

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1940-41.

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Adhesive Stamps Act, 1939: Regulations..	12	Officers <i>continued.</i>	
Air Force Recruits: Training in Morse		Senior Controlling: Conference ..	7
Telegraphy .. .. .	15	Sick Benefit Fund .. .. .	7
Air Mails—		Training .. .. .	6, 7
Empire Service .. .. .	4, 10	Parcel-post, Overseas: Volume ..	19
Inland .. .. .	10	Postage-stamps, &c. .. .. .	11
Trans-Pacific Service .. .. .	4, 11	Postal Articles posted and delivered ..	23
Trans-Tasman Service.. .. .	4, 11	Postal Notes .. .. .	12
Appeal Board .. .. .	7	Post-office Hours: Half-holiday ..	10
Association, Post and Telegraph Employees':		Post Office Investment Certificates: Dis-	
Merger with Post and Telegraph Officers'		continuance .. .. .	13
Guild .. .. .	8	Post Office Patriotic Fund .. .. .	8
British Postal Orders .. .. .	12	Post Office Savings-bank—	
Buildings .. .. .	9	Business during Year .. .. .	3, 12, 20
Cable Messages: Number and Value ..	23	Business since 1868 .. .. .	21
Commercial Branch .. .. .	9	Letters of Credit .. .. .	13
Conference of Senior Controlling Officers ..	7	National Savings Movement .. .. .	8, 13
Concessions to Men on War Service 4, 10, 14,	15	School Savings Branch .. .. .	13
Cook Strait Cables .. .. .	16	Promotion Board Appointment .. .. .	7
Co-ordination of Staffs of Clerical Branches		Radio Broadcasting—	
at Chief Post-offices and Engineers' Offices	8	Alien Emergency Regulations 1940 ..	16
Correspondence for Prisoners of War interned		Radio-dealers' Licenses .. .. .	16
Abroad .. .. .	11	Radio Interference .. .. .	16
Correspondence School .. .. .	9	Radio-receiving Licenses .. .. .	16, 22
Dead Letter Office .. .. .	12	Radio - telegraph and Radio - telephone	
Financial Operations .. .. .	3, 5, 18	Services—	
Guild, Post and Telegraph Officers': Merger		Inspection of Radio Equipment on Ships	16
with Post and Telegraph Employees'		Radio Beacon and Communication Systems:	
Association .. .. .	8	Installations .. .. .	16
Health Stamps .. .. .	11	Radio Emergency Regulations 1940 ..	16
Joint Advisory Scheme: Introduction ..	8	Radio-telegrams: Number and Value ..	23
Mail-services—		Service for Small Ships: Inauguration ..	16
Inland .. .. .	10	Training School for Radio Operators ..	7
Overseas .. .. .	4, 10, 11	Transmission of Press News for N.Z.E.F. ..	16
Military Allotment Warrants: Payment ..	13	Receipts and Payments .. .. .	3, 5, 18
Money-orders ..		Regulations under Adhesive Stamps Act,	
Business during Year .. .. .	12, 18, 19	1939 .. .. .	12
Business since 1863 .. .. .	18, 19	Sick Benefit Fund .. .. .	7
Motor-spirits, &c.: Rationing .. .. .	14	Social Security Work .. .. .	13
Motor-vehicles—		Staff	
Departmental .. .. .	9	Chief Post-office and Engineer's Office Cleri-	
Impressment for Armed Services ..	14	cal Branches: Co-ordination.. ..	8
Registration, &c. .. .. .	13	Cost-of-living Allowance: Payment ..	6
National Savings Bonds .. .. .	13	Health .. .. .	5
National Savings Movement: Post-office		Joint Advisory Scheme .. .. .	8
Participation .. .. .	8	Minimum Wage for Married Employees:	
Officers—		Increase .. .. .	6
Cost-of-living Allowance: Payment ..	6	Number .. .. .	5
Health .. .. .	5	Personal .. .. .	5
Minimum Wage for Married Employees:		Post-office Hours: Half-holiday ..	10
Increase .. .. .	6	Problems due to War Conditions ..	6
Number employed .. .. .	5	Sick Benefit Fund .. .. .	7
On War Service .. .. .	6	Training .. .. .	6, 7

CONTENTS—*continued.*

	PAGE		PAGE
Stores: Purchase .. .. .	9	Telephone-exchange Services— <i>continued.</i>	
Suggestions Board .. .. .	10	Public Call Offices .. .. .	17, 22
Telegraph Service—		Telephone Connections: Classification ..	22
Air Force Recruits: Training in Morse		Telephone Development .. .. .	16, 22
Telegraphy .. .. .	15	Telephone Toll Service—	
Concession-rate Telegrams to and from		After-hour Facilities .. .. .	15
Members of Armed Forces in New		Charges: Amended Scale .. .. .	15
Zealand .. .. .	4, 14	Concessions to Personnel at Military Camps	
Curtailement of Services and Hours of		and Air Force Stations .. .. .	4, 15
Attendance .. .. .	14	Extension of Toll Systems .. .. .	15
Decorative Telegram Stationery ..	14	Traffic .. .. .	22
Free Cablegrams to and from Children		Training of Staff .. .. .	6, 7
evacuated from Great Britain ..	14	War—	
Machine-printing Telegraphs: Installations	15	Concessions for Men on War Service	4, 10, 14, 15
Multi-channel Carrier-frequency Systems..	15	Cost-of-living Allowance .. .. .	6
Telegrams to New Zealand Naval Per-		Effect on Staff .. .. .	6
sonnel serving Overseas .. .. .	4, 14	Enlistment of Officers, &c. .. .. .	6
Telegrams to Soldiers on Active Service	4, 15	Impressment of Motor-vehicles for Armed	
Traffic .. .. .	14, 22	Services .. .. .	14
Telegraph Training-schools .. .. .	7	Military Allotment Warrants .. .. .	13
Telephone-exchange Services—		Minimum Wage for Married Employees..	6
Lower Hutt Auxiliary Manual Exchange..	17	Post Office Patriotic Fund .. .. .	8
New Automatic-telephone-exchange Equip-		Rationing of Motor-spirits, &c... ..	14
ment .. .. .	17	Work for other Departments .. .. .	13
Number of Telephone Exchanges .. ..	17	Workshops .. .. .	9

1941.  
NEW ZEALAND.

---

# POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT

(REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR 1940-41.

---

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

---

To His Excellency Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Cyril Louis Norton Newall, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.M.G., C.B.E., A.M.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency, with the following comment, the report of the Post and Telegraph Department for the year ended on the 31st March, 1941 :—

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The revenue collected during the year, which amounted to £5,106,193, exceeded that for the previous year by £312,502. Payments for the year in respect of working-expenses (including interest on capital liability amounting to £665,000) totalled £4,338,902. The excess of receipts over payments was £767,291.

## POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.

Post Office Savings-bank deposits were £28,607,222, compared with £25,151,287 during the previous year, an increase of £3,455,935. Interest credited to depositors amounted to £1,666,709. The withdrawals totalled £25,319,146, compared with £29,462,838 in the preceding year, a decrease of £4,143,692. The amount at credit of depositors at the 31st March was £62,956,787, which is £4,954,785 in excess of the balance at the end of last year. The number of accounts open at the 31st March was 992,792, which is 32,227 in excess of the total recorded at the end of 1939-40. The average amount at the credit of depositors on the 31st March was £63 8s. 3d., compared with £60 7s. 8d. on the same date in the previous year.

## STAFF.

Notwithstanding the departure of an ever-increasing number of officers for service with the armed forces, I think it can be said that the standard of the service given to the public during the year was, in the circumstances, creditably high. For this two factors were mainly responsible—the expedients and innovations adopted by the Administration in meeting the difficulties of the staffing situation, and the wholehearted manner in which officers accommodated themselves to the changed conditions. Without that valuable co-operation from officers as a whole, it would not have been possible to achieve with a heavily-depleted staff handling an increasing volume of work—much of it occasioned by the war—anything like the degree of success which it is my pleasure to record.

The measures adopted will go a long way towards tiding the Department over the war period and at the same time safeguard the interests of officers on war service. Prominent among these measures is the gradual extension of the arrangement under which women specially engaged for the period of the war are being employed successfully on work that would normally be performed by men. Good results are expected also from the adoption of a scheme under which junior officers will be given an intensive course of training in various phases of departmental activity. The scheme has already been introduced in a modified form; it will be extended, as soon as conditions permit, until the comprehensive system of training that is envisaged is in full operation.

Up to the end of the year, nearly 1,400 of the Department's officers had been released for service with the forces overseas. That these men, many of whom possess specialized knowledge of tele-communication services that will be invaluable in the field, will play a worthy part in the defence of their country and the Empire there is not the slightest doubt. A number of them, I have to record with deep regret, have already made the supreme sacrifice.

Extremely gratifying indeed has been the response of officers to the invitation to contribute to the Post Office Patriotic Fund established in March, 1940. Up to the end of March last the amount paid from that fund to the National and Provincial Patriotic Funds was no less than £6,000— a handsome contribution to the comfort and welfare of our fighting men. Contributions to the Post Office Fund do not, of course, represent the only call upon the generosity of officers for patriotic purposes. They, with members of the community generally, have given liberally through other channels to the Provincial Funds.

#### CONCESSIONS FOR MEN ON WAR SERVICE.

Last year I mentioned that my Department had granted a number of concessions to men serving overseas with the New Zealand and other Empire forces. I am gratified to be able to record that it was found possible during the year to arrange further concessions to the men on war service.

The concession-rate service introduced last year for cablegrams to and from members of the forces abroad was replaced on the 16th June last by a "standard text" service under which more information can be included in a telegram without any increase in the basic rate of 2s. 6d. My Department desires to acknowledge the personal interest taken in this matter by Sir Edward Wilshaw, managing director of Cable and Wireless, Ltd., London, without whose co-operation the cheaper rate would not have been possible. The concession has since been extended to include messages to and from members of His Majesty's forces, including naval personnel in all Empire countries and Egypt. In addition, members of the merchant navy also may now lodge such messages.

Other concessions granted during the year included a cheap rate for toll calls effected by members of the fighting Services from military or Air Force camp post-offices in the Dominion; a reduced rate for inland telegrams to and from members of the armed forces; a cheap rate of postage on air-mail letters addressed to members of the fighting Services overseas, including members of the British merchant service; and the extension to parcels addressed to members of the British merchant service at overseas ports of the reduced rate applicable to parcels for members of the forces abroad.

