

1904.
NEW ZEALAND.

RAILWAYS STATEMENT

(20th July, 1904.)

BY THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS, THE HON. SIR J. G. WARD, K.C.M.G.

MR. SPEAKER,—

In presenting this, my fifth Railway Statement, I have great pleasure in announcing that the result of the year's operations has been highly satisfactory, the revenue being the highest yet attained by the railways of the colony. It exceeds the estimate by £180,641, and last year's net earnings by £111,294. The results of working may be summarised thus:—

	Year 1904.	Year 1903.
	£	£
Total earnings	2,180,641	1,974,038
Total expenditure	1,438,724	1,343,415
Net profit on working	<u>£741,917</u>	<u>£630,623</u>

Net increase over previous year, £111,294.

GENERAL.

The mileage of line open for traffic at the end of the year under review was 2,328, against 2,291 for the previous year. The average miles operated during the year were 2,305. The following extensions were opened:—

	M.	ch.
Tahekeroa-Ahuroa	4	68
Orepuki-Waihoaka	4	44
Poro-o-tarao-Taumarunui	28	24
	<u>37</u>	<u>56</u>

The capital cost of lines open for traffic (including the plant and steamers on Lake Wakatipu) has increased from £19,081,735 to £20,692,911 for the year under review.

The net revenue, £741,917, is equal to a return of 3·58 per cent. on the capital invested in the open lines, and 3·35 per cent. for the total capital (£22,173,220) invested in opened and unopened lines.

The cost of working the Kawakawa Section exceeded the gross earnings by no less than £311; but the Nelson Section, which last year showed a deficiency of £533, has this year given a net return of £2,749, equal to 1·03 per cent. on the capital cost of opened lines in the Nelson District.

The number of train miles run during the year was 5,685,399, being an increase of 242,066 miles. The increased train mileage represents additional facilities provided to meet the demands of the steadily increasing business, and has cost £61,000. These figures include the permanent additions made to the time-tables, which amounted to 157,474 miles, representing a cost of £39,683. The principal additions in the passenger and mixed trains were as follows:—

Auckland Section.—Daily service to and from Taumarunui.

Wellington-Napier District.—Additional suburban trains on week-days and on Sundays.

Wanganui District.—Additional passenger services between Palmerston North and New Plymouth.

Christchurch District.—Improved passenger service between Christchurch and Culverden, by which the journey-time between Christchurch and Hanmer Springs has been shortened by sixty-five minutes.

Excellent time has been kept by the principal trains during the year, the record of late arrivals being as follows:—

		Average late arrival.	
		Mins.	Mins.
		0·80, against 1·18 last year.	
For long-distance passenger trains	...	0·32,	0·57
For suburban trains	...	1·05,	1·25
For long-distance mixed trains	...	"	"

The punctuality maintained compares more than favourably with any railway service in the world, and is eminently satisfactory in view of the fact that the figures include all delays arising from floods, slips, and all other causes.

The total number of ordinary passengers carried was 8,306,383, an increase of 730,993 over the previous year. Season tickets issued numbered 129,919, an increase of 11,488. The number of "workers' twelve-trip tickets" issued was 33,809, and of "workers' weekly tickets" available on suburban lines, 68,248. The sum of these two issues, 102,057, is equal to nearly 71 per cent. of the whole season-ticket business, but the revenue derivable from the two classes of workers' tickets is only 22 per cent. of the total season-ticket revenue.

Holiday excursion tickets issued numbered 695,384, an increase of 93,370 over the previous year. School, factory, and friendly societies' excursion tickets numbered 111,683, an increase of 22,540 over last year. The number of school, factory, and friendly societies' excursions run in the principal districts was: Auckland, 18; Wanganui, 53; Wellington-Napier, 37; Christchurch, 115; Dunedin, 101; Invercargill, 34.

The coaching and goods traffic has maintained that buoyancy which has been so remarkable during the past nine years, there being large increases under each of the various headings under which this traffic is grouped, sheep and wool alone excepted. These two latter show decreases. The increases under the head of "Coaching Traffic" have been: Parcels, 67,038; horses, 1,892; dogs, 2,614. And under "Live-stock and Goods Traffic": Cattle, 4,974 head; pigs, 8,424 head; chaff, lime, &c., 11,470 tons; firewood, 5,568 tons; timber, 73,704 tons; grain, 102,077 tons; merchandise, 24,459 tons; minerals, 139,897 tons. Grand total, 340,956 tons.

The decrease in sheep traffic was not unexpected in view of the abnormal increase (1,096,473 head) in the number carried in 1903 as compared with the previous year 1902. The severity of the weather in Canterbury and Otago during the last winter also caused heavy mortality among the flocks in those provinces, and otherwise seriously retarded the movements of the stock; but, notwithstanding the fact that the sheep traffic last year showed a falling-off of 64,955 head as compared with the previous year, the business cannot but be regarded as satisfactory, taking normal conditions as a basis. In 1902 the number of sheep carried was 2,724,860, and in 1904 3,756,378, an increase of 1,031,518 head in two years, or at the rate of 515,759 per annum, which is over 100,000 higher than the increase recorded in any previous year where normal conditions have prevailed. The decrease in wool amounted to 14,994 tons.

The Railway Workshops have been busily employed in building additional rolling-stock for use on the various sections. During the year the rolling-stock has been increased by 5 locomotives, 58 carriages, 18 brake-vans, 423 wagons, and 680 tarpaulins; and there were under construction at the close of the year 11 locomotives (exclusive of ten which are being built under contract by Messrs. Price, of Thames), 63 47½ ft. bogie cars, 15 bogie brake-vans, 158 bogie and 338 four-wheeled wagons, 225 tarpaulins, and two 5-ton steam travelling cranes.

The additions and improvements to rolling-stock made during the year have increased the tractive power by 2·08 per cent., passenger seating-accommodation by 10·45 per cent., and wagon carrying-capacity by 4 per cent.

On the 31st March, 1900, when I had the honour of delivering my first Railway Statement, the rolling-stock consisted of 304 locomotives, with a tractive power of 2,407,279 lb.; 577 passenger cars, giving seating-accommodation for 22,090 passengers; 220 brake-vans, 9,527 four-wheeled and 548 bogie trucks, with a carrying-capacity of 63,778 tons. On the 31st March, 1904, it consisted of 377 locomotives, with a tractive power of 3,572,346 lb.; 809 passenger carriages, providing seating-accommodation for 31,858 passengers; 301 brake-vans, 12,372 four-wheeled and 760 bogie trucks, with a carrying-capacity of 92,533 tons. The additions to the stock during the past four years have therefore been 73 locomotives, tractive power 1,165,067 lb.; 232 passenger

cars, with seating-accommodation for 9,768 passengers; 81 brake-vans, 2,845 four-wheeled and 212 bogie trucks, with a carrying-capacity of 28,755 tons. The number of tarpaulins has been increased by 2,542. 248 locomotives, 543 carriages, 161 brake-vans, 5,390 wagons, and 6 travelling cranes have been fitted with the Westinghouse brake, 709 vehicles with Pintsch gas, 395 second-class cars with cushions, and 269 with lavatories.

The average number of men employed was 8,782, against 8,875 for the previous year. The difference in the number of hands employed is due to the completion of non-recurring work for other Departments in hand at the end of last year, which gave employment to a considerable number of casual hands taken on for specific jobs. Railway hands proper have increased by 307, made up as follows: Traffic, 183; Maintenance, 74; Locomotive, 50. These figures represent men taken on owing to increased business and opening of additional lines.

During the year 197 members of the permanent staff resigned, 194 retired on superannuation, 47 died, 28 were retired, 40 were dismissed, and 550 engaged.

Ten appeals against decisions of the Department were heard by the Railway Appeal Boards, two of which were allowed and eight dismissed. Thirty-one members of the Second Division were promoted to the First Division during the year.

The sum of £2,363 has been paid as compensation and compassionate allowances to members retired from the Service and the relatives of members deceased, of which sum £1,198 was paid under "The Workers' Compensation for Accidents Act, 1900."

The Lake Wakatipu Steamship Service, which was acquired by the Government in November, 1902, has been worked in conjunction with the railway system. An all-round reduction of 25 per cent. has been made in the rates charged by the company. The service has been conducted with punctuality, and the greater facilities of cheaper rates are much appreciated by the public. I would like, however, to state that the controllers of hotels and boardinghouses in the Lakes District should do all in their power to help the Railway Department to increase the numbers visiting that beautiful and attractive country, and the adhering to a reasonable tariff will greatly conduce to this. Several minor improvements have been made in the boats, and I am pleased to be able to record the fact that the year's transactions, which are more fully dealt with under the head of "Revenue," have been satisfactory.

Fifty-eight miles of main line were relaid with 70 lb. rails, and sixteen miles and a half of branch line with the 52 lb., 53 lb., and 56 lb. rails taken up out of main line.

New stations were opened at Dannevirke, Kaiapoi, and Fairfax during the year. These afford the necessary facilities for carrying on the business of the Department and meeting the convenience of the public.

The new Railway Offices, situated in Featherston Street, Wellington, were opened by His Excellency the Earl of Ranfurly in November last. The structure, which is a handsome one, is furnished with all the conveniences for the proper conduct of the business of this important State Department. Particular attention has been given to hygienic requirements and fire protection. By the removal of the railway staff to the new Railway Offices a considerable portion of the Government Buildings was released, and became available for occupation by other Departments, whose staff had previously been located in rented offices in the city.

REVENUE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £2,180,641, and exceeded the estimate by £180,641 and the gross revenue for the preceding year by £206,603. The net revenue, £741,917, was £111,294 in excess of that for the preceding year. These figures include the receipts from the Lake Wakatipu steamship service for a full year, whereas the receipts of the previous year included five months' business on the lake only. The difference in the gross earnings for the two periods specified is, however, comparatively small, amounting to £2,595 only, and does not affect the result of the year's working to any appreciable extent.

Passenger revenue shows an increase of £75,551; season tickets, £3,411; coaching traffic, £22,879; goods and live-stock, £104,068; miscellaneous, £3,113; while rents have decreased by £2,419. The receipts per train mile amounted to 91·75d., against 87·00d. for the previous year.

The earnings of the Lake Wakatipu steamers amounted to £6,996 11s. 4d., as against £4,401 8s. 8d. for five months (November to the 31st March) of the previous year, and was equal to a return of £6·07 per cent. on the capital cost, £15,612. In view of the fact that the rates on the lake have been largely reduced, and that very little business is done during the winter months, it will, I think, be conceded that the result achieved is eminently satisfactory.

EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure amounted to £1,438,724, including £6,048 incurred in connection with the working of the Lake Wakatipu steamers, being an increase of £95,309 over the previous year. The expenditure for railway working proper on revenue was 65·91 per cent., and the total expenditure, including the Lake steamers, 65·98 per cent. of revenue, a decrease of 2·07 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The working expenses of the Lake Wakatipu steamers absorbed £6,048, or 86·45 per cent. of the earnings. The amounts chargeable to working expenses on account of the various branches of the service and the ratio of expenses to revenue are shown by the following figures:—

				Expenditure.		Per Cent. of Revenue.	
				1903-1904.	1902-1903.	1903-1904.	1902-1903.
				£	£		
Traffic	...	...	...	374,347	360,061	17·22	18·24
Locomotive	...	...	...	526,156	484,551	24·20	24·55
Maintenance	...	...	...	490,819	460,398	22·58	23·32
Management	...	...	...	68,223	62,997	3·14	3·19
			...	1,459,545	1,368,007	67·14	69·30
Less Credit Recoveries			...	26,869	24,592	1·23	1·25
			...	1,432,676	...	65·91	...
Lake Wakatipu steamers			...	6,048	...	0·07	...
				£1,438,724	£1,343,415	65·98	68·05

The expenditure for maintenance of line, buildings, and other structures has increased from £460,398 to £490,819, representing an average expenditure for maintenance of £213 per mile of railway open, against £204 for last year. The increased expenditure has been incurred on the Auckland Section, £7,031; Gisborne, £707; Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth, £4,773; Hurunui-Bluff, £21,236; Westland, £2,280. The cost of maintenance has decreased on the Kawakawa Section, £290; Whangarei, £376; Kaihu, £295; Westport, £3,000; Nelson, £1,027; and Picton, £619.

Additions and improvements to lines and structures, costing £13,566, which might fairly have been debited to capital, have been made during the year and charged to working expenses.

The expenditure on account of bridge renewals and repairs amounted to £59,186, of which £5,269 was debited to capital, and the balance, £53,917, to working expenses.

The increased expenditure in the Traffic Branch is due to increased train mileage, additional staff to meet the requirements of the rapidly expanding business, and to increases of pay under the Classification.

In the Locomotive Branch the increase is due to extra train mileage, heavy renewals and repairs, and increased consumption of coal consequent on the additional train mileage, and also to increases in wages.

The increase in cost of management is mainly incidental to the removal of the Head and Departmental Offices, additional staff necessitated by the expansion of the business, and to provide for the requirements of the new offices, and increase in salaries of staff under the Classification Act.

The sum of £347,987 has been expended under the head of "Additions to Open Lines," and charged to Capital Account. Of this amount the sum of £117,224 has been expended on buildings, water services, sidings, signals and interlocking, safety appliances, respacing sleepers, telegraph and telephone facilities, bridges, creosote plant, fencing, wharves, crossings, workshops and departmental offices; £215,902 on rolling-stock, tarpaulins, cranes, lavatory accommodation in cars, Westinghouse brake, lighting workshops by electricity, and machinery for workshops. The rolling-stock in respect of which the charges are made consists of 5 locomotives, 58 carriages, 18 brake-vans, 74 bogie wagons,

296 four-wheeled wagons, and 680 tarpaulins, all completed on 31st March last ; and 19 locomotives, 65 carriages, 12 brake-vans, 153 bogie and 329 four-wheeled wagons, 225 tarpaulins and 2 cranes incomplete, but in hand on that date. £14,862 represents the balance of purchase-money of the steamers and other plant of the Lake Wakatipu Steamship Company.

RESULTS OF WORKING.

The following is a summary of results of working, for year ending the 31st March, 1904, as compared with 1903 :—

PARTICULARS.	Year ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1903.
Total miles open for traffic	2,328	2,291
Average miles open for year	2,305	2,262
Capital cost of opened and unopened lines	£22,173,220	£20,214,935
Capital cost of open lines	£20,692,911	£19,081,735
Capital cost per mile of open lines	£8,977	£8,436
Gross earnings	£2,180,641	£1,974,038
Working-expenses	£1,438,724	£1,343,415
NET PROFIT ON WORKING	£741,917	£630,623
PERCENTAGE OF PROFIT TO CAPITAL INVESTED	3·58	3·30
PERCENTAGE OF WORKING-EXPENSES TO EARNINGS	65·98	68·05
Earnings per average mile open	£943	£873
Working-expenses per average mile open	£622	£594
NET EARNINGS PER AVERAGE MILE OPEN	£321	£279
Earnings per train-mile	d. 91·75	d. 87·00
Working-expenses per train-mile	60·48	59·23
NET EARNINGS PER TRAIN-MILE	31·27	27·77
Passengers, ordinary	8,306,383	7,575,390
Season tickets	129,919	118,431
Goods tonnage	4,072,576	3,730,394
Live-stock tonnage	186,641	187,867
Train-mileage	5,685,399	5,443,333
Locomotives	377	372
Passenger-cars	809	751
Wagons and brake-vans	13,433	12,992

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND FORECAST.

For the purpose of ascertaining the results of working the capital cost of the lines open for traffic has been taken at £20,692,911. This amount includes the sum of £765,762, representing the cost of the lines formerly owned by the Midland Railway Company, and now incorporated with the Government railway system, also the sum of £15,612, cost of purchase of the Lake Wakatipu plant. The net earnings for the year (£741,917) gives a return of 3·58 per cent. on the capital cost stated above.

In last year's Statement the capital cost of the Midland lines was given as £576,413, the amount they were understood to have cost the colony; but it has since been decided to alter the principle under which the value was assessed, and to put the matter on a definite and proper footing. With this end in view a revaluation has been made, taking as a basis the valuation fixed by the Royal Commissioners, *plus* capital expenditure incurred on the opened lines during the time they have been in the hands of the Government. The result has been to increase the assessed value to £765,762, which amount is incorporated in the sum of £20,692,911 stated above.

The application of the electric-tablet system of train-signalling to our lines is being steadily extended. During the year 74 tablet instruments and 187 miles of line have been fitted up, and tablet working installed between Invercargill and Winton, Makarewa and Riverton, Wingatui and Ida Valley, Addington and Rangiora, Palmerston North and Woodville, Greymouth and Ngahere. Interlocked points and signals have been fitted at Burke's, Kensington, Caversham, Balclutha, Invercargill, Eyreton Junction, Kaitoke, Summit, and Auckland. Further considerable extensions of both the tablet and interlocking are in hand, and will be pushed on as rapidly as possible.

Good progress has been made with the preliminary work in connection with the new station at Dunedin. Extensive alterations have been put in hand at Lower Hutt and Petone in connection with the straightening and duplication of the line between Wellington and Lower Hutt. The work will be pushed ahead as vigorously as possible. I propose to ask the House this session for the necessary authority for the duplication of the lines Auckland to Penrose, Christchurch to Rolleston, and Dunedin to Mosgiel.

The balance-sheet of the Government Railways Superannuation Fund submitted to the House by the Board of Administration shows that the amount paid by way of superannuation during the year was £6,434 5s. 6d., granted to 184 members, retired voluntarily or by reason of their being medically unfit for further duty; £576 7s. was paid in respect to the widows and families of deceased members, and £244 4s. 3d. as refunds of contributions to the members who have left the Service from various causes before reaching the age at which they could be superannuated. The balance to credit of the fund at 31st March was £40,357 17s. 3d. It is very gratifying to me to be able to state that on the 30th June, 1903, the date on which the optional period for joining the fund expired, only sixty-six eligible members of the whole railway staff of the colony had failed to avail themselves of the right, and are consequently debarred from the benefits of the scheme, which is highly appreciated by the Railway Service. The Fund has proved a great boon to a large number of old and tried servants of the State, who have been able to seek that rest to which their age fairly entitles them, with the full knowledge that they have a certain income for the remainder of their days.

With a view to giving greater facilities to long-distance passengers and reducing the time now taken to do the journey from the North to South Island, I have instructed that arrangements be made to put on an additional express train between Christchurch and Invercargill daily. Inquiries are now being made with a view to arranging the departure-times from the terminal stations at an hour that will best suit the convenience of the general public. It will be necessary to alter the time of departure of the present expresses so as to fit in with the running of the new service, which will commence on the 1st November.

I regret that Mr. W. H. Gaw (Chief Traffic Manager), and Mr. A. C. Fife (Railway Accountant), have found it necessary to tender their resignations and to retire on superannuation owing to ill health. Both gentlemen have been connected with the Department from the very earliest days and served the colony zealously and with great ability and devotion to duty, and I desire to place on record my appreciation of their services.

In December last dining-cars were placed on the Auckland–Rotorua express trains, the catering being undertaken by the Railway Department. The result has been highly satisfactory, the accommodation and catering provided and entirely worked by the Department being much appreciated by the public. I have therefore decided that, on the expiration of the existing lease of the right to cater on the Palmerston North–New Plymouth and Christchurch–Dunedin express trains, the Department shall itself undertake the catering on those and any other lines on which dining-cars are run, and that it shall also run the railway refreshment-rooms, which will not be licensed, and the advertising at railway-stations.

On pages ii and iii I have indicated the increase in the rolling-stock from 31st March, 1900, to 31st March, 1904. The table following furnishes an interesting study of the growth of business and increase of rolling-stock from 1st April, 1895, to 31st March, 1904.

On the basis of carrying-capacity of trucks in 1895, 13,132 trucks in use on 31st March, 1904, were equivalent to 15,422 six-ton trucks of the class in use in 1895.

Comparison of the railway traffic and rolling-stock accommodation in 1895 and 1904:—

	31st March, 1895.	31st March, 1904.	Increase.	Per cent. of Increase.
Passengers (number) ...	3,905,578	8,306,383	4,400,805	113
Season tickets (number) ...	28,623	129,919	101,296	354
Parcels " ...	444,981	798,800	353,819	80
Horses " ...	11,185	14,629	3,444	31
Carriages " ...	750	2,056	1,306	174
Dogs " ...	23,517	36,816	13,299	57
Drays " ...	705	2,340	1,635	232
Cattle " ...	40,890	107,435	66,545	163
Sheep " ...	1,519,921	3,756,378	2,236,457	147
Pigs " ...	43,292	70,268	26,976	62
Chaff, lime (tons) ...	36,972	132,562	95,590	259
Wool " ...	103,328	101,316	2,012 Dec.	2 Dec.
Firewood " ...	85,102	106,066	20,964	25
Timber " ...	198,578	509,712	311,134	157
Grain " ...	388,556	820,453	431,897	111
Merchandise " ...	377,938	658,144	280,206	74
Minerals " ...	857,917	1,744,323	886,406	103
Total tonnage ...	2,048,391	4,072,576	2,024,185	99
Total revenue ...	£1,150,851	£2,180,641	£1,029,790	89
Locomotives (number) ...	269	377	108	40
" tractive power (lb.) ...	1,756,178	3,572,346	1,816,168	103
Passenger cars (number) ...	498	809	311	62
Passenger cars, seating accommodation ...	17,455	31,858	14,403	83
Brake-vans (number) ...	204	301	97	48
Sheep-trucks " ...	390	820	430	110
Total trucks, all classes (number) ...	8,264	13,132	4,868	59
Truck-carrying capacity (tons) ...	50,861	92,533	41,672	82
Train mileage run ...	3,221,620	5,685,399	2,463,779	76

I contemplate arranging at an early date an alteration in the issue of single tickets throughout the whole system of our railways. After a careful investigation I see no reason why the holders of long-distance single tickets when travelling upon the railways should not be given a reasonable time within which to complete their journeys so that they may, if desired, break it at intermediate stations and afterwards continue on to destination.

I do not propose to make any alteration on the suburban lines, but purpose giving the holders of single tickets for stations beyond the suburban area one month within which to complete their journey. The alteration, which means a great reform, will be brought into operation in November next, and the convenience it will afford to the travelling public will be a very great one, and will, I am sure, be generally appreciated.

If the shipping companies conducting business between Auckland and Onehunga and between Lyttelton and Wellington will conform to the requirements of the Railway Department, I also hope to have established a system for the through booking of passengers' luggage from, say, any hotel in Auckland to any hotel in any part of the colony to which the passenger may be travelling.

I confidently anticipate that the commercial prosperity which has existed of late years will continue during the next financial year, and though I estimate the gross revenue at £2,200,000, I think, to be on the safe side, it is better to keep to the actual amount of last year's receipts, which in round numbers I put at £2,180,000.

The usual reports and returns are attached hereto.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF NEW
ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

New Zealand Government Railways, Head Office,
Wellington, June, 1904.

SIR,—

I have the honour to report upon the working of the open railways for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1904.

The capital cost has increased from £19,081,735 to £20,692,911.

The revenue was £2,180,641, against £1,974,038, an increase of £206,603. The net revenue has been £741,917, against £630,623, an increase of £111,294.

The expenditure has been £1,438,724, against £1,343,415, an increase of £95,309. The expenditure per cent. of revenue was £65·98, as compared with £68·05 last year.

The rate of interest earned on capital was £3 11s. 8d., as compared with £3 6s. 1d. last year.

The revenue per train-mile was 7s. 7½d., and the cost per train-mile 5s. 0½d., as against 7s. 3d. and 4s. 11d. respectively last year.

The following extensions have been opened during the year:—

	M.	ch.
Tahakeroa—Ahuroa	4	68
Orepuki—Waihoaka	4	44
Pororo—Tarao—Taumarunui	28	24
	37	56

The total mileage added to the system during the year under review was thus 37 miles 56 chains, making the total mileage open for traffic on the 31st March, 1904, 2,328 miles, as against 2,291 miles at the close of the previous year.

During the year 8,306,383 ordinary passengers were carried, yielding a revenue of £652,080. and 129,919 season tickets were issued, yielding a revenue of £52,580, being an increase of 730,993 ordinary passengers and £75,551 revenue, and 11,488 season tickets and £3,411 revenue over the traffic under these heads in the previous year.

57,339 children and teachers and 54,344 adults travelled by school and factory excursions during the year, the revenue derived therefrom being £7,425, an increase of 9,751 children and teachers, 12,789 adults, and £1,374 revenue over the preceding year.

695,384 passengers travelled at holiday-excursion fares, yielding a revenue of £125,624, an increase of 93,370 excursionists and £22,345 revenue as compared with last year.

The coaching and goods traffic has been well maintained during the year, a very considerable expansion of business having resulted under all heads, except sheep and wool.

Increases.

Coaching.—Parcels, 67,038; horses, 1,892; carriages, 410; dogs, 2,614. Revenue, £22,879.

Goods.—Cattle, 4,974; pigs, 8,424; drays, 419; chaff and lime, 11,470 tons; firewood, 5,568 tons; timber, 73,704 tons; grain, 102,077 tons; merchandise, 24,459 tons; minerals, 139,897 tons. Revenue, £104,762. Total increase in goods and live-stock tonnage, 340,956 tons.

Decreases.

Sheep, 64,955; and wool, 14,994 tons.

The decrease in sheep and wool was not unanticipated, in view of the enormous increase in the previous year's business under these heads, and also of the severity of the last winter, which resulted in heavy mortality among the flocks in the Canterbury and Otago districts.

The whole of the engines and rolling-stock in service on the Auckland and Wellington—Napier—New Plymouth Sections have been equipped with the Westinghouse brake, and satisfactory progress is being made with the equipment of the South Island stock, of which 93 locomotives, 212 cars, 32 brake-vans, and 1,310 wagons were so fitted on the 31st March, 1904.

All new stock built is fully equipped with the Westinghouse brake in our own shops before being put into service.

Six engines, 63 bogie-cars, 18 bogie brake-vans, and 426 wagons were built in the railway workshops and added to the stock during the year, while 11 engines, 63 bogie-cars, 15 bogie brake-vans, and 496 wagons were under construction on the 31st March last.

Ten W.F. Class tank engines were being built under contract by Messrs. A. and T. Price, at Thames.

The new Railway Offices at Wellington were completed and occupied during the year. They are found to be very satisfactory, and provide up-to-date accommodation for the head and departmental offices which was much required, and is greatly appreciated by the staff.

Several slips and floods have occurred during the year, but I am pleased to record that there has been no train accident of a serious nature.

MAINTENANCE.

Mr. J. Coom, Chief Engineer, reports as follows :—

Permanent Way.—The track has been maintained in good condition and there is a general improvement in all the districts.

Fifty-eight miles of track were relaid with 70 lb. rails. I am proposing to relay at least one hundred miles for the year 1904–5. As in the previous year, second-hand 52 lb., 53 lb., and 56 lb. rails taken up on main lines have been relaid on branch lines, sixteen miles and a half having been done.

On most of the main lines of the colony the weight of rails is sufficient for the classes of rolling-stock now running, but this is not the case on several of the branch lines. On some parts of the main lines it will be necessary to relay with heavier rails before larger engines, which are required to provide for the increased traffic, could be used.

During the year we have relaid 352,295 sleepers, of which 39,527 were imported hardwood, and the balance, 312,768, native timber.

The creosote plants at Woodville and Invercargill have been worked during the greater part of the year. At Woodville 36,436 sleepers were treated, and at Invercargill 45,360, making a total of 81,796. A fair supply of sleepers for treatment has been procured, and stacked for seasoning.

The expenditure for sleepers during the past year, exclusive of laying, was £61,056, showing a reduction of £15,832 on the previous year.

The efforts which have been made during the past few years to overtake sleeper-renewals have placed us in a fair position, and I anticipate that the expenditure under this head will be reduced in the future.

On track-renewals we spent the same as in the previous year.

Slips and Floods.—Several slips and floods with consequent delay of traffic occurred during the year, but none of them can be classed as serious except the wash-out at the Huatoki Creek, New Plymouth, the Mungaroa slip on the Wellington line, the erosion of the river-bed and banks at Stewart's Gully, and the damage by floods in the Otago and Invercargill districts during March. There were slips of less importance in the Manawatu Gorge, on the Hutt line near Belmont, and at the Eyre Creek on the Kingston Branch.

Traffic was interrupted by snow in parts of the Dunedin district in July.

Ballasting.—The Gates stone-crushing plant at Mosgiel still continues to give great satisfaction.

Bridges.—Bridges have been maintained in good condition.

The Ngaruawahia, on the Auckland Section; the Aramoho, Wangaehu, and Waiwakaiho, in the Wanganui district; and a number of smaller structures in the several districts have been strengthened to carry heavier engines.

The expenditure on repairs and renewals was £59,186, as against £63,728 in the previous year.

Signals, Interlocking and Block-working.—The Signal Engineer's report, attached, gives the details of the work which has been carried out.

The results of the installation of these safety appliances continue to give great satisfaction, and it is to be hoped funds will be found to carry on this important work.

Water-services.—These have been maintained in good order.

Considerable alterations and additions have been made to the services throughout the colony.

Wharves.—Nothing calling for special mention has been undertaken during the year. The structures have been maintained in good repair.

Buildings.—New buildings have been completed at Dannevirke, Kaiapoi, and Fairfax.

The Bluff Station is well on towards completion, and the Dunedin Station, which is a large work, is in hand. The foundations and temporary works are finished, the bulk of the stone quarried, and masons are now employed in building.

At several other stations considerable alterations have been made to meet the growing wants of the Traffic Branch.

Turakina Station building and Stationmaster's house were burnt down on the 19th March.

The Departmental Offices in Wellington are completed, and were occupied by the staff in November. The accommodation provided is in every way satisfactory.

Miscellaneous Works.—Additions and improvements have been made during the year amounting to £13,566, which has been charged to working-expenses. The principal works are as follows: Improved coaling accommodation, Frankton; stock-yards, Hangatiki; siding-extension, Pakipaki; additional siding accommodation, Middleton; water-service, Waihao Forks; additions to dwelling, Studholme; office for Car and Wagon Inspector, Dunedin; removal of central filling, George Street Pier, Port Chalmers; siding alterations, &c., for interlocking, and additions to stock-yards, Balclutha; houses for surfacemen, Aitcheson's and Borton's; additions to Stationmaster's house, Milton; oil-engine, Mosgiel; replacing 50 ft. turntables with 55 ft. at Christchurch, Oamaru, Palmerston, and Dunedin; platform and shelter-shed, Eyre Creek; siding alterations, Invercargill and Bluff; lengthening bridge at 32½ miles, M.L., Hurunui-Bluff Section; removal of creosote-works from Woodend to Kew; additions to workshops, Greymouth; siding and stock-yards, Totara Flat; additions to Stationmaster's house, Hokitika; siding alterations, Seddonville; coal-shed and additional siding, Waimangaroa; additions to Merchandise Wharf, and siding alterations, Westport; building six portable huts for Wellington-Napier Section; and purchase of Priestman dredge.

Additions to Open Lines.—The principal works carried out during the year are as follows :—

Additions to Station-buildings, Station-yards, and Sidings: Auckland, Stratford (part), Foxton, Palmerston North (part), Waipukurau, Hatuma, Summit (completion), Lower Hutt (part), Danne-

virke (completion), Lyttelton, Christchurch (part), Kaiapoi (part), Templeton, Burke's, Forest Hill, Bluff, Invercargill, Riversdale, Gap Road, No Town Road.

New Dwellings and Additions to Dwellings: Frankton, Aramoho, Wanganui, Wellington (completion), Gore, Orepuki, Winton (part), Riversdale (completion), Otautau (completion).

Additions to Water-services: Te Awamutu, Te Kuiti (part), Matamata, Putaruru, Upper Hutt, Springfield, Milton (part).

Purchase of Land: Turakina, Hastings, Wellington, Oamaru (completion), Maheno.

Bridges: Lincoln (overbridge), Caversham, Riverton (part).

Additions to Engine-sheds: Auckland (part), Waipukurau, Invercargill (part).

Engine Turntables: Auckland, Springfield.

Lighting Station-yards: Auckland, Palmerston North, Dunedin, Invercargill, Bluff.

Furnaces for heating Foot-warmers: Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, and Westland

Districts.

Sheds for Train-examining: Wanganui, Palmerston North (part), Wellington, Timaru.

Coaling-cranes: Frankton, Wanganui.

Miscellaneous: Appliances for maintenance shops, Eastown; providing access to beach, New Plymouth; new departmental offices, Wellington (part); cattle-yards, Upper Hutt; purchase of buildings from New Zealand Farmers' Co-operative Association, Christchurch; Westinghouse-brake shed, Addington; new station, Dunedin (part); iron-foundry, Hillside (completion); lightening rock slopes, Otago Central Railway; workshops, Invercargill; library, Invercargill; creosote-works Kew (completion); roads and level crossings, Gore; fencing, Westland Section; signals and interlocking; telegraphs and telephones; block-working; strengthening track and bridges (proportion); additional sleepers.

The cost, which has been charged to Capital Account, amounts to £117,224.

Expenditure.—The expenditure was £488,106, equal to £212 per mile, as against £457,757 and £202 respectively last year. The increase is partly due to purchase of materials for track-renewals.

Mileage.—The mileage open for traffic on the 31st March was 2,328 miles 41 chains. The length opened during the year was 37 miles 56 chains.

Private Sidings.—Thirteen new rights were granted, making the total at end of year 278, with an annual rental of £4,922.

Leases.—The total number of leases in force on the 31st March was 2,253, with an annual rental of £24,039. The number issued during the year was 408.

Staff.—The working staff consisted of 2,783 men; office staff, 97: or a total of 2,880 persons.

Fixed Signals.

During the past year sixteen stations have been fitted with fixed signals.

The whole of the fixed signals, where practicable, have now been fitted with interlocking-plates.

The expenditure for the year on new work was £890 5s. 6d., and for maintenance £1,071 6s. 7d.

Interlocking of Points and Signals.

