	13,845	370,454	17	3	26	15	11,649	371,536	8	11	31	17	11	..	..	..	25,229	10	2	1,011	768	8,710	699,841	7	7	80	7	0
Thames ..	38	28,075	631,871	19	9	22	10	19,050	602,604	11	3	31	12	8	..	..	..	38,920	18	2	2,854	2,241	20,459	1,096,979	14	9	53	12	5
Timaru ..	18	33,162	922,010	10	10	27	16	26,971	921,036	1	3	34	2	11	..	..	..	59,799	1	2	2,361	1,782	20,788	1,653,618	18	10	79	10	11
Wanganui ..	43	54,188	1,157,301	6	10	21	7	45,977	1,138,049	8	7	24	15	0	..	..	..	67,310	5	3	3,959	3,195	32,553	1,907,763	16	3	58	12	1
Wellington ..	95	300,650	6,544,298	6	1	21	15	245,338	6,341,122	5	5	25	16	11	..	..	..	334,062	18	9	20,166	15,747	146,004	9,524,781	0	11	65	4	9
Westport ..	18	7,446	163,104	8	10	21	18	5,847	180,901	15	6	30	18	10	..	..	..	12,748	2	6	729	661	5,638	337,188	8	6	59	16	1
Western Samoa ..	3	1,095	22,516	17	0	20	11	723	24,506	14	11	33	17	11	..	..	..	1,429	10	5	140	99	407	37,142	15	8	91	5	2
Totals for year ended 31st March, 1924	846	1,261,141	29,598,372	4	8	23	9	4,107,037	29,510,320	19	6	27	9	0	90,000	9.24	1,649,976	4	8	92,465	73,098	710,157	46,098,420	11	4	64	18	3

Table No. 7.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE SHOWING THE BUSINESS OF THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS IN NEW ZEALAND, BY TEN-YEAR PERIODS, FROM THE DATE THEY WERE ESTABLISHED IN FEBRUARY, 1867, TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1918, AND YEARLY PERIODS THEREAFTER TO THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Year.	Number of Post Office Savings Banks Open at the Close of the Year.	Total Amount of Deposits received during the Year.		Average Amount of each Deposit received during the Year.		Number of Deposits received during the Year.		Total Amount of Withdrawals during the Year.		Average Amount of each Withdrawal during the Year.		Excess of Deposits over Withdrawals during the Year.		Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits during the Year.		Cost of Management during the Year.		Average Cost of each Transaction, Deposit or Withdrawal.		Interest for the Year.		Number of Accounts opened during the Year.		Number of Accounts remaining Open at Close of the Year.		Total Amount standing to the Credit of all Open Accounts, inclusive of Interest to the Close of the Year.		Average Amount standing to the Credit of each Account at the Close of the Year.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Year ended 31st Mar., 1924	846	1,261,141	29,598,372	4 8	23 9	41,075	037 29,510,320	19 6	3 25	13 8	88,051	5 2	90,000	0 9	24	1,649,976	4 8	92,465	73,098	710,157	46,098,420	11 4	64	18 3			
Year ended 31st Mar., 1923	840	1,175,104	26,082,426	11 4	22 14	21,081	300 27,769,262	16 3	1,086,836	4 11	70,650	0 7	51	1,605,525	1 10	78,490	66,630	690,790	44,360,393	1 6	64	4 4			
Year ended 31st Mar., 1922	831	1,227,591	29,125,997	10 0	23 14	61,119	662 30,236,231	6 5	1,110,233	16 5	60,000	0 6	13	1,599,907	2 0	89,859	75,748	678,930	43,841,704	4 7	64	11 6			
* Fifteen months ended 31st March, 1921	819	1,664,206	44,302,852	5 4	26 12	51,458	008 41,162,486	9 10	..	..	..	..	..	80,000	0 6	14	1,818,534	5 2	152,930	118,894	664,819	43,352,030	19 0	65	4 2
Totals for 1919	794	1,289,161	29,758,448	9 7	23 1	8 994,247	25,962,378	2 6	..	..	..	..	..	52,000	0 5	46	1,178,935	6 6	118,109	77,531	630,783	38,393,130	18 4	60	17 4
.. 1918	786	1,213,353	18,101,104	18 1	14 18	4 727,729	14,938,841	0 0	..	..	..	..	..	32,000	0 3	96	1,059,471	17 8	76,869	53,015	590,205	33,418,125	4 9	56	12 5
.. 1908	593	706,101	9,674,075	4 0	13 14	0 484,672	9,417,820	10 3	..	..	..	..	..	27,000	0 5	44	379,808	6 7	80,133	57,829	342,077	12,159,293	18 1	35	10 11
.. 1898	409	281,749	3,279,611	7 5	11 12	10 196,794	3,194,893	16 7	..	..	..	..	..	8,500	0 4	26	128,128	16 6	37,265	26,628	169,968	4,957,771	5 5	29	3 5
.. 1888	290	145,355	1,544,747	7 11	10 12	6 96,204	1,387,471	1 10	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	0 3	97	78,080	6 0	21,307	16,543	84,488	2,048,441	10 9	24	4 10
.. 1878	147	69,908	762,084	12 0	10 18	0 42,746	742,053	14 3	..	..	..	..	..	2,500	0 5	33	31,664	12 9	13,005	9,634	32,132	819,071	8 2	25	9 9
.. 1868	55	13,014	194,535	11 6	14 18	11 6,365	107,094	17 3	..	..	..	..	..	789	0 9	77	4,880	7 3	3,282	1,186	4,252	163,518	15 7	38	9 1
Totals from 1st Feb. to 31st Dec., 1867	46	6,977	96,372	7 10	13 16	3 1,919	26,415	18 9	..	..	..	..	..	822	1 10	18	1,241	5 0	2,520	364	2,156	71,197	14 1	33	0 5

* Termination of Savings-bank year altered from 31st December to 31st March, with effect from 31st March, 1921.

Table No. 8.