#### OVERSEAS AIR MAIL-SERVICES.

The trans-Pacific air service, which commenced operating between Auckland and San Francisco on the 20th July, 1940, on a fortnightly schedule, is the latest of the air services to connect the Dominion with overseas countries. This link provides easily the fastest service to America and, by connection with the North Atlantic air services, to the United Kingdom.

The Empire air service has continued to operate successfully throughout the year, although the Egypt—United Kingdom section was suspended upon Italy's entry into the war. As a result, an alternative service to the United Kingdom was established via Capetown—by air to Capetown and thence by sea to the United Kingdom.

The trans-Tasman service has operated very efficiently and regularly throughout the year. Only one or two short delays occurred.

#### DETAILED REPORT.

A detailed report of the Department's activities during the year ended on the 31st March, 1941, follows.

I have the honour to be,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

P. C. WEBB.

General Post Office, Wellington C. 1,  
14th July, 1941.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1941.

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The receipts and payments of the Department for the financial year 1940-41 are shown in the following account:—

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Payments.</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance forward .. ..	..	..	..	Salaries .. ..	2,281,303	9	7
Postages .. ..	1,430,071	17	6½	Conveyance of ocean and air mails .. ..	96,565	12	3
Money-order and postal-note commission .. ..	69,803	7	9	Conveyance of inland mails ..	165,387	11	2
Private box and bag rents and rural-delivery fees ..	63,698	7	1	Conveyance of mails by rail ..	96,411	16	8
Miscellaneous receipts ..	592,992	10	9	Maintenance of telegraph and telephone lines .. ..	241,209	0	6
Paid telegrams .. ..	352,605	16	2½	Renewals and replacements ..	51,280	0	0
Paid tolls .. ..	886,634	10	10½	Motor services and workshops	106,715	2	8
Telephone-exchange receipts	1,710,386	14	9½	Maintenance of Post and Telegraph buildings .. ..	57,671	15	4
				Miscellaneous .. ..	570,637	18	1
				Interest on capital liability ..	665,000	0	0
				Sick Benefit Fund .. ..	6,720	0	0

The total cash value of the transactions of the Department, inclusive of the above, amounted to approximately £362,000,000.

## STAFF.

### PERSONAL.

Mr. L. L. Hills, Divisional Director, General Post Office, retired on superannuation on the 31st March after completing forty-one years' service. Mr. Hills was replaced as a Divisional Director by Mr. H. McGill.

Mr. F. G. Nind, Chief Postmaster, Wellington, retired on superannuation on the 18th January after completing forty-one years' service. Mr. Nind was replaced by Mr. F. W. Mathews, Deputy Chief Postmaster, Wellington.

### COMPARATIVE RETURNS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN DEPARTMENT.

Permanent staff—				1st April, 1940.	1st April, 1941.
Administrative .. ..				12	12
First Division .. ..				4,585	4,734
Second Division .. ..				6,528	6,317
Message-boys .. ..				721	701
				11,846	11,764
Temporary staff .. ..				165	791
Casual staff .. ..				773	817
				*12,784	†13,372
Non-permanent staff—					
Country Postmasters and Telephonists .. ..				1,576	1,556
Postmasters who are Railway officers .. ..				90	89
				14,450	15,017

\* Includes 557 serving with forces.

† Includes 1,395 serving with forces.

### HEALTH OF PERMANENT STAFF.

The following table shows, in comparison with the figures for the preceding year, the average number of days on which officers were absent on sick-leave during the year:—

				Number on Staff.	Average Absence per Sick Officer.	Average Absence for each Officer employed.
Year ended 31st March, 1941—						
Men .. ..				* 9,521	11.42	5.68
Women .. ..				959	12.69	7.48
Year ended 31st March, 1940—						
Men .. ..				10,834	10.73	5.72
Women .. ..				1,012	13.38	8.13

Thirty-six officers died during the year.

\* Excludes 1,284 officers absent with forces.

## OFFICERS ON WAR SERVICE.

Up to the end of March the number of employees of the Department released for service with the armed forces overseas had reached a total of 1,395, comprising 1,284 permanent officers and 111 temporary employees.

The response of officers to the call for service with the forces has been most gratifying. Up to the time when the voluntary system of recruitment was discontinued no fewer than 1,537 had enlisted.

Every effort has been and continues to be made to release men who are called up for service. Exemption is applied for only in cases of absolute necessity. Since the commencement of the war exemption has been sought for thirty-eight men—all technical officers or radio operators.

It is recorded with regret that two of the Department's officers have been killed in action, one has died from sickness, two are reported missing, and four are prisoners of war.

Four officers have received decorations for meritorious services and five others gained special mention in despatches.

Following the introduction of the intensive training scheme for Territorial units, no fewer than 1,256 officers were released to undergo three months' Territorial training. At the end of March there were 581 departmental officers in Territorial camps throughout the Dominion.

## STAFFING PROBLEMS DUE TO WAR CONDITIONS.

With many of its trained personnel serving with the armed forces, it was only to be expected that the Department would experience difficulty in maintaining its staff at a strength sufficient to meet all requirements. Some measure of relief has been obtained by retaining in service beyond their normal time of retirement a number of officers who have completed forty years' service. The Department's main effort in meeting the staffing problem has, however, been in the direction of employing female labour. Every endeavour has been made to secure the right type of applicant, and, generally, the women placed in employment are performing good service and have quickly adapted themselves to departmental work. These women are being engaged purely on a temporary basis and on the clear understanding that their services are required only for the duration of the war. Whenever possible, the wives of officers released for war service are given employment in the Department.

The policy of training young women in certain work formerly undertaken by men—for instance, in machine-printing telegraphy—has been adopted with very good results. A training-school in machine-printing was opened in May, and already sixty-two trainees have completed the course and are now being employed as full working units in telegraph offices where the machine-printing system is in operation. Twenty-three trainees who are still in the school should soon qualify, and additional applicants are being selected for training.

Another arrangement which eased the staffing position was the working of branches of the Service with minimum staffs during the Christmas—New Year period and up to the middle of January. In this way it was possible not only to dispose of a considerable amount of annual leave, but also to utilize relief staffs to greater advantage. Moreover, many officers were afforded the opportunity of taking a mid-summer vacation—an opportunity that was welcomed, particularly by married officers with children of school age.

It seems hardly necessary to add that the need for effecting staff economies during wartime has received close attention. It was realized that, wherever possible, man-power should, in the national interest, be conserved. Many avenues of saving man-power were therefore investigated, and some services to the public which during wartime could scarcely be justified in full measure were curtailed.

## COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE.

Payment of a cost-of-living allowance to all State servants was authorized by Government with effect as from the 12th August, 1940. The allowance is at the rate of 5s. a week for employees paid on an hourly, daily, or weekly rate, and £13 per annum for those paid on either a monthly or an annual rate, and is payable to all employees of eighteen years and over who are in receipt of salary not exceeding £335 per annum or the equivalent in daily, hourly, or weekly wages. For juniors under eighteen years of age the allowance is at the rate of £6 10s. per annum if they are residing away from home and £3 5s. per annum if they are living at home. In the case of officers whose salaries or wages exceed £335 per annum, the allowance abates by £1 for every £3 or fraction thereof of salary in excess of £335. No allowance is payable when the salary exceeds £374 per annum.

Non-permanent Postmistresses who are in receipt of salaries of not less than £50 per annum and who are employed full time on departmental duties in accommodation used solely for post-office purposes also receive the allowance.

## MINIMUM WAGE FOR MARRIED EMPLOYEES.

The rate of remuneration operating throughout Government Departments as the minimum for married men received consideration during the year. It was agreed that circumstances justified an increase on the then existing rate of £210 8s. 1d., and Government approved an additional amount of £20 per annum being paid to these men, with effect as from the 1st October. This increase, together with the cost-of-living allowance of £13 per annum also authorized by Government, will assist materially those married officers on the lower rates of classified salary.

## PROMOTION BOARD.

Mr. S. A. Ogilvie, Divisional Director, General Post Office, was appointed a member of the Post and Telegraph Promotion Board during the year in succession to Mr. L. L. Hills, who retired from the Service.

## APPEAL BOARD.

The Post and Telegraph Appeal Board, under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. A. Young, Stipendiary Magistrate, Christchurch, sat at a number of the more important centres during the year. The session commenced at Dunedin on the 3rd July and terminated in Wellington on the 16th August. Appeals totalling 319, received from 169 officers, were adjudicated upon, with the following results: Allowed, 2; conceded by Department, 5; withdrawn, 72; did not lie, 4; disallowed, 235.

In one other case the Appeal Board recommended that the appellant be allotted the same grading and salary as the appointee.

During the year Mr. A. Robertson, the Postal representative on the Appeal Board, was re-elected unopposed for a further term of three years. Mr. A. C. Wells being the only officer nominated for the position of Telegraph representative, was duly elected. The retiring Telegraph representative on the Board, Mr. G. A. Wilkes, did not seek re-election.

## SICK BENEFIT FUND.

During the year 698 officers were granted assistance from the Sick Benefit Fund.

The Fund has now been recognized as a sick benefit fund for the purposes of the Land and Income Tax Amendment Act, 1940, and the Social Security Contribution Regulations, Amendment No. 1. This means, in effect, that any payments made from the Fund since the 31st March, 1940, are exempt from income-tax and from the social security charge and the national security tax.

## STAFF-TRAINING.

Apart from tuition in telephone-exchange operation, in Morse and radio operating, and in machine-printing telegraphy, no intensive staff-training for its officers has previously been undertaken by the Department. It is now considered, however, that a comprehensive scheme of intensive training should be undertaken, and arrangements are being made with this object in view. Although it is not practicable at present to introduce the main projects which the Administration has in mind, a start is about to be made with the establishment of several classes in a modified form. These will be given intensive training over specified periods in sub-office duties, in radio procedure and geography, in toll and telephone-exchange operating, and in motor and electrical work. Practical and theoretical tuition in each course will be provided. For instance, in the course for exchange operators, which will cover eight weeks, the trainees, in addition to receiving switchboard practice, will receive, by means of lectures, demonstrations, voice culture, and a course of study, instruction in all other phases of exchange service. The object of the schools will be to provide for the students a sound foundational training which will enable them to become useful working units in the shortest possible time.

