

1919.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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# PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT

(ANNUAL REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1919.

*Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.*

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SIR,—

Printing and Stationery Department, Wellington, 5th July, 1919.

I have the honour to submit the annual report upon the working of this Department for the year ended 31st March, 1919.

The tables accompanying the report show the nature, extent, and result of the year's workings.

*Gazette*.—The number printed was 1,690, the number of subscribers 183, and the amount received £289 9s.

*Hansard*.—The number of *Hansards* printed for session 1918 was 7,300, the number of subscribers 87, and the amount received £20 18s.

*Stamp-printing*.—The number of sheets of stamps of various values printed was 1,086,268, the number of stamps 148,402,873, and the value £3,418,361 10s. 4d. In addition 35,000 war-loan certificates, of a value of £791,900, were printed by this branch.

*Stereo and Electro Plates*.—The number of stereo-plates cast during the year was 26,318, the weight being 19,993 lb. The number of electrotypes was 5,571, and the weight 971 lb.

*Rubber Stamps*.—The number of rubber stamps made was 6,931.

*Railway Tickets*.—7,496,715 railway tickets were printed, the largest number (781,916) being printed in December.

*Work of the Year*.—The year has been a strenuous one in all branches, and two shifts have been worked throughout in the Machine Branch, and even then it has been difficult to keep pace with the extraordinary amount of work. The demands for printing are growing every year, and to keep pace with requirements it will be necessary to have the fastest machinery available.

*Overtime*.—It is still necessary to work a considerable amount of overtime, and though since the signing of the Armistice our employees have been steadily returning from the front, a fairly large number have yet to come back. Fortunately, most of our men have returned in good health, and have rapidly regained their pre-war usefulness.

*Paper and Stationery*.—There has been a fall in the price of paper since the close of the war, but prices are still high, and it is difficult to gauge the future in this respect. It is certain, however, that it will be some time before the position becomes normal, and it is doubtful if prices will ever come back to pre-war rates. We have, with considerable difficulty, been able to keep up our stocks, though at the present time, by reason of the improvement in shipping, the position is easing off, and more regular supplies are coming to hand.

To successfully carry out all the demands made upon the Department a careful check has been necessary in dealing with orders, and frequently the Department ordering has been asked to cut down numbers owing to the paper difficulties. As pointed out last year, sufficient consideration is not given in ordering, and if responsible officers gave more attention to this matter a deal of overprinting would be saved.

All items of stationery are difficult to obtain, even at enormously enhanced prices, and considerable inconvenience arises therefrom. This condition of affairs should show an improvement very shortly.

*Machinery*.—There is urgent need for more up-to-date machinery in all branches, and when the manufacturing business assumes its normal condition an officer of this Department should be sent to England and America to buy the latest and most suitable machinery available for the growing demands of the service. Five years ago Cabinet decided on this course, but the matter was postponed owing to the outbreak of war, and the office is now in a worse position than it was at that time. It is not economical to the Government or in the best interests of its employees that there should be a necessity for so much overtime being worked, but this can only be avoided by the installation of the best machinery available. Except in session time there should be no necessity for two shifts in the machine-room, but one cannot look forward to any change in this respect until faster and better machinery is installed. This, of course, means a considerable outlay, but good fast machinery always justifies the money expended in its installation.

The flat-bed rotary printing-machine which has been under order for two years has not yet been started on, and the contractor has just advised that he is not able, owing to difficulties in securing labour, to fix a date when he can proceed with it. This machine is badly needed, and the manufacturer has been urged to speed up its delivery.

A letter-card machine is on order from Messrs. Bell and Valentine, of Melbourne, and is now completed and awaiting delivery.

The disk ruling-machine, which has been under order since 1916, is likely to come to hand very shortly, though at an advanced price on that given when the order was placed.

Tenders were called for the sale of the steam-engines, generator, and water-tank, and the generator was disposed of. The engines and water-tank were not sold, and are now for private sale.