The signalling and interlocking has worked with the most satisfactory results.

The following stations have been fully equipped and brought into operation during the year: Burke's, Kensington, Caversham, Balclutha, Invercargill, Eyreton Junction, Kaitoke, Summit, and Auckland.

The work has also been commenced and is well in hand at Newmarket and Penrose, Auckland Section; Anderson's Bay Road tramway-crossing, Dunedin; and sidings between Lower Hutt and Hayward's, Wellington District.

The expenditure for the year on new work was £8,680 11s., and for maintenance £639 11s. 11d.

Block-working.

The electric train-tablet system of block-working has worked with every satisfaction.

During the year seventy-four tablet instruments and 187 miles of line have been fitted up and brought into operation, embracing the following sections: Invercargill to Winton, Makarewa to Riverton, Wingatui to Ida Valley, Addington to Rangiora, Palmerston to Woodville, Greymouth to Ngahere.

The equipment of the sections from Auckland to Mercer, Newmarket to Henderson, Penrose to Onehunga, and Westport to Granity is in progress.

The staff-and-ticket system of block-working has given satisfaction.

Telegraph and Telephone Facilities.

During the year 206 miles of wire has been erected and brought into use, also various alterations and additions have been made to improve existing lines.

The construction of a new line between Marton and Mangaonoho is in progress.

One additional Morse instrument and sixty-nine telephones have been fixed and brought into operation, also ten additional connections have been made with the public telephone exchanges, and three portable telephones brought into use.

Twenty-seven old-pattern telephones have been replaced by new and more modern ones.

Greater facilities are still needed in some of the districts to suit the more pressing requirements.

The expenditure on electric block-working, telegraph, and telephone facilities for the year was: New work, £9,029 10s. 7d.; and maintenance, £6,398 8s. 5d.

I attach the usual returns.

LOCOMOTIVE.

Mr. A. L. Beattie, Chief Mechanical Engineer, reports as follows :—

The engines, rolling-stock, machinery, and plant have been maintained in good and efficient working-order.

Locomotives.—The number of locomotive engines on 1st April, 1903, was 372, the number on 31st March, 1904, was 377. Six new engines were built during the year, and one old tank engine, Class L, was sold. The new engines built comprised one Class B tender engine for heavy goods traffic, one Class U engine for mixed traffic, and four tank engines—two of Class Fb type, one Class Wa, and one Class L engine. This L engine replaced the old engine sold.

The new locomotives, together with boiler renewals, increased the total tractive power by 72,887 lb., or equal to 2·08 per cent.; the new engines building, and boilers under construction, when completed, will still further increase the tractive power by 328,328 lb., or an additional 9·19 per cent.

In the New Zealand Government Railway Workshops up to date 23 tank and 15 tender, making a total of 38 locomotive engines, have been built; also 24 old locomotives have been rebuilt with greatly increased tractive power.

Four hundred and seventy locomotives passed through the workshops during the year, details as follows :—

Particulars.	Number and Type.					
	Tender Engines.	Tank Engines.	Fell Engines.	Fairlies.		Total.
				Single.	Double.	
Number passed through shops	198	226	8	34	4	470
Built new	2	4	...	...	...	6
Converted or rebuilt	...	12	...	...	...	12
Thoroughly overhauled	14	18	...	2	1	35
Heavy repairs	69	73	8	16	3	169
Light repairs	113	119	...	16	...	248
Painted and varnished	41	54	...	4	...	99
Touched up and revarnished	52	51	...	8	1	112

Included in above return are 5 engines repaired for Public Works Department, and 1 engine for Castlecliff Railway Company.

The following new locomotive engines are under construction in Government railway workshops, viz.: one Class E compound double-ender tank engine for Rimutaka Incline traffic, and ten Class Wf tank engines: total, eleven.

In addition to above, ten Class Wf tank engines are being built under contract by Messrs. A. and G. Price at Thames. A contract was let to this firm during the year, and satisfactory progress has been made with the work to date.

Boilers.—Boiler-repairs, renewals, and new boilers are in a satisfactory position and well up to date. Seven new boilers were constructed. The following statement gives an outline of the work done during the year :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Tubes.	Tubes pieced.	New Smoke-box Tube-plates.	New Fire-boxes complete.	New Fire-box Tube-plates.	New Barrels.	Boilers patched.
Boilers	185	7	81	97	46	24	3	2	2	1	62

Sixteen new locomotive boilers are in hand, consisting of one Class E, three Class F, one Class J, one Class T, and ten Class Wf boilers.

Carriages.—The car-stock on 1st April, 1903, consisted of 751 cars: 5 old 4-wheel cars, Class D, were written off and replaced; sixty-three new bogie-cars were built: and the car-stock on 31st March, 1904, consisted of 809 cars.

The new stock built has increased the passenger-seating accommodation by 10·45 per cent.

Thirty-seven cars were fitted with lavatories, making a total of 269 cars so equipped to date.

Fitting second-class compartments of bogie-cars with cushion seats is nearing completion. The total number fitted to end of year was 395 cars.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to cars for the year :—

Particulars.	Number and Type.			Total.
	Bogie.	Six-wheel.	Four-wheel.	
Number passed through shops	1,626	60	10	1,696
Built new	63	...	...	63
Converted six-wheel to bogie	6	...	...	6
Thoroughly overhauled	33	4	...	37
Heavy repairs	217	12	1	230
Light repairs	1,307	44	9	1,360
Painted and varnished	306	24	5	335
Touched up and revarnished	461	7	1	469

Sixty-three new 47½ ft. Class A bogie-cars are under construction.

Brake-vans.—The number of brake-vans on the 1st April, 1903, was 283 : during year 3 old worn-out four-wheel vans were written off and replaced ; 18 new bogie brake-vans were built and added to stock : the number of brake-vans on the 31st March, 1904, was 301.

The repairs, &c., to brake-vans for the year were as follows :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Thorough Overhaul.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched up.
Brake-vans	532	21	9	65	437	103	129

Fifteen new bogie brake-vans are under construction.

Wagons.—The wagon-stock on 1st April, 1903, consisted of 12,709 vehicles, and on 31st March, 1904, the number was 13,132 wagons. Towards the end of the year four old wagons were sold and written off ; four new wagons are being built to replace them, but were not completed at the close of the year. Three hundred and seventy new wagons were built and added to stock ; fifty-six new wagons were also built to replace wagons written off and sold to Public Works Department. One of the four-wheeled D cars (written off car-stock) was converted to a sleeping-van, Class K. There were also two new wagons built for the Napier Harbour Board.

The carrying-capacity of wagon-stock has been increased by 3,476 tons, or equal to nearly 4 per cent., being an equivalent of 579 ordinary wagons.

Good progress has been made with renewing old axles, also in fitting extra-coil bearing-springs to still further increase the carrying-capacity of wagon-stock. The fitting of all stock with stronger coupling-pins is on the point of completion.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to wagon-stock :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Rebuilt.	Converted.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched up.
Wagons	11,051	428	74	12	1,509	9,028	1,636	3,227

The following new wagons were under construction at the close of the year, viz. : 158 bogie and 338 four-wheeled wagons.

Tarpaulins.—The stock of tarpaulins on 1st April, 1903, consisted of 9,322 sheets ; to this number were added during the year 680 new tarpaulins, making the stock on 31st March, 1904, as 10,002 tarpaulins.

Eight hundred and eighty-three old worn-out tarpaulins were written off the books and replaced by a similar number of new tarpaulins manufactured in the Government railway work-shops, and, in accordance with usual practice, charged to working-expenses.

The following table shows the work on tarpaulins for the year :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Manufactured new.	Condemned and replaced with New Sheets.	Repaired.
Tarpaulins	9,623	680	883	8,060

Two hundred and twenty-five new tarpaulins were under manufacture at close of year.

Stationary Engines and Cranes.—The repairs, &c., to stationary engines and cranes for the year were as follows :—

Description.			Number passed through Shops.	Thoroughly over-hauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched up.	Boiler-repairs.					
									New Tubes.	Tubes pieced.	Boilers patched.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Boilers.
Hand-cranes	...	...	40	1	5	34	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Steam-cranes	...	...	36	1	6	29	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Stationary engines	...	...	10	...	6	4	2	1	2	1	2	4	5	...
Hoisting-engines	...	...	3	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Pile-drivers	...	...	4	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

There were no new cranes built or converted. Two new 5-ton steam travelling-cranes are under construction.

During the year 969 car, van, wagon, and crane axles were renewed with modern steel axles ; this number is exclusive of the new stock built.

Westinghouse Brake.—The North Island contract for the equipment of engines and rolling-stock with the automatic air brake was completed on 31st December, 1903. All engines and rolling-stock in service on Auckland and Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth Sections have been equipped with the air brake. All new stock built, before being put into service, is equipped by our own staff with the Westinghouse brake.

The South Island contract for equipping with the Westinghouse brake all engines and rolling-stock on the Hurunui-Bluff Section was commenced in November, 1903, and satisfactory progress made by the contractors.

On 31st March, 1904, there were in the North Island 155 locomotives, 331 cars, 129 brake-vans, 4,080 wagons, and 6 travelling-cranes equipped with the Westinghouse brake. In the South Island 93 locomotives, 212 cars, 32 brake-vans, and 1,310 wagons were also fitted with this brake.

Car-lighting.—The oil and acetylene gas manufactured at the five separate Pintsch gasworks during the year for car-lighting amounted to 2,877,191 cubic feet, costing 2s. 10½d. per 100 cubic feet.

Auxiliary acetylene-gas plants have been erected at Christchurch and Dunedin for the purpose of producing acetylene gas for mixing with and enriching the oil-gas. The brilliancy of the light has been largely enhanced by the admixture of acetylene gas, which, however, has increased the cost of production.

During the year 73 cars and brake-vans were fitted with Pintsch gas, making a total of 709 vehicles fitted to date.

Workshops.—The workshop plant, machinery, and appliances have been augmented by the addition of new buildings, machinery, and a number of special tools and appliances.

An additional iron-foundry, also a foundry for the manufacture of steel castings, have been completed and brought into operation with satisfactory results.

Pneumatic tools have now been furnished to all the principal workshops, thus enabling work to be more expeditiously and economically undertaken.

An extension of the electric-light installation at Addington Workshops has been completed.

A hot-water plant for washing out locomotive boilers was installed at Auckland. All the principal locomotive-depots on the existing railway system have now been so equipped.

Train Running and Mileage.—There has been a large increase in train-mileage. As compared with the preceding year the increase for 1903-4 is 242,066 train-miles, equal to 4.45 per cent., and 388,074 engine-miles, equal to 5.09 per cent.

The following statement shows particulars of the expenditure per train-mile :—

Year.	Train-mileage.	Engine-mileage.	Cost in Pence, per Train-mile.		
			Locomotive Branch.	Car and Wagon Branch.	Total.
1903-4	5,685,399	8,014,702	17.48	4.73	22.21
1902-3	5,443,333	7,626,628	16.69	4.67	21.36

The increased expenditure per train-mile is largely due to exceptionally heavy renewals and repairs, and greater consumption of coal.

The usual returns are attached.

TRAFFIC.

Mr. A. Grant, Acting Chief Traffic Manager, reports as follows :—

Hurunui-Bluff Section.

The total revenue on this section (including Lake Wakatipu steam service) was £1,095,922, as against £1,006,855 last year, an increase of £89,067.

The passenger traffic shows the very satisfactory increase of 310,062 passengers and 3,675 season tickets, the receipts being £34,377 more than last year.

Parcels and other coaching traffic also largely increased, the receipts being £11,863 in excess of last year.

In goods traffic sheep and pigs decreased by 58,088 head, and wool 12,021 tons; all other classes show increases.

The revenue from goods and live-stock traffic increased by £41,809.

The total revenue from the Canterbury District was £493,128, an increase of £53,030 over last year.

The passenger business shows an increase of 168,806 passengers and 1,319 season tickets.

Parcels and coaching traffic shows a large increase—184,354 parcels were carried, being an increase of 11,227 over the previous year.

In goods traffic there was a falling-off in sheep, pigs, wool, and frozen meat; increases in cattle, chaff, timber, grain, merchandise, coal, and other minerals.

The Dunedin District contributed £357,860, as against £340,069, an increase of £17,791.

The passenger traffic shows the large increase of 104,055 passengers and 1,745 season tickets.

Parcels and coaching traffic also largely increased, 11,878 more parcels being carried.

In goods traffic there were decreases under the following heads: Sheep, pigs, wool, firewood, frozen meat, and frozen rabbits; increases in cattle, chaff, grain, merchandise, coal, and other minerals.

Invercargill District shows a substantial increase in the passenger traffic, the increases being 37,200 passengers and 611 season tickets.

In goods traffic the result is not so satisfactory.

The net increase from all sources was £1,354.

Lake Wakatipu Service.

This service has been conducted with punctuality, and the arrangements generally have given satisfaction to the public.

The passenger business in connection with the week-end excursions fell off considerably this year, the figures being 1,040 passengers for £570, as against 2,038 passengers for £1,002 last year. Other excursion bookings to Kingston and Queenstown (not including school excursions) increased by 613 passengers and £414, thus the net results are practically the same as last season.

The total number of passengers carried was 23,085, the receipts therefrom being £3,289; goods tonnage 8,080, receipts £3,231: total revenue, £6,996.

Picton Section.

Passenger traffic shows an increase of 7,978 passengers and £913 revenue.

Goods traffic shows substantial increases in grain, merchandise, and coal; a decrease of 7,905 sheep; and a slight falling-off in chaff and firewood.

The revenue-increase from goods traffic is £1,051, and from all sources £2,176.

Nelson Section.

Increases are shown under all headings, excepting chaff and wool.

The passenger business increased by 9,400 passengers and £611 revenue.

The principal increases in the goods traffic are 1,152 tons firewood, 638 tons timber, 594 tons grain, 348 tons merchandise, and 5,683 tons coal.

Revenue-increase from goods traffic, £1,490; from all sources, £2,307.

Westport Section.

Passenger traffic shows an increase of 9,717 passengers and £757 revenue.

Goods traffic shows increases under all headings, excepting chaff and firewood, which have slightly decreased.

The coal traffic shows the large increase of 37,236 tons; timber, 960 tons; merchandise, 323 tons; minerals, 452 tons.

The revenue-increase from goods traffic is £5,716; from all sources, £6,518.

Westland Section.

Passenger traffic increased by 38,634 passengers and £2,509 revenue.

Goods traffic shows substantial increases under all headings, excepting coal.

There is a decrease of 12,627 tons of coal, due to the failing output from the Brunner Mine.

Increases are shown as follows: Chaff, 2,058 tons; firewood, 416 tons; timber, 13,672 tons; grain, 794 tons; merchandise, 386 tons; minerals, 1,819 tons.

Revenue-increase from goods traffic, £4,523; from all sources, £7,775.

Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth Section.

The total revenue on this section was £578,799, as against £522,302 last year, an increase of £56,497.

The passenger business shows the very large increase of 329,566 passengers and 7,316 season tickets, with a revenue-increase of £27,265.

Parcels and coaching traffic yielded £5,569 more than last year, and 15,768 more parcels were carried.

In goods traffic substantial increases are shown under all headings, excepting cattle and wool. Cattle decreased by 6,040 head, and wool by 2,557 tons.

The principal increases are—Sheep, 33,968; pigs, 10,519; timber, 12,339 tons; grain, 13,104 tons; merchandise, 5,706 tons; minerals, 48,203 tons.

Wellington-Napier District contributed £339,881, against £309,919 last year, an increase of £29,962.

Passenger traffic shows an increase of 203,158 passengers and 6,925 season tickets.

Goods traffic shows increases under all headings, except cattle, wool, firewood, and merchandise.

Wanganui-New Plymouth District contributed £238,918, as against £212,383 last year, an increase of £26,535.

The passenger traffic shows an increase of 126,408 passengers and 391 season tickets.

The bookings from this district to Wellington increased by 7,290, the revenue-increase therefrom being £3,499.

The through bookings from New Plymouth to Wellington were 4,372 ordinary and 536 excursion, an increase of 1,419 and 84 respectively.

Parcels and coaching traffic shows a satisfactory increase.

In goods traffic there are decreases in cattle, sheep, chaff, wool, and minerals.

The tonnage of butter and cheese forwarded from the district was—Butter, 8,437 tons; cheese, 1,873 tons: as against 7,555 tons and 616 tons respectively last year.

Auckland Section.

The revenue from this section was £273,620, as against £236,342 last year, an increase of £37,278.

The passenger revenue shows the substantial increase of £11,127, notwithstanding that there is a large falling-off in the suburban business due to the competition of the electric tramways. The location of the tram-lines through the business and residential streets gives the tramway company such advantages that, with its cheap and frequent service, it can command all the business *en route*. Regular travellers willingly pay a higher charge to be picked up and set down at the nearest street-corner to their houses or places of business than they would pay between the two railway-stations. It is impossible under present conditions for the railway to give a service which would divert any portion of the business from the tramway.

The passenger traffic to Rotorua increased largely during the year, the figures being 16,956 against 10,895, an increase of 6,061 passengers and £2,916 revenue. There was also a good increase in the round-trip bookings, the figures being—

	1903-4.	1902-3.
	£	£
Auckland to Auckland <i>via</i> Thames	640	485
Auckland to Auckland <i>via</i> Thames and Rotorua	956	606
Auckland to Auckland <i>via</i> Hangatiki, Thames, and Rotorua ...	34	32

The business in the western suburban district (Avondale and Henderson) is steadily developing, Avondale showing an increase of 10,659 passengers.

The revenue from parcels and coaching traffic increased by £3,893, and 14,480 more parcels were carried than last year.

In goods traffic sheep decreased by 36,087; pigs, 84; chaff, 470 tons; wool, 387 tons.

Increases are shown as follows: Cattle, 1,854 head; firewood, 936 tons; timber, 12,449 tons; grain, 10,512 tons; merchandise, 1,638 tons; coal, 12,116 tons; other minerals, 5,649 tons.

The tonnage of butter forwarded was 5,100, against 4,351 last year.

The revenue-increase from goods traffic was £21,467.

Gisborne Section.

The business on this section, which was only opened in July, 1902, shows a satisfactory expansion, the revenue for the year being £3,157 against £1,788 for nine months last year.

Kaihu Section.

The total revenue derived from this section was £6,714, as against £6,143 last year; increase, £571.

There are satisfactory increases under nearly every heading, the principal being—Passengers, 3,723; firewood, 204 tons; timber, 1,482 tons; merchandise, 228 tons; minerals, 166 tons.

The passenger and coaching revenue increased by £249, goods by £316.

Whangarei Section.

This section shows a steady increase. The total revenue for the year was £23,028, as against £20,009, an increase of £3,019.

The passenger traffic increased by 11,320 passengers and £494 revenue.

In goods traffic increases are shown under nearly all headings, the principal being—Timber, 4,437 tons; grain, 225 tons; merchandise, 200 tons; coal, 7,897 tons; other minerals, 399 tons.

The revenue-increase from goods traffic was £2,391.

Kawakawa Section.

The revenue from this section was £1,993, as against £1,972 last year.

The passenger business increased by £114, but there was a slight decrease in the goods traffic.

The expansion of business during the year has been most satisfactory, every section showing an increase.

To meet the increased demands of traffic, the train-service has been improved in various parts of the colony, the principal alterations being—

Auckland Section : Daily service to and from Taumarunui.

Napier-Wellington District : Additional suburban trains on week-days and Sundays.

Wanganui District : Additional goods and passenger services between Palmerston and New Plymouth.

Christchurch District : New fast passenger service between Christchurch and Culverden.

The net increased mileage per annum of permanent trains was—Mixed and passenger, 149,362 miles ; goods, 8,112 miles.

Appended is a comparative statement showing the average late arrival of trains at destination for the year ended the 31st March, 1904, and previous year :—

RETURN SHOWING AVERAGE LATE ARRIVALS OF TRAINS AT DESTINATIONS.

—	Period ending													Average for Year.
	April 25.	May 23.	June 20.	July 18.	Aug. 15.	Sept. 12.	Oct. 10.	Nov. 7.	Dec. 5	Jan. 2.	Jan. 30.	Feb. 27.	Mar. 31.	
Mail and Express Trains.														
Year ending 31st March, 1904	1.41	0.28	1.08	0.34	0.51	1.08	0.09	0.73	0.72	0.94	0.73	1.09	1.46	0.80
Year ending 31st March, 1903	1.08	1.40	1.57	1.09	0.48	0.42	0.57	0.63	0.88	2.44	2.79	0.89	1.14	1.18
Long-distance Mixed Trains.														
Year ending 31st March, 1904	1.64	0.69	1.25	1.70	0.87	0.83	0.40	1.09	0.84	1.02	0.85	0.90	1.54	1.05
Year ending 31st March, 1903	2.73	1.57	2.18	1.07	0.98	0.69	0.71	0.86	0.82	1.10	1.20	1.27	1.12	1.25
Suburban Trains.														
Year ending 31st March, 1904	0.82	0.50	0.55	0.21	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.17	0.29	0.41	0.18	0.32	0.31	0.32
Year ending 31st March, 1903	1.17	0.57	0.99	0.74	0.39	0.31	0.31	0.28	0.55	0.52	0.57	0.50	0.51	0.57

The present indications are that the revenue results for the ensuing year will be equally satisfactory.

STORES.

Mr. Geo. Felton, Stores Manager, reports as follows :—

The value of stores (purchased under the Railway vote) on hand on the 31st March, 1904, at the various depots amounted to £192,899 19s. 1d., as against £190,414 2s. 4d. on the 31st March, 1903.

The value of the stores on hand on account of additions to open lines amounted on the 31st March, 1904, to £23,088 4s. 8d., as against £37,114 5s. 2d. on the 31st March, 1903.

The stock is in good order, has been carefully and systematically inspected, and is value for the amounts stated.

The conduct of the staff as a whole has been satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

T. RONAYNE,

The Hon. the Minister for Railways.

General Manager.

INDEX OF RETURNS

ACCOMPANYING ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF NEW ZEALAND
GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS, 1903-1904.

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2. General Expenditure Account.
3. Details of Classified Expenditure.
4. Classified Expenditure and Revenue, and Proportion of each Class to Mileage and Revenue.
5. Comparative Statement of Passenger and Goods Traffic.
6. Cost of Construction, Net Revenue, and Rate of Interest on Capital.
7. Expenditure under Vote "Additions to Open Lines" charged to Capital Account.
8. Return of Revenue received by Railway Department from other Government Departments.
9. Statement of Season Tickets issued.
10. Classified Maintenance Expenditure.
11. Return of Passenger Bookings at Excursion Fares.
12. Revenue and Expenditure of Stations.
13. Carriage and Wagon Stock, and Tarpaulins.
14. Locomotive Stock.
15. Comparative Statement of Mileage, Capital Cost, Earnings, and Expenditure on Colonial Railways.
16. Comparative Statement of Mileage, Capital Cost, Earnings, Expenditure, and Traffic, New Zealand Government Railways.
17. Stores Contracts.
18. Weighing-machines, Weighbridges, Traversers and Turntables, Cranes, &c., and Water-services.
19. Renewals of Rails.
20. Renewals and Removals of Sleepers.
21. Number of Stations and Private Sidings.
22. Mileage of Railways open for Traffic and under Maintenance.
23. Weights of Rails in various Lines.
24. Particulars of Private-siding Traffic.
25. Sleepers Laid and Removed each Year.
26. Number of Employees.
27. Accidents.
28. Locomotive Returns.
29. Traffic from Coal-mines, Hurunui-Bluff.
30. Vessels Loaded and Discharged at Different Ports, Hurunui-Bluff.
31. Mileage of Track, Main Line and Sidings, Hurunui-Bluff.
32. Alterations and Additions in Scale of Charges.

RETURN NO. 1.

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Dr.		£		s.	d.	Cr.		£	s.	d.	
To Cash in hand, freights, &c., outstanding at stations, 1st April, 1903	...	35,302	7	1		By Gross payment to Public Account	...	...	2,316,711	3	8
Revenue from passengers, parcels, and goods traffic, &c., as per Return No. 5	...	2,180,641	0	6		Less collections for refund	...	...	150,594	0	2
						Cash in hand, freights, &c., outstanding at stations, 31st March, 1904	...	...	2,166,117	3	6
									49,826	4	1
									2,215,943	7	7
To Net payment to Public Account	...	2,166,117	3	6		By Working expenses, as per Return No. 4	...	...	1,438,723	11	6
Less Cash in hand, freights, &c., outstanding, 1st April, 1903, as above	...	35,302	7	1		Balance—Net earnings, available for interest	...	...	741,917	9	0
						* Receipts as per Treasury	...	22,167,992	2	10	
						Balance Refund Account, 31st March, 1903, as below	...	11,669	19	1	
								2,179,662	1	11	
								13,544	18	5	
								2,166,117	3	6	
						Balance Refund Account, 31st March, 1904, as below	...				
Cash in hand, freight, &c., outstanding, 31st March, 1904, as above	...	49,826	4	1							

COLLECTIONS for REFUND to HARBOUR BOARDS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, CARRIERS, &c., for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Dr.			Cr.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward, 1st April, 1903 ...	...	...	By Treasury payments ...	...	...
Collections for refund ...	...	...	Balance, 31st March, 1904, carried forward ..	...	...
				£162,263 19 3	

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

RETURN No. 2.
GENERAL EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Dr.		Cr.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward :—		By Payments outstanding at 31st March, 1903, brought forward	
Accounts due to the Department outstanding at 1st April, 1903.—		Classified expenditure, as per Return No. 4	
Other Government departments, for stores, work done, &c. ...	19,201 4 3	Recoveries to credit of Vote 71,—	
Personal accounts, for stores, work done, &c. ...	1,533 17 9	Other Government departments, for stores, work done, &c. ...	149,275 2 0
		Personal accounts, for stores, work done, &c. ...	28,502 5 0
Stock of stores on hand at 1st April, 1903		Miscellaneous recoveries	26,868 19 10
			204,646 6 10
Payments per Treasury, Vote 71*		Deposit Account,—	
		Cash with Agent-General	348 4 10
		Cash in Treasury	24,651 15 2
Deposit Account—Permanent-way material			25,000 0 0
		Balance :—	
Payments outstanding at 31st March, 1904, carried forward		Accounts due to Department outstanding at 31st March, 1904,—	
		Other Government departments, for stores, work done, &c. ...	16,702 16 2
		Personal accounts, for stores, work done, &c. ...	14,634 9 6
			31,337 5 8
		Stock of stores in hand at 31st March, 1904	192,899 19 1
			£2,001,986 6 1

* Note.—Payments per Treasury Recoveries ... £1,656,600 4 6
204,646 6 10
Net charge to Vote 71 ... £1,451,953 17 8

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

CLASSIFIED STATEMENT showing REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, and Proportion of each Class of Expenditure to Mileage and Revenue, for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

* Including Lake Wakatipu Steamers (five months).

RETURN No. 6.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT of Expenditure on Construction of Railways, &c., to 31st March, 1904;
Net Revenue, and Rate of Interest earned on Capital expended on Opened Lines for Year
ended same Date.

Section.	State of Line.	Cost of Construction.	Net Revenue.	Rate of Interest.
		£	£	£ s. d.
Kawakawa	Opened	94,204	— 311	..
"	Unopened	40,384	..	..
Whangarei	Opened	176,322	13,666	7 15 0
"	Unopened	12,236	..	..
Kaibu	Opened	69,644	2,726	3 18 3
Auckland	"	3,060,491	106,967	3 9 11
"	Unopened	209,295	..	..
Gisborne-Karaka	Opened	76,062	380	0 10 0
"	Unopened	18,745	..	..
Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth	Opened	4,733,038	182,472	3 17 1
"	Unopened	358,873	..	..
Wellington-Foxton (private line)	..	42,116	..	..
Surveys, North Island	..	23,914	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	5,169	..	..
Hurunui-Bluff	Opened	10,190,793	352,901	3 9 3
"	Unopened	598,952	..	..
Westland	Opened	1,160,284	30,411	2 12 5
"	Unopened	74,136	..	..
Westport	Opened	452,959	45,410	10 0 6
Nelson	"	266,843	2,749	1 0
"	Unopened	42,263	..	..
Picton	Opened	348,571	3,598	1 0 8
"	"	15,612	948	6 1 6
Lake Wakatipu steamer service	..	42,376	..	..
Stock, permanent-way	..	23,088	..	..
Stock, A.O.L. stores	Opened	6,682	..	..
Surveys, Middle Island	..	5,168	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	25,000	..	..
Stock in suspense	Opened	..	..	..
Total opened	..	20,692,911	741,917	3 11 8
Total unopened	..	1,480,309	..	..
Gross total	..	22,173,220	741,917	3 6 11

NOTE.—The amount stated in this return as the cost of construction of opened lines includes the Provincial and General Government expenditure on railways. It also includes the Midland Railway and expenditure by the Greymouth and Westport Harbour Boards on railways and wharves under the provisions of section 7 of "The Railways Authorisation Act, 1885," the information regarding the last mentioned being furnished by the respective Boards.

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

RETURN No. 7.

EXPENDITURE under VOTE for ADDITIONS to OPEN LINES, charged to Capital Account, for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

						Total Expenditure.
						£ s. d.
Material on hand at 31st March, 1903	..	..	..	..	..	37,114 5 2
Expenditure charged to Vote 87 by Treasury	..	..	..	..	..	333,960 16 10
						371,075 2 0
Less material on hand at 31st March, 1904	..	..	..	..	..	23,088 4 8
Expenditure on Works, &c.—						
Way and Works Department	..	..	..	£117,223	12 11	
Locomotive Department	..	..	..	215,901	11 1	
Lake Wakatipu steamers	..	..	..	14,861	13 4	
						£347,986 17 4

WAY AND WORKS DEPARTMENT: PARTICULARS OF WORKS, ETC.

Section.	Work, &c.	Amount.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Whangarei	Respacing sleepers	759 2 2	78 18 0
Auckland	Additions to station buildings, platforms, dwellings, &c. ..		
	Additional works, water-services, &c., for Locomotive Department	2,604 4 4	
	Sidings, loading-banks, stockyards, approaches, and crossings ..	383 18 5	
	Widening bridge, Remuera	124 16 0	
	Relaying	564 7 6	
	Respacing sleepers	355 10 0	
	Bridge-strengthening	659 7 2	
	Telegraph facilities	499 19 7	
	Signals and interlocking	3,707 19 5	
	Tablet-working	2,601 13 3	
			12,260 17 10
Wellington—Napier—New Plymouth	Additions to station buildings, platforms, &c. ..	9,192 16 0	
	Additional works, water-services, &c., for Locomotive Department	1,067 0 5	
	Sidings, loading-banks, stockyards, approaches, and crossings ..	2,401 11 5	
	Additions to dwellings	1,152 2 0	
	Additions to Eastown Workshops	526 17 5	
	Additions to wharf, Foxton	228 10 9	
	Access to beach, New Plymouth	248 7 0	
	Creosoting plant	165 2 6	
	Land	411 12 0	
	Relaying and bridge-strengthening	3,721 10 4	
	Respacing sleepers	1,360 18 0	
	Telegraph facilities	283 19 5	
	Signals and interlocking	2,001 15 7	
	Tablet-working	907 18 11	
	Departmental offices, Wellington	14,517 4 8	
			38,187 6 5
Hurunui—Bluff— (Christchurch District)	Additions to station buildings, platforms, &c. ..	3,509 5 11	
	Additional works, water-services, &c., for Locomotive Department	1,354 9 2	
	Sidings, loading-banks, stockyards, approaches, and crossings ..	864 3 1	
	Buildings for acetylene-gas generators	179 5 2	
	Foot-warmer furnaces	648 6 5	
	Purchase of buildings, Christchurch	3,245 0 0	
	Westinghouse-brake shed, Addington	4,774 17 1	
	Overhead bridge, Lincoln	141 10 2	
	Relaying	2,124 7 6	
	Respacing sleepers	543 18 0	
	Bridge-strengthening	357 6 10	
	Telegraph facilities	170 12 4	
	Signals, interlocking, and tablet-working	2,368 3 6	
			20,281 5 2
(Dunedin District) ..	Additions to station buildings, platforms, &c. ..	10,434 18 1	
	Additional works, water-services, &c., for Locomotive Department	1,879 5 9	
	Sidings, loading-banks, stockyards, approaches, and crossings ..	408 19 6	
	Additions to dwellings	573 11 8	
	Lightening rock slopes, Otago Central Railway	984 13 7	
	Building for acetylene-gas generators, and foot-warmer furnaces	185 14 2	
	Bridge, Caversham	1,327 6 0	
	Relaying	1,128 15 0	
	Respacing sleepers	451 4 0	
	Bridge-strengthening	199 9 1	
	Telegraph facilities	194 11 2	
	Signals and interlocking	1,733 16 8	
	Tablet-working	261 0 3	
			19,763 4 11
	Carried forward	..	90,571 12 4

RETURN No. 7—continued.

WAY AND WORKS DEPARTMENT, ETC.—continued.

Section.	Work, &c.	Amount.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hurunui-Bluff— <i>ctd.</i> (Invercargill District)	Brought forward		90,571 12 4
	Additions to station buildings, platforms, &c.	1,387 18 6	
	Additional works, water-services, &c., for Locomotive Department	439 3 4	
	Sidings, loading-banks, stockyards, approaches, and crossings	7,008 17 0	
	Additions to dwellings	685 15 1	
	Creosoting plant	1,167 16 3	
	Workshops, &c., Invercargill	4,020 17 6	
	Foot-warmer furnaces	143 12 10	
	Bridge, Riverton	2,361 10 2	
	Relaying	1,603 2 6	
	Respacing sleepers	531 12 0	
	Signals, interlocking, and telegraph facilities	3,982 13 1	
	Tablet-working	1,214 14 10	
Westland	Additions to sidings	229 9 7	24,547 13 1
	Fencing	342 15 0	
	Foot-warmer furnaces	381 4 5	
	Respacing sleepers	115 0 0	
	Signals, interlocking, and telegraph facilities	153 17 6	
	Tablet-working	544 8 9	
Nelson	Respacing sleepers		1,766 15 3
			151 16 0
Picton	Additions to sidings and wharf, and respacing sleepers ..	185 16 3	
			185 16 3
		..	117,223 12 11

RETURN No. 7—continued.