It is hoped, when conditions are favourable, to extend the scheme by the establishment of classes for other officers. Preliminary courses and draft time-tables have already been prepared in respect of classes for junior engineers, mail-room, money-order and savings-bank, and other clerical officers, cable-jointers, and mechanics. It is considered that the ideal arrangement would be to have all the courses conducted at one central training-school, and this aspect is to receive consideration later in connection with the establishment of the main scheme.

## TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR TELEGRAPH OPERATORS.

As a result of the war, considerable demands have been made upon the Department's staff of skilled radio telegraphists, and it soon became apparent that a reserve of these officers would be necessary to meet future requirements. A school was therefore established in Wellington in July for the training of specially-selected telegraph cadets in radio operating. Good progress has been made, and up to the end of the year forty of these cadets had been fully trained. As the demand for radio telegraphists is likely to continue for the duration of the war, it is the Department's intention to keep the school functioning so that a constant supply of radio operators will be available.

In addition to the school for radio operators, there is in operation in Wellington a school for the training of male and female officers in machine-printing telegraphy as well as a school for the training of male officers in Morse telegraphy. Morse-telegraph schools are established also in Auckland and Christchurch.

## CONFERENCE OF SENIOR CONTROLLING OFFICERS.

In pursuance of the policy of securing close co-operation and co-ordination in departmental activities a conference of senior controlling officers was held in Wellington during the last week of February. The conference, which was the first of its kind since 1923, was attended by Chief Postmasters and Inspectors, by Engineers in charge of the more important districts, and by many senior officers of the General Post Office.

The conference was held primarily for the purpose of discussing the measures taken or about to be taken by the Post Office to meet war conditions, and of enabling a general review to be made of the effects of recent policy changes introduced in the Department. Consideration was also given to proposals for improving the organization and methods of management within the Department. The conference was an undoubted success, and the results of its deliberations are likely to be of especial value in the administration of the Service.

## JOINT ADVISORY SYSTEM.

The year under review saw the introduction in the Department of a scheme of staff consultation known as the Joint Advisory System. The scheme, which is based on, but not altogether identical with, the Whitley Councils of the British Post Office, provides for a series of committees, through the agency of which the staff is afforded the opportunity of being more actively associated with the management of the Department.

The main committee, which is termed the Joint Advisory Council, is comprised of twelve members, six, representing the Department, being appointed by the Director-General, and the remaining six, representing the Service organization, by the Dominion Executive of the Post and Telegraph Employees' Association and Officers' Guild. District Advisory Committees have been set up at each Chief Post-office in the Dominion and at certain other offices. In association with District Committees there are Branch Advisory Committees representing one or more branches at each office, the number being determined largely by the status of the office.

The functions of the Joint Advisory Council are to consider any matters referred to it and to make recommendations to the Department where thought necessary or desirable. The District Advisory Committees and the Branch Advisory Committees are in the nature of subsidiary organizations. Their object is to deal with matters having a more or less local application. They also consider any proposals and suggestions brought before them, and, where necessary, refer to the next higher committee any matters that may be deemed to have a wider application.

The main object of the Joint Advisory System is to secure, in matters affecting the efficient working of the Department and the welfare of its employees, the greatest measure of co-operation between the Administration and the executive officers of the Department on the one hand and the general body of the staff on the other. At the same time it aims at pooling the experience of officers and harmonizing different points of view concerning conditions of service generally. The Administration is confident that the staff generally will welcome the introduction of the scheme, which will provide the means whereby the ideas of all can be associated and utilized to their maximum value to the ultimate benefit of the Service as a whole.

## CO-ORDINATION OF STAFFS OF CLERICAL BRANCHES AT CHIEF POST-OFFICES AND ENGINEERS' OFFICES.

A change in the staffing arrangements of the Clerical Branches at a number of the more important Chief Post-offices was introduced during the year by the appointment at each of these offices of an officer with the designation of Chief Clerk. The appointments were made with the dual object of amalgamating the clerical staffs of the Chief Postmaster's Office and Telegraph Engineer's Office and of co-ordinating the work performed in these branches.

Under the new system facilities will exist which will enable the members of both clerical staffs to acquire a knowledge of the work of the combined branches. The arrangement should prove beneficial both to the Department and to the officers themselves.

At the four main centres there are difficulties in the way of bringing about an amalgamation of the two branches in question, and it is not proposed to take any action in this respect in the meantime at least.

## MERGER OF POST AND TELEGRAPH EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION AND POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICERS' GUILD.

As from the 1st June, the Post and Telegraph Employees' Association and the Post and Telegraph Officers' Guild merged in one organization under the title of "The Post and Telegraph Employees' Association and Officers' Guild, Incorporated."

## NATIONAL SAVINGS MOVEMENT: POST OFFICE PARTICIPATION.

The Post Office has taken a leading part in the National Savings Movement which was inaugurated by Government during the year, the bulk of the organizing and detailed work of the scheme having been entrusted to the Department. Selected departmental officers were appointed as organizers at the more important centres and allotted the task of organizing on a national scale the full support of all sections of the community. The method adopted was to establish personal contact with the management of business firms with the object of securing their interest in the scheme and, with their co-operation, of setting up savings groups amongst the employees. An employee or other representative of each establishment acts as a group collector and undertakes the regular collection and payment to the Post Office of the sums collected. The scheme provides the investor with an avenue whereby he is enabled to contribute to the Dominion's war effort, and at the same time to lay aside for himself a sum of money to be used when conditions return to normal.

It is pleasing to record that the great majority of the Department's employees possess National Savings Accounts.

## POST OFFICE PATRIOTIC FUND.

Contributions from the Post Office Patriotic Fund paid to the National and Provincial Patriotic Funds from the time of establishment of the Post Office Fund (March, 1940) to the 31st March, 1941, were as follows: To National Fund, £4,000; to Provincial Funds, £2,000.



## CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL.

During the year a course in the subject of telephone transmission was added to the curriculum, thus increasing the number of courses to fifteen. The new course, which will be issued during the coming year, will meet a keen demand for information regarding the toll network and modern type of carrier-current telephone equipment associated therewith. The other courses attracted some four hundred students during the year. Of those who availed themselves of the facilities provided by the School, 78 per cent. passed the examinations held at the conclusion of the courses.

## COMMERCIAL BRANCH.

The revenue value of the transactions dealt with by the Commercial Branch during the year amounted to £51,342. The decrease of £9,774 compared with the preceding year is attributable to a reduction in staff and a curtailment of activities.

Of the business dealt with during the year, £33,615 represents telephone business, the balance, £17,727, being in respect of advertising, postal, and miscellaneous.

## STORES.

PURCHASE OF STORES DURING THE YEAR 1940-41 (INCLUDING STORES PURCHASED FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND STORES MANUFACTURED IN POST AND TELEGRAPH WORKSHOPS).

	On Indent.	Procured within New Zealand.	Total.
	£	£	£
Purchases for Post and Telegraph Department	228,248	280,037	508,285
Purchases arranged for other Departments, comprising (1) motor-vehicles for all Departments except the Post and Telegraph, and (2) other stores for non-purchasing Departments .. ..	78,162	67,466	145,628
	306,410	347,503	653,913

## STOCKS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1941.

	£
Wellington District .. ..	447,264
Auckland District .. ..	156,747
Christchurch District .. ..	72,055
Dunedin District .. ..	58,877
	<u>£734,943</u>

## DEPARTMENTAL MOTOR-VEHICLES.

The purchase of new motor-vehicles during the year was greatly restricted, necessitating the retention in service of some of the older units for a longer period than usual. New vehicles placed in service numbered 14, all of which were of British manufacture. The number of vehicles in commission at the end of the year was 870, comprising 219 cars and 651 trucks and vans.

Including old vehicles held for disposal, the fleet shows a decrease of 12 as compared with the previous year. The total mileage covered during the year was 5,514,129 miles, which represents a reduction of 1,376,070 miles compared with the previous year.

## WORKSHOPS.

The total value of the work performed in the various workshops during the year amounted to £240,663, of which £44,464 represents the value of services rendered to other Government Departments.

## BUILDINGS.

During the year the erection of the following departmental buildings was completed: Chief Post-office buildings at Hamilton and Wanganui; post-office buildings at Brown's Bay, Kaukapakapa, Stockton Mine, Taupo, and Waiouru Military Camp; automatic-exchange buildings at Avondale, Birkenhead, and Gisborne; line store and garage buildings at Nelson and Tauranga; garages at Arrowtown, Culverden, Waiau, and Waiuku; and a receiving-station building at Awarua Radio.

The new Chief Post-office buildings at Hamilton and Wanganui and the new post-office building at Taupo were opened officially by the Postmaster-General (the Hon. P. C. Webb) on the 2nd December, the 11th December, and the 20th September, respectively.

Additions were made to the post-office buildings at Culverden, Dominion Road, Huntly, Matamata, Ngongotaha, Te Mata, Upper Hutt, Wabaroa, and Waikaka, and to the automatic-exchange buildings at Devonport and Onehunga.

The erection of the following new buildings was in progress at the end of the year: Christchurch (Chief Post-office), Dunedin (store and workshops), Invercargill (Chief Post-office), Katikati (post-office and quarters), Lower Hutt (post-office), Mosgiel (post-office and Postmaster's residence), Mount Albert (automatic exchange), and Te Kuiti (post-office).

Major additions to the Auckland Chief Post-office building and the Ponsonby automatic exchange and major alterations to the Auckland (Newmarket) store and workshops buildings were in progress at the end of the year, as well as alterations to the Chief Post-office building at Timaru.

The post-office buildings at Katikati and Tarawera were destroyed by fire on the 12th October and the 27th October, respectively.

#### SUGGESTIONS BOARD.

Some 201 suggestions for the better working of the Department were received from officers during the year, and six awards, involving a total sum of £19, were made for meritorious proposals.

#### POST-OFFICE HOURS: HALF-HOLIDAY.

In view of the urgent need for conserving man-power following the enlistment of a large number of the Department's officers, it was found necessary early in the year to introduce a half-holiday (generally a Saturday) at all but the principal post-offices.