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

	Balances on 1st April, 1923.			Transactions.			Balances on 31st March, 1924.		
	Cr.	Dr.	s. d.	Cr.	Dr.	s. d.	Cr.	Dr.	s. d.
	£	£		£	£		£	£	
MONEY-ORDER ACCOUNTS:—									
Money-orders (general)	83,095 15 0	61,477 17 2½	8 11	4,632,409 8 11	4,621,859 12 5	12 5	93,645 11 6	9,385 15 1½	
United Kingdom, &c.	1,844 12 3	..	0 8	434,595 0 8	382,502 18 7	15 5	..	..
United States of America	769 19 0	..	5 0	25,143 5 0	19,948 15 5	9 6	7,039 1 10	3,405 0 8	
Australia	11,988 1 7	..	2 2	294,151 9 10	298,326 9 6	10½	645 1 10½	..	
Canada	84 14 6	..	8 2	5,128 8 2	16,471 7 10½	6	123 7 9	..	
Ceylon	..	..	..	602 18 6	564 5 3	8	..	..
Fiji	..	482 1 3	8 8	5,626 11 8	6,071 7 11	7 7	..	926 17 6	
Hong Kong	4 1 5	..	7 7	866 7 7	807 1 5	5	63 7 7	..	
India	3,655 5 2½	..	2 11	12,981 2 11	13,062 8 8	8 8	3,573 19 5½	..	
Norway	40 5 1	..	11 11	377 11 11	346 6 11	11	71 10 1	..	
Straits Settlements	..	37 0 3	1 1	505 14 1	408 6 0	0 0	60 7 10	..	
Tonga	..	2,676 0 3	6 8	6,632 6 8	5,929 16 10	10	..	1,973 10 5	
Union of South Africa	207 12 6	..	0 4	2,298 0 4	2,745 14 9	9	..	240 1 11	
Commission (foreign)	..	342 4 4	3 3	2,621 4 3	2,672 16 5	5	..	393 6 6	
SAVINGS-BANK ACCOUNTS:—									
Deposits and withdrawals	44,360,393 1 6	..	9 4	31,248,348 9 4	29,510,320 19 6	6	46,098,420 11 4	..	
Investments	..	44,157,156 9 7	0 0	10,014,241 0 0	11,959,865 0 0	0 0	..	46,102,780 9 7	
Accrued interest on investments	..	544,433 18 1	1 11	544,433 18 1	552,921 11 11	11 11	..	552,921 11 11	
Post-office Savings-bank Reserve Account	800,000 0 0	..	0 0	200,000 0 0	..	0 0	1,000,000 0 0	..	
Transfers—									
New Zealand	13,768 9 8	..	5 3	3,698,689 8 2	3,686,838 6 5	5	25,619 11 5	2,453 0 3	
Commonwealth Savings-bank of Australia	..	587 5 3	9 9	49,693 1 9	51,558 16 9	9	..	..
State Savings-bank of Australia	10,003 4 10	..	2 2	114,836 1 2	123,856 15 4	4	982 10 8	..	
United Kingdom	..	..	7 7	56,189 8 7	56,189 8 7	7 7	..	..
Home Savings-bank	..	..	12 0	541 12 0	492 8 0	0 0	49 4 0	..	
Profit and Loss Account	168,247 0 5	..	8 8	2,477,828 1 8	2,485,895 14 7	7	160,179 7 6	..	
POSTAL ACCOUNTS:—									
Stamps	366,053 0 4½	..	4½	1,474,549 0 10½	1,490,911 12 1	1	349,690 9 2	..	
Postal Guides	75 18 2	..	6 6	677 18 6	721 17 6	6	31 19 2	..	
Postal notes	192,704 14 9	..	4 4	814,235 8 4	800,469 19 11	11	206,470 3 2	..	
Parcel-post (senders' charges collected on delivery)	900 9 7	..	10 10	5,453 16 10	3,872 5 5	5	2,482 1 0	..	
Private box and bag rents	..	..	19 10	27,819 19 10	27,819 19 10	10	..	..
Rural-delivery fees	..	..	5 3	8,782 5 3	8,782 5 3	3	..	..
Safe-deposit receipts	..	..	8 6	136 8 6	136 8 6	6	..	..
Money-order commission	..	..	17 10	31,803 17 10	31,803 17 10	10	..	..
British postal orders—									
Head Office Account	24,947 16 3	..	3 4	85,704 3 4	67,940 12 6	6	42,711 7 1	..	
Chief Postmasters' Account	16,812 9 4	..	6 6	67,940 12 6	67,194 9 3	3	17,568 12 7	..	
London Account	..	..	16 6	66,034 16 6	66,034 16 6	6	..	..
British postal-order commission	..	..	7 3	1,114 7 3	1,114 7 3	3	..	..
Clearance fees on overseas parcels	..	..	18 4	3,264 18 4	3,264 18 4	4	..	..
Postal Revenue Account	..	4,987 5 10½	8 9	1,300,948 8 9	1,297,497 8 6	6	..	1,536 5 7½	
TELEGRAPH, TOLL, AND TELEPHONE ACCOUNTS:—									
Cable Accounts—									
New South Wales	3,244 11 4	..	0 0	55,175 0 0	54,373 5 4	4	4,046 6 0	..	
Eastern Extension	900 14 9	..	8 5	14,551 14 8	14,406 7 2	2	1,046 2 3	..	
Pacific Cable Board	8,512 6 5	..	1 7	126,317 0 5	129,744 1 7	7	5,085 5 3	..	
Radio Account	..	149 8 2	4 4	7,895 11 4	9,105 14 9	9	..	1,859 11 7	

Table No. 8—continued.
BALANCE-SHEET OF THE NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.

	Balances on 1st April, 1923.		Transactions.				Balances on 31st March, 1924.	
	Cr.		Cr.		Dr.		Cr.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
TELEGRAPH, TOLL, AND TELEPHONE ACCOUNTS—continued.								
Code addresses fees	2,934	3 10	6,253	16 10	6,253	16 10	2,216	17 11½
Deposits lodged for telegraph and telephone charges .. .. .	..	..	38,533	17 0½	39,251	2 11	..	..
Maintenance of private wires .. .. .	..	..	5,292	5 4	5,292	5 4	..	..
Telephone-exchange receipts .. .. .	..	..	826,502	10 4½	826,502	10 4½	..	..
Telegraph, Toll, and Telephone Revenue Account	2,480	19 4	1,747,081	8 2½	1,749,502	5 11½	60	1 7
FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS:—								
Acclimatization societies—								
Deer licenses .. .. .	..	..	908	8 0	..	..	908	8 0
Fishing licenses	669	3 0	1,937	0 0	1,911	2 6	695	0 6
Game licenses	1,182	18 6	6,675	4 0	7,841	9 0	16	13 6
Opossum licenses .. .. .	..	..	355	0 0	355	0 0	..	..
Audit Department—Fees collected .. .. .	..	..	1	16 0	1	16 0	..	..
Agriculture Department—								
General receipt	166	8 10	1,171	16 7	1,276	10 9	61	14 8
Orchard-tax	20	4 2	1,746	10 6	1,722	8 4	44	6 4
Customs Department—								
General receipts	23	6 3	503	17 4	516	0 1	11	3 6
Duty collected on parcels	21,995	7 9	305,842	18 2	305,166	19 3	22,671	6 8
Beer duty	4,243	4 10	46,167	5 3	46,247	8 7	4,163	1 6
Defence Department—General receipts	1,939	10 3	17,153	19 2	18,738	1 4	355	8 1
Education Department—								
General receipts	6	19 1	5,986	4 3	5,967	0 6	26	2 10
Industrial-school receipts	1,005	4 2	11,207	3 6	11,850	19 9	361	7 11
Electoral Department—Receipts	3	1 0	0	2 0	3	3 0	..	..
Examination fees (Public Service Commissioner) .. .. .	..	..	82	10 0	82	10 0	..	..
Government Housing Act .. .. .	..	..	6	14 10	4	7 6	..	..
Government Life Insurance	9,377	5 9	215,983	9 10	214,314	18 4	11,045	17 3
Government Printer .. .. .	..	..	0	0 8	0	0 8	..	..
Internal Affairs Department—Licensing Act receipts .. .. .	..	..	22	11 0	22	11 0	..	..
Labour Department—								
General receipts .. .. .	..	..	16	14 0	16	14 0	..	..
Factories Act .. .. .	..	..	0	10 0	0	10 0	..	..
Lands Department—Drainage receipts	108	15 0	3,096	15 4	3,172	7 1	33	3 3
Land and Income Tax Department—								
Land-tax	7,186	19 2	976,230	10 9	974,909	13 9	8,507	16 2
Income-tax	23,249	10 0	1,859,124	6 4	1,878,280	2 1	4,093	14 3
Marine Department—								
Machinery fees	753	0 0	15,637	12 6	15,604	0 0	786	12 6
General receipts	17	12 2	330	15 3	309	15 2	38	12 3
Mines Department—								
Mining Act receipts	381	0 0	189	15 0	183	5 0	387	10 0
Goldfields revenue	1	5 0	4	7 0	5	12 0	..	..
National Provident Fund receipts	4,101	8 4	89,490	7 3	87,307	5 5	6,284	10 2