LOCOMOTIVE DEPARTMENT: PARTICULARS OF ROLLING-STOCK, ETC.

Description of Stock ordered.	Order.	Number Incomplete on March 31, 1903.	Number Completed on 31st March, 1904.	Number Incomplete on 31st March, 1904.	Expenditure in Year ended 31st March, 1904.
					£ s. d.
Locomotives, Class B	M	1	1	..	685 15 10
Carriages, conversion to bogie, Class A	O	*20	..	..	..
Wagons, four-wheel, Class L, high-side	G—3	177	40	137	1,896 8 3
" " Class M, low-side	H—3	†60	60	..	2,629 2 1
Locomotives, Class Fb	T—3	2	2	..	2,133 10 9
" Class Wa	U—3	1	1	..	581 12 1
" conversion from L to La	V—3	‡1	..	..	\$990 18 0
Carriages, conversion to bogie, Class A	Y—3	3	3	..	1,137 8 10
Brake-vans, conversion to bogie, Class F	K—4	2	2	..	337 9 5
Wagons, four-wheel, Class W, frozen-meat	M—4	..	..	..	\$148 7 0
Locomotives from Baldwin Company, Class Q	N—4	..	..	..	‡915 4 0
Wagons, bogie, Class U, platform	W—4	..	..	..	\$246 8 6
Locomotives, conversion, Class Fa to Class Fb	C—5	12	12	..	2,032 18 10
Carriages, Class A	E—5	57	49	8	26,848 3 10
Brake-vans, Class F	F—5	6	6	..	1,871 5 5
Wagons, four-wheel, 1902-1903 programme	H—5	112	91	21	10,217 14 5
" bogie,	J—5	114	52	62	20,426 10 10
Tarpaulins	K—5	¶680	680	..	1,968 3 6
Wagons, Class G	L—5	6	6	..	640 0 8
" four-wheel, Class Q, coal-hoppers	M—5	50	38	12	2,203 2 4
Locomotive, Class U	N—5	1	1	..	2,669 13 2
Refreshment-cars, Class A	O—5	3	3	..	2,483 7 6
Carriages, Class A	P—5	2	..	2	163 7 0
" Class A, 1903-1904 programme	Q—5	59	6	53	11,828 2 3
Brake-vans, Class F, 1903-1904 programme	R—5	22	12	10	6,031 15 4
Wagons, four-wheel,	S—5	225	66	159	15,341 6 3
" bogie, 1903-4 programme	T—5	113	22	91	10,395 0 11
Tarpaulins, 1903-1904 programme	U 5	225	..	225	463 12 3
Locomotives, Class Wf	V—5	8	..	8	..
" Class Wf (contract)	W—5	10	..	10	4,978 1 6
Carriages, Class A (part cost)	X—5	2	..	2	178 17 4
Cranes, steam, 5-ton	Y—5	2	..	2	..
Ballast-hopper, Class Y	Z—5	1	1	..	140 14 6
Brake-vans, Class F	A—6	2	..	2	135 1 6
Locomotive, double-ender, Class E (first charge)	B—6	1	..	1	29 6 1
Fitting additional lavatory accommodation in carriages	..	..	..	..	308 7 8
Fitting rolling-stock with Westinghouse brake	..	..	..	..	76,961 14 1
" second-class compartments of bogie-carriages	..	..	..	..	..
" with cushions	..	..	..	..	473 13 7
" gangways on carriages	..	..	..	..	136 15 7
Lighting Addington shops electrically	..	..	..	..	128 17 3
Machinery for workshops	..	..	..	..	5,803 12 9
Total	..	..	..	..	£215,901 11 1

Particulars.	Number under Order.	Additional Stock.		Conversions.	
		Completed on 31st March, 1904.	Incomplete on 31st March, 1904.	Completed on 31st March, 1904.	Incomplete on 31st March, 1904.
Total locomotives	36	5	19	12	..
" carriages	126	58	65	2	..
" brake-vans	32	18	12	2	..
" wagons, bogie	227	74	153	..	..
" " four-wheel	631	296	329	6	..
" tarpaulins	905	680	225	..	..
" cranes	2	..	2	..	..

* Order cancelled. † Order reduced from 66 to 60. ‡ Order cancelled. Locomotive sold. § Additional expenditure on orders V—3, M—4, and W—4 brought into stock year ending 31st March, 1903. ¶ Final payment, being percentage held in abeyance from last year. ¶ Order reduced from 905 to 680.

RETURN No. 8.

RETURN of REVENUE received by Railway Department from other Departments of the Public Service for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Department.	Passengers.	Season Tickets.	Mails.	Goods.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Defence	2,344 9 11	637 14 6	..	1,575 6 10	4,557 11 3
Police	2,122 1 0	222 15 0	..	302 4 11	2,647 0 11
Public Works	772 0 2	438 4 5	..	14,179 0 10	15,389 5 5
Mines	8 11 9	170 0 0	..	1,038 10 2	1,217 1 11
Agricultural	22 6 7	1,004 5 5	..	981 14 2	2,008 6 2
Lands and Survey and Roads	168 13 10	1,056 19 6	..	1,269 5 2	2,494 18 6
Customs	36 19 5	44 0 0	..	21 6 8	102 6 1
Colonial Secretary	361 14 1	..	..	3 13 1	365 7 2
Lunatic Asylums	17 1 9	69 18 6	..	838 12 0	925 12 2
Marine and Machinery	11 3 11	337 15 0	..	36 7 2	385 6 1
Prisons	243 8 6	30 0 0	..	83 8 7	356 17 1
Audit	..	162 15 0	..	..	162 15 0
Education	5,362 5 4	6,095 7 0	..	121 8 7	11,579 0 11
Labour	380 2 4	60 0 0	..	1 17 5	441 19 9
Land and Income Tax and Valuation	..	283 15 0	..	..	283 15 0
Native and Justice	394 6 9	625 17 0	..	37 7 5	1,057 11 2
Tourist and Health Resorts	125 7 0	..	..	464 5 5	589 12 5
Public Trustee	..	26 10 0	..	..	26 10 0
Government Insurance	..	30 12 0	..	..	30 12 0
Government Printer	..	..	..	30 17 11	30 17 11
Legislative	2 4 10	..	..	..	2 4 10
Stamps and Deeds	..	7 10 0	..	0 4 6	7 14 6
Public Health	116 1 6	400 14 5	..	145 18 11	662 14 10
Meteorological	3 3 0	..	..	..	3 3 0
Old-age Pensions	..	12 0 0	..	..	12 0 0
Commerce and Industry	5 15 11	..	..	..	5 15 11
Postal and Telegraph	709 16 6	308 19 0	24,988 11 0	1,960 6 7	27,967 13 1
Totals	13,207 14 1	12,025 11 9	24,988 11 0	23,091 16 4	73,313 13 2

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

RETURN No. 9.

STATEMENT of SEASON TICKETS issued for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Description.	Number.	Amount.		
		£	s.	d.
Travellers' tickets, all lines...	4	241	10	0
Travellers' tickets, North Island	96	3,446	10	0
Travellers' tickets, Middle Island	60	3,115	0	0
Reporters' tickets	67	669	19	11
Sectional tickets	220	6,033	0	0
Tourists' tickets, North Island	58	291	10	0
Tourists' tickets, Middle Island	52	319	10	0
Tourists' tickets, all lines...	105	843	0	0
Fifty-trip commutation ordinary tickets	2,146	1,478	10	6
Fifty-trip commutation family tickets	1,427	2,099	17	0
School tickets	12,757	6,762	13	2
Twenty-trip commutation tickets	524	376	2	2
Twelve-trip workmen's tickets	33,809	4,720	8	0
Weekly workmen's tickets	68,248	6,858	11	3
All other season tickets	10,346	15,324	1	5
Totals	129,919	52,580	3	5

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

RETURN NO. 10.

STATEMENT showing CLASSIFICATION of EXPENDITURE on MAINTENANCE of WAY and WORKS for the Year ended 31st March, 1904.

Classification of Work.	SECTIONS.														Total.			
	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Gisborne-Karaka.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.	Invercargill.		Westland.			Westport.	Nelson.	Picton.
						£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.				
Track-surfacing ..	434 12 6	1,121 3 5	873 11 5	20,178 8 2	645 10 3	335,527 3 4	429,928 2 6	27,450 5 6	20,538 10 11	6,263 4 11	2,753 1 9	1,921 10 3	1,827 0 11	149,462 5 10				
Track-renewals ..	70 16 1	491 15 1	431 2 2	216,623 2 4	8 18 0	46,199 19 8	41,388 19 3	28,683 9 3	21,961 12 4	6,390 0 4	2,679 5 2	1,191 15 6	581 15 4	166,702 10 6				
Ballasting ..	11 19 0	271 16 9	70 1 10	1,529 16 1	..	3,174 10 5	1,696 11 5	2,845 19 10	2,209 6 9	655 7 11	213 17 8	17 6 8	8 18 3	12,705 12 7				
Banks, cuttings, ditches, tunnels	45 9 0	45 5 9	48 6 5	1,648 4 1	10 12 4	4,357 14 4	2,160 8 5	3,690 18 2	2,718 14 10	676 19 4	36 16 6	233 18 10	369 9 9	16,042 17 9				
Bridges, culverts, drains ..	123 10 6	190 12 6	33 7 7	9,909 0 1	28 0 11	15,720 10 7	11,404 10 8	6,696 10 5	5,319 8 4	2,263 11 0	1,479 7 8	238 12 10	509 11 0	53,916 14 1				
Fences, gates, cattle-stops, hedges	..	27 2 6	11 1 0	1,606 7 10	0 3 6	4,440 16 8	1,498 18 6	2,931 19 2	2,116 1 3	497 5 7	23 11 2	132 13 9	121 5 11	13,407 6 10				
Roads, approaches, &c. ..	..	1 12 6	..	792 1 6	..	1,118 0 4	792 10 5	919 1 9	546 3 10	93 6 5	31 1 9	17 10 5	4 16 5	4,316 5 4				
Water-services, signals, cranes, appliances ..	..	29 1 3	3 15 11	1,927 6 4	2 3 0	2,920 13 3	2,555 1 2	3,300 12 0	2,046 4 5	224 2 3	219 1 1	50 1 6	57 16 6	13,335 19 4				
Wharves ..	36 1 2	38 5 8	0 12 4	522 9 0	..	953 0 11	..	260 17 8	30 11 5	1,224 14 11	2,171 14 4	1,916 5 11	768 8 6	7,923 1 2				
Buildings ..	106 18 8	212 5 1	11 12 2	4,418 8 2	5 18 1	11,784 9 10	7,598 18 1	5,946 17 2	4,387 6 4	1,384 7 8	583 0 5	293 1 1	38 13 8	36,771 16 5				
Miscellaneous ..	..	27 15 10	..	1,192 16 4	26 15 0	2,289 15 11	1,953 7 10	2,828 5 7	2,352 11 10	597 14 4	2,217 3 5	35 10 4	..	13,521 16 5				
General charges ..	2 9 5	28 16 1	8 5 4	339 12 6	3 18 6	717 0 4	532 14 1	445 0 11	387 17 2	102 10 1	104 11 10	20 13 10	18 19 9	2,712 9 10				
Totals ..	831 16 4	2,485 12 5	1,491 16 2	60,687 12 5	731 19 7	129,203 15 7	101,510 2 4	85,999 17 5	64,614 9 5	20,373 4 9	12,512 12 9	6,069 0 11	4,306 16 0	490,818 16 1				
Rate per mile opened ..	103 19 6	108 1 5	87 15 1	171 18 0	56 6 1	277 5 3	214 3 1	217 3 5	187 6 7	181 18 1	403 12 8	183 18 2	126 13 5	212 18 10				

H. DAVIDSON, Accountant.

RETURN NO. 11.
STATEMENT showing NUMBER of PASSENGER TICKETS issued at CHEAP EXCURSION RATES for Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Section.	SCHOOLS, FACTORIES, AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.					HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.				GROSS TOTAL—SCHOOL AND HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.			
	Schools, Factories and Friendly Soc's. Children not exceeding 15 Years of Age.	Schools only. Senior Scholars over 15 but not exceeding 23 Years of Age, and Teachers.	Schools, and Factories, and Friendly Societies. — Adults.	Total.	Revenue.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Total.	Revenue.	Number of Tickets.	Revenue.		
Kawakawa	No. 177	No. 3	No. 326	No. 506	£ s. d. 15 5 3	No. 68	No. 430	No. 498	£ s. d. 30 16 10	1,004	£ s. d. 46 2 1		
Whangarei	186	57	73	316	6 17 9	25	474	499	51 9 0	815	58 6 9		
Kaihu	274	17	267	558	35 8 0	50	281	331	37 3 0	889	72 11 0		
Auckland	2,544	426	1,902	4,872	304 12 0	3,399	118,124	121,523	17,777 6 0	126,395	18,081 18 0		
Gisborne	130	...	273	403	33 16 0	1,038	2,927	3,965	367 17 10	4,868	401 13 10		
Wanganui	4,957	562	3,061	8,580	598 10 6	8,207	69,016	77,223	17,119 5 5	85,803	17,717 15 11		
Wellington-Napier	9,153	1,928	7,628	18,709	972 19 4	17,076	72,375	89,451	17,673 1 8	108,160	18,646 1 0		
Pictou	1,037	96	507	1,640	66 19 3	2,361	11,630	13,991	732 16 0	15,631	799 15 3		
Nelson	943	138	455	1,536	69 12 0	1,132	7,996	9,128	755 11 9	10,664	825 3 9		
Westport	465	39	766	1,270	67 2 8	36	4,840	4,876	441 2 11	6,146	508 5 7		
Westland	3,316	171	3,368	6,855	523 13 11	1,779	25,796	27,575	2,891 12 7	34,430	3,415 6 6		
Christchurch	12,456	1,637	17,985	32,078	2,476 13 0	41,091	131,946	173,037	27,879 16 0	205,115	30,356 9 0		
Dunedin	10,245	1,270	14,156	25,671	1,546 10 0	19,053	91,096	110,149	25,956 9 5	135,820	27,502 19 5		
Invercargill	4,481	631	3,577	8,689	706 19 11	5,102	58,036	63,138	13,909 15 7	71,827	14,616 15 6		
Totals { 1904	50,364	6,975	54,344	111,683	7,424 19 7	100,417	594,967	695,384	125,624 4 0	807,067	133,049 3 7		
{ 1903	41,540	6,048	41,555	89,143	6,050 11 3	84,448	517,566	602,014	103,279 8 6	691,157	109,329 19 9		
Increase	8,824	927	12,789	22,540	1,374 8 4	15,969	77,401	93,370	22,344 15 6	115,910	23,719 3 10		
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Total, year ending—													
31st March, 1896	63,598	5,949	38,467	108,014	7,246 5 9	50,511	239,164	289,675	50,232 12 11	397,689	57,478 18 8		
31st March, 1897	44,610	5,993	33,925	84,528	5,616 2 8	58,464	313,724	372,188	63,439 0 0	456,716	69,055 2 8		
31st March, 1898	39,963	5,398	35,064	80,425	5,569 18 1	66,012	383,569	449,581	80,822 8 1	530,006	86,392 6 2		
31st March, 1899	45,748	6,192	39,955	91,895	6,215 11 8	70,531	411,747	482,278	84,794 15 6	574,173	91,010 7 2		
31st March, 1900	37,839	5,616	31,164	74,619	4,752 3 10	81,528	501,176	582,704	96,154 7 5	657,323	100,906 11 3		
31st March, 1901	38,864	5,602	34,550	79,016	5,234 16 8	87,544	541,624	629,168	102,932 10 9	708,184	108,167 7 5		
31st March, 1902	42,506	5,736	37,708	85,950	5,466 16 9	95,628	588,813	684,441	136,813 0 1	770,391	142,279 16 10		
31st March, 1903	41,540	6,048	41,555	89,143	6,050 11 3	84,448	517,566	602,014	103,279 8 6	691,157	109,329 19 9		
31st March, 1904	50,364	6,975	54,344	111,683	7,424 19 7	100,417	594,967	695,384	125,624 4 0	807,067	133,049 3 7		

RETURN No. 12.

STATEMENT of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of each Station for the Year ended 31st March, 1904

Stations.		Hours open.	No. of Hands employed.	Traffic Expenditure.	NUMBER OF TICKETS.																				OUTWARD.																				INWARD.																				Stations.																		
					First-class Single.	First-class Return.	Second-class Single.	Second-class Return.	Total.	Number of Season Tickets.	Parcels.	Horses.	Carrriages.	Dogs.	Drays, &c.	Trucks of Limes, Chaff, &c.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Bales of Wool.	Trucks of Wood.	Timber, Superficial Feet.	Grain.	Merchandise.	Minerals.	Ordinary Passengers.	Season Tickets.	Parcels, &c.	Luggage, Mails, &c.	Goods.	Miscellaneous.	Hunts and Commission.	Total Value Forwarded.	Parcels.	Horses.	Carrriages.	Dogs.	Drays, &c.	Trucks of Limes, Chaff, &c.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Bales of Wool.	Trucks of Wood.	Timber, Superficial Feet.	Grain.	Merchandise.	Minerals.																																	
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STATEMENT of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of each Station for the Year ended 31st March, 1904—continued

[illegible]

STATEMENT of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of each Station for the Year ended 31st March, 1904—continued.

7—10. 2.

Carried forward.

RETURN No. 13.

STATEMENT of CARRIAGE and WAGON STOCK, and TARPAULINS, for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Description.	Class.	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Gisborne.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Hununu-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Picton.	Total.
CARRIAGES.													
Royal saloon, bogie, 44 feet	A	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3
Gallery-cars, " 44 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5
Saloon, bogie, 44 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
" " 41 feet	A	...	...	...	3	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	9
" " 39½ feet	A	...	...	...	1	...	6	7	...	...	...	...	14
" " 37½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
" " 35 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	3
Refreshment-cars, bogie, 44 feet	A	...	...	...	3	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	10
Corridor, bogie, first class, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	4	...	6	7	...	...	...	...	17
First class, bogie, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	4
" " 44 feet	A	...	...	...	1	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	8
" " 42½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
" " 30 feet	B	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	7
" 6-wheel	C	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
" 4-wheel	D	...	2	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	1	8
Corridor, bogie, composite, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	4	...	6	18	...	...	...	...	28
Composite, bogie, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	9	...	15	11	2	...	...	...	37
" " 46 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	12
" " 44 feet	A	...	...	...	48	...	66	107	9	2	2	5	239
" " 42½ feet	A	...	...	...	2	...	13	30	...	...	...	...	43
" " 39½ feet	A	...	...	...	5	...	15	22	...	...	...	...	42
" " 30 feet	B	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	...	2	...	18
" 6-wheel	C	...	4	2	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	5
" 4-wheel	D	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	18
Corridor, bogie, second class, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	7	...	5	16	...	...	...	...	28
Second class, bogie, 47½ feet	A	...	...	...	23	...	27	74	7	3	2	...	136
" " 44 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	7
" " 42½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	5
" " 39½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
" " 35 feet	B	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	10
" " 30 feet	E	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
" 6-wheel	C	...	3	2	...	2	3	13	2	...	2	...	27
" 4-wheel	D	...	1	3	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	9
Postal, bogie, 44 feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
" " 39½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	5
" " 30 feet	B	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
" composite, 44 feet	A	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4
" 39½ feet	A	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	...	3	12	5	126	4	205	404	27	6	10	7	809
WAGONS, ETC.													
Brake-vans, 4-wheel	F	2	4	2	14	1	20	59	7	3	4	3	119
" bogie	F	...	...	...	29	...	59	78	5	3	...	1	175
" Fell	F	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	7
Horse-boxes	G	...	...	...	23	...	71	71	4	...	1	1	171
Cattle-trucks	H	2	2	...	65	...	70	171	3	1	2	2	318
Sheep-trucks	J	...	...	...	84	...	315	306	3	...	2	24	734
Covered goods	K	1	6	1	63	...	87	316	15	3	6	3	501
Sleeping-vans	K	...	...	...	6	...	15	48	3	1	...	...	73
High-sides	L	4	12	4	653	6	1,266	3,989	112	12	47	74	6,179
" "	LA	...	...	...	125	...	...	1,100	...	...	...	...	1,225
Low-sides	M	4	18	12	63	10	223	814	64	24	12	21	1,265
Timber	N	10	72	62	70	...	99	167	36	33	8	...	557
Iron hopper	O	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	243	160	...	...	403
Platform coal	P	22	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Movable iron hopper	Q	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	313	...	...	351
Frozen meat	W	...	...	...	27	...	30	70	...	...	...	...	127
Cool	X	...	1	...	55	...	120	64	...	...	...	7	247
Ballast hopper	Y	...	...	...	40	...	51	25	...	...	...	...	116
High-side, bogie	R	...	...	2	58	...	84	51	9	...	...	...	204
" "	RB	...	...	...	...	...	8	10	...	...	...	...	18
Sheep-trucks, "	S	...	...	...	8	...	37	41	...	...	...	...	86
Cattle-trucks, "	T	...	...	...	8	...	19	15	...	...	...	...	42
Platform-trucks, bogie	U	1	2	...	45	...	139	42	42	...	...	...	271
Gas storeholders, "	UA	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	8
Platform trucks, "	UB	...	...	...	...	...	11	5	...	...	...	...	16
Horse-boxes, "	UG	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
Frozen meat, "	V	...	...	...	...	...	28	53	...	...	...	...	81
Covered goods, "	Z	...	...	...	...	...	11	17	...	...	...	...	28
Totals	...	46	200	83	1,436	17	2,773	7,523	584	553	82	136	13,433
TARPAULINS													
	...	13	22	14	925	10	1,945	6,672	145	20	66	170	10,002

RETURN No. 14.

STATEMENT of LOCOMOTIVE STOCK for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Class.	Type.	Cylinder.		Coupled Wheels.		Truck Wheels.		Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaibu.	Auckland.	Gisborne.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Huronui-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Picton.	Total Engines.
		Dia-meter.	Stroke.	No.	Dia-meter.	No.	Dia-meter.												
A	Tank	8	15	4	2 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4
B	Tender	16	22	8	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
C	Tank	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	4	2 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	2	18	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	6
D	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	4	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	18	1	...	...	...	2	8	15	1	...	1	1	29
F	"	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	6	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	2	13	...	11	37	5	3	1	...	72
F _B	"	12	18	6	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	2	...	4	...	2	8	...	2	2	...	20
G	"	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	4	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
H	" Fell	14	16	4	2 8	2	30	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	6
J	Tender	14	20	6	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	2	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	9	...	8	15	...	...	...	...	32
K	"	12	20	4	4 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	2	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	8
L	Tank	12	18	4	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	4	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	10
L _A	" Midland	12	18	4	3 9	4	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5
M	"	13	20	4	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	4
N	Tender	15	20	6	4 1	4	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	4	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	10
O	"	15	18	8	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	6
P	"	15	20	8	3 5	2	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	4	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	10
Q	"	16	22	6	4 1	2	30	...	...	...	6	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	13
R	Single Fairlie	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	6	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	1	...	9	8	...	...	...	...	18
S	"	13	16	6	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	4
T	Tender	15	18	8	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
U	" N.Z.R.	16	20	6	4 6	4	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	9
U _A	" English	16	20	6	4 1	4	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
U _B	" American	16	20	6	4 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	26 $\frac{3}{8}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	20
U _B	"	16	22	6	4 1	4	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
U _C	" English	16	22	6	4 1	4	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	10
V	"	15	20	6	4 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	10
W	Tank, N.Z.R.	14	20	6	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2
W _A	"	14	20	6	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	1	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	11
W _B	" American	14	20	6	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	25	...	2	...	...	...	7	...	3	...	...	...	12
W _D	"	14	20	6	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	25	...	...	2	...	...	12	4	...	...	...	...	18
W _E	"	16	22	6	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	30	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Totals		...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	2	51	2	102	181	12	10	4	5	377

RETURN NO. 15.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the MILEAGE OPENED, CAPITAL EXPENDED, EARNINGS, EXPENSES, &c., of RAILWAYS in the following Colonies (taken from latest Official Records) :—

Colony.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.	Average Miles open.	Gauge.	Total Cost.	Cost per Mile for Total Mileage constructed.	Population per Mile of Railway.	Cost per Head of Population.	Train Miles run.	Gross Earnings.	Earnings per Train Mile.	Working expenses.	Working expenses per Train Mile.	Profit on Working.	Net Earnings per Train Mile.	Percentage of Net Earnings to Capital.	Percentage of Working expenses to Earnings.	Earnings per Head of Population.	Passengers carried.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings per Average Mile open.	Working expenses per Average Mile open.	Net Earnings per Average Mile.	Maintenance per Mile of Railway.	Locomotive, Car, and Wagon per Train Mile.	Traffic per Cent. of Revenue.	General Charges (including Compensation, &c.) per Cent. of Revenue.	Number of Locomotives.	Number of Passenger-carriages.	Number of Wagons and Brake-vans.	Year ending
Victoria ..	87,884	1,208,070	3,335	5 3	40,974,493	12,110,362	33 18	4 10	286,272	3,046,858	71.09	1,938,580	45.23	1,108,278	25.86	2.70	63.63	2 10	554,798,073	3,093,997	913	581	332,158	18.08	19.11	1.74	553	1,179	10,257	1903.	
New South Wales	310,700	1,415,760	3,074	4 8	41,654,977	13,272,461	29 8	5 11	548,388	3,314,893	68.89	2,266,299	47.10	1,048,594	21.79	2.52	68.37	2 6	10,32,348,138	6,596,241	1,078	737	341,160	22.65	18.26	2.55	559	823	12,791	" 1902.	
Cape of Good Hope	221,311	458,000	2,196	3 6	23,154,083	10,367,209	50 11	11.2	318,639	5,291,627	103.10	3,779,256	73.63	1,512,371	29.47	6.53	71.42	1 11	119,428,888	2,177,805	2,410	1,721	689,371	37.77	15.47	3.91	583	777	8,955	31 Dec. 1903.	
Queensland ..	668,224	514,851	2,777	3 6	20,302,177	7,489,190	39 8	8 4	947,242	1,234,230	59.87	863,382	41.88	370,848	17.99	1.83	69.95	2 7	11	4,048,171	1,566,960	444	311	133,105	16.75	16.80	1.58	342	446	7,302	30 June. 1903.
South Australia ..	908,690	365,020	1,882	3 6	14,575,852	7,745,194	39 18	8 3	800,773	1,087,910	68.70	637,323	40.24	450,587	28.46	3.09	58.58	2 19	7	9,065,119	1,352,072	578	339	239	78.20	25.14	1.54	352	442	6,428	" 1903.
Natal ..	20,461	63,821	710	3 6	10,543,179	14,850	90 165	4 0	4,851,600	2,561,552	126.72	1,791,108	88.60	770,444	38.12	7.31	69.92	2 9	2,834,807	2,052,082	3,608	2,523	1,085,286	40.53	17.58	12.39	259	502	3,330	31 Dec. 1903.	
Western Australia	975,876	221,990	1,434	3 6	8,141,782	5,678,155	36 13	7 4	611,315	1,553,485	80.85	1,247,873	64.95	305,612	15.90	.75	80.33	6 19	11	9,106,396	1,968,331	1,083	870	213,163	33.46	20.11	3.91	316	264	5,694	30 June. 1902.
Tasmania ..	26,215	177,077	462	3 6	3,840,747	8,317,383	21 13	9 9	902,918	233,211	61.98	173,293	46.06	59,918	15.92	1.56	74.30	1 6	4	761,345	407,505	505	375	130,125	16.96	18.19	3.63	75	172	1,474	31 Dec. 1899.
New Zealand ..	104,471	746,673	2,090	3 6	16,404,076	7,849,357	21 19	5 3	968,708	1,469,665	9.00	929,737	56.22	539,928	32.78	3.9	63.26	1 19	4	4,955,553	2,624,059	712	450	262,173	18.46	16.67	3.0	293	550	9,792	31 Mar. 1900.
" ..	104,471	758,616	2,099	3 6	16,703,887	7,958,361	22 0	5 4	1,187,893	1,623,891	93.00	1,052,358	60.31	571,533	32.69	3.42	64.80	2 2	10	5,468,284	3,127,824	774	501	273,188	21.32	16.17	2.93	304	577	10,295	31 Mar. 1901.
" ..	104,471	815,349	2,174	3 6	17,207,328	7,915,375	21 2	4 6	2,020,971	1,727,236	89.75	1,127,848	58.58	599,388	31.17	3.47	65.30	2 2	4	6,243,593	3,339,687	794	519	275,196	19.99	17.15	2.09	306	603	10,868	31 Mar. 1902.
" ..	104,471	838,137	2,227	3 6	18,170,722	8,159,374	21 16	2 5	2,066,360	1,874,586	88.75	1,252,237	59.32	622,349	29.43	3.43	66.80	2 5	0	7,356,136	3,529,177	842	562	280,196	21.35	17.78	3.03	362	701	12,444	31 Mar. 1903.
" ..	104,471	857,985	2,262	3 6	19,081,735	8,436,379	22 4	10 5	4,443,333	1,974,088	87.00	1,343,415	59.23	630,633	27.77	3.30	68.05	2 6	0	7,575,390	3,730,394	873	594	279,204	21.36	18.24	3.19	372	751	12,992	31 Mar. 1904.
" ..	104,471	882,097	2,305	3 6	20,692,911	8,977,383	23 9	2 5	5,685,399	2,180,641	91.75	1,438,724	60.48	741,917	31.27	3.58	65.98	2 9	5	8,306,383	4,072,576	943	622	321,213	22.21	17.22	3.14	377	809	13,433	31 Mar. 1904.

RETURN No. 17.