### POSTAL SERVICES.

#### POSTAL CONCESSIONS TO MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES, ETC.

A further reduction was made in April, 1940, in the postage rates on parcels for members of the armed forces overseas, irrespective of destination. The rates were reduced from 1s. 6d. to 1s. for a 3 lb. parcel, and from 3s. to 2s. for a 7 lb. parcel. Additionally, provision was made for the acceptance, in exceptional circumstances, of parcels up to 11 lb. in weight.

Following negotiations with the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth Governments, a 9d. air-mail rate was introduced in November for letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight addressed to members of the armed forces overseas, subject to the condition that such letters are despatched by the Empire (including trans-Tasman) air service. In February, the concession was extended to include air-mail letters addressed to members of the British merchant service overseas.

The usual fee for the redirection of parcels has been waived in respect of those addressed to members of the armed forces redirected within the Dominion or to an overseas destination.

#### INLAND MAIL-SERVICES.

Contracts covering the performance of inland mail-services in the South Island expired on the 31st December last, and the services were relet for a further term of three years as from the 1st January, 1941.

The number of rural boxholders continues to increase. At the end of March, there were 33,383 boxholders, representing an increase of 897 compared with the number as at the 31st March, 1940.

#### OCEAN MAIL-SERVICES.

Notwithstanding the disturbed conditions occasioned by the war, frequent mail exchanges were made throughout the year with Great Britain, Australia, the United States of America, and other overseas countries. A small mail for the Middle East and a few mails for Great Britain were lost in transit through enemy action. It was particularly unfortunate that among the mails lost was a large portion of the Christmas postings both from New Zealand to the United Kingdom and from the United Kingdom to this country.

#### AIR MAILS.

##### INLAND.

The volume of correspondence despatched by the inland air services showed a steady increase during the year. This can be attributed to two main factors—the operation, since November, of the Auckland–Wellington–Dunedin service on the basis of five trips weekly instead of thrice weekly, and the decision of Government that correspondence for despatch by air on the trans-Tasman or trans-Pacific air services be given air transmission on the inland services when there would be acceleration in transit time.

For the twelve months ended 31st March, 1941, the weight of letters carried on the inland air services was 44,645 lb. In addition, 5,688 parcels were conveyed by the services.

##### EMPIRE AIR SERVICE.

Increasing use was made during the year of the Empire air service. Unfortunately, the Egypt–United Kingdom section was suspended on the 10th June, 1940, following the outbreak of hostilities with Italy. To maintain a connection with the United Kingdom, arrangements were, however, later made to despatch mails by air via Egypt to Capetown and thence by sea to the United Kingdom.

So far as New Zealand is concerned, the Empire air service is used principally for the forwarding of correspondence to the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the Middle East. With a cheap rate in operation for letters sent by this service to members of the armed forces overseas, the volume of such correspondence increased rapidly. During the year approximately one million letters were despatched to the New Zealand Base Post-office. The service provided a regular and rapid means of communication, the transit time for air mails to and from the Middle East averaging approximately twelve days.

## TRANS-TASMAN AIR SERVICE.

The direct linking of New Zealand by air with the Australia-England service on the 30th April was an event of outstanding importance in the history of trans-Tasman communications. The schedule provided initially for a weekly service, but in order to effect connection with the trans-Pacific (fortnightly) service arrangements were made later for an additional flight during the week in which the Pan-American flying-boat arrives at Auckland, the object being to provide good Australian connections with the trans-Pacific service.

The trans-Tasman has proved a most valuable service, particularly in view of the concentration of New Zealand Forces in the Middle East. For the eleven months ended the 31st March, 34,464 lb. of New Zealand mail was despatched by the service, while 31,560 lb. of mail for New Zealand was received. The average weight of mail carried on each trip was 600 lb.

## TRANS-PACIFIC AIR SERVICE.

The first regular flight in the Pan-American air service connecting Auckland with San Francisco via Noumea, Canton Island, and Hawaii took place on the 20th July. This service, which provides for a fortnightly connection from Auckland, is now an important link in the Dominion's air communication system with overseas countries.

After the suspension of the Egypt-United Kingdom section of the Empire air service, the Pan-American service provided the only means of rapid air-mail communication between New Zealand and the Mother-country. The normal transit time from New Zealand to the United Kingdom by this service is approximately fourteen days, but owing to exceptional conditions on the North Atlantic section this time was occasionally exceeded during the period November to January, inclusive.

The postage rates on correspondence for despatch by the Pan-American service are, for each half-ounce: New Caledonia, 1s.; Canton Island, 1s. 9d.; Hawaii, 2s. 6d.; United States of America, 4s.; United Kingdom, 5s. 9d.

For the period July to March the total mail despatched was 8,619 lb. and the total mail received was 9,001 lb.

## CORRESPONDENCE FOR PRISONERS OF WAR INTERNED ABROAD.

Every effort is made to facilitate the despatch of correspondence for prisoners of war interned in Germany, Italy, and other European countries. This correspondence is forwarded to the United Kingdom, whence, apparently, it is despatched through Lisbon and Geneva. As yet no channel is available by way of the Middle East.

Correspondence for a British prisoner of war must be addressed to show his service number, rank, name and initials, the fact that he is a British prisoner of war, and the name of the camp and the country in which he is interned; but a difficulty that is frequently encountered by next-of-kin and others desirous of communicating with him is that his proper address is not always available until some time after he has been taken prisoner.

Correspondence for prisoners of war is, under an international arrangement, carried by surface routes postage-free.

## POSTAGE-STAMPS, ETC.

## SOCIAL SECURITY STAMPS.

A 3s. social security stamp was issued during the year.

## DUTY STAMPS.

Duty stamps (coat-of-arms type) were issued in June in the following additional values: 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., 11s., and 22s. Each new stamp was overprinted with the value in large black type.

## ISLANDS STAMPS.

The introduction of the "all-up" Empire air service created a demand for 1½d. stamps of the Cook Islands, Niue, and Western Samoa. Stamps of that denomination were therefore ordered, but by the time they arrived in New Zealand, the air-mail rates had been increased following the outbreak of war.

As there was no 3d. stamp in the current islands issues, it was decided to overprint the 1½d. stamp "3d.," and these stamps were placed on sale on the 2nd September.

The stamps were printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., England, and overprinted at the Government Printing Office, Wellington.

## HEALTH STAMPS.

Health stamps for 1940-41 were issued in two denominations - 1½d. and 3d. (1d. for postage and ½d. for "health," and 2d. for postage and 1d. for "health"). The stamps, which were of the same design as those issued in 1939-40, were placed on sale on the 1st October and they were withdrawn on the 28th February. On this occasion the colour of the 3d. health stamp was changed from orange to light brown. Stamps to the value of £5,470 were sold, and one-third of that amount, representing the "health" value, together with donations amounting to £3,191, was paid to the several Health Camp Committees.

POSTAL STATIONERY.

Newspaper wrappers impressed with ½d. postage from new stereos were issued in July. New-Zealand-made paper without a watermark was used.

New stereos, which were prepared at the Government Printing Office, Wellington, have been used for impressing letter-cards and registered-letter envelopes. A cameo die of the ½d. denomination, which was prepared by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., England, was altered to 2d. by Messrs. W. R. Bock and Son, Ltd., Wellington, and used for embossing envelopes. Particulars of the new stationery issued are as follows :—

Type.	Stamp.	Colour.	Date of Issue.
Letter-card ..	King George VI, 2d. stereo	Orange ..	December, 1940.
Embossed envelope ..	King George VI, 2d. cameo ..	Orange ..	January, 1941.
Registered envelope ..	King George VI, 6d. stereo	Red ..	January, 1941.

STAMP BOOKLETS.

When the present stocks of booklets of the King George VI ½d. and 1d. and 1½d. stamps are exhausted, they will not be replenished in the meantime.

REGULATIONS UNDER ADHESIVE STAMPS ACT, 1939.

Regulations under the Adhesive Stamps Act, 1939, which vests in the Post Office the authority for the creation, custody, and disposition of adhesive stamps, were issued in September. Among the matters covered by the regulations are the custody of dies and printing instruments, the custody and issue of stamp paper, the distribution of stamps, and licenses to deal in stamps.

DEAD-LETTER OFFICE.

Particulars of the correspondence dealt with in the Dead-letter Office during the year, in comparison with that handled in the previous year, are as follows :—

	1940.	1939.
Letters returned to senders in New Zealand .. ..	470,308*	518,852†
Other articles returned to senders in New Zealand ..	375,513	378,294
Letters returned to other Administrations .. ..	39,315‡	52,052§
Other articles returned to other Administrations ..	45,193	50,211
Letters destroyed (senders unknown and contents of no value) .. ..	26,548	31,635
Letters intercepted addressed to persons and firms on prohibited list .. ..	35	103

The proportion of undelivered letters to the total number of letters delivered was 0·37 per cent.

\* Including 25,261 registered.                      † Including 19,084 registered.                      ‡ Including 550 registered.  
§ Including 646 registered.

MONEY-ORDERS.

Money-orders issued during the year numbered 812,667, of a value of £4,435,007. This represents a decrease compared with the previous year of 98,817 in number and £659,357 in value.

POSTAL NOTES.

Postal-note business decreased, the sales being 2,558,916 notes, of a value of £1,020,630, compared with 3,374,852 notes, of a value of £1,323,397, during the previous year.

The commission totalled £35,047 0s. 10d., a decrease of £2,868 4s. 11d. on the commission earned in 1939-40.

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS.

Sales of British postal orders decreased in number and amount, 55,844 orders, of a value of £17,748 6s. 3d., being sold, as against 93,415, of a value of £37,931 3s. 9d., during the previous year. There was a decrease also in the number and amount of British postal orders paid, 12,389 orders, of a value of £6,034 1s., being cashed. In the previous year, 18,754 orders, of a value of £8,227 1s. 6d., were paid.

SAVINGS-BANK.

Deposits lodged in the Post Office Savings-bank during the year amounted to £28,607,222 and the withdrawals to £25,319,146, an excess of deposits of £3,288,076. The interest credited to depositors was £1,666,709 13s. 4d., and the amount at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £62,956,787.

## SCHOOL SAVINGS BRANCH.

At the end of the year the school savings-bank scheme, the object of which is to encourage thrift among children, was in operation in 940 schools, an increase for the year of 35. The deposits amounted to £37,811 13s. 7d. and the withdrawals to £29,037 15s. 1d., an excess of deposits of £8,773 18s. 6d. The total number of operative accounts at the 31st March was 77,906, the amount at credit being £89,902 4s. 8d. Interest to the amount of £1,820 16s. 10d. was credited to depositors.

