

Invercargill District.—Revenue, £342,254 ; increase, £28,227.

There was a large increase—over 70,000—in passengers.

Parcels traffic improved considerably.

Cattle show an increase of 2,200, and sheep 157,000. The sheep sent to Southland during the dry weather of the previous year were returned when feed became plentiful further north.

There was a decrease of about 12,000 tons of grain, but other classes of goods traffic show substantial improvement.

Lake Wakatipu Steamers.

Revenue, £6,669 ; increase, £26.

There was little variation of traffic.

Average Late Arrival of Trains, Year ended 31st March, 1912.

	Period ending													Average for Year, in Minutes.
	Apr. 22.	May 27.	June 24.	July 22.	Aug. 19.	Sept. 16.	Oct. 14.	Nov. 11.	Dec. 9.	Jan. 6.	Feb. 3.	Mar. 2.	Mar. 31.	
<i>Express and Mail Trains.</i>														
Year ending 31st March, 1912	6.48	2.96	2.65	2.47	1.66	0.68	1.05	1.01	0.84	3.45	1.95	2.14	1.65	2.23
Year ending 31st March, 1911	3.32	1.35	2.81	0.96	1.20	0.72	0.43	0.60	0.66	4.53	2.38	2.85	2.71	1.88
<i>Long-distance Mixed Trains.</i>														
Year ending 31st March, 1912	4.52	3.18	2.85	2.53	2.19	1.84	1.88	2.15	2.49	4.05	3.54	4.29	3.45	2.99
Year ending 31st March, 1911	4.03	3.09	3.17	1.57	1.72	1.44	1.67	2.02	2.43	3.74	3.41	4.28	3.91	2.80
<i>Suburban Trains.</i>														
Year ending 31st March, 1912	0.81	0.63	0.68	0.44	0.30	0.21	0.58	0.34	0.30	0.68	0.59	0.66	0.64	0.52
Year ending 31st March, 1911	0.98	0.59	0.92	0.67	0.40	0.32	0.36	0.34	0.31	0.65	0.61	0.51	0.47	0.54

STORES.

Mr. H. Baxter, Stores Manager, reports as follows :—

The value of stores (purchased under the railway vote) on hand at 31st March, 1912, at the various depots amounted to £252,079 11s. 9d., as against £222,844 3s. 11d. on the 31st March, 1911, an increase of £29,235 7s. 10d.

The value of the stores stock on hand on account of addition to open lines amounted to £17,266 18s. 5d. on the 31st March, 1912, as against £27,090 0s. 4d. on the 31st March, 1911, a decrease of £9,823 1s. 11d.

The total stock of stores on hand has therefore increased during the past year by £19,412 5s. 11d.

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 very satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister of Railways.

T. RONAYNE,

General Manager.