STATEMENT of STORES CONTRACTS current during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Service.	Period.	Name of Contractor.	Rate.
Gold passes for members	9/5/1903	Rash and Gooder	23/4 each.
Horse-forage, at Auckland	31/3/1904	W. and G. Winstone	As per tender.
" Christchurch	"	Geo. Treleaven and Co.	"
Native-timber Supply— Christchurch	"	W. White and Co.	"
Dunedin and Invercargill	"	Macpherson and Co... ..	"
Tallow-wood timber— Auckland	28/2/1904	E. D. Pike and Co., Michael and Reid, Murray, Arnold, and Co.	21/6 per 100 sup. ft.
Wellington	"	William Flannery	20/
Lyttelton	31/7/1904	Allen Taylor and Co.	20/11
Port Chalmers	"	"	20/11
Ironbark timber at Auckland	28/2/1904	E. D. Pike and Co.	21/4
Ironbark timber and piles— Wanganui	"	Murray, Arnold, and Co.	22/6 per 100 sup. ft. and 2/9 lin. ft.
Wellington	"	E. D. Pike and Co.	20/9 per 100 sup. ft., and 2/ lin. ft.
Christchurch	"	"	21/6 per 100 sup. ft., and 2/1 lin. ft.
Dunedin	"	"	22/ per 100 sup. ft., and 2/2 lin. ft.
Ironbark timber at Invercargill	"	"	19/6 and 22/6 per 100 sup. ft.
" and piles at Picton	"	"	22/6 per 100 sup. ft., and 2/3 lin. ft.
" " "	"	"	22/3 per 100 sup. ft., and 2/4 lin. ft.
" " Westport	"	"	23/ per 100 sup. ft., and 2/4 lin. ft.
" at Greymouth	"	"	23/ per 100 sup. ft.
Ironbark sleepers sawn at Auckland ..	31/3/1904	Joseph Reid	4/5 each.
" Wellington	"	"	4/5
" Wanganui	"	W. B. Sharp	5/
" Westport	"	"	5/
" Nelson	"	"	5/
" Lyttelton	"	Allen Taylor and Co.	4/5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Dunedin	"	"	4/5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Bluff	"	"	4/5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ironbark sleepers hewn at Auckland ..	"	E. W. Fitzgerald	3/8
" Wellington	"	"	3/8
" Wanganui	"	"	4/4
" Dunedin	"	"	3/8
Iron castings at Auckland	31/7/1904	Seagar Bros.	12/, 11/9 per cwt.
Steel castings, Auckland	31/3/1904	Wilkinson, Callon, and Co.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lb.
" Wellington	"	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
" Christchurch	"	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
" Dunedin	"	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
18,000 gallons castor-oil	12/12/1903	Briscoe and Co. (Limited)	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$ per gallon.
27,000 " dark mineral axle-oil	11/6/1904	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
11,000 " high - pressure filtered valve-oil	"	James Service and Co.	2/3
3,500 " pale machine-oil	31/3/1904	"	1/
26,000 " mineral colza	"	"	9d. "
Coal-supply— Whangarei Section	"	J. R. Reyburn	8/6 per ton.
" "	"	Hikurangi Coal Co. (Limited)	8/
Auckland "	"	Taupiri Coal-mines (Limited)	8/
" " at Westport	"	Westport Coal Company	17/6
" " at Onehunga	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	24/6
Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth ..	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	24/6
" " "	"	Blackball Coal Company	24/6
" " "	"	Westport Coal Company	25/6
" " "	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	28/6
" " "	"	Westport Coal Company	24/6
" " "	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	27/6
" " "	"	Westport Coal Company	23/
" " "	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	26/6
" " "	"	Westport Coal Company	23/
" " "	"	Blackball Coal Company	19/
" " "	"	Blackball Coal Company	22/6
" " "	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	22/6

RETURN NO. 17—*continued.*STATEMENT of STORES CONTRACTS CURRENT, ETC.—*continued.*

Service.	Period.	Name of Contractor.	Rate.
Coal-supply— <i>continued.</i>			
Picton	31/3/1904	Anchor Shipping and Foundry Company	22/6 per ton.
Nelson	"	21/6	"
Westland	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	12/ "
Westport	"	Westport Coal Company	11/ "
Lyttelton	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	23/6 "
"	"	Blackball Coal Company	23/6 "
"	"	John Deans	11/ "
"	"	Westport Coal Company	20/ "
Timaru	"	Blackball Coal Company	24/ "
"	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	22/6 "
Oamaru	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	23/ "
"	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	25/6 "
"	"	Blackball Coal Company	24/ "
Dunedin-Gore	"	New Zealand Coal and Oil Company	8/ "
"	"	Westport Coal Company	21/ "
"	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	24/6 "
South of Gore	"	Nightcaps Coal Company	7/6 "
"	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	23/ "
Workshops, Auckland	"	J. J. Craig	23/ "
" Wanganui	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	25/ "
" Wellington	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	20/ "
" Lyttelton	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	21/ "
" Dunedin	"	Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Railway and Coal Co.	22/ "
General stores—			
Auckland—			
General ironmongery	31/3/1905	John Burns and Co.	As per tender.
Oils, colours, &c.	"	"	"
Indiarubber goods	"	"	"
Furnishing ironmongery	"	Briscoe and Co.	"
Iron and steel	"	"	"
Ship-chandlery	"	"	"
Brushware	"	"	"
Drain-pipes	"	J. J. Craig	"
Lime	"	"	"
Cement	"	J. Wilson and Co.	"
Leather, &c.	"	Brace, Windle, Blyth, and Co.	"
Iron, sheet, galvanised	"	Southern Cross Galvanised-iron Manufacturing Company	"
Wellington—			
General ironmongery	"	Briscoe and Co.	"
Furnishing ironmongery	"	"	"
Ship-chandlery	"	"	"
Drain-pipes	"	"	"
Brushware	"	"	"
Leather, &c.	"	"	"
Iron and steel	"	John Duthie and Co.	"
Oils, colours, &c.	"	Smith and Smith	"
Cement	"	Peter Hutson and Co.	"
Lime	"	Milburn Lime and Cement Company	"
Indiarubber goods	"	A. R. Hislop	"
Christchurch—			
General ironmongery	"	Ashby, Bergh, and Co.	"
Furnishing ironmongery	"	"	"
Drain-pipes	"	"	"
Cement	"	"	"
Brushware	"	"	"
Leather, &c.	"	"	"
Iron and steel	"	John Anderson	"
Oils, colours, &c.	"	Edward Reece and Sons	"
Ship-chandlery	"	"	"
Lime	"	Luke Adams	"
Indiarubber goods	"	W. J. Crawford	"
Dunedin—			
General ironmongery	"	John Edmond	"
Furnishing ironmongery	"	"	"
Oils, colours, &c.	"	"	"
Ship-chandlery	"	"	"
Drain-pipes	"	"	"
Leather, &c.	"	"	"
Iron and steel	"	Briscoe and Co.	"
Brushware	"	"	"
Cement	"	Milburn Lime and Cement Company	"
Lime	"	"	"
Indiarubber goods	"	W. J. Crawford	"

RETURN NO. 17—*continued.*
STATEMENT of STORES CONTRACTS CURRENT, ETC.—*continued.*

Service.	Period.	Name of Contractor.	Rate.
Uniform suits—			
Guards and porters	31/3/1904	A. Levy	As per tender.
Stationmasters	"	Jones and Ashdown	"
Uniform caps—			
Stationmasters	"	Charles Hill and Sons	15/ each.
Guards and porters	"	"	4/ "
"	"	Hallenstein Bros. and Co.	4/ "
Drivers and firemen	"	"	4/6 "
Freight on 60,000 birch sleepers, Marlborough Sounds to Lyttelton	30/4/1905	Thomas Eckford	1/ "
Auckland District—			
4,700 fire-lumps	31/3/1904	J. J. Craig	4/
511,000 sup. ft. kauri timber	"	Merchants and mills in district	5/ to 28/ per 100 ft.
7,000 sup. ft. kauri moulding	"	"	4/6 to 21/ "
62,000 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	"	7/ to 13/6 "
68,000 sup. ft. totara timber	"	"	16/ to 17/ "
3,000 sup. ft. matai timber	"	"	14/ "
Wellington—Napier—New Plymouth District—			
139,000 sup. ft. kauri timber	"	Merchants and mills in Auckland district	10/ to 36/ "
630,000 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	Merchants and mills in district	7/6 to 22/ "
65,000 sup. ft. matai timber	"	"	13/6 to 14/6 "
221,000 sup. ft. totara timber	"	"	14/6 to 27/ "
78,000 sup. ft. white-pine timber	"	"	6/ to 13/ "
43,000 ft. red-pine mouldings	"	"	5/ to 20/ "
2,000 sup. ft. clear-pine timber	"	Merchants in district	42/ to 55/ "
Christchurch District—			
11,000 ft. mouldings	"	Merchants in district	6/ to 17/6 "
12,000 sup. ft. birch timber	"	"	13/ to 14/6 "
7,500 sup. ft. blue-gum timber	"	"	18/ "
5,700 sup. ft. clear-pine timber	"	"	7½d. to 7¾d. per ft.
64,000 sup. ft. kauri timber	"	Merchants in Christchurch and Auckland district	12/9 to 29/3 per 100 ft.
Dunedin and Invercargill Districts—			
30,000 ft. V.D.L. timber	"	Merchants in district	16/ to 16/7 per 100 ft.
15,000 sup. ft. black-pine timber	"	"	13/ to 14/ "
450,000 sup. ft. kauri timber	"	Merchants in Dunedin and Auckland	12/6 to 28/ "
3,600 ft. deal timber	"	Merchants in district	35/ to 42/6 "
9,000 ft. droppers	"	"	17/7 to 19/ "
25,000 ft. red-pine moulding	"	"	11/6 to 15/ "
Nelson District—			
14,000 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	"	7/6 to 14/ "
Picton District—			
3,400 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	"	11/ to 14/6 "
Westport District—			
88,000 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	"	9/ to 15/6 "
40,000 sup. ft. yellow-pine timber	"	"	14/ to 24/ "
Westland District—			
67,000 sup. ft. red-pine timber	"	"	5/ to 25/ "
30,000 sup. ft. silver-pine timber	"	"	14/ to 19/ "
Sleeper Supply—			
Auckland District—			
145,000 totara and puriri	"	Settlers and mills in district	2/6 to 4/3 each.
Wellington—Napier District—			
9,000 totara	"	"	3/6 "
Wellington—Wanganui District—			
42,000 totara	"	"	3/6 "
Wellington—Napier—New Plymouth District—			
73,000 for creosoting	"	"	1/7 "
Westland District—			
220,000 silver-pine	"	"	3/3 "
Westport District—			
112,000 yellow-pine	"	"	3/3 to 3/5 "
Dunedin District—			
11,700 totara and matai	"	"	3/3 and 2/3 "
Invercargill District—			
11,300 totara and matai	"	"	3/3 and 2/3 "
73,000 for creosoting	"	"	1/5½ to 1/6 "
Picton District—			
3,000 birch per month	"	"	3/ "

RETURN No. 18.

STATEMENT OF WEIGHING-MACHINES, WEIGHBRIDGES, TRAVERSERS, TURNTABLES, CRANES, and
PUMPS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Description.	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Gisborne.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Hurunui-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Pictou.	Total.
WEIGHING-MACHINES :—												
1 cwt. ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	4
2 " ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	...	1	...	...	13
2½ " ...	...	1	2	...	...	7	19	...	...	...	...	29
2½ " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3
3 " ...	...	...	...	4	...	2	5	6	...	2	...	12
3½ " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	9
4 " ...	1	...	...	20	...	23	27	2	1	...	...	71
5 " ...	...	1	...	7	...	14	35	...	...	6	...	64
5½ " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	8
6 " ...	...	...	1	16	2	11	35	...	1	...	...	66
7 " ...	...	1	...	4	...	5	7	...	...	...	...	17
8 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	...	...	...	...	9
9 " ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	5
10 " ...	...	2	...	3	...	9	39	10	...	...	3	66
11 " ...	1	...	1	...	...	14	28	...	2	2	...	48
12 " ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	8	...	...	...	...	10
13 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	8	...	...	...	...	13
14 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
15 " ...	...	...	...	2	...	5	7	...	...	...	...	14
16 " ...	...	...	...	1	...	9	23	...	1	2	...	36
20 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	1	6
21 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
22 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
23 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
27 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
50 " ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
60 " ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total ...	2	5	4	64	2	116	279	22	6	12	4	516
WEIGHBRIDGES :—												
3 tons (cart) ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
6 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
7 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
8 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
10 " (wagon) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
11 " " ...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
12 " " ...	...	...	...	1	...	5	2	...	...	1	1	10
14 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
18 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
20 " " ...	1	1	...	4	...	4	17	1	4	...	1	33
30 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Total ...	1	1	...	9	...	10	32	1	4	1	2	61
TRAVERSERS ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	16	...	...	1	1	20
TURNABLES :—												
40-feet (engine) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
50 " " ...	...	...	...	9	...	8	30	...	...	...	...	47
55 " " ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	6
12 " (wagon) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
13 " " ...	...	...	...	2	...	6	32	...	...	1	...	41
14 " " ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8	1	...	1	...	

RETURN No. 19.

STATEMENT of RAILS BELAID during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Weight.	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Gisborne.	Hurunui-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Picton.	Total.
RAILS BELAID :—												
55 lb. steel ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
56 lb. steel ...	...	...	...	31	9	...	180	...	...	...	...	220
70 lb. steel ...	...	...	...	977	5,488	...	9,989	402	408	...	...	17,264
Total ...	...	...	...	1,008	5,497	...	10,169	402	408	...	...	17,484

RETURN No. 20.

STATEMENT of SLEEPERS BELAID and REMOVED during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Description.	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Gisborne.	Hurunui-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Picton.	Total.
SLEEPERS BELAID :—												
Maire ...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Black-pine ...	...	...	...	...	248	...	12,624	...	...	...	...	12,872
Totara ...	3	337	1,268	13,598	22,762	...	19,698	...	...	...	...	57,666
Birch ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,743	...	...	...	1,647	11,390
Jarrah ...	...	...	...	180	150	...	2,670	...	...	...	...	3,000
Silver-pine ...	...	...	...	...	38,579	...	104,049	14,764	5,871	2,013	2	165,278
Puriri ...	382	1,210	528	14,139	975	...	1,354	...	...	...	...	18,588
Kauri ...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rimu ...	...	...	...	...	2,229	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,229
Croosoted ...	...	...	...	...	12,556	...	30,626	...	...	...	...	43,182
Yellow-pine ...	...	...	...	...	113	...	127	...	...	1,167	...	1,407
Karri ...	...	...	...	...	121	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Ironbark ...	...	...	...	131	6,234	...	4,601	2,512	194	3	...	13,675
Mixed hardwoods ...	...	...	...	...	7,317	...	58	...	...	...	...	7,375
Grey-gum ...	...	...	...	1,455	1,431	...	10,997	...	...	178	...	14,061
Blue-gum ...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1,430	...	...	...	...	1,436
Pohutukawa ...	...	...	...	526	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	526
Total ...	385	1,547	1,796	30,039	92,801	...	197,977	17,276	6,065	3,361	1,649	352,896
SLEEPERS REMOVED :—												
Black-pine ...	...	...	...	...	350	...	38,066	...	...	...	...	38,416
Totara ...	8	95	110	1,630	58,368	...	28,216	...	...	61	35	88,523
Birch ...	...	...	...	...	5,674	...	42,023	11,257	2,030	2,167	1,510	64,661
Jarrah ...	...	...	...	...	159	...	15,011	...	...	...	...	15,170
Silver-pine ...	...	10	...	...	1,208	...	29,077	3,063	3,816	1	3	37,178
Puriri ...	16	229	...	13,447	4,770	...	10,412	...	...	...	...	28,874
Kauri ...	357	683	1,686	12,824	64	...	1,758	...	...	...	...	17,372
Karri ...	...	...	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Maire ...	...	...	...	...	404	...	...	...	...	...	...	404
Blue-gum ...	...	...	...	...	148	...	2,586	...	...	...	...	2,734
Rata ...	...	...	...	...	74	...	65	...	...	...	...	139
Rimu ...	...	...	...	...	482	...	4	...	...	...	...	486
Kamai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,623	...	...	...	...	6,623
Ironbark ...	...	...	...	36	87	...	208	...	...	...	...	331
Mixed hardwoods ...	...	...	...	...	260	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Yellow-pine ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	10	...	20
Croosoted ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,563	...	...	...	...	3,563
Grey-gum ...	...	...	...	105	2,772	...	1,600	...	...	...	...	4,477
Total ...	381	1,017	1,796	28,042	74,885	...	179,222	14,320	5,846	2,239	1,548	309,296

RETURN No. 21.

RETURN of NUMBER of STATIONS and PRIVATE SIDINGS on each Section for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Sections.	Miles. Chains.	Number of Stations and Stopping-places on the Time-tables.	Number of Private Sidings.		
			At Stations.	Out of Stations.	Total.
Kawakawa ...	7 39	4	...	1	1
Whangarei ...	22 44	12	2	7	9
Kaihu ...	17 15	10	1	3	4
Auckland ...	374 79	135	11	4	15
Gisborne ...	12 77	7	...	...	...
Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth	466 59	163	43	15	58
Hurunui-Bluff ...	1,218 49	450	121	22	143
Westland ...	112 6	56	13	10	23
Westport ...	30 17	15	1	...	1
Nelson ...	32 12	14	2	...	2
Picton ...	33 44	16	3	1	4
Total ...	2,328 41	882	197	63	260

RETURN NO. 22.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF MILEAGE OF RAILWAYS OPEN FOR TRAFFIC AND UNDER MAINTENANCE ON 31st March, 1904.

Section.	Mileage open for Traffic on 31st March, 1903.	Additional Lengths opened during Year.		Reduced Mileage equivalent to Maintenance for whole Period.		Length closed during Year.		Net Addition to Mileage open for Traffic.	Net Addition to Mileage under Maintenance.	Total Mileage open for Traffic on 31st March, 1904.	Equivalent Total Mileage maintained during Financial Year ended 31st March, 1904.
		Line opened.	Date of Opening.	M. ch.	M. ch.	Line.	Length.				
Kawakawa	M. ch. 7 39	...	...	...	...	...	M. ch. ...	M. ch. ...	...	M. ch. 7 39	M. ch. 7 39
Whangarei	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 44	22 44
Kaihu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 15	17 15
Auckland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	374 79	354 8
Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth	341 67 {	Tahereke-Ahuroa	1st Sept., 1903	4 68	2 66	}	}	33 12	12 21	...	...
	466 59	Pororo-tarao-Tamamarunui	1st Dec., 1903	28 24	9 35			...	...	466 59	466 59
Gisborne	12 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hurunui-Bluff	1,209 51	Orepuki-Waihoaka	1st Oct., 1903	4 44	2 22	...	...	4 44	2 22	1,214 15	1,211 73
Ditto, Private Lines—											
Shag Point Branch	2 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 10	2 10
Nightcaps Branch	2 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 24	2 24
Westland	112 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112 6	112 6
Westport	30 17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 17	30 17
Nelson	32 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 12	32 12
Picton	33 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 44†	33 44†
Total	2,290 64	...	...	37 56	14 43	...	...	37 56	14 43	2,328 41	2,305 28

* Recharge of Gisborne Section, 2 chains added.

† Recharge, 1 chain less.

RETURN NO. 23.
STATEMENT showing Weights of Rails in various LINES on 31st March, 1904.

Line.	30lb. Iron.	40lb. Iron.	40lb. Steel.	45lb. Steel.	52lb. Iron.	52lb. Steel.	53lb. Steel.	55lb. Steel.	55lb. Iron.	55lb. Steel.	70lb. Iron.	70lb. Steel.	72lb. Iron.	Total.
Kawakawa Section—														
Opua-Kawakawa	..	0 2	..	..	..	..	5 67	..	1 12	0 38	..	..	..	7 39
Whangarei Section—														
Opau Wharf-Hukerenui	..	..	..	..	..	..	18 3	..	..	4 41	..	..	..	22 44
Kaiti Section—														
Dargaville-Kaiti	..	..	..	..	..	..	17 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	17 15
Auckland Section—														
Auckland-Tamaramui	..	14 27	..	..	..	..	108 43	..	..	42 31	..	8 70	..	174 11
Auckland-Ahuoroa	..	..	..	..	..	..	38 30	..	..	13 1	..	3 3	..	54 34
Penrose-Onehunga	..	..	0 10	..	..	..	2 49	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 59
Frankton-Thames	..	..	16 6	..	..	..	26 25	..	..	18 77	..	1 47	..	62 75
Cambridge Branch	..	..	9 32	..	..	..	2 48	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 0
Morrinsville-Rotorua	..	..	0 21	..	..	..	68 39	..	..	..	..	..	..	68 60
Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth Section—														
Longburn-Waitara	..	0 42	2 62	..	0 11	..	80 28	..	..	51 46	..	27 57	..	163 6
Foxton Branch	..	4 26	..	..	10 8	..	5 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 34
Hunterville Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 39	..	..	7 26	..	..	..	31 65
Aramoho-Wanganui	..	..	..	..	0 30	..	0 44	..	..	2 16	..	..	..	3 10
Stratford-Toko	..	..	6 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 22	..	..	..	6 25
Sentry Hill-New Plymouth	..	0 2	0 3	..	..	..	2 59	..	..	..	..	7 43	..	10 27
Palmerston-Spit	..	2 14	3 30	..	..	..	69 36	..	..	35 72	..	3 0	..	113 72
Wellington-Woodville	..	..	..	..	8 33	..	72 34	..	..	18 33	..	16 33	..	115 53
Greytown Branch	..	..	..	..	3 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 7
Gisborne Section—														
Gisborne-Kaiterahi	..	0 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 57	..	..	..	12 77
Hurunui-Bluff Section—														
Lytelton-Bluff	..	0 9	..	..	..	..	283 35	..	..	33 16	5 60	66 19	..	393 1
Addington-Culverden	..	..	..	..	..	2 50	37 9	..	0 52	0 38	17 57	3 30	0 3	67 57
Oxford Branch	10 67	4 19	12 6	..	..	..	6 33	..	9 0	..	..	..	..	33 45
Eyreton Branch	13 27	5 70	0 44	..	..	..	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	20 11
Waipara-Scargill	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 40
Southbridge Branch	..	8 34	5 4	1 26	..	..	8 35	..	..	14 40	..	..	..	25 39
Little River Branch	..	1 34	13 60	5 2	1 59	..	..	..	0 53	1 20	..	..	..	22 48
Springfield Branch	..	0 68	0 15	0 28	..	..	4 57	..	..	25 13	..	..	..	35 98
Whitecliffs Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 46
Rakaia Forks Branch	11 3	..	..	..	..	23 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22 20
Mount Somers Branch	..	..	23 28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27 36
Albury Branch	..	26 55	9 38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36 13
Waimate Branch	..	4 46	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 46
Waimate Gorge Branch	..	..	..	..	8 21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 21
Duntroon Branch	..	15 38	0 12	..	4 54	..	17 17	..	..	..	..	..	..	37 41
Oamaru Breakwater Branch	..	0 23	..	..	..	..	0 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 63
Carried forward	35 17	93 57	102 54	6 56	36 63	24 70	901 15	5 60	11 37	282 27	23 37	137 62	0 3	1,661 78

RETURN NO. 23—continued.
STATEMENT showing Weights of Rails in Various LINES on 31st March, 1904—continued.

Line.	30 lb. Iron.	40 lb. Iron.	40 lb. Steel.	45 lb. Steel.	52 lb. Iron.	52 lb. Steel.	53 lb. Steel.	55 lb. Steel.	56 lb. Iron.	56 lb. Steel.	70 lb. Iron.	70 lb. Steel.	72 lb. Iron.	Total.
Brought forward														
Hurunui-Bluff Section—continued.														
Ngapara Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	M. ch. 1,661 78
Livingston Branch	..	4 60	6 64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15 9
Shag Point Branch	..	11 60	0 15	..	..	..	0 27	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 75
Waihemo Branch	..	0 22	1 41	..	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 10
Port Chalmers Branch	..	..	7 5	..	..	..	1 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 65
Walton Park Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 26
Fernhill Branch	..	2 48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 49
Otago Central Railway	..	..	1 57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 57
Outram Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	65 73	..	..	..	..	..	..	97 72
Lawrence Branch	..	5 58	1 19	..	..	..	0 26	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 0
Catlin's River Branch	..	0 18	..	..	..	..	1 31	5 36	..	..	..	..	..	22 1
Tapanui Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	19 27
Wyndham Branch	..	10 4	7 6	..	..	..	2 32	..	..	..	..	..	..	20 4
Seaward Bush Branch	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 35
Invercargill-Kingston	..	..	16 62	..	..	..	1 66	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 39
Makarewa-Waihoaka	..	57 57	13 19	..	..	..	0 67	..	..	..	18 22	0 19	..	87 0
Thornbury-Nightcaps	..	..	22 49	..	..	..	16 64	..	..	..	0 2	..	..	40 16
Forest Hill Branch	..	12 66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 51
Mararoa Branch	..	..	10 41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 66
Waimaea Plains Railway	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 58	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 41
Westland Section—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36 41
Greymouth-Otira	..	..	..	..	..	..	37 68	..	..	..	..	1 32	..	50 48
Greymouth-Hokitika	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 17	..	..	..	..	..	..	24 25
Stillwater-Reefton	..	..	..	..	..	..	37 13	..	..	..	..	..	..	37 13
Westport-Mokihinui	..	0 7	..	..	..	..	22 25	..	..	..	..	2 62	..	30 17
Nelson-Motupiko	..	13 9	3 6	..	..	..	8 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	32 12
Pieton-Seddon	..	10 24	3 18	..	..	..	2 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	33 44
Total	35 17	224 9	197 56	6 56	74 73	24 70	1,151 50	11 16	11 37	406 48	41 61	142 25	0 3	2,328 41

RETURN NO. 24.

PARTICULARS of PRIVATE-SIDING TRAFFIC, showing Value of Traffic done during Twelve Months ending 31st March, 1904.

Reg. No. of the Siding	Papers.	Date of Grant.	Present Holder.	Position.	Nearest Station.	By whom paid for.	Term of Grant.	Amount of Traffic guaranteed per Annum.	Liquidated Damages or Premium.	Value of the Traffic through the Siding during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.			
										In.	Out.	Total.	
KAWAKAWA SECTION.													
823	R. 02/2358 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	John Culley ..	M. ch. 6 79	Kawakawa ..	Govt. and grantees	5 years* ..	†	£ s. d. ..	£ s. d. 308 16 1	£ s. d. 308 16 1		
WHANGAREI SECTION.													
660	R. 97/4385 ..	Oct. 26, 1897	F. and W. G. Foote ..	18 15	Whakapara ..	Govt. and grantees	10 years* ..	Premium ..	248 0 0	6 15 0	1,285 13 0	1,292 8 0	
726	R. 00/241 ..	April 1, 1900	Mander and Bradley ..	18 32	"	Grantees	5 " ..	"	296 0 0	39 8 0	2,932 5 1	2,971 13 1	
736	R. 97/3107 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Kauri Timber Company (Limited) ..	..	Mangahuru ..	Govt. ..	5 " ..	†	..	..	458 4 1	458 4 1	
798	R. 02/550 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Mennie and Brown ..	..	Waro ..	"	5 " ..	†	..	0 11 2	751 4 10	751 16 0	
799	R. 02/551 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Hikurangi Coal Company (Limited) ..	..	"	"	5 " ..	†	..	15 15 9	4,999 2 7	5,014 18 4	
824	R. 02/2569 ..	July 1, 1902	Northern Coal Company (Limited) ..	14 71	"	Govt. and grantees	5 " ..	†	..	19 2 1	2,896 4 2	2,915 6 3	
877	R. 03/3629 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Macklow Bros. ..	16 71	Otonga ..	Grantees	5 " ..	Premium ..	138 0 0	0 16 10	286 5 5	287 2 3	
KAIHU SECTION.													
755	R. 00/2111 ..	Nov. 1, 1900	Kauri Timber Company (Limited) ..	13 62	Abikiwi ..	Govt. and grantees	{ 5 years* ..	..	..	24 11 5	1,353 5 9	1,377 17 2	
756	R. 00/2111 ..	Nov. 1, 1900	Mitchelson Timber Company (Limited) ..	..	"	"	{ 4 " ..	..	..	..	..	..	
762	R. 00/2598 ..	Jan. 1, 1901	James Trousoun ..	14 2	"	Grantees	5 " ..	†	..	0 4 10	99 5 6	99 10 4	
814	R. 96/2155 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Mitchelson Timber Company (Limited) and James Trousoun ..	16 79	Kaihu Booms ..	Govt. ..	5 " ..	†	..	2 1 0	2,575 13 2	2,577 14 2	
838	R. 96/1763 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	John Harrison ..	15 63	Kaihu ..	Grantees	5 " ..	†	..	1 4 1	0 19 3	2 3 4	
AUCKLAND SECTION.													
527	R. 94/1533 ..	Feb. 1, 1894	Union Oil, Soap, and Candle Company (Limited) ..	7 35	Westfield ..	Grantees	10 years* ..	†	Rental, £25	779 10 1	648 2 6	1,427 12	
572	R. 02/2630 ..	Oct. 1, 1895	J. Wilson and Co. ..	124 39	Te Kuiti ..	Govt. ..	10 " ..	..	Rental, £12	38 7 8	85 19 4	124 6 7	
598	R. 96/3698 ..	July 1, 1896	W. T. and E. T. Firth ..	58 11	Ohinewai ..	Govt. and grantees	8 " ..	†	Extension, £118	133 3 6	577 16 5	710 19 11	
706	R. 98/3564 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	R. and W. Hellaby (Limited) ..	..	Auckland ..	Grantees	5 " ..	..	Rental, £25	2,995 2 11	674 19 8	3,670 2 7	
713	R. 99/1294 ..	Dec. 1, 1899	J. J. Craig ..	..	"	"	5 " ..	..	Rental, £50	4,601 14 1	157 7 7	4,759 1 8	
717	R. 99/3007 ..	June 1, 1899	Taupiri Coal-mines (Limited) ..	64 45	Huntly ..	"	5 " ..	Premium ..	236 0 0	101 8 9	13,936 5 3	14,037 14 0	
720	R. 00/107 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	Kempthorne, Prosser, and Co.'s New Zealand Drug Company (Limited) ..	7 48	Westfield ..	"	10 " ..	"	160 0 0	1,045 6 3	1,161 15 6	2,207 1 9	
721	R. 99/1601 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	R. and W. Hellaby (Limited) ..	7 52	"	Govt. ..	10 " ..	†	Rental, £25	1,744 2 10	630 12 8	2,374 15 6	
744	R. 00/668 ..	July 1, 1900	New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited) ..	1 5	Hamilton ..	Grantees	10 " ..	Premium ..	175 0 0	412 0 2	133 4 10	545 5 0	
796	R. 00/2203 ..	Nov. 1, 1901	Harrison's Taupiri Coal Company (Limited) ..	64 51	Huntly ..	"	5 " ..	"	Rental, £25	..	..	..	
9	R. 02/670 ..	Oct. 1, 1902	Union Collieries (Limited) ..	44 33	Mercer ..	"	5 " ..	"	220 0 0	19 7 9	2,645 18 5	2,665 6	

* Three months' notice. † Siding originally laid under old agreement.

RETURN NO. 24—continued.
PARTICULARS OF PRIVATE-SIDING TRAFFIC up to 31st March, 1904—continued.

No.	Papers.	Date of Grant.	Present Holder.	Position.	Nearest Station.	By whom paid for.	Term of Grant.	Amount of Traffic guaranteed per Annum.	Liquidated Damages or Premium.	Value of the Traffic through the Siding during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.				
										In.	Out.	Total.		
AUCKLAND SECTION—continued.														
838	R. 00/613 ..	Nov. 1, 1902	Avondale Brick and Pottery Company (Limited)	M. ch. 6 29	New Lynn	..	Grantees	5 years*	£ s. d. ..	£ s. d. 424 9 6	£ s. d. 2,081 15 4	£ s. d. 2,506 4 10		
850	R. 98/1868 ..	May 1, 1903	Taipiri Coal-mines (Limited)	..	Huntly	..	"	5 "	..	23 11 11	6,701 15 8	6,725 7 7		
855	R. 03/600 ..	July 1, 1903	W. and G. Winstone ..	..	Auckland	..	"	5 "	32 0 0	..	..	..		
866	R. 93/3515 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	Assets Realisation Board	..	Morrinsville	..	"	10 "	Rental, £50	280 15 7	84 19 9	365 15 4		
871	R. 03/4153 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Gardner Bros. and Parker	..	New Lynn	..	"	5 "	Rental, £25	65 6 8	400 3 1	465 9 9		
WELLINGTON-NAPIER-NEW PLYMOUTH SECTION.														
24	C.R. 75/845 ..	—	Napier Gas Company	..	Napier	..	Govt. ..	Undefined	..	403 18 4	151 2 4	555 0 8		
221	R. 80/1588 ..	Dec. 13, 1880	Gear Meat Preserving and Freezing Company (Limited)	6 37	Petone	..	Grantees	"	..	1,192 5 7	4,963 12 7	6,155 18 2		
526	R. 94/504 ..	April 18, 1894	Price and Co. ..	36 78	Piripiri	..	"	10 years*	..	46 13 9	6,541 0 5	6,587 14 2		
531	R. 94/2089 ..	June 1, 1894	Wellington Meat Export Company (Limited)	3 9	Ngahauranga	..	"	10 "	Rental, £25	2,173 11 5	3,132 13 5	5,306 4 10		
575	R. 95/5462 ..	Nov. 15, 1895	Taranaki Freezing-works Company (Limited)	9 40	Moturoa	..	"	10 "	275 0 0	1,158 9 5	1,629 11 9	2,788 1 2		
580	R. 96/114 ..	Jan. 1, 1896	Robert Holt ..	111 79	Napier	..	"	10 "	Rental, £25	2,280 13 10	1 13 0	2,282 6 10		
614	R. 97/2622 ..	May 1, 1897	N. King ..	7 53	New Plymouth	..	"	10 "	539 0 0	38 4 9	785 6 5	823 11 2		
617	R. 02/3212 ..	Mar. 26, 1897	Wellington Meat Export Company (Limited)	62 10	Waingawa	..	"	10 "	Rental, £25	..	2,989 15 2	2,989 15 2		
627	R. 97/4085 ..	Nov. 1, 1897	Murray, Roberts, and Co. ..	113 72	Spit	..	Govt. ..	10 "	Rental, £25	875 17 3	101 2 7	976 19 10		
633	R. 97/4854 ..	Dec. 1, 1897	Mitchell and Co. ..	147 45	Aramoho	..	"	10 "	70 0 0	573 3 10	242 16 9	816 0 7		
637	R. 97/3534 ..	Mar. 1, 1898	Levin and Co. (Limited) ..	65 45	Masterton	..	Govt. and grantees	10 "	Rental, £25	1,003 14 2	1,583 16 5	2,587 10 7		
647	R. 98/3331 ..	Oct. 1, 1898	W. G. Bassett ..	2 14	Wanganui	..	Grantee	10 "	Rental, £25	12 15 9	3,398 2 9	3,410 18 6		
656	R. 98/2734 ..	Feb. 1, 1899	G. A. Gamman and Co. ..	87 39	Palmerston North	..	"	10 "	Rental, £25	376 3 7	1,859 12 3	2,235 15 10		
657	R. 99/1050 ..	April 1, 1899	New Plymouth Sash and Door Factory and Timber Company (Ltd.)	217 64	Ngare	..	Govt. and grantees	5 "	..	76 5 5	..	76 5 5		
667	R. 02/1662 ..	June 1, 1899	G. and T. Prescott ..	51 39	Kopua	..	Grantees	5 "	112 6 0	0 7 6	469 15 1	470 2 7		
672	R. 99/1984 ..	May 1, 1899	Wanganui Sash and Door Factory and Timber Company (Limited)	2 52	Wanganui	..	Govt. ..	5 "	Rental, £25	71 3 8	5,354 15 5	5,425 19 1		
705	R. 97/2271 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	Bartholomew Bros. ..	99 30	Felding	..	"	10 "	Repairs, £2	23 14 9	1,272 13 11	1,296 8 8		
707	R. 98/3870 ..	Oct. 1, 1899	Manawatu County Council	13 34	Himatangi	..	Grantees	5 "	Rental, £25	132 7 2	83 1 9	215 8 11		
725	R. 99/854 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	Waitara Freezing and Cool Storage Company (Limited)	246 53	Waitara	..	"	10 "	Repairs, £8	163 19 7	1 8 0	165 7 7		
730	R. 99/2616 ..	Mar. 1, 1900	Gamman and Co. ..	36 71	Piripiri	..	"	5 "	Rental, £25	74 14 2	3,445 12 6	3,520 6 8		
734	R. 00/1286 ..	May 1, 1900	Hawke's Bay Timber Company (Ltd.)	42 62	Makotuku	..	"	5 "	190 0 0	32 12 1	913 17 7	946 9 8		