Pensions Department—	1,268 18 11	..	..	174,200 0 0	179,690 1 10	..	4,221 2 11
Imperial pensions	..	..	148 1 8	771,637 10 3	771,816 6 3	..	326 17 8
Old-age pensions	..	..	175 5 0	1,262,000 0 0	1,264,128 14 10	..	2,303 19 10
War pensions	..	..	..	308,460 0 0	308,777 18 1	..	191 1 4
Miscellaneous pensions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Public Health Department—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
General receipts	2,239 16 1	..	..	13,120 7 11	14,003 17 10	1,356 6 2	..
Hospital and charitable aid receipts	0 7 1	..	..	95 10 4	90 15 5	5 2 0	..
Sanatorium, Hammer Springs	295 0 3	..	..	4,998 8 0	5,017 9 8	275 18 7	..
Public Trust	14,208 5 10	..	..	626,513 16 3	622,051 18 1	18,670 4 0	..
Registrar-General's Department—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Registration of births, &c.	262 19 0	..	..	3,489 7 0	3,594 14 0	157 12 0	..
Samoan revenue	384 17 10	..	..	7,777 2 8	8,064 8 1	97 12 5	..
State Advances Department	68,082 6 0	..	..	6,080,396 11 9	6,027,813 1 6	120,665 16 3	..
State Forests Department	811 9 11	..	..	61,308 4 1	58,907 8 2	3,212 5 10	..
Superannuation funds—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Public Service Superannuation	14,267 17 4	..	..	320,980 5 9	319,466 2 2	15,782 0 11	..
Teachers' Superannuation	..	..	4,836 14 1	145,750 14 5	140,001 18 1	912 2 3	..
Treasury Department—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous revenue	65 0 11	..	..	1,414 7 0	1,207 11 6	271 16 5	..
Rents collected	619 13 2	..	..	8,339 9 3	8,314 16 2	644 6 3	..
Loan receipts—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Educational Purposes Act	..	..	..	200 0 0	200 0 0	..	..
5-per-cent. War Loan inscribed stock	4,300 0 0	..	..	162,160 0 0	165,310 0 0	1,150 0 0	..
Valuation Department—General receipts	1,343 10 0	..	..	10,234 14 10	10,989 7 4	588 17 6	..
WAR LOAN CERTIFICATES:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Head Office Account	1,530,142 15 7	..	..	662,541 12 0	1,293,705 0 0	898,979 7 7	..
Fund Account	..	..	..	1,304,350 0 0	..	..	367,450 0 0
Sales Investment Account	..	..	1,671,800 0 0	295,356 0 0	295,356 0 0	..	..
For Custody Account	..	..	..	86,571 2 9	662,541 12 0	222,783 15 11	..
Interest Account	798,754 5 2	..	..	33,350 0 0	..	..	774,610 0 0
Interest Investment Account	..	..	807,960 0 0	..	..	423 6 2	..
Interest Investment Interest Account	423 6 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
POST OFFICE INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES:—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Head Office Account	40,315 0 0	..	..	..	9,221 13 4	31,093 6 8	..
Chief Postmasters' Account	114,461 15 0	..	..	20,486 0 4	91,650 14 4	32,032 14 0	..
Fund Account	260,361 14 1	..	..	..	..	280,847 14 5	..
Sales Investment Account	..	..	257,500 0 0	..	21,500 0 0	..	279,000 0 0
Interest Account	24,181 7 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Interest Investment Account	..	..	25,050 0 0	..	16,000 0 0	32,495 2 6	..
Suspense Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	41,050 0 0
GENERAL ACCOUNTS—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous receipts (general)	5,027 1 10	..	..	53,626 2 6½	55,524 11 10½	3,128 12 6	..
Postage Account (other Administrations)	26,109 6 6	..	..	31,908 17 2½	22,807 13 1	35,210 10 7½	..
Mail Settlement Account (other Administrations)	26,004 15 8	..	..	6,911 9 4	15,975 8 1	17,840 16 11	..
Departmental and Treasury Expenditure Account	123,084 9 11	..	..	3,959,490 4 5	4,069,671 7 0	12,903 7 4	..
Treasury postal drafts	..	..	..	111,924 8 5	111,924 8 5	..	..
Discount stamps	1,975 12 6	..	..	330 0 0	303 15 0	2,001 17 6	..
Post Office Account	..	..	486,788 14 6	33,714,513 15 11½	33,791,249 15 7½	..	563,524 14 2
Postmasters and telegraphists	..	..	1,182,629 6 4	56,793,651 6 1	56,716,864 12 10	..	1,105,842 13 1
Totals	49,209,219 19 2	49,209,219 19 2	49,209,219 9 8	171,232,307 9 8	171,232,307 9 8	49,815,896 0 1½	49,815,896 0 1½

Table No. 9—continued.

SECURITIES, ETC., STANDING IN THE NAME OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL ON ACCOUNT OF THE
POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK FUND ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.

Description of Security.	Rate per Cent.	Cost Price.			Nominal Value.			Accrued Interest on 31st March, 1924.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Finance Act, 1918 (sec. 32), (State Forests)	4	60,000	0	0	60,000	0	0	329	17	3
Finance Act, 1918, No. 2 (sec. 32), (State Forests)	4½	73,000	0	0	73,000	0	0	521	19	11
Finance Act, 1918	4½	61,900	0	0	61,900	0	0	1,037	17	8
Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 15), (Public Works)	4	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	44	12	0
Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 15), (Public Works)	4½	1,113,000	0	0	1,113,000	0	0	16,466	5	1
Finance Act, 1919 (sec. 5), (Public Works)	4½	150,000	0	0	150,000	0	0	1,072	11	11
Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 15), (Nauru and Ocean Islands)	5	250,000	0	0	250,000	0	0	4,109	11	8
Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 15), (Public Works)	5	349,240	0	0	349,240	0	0	5,740	18	6
Finance Act, 1921 (sec. 10), (Public Works)	4	63,000	0	0	63,000	0	0	75	18	10
Finance Act, 1921 (sec. 10)	4½	87,000	0	0	87,000	0	0	1,287	2	5
Fishing Industry Promotion Act, 1919	4½	520	0	0	520	0	0	7	13	10
Fruit-preserving Industry Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1917 (sec. 80)	4	5,450	0	0	5,450	0	0	108	8	2
Fruit-preserving Industry Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1917 (sec. 80)	4½	29,400	0	0	29,400	0	0	657	17	6
Fruit-preserving Industry Act, 1913	4½	17,300	0	0	17,300	0	0	632	5	0
General Purposes Loan Act, 1873	4½	5,200	0	0	5,200	0	0	107	1	3
Government Advances to Settlers Act, 1908	4½	105,000	0	0	105,000	0	0	1,553	8	5
Government Advances to Settlers Act, 1908	4	12,964	10	0	12,900	0	0	125	16	5
Government Advances to Settlers Act, 1908	4½	100,000	0	0	100,000	0	0	369	17	2
Government Advances to Settlers Extension Act, 1901 ..	4½	80,000	0	0	80,000	0	0	1,183	11	2
Government Advances to Settlers Act, 1908 (Part III, Workers)	4½	25,000	0	0	25,000	0	0	369	17	3
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Railway Improve- ment Authorization Acts, 1904 and 1907	4½	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	14	6	0
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Railway Improve- ment Authorization Acts, 1904 and 1907	4½	30,300	0	0	30,300	0	0	332	9	5
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Railway Improve- ment Authorization Acts, 1904 and 1907	4½	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	10	19	5
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Finance Act, 1909	4½	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	554	15	10
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Finance Act, 1909	4½	5,500	0	0	5,500	0	0	39	6	7
Government Railways Act, 1908, and Railways Improve- ment Authorization Acts, 1904 and 1907	4½	141,000	0	0	141,000	0	0	1,564	10	3
Government Railways Amendment Act, 1910	4½	50,350	0	0	50,350	0	0	360	0	8
Government Railways Amendment Act, 1910	4	21,400	0	0	21,400	0	0	68	10	9
Government Railways Amendment Act, 1910	4	35,000	0	0	35,000	0	0	341	7	4
Government Railways Amendment Act, 1910	4½	36,350	0	0	36,350	0	0	398	16	1
Greymouth Harbour Board debentures	4	260,000	0	0	260,000	0	0	2,535	17	7
Hamilton Borough Council debentures	4½	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0	21	9	1
Hamilton Borough Council debentures	4½	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	22	10	0
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913	4	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	106	10	5
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropria- tion Act, 1918	4½	34,000	0	0	34,000	0	0	243	2	5
Hauraki Plains Amendment Acts, 1913 and 1914	4½	19,000	0	0	19,000	0	0	135	17	3
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918	4	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	190	13	8
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918	4½	6,000	0	0	6,000	0	0	42	18	1
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1919 (sec. 18)	4½	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	143	0	3
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 16)	4½	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	71	10	2
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1921 and 1922 (sec. 23)	4	7,000	0	0	7,000	0	0	8	8	9
Hauraki Plains Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1922 (sec. 17)	4	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	12	1	1
Housing Act, 1919 (sec. 30)	4½	180,000	0	0	180,000	0	0	1,975	1	5
Housing Act, 1919 (sec. 30)	4	25,000	0	0	25,000	0	0	30	2	9
Housing Act, 1919 (sec. 46)	4½	3,150	0	0	3,150	0	0	34	11	3
Hutt Railway and Road Improvement Act, 1910	4	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	32	17	6
Hutt Railway and Road Improvement Acts, 1903, 1905, and 1907	4½	127,000	0	0	127,000	0	0	2,348	12	7
Hutt Railway and Road Improvement Acts, 1903, 1905, 1907, and 1910	4½	100,000	0	0	100,000	0	0	1,849	6	3
Hutt Railway and Road Improvement Acts, 1903, 1905, 1907, and 1910	4½	42,590	0	0	42,590	0	0	304	10	11
Immigration and Public Works Loan Act, 1870	4½	20,900	0	0	20,900	0	0	430	6	3
India Stock	2½	51	15	0	109	4	8	1	6	5
India Stock	3½	213	18	9	216	14	5	3	13	1
India Stock	3	45	15	0	52	13	9	0	12	0
Inscribed stock	3½	618,000	0	0	618,000	0	0	5,274	3	7
Inscribed stock	3	2,244,582	18	0	2,260,495	11	1	33,907	8	7
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917	4½	200,000	0	0	200,000	0	0	567	2	6
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917, and Finance Act, 1917 (Post Office 5-per-cent. War Bonds)	5	300	0	0	300	0	0	5	11	9
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917	4½	189,060	0	0	189,060	0	0	3,776	0	5
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917	5	1,122,260	0	0	1,122,260	0	0	11,530	1	4
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917	5½	13,500	0	0	13,500	0	0	99	13	6
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917	4½	500	0	0	500	0	0	0	13	7
New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917, and Discharged Soldiers Settlement Loans Act, 1920	5½	3,100	0	0	3,100	0	0	5	2	9

Table No. 9—continued.