On leaving school, 3,763 depositors transferred their accounts to the Post Office Savings-bank.

## SAVINGS-BANK LETTERS OF CREDIT.

Letters of credit numbering 4,986 were issued during the year for an aggregate amount of £92,973 14s.

## POST OFFICE INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES.

The total sales of Post Office investment certificates for the year amounted to £16,911. The sale of these certificates was discontinued in July, 1940. National Savings Bonds, a similar form of investment, are now being issued.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS BONDS.

Sales of National Savings Bonds began in October, 1940. The bonds, which have a currency of five years, are issued at the nominal values of £1, £10, and £100, the selling-prices being 17s. 6d., £8 15s., and £87 10s., respectively.

The total sales up to the 31st March, 1941, amounted to £611,709.

## WORK PERFORMED FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

There was a further substantial increase in the work performed by the Department on behalf of other Government Departments. The total sum handled in this respect during the year was approximately £95,000,000 an increase of about £20,000,000 on the previous year's total.

## SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, 1938: WORK PERFORMED BY POST OFFICE.

The Post Office receives on behalf of Treasury a large proportion of the moneys due under the Social Security Act, the receipts for the year amounting to £12,461,519, made up as follows:—

	£
(a) Registration fee . . . . .	614,986
(b) Social security charge on income other than salary or wages . . . . .	3,878,205
(c) Social security charge on salary or wages collected in cash . . . . .	4,085,721
(d) Sales of social security stamps . . . . .	3,882,607
	<hr/>
	£12,461,519

In addition to receiving moneys due, the Post Office disburses the amounts payable to approximately two-thirds of the persons receiving benefits under the Act, the remaining one-third being paid by officers of the Social Security Department.

## MILITARY ALLOTMENT WARRANTS.

Military allotment and dependants' allowance warrants to the number of 613,820 were paid by the Department during the year. Post Office Savings-bank accounts have been opened to receive the allotments of pay of those soldiers who have not made next-of-kin allotments.

## REGISTRATION OF MOTOR-VEHICLES, AND ASSOCIATED WORK.

Motor-vehicles licensed at the 31st March last numbered 311,641, a decrease of 3,879, or 1.22 per cent., compared with the number licensed at the corresponding date in 1940.

Registrations of motor-vehicles during the year totalled 15,551, a decrease of 14,219 compared with the number effected during the preceding twelve months.

Notifications of change of ownership totalled 97,890, compared with 125,795 during the previous year—a decrease of 27,905, or 22.18 per cent. Approximately 12,000 duplicate certificates of the registration of motor-vehicles were dealt with.

The total amount of motor-registration fees collected was £572,489, a decrease of £30,470 compared with the figure for the previous year.

More detailed statistics concerning the work undertaken by the Post and Telegraph Department in connection with the registration and licensing of motor-vehicles appear in the report of the Transport Department.

Premiums collected on behalf of the forty insurance companies authorized to underwrite business in terms of the Motor-vehicles Insurance (Third-party Risks) Act, 1928, totalled £452,531, a decrease of £6,189 compared with the amount collected during the preceding twelve months.

A total of 60,102 claims for refunds of duty on motor-spirits were approved for payment during the year. The total amount refunded was £314,542 1s. 9d. Compared with the figures for the previous year, the claims increased in number by 8,613 and in amount by £108,198 15s. 4d.

Mileage tax was collected in respect of 493 vehicles, as compared with 471 vehicles during the preceding year. The gross amount of mileage tax collected was £30,025, compared with £22,507 for the preceding twelve months.

#### RATIONING OF MOTOR-SPIRITS AND POWER KEROSENE.

The issuance of oil-fuel licenses and petrol coupons in terms of the Oil Fuel Emergency Regulations 1939 was continued during the year by Sub-district Oil Fuel Controllers (Postmasters). Most consumers of motor-spirits are now cognizant of the need for conserving supplies for essential purposes.

The number of applications for increased licenses was lower than in the previous year, when the gallonages being made available to users were continuously under review.

Apart from issuing licenses and coupons, officers visit pumpholders' stations from time to time to ascertain whether the provisions of the regulations are being complied with. Records are kept at Sub-district Controllers' offices of the quantities of motor-spirits and power kerosene delivered monthly to each pumpholder by the oil companies, and action is taken to ensure that all supplies are satisfactorily accounted for to holders of either oil fuel licenses or petrol coupons.

The Oil Fuel Regulations are administered by the Transport Department, and more detailed information of the rationing scheme will be found in the annual report of that Department.

#### IMPRESSMENT OF MOTOR-VEHICLES FOR THE ARMED SERVICES.

In terms of the Motor-vehicles Impressment Emergency Regulations a considerable number of trucks, cars, and motor-cycles were impressed on behalf of the armed Services. The Director-General of the Post and Telegraph Department, in his capacity as Chief Impressment Officer, arranged for the serving of warrants of impressment on owners of vehicles selected by the Army Vehicle Committee.

When delivering vehicles at the collecting centres the owners handed over the signed change-of-ownership forms, the relative certificates of registrations, and a declaration setting out fully the details of the vehicles. The impressment forms were subsequently forwarded to a Valuation Committee charged with the duty of assessing the values of all vehicles impressed. On being notified of the assessments, the Chief Impressment Officer despatched valuation notices to the vehicle-owners. In the case of unencumbered vehicles, cheques for the full amount of the official valuation were forwarded with the valuation notices. The cheques for encumbered vehicles were not despatched until agreement had been reached as to the amounts to be paid to each party concerned.

### TELEGRAPH AND TOLL SERVICES.

#### TELEGRAPH TRAFFIC.

The volume of telegraph business, in comparison with that for the previous year, declined slightly. The number of telegrams decreased by 5·1 per cent. (285,749 messages) and the revenue by 0·76 per cent. (£2,707).

#### FREE CABLEGRAMS TO AND FROM CHILDREN EVACUATED FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

To enable children evacuated from Great Britain to New Zealand under Government auspices to keep in touch with their parents by telegraph, a free cablegram service was introduced in October. One telegram a month is permitted, and the children have the choice of a large number of prearranged texts. The parents are afforded similar facilities for communicating with their children.

This free service, which applies in all Empire countries to which children have been evacuated, is the outcome of negotiations initiated by Cable and Wireless, Ltd., and represents a substantial concession on the part of the company.

#### CONCESSION-RATE TELEGRAMS TO AND FROM MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES IN NEW ZEALAND.

As from the 22nd July, a reduction was made in the charges for inland telegrams exchanged between members of the armed forces in New Zealand and their friends and relatives in the Dominion. The rate for such telegrams on week-days is 1d. a word, with a minimum of 6d., no charge being made for the addresses. A corresponding reduction has been made in the charges on Sundays and holidays.

#### TELEGRAMS TO NEW ZEALAND NAVAL PERSONNEL SERVING OVERSEAS.

In conjunction with the Admiralty and the New Zealand Naval Board, arrangements have been made for telegrams on urgent private business to be sent from next-of-kin in New Zealand to New Zealand personnel serving in His Majesty's ships overseas at a rate similar to that adopted for cablegrams to members of other branches of the fighting forces beyond the Dominion. Owing to the congestion on naval communication channels and to the fact that these channels must at all times be available for official purposes, the service is restricted to one message a month from each person. Negotiations are nearing completion for the introduction of a similar service in respect of messages of an urgent nature from naval personnel overseas to their next-of-kin in New Zealand.

#### CURTAILMENT OF TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

Owing to the drain upon the staff for war purposes and to the need for conserving the man-power available, it was found expedient to curtail the telegraph services to some extent. The observance of a telegraph attendance of from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at certain offices has been abolished, while at other offices the telegraph hours of attendance commence at 8.30 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. In addition, only telegrams paid for at "urgent" rates are delivered after 6 p.m.

#### DECORATIVE TELEGRAM STATIONERY.

With a view to conserving paper-supplies the Department has suspended for the duration of the war the provision of decorative stationery for telegrams of a "greetings" and "congratulatory" nature. As a result, the special cheap-rate service which over the last few years proved so popular with the public during the Christmas and New Year festive period was not available in December and January last.

### CABLEGRAMS TO AND FROM MEN ON ACTIVE SERVICE ABROAD.

The arrangement under which cablegrams to members of His Majesty's Army and Air Force abroad are accepted at specially reduced rates has been extended to messages to and from the armed forces in Egypt and Canada. During the period 13th December to 5th January, nearly 58,000 cablegrams to members of the forces were lodged in the Dominion. This unprecedented volume of traffic caused a certain amount of unavoidable delay in the despatch of some of the messages from New Zealand.

### MACHINE-PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

In pursuance of the Department's policy of providing up-to-date facilities for the handling of telegraphic traffic at post-offices established at military camps, a teleprinter service was established recently between the Waiouru Military Camp Post-office and Wellington. Machine-printing apparatus is now installed in thirty-three of the Department's telegraph offices.

### AIR FORCE RECRUITS: TRAINING IN MORSE TELEGRAPHY.

At the request of the Air Department, the Post Office undertook, as from July last, the training of Air Force recruits in Morse telegraphy. The recruits are required to attain a speed of eight words a minute, sending and receiving, before entering training camps. At the commencement of the scheme night classes were opened at thirty-six towns, the total number of recruits being 1,248. By December the number had increased to 1,850, and at the end of the year classes affording tuition to over 3,000 recruits were being conducted in forty towns.

The scheme has recently been extended to permit of the training of approximately 250 naval telegraphist ratings.

In addition, training in Morse operating is provided for Air Force recruits in country districts by means of broadcasts each night from the National Broadcasting Stations 2YC, 1ZM, and 3YL. This instruction also is given by officers of the Department.

### MULTI-CHANNEL CARRIER-FREQUENCY TELEGRAPH SYSTEMS.

The installation of the four-channel carrier-frequency telegraph system between Christchurch and Greymouth, referred to in last year's report, was completed in June, 1940. All the principal West Coast stations now have direct telegraphic outlets to Christchurch.

### TOLL CHARGES.

An amended scale of basic rates for toll calls became operative on the 1st September. In the new scale the full rate for toll calls exceeding 40 miles increases by 2d. for each 10-mile step up to 110 miles, by 4d. for each 20-mile step between 110 miles and 150 miles, and by 2d. for each 20-mile step beyond 150 miles. In the previous scale the rate increased by 1d. for each 5-mile step up to 100 miles, by 2d. for each 10-mile step between 100 miles and 150 miles, and by 1d. for each 20-mile step beyond 150 miles.