	R. 00/1180 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	Williams and Kettle (Limited)	1113 55	Spit	..	Govt. ..	10 "	* ..	Premium..	125 0 0 Rental, £25	1,910 1 5	78 17 8	1,988 19 1
735	R. 00/1180 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	Williams and Kettle (Limited)	1113 55	Spit	..	Govt. ..	10 "	* ..	Premium..	125 0 0 Rental, £25	1,910 1 5	78 17 8	1,988 19 1
736	R. 00/1192 ..	May 1, 1900	R. Holt	99 72	Hastings	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	739 2 10	10 17 6	750 0 4
746	R. 00/1403 ..	Aug. 1, 1900	Palmerston North Sash, Door, and Timber Company (Limited)	40 73	Matamau	..	"	5 "	* ..	Premium..	260 0 0	34 18 7	715 5 11	750 4 6
748	R. 00/2261 ..	Aug. 1, 1900	William Booth and Co. ..	57 30	Carterton	..	Govt. ..	5 "	* ..	†	58 0 0	65 7 9	652 12 3	718 0 0
752	R. 99/699 ..	Sept. 1, 1900	T. Price	6 66	Petone	..	Grantees	10 "	* ..	Premium..	Rental, £25	2,239 14 1	26 15 6	2,266 9 7
758	R. 98/3937 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	J. Garnett	99 71	Hastings	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	395 1 5	..	395 1 5
759	R. 99/2633 ..	April 1, 1901	Henry Brown and Co. ..	235 43	Inglewood	..	"	10 "	* ..	Premium..	Rental, £25	363 8 2	466 1 6	829 9 8
760	R. 01/239 ..	April 1, 1901	Nelson Bros. (Limited)	96 17	Woodville	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Repairs, £42	358 3 2	503 13 2	867 16 4
770	R. 01/1231 ..	June 1, 1901	Ellis Bros.	50 66	Kopua	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	380 0 0	362 16 7	103 9 1	103 9 1
771	R. 01/182 ..	June 1, 1901	W. A. Chote and J. Wright	..	Silverstream	..	"	5 "	* ..	Premium..	90 0 0	7 12 2	1,030 16 7	1,393 13 2
777	R. 01/1659 ..	Aug. 1, 1901	Totara Sawmill Company	..	Oringi	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	Repairs, £4 10s.	..	2,158 4 2	2,165 16 4
780	R. 01/2230 ..	Sept. 1, 1901	H. Carlson	..	Tamaki	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	..	3,212 6 11	3,212 6 11
781	R. 00/2262 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	H. Judd	50 68	Matamau	..	"	1 "	* ..	†	Repairs, £3 6s.	48 7 10	21 1 3	69 9 1
786	R. 96/5010 ..	Oct. 1, 1901	Napier Gas Company (Limited)	..	Hastings	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	200 0 0	195 2 4	13 3 6	208 5 10
788	R. 01/896 ..	Nov. 1, 1901	West Coast Refrigerating Company (Limited)	..	Patea	..	"	10 "	* ..	Premium..	Rental, £25	32 9 8	1,116 14 2	1,149 3 10
789	R. 01/2396 ..	Nov. 1, 1901	H. Brown and Co.	..	Morley Street	..	"	5 "	* ..	"	156 0 0	..	824 8 6	824 8 6
792	R. 02/384 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Nelson Bros. (Limited)	68 3	Waipukurau	..	Govt. ..	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	1 3 4	1,484 19 10	1,486 3 2
811	R. 02/231 ..	April 1, 1902	Palmerston North Sash, Door, and Timber Company (Limited)	..	Oringi ..	..	Grantees	5 "	* ..	Premium..	177 0 0	..	..	..
825	R. 02/1544 ..	Aug. 1, 1902	Wilding and Co. ..	42 63	Makotuku	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	1 13 11	596 9 3	598 3 2
828	R. 02/2634 ..	July 1, 1902	B. L. Knight	91 52	Newman	..	Grantee	5 "	* ..	†	192 0 0	..	1 0 4	1 0 4
830	R. 02/2178 ..	Sept. 1, 1902	Waverley Co-operative Dairy Factory Company (Limited)	..	Aramoho	..	Grantees	10 "	* ..	Premium..	Rental, £25	442 9 0	53 13 1	496 2 1
831	R. 92/1948 ..	Sept. 1, 1902	Williams and Kettle	..	Hastings	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	401 10 8	202 4 5	603 15 1
837	R. 03/478 ..	Dec. 1, 1902	New Plymouth Sash and Door Factory and Timber Company (Ltd.)	..	Tariki ..	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	960 14 2	85 9 4	1,046 3 6
839	R. 02/2734 ..	Nov. 1, 1902	G. Syme	..	Ngaire	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	424 1 0	16 1 10	440 2 10
848	R. 00/2214 ..	April 1, 1903	Kendrick Bros. ..	..	Aramoho	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	56 5 9	20 5 8	76 11 5
851	R. 02/1854 ..	April 1, 1903	W. F. Knight	..	Mangatera	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	..	57 2 1	3,778 9 8	3,835 11 9
852	R. 00/2734 ..	June 1, 1903	Mauriceville Lime Company (Ltd.)	..	Mauriceville	..	"	5 "	* ..	Premium..	237 5 6	158 1 8	351 17 6	509 19 2
857	R. 99/2453 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	(New Plymouth Sash and Door Factory and Timber Company (Ltd.)	..	Eltham	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	..	..	..
858	R. 99/2453 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	Egmont Co-operative Box Company (Limited)	..	"	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	137 4 6	348 11 6	485 16 0
868	R. 96/3827 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	Nelson Bros. (Limited)	..	Tomona	..	"	10 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	1,823 19 7	2,615 16 5	4,439 16 0
869	R. 03/3688 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	J. Trevor	11 71	Belmont	..	"	5 "	* ..	Premium..	243 0 0	4 6 5	988 13 1	992 19 6
874	R. 03/2618 ..	Sept. 1, 1903	G. Weir	93 37	Hukauui	..	"	5 "	* ..	"	100 0 0	..	380 16 11	380 16 11
875	R. 98/3766 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Dalgely and Company (Limited)	..	Port Ahuriri	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	Rental, £25	501 2 4	16 8 4	517 10 8
876	R. 01/2070 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Waitara Harbour Board ..	..	Waitara	..	"	1 "	* ..	"	Rental, £25	6 8 7	16 9 7	22 18 2
880	R. 03/3251 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Holm Bros. ..	..	Matamau	..	"	5 "	* ..	†	121 0 0	0 4 6	66 2 5	66 6 11
882	R. 03/4059 ..	Mar. 1, 1904	Union Timber, Sash, and Door Company (Limited)	88 36	Palmerston North	..	"	10 "	* ..	Premium..	Rental, £25	16 5 8	111 4 6	127 10 2
883	R. 04/291 ..	Mar. 1, 1904	William Cook ..	88 36	"	..	"	10 "	* ..	"	121 0 0	..	..	..

† One week's notice.

† Siding originally laid under old agreement.

* Three months' notice.

RETURN NO. 24—continued.
PARTICULARS of PRIVATE-SIDING TRAFFIC up to 31st March, 1903—continued.

Papers.		Date of Grant.	Present Holder.	Posi- tion.	Nearest Station.	By whom paid for.	Term of Grant.	Amount of Traffic guaranteed per Annum.	Liquidated Damages or Premium.	Value of the Traffic through the Siding during the Year ending 31st March, 1903.			
										In.	Out.	Total.	
HURUNUI-BLUFF SECTION.													
1	R. 81/1026 ..	April 28, 1866	J. T. Brown ..	M. ch. 7 39	Addington ..	Grantees ..	For ever ..	..	..	£ 1,596	s. 12	d. 7	£ s. 2,423 17 4
3	R. 88/1107 ..	Dec. 28, 1870	Richard Allen ..	1 17	Riccarton ..	Govt. ..	" ..	..	..	873	7	6	373 7 6
12	P. W. 74/5224	June 2, 1875	Bank of New South Wales (used by White and Co.)	21 29	Leeston ..	..	" ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	P. W. 76/3501	Dec. 18, 1874	Oamaru Harbour Board ..	157 77	Oamaru ..	Grantees ..	Undefined	..	..	3,099	9	0	4,855 19 8
20	P. W. 76/2946	Dec. 11, 1875	Richard Evans ..	1 52	Wilson's Siding ..	Grantees ..	For ever ..	..	..	262	1	1	644 10 11
32	R. 82/432 ..	April 7, 1876	D. C. Turnbull and Co. ..	105 54	Timaru ..	Govt. ..	" ..	..	..	611	15	9	1,252 0 2
33	P. W. 76/833	April 22, 1876	J. Deans ..	8 75	Glentunnel ..	..	" ..	..	..	47	13	0	2,018 18 6
37	P. W. 76/3721	July 18, 1876	Clark Bros. ..	166 27	Maheno ..	..	Undefined	..	..	124	12	8	575 18 6
120	P. W. 77/4412	Jan. 23, 1878	Oamaru Harbour Board ..	157 65	Oamaru (1st sidg.) ..	..	" ..	300 0 0	50 0 0	2,408	7	7	4,598 3 9
178		1878	Mosgiel Woollen-factory Company	0 73	Mosgiel Township (2nd ")	..	" ..	..	..	196	12	0	261 1 2
258	R. 82/379 ..	Jan. 10, 1882	Wigram Bros. ..	10 71	South Malvern ..	Grantees ..	For ever ..	..	..	31	0	10	282 14 7
266	R. 82/554 ..	Mar. 24, 1882	S. Bailey ..	15 0	Templeton ..	Grantees ..	10 years ..	Premium ..	153 0 0	76	10	10	76 10 10
529	R. 94/2207 ..	May 6, 1894	John Murdoch and Co. ..	235 52	Dunedin ..	Govt. and grantees	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	3,478	3	9	3,680 11 8
547	R. 94/3672 ..	Oct. 1, 1894	N. Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	236 10	" ..	Govt. and grantees	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	2,364	7	8	2,903 10 2
551	R. 94/3949 ..	Dec. 1, 1894	N. Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	374 55	Invercargill ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	383	8	5	576 17 2
555	R. 01/2761 ..	Jan. 1, 1895	J. E. Watson and Co. ..	391 65	Bluff ..	Govt. ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	724	5	8	1,189 14 7
563	R. 95/2127 ..	May 1, 1895	G. McClatchie and Co. ..	6 9	Christchurch ..	Govt. ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	2,679	12	5	2,756 3 1
583	R. 98/111 ..	Jan. 1, 1896	Broad, Small, and Co. ..	374 46	Invercargill ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	150	10	8	271 13 11
584	R. 96/418 ..	Jan. 1, 1896	T. D. Ward (Mrs.) and M. Carr and Co. (J. G. Ward and Co., Henderson and Batger, and the South-land Farmers' Co-operative Assn. may also use siding)	374 39	" ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	1,282	11	6	2,209 16 10
586	R. 02/3668 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	T. Teschemaker ..	165 26	Teschemaker's ..	Govt. ..	1 " ..	+	Rental, £50	2,712	9	8	2,773 12 0
593	R. 96/3013 ..	July 1, 1896	James Macfie and Co. (Limited)	235 44	Dunedin ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	+	350 0 0	61	2	4	..
595	R. 96/2443 ..	July 1, 1896	Nelson Bros. (Limited) ..	12 0	Hornby ..	..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £25	..	..	..	..
604	R. 95/2198 ..	Dec. 1, 1896	Christchurch Meat Company (Ltd.)	103 70	Smithfield ..	..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £25	6,682	12	9	13,508 6 8
608	R. 97/1122 ..	Mar. 1, 1897	D. N. Inwood ..	90 75	Winchester ..	..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £25	91	8	11	91 8 11
612	R. 97/671 ..	Mar. 1, 1897	Bruce Woollen Manufacturing Com- pany (Limited)	271 41	Milton ..	..	10 " ..	Premium ..	45 0 0	168	4	1	173 7 1
630	R. 97/4426 ..	Nov. 1, 1897	Timaru Milling Company (Limited)	106 25	Timaru ..	Govt. ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £25	1,866	13	6	2,684 1 5
631	R. 97/4377 ..	Oct. 1, 1897	P. McGill ..	271 42	Milton ..	..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	962	19	10	1,995 9 11
634	R. 01/600 ..	Jan. 1, 1898	Evans and Co. (Limited)	105 75	Timaru ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	1,429	12	11	1,905 0 8
636	R. 98/4774 ..	Feb. 1, 1898	A. Moritzson and Co. ..	236 48	Dunedin ..	..	10 " ..	Premium ..	336 0 0	1,178	14	4	1,449 2 8
639	R. 98/1147 ..	Jan. 1, 1898	John Deans ..	6 10	Christchurch ..	Govt. ..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £50	772	3	9	776 13 3
644	R. 98/2669 ..	Sept. 1, 1898	J. H. Lambert ..	237 2	Kensington ..	..	10 " ..	+	Rental, £25	200	12	8	206 8 2
646	R. 98/4050 ..	Sept. 1, 1898	Canterbury Frozen Meat and Dairy Produce Export Company (Ltd.)	55 3	Fairfield ..	Grantees ..	10 " ..	Premium ..	680 0 0	2,449	16	2	12,752 14 8

	R. 99/490	Jan.	1, 1899	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	0 21	Lyttelton	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	691 16 4	366 0 9	1,057 17 1
655	R. 98/3247	April	1, 1899	Friedlander Bros. (Limited)	16 40	Lyndhurst	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	29 13 9	953 16 2	983 9 11
656	R. 98/4524	April	1, 1899	New Zealand Collieries, Railways, and Oil Syndicate (Limited)	35 29	Orepuki	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Repairs, £38 10/	0 3 4	998 13 3	998 16 7
657	R. 99/1727	May	1, 1899	J. Goss	6 62	Christchurch	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,125 13 0	30 17 7	2,156 10 7
658	R. 99/1738	May	1, 1899	Canterbury (N.Z.) Seed Company (Limited)	2 4	Heathcote	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Repairs, £6;	442 10 4	315 3 10	757 14 2
659	R. 99/1728	May	1, 1899	Dalgaty and Co. (Limited)	6 45	Christchurch	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	2,870 3 5	295 13 9	3,165 17 2
660	R. 99/1832	May	1, 1899	Belford Mills Company ..	106 8	Timaru	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Repairs, £22;	769 11 4	403 19 4	1,173 10 8
661	R. 99/1922	May	1, 1899	Friedlander Bros. (Limited)	60 68	Tinwald	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	97 2 6	984 6 6	1,081 9 0
662	R. 99/1936	May	1, 1899	Friedlander Bros. (Limited)	58 73	Ashburton	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	593 14 10	200 17 5	794 12 3
663	R. 99/1934	May	1, 1899	Fleming and Henderson ..	335 5	Gore	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Repairs, £6;	487 16 2	78 10 3	566 6 5
664	R. 99/1935	May	1, 1899	J. B. Hobart ..	6 19	Christchurch	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	1,030 0 10	238 12 6	1,268 13 4
665	R. 99/2066	June	1, 1899	National Mortgage and Agency Company of New Zealand (Limited)	236 32	Dunedin	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	510 15 8	452 17 4	963 13 0
666	R. 99/2065	Aug.	1, 1899	New Zealand Provision and Produce Company	7 2	Belfast	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	689 1 0	816 10 2	1,505 11 2
667	R. 99/2092	May	1, 1899	National Mortgage and Agency Company of New Zealand (Limited)	374 56	Invercargill	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	59 6 1	..	59 6 1
668	R. 99/2096	Aug.	1, 1899	Lyttelton Borough Council	2 65	Heathcote	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Repairs, £5	2,071 4 1	442 0 4	2,513 4 5
669	R. 99/2174	May	1, 1899	Fleming and Gilkinson ..	374 5	Elles Road	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	111 4 4	119 3 5	230 7 9
670	R. 99/2218	Aug.	1, 1899	T. Hodgkinson ..	6 44	Lind's Bridge	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	..	915 5 6	1,107 9 3	2,022 14 9
671	R. 99/1120	July	1, 1899	Wright, Stephenson, and Co.	375 15	Invercargill	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	Premium..	49 0 0	..	..	..
672	R. 99/2313	Aug.	1, 1899	Invercargill Corporation ..	0 1	"	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Rental, £50	506 13 9	34 7 4	541 1 1
673	R. 97/2821	Aug.	1, 1899	Dalgaty and Co. (Limited)	236 21	Dunedin	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,711 12 11	368 9 5	3,080 2 4
674	R. 99/2343	Aug.	1, 1899	Smart and Son ..	12 11	Hornby	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	..	17 8 5	589 8 6	606 16 11
675	R. 99/2422	May	1, 1899	Friedlander Bros. (Limited)	58 72	Ashburton	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	..	..	..
676	R. 99/2392	Aug.	1, 1899	J. Freeman ..	241 71	Ashburton	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	..	..	..	..
677	R. 99/2392	Aug.	1, 1899	Richard Green ..	241 71	Abbotsford	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	..	..	..	..
678	R. 03/1984	Aug.	1, 1899	Christchurch Meat Company (Limited)	13 10	Islington (1st sdg.)	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Rental, £25	8,871 7 10	6,197 19 11	15,069 7 9
679	R. 99/2406	Aug.	1, 1899	Christchurch Meat Company (Limited)	13 13	Islington (2nd ")	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	175 9 8	596 12 8	772 2 4
680	R. 99/2427	May	1, 1899	Canterbury Roller Flour-mills Coy.	58 3	Ashburton	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	476 13 10	..	476 13 10
681	R. 99/2017	Aug.	1, 1899	Oamaru Borough Council	157 41	Oamaru	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Rental, £25	348 2 1	530 2 1	878 4 2
682	R. 99/1968	Aug.	1, 1899	W. Scott and Co. ..	25 39	Southbridge	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £25	284 7 10	274 11 0	558 18 10
683	R. 99/2207	Aug.	1, 1899	Walton Park Coal Company	2 3	Walton Park	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Repairs, £9 12s. 9d.	133 10 11	181 2 9	314 13 8
684	R. 99/2523	Aug.	1, 1899	T. W. and A. Buxton ..	6 41	Lind's Bridge	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Rental, £50	591 15 3	612 16 7	1,204 11 10
685	R. 99/2537	June	1, 1899	New Zealand Refrigerating Company (Limited)	155 23	Eveline	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,347 15 6	392 17 6	2,740 13 0
686	R. 99/2042	Oct.	1, 1899	New Zealand Shipping Company (Limited)	391 47	Bluff	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	Premium..	67 11 0	..	..	..
687	R. 99/2653	May	1, 1899	W. White and Co. ..	7 46	Addington	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,995 19 4	468 12 8	3,464 12 0
688	R. 99/1967	June	1, 1899	Crown Milling Company (Limited)	236 26	Dunedin	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,681 11 2	82 11 5	2,764 2 7
689	R. 99/2225	Aug.	1, 1903	W. Quinn ..	121 76	Otao	..	Govt. and grantees	1	"	..	..	Rental, £25	75 18 8	198 12 4	274 11 0
690	R. 98/4221	Nov.	1, 1899	Invercargill Corporation...	2 20	Waikiki	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	Premium..	190 9 0	87 2 6	56 18 9	144 1 3
691	R. 99/2801	Sept.	1, 1899	N.Z. and Australian Land Company (Limited)	351 64	Edendale	..	Govt. and grantees	5	"	..	..	Repairs, £3;	151 16 0	260 13 4	412 14 4
692	R. 99/2416	Nov.	1, 1899	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	391 48	Bluff	..	Govt. and grantees	10	"	..	..	Rental, £50	2,403 1 4	822 7 1	3,225 8 5

* Three months' notice.

Siding originally laid under old agreement.

RETURN NO. 24—continued.
PARTICULARS of PRIVATE-SIDING TRAFFIC up to 31st March, 1904—continued.

D.—2.

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No. of Siding	Papers.	Date of Grant.	Present Holder.	Posi- tion.	Nearest Station.	By whom paid for.	Term of Grant.	Amount of Traffic guaranteed per Annum.	Liquidated Damages or Premium.	Value of the Traffic through the Siding during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.			
										In.	Out.	Total.	
HURUNUI-BLUFF SECTION—continued.													
7111	R. 99/2813 ..	Nov. 1, 1899	Lytelton Harbour Board	M. ch.	Lytelton	Govt. ..	5 years*	†	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
7115	R. 99/1719 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	Bowron Bros. ..	3 73	Woolston	Grantees ..	10 "	Premium..	170 0 0	2,469 17 1	397 16 2	2,867 13 3	
7116	R. 99/2905 ..	Oct. 1, 1899	Milburn Lime and Cement Company (Limited)	235 25	Dunedin	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	1,514 13 6	579 12 2	2,094 5 8	
7119	R. 99/2731 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	Milburn Lime and Cement Company (Limited)	267 44	Milburn	Govt. ..	5 "	†	Rental, £50	974 0 9	385 19 11	1,360 0 8	
7122	R. 00/141 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	H. Haraway ..	0 14	Burnside	Govt. and grantees	10 "	†	Rental, £25	868 9 0	1,254 5 10	2,122 14 10	
7123	R. 99/2209 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	D. McGregor ..	25 31	Centre Bush	Grantees	5 "	Premium..	80 0 0	1,061 12 0	131 12 1	1,193 4 1	
7127	R. 00/992 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	Milburn Lime and Cement Company (Limited)	23 2	Limehills	Govt. ..	5 "	†	Repairs, £7 5s.	0 10 6	264 9 9	265 0 3	
7129	R. 00/991 ..	April 1, 1900	G. G. Stead and Co. ..	7 59	Addington	Grantees	10 "	†	Rental, £25	42 9 7	28 19 5	71 9 0	
7131	R. 99/3088 ..	May 1, 1900	Wright, Stephenson, and Co. ..	26 50	Balfour	"	10 "	Premium..	Rental, £25	634 8 3	378 3 7	1,012 11 10	
7132	R. 00/1193 ..	May 1, 1900	J. and T. Meek ..	158 18	Oamaru	Grantees	10 "	†	79 14 0	375 1 10	993 7 10	1,368 9 8	
7139	R. 99/367 ..	Feb. 1, 1900	N.Z. Farmers' Co-operative Associa- tion of Canterbury (Limited)	59 4	Ashburton	Grantees	10 "	†	Rental, £25	357 16 4	245 12 7	603 8 11	
7140	R. 99/2357 ..	May 1, 1900	J. Craig and Co. ..	157 45	Oamaru	Govt. ..	10 "	†	Rental, £50	733 17 7	1,232 5 7	1,966 3 2	
7142	R. 00/568 ..	July 1, 1900	Christchurch City Council	9 22	Chaney's	Grantees	5 "	Premium..	485 0 0	1,487 8 5	182 16 6	1,670 4 11	
7143	R. 00/1774 ..	May 1, 1900	Lytelton Harbour Board	0 0	Lytelton	Govt. and grantees	5 "	†	..	740 17 6	..	740 17 6	
7145	R. 99/2303 ..	July 1, 1900	C. P. Sleeman ..	342 70	Mataura	Grantees	5 "	Premium..	195 0 0	4,252 10 7	1,616 17 10	5,869 8 5	
7149	R. 00/2042 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	D. Thomas ..	58 76	Ashburton	Grantees	10 "	†	Rental, £25	234 19 1	1,086 6 5	1,086 6 5	
7151	R. 00/1147 ..	Aug. 1, 1900	Christchurch Gas, Coal, and Coke Company (Limited)	6 1	Christchurch	Govt. and grantees	10 "	†	Rental, £50	2,302 10 11	60 2 6	2,102 4 1	
7154	R. 00/694 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Timaru Harbour Board (National Mortgage and Agency Company, Ltd., and Mill and Co., tenants)	105 74	Timaru	Grantees	10 "	Premium..	95 0 0	640 4 5	337 19 0	978 3 5	
7157	R. 00/1040 ..	Dec. 1, 1900	(Otago Farmers' Co-operative Asso- ciation of New Zealand (Ltd.) Wright, Stephenson, and Co. ..)	236 35	Dunedin	"	10 "	Premium..	550 0 0	1,439 10 6	75 10 7	1,515 1 1	
7163	R. 00/2041 ..	Feb. 1, 1901	A. and D. McPherson and Co., and R. Meek and Co.	7 22	Fairfax	"	5 "	Premium..	267 0 0	2,672 16 5	512 12 8	3,185 9 1	
7166	R. 01/1037 ..	Mar. 1, 1901	Lytelton Harbour Board	0 15	Lytelton	"	5 "	†	Rental, each £25	165 9 3	73 9 4	238 18 7	
7167	R. 00/478 ..	Feb. 1, 1901	Canterbury (N.Z.) Seed Company (Limited), and H. Matson and Co.	7 60	Addington	"	8 "	†	..	(Included with 1,701 12 5	992 7 1	2,693 19 6	
7168	R. 01/1045 ..	April 1, 1901	Timpany Bros. ..	14 72	Kapuka	"	5 "	†	25 0 0	7 9 11	2,268 13 7	2,276 3 6	
7169	R. 01/776 ..	May 1, 1901	J. E. Watson and Co. ..	..	Gore	"	5 "	Premium..	Rental, £25	220 7 11	202 7 1	422 15 0	
7172	R. 01/1375 ..	May 1, 1901	McCallum and Co. ..	15 0	Kapuka	"	5 "	†	Rental, £25	5 17 4	666 9 6	672 6 10	
7174	R. 01/1837 ..	Sept. 1, 1901	National Mortgage and Agency Co. of N.Z. (Limited)	7 57	Addington	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	467 3 2	273 6 1	740 9 3	
7175	R. 01/1661 ..	July 1, 1901	Kempthorne, Prosser, and Co.'s N.Z. Drug Company (Limited)	239 24	Cattle-yards	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	578 13 0	1,145 18 9	1,724 11 9	
7176	R. 01/1660 ..	Aug. 1, 1901	Moir and Co. ..	16 69	Southbrook	Govt. ..	10 "	†	Rental, £25	558 13 8	577 1 0	1,135 14 8	
7178	R. 01/1604 ..	July 1, 1901	W. Borlase ..	228 62	Sawyers' Bay	Grantees	5 "	†	..	..	347 18 5	347 18 5	
7179	R. 03/2223 ..	Sept. 14, 1901	Federal Steam Navigation Com- pany (Limited). (Birt and Co. may also use siding)	390 12	Ocean Beach	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	1,344 10 11	696 2 1	2,040 13 0	
7182	R. 95/1853 ..	Oct. 1, 1901	N.Z. Provision and Produce Co. ..	..	Belfast	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	213 5 8	252 9 7	465 15 3	
7184	R. 01/2438 ..	Oct. 1, 1901	Wood Bros. (Limited) ..	..	Addington	"	10 "	†	Rental, £25	1,851 7 9	989 3 1	2,840 10 10	

785	R. 99/2623 ..	Oct. 1, 1901	Otago Iron-rolling Mills Company (Limited)	..	Burnside	..	5 "	..	†	..	927 8 1	16 13 6	944 1 7
790	R. 99/2990 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	Corporation of Invercargill	..	Greenhills.	..	Govt. ..	..	†	..	..	395 7 11	395 7 11
791	R. 01/2857 ..	Dec. 1, 1901	D. H. Brown and Son ..	..	Addington	..	Govt. and grantees	..	†	..	1,200 14 10	739 16 9	1,940 11 7
795	R. 00/1690 ..	Jan. 1, 1902	N.Z. Refrigerating Company (Ltd.)	239 27	Cattle-yards	..	Grantees	..	†	..	3,666 9 4	1,396 3 0	5,062 12 4
801	R. 02/805 ..	Mar. 1, 1903	William Booth and Co. ..	..	Christchurch	..	Govt. ..	..	†	..	496 2 6	2 10 5	498 12 11
809	R. 99/2224 ..	Feb. 1, 1902	Canterbury Farmers' Co-operative Association (Limited)	..	Timaru	..	Grantees	..	†	..	2,862 10 5	1,477 19 0	4,340 9 5
813	R. 98/3839 ..	April 1, 1902	Otago Dock Trust ..	..	Port Chalmers	..	Govt. ..	..	†	..	1,040 6 4	403 2 4	1,443 8 8
815	R. 02/1454 ..	Feb. 1, 1902	Canterbury Farmers' Co-operative Association (Limited)	..	Studholme	..	Grantees	..	†	..	227 8 4	329 4 11	556 13 3
816	R. 92/806 ..	Mar. 1, 1902	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	..	Christchurch	..	..	..	†	..	1,270 17 4	292 7 5	1,563 4 9
817	R. 97/2053 ..	April 1, 1902	N.Z. Trust and Loan Co. (Limited)	257 62	Henley	..	..	..	†	..	17 4 3	18 2 3	85 6 6
818	R. 01/2143 ..	April 1, 1902	Wright, Stephenson, and Co. ..	..	Kelso ..	..	..	..	Premium..	..	357 3 2	1,169 12 8	1,526 15 10
819	R. 92/1000 ..	April 1, 1902	Southland Frozen Meat and Produce Export Company (Limited)	..	Mataura	..	..	..	†	..	734 19 5	2,050 8 1	2,775 7 6
820	R. 01/1860 ..	July 1, 1902	Christchurch City Council	..	Sockburn	..	..	..	Premium..	..	69 3 5	..	69 3 5
821	R. 01/1450 ..	Dec. 18, 1901	Friedlander Bros. (Limited)	..	Ashburton	..	..	..	†	..	1,304 19 10	4,184 12 4	5,489 12 2
822	R. 02/2529 ..	Feb. 1, 1902	Guinness and LeCren (Limited)	..	Studholme	..	..	..	†	..	91 18 3	393 19 11	485 18 2
826	R. 92/673 ..	Aug. 1, 1903	William White and Co. ..	..	Christchurch	..	Govt. ..	..	†	..	385 16 1	35 5 1	421 1 2
834	R. 02/3673 ..	Nov. 1, 1902	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	..	Timaru	..	..	..	†	..	745 3 3	207 19 3	953 2 6
835	R. 03/477 ..	Dec. 1, 1902	Donald Reid and Co. (Limited)	..	Dunedin	..	..	..	†	..	3,617 4 9	372 9 3	3,989 14 0
840	R. 02/3422 ..	Jan. 1, 1903	William H. Martyn ..	..	Wetheral	..	..	..	†	..	64 12 0	142 8 7	207 0 7
841	R. 02/754 ..	Mar. 1, 1902	Lytelton Harbour Board	..	Lytelton	..	..	..	..	..	(Included with No. 743.)	..	..
842	R. 00/1107 ..	Jan. 1, 1903	Lischner and Drummond	4 72	Conical Hill	..	Grantees	..	..	..	7 18 10	318 7 9	336 6 7
843	R. 00/2781 ..	Jan. 1, 1903	Canterbury Central Co-operative Dairy Company (Limited)	..	Addington	..	..	..	†	..	49 4 8	41 7 6	90 12 2
844	R. 93/1075 ..	Feb. 1, 1903	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	..	Gore ..	..	..	..	†	..	143 6 4	139 11 1	282 17 5
845	R. 03/1083 ..	May 1, 1903	A. P. Tutton ..	..	Rangiora	..	..	..	Premium..	..	98 19 1	379 3 4	478 2 5
846	R. 03/1839 ..	Oct. 1, 1902	Canterbury Frozen-meat and Dairy-produce Export Company (Limited)	..	Belfast	..	..	..	†	..	4,969 4 3	5,988 0 1	10,957 4 4
847	R. 02/3211 ..	Jan. 1, 1903	T. D. Ward ..	..	Bluff ..	..	..	..	Premium..	..	1,272 7 9	359 10 2	1,631 17 11
849	R. 93/2140 ..	May 1, 1903	Nichol Bros. ..	..	..	..	..	..	†	..	3,397 17 0	1,116 6 8	4,514 3 8
853	R. 99/1940 ..	May 1, 1903	Lytelton Borough Council (Shaw, Savill, and Albion Co., Kaye and Carter, tenants)	..	Lytelton	..	..	..	†	..	4,229 1 1	1,194 8 10	5,423 9 11
854	R. 02/3125 ..	June 1, 1903	Colonial Oil Company ..	..	Christchurch	..	Govt. ..	..	..	..	39 10 7	23 16 11	63 7 6
856	R. 03/1919 ..	June 1, 1903	Pyne and Co. ..	..	..	..	Grantees	..	Premium..	..	951 13 4	837 12 4	1,289 5 8
859	R. 00/1324 ..	May 1, 1903	Andersons (Limited)	..	Lytelton	..	..	..	†	..	246 12 4	409 16 4	656 8 8
860	R. 03/2316 ..	Aug. 1, 1903	Canterbury Frozen-meat and Dairy-produce Export Company (Ltd.)	113 13	St. Andrews	..	..	..	Premium..	..	1,867 4 0	23 2 8	1,890 6 8
862	R. 98/4223 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	Oamaru Tree-stone Company (Ltd.)	..	Whitcraig	..	..	..	†	..	16 19 7	1,282 18 9	1,299 18 4
864	R. 98/4318 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	C. and W. Gore ..	..	Wingatui	..	..	..	†	..	149 6 3	1,024 12 2	1,173 18 5
865	R. 00/1544 ..	Sept. 1, 1903	Lovell's Flat Coal Company	..	Lovell's Flat	..	..	..	†	..	58 17 6	3,200 11 1	3,259 8 7
867	R. 98/4319 ..	Dec. 1, 1903	J. Palmer ..	..	Logan's Point	..	Govt. ..	..	†	..	93 1 4	1,172 6 1	1,265 7 5
878	R. 99/263 ..	Feb. 1, 1904	J. Borgfeldt ..	..	Papanui	..	Grantee ..	..	†	..	188 8 1	5 17 6	194 5 7
879	R. 03/3654 ..	Jan. 1, 1904	Executors of late W. Guthrie, trading as the Southland Saw-milling Company	37 22	Te Tumutu	..	..	..	Premium..	..	..	1,805 11 11	1,805 11 11
881	R. 97/2385 ..	Feb. 1, 1904	J. G. Ward ..	..	Bluff	..	..	..	†	..	3,949 11 3	1,172 18 1	5,122 9 4

* Three months' notice.

† Siding originally laid under old agreement.

‡ One week's notice.

RETURN NO. 24—continued.
PARTICULARS OF PRIVATE-SIDING TRAFFIC up to 31st March, 1903.—continued.

