Nelson Section.

Revenue, £33,068 ; decrease, £951.
Passengers decreased 10,664.
Live-stock decreased 4,471, timber 602 tons, minerals 1,290 tons, and general goods 3,498 tons.
The goods traffic, which is mainly in connection with the port, was affected by adverse shipping conditions and by a flood which caused an interruption during the last weeks of the year.

Westport Section.

Revenue, £107,811 ; decrease, £5,290.
Passengers decreased 5,170.
Timber increased 2,772 tons, minerals decreased 58,004 tons, and general goods 151 tons.
The output of coal was decreased by labour difficulties at the mines.

Westland Section.

Revenue, £154,015 ; decrease, £8,514.
Passengers decreased 29,204.
General goods increased 225 tons.
Timber decreased 6,081 tons, and minerals 74,839 tons. The decrease in minerals was caused by labour disputes and a shortage of miners.

South Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £1,597,130 ; decrease, £85,508.
The principal items of traffic were :—
Passengers (number) ..	..	..	..	3,863,281 ; decrease, 864,627
Season tickets (number)	..	..	..	107,048 ; ,, 13,094
Parcels (revenue)	..	..	..	£93,321 ; increase, £4,297
Live-stock (number) ..	..	..	..	2,916,618 ; decrease, 898,179
Goods (tons) ..	..	..	..	1,938,349 ; ,, 253,840

The revenue per mile of railway decreased from £1,198 9s. 2d. to £1,137 11s. 1d., but per train mile it increased from 10s. 4¾d. to 12s. 5¼d.
The variations of traffic in the individual districts were approximately as follows :—

Christchurch.—Revenue, £682,326 ; decrease, £38,033.
Passengers decreased 369,328, and season tickets 6,156.
Parcels and luggage revenue increased £2,371.
Cattle and calves decreased 6,443, sheep 465,065, and pigs 3,475.
Timber decreased 23,799 tons, general goods 73,280 tons, and minerals 41,028 tons.
The decline is due to a bad season and shipping difficulties.

Dunedin.—Revenue, £565,827 ; decrease, £5,410.
Passengers decreased 321,577, and season tickets 7,245.
Parcels and luggage revenue increased £811.
Cattle and calves decreased 2,789, and sheep 206,396.
Timber increased 2,272 tons. This was for fitting out transports and building storage.
General goods decreased 26,144 tons and minerals 10,345 tons.

Invercargill.—Revenue, £348,977 ; decrease, £42,065.
Passengers decreased 173,722. There was a slight increase in season tickets.
Parcels and luggage revenue increased £1,115.
Cattle and calves increased 3,680 ; sheep decreased 218,580.
Timber decreased 4,362 tons.
General goods decreased 64,581 tons, and minerals 12,404 tons.
Scarcity of labour affected the output of timber, and the shortage of shipping the export of grain and other produce. The decrease in minerals was caused by a lessened demand for road-metal.

Lake Wakatipu Steamers.

Revenue, £6,810 ; decrease, £374.
Passengers decreased 6,071.
Live-stock increased 1,345.
Goods tonnage decreased 795 tons.
The business depends largely upon excursion traffic, and has been adversely affected by the withdrawal of cheap excursion fares.

The train services has been maintained with punctuality, as will be seen from the following table :—

Average Late Arrival of Trains, Year ended 31st March, 1918.

Year ended	April 28.	May 26.	June 23.	July 21.	Aug. 18.	Sept. 15.	Oct. 13.	Nov. 10.	Dec. 8.	Jan. 5.	Feb. 2.	Mar. 2.	Mar. 31.	Average for Year, in Minutes.
					Express and Mail Trains.									
March 31, 1918	5·92	8·66	3·72	1·60	1·27	1·82	1·43	2·43	1·85	3·46	2·19	2·4	4·18	3·14
March 31, 1917	3·16	2·60	3·15	1·31	1·54	1·77	1·64	1·36	1·34	4·15	3·05	3·35	2·62	2·38
					Long-distance Mixed Trains.									
March 31, 1918	7·45	10·57	3·88	2·20	1·80	2·01	1·86	2·67	2·82	3·51	3·53	6·05	8·08	4·34
March 31, 1917	4·45	4·03	3·94	2·16	1·71	1·82	1·77	2·24	2·90	3·63	3·84	3·83	4·04	3·10
					Suburban Trains.									
March 31, 1918	1·23	1·69	0·98	0·59	0·30	0·34	0·25	0·33	0·28	0·58	0·42	0·45	0·69	0·62
March 31, 1917	0·67	0·44	0·65	0·50	0·36	0·32	0·23	0·27	0·20	0·76	0·35	0·40	0·53	0·36