In addition, the quarter-rate schedule was amended by rounding up the basic charge for a three-minute call to the next (higher) 1d. in cases in which the basic rate included a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

### AFTER-HOUR TOLL FACILITIES.

The ever-increasing popularity of the toll service is reflected in the demand for toll calls by non-subscribers after ordinary office hours. The demand has been met at the smaller offices, as far as practicable, by providing telephones near exchange entrances, where callers can be attended to by the exchange staff. At the larger places and also at military camps, multi-coin machines are provided.

### TOLL CONCESSIONS TO PERSONNEL AT MILITARY CAMPS AND AIR FORCE STATIONS.

Commencing in May, 1940, uniformed personnel at military camps and Air Force stations were granted the concession of half-rates for toll calls effected from camp or Air Force post-offices during the normal full-rate period *i.e.*, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### EXTENSION OF TOLL SYSTEMS.

The demand for toll service has been well maintained during the year, and the establishment of military camps and other Defence activities has necessitated the provision of improved and additional toll outlets in various parts of the Dominion. These increased facilities have been arranged principally by the establishment of the following carrier-current telephone systems:—

Hamilton – New Plymouth	..	..	..	One single-channel system.
Hamilton – Ohakune	..	..	..	One single-channel system.
Ohakune – Palmerston North	..	..	..	One single-channel system.
Waiouru Military Camp – Hamilton	..	..	..	One single-channel system.
Waiouru Military Camp – Palmerston North	..	..	..	Two single channel systems.
Wellington – Seddon	..	..	..	One three-channel system.
Christchurch – Hammer Springs	..	..	..	One single-channel system.
Westport – Greymouth	..	..	..	One single-channel system.

Consequent on the installation of the additional Wellington Seddon three-channel system, the number of direct telephone channels between Wellington and Christchurch was increased from seven to eight, while the allotment of direct toll outlets between Wellington and Blenheim was increased from three to four.

In addition, better facilities have been provided between various centres by the erection of new lines and/or the rearrangement of existing circuits.

## NEW ZEALAND SUBMARINE CABLES.

### COOK STRAIT CABLES.

The three inter-Island submarine cables which the Department now has in commission across Cook Strait—namely, the new-type single-core coaxial telephone cable, which was laid in 1936, the four-core telephone cable, which was laid in 1926, and one old-type single-core telegraph cable—have remained in good working-condition during the year. A twelve-channel carrier telephone system is on order to provide for the establishment of twelve additional telephone channels over the coaxial cable to meet expected traffic developments in the immediate future. When this new system has been installed the cable will be equipped to its full capacity.

## RADIO SERVICES.

### RADIO-TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR SMALL SHIPS.

A radio-telephone service to and from small ships has been inaugurated on behalf of the Marine Department. The service commenced from Wellington Radio on the 16th March, 1941. The necessary equipment will shortly be installed at Musick Point and Awarua to enable the service to be extended to those stations.

It is expected that wide use will be made of the new service and that eventually all small ships trading on the New Zealand coast will be equipped for radio-telephone communication with the shore.

### INSPECTION OF RADIO EQUIPMENT ON SHIPS.

During the year, departmental Radio Inspectors made sixty-nine inspections of radio equipment installed on ships trading in New Zealand waters.

### RADIO BEACON AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS.

Radio beacon and communication systems were installed on behalf of the Marine Department at the Mokohinau and Cuvier Islands lighthouses.

### RADIO EMERGENCY REGULATIONS 1940.

With a view to establishing more effective control of certain wireless equipment, particularly diathermy apparatus, regulations entitled the Radio Emergency Regulations 1940 were issued in November. The new regulations make it obligatory for all persons who have diathermy apparatus under their control to obtain a license from the Department. Enemy aliens are not permitted to have diathermy apparatus in their possession.

All assembled or partly-assembled privately-owned wireless transmitters, valves capable of an anode dissipation exceeding 10 watts, piezo-electric quartz plates, and piezo-electric tourmaline plates cut to oscillate at a given frequency have, with certain exceptions, been taken into custody. Such apparatus cannot now be purchased without a permit issued by the Department.

### TRANSMISSION OF PRESS NEWS FOR NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

To enable New Zealand troops in the Middle East to keep in touch with current events in the Dominion, special transmissions of Press news are made daily from Wellington Radio for reception in the Middle East.

## RADIO BROADCASTING.

### ELIMINATION OF RADIO INTERFERENCE.

The number of complaints of radio interference received from listeners during the year was 2,080, a decrease of 646 on the figure for the previous year.

### RADIO LICENSES.

The number of radio-receiving licenses continues to increase. At the 31st March the total for the Dominion was 355,480, an increase of 9,770, or 2·8 per cent., over the number in force a year ago. Radio-dealers' licenses in force at the 31st March numbered 1,020.

### ALIEN EMERGENCY REGULATIONS 1940.

Under the Alien Emergency Regulations 1940, the Department has sealed all receiving-apparatus in the hands of enemy aliens after steps had been taken to ensure that it was capable of reception only on the normal broadcasting frequencies—viz., between 550 and 1,500 kilocycles per second.

## TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE SERVICES.

### TELEPHONE DEVELOPMENT.

Notwithstanding wartime conditions, telephone development continued at a satisfactory rate. During the year 16,788 new subscribers were connected and, after allowing for relinquishments, there was a net gain of 6,814 subscribers. The year ended with a total of 171,965 subscribers' main telephone stations, which is equal to an increase of 4·1 per cent. over the number of connections at the end of the previous year. Again the number of toll calls reached a new record, the number handled being 16,092,301, an increase of 380,630, or almost 2·5 per cent., over last year's figures.



### TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

A new telephone-exchange, with thirty-five subscribers, was opened at Parakao on the 1st May. At the end of the year the number of subscribers receiving service from this exchange was 50. With the establishment of the exchange the five subscribers connected with the nearby exchange at Kirikopuni transferred their connections to the new centre, and the Kirikopuni exchange was closed on the 5th June, 1940.

As a result of the reticulation of the Hanmer Springs district for electric power during the year, the local private-telephone-line owners were faced with heavy expenditure in putting their lines in a condition to prevent induction from the high-tension lines. The Department therefore offered to replace the private-line system with departmental lines and to establish a telephone-exchange. This offer was accepted, and a telephone-exchange was duly established at Hanmer Springs on the 1st August, with forty-seven subscribers.

The number of exchanges now operating in the Dominion is 348.

### NEW AUTOMATIC-TELEPHONE-EXCHANGE EQUIPMENT.

The whole of the equipment for the new automatic-telephone-exchange at Gisborne, which was ordered in October, 1938, has been received, and the installation work is nearing completion. It is expected that this exchange will be cut over to automatic working in July, 1941.

Practically the whole of the automatic switching-equipment ordered in 1939 for exchanges in the Auckland metropolitan area has been delivered, and the comprehensive programme referred to in last year's report for the extension of the automatic switching-system in that area is being proceeded with as rapidly as possible. The first stage of this programme comprises the installation at the Auckland Central exchange of 1,000 lines of equipment, specially designed to deal with heavy traffic loads such as groups of business telephone connections, which will be cut into service in April, 1941, in replacement of temporarily arranged equipment, and the replacement of the existing switching apparatus in the Devonport and Onehunga exchanges by modern 7A2 type rotary equipment which will be brought into commission in June, 1941. Additional equipment comprising 200 individual lines has also been installed at the Mount Eden exchange; and at all main exchanges in the area the old type friction-driven registers have been replaced by 7A2 registers and link circuits. Concurrently with the cut-over of the new switching equipment, approximately 9,000 subscribers' telephone numbers will be changed in the Auckland exchange area.

Additional switching-equipment was also provided during the year at a number of other automatic exchanges throughout the Dominion. At some exchanges, however, the additional equipment required to meet demands for telephone service cannot be made available, as the type of equipment involved has been procurable in the past solely from European manufacturers and alternative sources of supply have not yet been established.

### LOWER HUTT AUXILIARY MANUAL EXCHANGE.

The demand for telephone service in the Lower Hutt exchange area has shown little diminution during the last twelve months, and the auxiliary manual switchboard which it was found necessary to provide in 1939 to cater for new subscribers has now been filled to capacity. Action has already been taken to extend the auxiliary exchange by the installation of an additional section of 200 lines which will enable the Department in the meantime to cope with further but limited telephone growth in the area.

### PUBLIC CALL OFFICES.

During the year 65 new public call offices (coin-in-the-slot telephones) were brought into operation, bringing the Dominion total up to 1,240 installations. Actually, however, the net increase for the year was only 9; this was due to the fact that some 56 installations provided at the Centennial Exhibition and elsewhere were closed. Of the slot telephones in use, 1,175 are of the 1d. type, 7 of the 2d. type, and 58 of the 3d. type. The collections from the machines for the year amounted to £72,367, an increase of 9.2 per cent.

APPENDIX.

Table No. 1.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEARS 1881-82, 1891-92, 1901-2, 1911-12, 1921-22, AND FOLLOWING YEARS.