No. of Siding	Papers.	Date of Grant.	Present Holder.	Position.	Nearest Station.	By whom paid for.	Term of Grant.	Amount of Traffic guaranteed per Annum.	Liquidated Damages or Premium.	Value of the Traffic through the Siding during the Year ending 31st March, 1903.		
										In.	Out.	Total.
WESTLAND SECTION.												
344	R. 86/2585 ..	Aug. 20, 1886	Westport Colliery Company	M. ch. 8 0	Brunner	Greyouth Har. Bd.	Undefined	..	£ s. d. ..	£ 109 2 0	£ s. d. 8,891 7 0	£ s. d. 9,000 9 0
525	R. 94/1176 ..	Jan. 1, 1894	Stratford, Blair, and Co. ..	0 0	Greymouth	Govt. ..	10 years* ..	..	Rental, £25	1,000 16 0	63 4 0	1,064 0 0
688	R. 99/2391 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	W. Morris ..	10 74	Kumara	" ..	5 " ..	+	..	14 8 11	631 14 4	646 3 3
689	R. 99/2393 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	Westland Sawmilling Company (Limited)	16 9	Awatuna	" ..	5 " ..	+	..	7 7 6	1 18 11	9 6 5
710	R. 99/2778 ..	Nov. 1, 1899	G. Perotti ..	3 21	Nelson Creek	" ..	5 " ..	+	..	0 14 9	11 9 4	12 4 1
712	R. 99/3144 ..	Aug. 1, 1899	T. W. Wilson (Stratford, Blair, and Co., tenants)	2 52	Kaiata	" ..	5 " ..	+	..	..	..	..
714	R. 99/2900 ..	Nov. 1, 1899	Malfoy and Co. ..	21 63	Ho Ho	Govt. and grantees	5 " ..	+	..	18 16 11	367 17 2	386 14 1
724	R. 00/197 ..	Jan. 1, 1900	G. D. Wilson and Co. ..	10 77	Kumara	Ditto ..	5 " ..	+	..	21 0 9	449 9 3	471 10 0
764	R. 01/356 ..	April 1, 1901	Terawera Sawmill Company (Ltd.)	..	Inchbourne	Grantees	5 " ..	Premium..	163 0 0	28 4 8	892 18 7	921 3 3
773	R. 00/2624 ..	Aug. 1, 1901	Despatch Foundry Company (Ltd.)	..	Greymouth	" ..	5 " ..	..	185 0 0	163 18 8	303 12 10	467 11 6
787	R. 01/456 ..	Oct. 1, 1901	Jack Bros. ..	..	Kotuku	" ..	5 " ..	..	Rental, £25	65 9 5	1,034 2 10	1,099 12 3
802	R. 02/552 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Blackball Coal Company (Limited)	..	Ngahere	Taken over with Mid-land Rly.	5 " ..	..	230 0 0	..	10,872 9 2	10,872 9 2
803	R. 02/557 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Stratford, Blair, and Co. ..	..	Kokiri	Ditto ..	5 " ..	..	..	97 5 8	675 7 7	772 13 3
804	R. 02/555 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Andrew Matheson ..	..	Ahaura	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	..	151 19 0	151 19 0
805	R. 02/556 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Lake Brunner Sawmill Company ..	..	Moana	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	30 10 8	1,997 1 2	2,027 11 10
806	R. 02/553 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Kotuku Sawmill Company ..	..	Kotuku	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	59 18 10	1,152 6 11	1,212 5 9
807	R. 02/558 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Baxter Bros. ..	..	Kokiri	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	51 11 3	1,030 0 9	1,081 12 0
808	R. 02/554 ..	Oct. 1, 1900	Trustees of James Goss's Estate	..	Moana	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	7 4 8	1,239 7 4	1,246 12 0
827	R. 01/1152 ..	June 1, 1902	D. H. Roberts ..	..	Baxter's	Grantees	5 " ..	Premium..	161 12 0	21 8 7	479 1 9	500 10 4
836	R. 02/2451 ..	Dec. 1, 1902	Tyneside Colliery Company ..	..	Brunner	" ..	5 " ..	..	93 10 0	6 2 10	921 10 0	927 12 10
861	R. 99/1729 ..	Sept. 1, 1903	Stratford, Blair, and Co. ..	..	Arnold's	" ..	5 " ..	..	88 0 0	23 8 7	130 1 5	153 10 0
863	R. 03/1446 ..	Oct. 1, 1903	O. Butler ..	6 58	Gladstone	" ..	5 " ..	..	..	15 9 5	296 13 10	312 3 3
872	R. 03/2385 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	G. D. Wilson and Co. ..	13 47	Chesterfield	" ..	5 " ..	Premium..	75 0 0	21 5 4	12 7 11	33 13 3
873	R. 03/2385 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	Westland Sawmilling Company (Limited)	13 47	"	" ..	5 " ..	..	169 0 0	14 15 4	288 0 8	302 16 0
WESTPORT SECTION.												
810	R. 00/2091 ..	Mar. 1, 1902	W. and J. Marris ..	26 72	Mokihini	Govt. ..	5 years* ..	+	..	20 7 8	251 11 5	271 19 1
NELSON SECTION.												
238	R. 81/1947 ..	Aug. 31, 1881	Neale and Haddow ..	1 0	Nelson	Grantees	Undefined	Premium..	150 0 0	298 0 1	2 1 8	300 1 9
PICTON SECTION.												
794	R. 99/2880 ..	Dec. 1, 1901	Christchurch Meat Company (Ltd.)	13 35	Spring Creek	Grantees	10 years* ..	+	Repairs, £15; Rental, £25	0 15 6	10 10 2	11 5 8
797	R. 01/2132 ..	Feb. 1, 1902	Levin and Co. (Limited) ..	17 69	Blenheim	" ..	10 " ..	+	Repairs, £9; Rental, £25	301 4 3	358 7 6	659 11 9
800	R. 91/3490 ..	Nov. 1, 1901	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	..	Picton	" ..	10 " ..	..	Repairs, £5; Rental, £25	145 0 8	72 11 2	217 11 10
870	R. 93/3737 ..	Nov. 1, 1903	N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Company (Limited)	17 62	Blenheim	" ..	10 " ..	+	Repairs, £25; Rental, £25	345 17 6	410 3 6	756 1 0

* Three months' notice. + Siding originally laid under old agreement.

RETURN No. 25.

STATEMENT showing approximately SLEEPERS LAID and REMOVED up to 31st March, 1904.

Year.	Approximate Length opened each Year.			Sleepers.	
	North Island.	Middle Island.	Total.	Laid during Construction. (2,100 per mile.)	Removed during Maintenance.†
	M. ch.	M. ch.	M. ch.		
1867	..	45 70	45 70	96,338	..
1870-71	..	18 58	18 58	39,323	..
1871-72	..	11 68	11 68	24,885	..
1872-73	..	27 62	27 62	58,327	..
1873-74	10 55	11 21	21 76	46,095	..
1874-75	61 19	126 78	188 17	395,246	..
1875-76	69 23	248 4	317 27	666,409	..
1876-77	64 24	152 39	216 63	455,254	..
1877-78	103 76	94 58	198 54	417,217	..
1878-79	27 19	56 46	83 65	176,006	..
1879-80*	26 33	40 73	67 26	141,382	..
1880-81	68 39	32 71	101 30	212,888	74,261
1881-82	22 67	40 16	63 3	132,379	73,947
1882-83	2 2	40 19	42 21	88,751	106,763
1883-84	22 19	22 50	44 69	94,211	125,632
1884-85	56 0	24 0	80 0	168,000	148,325
1885-86	43 26	47 52	90 78	191,048	137,993
1886-87	58 72	11 39	70 31	147,814	139,040
1887-88	11 47	17 32	28 79	60,874	122,027
1888-89	18 31	..	18 31	42,814	108,690
1889-90	11 57	20 68	32 45	68,381	129,634
1890-91	28 21	5 68	34 9	71,636	133,954
1891-92	..	27 27	27 27	57,408	139,912
1892-93	17 26	..	17 26	36,382	132,569
1893-94	28 38	33 58	62 16	130,620	155,827
1894-95	16 62	27 24	44 6	92,558	170,681
1895-96	14 73	3 48	18 41	38,876	188,291
1896-97	3 64	1 11	4 75	10,370	210,588
1897-98	27 46	10 2	37 48	78,960	243,479
1898-99	22 46	11 13	33 59	70,848	282,326
1899-1900	..	19 26	19 26	40,582	302,354
1900-1901	4 30	103 38	107 68	226,485	345,433
1901-1902	11 20	12 32	23 52	49,665	369,339
1902-1903	28 40	27 43	56 3	117,679	330,029
1903-1904	33 12	4 44	37 56	79,170	309,296
Totals	..	..	..	4,824,881	4,480,390

* Nine months only.

† Complete information not recorded until 1880-81.

RETURN No. 26.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the NUMBER of EMPLOYEES for March, 1903, and March, 1904.

Department.	Kawakawa.	Whangarei.	Kaihu.	Auckland.	Gisborne.	Wellington-Napier-New Plymouth.	Hurunui-Bluff.	Westland.	Westport.	Nelson.	Pictou.	Total.
1903-4.												
General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Traffic	7	19	9	331	3	686	1,494	84	61	34	18	2,746
Maintenance	5	19	11	372	6	747	1,408	124	64	35	48	2,839
Locomotive	3	19	4	352	3	898	1,504	82	84	14	11	2,974
Totals	15	57	24	1,055	12	2,331	4,406	290	209	83	77	8,782
1902-3.												
General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	222
Traffic	7	17	9	295	3	658	1,392	84	58	27	17	2,567
Maintenance	7	20	8	335	7	836	1,559	121	71	34	35	3,033
Locomotive	5	15	4	337	3	895	1,596	82	93	12	11	3,053
Totals	19	52	21	967	13	2,389	4,547	287	222	73	63	8,875

RETURN NO. 27.
STATEMENT OF ACCIDENTS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

	Train Accidents.						Accidents on Line (other than Train running).						Shunting Accidents.						Accidents on Wharves and in Sheds.						Accidents in Workshops.						Total.
	Passengers.			Employees.			Other Persons.			Employees.			Other Persons.			Employees.			Other Persons.			Employees.			Other Persons.						
	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.				
Kawakawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Whangarei	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Kaihu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Auckland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Gisborne	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Wellington-Napier-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
New Plymouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Hurunui-Bluff	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Westland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Westport	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Nelson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Pictou	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			

RETURN NO. 28.
LOCOMOTIVE RETURNS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Type.	No. of Engines.		Average Speed — Miles per Hour.			Engine-Mileage.			Quantity of Stores.				Cost.			Cost per Engine-Mile in Pence.				Days in Steam.
				Detail.			Running.			Repairs.	Running.		Repairs.	Wages and Material.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.	Total.		
				Train.	Shunting.	Ballast.	Coal.	Oil.	Tallow.		Waste.									
												Total.								

KAWAKAWA SECTION.

A	I	12	...	3,744	1,619	3,626	8,989	Cwt.	Qt.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£	£	£	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
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WHANGAREI SECTION.

C	I	15	811	2,713	547	4,071	935	187	20	171	75	8	20	78	181	4,42	4,47	1,18	4,60	10,67	121
Fb	2	17	15,078	3,187	5,863	24,128	8,074	558	45	464	451	27	213	453	1,144	4,48	2,12	2,12	4,51	11,38	355
WB	2	17	32,267	741	10,760	43,768	23,090	1,137	50	645	349	52	526	802	1,729	1,90	2,88	2,88	4,39	499	
Total	5	...	48,156	6,641	17,170	71,967	32,099	1,882	115	1,280	875	87	759	1,333	3,054	2,91	2,53	2,53	4,45	10,18	975
General charges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	04	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,065	...	...	...	...	10,22	...

KAIHU SECTION.

F	2 15		13,086	5,479	526	19,091	3,975	406	11	28	114	20	239	330	703 28	1'43	25	3'00	4'15	8'83 35	314
	General charges ..																				
	Total																				
	Total																				
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	731	...	...	...	...	9'18	...

RETURN NO. 28—*continued*.

LOCOMOTIVE RETURNS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904—*continued*.

Type.	No. of Engines.		Average Speed—Miles per Hour.		Engine-Mileage.			Quantity of Stores.				Cost.				Cost per Engine-Mile in Pence.					
					Detail.			Running.				Repairs.		Running.				Repairs.		Running.	
					Train.	Shunting.	Ballast.	Total.	Coal.	Oil.	Tallow.	Waste.	Wages and Mate- rial.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.	Total.	Wages and Material.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.
A	1	12	...	1,136	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
F	13	20	06,944	101,424	24,486	1,136	67,427	5,861	519	2,026	5	191	1,835	109	1,835	4,122	10	203	7,409	7,97	
B	9	20	80,470	12,137	337	92,944	36,833	2,407	150	790	...	1,253	80	946	1,342	3,125	...	...	7,997	8,06	
J	4	25	197,542	24,048	749	222,339	94,277	4,522	395	2,257	...	2,297	166	3,023	2,757	8,243	...	...	8,89	8,89	
K	2	25	24,829	2,732	...	27,561	10,735	598	61	324	...	172	23	554	306	1,115	...	...	9,70	9,70	
L	4	25	92,200	20,341	337	112,938	36,656	2,741	101	877	...	811	92	1,032	1,545	3,480	...	...	9,70	9,70	
N	4	25	126,313	5,053	...	131,966	50,082	2,735	179	1,028	...	630	96	2,916	1,177	4,819	...	...	9,70	9,70	
P	4	18	60,398	5,831	454	66,683	39,581	2,089	135	784	...	683	73	1,217	928	2,901	...	...	8,76	8,76	
Q	6	25	106,313	8,687	...	115,000	61,149	3,149	199	1,233	...	439	108	1,824	1,410	3,781	...	...	10,44	10,44	
R	1	20	6,745	14,652	...	21,397	6,935	390	48	236	...	237	15	173	418	843	...	...	7,89	7,89	
WA	1	20	17,113	4,805	141	22,059	10,828	836	46	322	...	135	28	314	416	893	...	...	9,45	9,45	
WD	2	20	32,233	12,734	20	44,987	30,213	1,852	83	579	...	836	62	876	783	2,557	...	...	4,52	4,52	
Total	51	...	841,160	214,180	26,524	1,081,864	444,821	27,197	1,976	10,461	...	8,441	942	14,712	15,274	39,369	...	...	3,39	3,39	
less recoverable, mileage and ex-			4,284	612		4,896	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	317	...	...	...	...	
penditure			836,876	213,568		1,076,968	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,052	...	...	...	...	
general charges			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,324	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,376	...	...	...	10,33	

AUCKLAND SECTION.

A	1	12	...	1,136	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
F	13	20	06,944	101,424	24,486	1,136	67,427	5,861	519	2,026	5	191	1,835	109	1,835	4,122	10	203	7,409	7,97	
B	9	20	80,470	12,137	337	92,944	36,833	2,407	150	790	...	1,253	80	946	1,342	3,125	...	...	7,997	8,06	
J	4	25	197,542	24,048	749	222,339	94,277	4,522	395	2,257	...	2,297	166	3,023	2,757	8,243	...	...	8,89	8,89	
K	2	25	24,829	2,732	...	27,561	10,735	598	61	324	...	172	23	554	306	1,115	...	...	9,70	9,70	
L	4	25	92,200	20,341	337	112,938	36,656	2,741	101	877	...	811	92	1,032	1,545	3,480	...	...	9,70	9,70	
N	4	25	126,313	5,053	...	131,966	50,082	2,735	179	1,028	...	630	96	2,916	1,177	4,819	...	...	9,70	9,70	
P	4	18	60,398	5,831	454	66,683	39,581	2,089	135	784	...	683	73	1,217	928	2,901	...	...	8,76	8,76	
Q	6	25	106,313	8,687	...	115,000	61,149	3,149	199	1,233	...	439	108	1,824	1,410	3,781	...	...	10,44	10,44	
R	1	20	6,745	14,652	...	21,397	6,935	390	48	236	...	237	15	173	418	843	...	...	7,89	7,89	
WA	1	20	17,113	4,805	141	22,059	10,828	836	46	322	...	135	28	314	416	893	...	...	9,45	9,45	
WD	2	20	32,233	12,734	20	44,987	30,213	1,852	83	579	...	836	62	876	783	2,557	...	...	4,52	4,52	
Total	51	...	841,160	214,180	26,524	1,081,864	444,821	27,197	1,976	10,461	...	8,441	942	14,712	15,274	39,369	...	...	3,39	3,39	
less recoverable, mileage and ex-			4,284	612		4,896	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	317	...	...	...	...	
penditure			836,876	213,568		1,076,968	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,052	...	...	...	...	
general charges			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,324	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,376	...	...	...	10,33	

D	2	12	18,889	6,339	96	25,324	4,820	783	30	263	200	25	362	372	959	1'89	24	3'43	3'53	9'09	313
Less recoverable, mileage and expendi re					96	96									3						
General charges						25,228									956					9'09	
															62					'59	
Total															1,018					9'68	

RETURN No. 28—*continued*.
LOCOMOTIVE RETURNS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904—*continued*.

[illegible]

* Converted to Class FB + Written off 9th December 1899.

RETURN NO. 28—continued.
LOCOMOTIVE RETURNS for the Year ending 31st March, 1904—continued.

Type.	No. of Engines.		Average Speed—Miles per Hour.		Engine-Mileage.		Quantity of Stores.				Cost.				Cost per Engine-Mile in Pence.				Days in Steam.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
	I	8	6	20	Detail.		Total.	Running.				Repairs.	Running.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
					Train.	Shunting.		Ballast.	Total.	Coal.	Oil.		Tallow.	Waste.	Repairs.	Wages and Mate- rial.	Stores.	Fuel.		Wages.	Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
A	1	8	6	20	...	11,565	...	11,565	Cwt.	Qr.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£</

* Converted to Class "Fb." † Includes £5,910, cost of two new "Wf" locomotives. ‡ Includes cost of three new boilers.

RETURN No. 28—continued.

Type.	No. of Engines.		Average Speed—Miles per Hour.		Engine-Mileage.			Quantity of Stores.				Cost.				Cost per Engine-Mile in Pence.			
	Detail.		Total.		Running.			Repairs.		Running.		Repairs.		Running.		Total.			
	Train.	Shunting.	Ballast.	Total.	Coal.	Oil.	Tallow.	Waste.	Wages and Mate- rial.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.	Stores.	Fuel.	Wages.	Total.
WESTLAND SECTION.																			
D	1	20	389	19,085	799	21,173	Cwt.	Qt.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
F	5	20	55,288	22,312	3,773	81,373	17,849	575	60	284	168	104	442	732	1'90	1'18	5'01	8'29	258
LA	5	10	88,549	20,351	10,261	119,161	27,007	3,735	268	1,244	1,521	554	1,365	3,517	4'49	2'3	4'02	10'37	969
W	1	15	15,568	7,333	29	22,930	6,418	807	426	1,724	567	815	1,908	3,405	1'14	1'64	3'84	6'85	1,328
Total	12	...	159,794	69,981	14,862	244,637	54,636	7,577	853	3,629	2,422	235	4,099	8,427	2'38	1'64	4'02	8'27	2,802
General charges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,117	...	...	...	1'09	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,544	...	...	...	9'36	...
WESTPORT SECTION.																			
C	2	12	128	31,108	...	31,236	5,095	921	101	486	242	131	672	1,077	1'86	24	1'01	5'16	357
F	3	15	25,952	25,324	2,120	53,396	9,965	1,226	166	801	372	48	930	1,605	1'67	22	1'14	4'18	8'27
FB	2	15	14,843	18,341	...	33,184	8,354	801	115	557	308	36	579	1,197	2'67	24	1'55	4'19	8'65
WB	3	20	51,062	13,829	...	64,891	27,911	1,857	233	1,104	712	72	988	2,474	2'63	27	2'59	3'66	9'15
Total	10	...	91,985	88,602	2,120	182,707	51,325	4,805	615	2,948	1,694	188	3,169	6,353	2'22	25	1'71	4'16	1,979
Less recoverable, mileage and expenditure	...	...	...	...	481	481	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...
General charges	...	...	...	...	1,639	182,226	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,326	...	...	...	...	8'33
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,431	...	...	...	...	1'88
NELSON SECTION.																			
D	1	20	4,160	664	3,359	8,183	1,607	171	3	71	61	8	116	283	1'79	24	2'87	3'40	106
F	1	20	7,647	1,477	261	9,385	2,186	369	17	131	630	9	123	947	16'11	23	3'14	4'73	108
FB	2	20	35,718	6,203	323	42,244	12,317	1,287	71	514	196	43	759	1,760	1'11	24	4'31	4'33	511
Total	4	...	47,525	8,344	3,943	59,812	16,110	1,827	91	716	887	60	1,063	2,990	3'56	24	3'93	4'26	755
Less recoverable, mileage and expenditure	...	...	...	...	3,065	3,065	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174	...	...	...	...	...
General charges	...	...	...	...	878	56,747	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,816	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111	...	...	...	...	...
PICTON SECTION.																			
D	1	15	3,543	1,850	1,321	6,714	1,316	305	10	102	40	17	142	273	1'43	61	2'64	5'07	141
G	4	15	46,465	16,338	917	63,720	11,714	2,895	67	627	923	119	1,115	2,815	3'48	45	2'47	4'20	688
Total	5	...	59,008	18,188	2,238	70,434	13,030	3,200	77	729	963	136	1,257	3,088	3'28	46	2'50	4'28	829
General charges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	442	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,530	...	...	...	...	...

RETURN No. 29.

HURUNUI-BLUFF SECTION.

RETURN of COAL TRAFFIC from LOCAL MINES during the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Mine.	1903-4.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Campbell's Mine, Springfield	...	25	...	25
Springfield Coal Company, Springfield	556	330	226	...
Clondesley, Springfield	48	170	...	122
Brockley, Glentunnel	10	84	...	74
St. Helen's, Whitecliffs	1,362	1,188	174	...
Homebush, Glentunnel	8,405	7,161	1,244	...
Mount Somers Coal Company, Mount Somers	3,044	3,953	...	309
Woolshed Creek Company, Mount Somers	1,629	...	1,629	...
Albury	333	449	...	116
Waimate	77	16	61	...
Kurow	...	4	...	4
Gibson's	24	97	...	73
Ngapara	132	18	114	...
Shag Point	825	55	770	...
Allandale Coal Company	20,317	23,697	...	3,380
Walton Park	5,048	11,475	...	5,827
Saddle Hill	20,357	14,723	5,634	...
Fernhill	3,354	2,649	705	...
Freeman's	13,261	8,295	4,966	...
Mosgiel	2,318	3,889	...	1,571
Taratu Mine, Lovell's Flat	15,144	5,232	9,912	...
Lovell's Flat Coal Company, Lovell's Flat	14,843	13,466	1,377	...
Hewitson, Lovell's Flat	29	...	29	...
Nelson's, Benhar	235	150	85	...
Kaitangata	116,100	110,632	5,468	...
Milton	3,005	14,103	...	11,098
Anderson's, Stirling	12	43	...	31
Conical Hills	3,102	3,288	...	186
O'Hagan, C., Pukerau	182	258	...	76
Penny, G., Gore	104	...	104	...
New Zealand Express Company, Gore	172	107	65	...
McGibbon and Sons, Gore	...	...	...	...
Sleeman, C. P., Maitara	7,766	6,295	1,471	...
Beattie and Co., Maitara	2,384	2,207	177	...
Brown's, Maitara	...	...	...	...
Mutch and Hurst, Maitara	62	78	...	16
Reed, W., Nightcaps	15	752	...	737
Nightcaps Coal Company, Nightcaps	38,744	39,381	...	637
Kelly Bros., Nightcaps	246	...	246	...
Tinker and Alley, Nightcaps	...	9	...	9
Grant, J., Nightcaps	4	...	4	...
Spence, J., Nightcaps	70	...	70	...
Clark, Nightcaps	...	8	...	8
McBride, A., Nightcaps	...	6	...	6
Quested, J., Nightcaps	22	...	22	...
Lamont, D., Nightcaps	31	...	31	...
New Zealand Coal and Oil Syndicate, Orepuki	...	95	...	95
Robson, R. W., Bush Siding	20	...	20	...
Totals	284,592	274,388	10,204	...

RETURN No. 30.

HURUNUI-BLUFF SECTION.

RETURN of the NUMBER of VESSELS DISCHARGED and LOADED at the Ports of Lyttelton, Timaru, Oamaru, Port Chalmers, Dunedin, and Bluff, for the Year ending 31st March, 1904.

Port.	1903-4.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
DISCHARGED :—				
Lyttelton	1,609	1,564	45	...
Timaru	323	261	62	...
Oamaru	156	149	7	...
Port Chalmers	169	208	...	39
Dunedin	52	62	...	10
Bluff	230	237	...	7
Totals	2,539	2,481	58	...
LOADED :—				
Lyttelton	1,618	1,727	...	109
Timaru	322	261	61	...
Oamaru	142	134	8	...
Port Chalmers	192	150	42	...
Dunedin	2	7	...	5
Bluff	232	236	...	4
Totals	2,508	2,515	...	7

RETURN No. 31.

HURUNUI-BLUFF SECTION.

SHOWING MILEAGE of TRACK in MAIN LINE and SIDINGS OPEN for TRAFFIC on 31st March, 1904,
on the HURUNUI-BLUFF RAILWAY and BRANCHES.

Line of Railway.	Main Line.		Branches.	Total Railway.	Sidings.			Total Equivalent of Single Track.	
	Single.	Double.			Main Line.	Branches.	Total.		
CHRISTCHURCH DIVISION :—									
Main Line	M. ch. 211 57	M. ch. 6 28	M. ch. ...	M. ch. 218 5	M. ch. 75 41	M. ch. ...	M. ch. 75 41	M. ch. 293 46	
Rangiora-Sheffield and Eyre- ton Junction-Bennett's	...	...	53 56	262 3	...	4 40	25 64	58 16	
Waipara-Scargill	...	...	14 40			1 2		15 42	
Southbridge and Little River Branches	...	...	48 7			5 49		53 56	
Springfield and Whitecliffs Branches [Branch	...	...	47 4			5 0		52 4	
Rakaia and Ashburton Forks	...	...	22 20			2 70		25 10	
Mount Somers Branch	...	...	27 36	262 3	...	1 70	25 64	29 26	
Albury Branch	...	...	36 13			2 57		38 70	
Waimate Branch	...	...	12 67			2 16		15 3	
Totals, Christchurch Division	211 57	6 28	262 3	480 8	75 41	25 64	101 25	581 33	
DUNEDIN DIVISION :—									
Main Line	165 40	...	...	165 40	56 79	...	56 79	222 39	
Duntroon Branch	...	...	37 41	230 15	...	2 79	21 61	40 40	
Oamaru-Breakwater Branch	...	...	0 63			0 25		1 8	
Ngapara & Livingston Branches	...	...	27 4			2 14		29 18	
Shag Point Branch	...	...	2 10			0 14		2 24	
Waihemo Branch	...	...	8 65			0 63		9 48	
Port Chalmers Branch	...	...	1 26	230 15	...	3 65	21 61	5 11	
Walton Park Branch	...	...	2 49			0 52		3 21	
Fernhill Branch	...	...	1 57			0 23		2 0	
Otago Central Railway	...	...	97 72			6 17		104 9	
Outram Branch	...	...	9 0			0 65		9 65	
Lawrence Branch	...	...	22 1	230 15	...	1 67	21 61	23 68	
Catlin's River Branch	...	...	19 27			1 57		21 4	
Totals, Dunedin Division	165 40	...	230 15	395 55	56 79	21 61	78 60	474 35	
INVERCARGILL DIVISION :—									
Main Line	82 41	...	...	82 41	26 41	...	26 41	109 2	
Tapanui Branch	...	...	20 4	266 53	...	2 4	27 61	22 8	
Wiaimea Plains Branch	...	...	36 41			3 6		39 47	
Wyndham Branch	...	...	9 35			0 45		10 0	
Seaward Bush Branch	...	...	25 39			2 0		27 39	
Kingston Branch	...	...	87 0			8 59		95 59	
Makarewa-Orepuki Branch	...	...	40 16	266 53	...	6 17	27 61	46 33	
Thornbury-Wairio and Wairio- Nightcaps Branches	...	...	24 51			3 10		27 61	
Forest Hill Railway	...	...	12 66			0 77		13 63	
Lumsden-Mararoa Branch	...	...	10 41	349 14	26 41	1 3	54 22	11 44	
Totals, Invercargill Division	82 41	...	266 53	349 14	26 41	27 61	54 22	403 36	
Grand Totals—Whole Line	459 58	6 28	758 71	1,224 77	159 1	75 26	234 27	1,459 24	

RETURN No. 32.

STATEMENT of ALTERATIONS in and ADDITIONS to SCALE of CHARGES during the Year ended
31st March, 1904.

PART I.—PASSENGERS.

LOCAL FARES AND REGULATIONS.

Hurunui-Bluff Section.

Through booking rail and steamer between Dunedin and Portobello: Steamer fare increased

PART II.—PARCELS, HORSES, ETC.

Corpses: Rate for corpses by mail and express trains inserted.

Through booking between stations on the Auckland Section and ports on the Manukau Harbour: Rates inserted.

Through booking between stations on the Auckland Section and Kaipara ports: Rate for four-wheeled vehicles amended.

PART III.—GOODS: REGULATIONS.

Starving stock; and hay, straw, chaff, grain, green fodder, and ensilage: Regulations for free conveyance inserted.

Exhibitions: Regulations for free conveyance of exhibits to and from the Wairarapa and Hawera Exhibitions inserted.

PART IV.—GOODS: LOCAL RATES.

Auckland Section.

Timber rates, Mangapeehi, Otorohanga, Ngatira, and Mamaku to Mount Eden, Auckland, Onehunga wharf, and intermediate stations, amended.

Through booking Kaipara ports: Steamers' freight on Classes E, F, N, P, Q reduced, and rate for four-wheeled vehicles exceeding 15 cwt. inserted.

Through booking between stations on the Auckland Section and ports on the Manukau Harbour: Rates inserted.

Westport Section.

Timber rate, Ngakawau to Granity, inserted.

Hurunui-Bluff Section.

Cartage, Kaiapoi: Charge of 1s. per ton for collection and delivery of goods abolished.

PART V.—CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS, LIVE-STOCK, PARCELS, AND LUGGAGE.

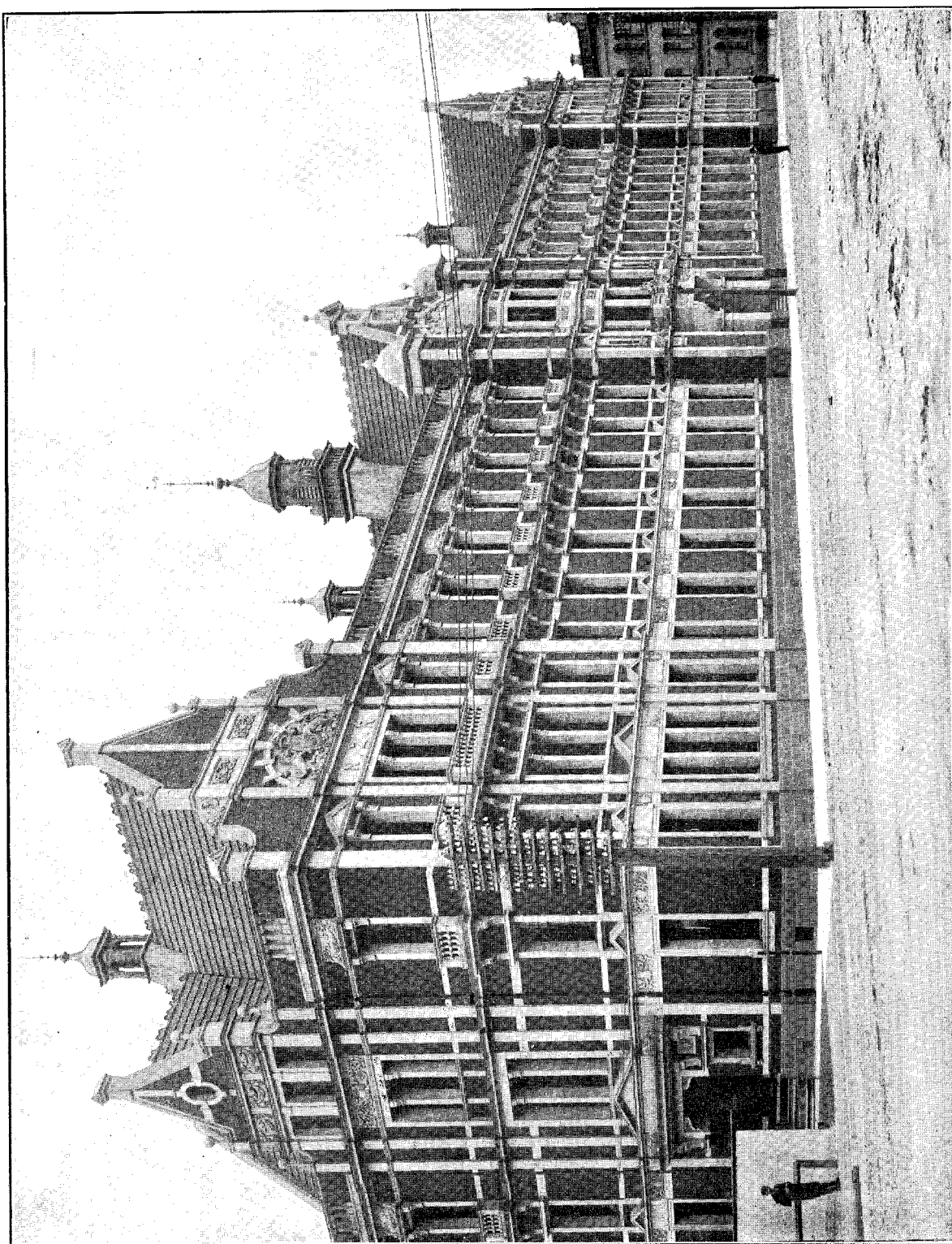
	Class.
Cream, preserved, packed, consigned direct from local factories in consignments of not less than 10 cwt. Rate and a half	E
Butter-boxes, empty, not returned empties	D
Maslin, packed (New Zealand produce)	E
Thorley's foods for cattle and poultry feeding	D

PART VI.—WHARVES.