SECURITIES, ETC., STANDING IN THE NAME OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL ON ACCOUNT OF THE
POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK FUND ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.

Description of Securities.	Rate per Cent.	Cost Price		Nominal Value.		Accrued Interest on 31st March, 1924.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Irrigation and Water-supply Act, 1913	4	35,000	0 0	35,000	0 0	696	3 3
Irrigation and Water-supply Act, 1913	4½	54,900	0 0	54,900	0 0	1,228	9 8
Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, and Approp- riation Act, 1918	4	15,000	0 0	15,000	0 0	246	11 6
Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914	4½	33,000	0 0	33,000	0 0	610	5 6
Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, and Approp- riation Act, 1918 (sec. 45)	4½	2,000	0 0	2,000	0 0	36	19 9
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	62,000	0 0	62,000	0 0	1,395	0 0
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	29,500	0 0	29,500	0 0	545	10 11
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4	177,215	0 0	177,215	0 0	1,126	8 1
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4	67,000	0 0	67,000	0 0	80	15 4
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	68,125	0 0	68,125	0 0	747	10 2
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	400	0 0	400	0 0	..	..
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	36	19 9
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	259,770	0 0	259,770	0 0	1,857	10 4
Land for Settlements Act, 1908	4½	382,485	0 0	382,485	0 0	4,196	17 1
Lands Improvement and Native Lands Acquisition Act, 1894	4½	341,000	0 0	341,000	0 0	..	..
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4	14,200	0 0	14,200	0 0	138	9 11
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4	90,800	0 0	90,800	0 0	577	2 9
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	244,800	0 0	244,800	0 0	905	8 4
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4	518,000	0 0	518,000	0 0	10,303	4 9
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	8,000	0 0	8,000	0 0	67	1 4
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	155,000	0 0	155,000	0 0	3,468	7 9
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	100,000	0 0	100,000	0 0	1,479	9 0
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 42)	4	530,000	0 0	530,000	0 0	10,600	0 0
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	54,200	0 0	54,200	0 0	387	11 3
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 42)	4½	8,600	0 0	8,600	0 0	94	7 3
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	20,000	0 0	20,000	0 0	..	..
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913	4½	85,000	0 0	85,000	0 0	1,912	10 0
Land Laws Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 42)	4½	10,000	0 0	10,000	0 0	225	0 0
Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908	4½	785,000	0 0	785,000	0 0	8,613	9 11
Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908	4½	416,000	0 0	416,000	0 0	1,538	13 3
Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908	4½	370,000	0 0	370,000	0 0	1,368	9 7
Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908, and Government Loans to Local Bodies' Act, 1886	4	231,500	0 0	231,500	0 0	761	1 10
Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1908	4½	300,000	0 0	300,000	0 0	1,109	11 7
Maori Land Settlement Act, 1905	4½	179,175	0 0	179,175	0 0	1,966	0 4
Maori Land Settlement Act Amendment Act, 1907	4½	50,000	0 0	50,000	0 0	548	12 7
Mining Amendment Act, 1913	4	7,000	0 0	7,000	0 0	115	1 4
Mining Amendment Act, 1913	4½	4,500	0 0	4,500	0 0	83	4 4
Mining Amendment Act, 1913, and Amendment Act, 1919	4½	11,000	0 0	11,000	0 0	203	8 6
Native Land Amendment Act, 1913	4	455,900	0 0	455,900	0 0	8,929	15 6
Native Land Amendment Act, 1913	4½	1,261,500	0 0	1,261,500	0 0	26,126	3 6
Native Land Purchases Act, 1892	4½	125,000	0 0	125,000	0 0	2,327	1 2
New Zealand Consols Act, 1908	3½	340	0 0	340	0 0	1	17 10
New Zealand Consols Act, 1908	4	1,000	0 0	1,000	0 0	6	7 2
New Zealand Consols Act, 1908	4	14,400	0 0	16,000	0 0	101	14 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Ad- vances to Settlers Branch)	3½	100,000	0 0	100,000	0 0	1,750	0 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Ad- vances to Settlers Branch)	3¾	37,000	0 0	37,000	0 0	693	15 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Advances to Settlers Branch)	4½	205,000	0 0	205,000	0 0	3,032	17 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Advances to Settlers Branch)	4½	750,000	0 0	750,000	0 0	14,701	19 10
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4½	2,093	15 0	2,093	15 0	14	19 5
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Ad- vances to Workers Branch)	3½	325,000	0 0	325,000	0 0	5,687	10 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Ad- vances to Workers Branch)	3¾	100,000	0 0	100,000	0 0	1,875	0 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Advances to Workers Branch)	4½	406	5 0	406	5 0	2	18 1
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Guaranteed Mining Advances Branch)	3¾	5,000	0 0	5,000	0 0	93	15 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Land for Settlements Branch)	3½	25,000	0 0	25,000	0 0	437	10 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910, and New Zealand Loans Act, 1908 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4½	99,000	0 0	99,000	0 0	2,215	5 11
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4	30,000	0 0	30,000	0 0	493	3 0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4½	741,066	0 0	741,066	0 0	13,796	0 7
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4	15,300	0 0	15,300	0 0	251	10 2

Table No. 9—continued.

SECURITIES, ETC., STANDING IN THE NAME OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL ON ACCOUNT OF THE
POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK FUND ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.

Description of Securities.	Rate per Cent.	Cost Price.			Nominal Value.			Accrued Interest on 31st March, 1924.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4	78,700	0	0	78,700	0	0	452	16	10
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4½	6,000	0	0	6,000	0	0	22	3	10
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Land for Settlements Branch)	3¾	410,000	0	0	410,000	0	0	7,687	10	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4	22,500	0	0	22,500	0	0	446	6	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4	141,165	0	0	141,165	0	0	1,376	16	8
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Land for Settlements Branch)	4½	48,100	0	0	48,100	0	0	1,043	19	7
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	4½	48,000	0	0	48,000	0	0	1,074	1	8
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	3½	400,000	0	0	400,000	0	0	7,000	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	3½	975,000	0	0	975,000	0	0	17,062	10	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	3½	112,000	0	0	112,000	0	0	1,960	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	3½	275,000	0	0	275,000	0	0	4,812	10	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	3¾	96,000	0	0	96,000	0	0	1,800	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Local Authorities Branch)	4	9,000	0	0	9,000	0	0	180	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Act, 1909 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	3½	381,600	0	0	381,600	0	0	6,678	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	3¾	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	562	10	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed Advances Acts, 1909 and 1910 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	4	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
New Zealand State-guaranteed State Advances Act, 1909 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	3¾	54,500	0	0	54,500	0	0	1,021	17	6
New Zealand State-guaranteed State Advances Act, 1909 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	4	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	596	14	3
New Zealand State-guaranteed State Advances Act, 1909 (Native Land Settlement Branch)	4½	80,000	0	0	80,000	0	0	1,790	2	9
Patea Harbour Board debentures	4½	35,000	0	0	35,000	0	0	220	1	3
Post and Telegraph Act, 1908	4½	200,000	0	0	200,000	0	0	2,194	10	5
Public Revenues Amendment Act, 1915 (War Expenses)	4½	390,000	0	0	390,000	0	0	7,212	6	5
Public Revenues Amendment Act, 1915 (sec. 5) ..	4½	1,703,750	0	0	1,703,750	0	0	12,182	17	7
Railways Improvement Authorization Act, 1914 ..	4	72,000	0	0	72,000	0	0	457	12	10
Railways Improvement Authorization Act, 1914 ..	4½	588,000	0	0	588,000	0	0	4,204	11	4
Railways Improvement Authorization Act, 1914 ..	5	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	238	7	2
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1923	4	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	32	17	6
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Amendment Act, 1914	4	7,000	0	0	7,000	0	0	23	0	3
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and amendments	4	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	16	8	9
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1917 (sec. 81)	4½	25,000	0	0	25,000	0	0	92	9	3
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and amendments	4	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	98	12	7
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 44)	4½	22,000	0	0	22,000	0	0	81	7	5
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Appropriation Act, 1919 (sec. 19)	4½	60,000	0	0	60,000	0	0	221	18	4
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Amendment Act, 1914	4½	19,000	0	0	19,000	0	0	70	5	6
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 16)	5	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	164	7	8
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1920 (sec. 16)	4½	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	295	17	10
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1921-1922 (sec. 23)	4½	24,000	0	0	24,000	0	0	220	13	8
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Amendment Act, 1913, and Finance Act, 1923 (sec. 5)	4	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	131	10	2
South Australian stock	4	1,861	9	0	1,772	16	2	70	18	2
South Australian stock	3½	11,760	0	0	12,000	0	0	312	8	3
State Advances Act, 1913 (Advances to Settlers Branch)	4	573,200	0	0	573,200	0	0	7,537	18	10
State Advances Act, 1913 (Advances to Workers Branch)	4	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	657	10	8
State Advances Act, 1913 (Local Authorities Branch) ..	4	200,000	0	0	200,000	0	0	2,630	2	6
State Advances Act, 1913 (Advances to Settlers Branch)	4½	550,000	0	0	550,000	0	0	17,044	9	6
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915	4	15,000	0	0	15,000	0	0	246	11	6
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915	4½	15,000	0	0	15,000	0	0	277	7	11
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 46)	4	45,000	0	0	45,000	0	0	739	14	6
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 46)	4½	145,000	0	0	145,000	0	0	2,681	10	1

