

TELEGRAPHS

The total value of the telegraph and telephone business for the year ended the 31st March last, including miscellaneous telegraph receipts and Government telegrams, was £325,007 15s. 7½d., as compared with £298,079 17s. 11d. for the previous year, an increase of £26,927 17s. 8d., or 9·03 per cent.

The following is a comparison of the traffic in paid telegrams during the last ten years :—

	Number.		Net Value.	
1897-98 ...	2,469,415		£96,537	
1898-99 ...	2,717,548	Increase, 10·05 per cent.	101,104	Increase, 4·73 per cent.
1899-00 ...	3,159,093	" 16·25 "	114,383	" 13·13 "
1900-1 ...	3,534,444	" 11·88 "	126,382	" 10·49 "
1901-2 ...	3,850,391	" 8·94 "	141,581	" 12·03 "
1902-3 ...	4,271,218	" 10·93 "	153,338	" 8·30 "
1903-4 ...	4,671,904	" 9·38 "	162,498	" 5·97 "
1904-5 ...	4,900,495	" 4·89 "	167,581	" 3·12 "
1905-6 ...	5,351,084	" 9·19 "	180,474	" 7·69 "
1906-7 ...	6,160,080	" 15·12 "	202,301	" 12·09 "

Table showing the number of telegrams forwarded, and the revenue derived therefrom, during the four quarters of the financial years 1905-6 and 1906-7 respectively :—

Quarter.	Number of Telegrams forwarded.		Increase per Cent.	Revenue						Increase per Cent.
	Year ended 31st March, 1906.	Year ended 31st March, 1907.		Year ended 31st March, 1906.			Year ended 31st March, 1907.			
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
June quarter ...	1,255,080	1,388,546	10·63	42,296	7	0	47,078	0	2½	11·31
September quarter ...	1,226,811	1,338,072	9·07	41,658	16	6	44,976	12	1½	7·96
December quarter ...	1,414,598	1,616,765	14·29	47,762	5	10	51,908	18	11½	8·68
March quarter ...	1,454,595	1,816,697	24·89	48,756	18	5	58,337	9	2	19·65
	5,351,084	6,160,080	15·12	180,474	7	9	202,301	0	5½	12·09

The telegraph receipts for the financial year, including telephone-exchange subscriptions, private-wire rents, &c., amounted to £307,520 15s. 11½d., compared with £273,911 7s. 7d. in 1905-6—an increase of £33,609 8s. 4½d., or 12·27 per cent.

The expenditure was £291,359 12s. 6d., as against £276,580 12s. 5d. for the previous year—an increase of £14,779 0s. 1d., or 5·35 per cent.

There were 8,953 miles of line and 27,031 miles of wire at the close of the year—an increase of 598 and 1,915 miles respectively.

The net expenditure out of Public Works Fund for telegraph-extension was £114,067 19s. 9d., as compared with £77,186 7s. 2d. in 1905-6.

The number of private wires and subsidised lines was 351, compared with 335 in 1905-6. The amount received for rent, maintenance, &c., was £2,123 3s. 8d., as against £2,182 9s. 6d. in 1905-6.

The total number of telegraph and telephone offices open at the close of the year was 1,446. Of these 270 were telegraph-offices and 1,176 were telephone-offices.

The number of telegrams of all codes forwarded during the last financial year was 6,396,332—an increase of 756,113, or 13·41 per cent., over 1905-6.

The proportion of paid telegrams per head of population was 6·84, and 6·15 the previous year.

The number of ordinary telegrams forwarded was 4,548,532, of the value of £148,659 5s. 3½d., compared with 3,995,998, of the value of £135,203 12s. 9½d., in 1905-6—an increase of 552,534 and £13,455 12s. 6d.

The urgent telegrams numbered 235,731, of the value of £14,339 18s. 4d.—an increase of 24,160 in number and £1,532 9s. 5d. in amount.

The average value of each ordinary telegram was 7·84d., and of each urgent telegram 1s. 2·6d.

389,917 Press telegrams, of the value of £18,089 1s. 4d., were forwarded in 1906-7, as compared with 379,185, valued at £16,094 15s. 9½d., forwarded in 1905-6—an increase of 10,732, or 2·83 per cent., in number, and an increase of 12·39 per cent. in value.

The value of each Press telegram averaged 11·13d., as against 10·19d. in 1905-6.

The bureau messages numbered 985,900, of the value of £21,212 15s. 6d., as compared with 764,330, of the value of £16,368 10s. 3d.—an increase of 221,570 in number and £4,844 5s. 3d. in amount.

The average value of each bureau message was 5·16d., as against 5·14d. in 1905-6.

TELEGRAPH MESSENGERS' DELIVERIES.

Telegraph-messengers' deliveries (by departmental messenger) were established as follows: Auckland—Kaeo, Kohukohu; Blenheim—Seddon; Christchurch—Cust; Dunedin—Clinton, Waikaia; Gisborne—Te Karaka; Greymouth—Otira; Invercargill—Edendale, Waimahaka; Napier—Havelock North, Norsewood, Porangahau; Timaru—Studholme Junction; Wellington—Pongaroa.