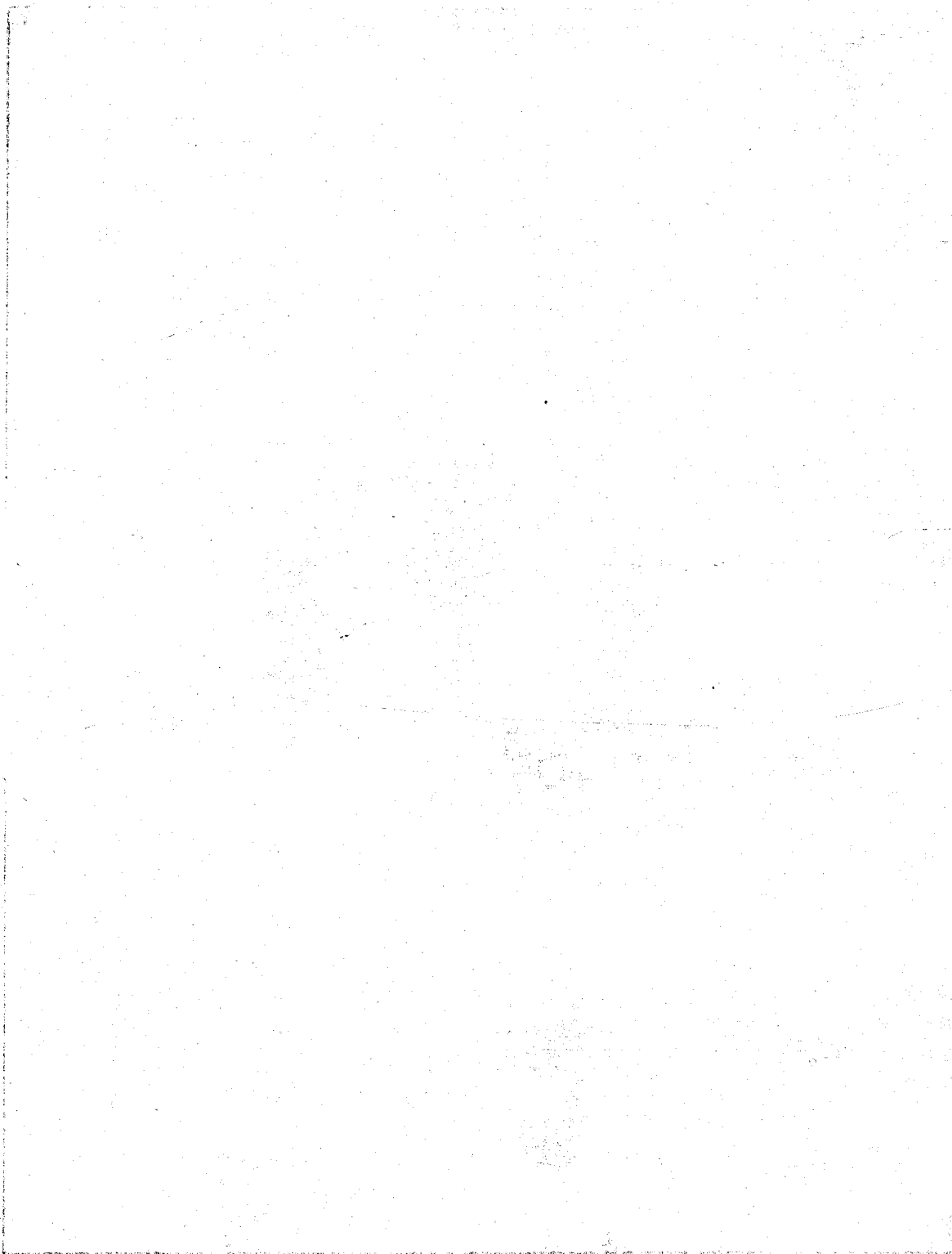
Foxton Wharf.

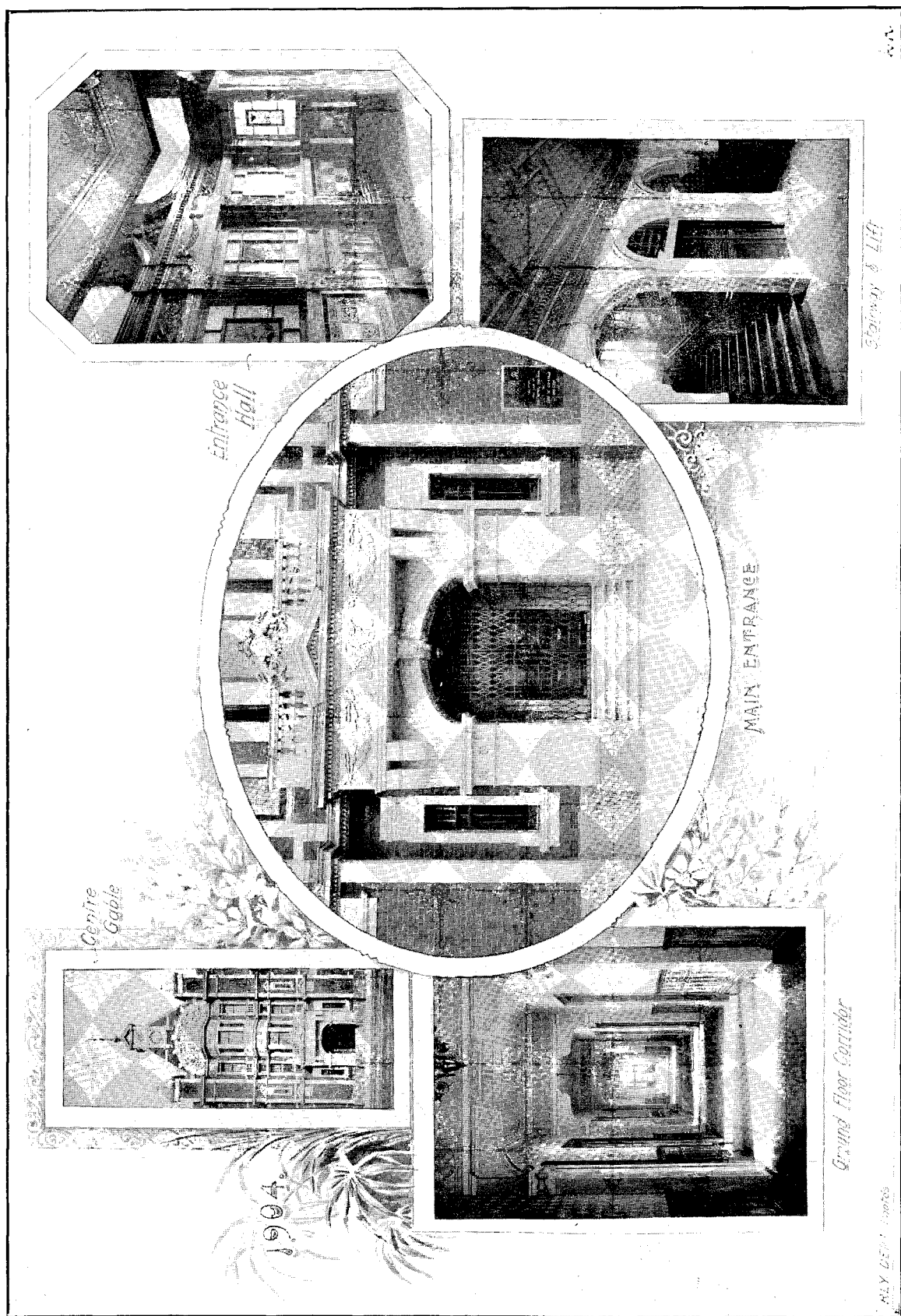
Berthage charges inserted.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1904.

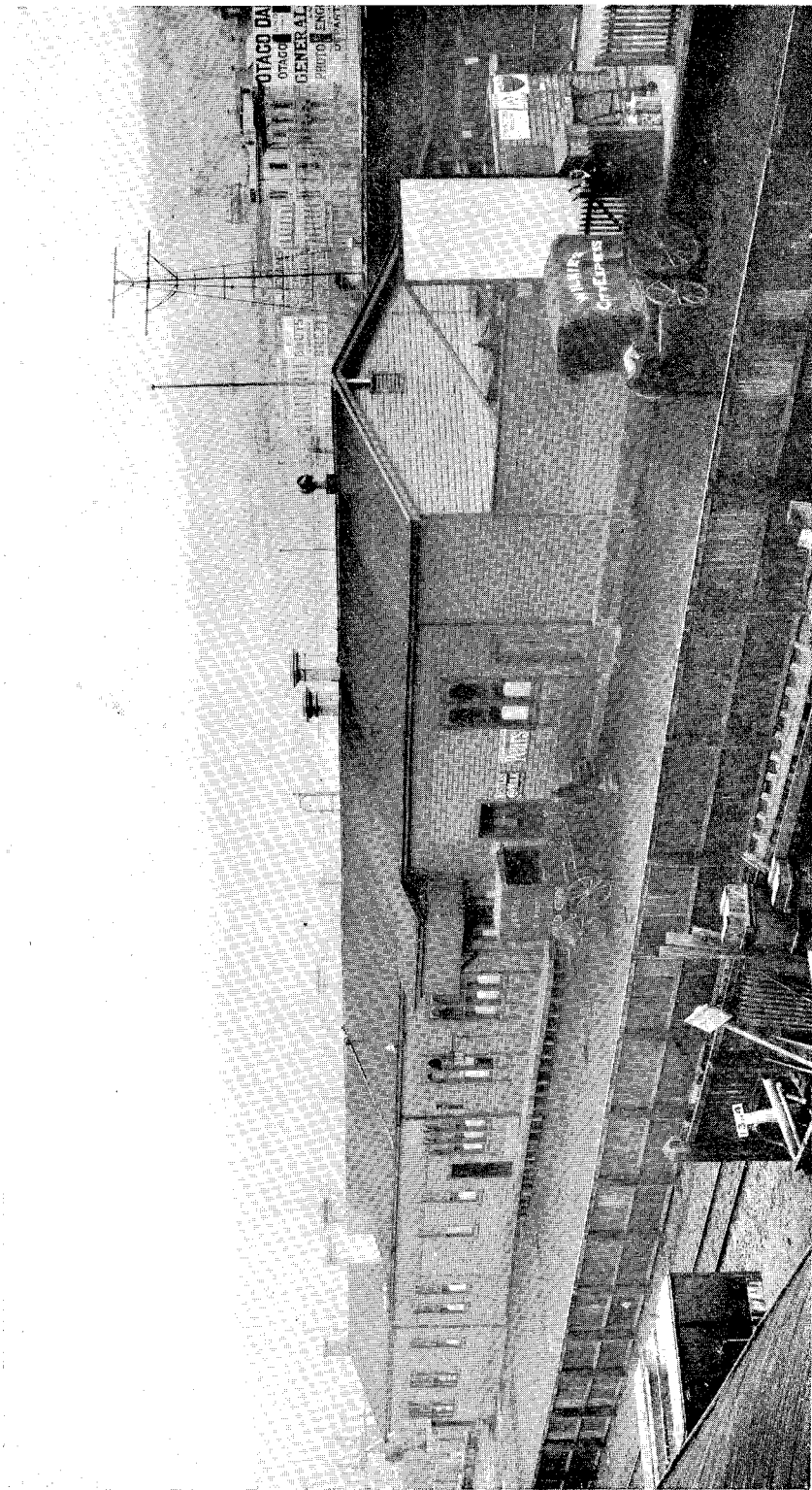


Railway Offices, Wellington.

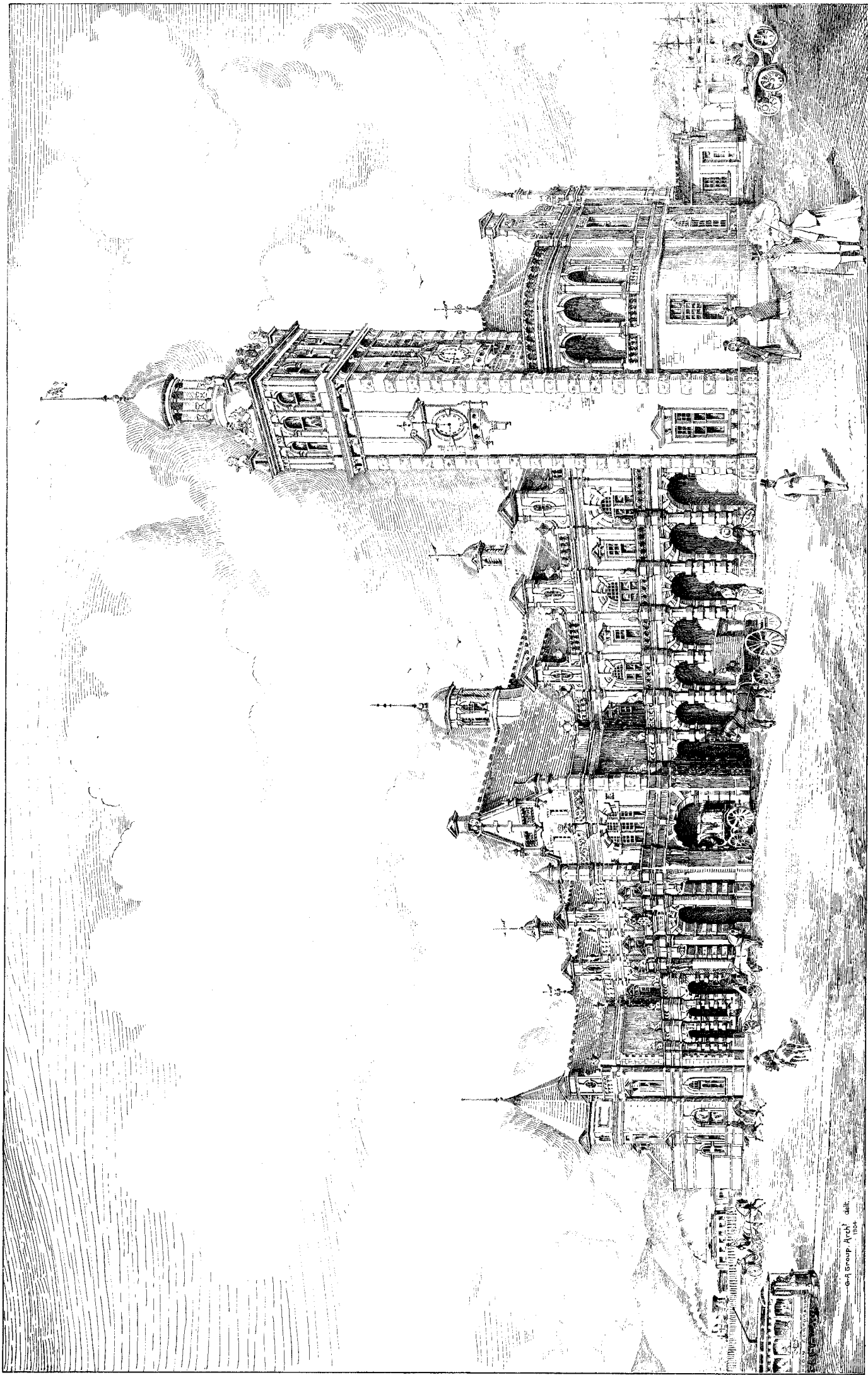




Details of Railway Offices, Wellington.

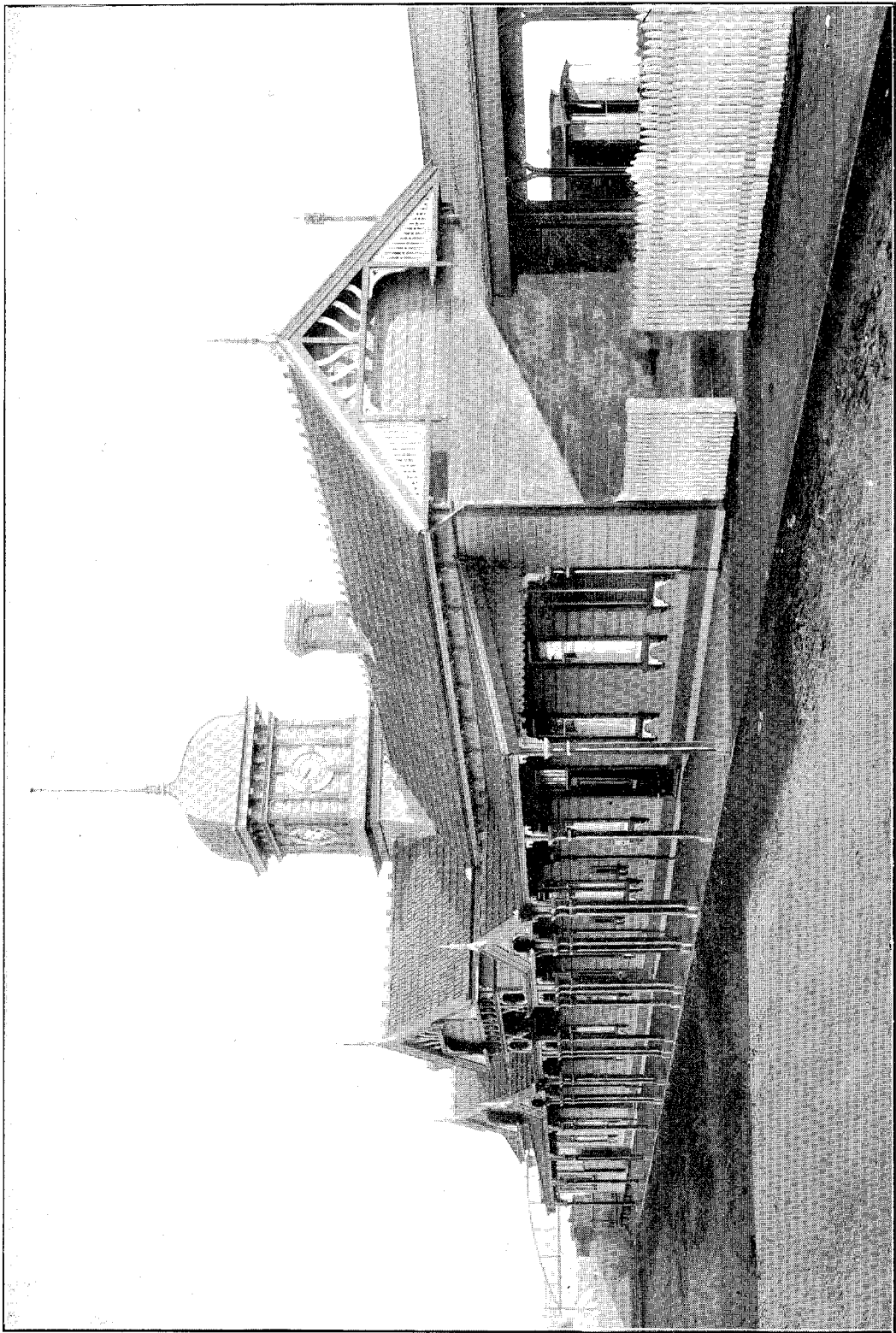


Dunedin Passenger Station. Present Building: Length, 236 ft. 6 in.; maximum width, 26 ft. 6 in.; cubic contents, 101,000 cub. ft.; length of platforms, 1,390 ft.

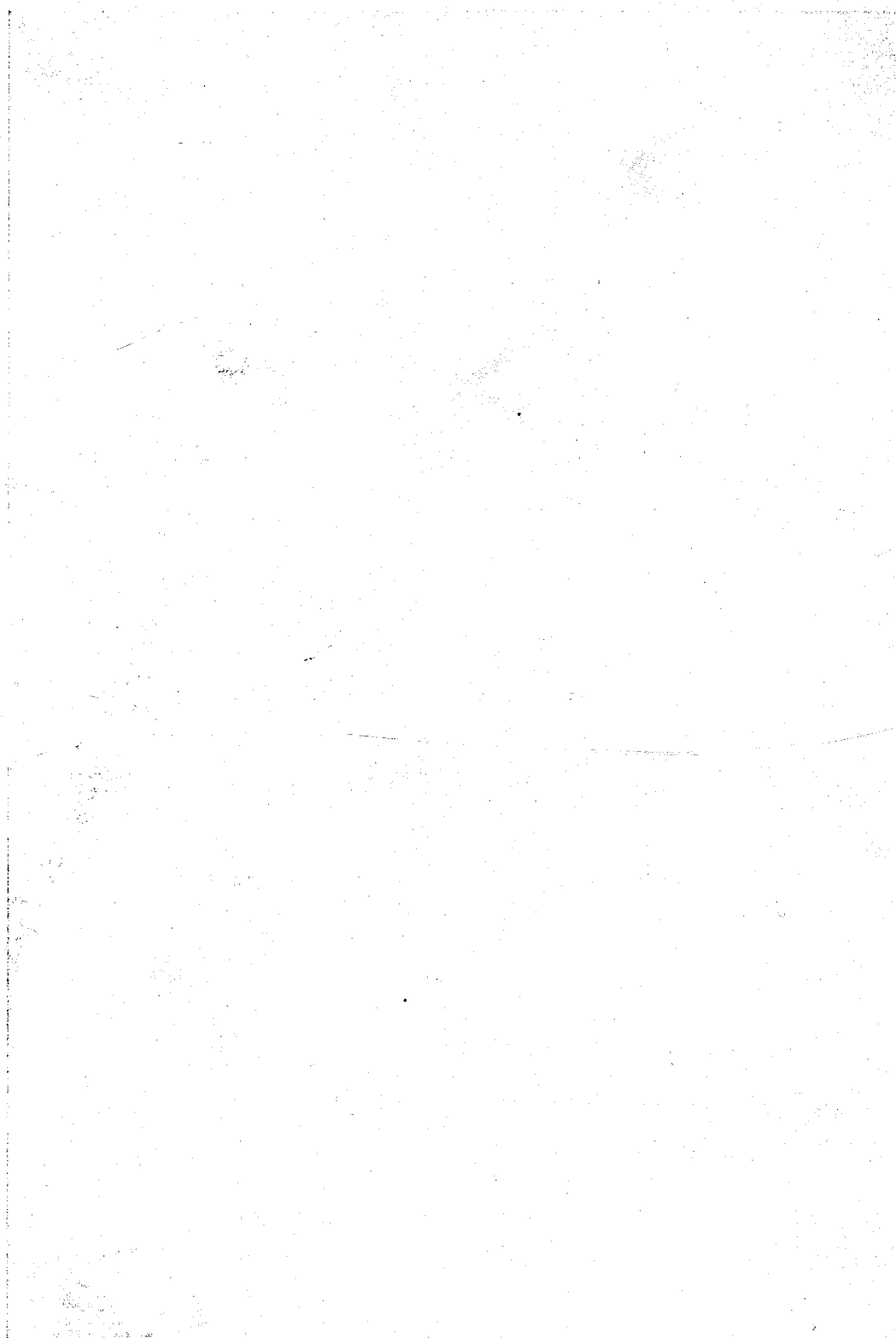


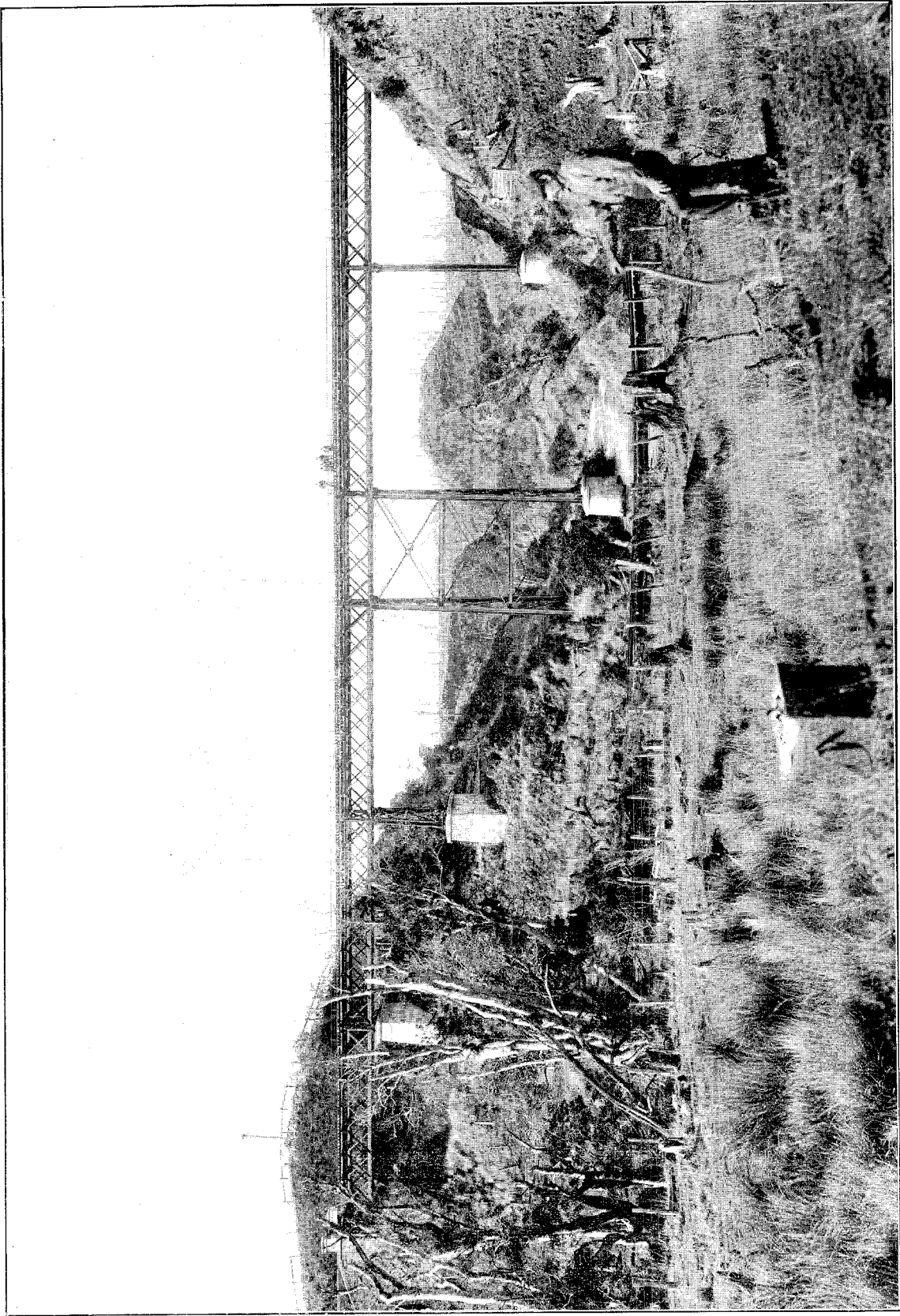
DUNEDIN PASSENGER STATION
(NEW BUILDING).
Length, 417 ft. 6 in.; maximum width, 57 ft. 6 in.; cubic contents, 779,000 ft.; length of platforms, 2,800 ft.

G. A. Group Archt. del.
1894

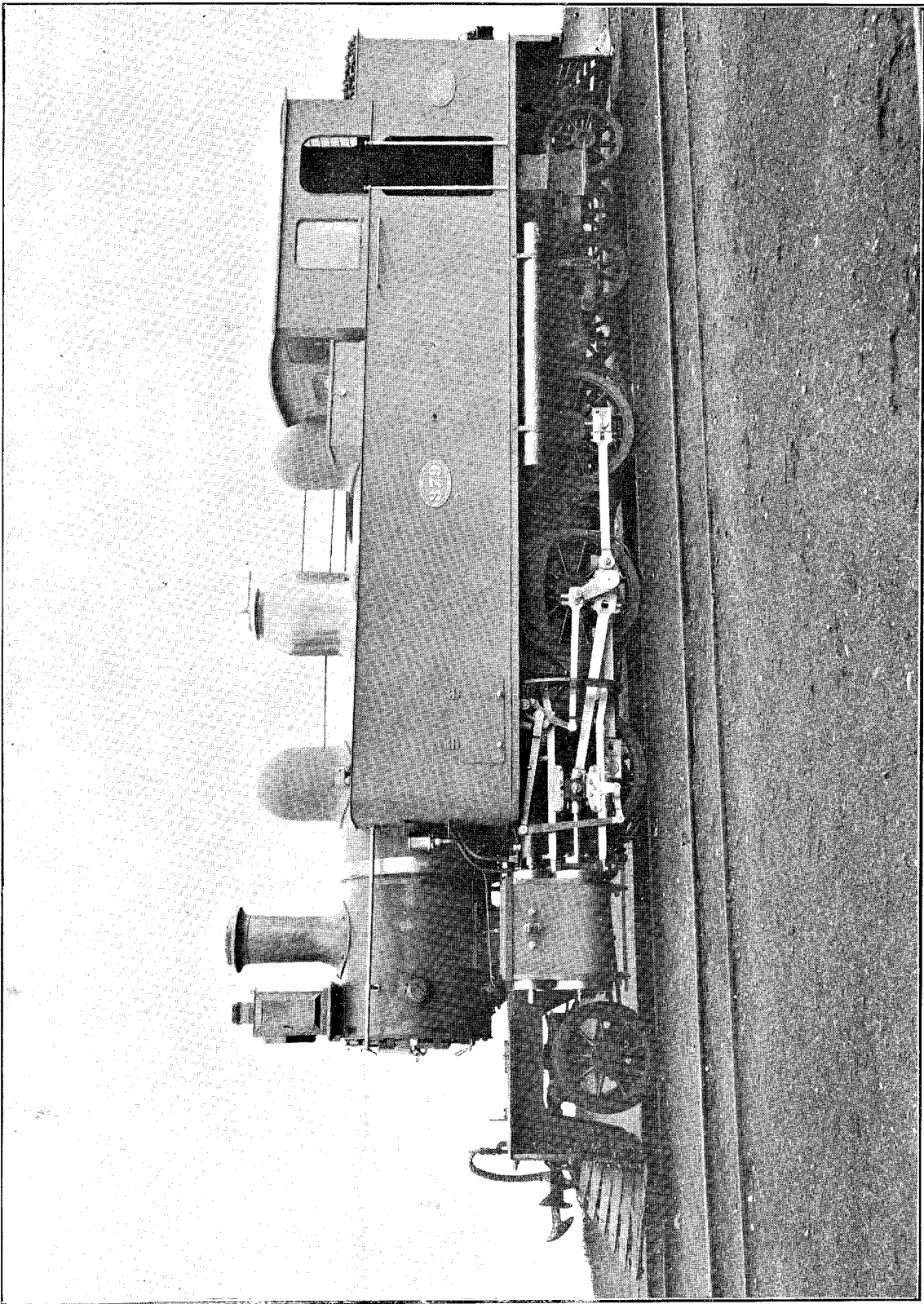


New Plymouth Railway Station.





Mangatera Viaduct.



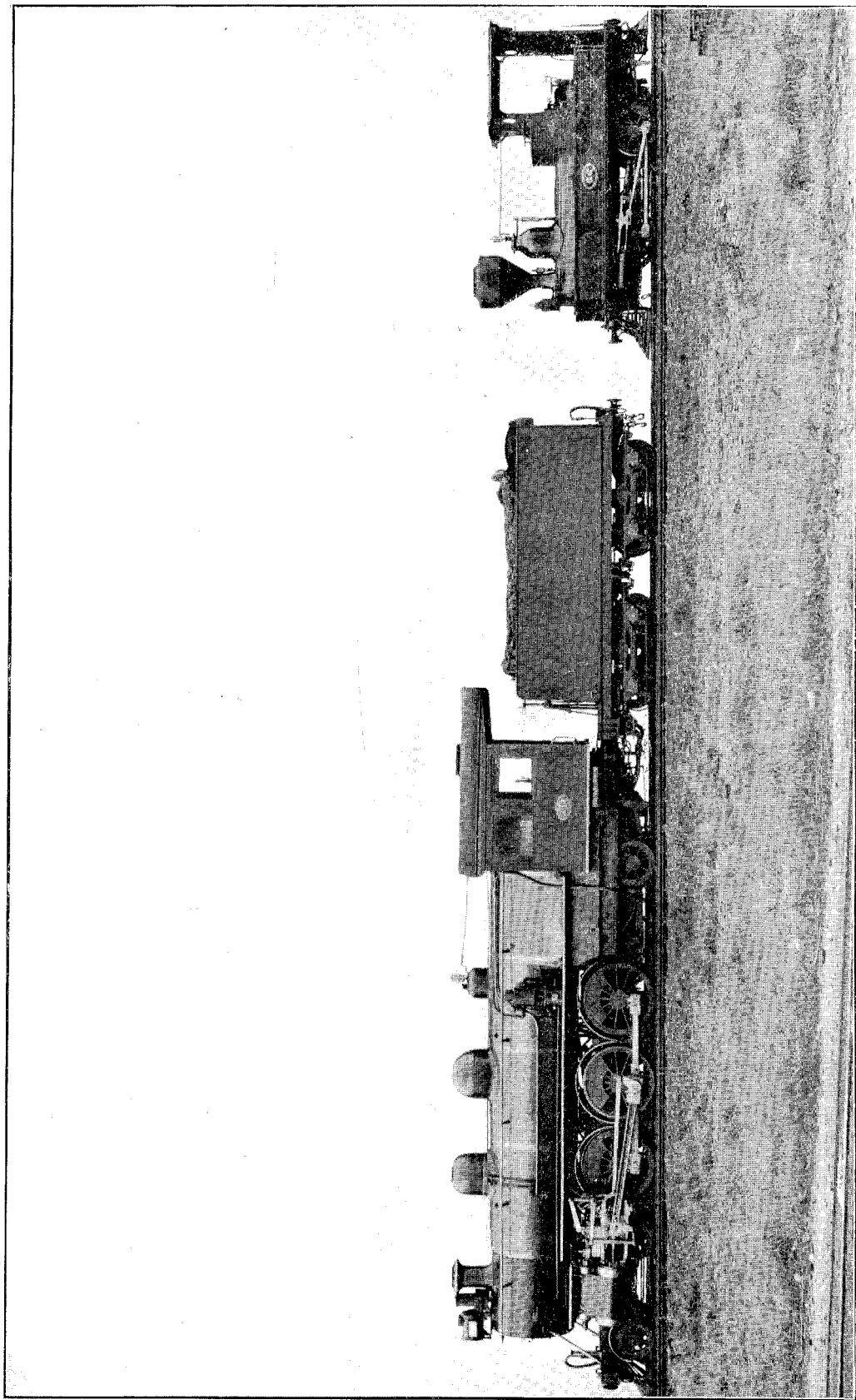
Suburban Tank Locomotive, Class "Wf," built in New Zealand Government Railway Workshops. Cylinders, 14 in.; stroke, 22 in.; diameter of wheels, 3 ft. 9 in.; tractive-power (at 75 per cent. boiler-pressure), 14,370 lb.; boiler-pressure, 200 lb.; total weight in working-trim, 43½ tons. Gauge, 3 ft. 6 in.