Table No. 9—continued.

SECURITIES, ETC., STANDING IN THE NAME OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL ON ACCOUNT OF THE
POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK FUND ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.

Description of Securities.	Rate per Cent.	Cost Price.			Nominal Value.			Accrued Interest on 31st March, 1924.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 46)	5	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	102	14	10
Swamp Drainage Act, 1915, and Appropriation Act, 1918 (sec. 46)	4½	11,000	0	0	11,000	0	0	203	8	6
Thames Harbour Board debentures	4	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	200	0	0
Timaru Borough Council debentures	4	4,000	0	0	4,000	0	0	39	9	1
Victorian stock	3	10,708	13	10	12,379	19	10	276	5	1
Waihi Borough Council debentures	5½	12,000	0	0	12,000	0	0	216	19	8
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910..	4	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	0	190	13	8
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910..	4½	120,000	0	0	120,000	0	0	858	1	6
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910, and Finance Act, 1919 (sec. 6)	4	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	60	5	5
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910, and Finance Act, 1919 (sec. 6)	4½	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	71	10	2
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910, and Finance Act, 1919 (sec. 6)	4	35,000	0	0	35,000	0	0	42	3	10
War-loan certificate	4½	80	0	0	80	0	0	5	5	7
British War Loan stock	5	400,000	0	0	421,052	12	8	6,921	8	0
War Purposes Loan Act, 1917	4	250,000	0	0	250,000	0	0	301	7	4
War Purposes Loan Act, 1917, and Finance Act, 1917 (sec. 68)	5	100	0	0	100	0	0	1	17	3
Wellington City Council debentures	4	99,000	0	0	100,000	0	0	975	6	9
Wellington City Council debentures	4	24,500	0	0	25,000	0	0	246	11	6
Wellington Harbour Board debentures	4½	25,400	0	0	25,400	0	0	91	13	7
Wellington Harbour Board debentures	4	45,000	0	0	45,000	0	0	152	17	6
Wellington-Manawatu Railway Purchases Act, 1908 ..	4½	500,000	0	0	500,000	0	0	1,849	5	11
Westport Harbour Board debentures	4	489,500	0	0	489,500	0	0	4,774	5	8
Totals .. .. .	..	46,102,780	9	7	46,147,418	8	6	552,921	11	11

Table No. 10.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.

Receipts and Payments for the Twelve Months ended 31st March, 1924.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance at credit of depositors on 1st April, 1923	44,360,393	1	6	Withdrawals, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924	29,510,320	19	6
Deposits, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924	29,598,372	4	8	Balance at credit of depositors, 31st March, 1924	46,098,420	11	4
Interest credited to depositors, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924 ..	1,649,976	4	8				
	<u>£75,608,741</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>£75,608,741</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

Reserve Fund Account.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance at credit on 1st April, 1923..	800,000	0	0	Amount at credit of Reserve Fund Account on 31st March, 1924 ..	1,000,000	0	0
Amount transferred from Profit and Loss Account	200,000	0	0				
	<u>£1,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>£1,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Liabilities and Assets.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance at credit of Post Office Savings- bank depositors on 31st March, 1924	46,098,420	11	4	Securities (Post Office Savings-bank)	46,102,780	9	7
Balance on transfer	24,149	1	10	Balance uninvested	1,179,968	11	1
Balance at credit of Reserve Fund Ac- count	1,000,000	0	0				
Balance of assets over liabilities ..	160,179	7	6				
	<u>£47,282,749</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>£47,282,749</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>

Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Interest credited to depositors during the year ended 31st March, 1924 ..	1,649,976	4	8	Balance forward	168,247	0	5
Amount transferred to Reserve Fund Account	200,000	0	0	Interest received dur- ing the year	1,918,538	6	10
Paid Public Account for cost of Sav- ings-bank management	90,000	0	0	Accrued interest, 31st March, 1924	552,921	11	11
Balance forward to next account ..	160,179	7	6				
					2,471,459	18	9
				Less accrued interest on 31st March, 1923	544,433	18	1
				Sundry receipts			
	<u>£2,100,155</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>				
					1,927,026	0	8
					4,882	11	1
					<u>£2,100,155</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>

Tab 1 No. 11.
SAVINGS-BANK ACCOUNTS REMAINING OPEN ON 31st MARCH, 1924, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BALANCE AT CREDIT OF EACH ACCOUNT.

District.	No. of 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 and up to £600.	Exceeding £600 and up to £700.	Exceeding £700 and up to £800.	Exceeding £800 and up to £900.	Exceeding £900 and up to £1,000.	Exceeding £1,000 and up to £2,000.	Exceeding £2,000 and up to £3,000.	Exceeding £3,000 and up to £4,000.	Exceeding £4,000 and up to £5,000.	Exceeding £5,000 and up to £5,000.	Total Number of Accounts open.
Auckland	86,212	12,867	7,298	6,652	3,599	2,088	1,415	1,024	604	420	324	333	618	85	21	17	17	123,694
Blenheim	6,715	928	598	586	339	164	129	102	53	37	21	16	49	5	..	..	..	9,742
Christchurch	69,917	10,694	7,929	7,212	3,730	2,161	1,508	1,057	616	458	325	245	597	59	14	9	9	106,540
Dunedin	48,345	6,049	4,625	4,272	2,201	1,213	907	728	426	250	153	101	209	21	4	2	4	69,510
Feilding	452	196	160	141	66	53	28	21	13	2	5	2	9	1	3	..	..	1,152
Gisborne	12,207	1,436	1,076	858	450	286	226	149	96	65	52	41	77	8	4	..	..	17,032
Greymouth	6,977	835	661	621	343	220	158	105	62	42	29	22	64	6	1	..	..	10,146
Hamilton	18,719	3,338	2,402	1,902	924	539	412	251	152	112	75	72	167	11	6	..	..	29,083
Hastings	1,178	501	423	360	174	90	78	52	28	23	17	6	24	2	..	..	..	2,857
Hawera	845	332	235	223	129	71	51	32	19	16	16	7	15	2	..	..	..	1,993
Hokitika	1,633	171	110	121	57	44	37	19	10	6	3	2	7	..	..	..	..	2,220
Invercargill	17,777	2,801	2,080	2,017	1,033	634	453	301	192	103	65	59	107	11	3	..	..	27,637
Masterton	882	343	242	263	120	63	56	35	30	13	13	5	33	1	2	..	..	2,102
Napier	23,673	2,925	2,059	1,898	873	609	371	288	164	131	104	54	177	21	1	4	..	33,354
Nelson	10,601	1,490	1,047	1,047	533	294	190	149	63	48	28	31	58	8	1	..	..	15,390
New Plymouth	17,570	2,200	1,490	1,256	659	431	303	278	122	91	74	46	137	26	2	2	1	24,688
Oamaru	5,261	937	758	688	386	187	160	128	48	45	34	18	54	3	2	..	..	8,710
Palmerston North	8,185	1,199	850	805	448	274	201	134	84	51	46	20	84	13	5	1	1	12,401
Thames	14,634	1,861	1,280	1,126	531	333	202	163	100	60	28	38	91	6	3	2	2	20,459
Timaru	12,250	2,525	1,985	1,522	841	521	353	239	142	108	84	54	142	13	4	5	..	20,788
Wanganui	22,344	3,109	2,427	1,802	1,014	405	295	186	136	101	91	41	171	19	6	4	1	32,553
Wellington	90,422	12,072	8,552	7,711	3,873	2,313	1,579	1,047	763	503	354	293	729	92	29	7	10	130,349
Westport	4,159	430	327	270	166	97	62	39	14	18	13	10	30	1	..	..	..	5,638
Western Samoa	224	64	43	35	8	9	5	6	2	2	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	407
Whangarei	679	237	185	183	60	43	39	14	9	1	4	3	5	..	..	..	..	1,412
Totals 31st March, 1924	481,861	69,640	48,842	43,521	22,557	13,324	9,328	6,656	3,948	2,706	1,962	1,520	3,656	415	112	55	54	710,157
Totals 31st March, 1923	465,924	66,492	48,815	44,333	22,951	13,693	8,959	6,537	3,836	2,465	1,744	1,294	3,240	302	105	53	47	680,790