Year.	Balance forward.	Receipts.	Payments for Working-expenses.	Balance of Receipts over Working-expenses Payments.	Other Disbursements.			Payment to Consolidated Fund.	Balance.
					Depreciation Fund Investment, including Expenditure on Renewals, and Replacements of Assets.	Contributions to Post and Telegraph Officers' Sick-benefit Fund.	Interest on Capital Liability.		
1881-1882	..	234,529	233,291	1,238	..	..	..	..	*
1891-1892	..	320,058	268,343	51,715	..	..	..	..	*
1901-1902	..	488,573	465,756	22,817	..	..	..	..	*
1911-1912	..	1,087,710	988,911	98,799	..	..	..	..	*
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	..	..	..	..	†
1924-1925	..	2,889,450	2,416,257	473,193	..	..	..	..	†
1925-1926	..	3,100,396	2,409,556	690,840	..	..	..	..	†
1926-1927	..	3,220,666	2,346,274	874,392	..	..	..	..	†
1927-1928	..	3,329,511	2,299,571	1,029,940	..	..	..	..	†
1928-1929	..	3,445,545	2,445,068	1,000,477	550,000	..	428,000	..	22,477‡
1929-1930	22,477	3,641,620	2,560,199	1,081,421	570,000	..	481,000	..	52,898
1930-1931	52,898	3,707,420	2,642,400	1,065,020	558,248	..	504,000	..	55,670
1931-1932	55,670	3,715,230	2,164,538	1,550,692	80,029	..	550,000	941,616§	34,717
1932-1933	34,717	3,293,932	2,019,302	1,274,630	272,818	..	546,000	456,000	34,529
1933-1934	34,529	3,200,414	2,058,861	1,141,553	431,739	..	553,000	154,388	36,955
1934-1935	36,955	3,342,978	2,216,691	1,126,287	566,864	..	546,000	13,000	37,378
1935-1936	37,378	3,550,336	2,478,667	1,071,669	520,617	1,600	541,000	5,000	40,830
1936-1937	40,830	3,886,098	2,868,486	1,017,612	442,274	5,665	566,000	3,298	41,205
1937-1938	41,205	4,302,244	3,305,680	996,564	143,978	6,104	590,000	255,283	42,404
1938-1939	42,405	4,687,564	3,679,859	1,007,705	415,189	6,310	588,000	Nil	40,611
1939-1940	40,611	4,793,692	3,660,745	1,132,947	486,000	7,162	639,000	2,929	38,467
1940-1941	38,467	5,106,193	3,615,902	1,490,291	788,280	6,720	665,000	30,000	38,758

\* Revenue paid to Consolidated Fund. † Revenue paid to Consolidated Fund and utilized in payment of working-expenses, interest on loan capital, and reduction of capital liability. ‡ Post Office Account separated from Consolidated Fund, 1st April, 1928. § Section 4, Finance Act, 1931 (No. 2). Depreciation rates revised and adjustment made in amount paid to Consolidated Fund. || Section 26, Finance Act, 1935 (No. 2).

Table No. 2.

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.	Com-mission 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
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
1935	44,029	578,869	3,157,826	27,383	71,185	56,809	133,074	9,996	11,944	673,057	3,374,029
1936	48,433	633,846	3,552,632	30,608	79,747	59,269	151,708	10,243	10,561	733,966	3,794,648
1937	54,333	676,420	4,042,824	33,455	92,336	62,244	165,217	12,376	12,252	784,495	4,312,629
1938	60,441	731,346	4,501,244	35,642	102,005	68,072	184,508	12,990	14,536	848,050	4,802,293
1939	71,879	751,064	4,581,206	39,879	117,063	110,180	381,059	10,361	15,036	911,484	5,034,364
1940	44,885	751,509	4,277,861	19,332	51,670	37,376	97,032	4,450	8,444	812,667	4,435,007

\* Includes foreign offices to year 1913. † Included under United Kingdom to year 1913

Table No. 2—continued.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF MONEY-ORDERS ISSUED, ETC.—continued.

Drawn on the Dominion.

Where issued.

Year.	In the Dominion.		United Kingdom.*		Australia and other British Possessions.		Foreign Countries.†		Total.	
	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	441,412
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
1923	545,605	3,849,423	11,042	63,313	26,042	123,703	1,813	8,669	584,502	4,045,108
1935	568,379	3,167,590	9,485	49,628	34,566	70,964	3,460	13,195	615,890	3,301,377
1936	633,937	3,561,548	9,025	45,043	25,523	72,338	3,806	9,750	672,291	3,688,679
1937	678,018	4,053,369	8,824	44,434	25,509	73,755	3,204	8,647	715,555	4,180,205
1938	732,967	4,495,648	9,347	55,577	25,734	76,166	2,151	6,156	770,199	4,633,547
1939	751,096	4,593,723	7,317	32,233	22,852	57,196	2,822	6,637	784,087	4,689,789
1940	751,107	4,281,320	5,375	26,013	21,648	40,599	2,668	7,500	780,798	4,355,432

\* Includes foreign offices to year 1913.

† Included under United Kingdom to year 1913.

Table No. 3.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER AND WEIGHT OF PARCELS EXCHANGED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES DURING THE YEARS 1939 AND 1940.

Places.	Received.				Despatched.			
	1939.		1940.		1939.		1940.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		lb.		lb.		lb.		lb.
Great Britain and Northern Ireland (and countries via London)	48,827	380,716	25,453	225,095	11,597	53,704	27,250	137,166
New South Wales (including Japan, &c.)	28,186	127,704	22,838	98,645	11,934	39,795	12,088	39,593
Victoria .. .. .	9,971	40,566	8,766	37,346	5,780	19,484	5,370	18,501
Queensland (including Papua and Netherland East Indies)	1,191	2,782	1,044	2,876	1,606	4,412	1,467	3,787
South Australia .. .. .	814	2,448	745	2,350	791	2,523	664	2,059
Western Australia .. .. .	562	1,448	789	1,880	686	1,820	616	1,485
Tasmania .. .. .	140	340	162	367	551	1,475	623	1,608
Norfolk Island .. .. .	18	49	..	..	..	780	118	294
Canada .. .. .	9,712	100,478	6,151	58,394	1,901	6,084	1,880	7,123
Union of South Africa .. .. .	1,236	2,153	1,682	3,265	1,265	5,928	1,168	4,326
Aden .. .. .	70	275	49	135	..	..	..	..
India .. .. .	1,342	7,572	1,678	7,900	915	4,662	817	4,405
Ceylon .. .. .	197	733	287	917	58	260	47	155
Malaya .. .. .	604	1,893	611	1,895	307	1,071	429	1,776
Hong Kong (including Japan, China, &c.)	1,099	12,404	602	4,867	586	2,981	403	1,935
Fiji .. .. .	433	1,563	2,587	11,194	1,660	8,576	1,371	6,849
Tonga .. .. .	172	511	171	555	737	1,488	609	3,615
United States of America and possessions	28,446	158,762	19,568	109,089	3,681	13,193	2,839	9,522
Egypt .. .. .	266	2,441	5,338	12,121	51	170	98	357
Tahiti .. .. .	51	308	15	52	87	372	88	415
Gilbert and Ellice Islands .. .. .	8	17	3	14	122	491	108	374
Pitcairn Island .. .. .	..	..	..	..	115	568	86	486
Base Post-office, United Kingdom	..	..	*	*	..	..	57,406	218,896
Base Post-office, Middle East	..	..	*	*	..	..	149,795	569,878
Base Post-office, Fiji .. .. .	..	..	*	*	..	..	5,574	22,623
Other countries with which direct exchanges exist	4	3	34	113	31	109	12	38
Totals .. .. .	133,349	845,166	98,573	579,070	44,750	172,946	270,864	1,057,266

NOTE.—With the countries named above, excepting those in parentheses, New Zealand has direct parcel exchanges. Parcels to and from other countries are forwarded through the intermediary of direct-exchange countries.

\* Figures not available.

Table No. 4.

## POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE SHOWING THE BUSINESS OF THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK IN THE VARIOUS POSTAL DISTRICTS OF NEW ZEALAND DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1941.

Postal Districts.	Number of Branches at the Close of the Period.	Total Amount of Deposits received during the Period.			Average Amount of each Deposit received 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.			Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits during the Period.			Interest for the Period.	Number of Accounts opened 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 the Close of the Period.				
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Auckland ..	202	295,987	5,424	175	4	1	18	6	6	259,177	4,638	730	6	4	17	18	0	785,444	17	9	291,396	4	9	20,142	14,750	167,701	11,165	101	4	3	66	11	7	
Blenheim ..	18	16,416	258,723	16	2	15	15	2		14,594	251,600	3	1	17	4	10		7,123	13	1	19,368	2	9	1,204	903	11,446	706,038	7	9	61	13	9		
Christchurch...	80	228,254	4,093,024	7	1	17	18	8		213,900	3,706,466	19	6	17	6	7		386,557	7	7	264,230	8	5	12,088	10,119	138,180	9,862,722	1	6	71	7	6		
Dunedin ..	83	100,317	1,974,838	14	10	19	13	9		95,101	1,822,504	10	9	19	3	3		152,334	4	1	137,482	19	9	6,131	5,723	70,666	5,074,924	1	5	71	17	3		
Gisborne ..	27	32,934	528,446	1	2	16	0	11		27,775	493,314	9	11	17	15	3		35,131	11	3	34,970	16	5	2,060	1,960	23,949	1,306,800	9	9	54	11	4		
Greymouth ..	29	18,121	294,120	1	4	16	4	7		15,648	328,986	11	7	21	0	6		..	..	26,318	4	1	1,350	1,423	15,363	336,997	18	3	60	19	10			
Hamilton ..	99	113,927	1,936,139	5	4	17	0	0		91,680	1,654,869	18	3	18	1	0		281,269	7	1	98,997	13	10	9,069	6,872	73,454	3,821,618	9	0	52	0	7		
Invercargill ..	45	30,741	523,110	0	0	17	0	4		26,514	512,864	14	6	19	6	11		10,245	5	6	44,182	8	8	2,361	2,229	31,640	1,611,116	17	5	50	18	5		
Napier ..	44	69,552	1,220,436	11	11	17	11	0		65,538	1,133,081	7	0	17	5	9		87,355	4	11	74,695	5	2	4,217	3,981	46,141	2,769,286	16	7	66	0	4		
Nelson ..	35	29,697	551,667	19	8	18	11	11		26,211	492,418	9	9	18	15	9		59,249	9	11	34,137	6	6	1,826	1,494	20,545	1,266,436	2	11	61	12	11		
New Plymouth	38	51,611	981,268	8	7	19	0	3		39,292	860,783	5	9	21	18	2		120,425	2	10	57,320	12	0	3,539	3,183	35,893	2,183,476	18	0	60	16	8		
Oamaru ..	12	14,004	318,395	3	1	22	14	9		13,988	283,556	7	1	20	5	5		34,838	16	0	22,488	15	0	881	797	11,170	832,549	10	4	74	10	9		
Palmerston North	39	82,062	1,480,641	6	0	18	0	9		69,720	1,328,382	18	0	19	1	1		151,658	8	0	86,230	17	6	5,153	4,107	48,402	3,270,149	15	4	67	11	3		
Thames ..	38	38,236	683,335	15	2	17	17	5		30,736	609,271	7	5	19	16	5		74,064	7	9	39,740	1	10	3,248	2,786	30,486	1,507,433	8	10	49	9	0		
Timaru ..	18	35,124	729,317	9	0	20	15	4		32,822	704,079	5	6	21	9	0		25,238	4	0	51,616	8	8	2,140	1,876	26,436	1,896,616	1	8	71	14	11		
Wanganui ..	41	55,951	947,993	10	2	16	18	10		46,163	832,332	7	10	18	0	7		115,661	2	4	60,816	1	5	4,008	3,449	37,361	2,297,406	7	11	61	11	10		
Wellington ..	64	551,708	6,503,974	7	9	11	15	9		369,840	5,504,279	14	9	14	17	8		998,794	13	0	311,191	14	6	42,744	24,381	192,851	12,005,581	4	4	62	5	1		
Westport ..	19	6,925	112,752	16	0	16	5	8		5,497	122,673	5	6	22	6	4		..	..	9,616	16	11	506	616	6,249	342,425	10	6	54	16	0			
Western Samoa	2	2,336	28,673	2	2	12	5	6		3,059	24,198	14	10	7	18	3		4,474	7	4	1,756	12	3	251	196	2,850	67,734	3	6	23	15	4		
Rarotonga ..	6	1,502	17,748	7	8	11	16	4		2,160	14,751	14	11	6	16	7		2,996	12	9	932	2	11	201	77	2,129	33,272	7	9	15	12	7		
Totals for year ended 31st March, 1941	939	1,775,375	28,667,222	7	2	16	2	31		1,449,415	25,319,146	11	9	17	9	53,288,075	15	5	..	..	1,666,709	13	4	123,149	90,922	992,792	62,936,787	17	0	63	8	3		
Totals for year ended 31st March, 1940	939	1,675,164	25,151,287	0	5	15	0	31		1,605,580	29,462,838	2	7	18	7	0		..	..	4,311,551	2	21	603,466	13	5	106,396	92,653	960,565	58,002,002	8	3	60	7	8