1904.

Class "Q."

Cylinders, 16 in. by 22 in.; driving wheels, 49 in.; tractive-power at 75 per cent. boiler-pressure, 17,240 lb.; boiler-pressure, 200 lb. Weight in working-order, 69 tons.



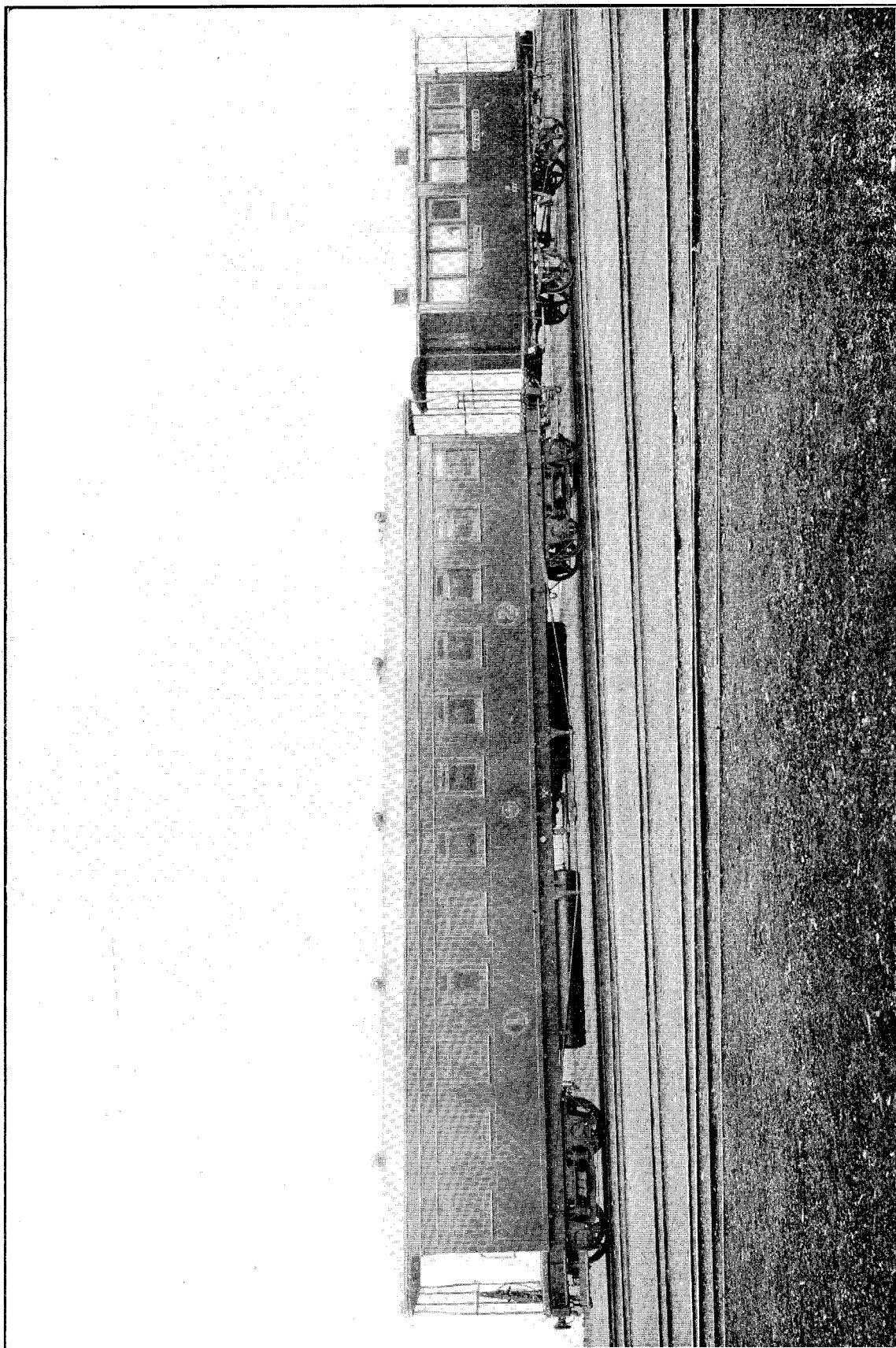
1874.

Class "A."

Cylinders, 8 in. by 15 in.; driving wheels, 30 in.; tractive-power at 75 per cent. boiler-pressure, 2,856 lb.; boiler-pressure, 120 lb. Weight in working-order, 11½ tons.

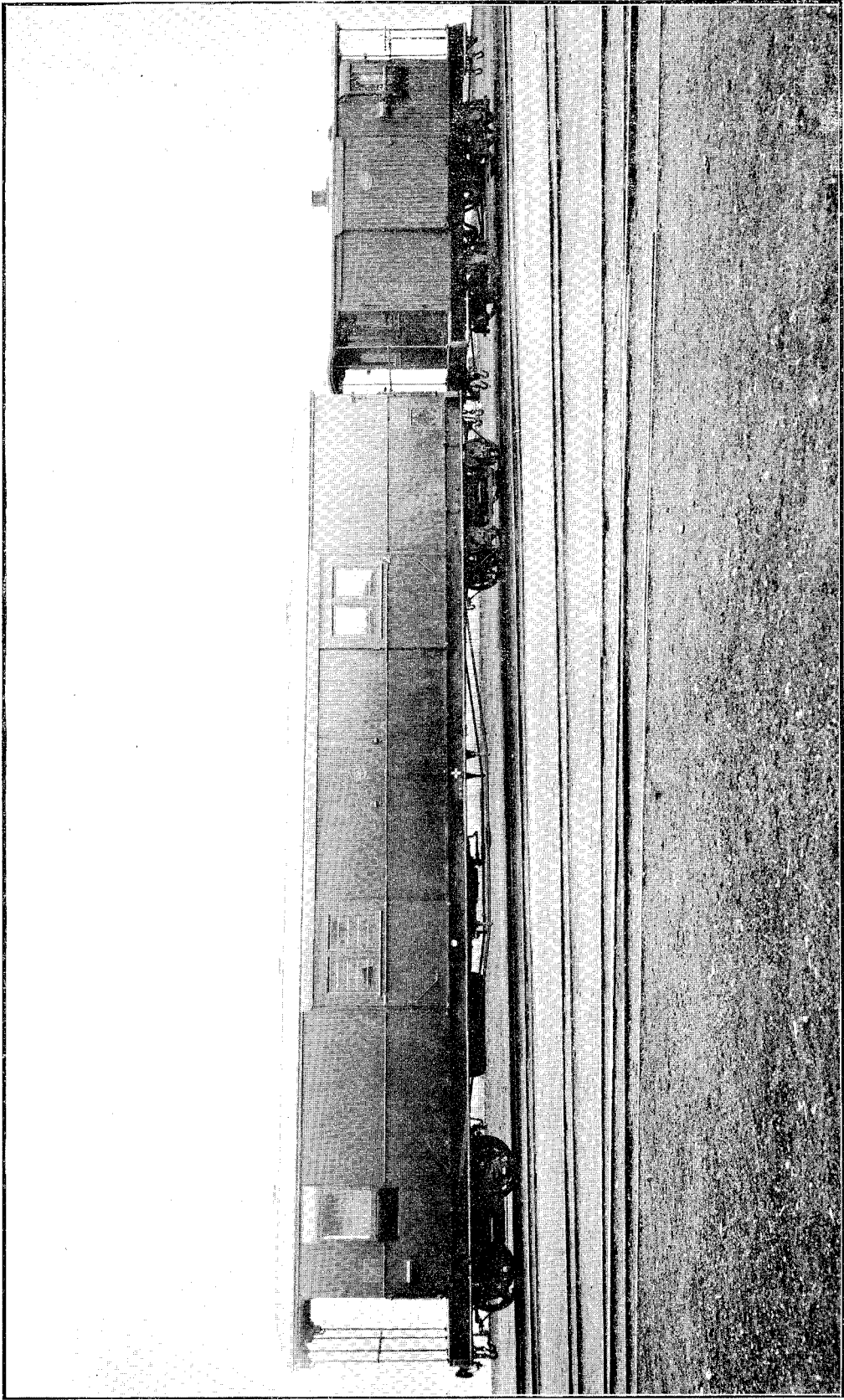
Evolution of the Locomotive Engine on the New Zealand Government Railways. Gauge, 3 ft. 6 in.

1904.
Standard Class "A" Bogie Car.
47½ ft. over headstocks; floor area
284 sq. ft. Pintsoh gas-
lighting. Westinghouse Brake.



1874.
Class "D" Car
20 ft. over headstocks; floor area
90 sq. ft. Colza-oil lighting
Hand-brake.

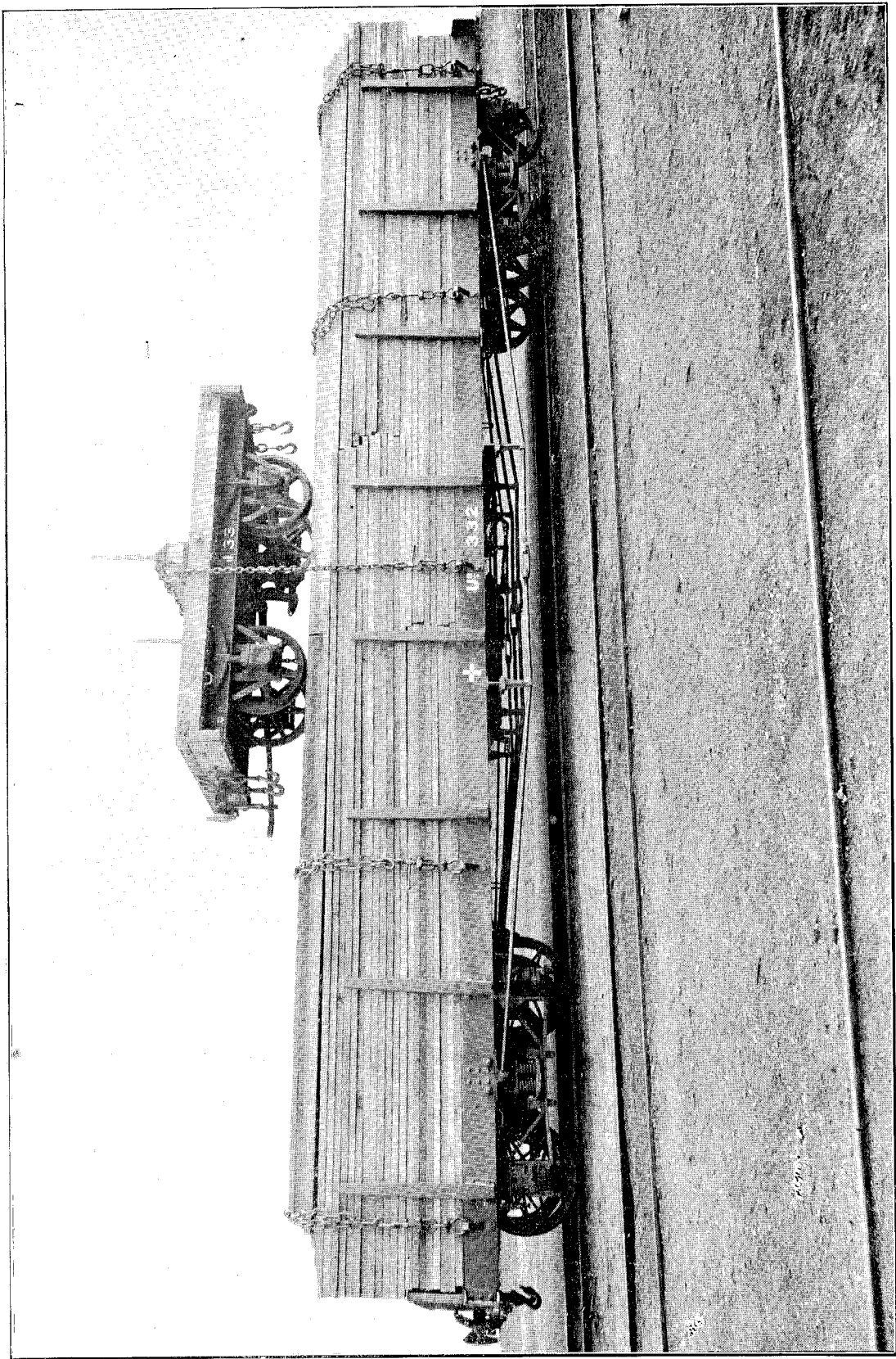
Passenger Cars, Present and Past, built in New Zealand Government Railway Workshops. Gauge. 3 ft. 6 in.



1904.
Standard Class "F" Bogie
Brake-van.
47½ ft. over headstocks; baggage
floor area. 234 sq. ft. Pintsch
gas - lighting. Westinghouse
Brake.

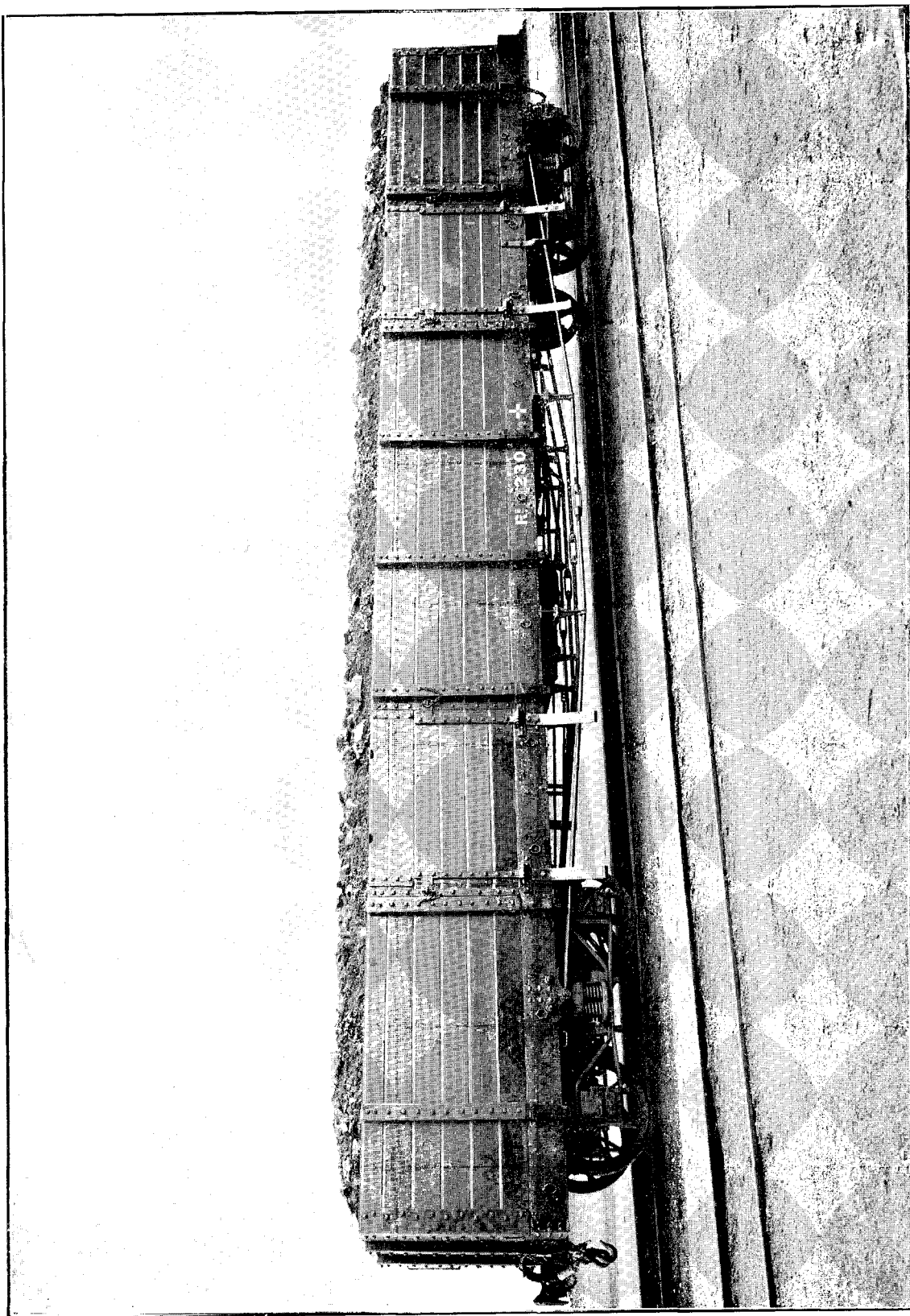
1874
Class "F" Brake-van
20 ft. over headstocks; baggage
floor area. 83 sq. ft. Colza-oil
lighting. Hand-brake.

Brake Vans. Present and Past. built in New Zealand Government Railway Workshops. Gauge. 3 ft. 6 in.



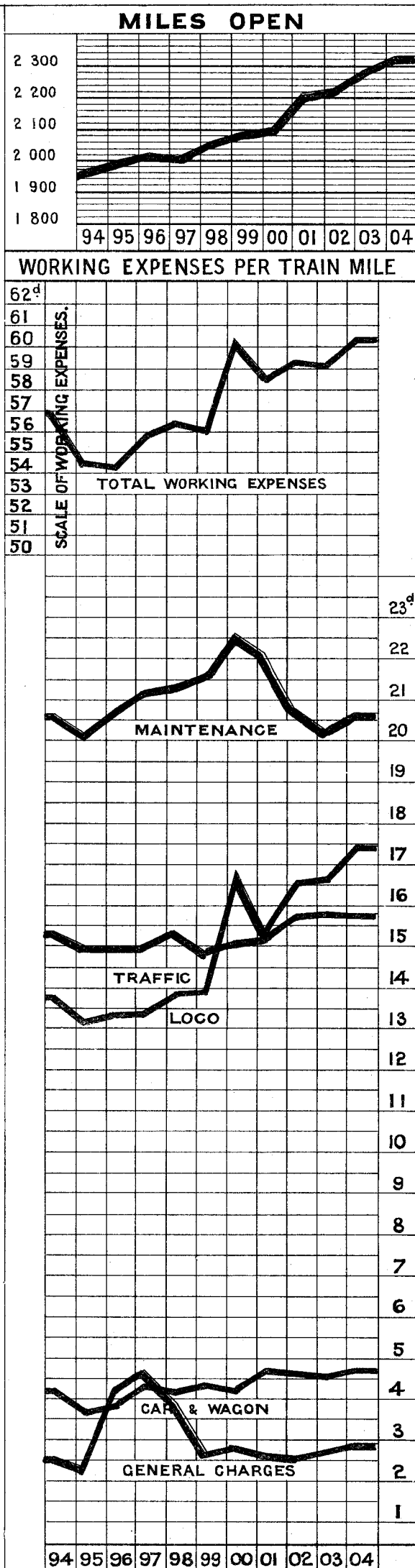
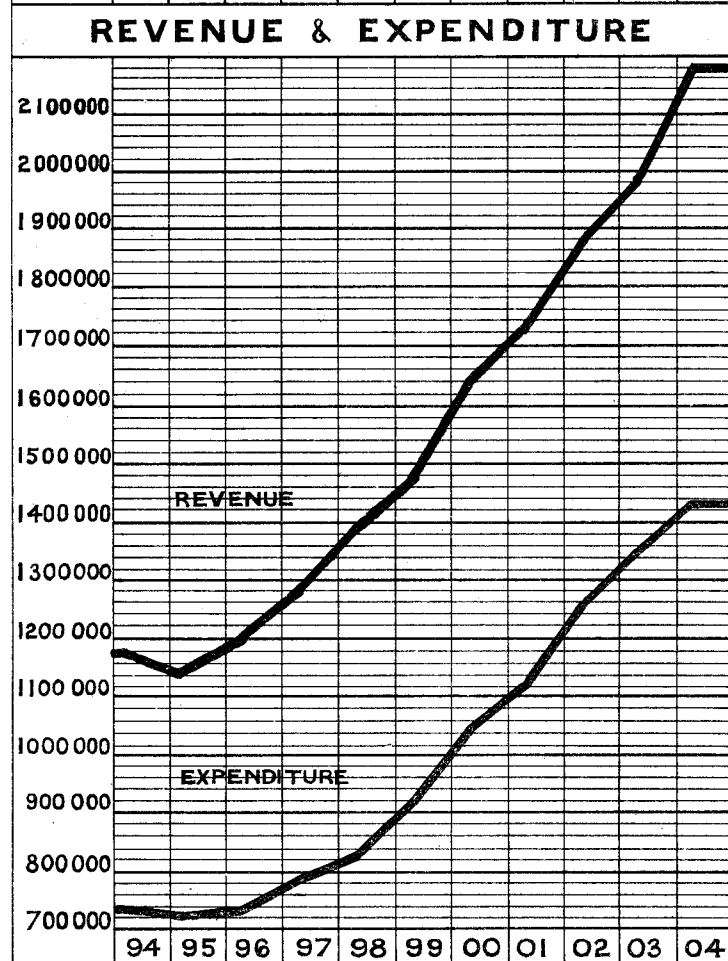
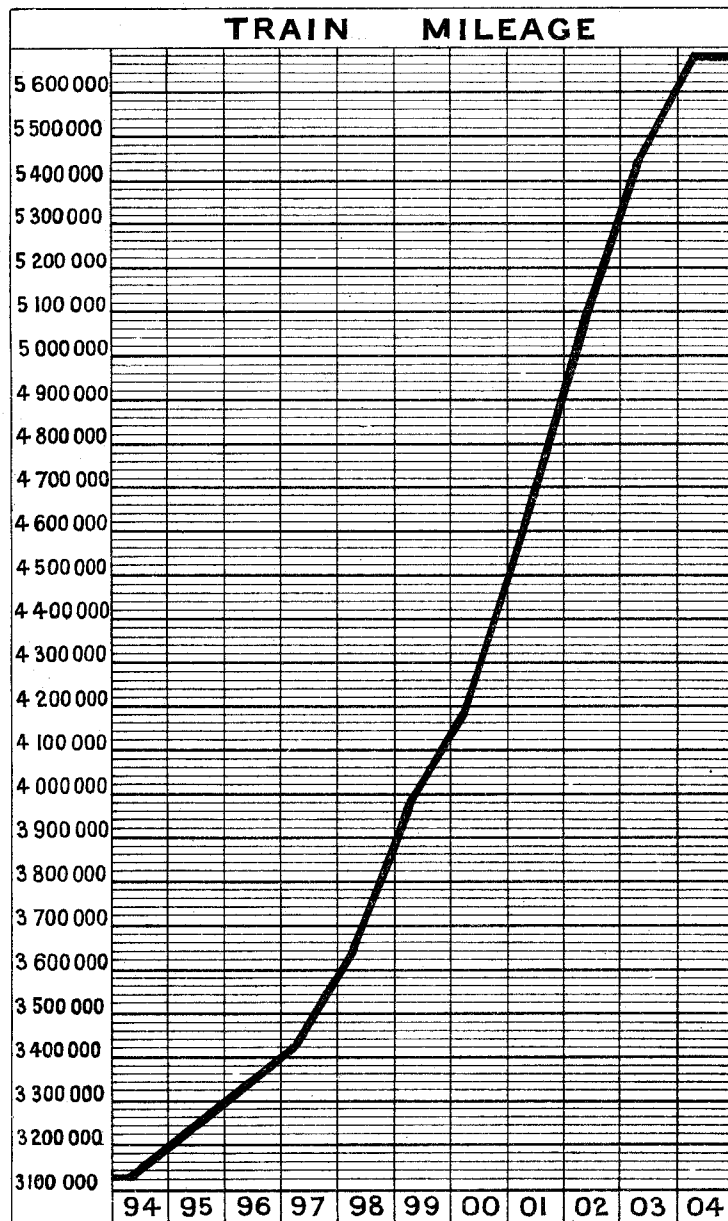
Old and New Timber-carrying Wagons. Class "N" (old), load, 6 tons; tare, 3 tons. Class "Ub" (new), load, 30 tons; tare, 10 tons. Built in New Zealand Government Railway Workshops. The load shown above comprises 10,000 sup ft. of sawn timber. Gauge, 3 ft. 6 in.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be addressed. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

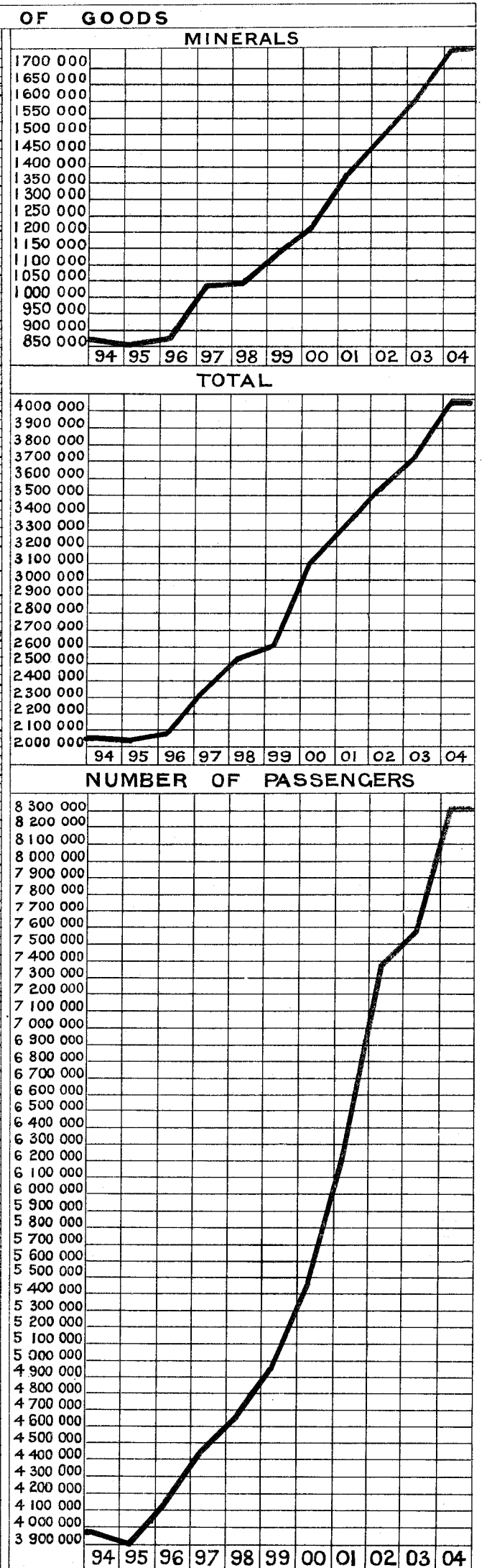
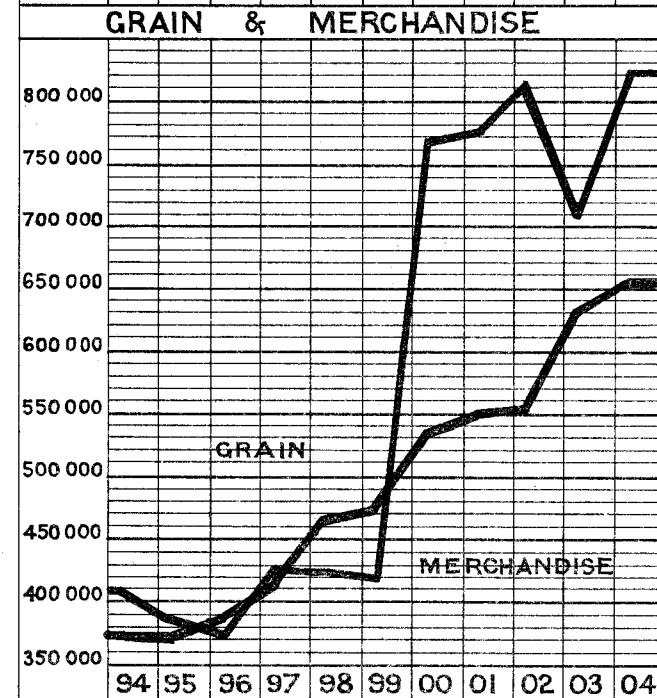
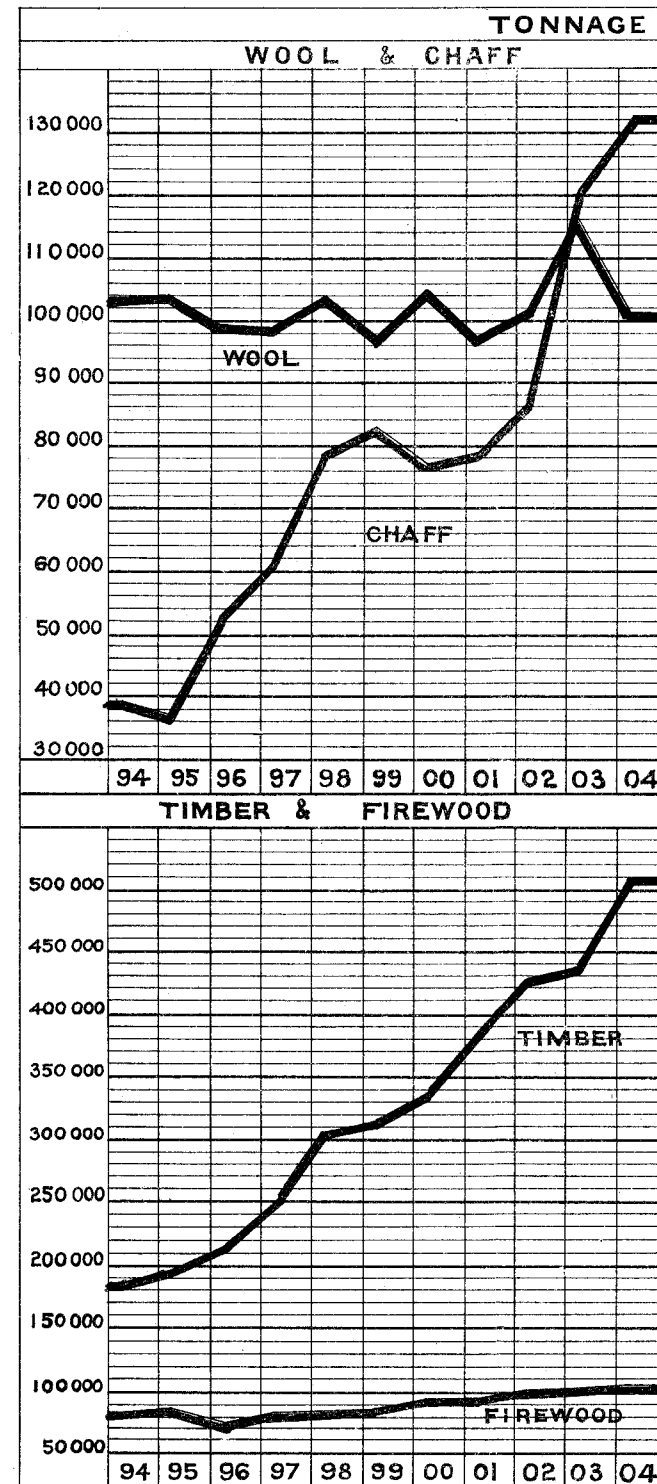


Standard Class "Rb" Bogie High-sided Wagon, built in New Zealand Government Railway Workshops. Load, 30 tons; tare, 12 tons; gauge, 3 ft. 6 in.

NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS



NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS



MAP OF NEW ZEALAND

SHEWING RAILWAYS OPEN FOR TRAFFIC

STATISTICS.

Government Railways open for traffic on 31st March, 1904	..	2,328 miles
Private companies' lines	..	113
Capital cost of Government Railways open on 31st March, 1904	..	£20,692,911
Revenue from Government Railways, year ending 31st March, 1904	..	£2,180,841
Expenditure on	..	£1,438,724
Passengers carried	..	8,306,383
Number of season tickets issued	..	129,819
Cattle, sheep, and pigs carried	..	3,934,081
Tonnage carried	..	4,072,576
Number of miles travelled by trains	..	6,685,389
Number of locomotives	..	377
Number of passenger-carriages	..	809
Number of wagons and brake-vans	..	13,483
Area of colony, square miles	..	104,471
Population, estimated at 31st March, 1904	..	882,087
Chief Cities:-		
Auckland	Population with Suburbs	67,226
Wellington	(Census for 1901)	49,344
Christchurch		57,041
Dunedin		62,380

North Island

Middle Island

Scale of English Miles.



REFERENCE.

Government Railways open for traffic	—
Private Lines	—
Coach routes	—
Roads and tracks	—
Steamer routes	—

DISTANCES BY RAILWAY.

	Miles.
Auckland to Ahuroa	57
" to Rotorua	171
" to Taumarunui	175
" to Cambridge	101
" to Thames	148
New Plymouth to Wanganui	107
" to Napier	278
" to Wellington (via W. & M. Railway)	251
" to (via Rimutaka)	296
Napier to Wellington (via W. & M. Railway)	199
" to (via Rimutaka)	270
Christchurch to Culverden	69
" to Dunedin	230
Dunedin to Invercargill	78
" to Lawrence	108
" to Bluff	139
" to Kingston (via Waimoa Plains Line)	158
" to (via Invercargill)	174
Bluff to Kingston	226
" to (via Invercargill)	104