Table No. 12.
TABLE SHOWING THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LETTERS AND LETTER-CARDS, POST-CARDS, BOOK-PACKETS, NEWSPAPERS, AND PARCELS POSTED AND DELIVERED IN THE SEVERAL POSTAL DISTRICTS OF NEW ZEALAND DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

Postal District (1923).	Posted in the Dominion.					Delivered in the Dominion.					Total posted and delivered.				
	Letters and Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters and Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Letters and Letter-cards.	Post-cards.	Books, &c.	News-papers.	Parcels.
Auckland	29,218,144	724,178	10,802,559	4,516,533	900,263	25,280,463	645,203	7,571,733	3,844,490	636,363	54,498,607	1,369,381	18,374,292	8,361,123	1,536,626
Blenheim	1,335,371	18,434	381,345	193,427	19,916	1,466,777	26,637	355,927	368,303	63,973	2,802,148	45,071	737,272	361,730	83,889
Christchurch	15,441,783	430,742	5,094,250	1,780,730	438,438	16,986,645	833,144	4,704,089	2,022,358	372,879	32,431,428	1,263,886	9,798,339	3,803,088	811,317
Dunedin	10,206,150	377,676	3,897,676	1,539,413	332,462	9,660,703	336,037	3,107,923	1,480,440	313,079	19,866,853	713,713	7,005,599	3,019,853	645,541
Gisborne	2,318,936	24,115	619,147	557,033	44,473	2,743,884	56,615	1,099,813	844,753	103,116	5,062,820	80,730	1,718,960	1,401,786	147,589
Greytown	1,495,185	20,046	282,259	243,880	39,988	1,880,177	31,941	378,846	451,672	94,120	3,375,362	51,987	661,105	695,552	134,108
Hamilton	7,404,866	177,239	1,343,321	856,459	109,408	9,324,601	253,513	2,580,708	1,640,782	336,518	16,729,467	430,742	3,924,029	2,497,241	445,926
Invercargill	5,818,807	169,728	1,743,214	627,593	82,875	6,348,628	178,451	1,654,575	866,697	165,321	12,167,435	348,179	3,397,789	1,494,290	248,196
Napier	6,037,097	79,846	2,022,422	655,087	104,845	7,085,221	146,510	3,060,538	1,478,932	122,300	13,122,318	226,356	5,082,960	2,134,019	237,145
Nelson	2,038,735	38,987	359,271	188,832	45,344	2,234,245	40,014	661,349	500,136	102,414	4,272,980	79,001	1,020,620	688,968	147,758
New Plymouth	4,066,743	81,874	1,098,012	483,067	70,278	4,821,908	118,872	1,607,489	775,008	175,058	8,888,651	200,746	2,705,501	1,258,075	245,336
Oamaru	1,329,004	56,121	372,111	127,413	21,723	1,484,288	78,468	396,461	252,096	44,434	2,813,292	134,589	768,572	379,509	66,157
Thames	2,708,229	38,428	609,071	291,037	45,617	3,580,811	114,387	950,365	637,702	144,469	6,289,040	152,815	1,559,436	928,739	190,086
Timaru	2,626,841	63,076	649,296	211,445	49,166	3,151,915	103,441	942,045	493,740	95,160	5,778,756	166,517	1,591,341	705,185	144,326
Wanganui	4,919,881	110,526	1,515,995	750,544	92,534	4,960,436	119,483	1,690,130	958,191	210,808	9,880,317	230,009	3,206,125	1,708,735	303,342
Wellington	24,711,089	524,404	10,569,090	3,875,457	928,315	27,290,417	534,912	7,138,949	4,161,397	516,679	52,001,506	1,059,316	17,708,039	8,036,854	1,444,994
Westport	784,025	13,104	91,670	123,500	15,951	1,047,332	32,929	189,254	281,528	45,175	1,831,357	46,033	280,924	405,028	61,126
Western Samoa	94,410	1,600	2,109	8,900	612	115,212	2,622	2,988	50,022	2,784	209,622	4,222	5,097	58,922	3,396
Totals	122,558,296	2,950,114	41,452,818	17,030,450	3,342,203	129,463,663	3,653,179	38,093,182	21,108,247	3,544,650	252,021,959	6,603,293	79,546,000	38,138,697	6,886,858
Previous year	117,047,262	2,841,939	35,486,768	15,534,666	3,219,994	122,949,819	3,435,489	32,091,667	20,100,553	3,480,127	239,997,081	6,277,428	67,578,435	35,635,219	6,700,121

Table No. 13.

REGISTERED ARTICLES.

The number of registered articles dealt with in 1923, compared with the number in 1890, 1900, 1910, and 1922, is as follows:—

	1890.	1900.	1910.	1922.	1923.
From places beyond the Dominion	26,374	52,343	132,493	176,853	177,332
Registered in the Dominion	169,321	464,036	993,675	1,820,942	1,825,874
Totals	195,695	516,379	1,126,168	1,997,795	2,003,206

Table No. 14.

PARCEL-POST.

The following shows the number and weight of parcels posted during the years 1890, 1900, 1910, 1922, and 1923:—

	1890.	1900.	1910.	1922.	1923.
Number	121,292	199,413	1,190,711	3,219,994	3,342,208
Weight	336,643 lb. 12 oz.	682,104 lb. 7 oz.	3,953,284 lb. 15 oz.	16,206,229 lb.	16,821,332 lb.

The following table shows the number and weight of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom and the undermentioned places during the years 1922 and 1923:—

Country.	Received.				Despatched.			
	1922.		1923.		1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb.		lb.		lb.		lb.
United Kingdom and foreign countries (via London)	181,141	1,046,270	174,859	1,128,219	18,694	72,617	18,546	73,883
United States of America	55,643	375,532	59,424	396,686	3,764	15,050	3,795	15,341
Canada	7,588	54,756	9,338	67,384	1,111	3,851	1,323	4,776
Victoria	18,858	77,401	21,365	91,708	3,854	12,594	4,033	13,287
New South Wales	30,219	123,043	26,746	104,601	7,590	24,441	8,159	26,545
South Australia	855	1,878	924	2,393	544	1,529	586	1,908
Queensland	971	2,434	1,179	2,929	836	2,237	977	2,947
Tasmania	391	820	505	994	523	1,484	566	1,278
Western Australia	628	1,388	651	1,446	429	1,206	487	1,338
Fiji	386	1,147	552	1,386	1,494	5,264	1,507	5,155
Ceylon	501	2,518	538	3,098	109	414	131	524
Cape of Good Hope	886	2,521	1,006	3,979	101	369	116	428
Natal	..	..	..	..	308	944	305	966
India	2,064	17,543	3,843	29,509	744	4,187	709	3,767
Tonga	60	233	74	250	846	3,305	943	3,954
Tahiti	68	455	57	289	841	5,855	435	2,613
Hong Kong	512	2,957	1,412	9,784	351	1,480	398	1,919
Straits Settlements	320	931	258	805	237	847	233	983
Solomon Islands	3	3	2	2	1	1	4	21
New Hebrides	..	..	3	6	4	29	2	7
Uruguay	..	..	..	..	38	170	57	245
Pitcairn Island	..	..	279*	606*	80	343	117	530
Norfolk Island	..	..	1	3	5	18	1	3
Ellice Island	..	..	6	11	2	11	..	..
Aden	31	129	19	119	..	..	..	..
Fanning Island	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	374
China	1,514	13,139	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	302,639	1,725,098	303,041	1,846,207	42,506	158,246	43,510	162,792

* Estimated.