Table No. 5.

## POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

TABLE SHOWING THE BUSINESS OF THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK IN NEW ZEALAND, BY TEN-YEAR PERIODS, FROM 1868 TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1928, AND YEARLY PERIODS FROM 1935 TO THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1941.

Year.	Number of Branches of the Post Office Savings-bank open at the Close of the Year.	Number of Deposits received during the Year.	Total Amount of Deposits received during the Year.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	Average Amount of each Deposit received during the Year.	£	s. d.	Number of Withdrawals during the Year.	Total Amount of Withdrawals during the Year.	£	s. d.	Average Amount of each Withdrawal during the Year.	Excess of Deposits over Withdrawals during the Year.	£	s. d.	Excess of Withdrawals over Deposits during the Year.	£	s. d.	Interest for the Year.	Number of Accounts opened during the Year.	Number of Accounts closed 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.	£	s. d.	Average Amount standing to the Credit of each Open Account at the Close of the Year.
Year ended 31st Mar., 1941	939	1,775,375	28,607,222	7	2 16 2	31,449,415	25,319,146	11 9 17	9 53,288,075	15 5	..	..	1,666,709	13 4 123,149	90,922	992,792	62,956,787	17 0 63 8 3											
Year ended 31st Mar., 1940	939	1,675,164	25,151,287	0 5 15	0 31,605,580	29,462,838	2 7 18	7 0	..	4,311,551	2 21,603,466	92,653	960,565	58,002,002	8 3 60 7 8														
Year ended 31st Mar., 1939	933	2,104,936	30,434,291	5 14 9	21,694,692	34,597,708	6 4 20	8 4	..	4,163,416	10 11,726,573	92,848	946,822	60,710,086	17 0 64 2 4														
Year ended 31st Mar., 1938	928	2,190,971	33,041,081	14 3 15	1 71,622,340	29,629,073	19 3 18	5 33,412,007	15 0	..	..	1,869,383	16 5 128,927	88,979	920,805	63,146,929	16 9 68 11 6												
Year ended 31st Mar., 1937	912	1,940,436	30,676,969	3 6 15	16 21,493,580	27,042,003	0 0 18	2 13,634,966	3 6	..	..	1,514,219	16 11 119,339	79,153	880,857	58,065,538	5 4 65 18 5												
Year ended 31st Mar., 1936	892	1,585,976	25,619,775	13 7 16	3 11,417,040	23,533,596	7 2 16	12 22,086,179	6 5	..	..	1,406,459	5 8 94,628	71,574	840,671	52,916,352	4 11 62 18 11												
Year ended 31st Mar., 1935	871	1,424,534	24,179,537	2 4 16	19 11,350,502	20,946,562	0 3 15	2 93,232,975	2 1	..	..	1,320,347	7 9 90,958	71,603	817,617	49,423,713	12 10 60 8 11												
Year ended 31st Mar., 1928	870	1,570,493	27,611,066	5 1 17	11 71,274,906	30,584,997	14 4 23	19 10	..	2,973,931	9 3 1,747,155	93,331	804,725	47,758,726	2 11 59 6 11														
Totals for 1915	786	1,213,353	18,101,104	18 1 14	18 4 727,729	14,938,841	10 0 20	10 73,162,263	8 1	..	..	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 19	8 256,254	13 9	..	..	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 10 196,764	3,194,893	16 7 16	4 9 84,717	10 10	..	..	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 14	8 5 157,276	6 1	..	..	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 17	7 2 20,030	17 9	..	..	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 16	16 6 87,440	14 3	..	..	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 13	15 3 69,956	9 1	..	..	1,241	5 0 2,520	364	2,156	71,197	14 1 33 0 5												

\*The Post Office Savings-bank was established in the Dominion in February, 1867.

Table No. 6.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PAID TELEGRAMS FORWARDED AND THE REVENUE DERIVED THEREFROM, THE NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATION OF TELEPHONE STATIONS AND THE REVENUE DERIVED THEREFROM, THE NUMBER OF FORWARDED TOLL CALLS AND THE REVENUE DERIVED THEREFROM, AND THE NUMBER OF RADIO-RECEIVING LICENSES.

Year ended 31st March,	Paid Telegraph Traffic.				Telephone Service.				Toll Service.			Radio-receiving Licenses.				
	Ordinary.		Press.		Subscribers Main Stations (a).	Extension Stations all Classes (b).	Revenue from (a) and (b).	Service Phones and Privately Owned Phones connected with Public Telephone-offices.	Number of Public Call Offices.	Number of Toll Stations.	Total Telephone-stations.	Telephones per 1,000 of Population.	Number of Calls.	Value.	Number.	Percentage of Households equipped.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.												
1900	2,706,439	98,129	255,362	10,771	6,641	*	43,303	165†	*	344	7,150	9.0	197,292	5,483	..	..
1910	5,387,575	171,710	418,942	21,979	22,244	4,469	144,298	312†	*	2,656	29,681	28.67	1,757,869	42,753	..	..
1920	7,880,737	360,051	358,352	32,258	64,396	12,520	419,318	1,194†	*	2,613	80,723	65.27	6,718,526	211,911	..	..
1925	6,336,103	341,107	461,875	63,601	94,371	16,916	867,218	6,119	380	2,311	120,097	87.26	8,612,412	344,393	4,702	*
1930	6,318,644	328,795	580,867	76,869	126,763	25,635	1,206,714	6,140	679	2,106	161,323	108.37	11,404,175	482,571	53,407	*
1935	3,685,859	226,162	490,070	53,962	121,841	28,663	1,190,773	5,869	796	2,001	159,170	102.06	9,862,627	448,563	152,808	44.5
1936	4,102,168	237,370	463,842	51,405	127,056	30,598	1,252,964	6,041	870	2,000	166,565	105.85	11,436,054	499,825	192,265	55.7
1937	4,657,942	259,237	459,556	53,833	135,853	33,838	1,338,958	5,965	917	2,026	178,599	112.52	13,143,171	562,544	241,308	68.4
1938	5,003,761	267,382	449,876	52,993	145,370	37,689	1,458,042	5,912	1,921	2,027	192,019	119.67	14,480,207	637,807	285,007	77.6
1939	5,249,282	284,912	462,805	56,575	155,038	42,001	1,557,327	6,071	1,103	2,003	206,216	126.92	15,566,998	695,731	317,523	84.2
1940	4,859,882	298,304	389,690	55,081	162,508	45,883	1,633,191	6,243	1,231	2,004	217,869	132.69	15,711,671	786,143	345,710	89.3
1941	4,620,631	294,885	343,192	57,721	169,224	49,446	1,710,387	6,441	1,240	1,995	228,346	139.70	16,092,301	886,635	355,480	91.8

\* Figures not available. † Private-line figures not available.

Table No. 7.

TABLE SHOWING THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF POSTAL ARTICLES POSTED AND DELIVERED IN NEW ZEALAND DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1940.

				Letters, Letter-cards, and Postcards.	Registered Articles.	Second-class Matter (Accounts, Circulars, Newspapers, Packets, &c.).	Parcels.
Posted	..	..	..	142,043,133	2,704,104	108,535,831	4,784,494
Delivered	..	..	..	149,303,986	2,633,072	117,410,930	4,526,262
Total	..	..	..	291,347,119	5,337,176	225,946,764	9,310,756

Table No. 8.

TABLE SHOWING CABLE AND RADIO-TELEGRAPH BUSINESS TRANSACTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1941, AS COMPARED WITH THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1940.

Cable Messages.

		INTERNATIONAL.				AUSTRALIAN.				Total.	
Year ended		Forwarded.		Received.		Forwarded.		Received.			
		Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.
			£		£		£		£		£
31st March, 1941	..	281,653	11,378	220,914	10,289	100,605	3,895	101,971	4,239	705,143	29,801
31st March, 1940	..	179,685	9,433	155,242	8,168	137,449	5,005	128,860	4,891	601,236	27,497
PRESS MESSAGES (included in above totals).											
31st March, 1941	..	1,058	212	4,699	512	3,144	398	8,643	990	17,544	2,112
31st March, 1940	..	1,475	167	5,687	648	5,357	717	7,641	896	20,160	2,428

Radio-telegrams.

		Forwarded.		Received.		Total.	
Year ended		Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.	Number of Messages.	Revenue earned by New Zealand.
			£		£		£
31st March, 1941	..	..	5,211	2,252	6,903	2,008	12,114
31st March, 1940	..	..	8,843	3,113	15,694	2,717	24,537

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (688 copies), £38 10s.

