

Exchange.	No. of Subscribers or Connections:	
	Mar. 31, 1901.	Mar. 31, 1902.
Hokitika	—	95
Invercargill	278	291
Bluff	23	25
Edendale	5	6
Gore	63	66
Lumsden	14	16
Mataura	9	10
Otautau	24	26
Riversdale	16	17
Riverton	18	19
Winton	17	19
Woodlands	5	4
Wyndham	13	12
Masterton	104	111
Carterton	—	22
Eketahuna	—	14
Napier	316	334
Hastings	48	54
Nelson	107	138
New Plymouth	230	253
Inglewood	11	17
Waitara	14	14
Oamaru	161	173
Ngapara	1	1
Pahiatua	63	71
Woodville	15	17
Palmerston North	157	187
Stratford	68	86
Thames	78	81
Paeroa	—	17
Timaru	123	162
Fairlie	—	10
Temuka	—	15
Wanganui	284	328
Hunterville	—	6
Marton	25	29
Wellington	1,585	1,731
Total	8,210	9,260

The connections may be classified as follows: Paying, 8,501; free, 217; bureaux, 542: total, 9,260.

The telephone-exchange receipts amounted to £55,542 4s. 9d., or £6,425 4s. 1d. more than the previous year.

The working-expenses, *plus* 5 per cent. interest on the capital cost, amounted to £50,772 8s. 9d. for the year.

The following are the particulars of telegraph and telephone wires, &c., in the colony on the 31st March, 1902:—

	Telegraph.	Telephone.
Miles of line, 1st April, 1901	7,249	545
" 31st March, 1902	7,469	601
Miles of wire, 1st April, 1901	20,682	6,987
" 31st March, 1902	21,705	7,767
Increase during the year—		
Miles of line	220	56
Miles of wire	1,023	780
Submarine cables, 1st April, 1901	244 knots	11·6 knots.
" 31st March, 1902	248·7 knots	12·5 knots.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

AUCKLAND.

Construction.

The following new lines have been erected and completed:—

	Miles of Poles.	Miles of Wire.
Pahi to Whakapirau	0½	0½
Whangarei to Limestone Island	3	3
Auckland to Rotorua	—	171