Table No. 15.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT DURING THE TEN-YEAR PERIODS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1866 AND 1876, THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1886, THE 31ST MARCH, 1896, 1906, 1916; AND THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Year ended	Number of Miles of Line.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Offices open.	Number of Telegrams and Toll Messages 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).
				Private and Press.	Government.	Total.	Telegraph.	Telephone.			
30th June, 1866	699	1,390	13	24,761	2,746	27,407	£ 5,562	£ ..	£ 483	£ 6,045	£ 6,377
„ 1876	3,154	7,247	142	890,382	160,704	1,051,086	62,716	..	16,154	78,870	82,771
31st Dec., 1886	4,546	11,178	412	1,583,717	252,549	1,836,266	106,639	..	27,281	133,920	98,875
31st Mar., 1896	6,245½	15,764½	743	1,899,632	224,579	2,124,211	97,178	25,933	25,844	148,955	143,665
„ 1906	8,355	25,116	1,312	5,351,084	289,135	5,640,219	184,369	89,542	24,168	298,079	276,580
„ 1916	13,684	48,052	2,413	10,708,910	127,841	10,836,751	549,627	287,547	9,085	846,259	658,572
„ 1920	13,721	50,751	2,339	14,957,615	116,452	15,074,067	619,188	419,318	5,830	1,044,336	1,078,961
„ 1921	13,724	51,643	2,338	13,884,466	116,385	14,000,851	704,228	533,535	7,036	1,244,799	1,369,780
„ 1922	13,767	52,176	2,327	12,782,037	152,428	12,934,465	697,864	614,367	8,458	1,320,689	1,314,068
„ 1923	11,912	48,616	2,307	13,342,823	170,385	13,513,208	713,380	595,967	9,727	1,319,074	1,117,726
„ 1924	12,954	52,910	2,295	14,407,269	69,597	14,476,866	711,896	830,470	4,930	1,547,295	1,093,882

NOTE.—Inland Telegram Tariff: Prior to the 1st September, 1869, inland telegrams were charged for on a mileage basis. From that date a uniform rate was fixed of 2s. 6d. for ten words, and 6d. for each additional five words. From the 1st April, 1870, the minimum charge was reduced to 1s. From the 1st November, 1873, the rate was further reduced to 1s. for ten words, and 1d. for each additional word, address and signature, hitherto charged for, being free up to ten words. From the 1st July, 1877, there was introduced the “urgent” code, at double the ordinary rate. From the 1st July, 1878, a “delayed” system was introduced, the rate being fixed at 6d. for ten words, exclusive of address and signature up to ten words, and ½d. for each additional word. From the 1st February, 1892, the number of words allowed for the minimum charge in each case was increased to twelve, with free address and signature up to six words. From the 15th August, 1892, the ordinary rate was fixed at 1s. for eighteen words, including address and signature. From the 1st June, 1896, the rate was fixed at 6d. for twelve words, including address and signature, and 1d. for each additional word; and “delayed” telegrams were abolished. From the 1st November, 1906, the charge for additional words was reduced to ½d. each. From the 23rd September, 1915, the ordinary rate was increased from 6d. to 8d. for twelve words (“urgent” 1s. 2d.); and on the 1st August, 1920, it was further increased to 1s. for twelve words, and 1d. for each additional word; (“urgent,” 2s., and 2d. for each additional word); Sundays and holidays, double rates. From the 1st November, 1920, there was introduced a system of night letter-telegrams, to be delivered by post on the morning following the day of presentation. The rate (since altered) was 1s. 6d. for thirty-six words and ½d. for each additional word. From the 1st February, 1923, the rate for ordinary telegrams was reduced to 9d. for twelve words, the charge for each additional word remaining at 1d. (“urgent” 1s. 6d., and 2d. for each additional word). From the same date the night letter-telegram rate was reduced to 9d. for twenty-seven words and 1d. for each additional three words.

Table No. 16.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER FORWARDED AND THE REVENUE DERIVED FROM TOLL CALLS AND PAID TELEGRAMS OF ALL CODES AND THE VALUE OF FRANKED GOVERNMENT TELEGRAMS AT THE UNDERMENTIONED POSTAL DISTRICTS DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Postal District.	Revenue derived from Paid Telegrams of all Codes and Toll Calls.	Value of franked Government Telegrams.	Total Value of Telegrams of all Codes and Toll Calls.	Number of Paid Telegrams and Toll Calls.	Number of franked Government Telegrams.	Total Number of Telegrams of all Codes and Toll Calls.
	£	£	£			
Auckland	110,906	834	111,740	2,379,745	10,854	2,390,599
Blenheim	11,600	102	11,702	263,671	2,126	265,797
Christchurch	74,966	552	75,518	1,428,933	7,656	1,436,589
Dunedin	53,497	290	53,787	1,055,408	4,023	1,059,431
Gisborne	21,553	150	21,703	356,827	1,850	358,677
Greymouth	14,611	264	14,875	270,705	5,593	276,298
Hamilton	51,979	23	52,002	1,216,730	902	1,217,632
Invercargill	32,657	89	32,746	726,234	1,463	727,697
Napier	46,689	182	46,871	1,032,553	2,350	1,034,903
Nelson	13,650	158	13,808	303,884	3,525	307,409
New Plymouth	30,313	58	30,371	698,594	1,291	699,885
Oamaru	9,936	52	9,988	163,857	689	164,546
Thames	21,322	53	21,375	497,219	1,136	498,355
Timaru	22,482	112	22,594	441,033	2,099	443,132
Wanganui	35,135	83	35,218	706,471	1,634	708,105
Wellington	143,399	1,792	145,191	2,751,805	20,186	2,771,991
Westport	5,634	136	5,770	113,600	2,220	115,820
Totals, 1923-24	700,329	4,930	705,259	14,407,269	69,597	14,476,866
Totals, 1922-23	699,444	9,727	709,171	13,342,823	170,385	13,513,208

Table No. 17.

TABLE SHOWING TOLL CALLS AND PAID TELEGRAMS OF ALL CODES FORWARDED DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924, AND THE REVENUE RECEIVED THEREFROM.

	June Quarter, 1923.		September Quarter, 1923.		December Quarter, 1923.		March Quarter, 1924.		Totals.	
	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.	Number.	Revenue.
Ordinary telegrams ..	1,300,643	£ 112,618	1,279,487	£ 109,973	1,488,274	£ 121,297	1,512,781	£ 128,203	5,581,185	£ 472,091
Urgent telegrams ..	62,090	6,593	60,168	6,314	67,427	6,884	76,087	7,895	265,772	27,686
Press telegrams ..	101,925	13,629	108,887	16,427	103,627	14,537	117,681	17,068	432,120	61,661
Night letter-telegrams ..	18,509	935	23,443	1,208	26,283	1,282	37,984	1,862	106,219	5,287
Toll calls ..	1,898,042	75,231	1,928,338	75,753	2,047,112	80,895	2,148,481	85,633	8,021,973	317,512
Gross totals ..	3,381,209	209,006	3,400,323	209,675	3,732,723	224,895	3,893,014	240,661	14,407,269	884,237
Less other lines and credits ..	..	44,933	..	43,661	..	45,692	..	49,622	..	183,908
Net totals, 1923-24 ..	..	164,073	..	166,014	..	179,203	..	191,039	..	700,329
Net totals, 1922-23 ..	3,094,059	164,937	3,107,569	164,489	3,508,968	188,490	3,632,227	181,528	13,342,823	699,444

Table No. 18.

TABLE SHOWING THE CLASS AND NUMBER OF INSTRUMENTS AND BATTERIES IN USE AT TELEGRAPH OFFICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

District.	Morse Instruments in use.							Number of Cells.						Universal-battery System.
	Constant Current.	Intermittent Current.	Single-current Duplex.	Double-current Duplex.	Direct Sounders.	Quadruplex.	Quadruplex Transmitters.	Leclanche.	Gordon.	Daniell.	Bichromate.	Storage.	Dry.	
Auckland ..	49	86	13	8	..	25	9	11,041	..	..	..	201	326	..
Canterbury ..	67	58	8	8	..	9	4	6,626	82	160	2	4	341	1
Otago ..	54	74	1	2	..	6	3	5,167	72	243	340	31	..	..
Wellington ..	118	113	12	20	1	22	26	15,939	2,170	1,020	281	573	822	..
Totals ..	288	331	34	38	1	62	42	38,773	2,324	1,423	623	609	1,489	1

Table No. 19.

TABLE SHOWING COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Telephone Exchanges.		£	Telephone Exchanges—continued.		£
Auckland ..	..	90,281	Featherston ..	..	606
Albany ..	..	643	Feilding ..	..	1,356
Dargaville ..	..	5,286	Fitzroy (slot telephone) ..	..	130
Devonport Automatic ..	..	85	Gisborne ..	..	8,485
Frankton Junction (slot telephone) ..	..	60	Hataitai (slot telephone) ..	..	60
Hamilton group ..	..	29,573	Hastings ..	..	5,975
Hamilton East (slot telephone) ..	..	16	Hawera ..	..	2,916
Herekino ..	..	1,172	Kelburn Automatic Exchange ..	..	206
Hikutaia ..	..	2,299	Levin ..	..	4,395
Kawakawa ..	..	2,784	Marton ..	..	1,990
Mangonui ..	..	563	Masterton ..	..	6,892
Matakana ..	..	2,148	Masterton Automatic Exchange No. 3 ..	..	369
Maungakaramea ..	..	3,810	Napier ..	..	4,340
Mokauiti ..	..	837	Napier Working-men's Club (slot telephone) ..	..	73
Mount Albert—New North Road (slot telephone) ..	..	55	Nelson ..	..	22,925
Mount Eden Automatic ..	..	931	New Plymouth ..	..	9,631
Onehunga Automatic ..	..	11	Ngaio (slot telephone) ..	..	74
Otaha (toll station) ..	..	17	Pahiatua ..	..	1,059
Otorohanga (slot telephone) ..	..	72	Palmerston North ..	..	5,041
Ponsonby Automatic ..	..	1,033	Palmerston North Automatic No. 3 ..	..	128
Rawene (underground cable extension) ..	..	79	Paraparaumu ..	..	1,580
Remuera Automatic ..	..	1,044	Patea ..	..	879
Rotorua ..	..	1,722	Port Nelson (slot telephone) ..	..	108
Silverdale ..	..	2,174	Pimmerton ..	..	955
St. Heliers ..	..	1,924	Stout Street Automatic ..	..	49
Takapuna Automatic ..	..	10	Stratford ..	..	6,298
Taumarunui ..	..	2,979	Taihape ..	..	4,612
Tauranga ..	..	2,651	Waipawa ..	..	6,297
Te Kuiti ..	..	2,257	Wairoa ..	..	6,609
Te Uku ..	..	22	Wanganui ..	..	14,730
Thames ..	..	4,913	Wanganui Automatic ..	..	16,390
Waharoa ..	..	878	Wellington ..	..	38,312
Warkworth ..	..	266	Palmerston North Rangitikei—Featherston Street (slot telephone) ..	..	90
Wellesley Street ..	..	5,822	Palmerston North Broadway (slot telephone) ..	..	86
Whakatane ..	..	1,162	Wellington South Automatic ..	..	377
Whakapara ..	..	950	Whangamomona ..	..	1,489
Whangarei ..	..	8,377	Ashburton ..	..	4,688
Whangarei Town Wharf (slot telephone) ..	..	92	Cheviot ..	..	58
Blenheim ..	..	2,018	Christchurch and branches ..	..	33,420
Blenheim Post-office (slot telephone) ..	..	82	Christchurch Post-office (slot telephones) ..	..	105
Brightwater ..	..	34	Culverden ..	..	62
Carterton ..	..	5,063	Grey mouth ..	..	639
Courtenay Place ..	..	711	Hinds ..	..	3,027
Dannevirke ..	..	16,874	Hokitika and branches ..	..	447
Dannevirke (slot telephone) ..	..	91	Kaikoura ..	..	95
Eketahuna ..	..	3,360	Rakaia and branches ..	..	1,269
Eltham ..	..	5,620			

Table No. 19—continued.

TABLE SHOWING COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924—continued.			
<i>Telephone Exchanges—continued.</i>	£	<i>Lines—continued.</i>	
Rangiora and branches	3,319	Mangapurua (telephone-office)	20
Reefton exchange (converted to M.C.)	1,718	Napier-Wairoa (M.C.)	2,553
St. Albans Automatic	473	Pine Valley (telephone-office)	187
Springburn	765	Pukerua Bay (telephone-office)	144
Timaru and branches	7,668	Rangiwahia (extension and M.C. to Mangaweka)	1,225
Timaru (slot telephone)	12	Rata (conversion to Morse)	10
Waiau	42	Stratford-Whangamomona (M.C.)	1,224
Waimate and branches	2,113	Tabora-Tatu (telephone line)	1,854
Westport and branches	1,762	Te Ranga (telephone-office)	10
Balehutha	975	Tutira-Putorino (telephone-office)	886
Clyde	398	Umutoaro and other places (M.C.)	492
Dunedin	25,925	Wakefield-Kohatu (M.C.)	48
Dunedin (slot telephones)	137	Wanganui-Kakatahi, &c. (M.C.)	1,717
Gore	4,004	Wanganui-Raetihi (toll circuit)	6,647
Invercargill	3,218	Wellington-Napier (telephone circuit)	2,340
Maori Hill	44	Wellington - Palmerston North (additional cir- cuits)	9,881
Milton	429	Wellington (miscellaneous services)	2,022
Oamaru	789	Amberley-Omihi (M.C.)	271
Otautau	720	Ashburton-Methven (telephone-line reconstruc- tion)	69
Palmerston	474	Ashburton - Ashburton Forks - Springburn (M.C.)	35
Queenstown	514	Christchurch (telegraph-office)	4,936
Ranfurly	2,378	Christchurch-Prebbleton (M.C.)	99
Roxburgh	733	Christchurch-Greymouth (M.C.) (Otira Tunnel cabling)	1,476
Tarras	2,368	Christchurch-Greymouth (M.C.)	8,773
Wyndham	1,637	Christchurch-Ashburton (M.C.)	4,893
	<u>£494,788</u>	Darfield-Otira (M.C.)	201
		Fairlie-Pukaki (M.C.)	959
		Greymouth-Cameron's-Kumara (M.C.)	435
		Greymouth - Arthur's Pass (M.C.)	126
		Greymouth-Kumara (diversion)	1,689
		Hokitika-Callaghan's (M.C.)	301
		Kumara-Waimihinihi-Jackson's (M.C.)	281
		Leeston-Brookside (M.C.)	37
		Ross-Harihari (M.C.)	1,024
		Templeton-Rolleston (new pole line)	129
		Timaru-Fairlie (M.C.)	886
		Timaru-Waitaki (M.C.)	524
		Waimate (reconstruction and diversion of branch circuits)	1,118
		Balclutha - Port Molyneaux	414
		Clydevale (telephone exchange and trunk circuit to Balclutha)	4,749
		Dunedin-Lawrence (M.C.)	1,132
		Dunedin-Palmerston-Oamaru	504
		Hawea Flat	1,948
		Invercargill-Winton-Dipton (M.C.)	387
		Invercargill-Otautau-Riverton (M.C.)	277
		Invercargill-Wyndham (M.C., looping Waima- haka)	84
		Lawrence-Heriot (M.C.)	2,063
		Lawrence-Roxburgh (M.C.)	1,971
		Lowburn Ferry - Mount Pisa (telephone line)	101
		Mihiwaka-Purakanui	124
		Oamaru-Waitaki (M.C.)	589
		Tapanni-Kelso-Heriot (M.C.)	492
		Tarara (telephone-office)	440
		Tiromatau-Tuapeka Mouth	18
		Toa (telephone-office)	118
		Miscellaneous	213
		Grand total	<u>£577,023</u>

Table No. 20.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF TELEPHONE-STATIONS IN EACH TELEGRAPH ENGINEER'S DISTRICT IN THE DOMINION.

Engineer's District.	Number of Stations on 31st March,					
	1924.			1923.		
	Main Stations.	Extension Stations.	Total.	Main Stations.	Extension Stations.	Total.
Auckland	25,618	3,974	29,592	24,292	3,767	28,059
Wellington	39,267	6,791	46,058	37,632	6,610	44,242
Canterbury	13,994	2,952	16,946	13,193	2,828	16,021
Otago	12,003	2,165	14,168	11,549	2,161	13,710
Totals	90,882	15,882	106,764	86,666	15,366	102,032

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (975 copies, including graphs and illustrations), £158.