The railway-ticket-printing machines are worn and out of date, and new machines are required. These machines are the property of the Railway Department, and representations have been made upon the matter to that Department.

*Returned Soldiers.*—Wherever possible in engaging temporary assistance preference has been given to returned soldiers, but in a technical department such as this there are not many vacancies for other than tradesmen. I have, however, fitted in a few returned men, and it is proposed to continue this course wherever practicable.

*The Staff.*—The staff has had a busy year, and I have pleasure in testifying to the valuable services rendered by all in responsible positions.

I have, &c.,

MARCUS F. MARKS,  
Government Printer.

Hon. Mr. Russell, Minister in Charge.

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RETURN OF PRINTING AND STATIONERY ISSUED TO DEPARTMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST MARCH, 1919.

	Printing.			Stationery.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Advertising Office .. .. .	67	2	6	43	11	4
Agriculture .. .. .	1,692	4	1	1,253	15	5
<i>Journal of Agriculture</i> .. .. .	4,204	7	0	..	..	..
Audit Office .. .. .	127	18	0	117	10	8
Bacteriological Laboratory .. .. .	9	17	0	24	2	1
Bankruptcy .. .. .	90	8	3	87	3	8
Cambridge Sanatorium .. .. .	14	6	0	16	15	7
Canteen, Featherston Camp .. .. .	2	5	6	..	..	..
Cook Islands Administration .. .. .	12	0	0	9	4	5
Crown Law Office .. .. .	253	19	0	47	2	1
Customs .. .. .	491	3	3	568	4	9
Defence .. .. .	16,888	8	2	10,501	0	8
"    Soldiers' Financial Assistance .. .. .	603	10	0	268	11	3
"    Discharged Soldiers' Information .. .. .	227	4	0	85	19	9
"    Military Service Boards .. .. .	83	19	0	75	6	8
"    New Zealand Munitions and Supplies .. .. .	441	6	9	218	0	3
"    Recruiting Boards .. .. .	133	4	0	68	12	4
"    National Efficiency Board .. .. .	114	14	0	123	8	8
"    Repatriation .. .. .	302	15	3	190	2	5
"    Units .. .. .	..	..	..	9	18	0
Education—Head Office .. .. .	2,071	11	0	742	19	5
"    Examination Branch .. .. .	1,208	10	8	3	15	0
" <i>School Journal</i> .. .. .	5,455	9	5	..	..	..
"    Teachers' Superannuation Fund .. .. .	35	12	0	..	..	..
Electoral .. .. .	3,514	7	2	556	11	9
Friendly Societies .. .. .	121	17	6	..	..	..
<i>Gazette</i> .. .. .	10,150	2	4	1	3	2
<i>Public Service Journal</i> .. .. .	183	12	6	..	..	..
General Assembly—Bills .. .. .	780	6	0	..	..	..
" <i>Hansard</i> .. .. .	2,774	0	9	..	..	..
"    Joint Account .. .. .	365	8	6	47	16	4
"    Statutes .. .. .	1,859	1	3	..	..	..
Geological Survey .. .. .	187	7	0	15	17	8
Government Accident Insurance .. .. .	164	11	0	..	..	..
Government Life Insurance .. .. .	1,822	15	9	1,073	17	10
Government House .. .. .	147	2	6	77	5	0
Government Statistician .. .. .	6,964	2	8	193	19	6
Hector Observatory .. .. .	50	3	9	31	13	4
Hospitals and Charitable Aid .. .. .	..	..	..	2	5	9
House of Representatives—Appendix .. .. .	5,002	17	0	..	..	..
"    Journals .. .. .	331	17	6	..	..	..
"    Miscellaneous .. .. .	242	2	6	78	6	2
"    Order Paper .. .. .	420	8	0	..	..	..
Immigration .. .. .	1	18	0	7	6	3
Imperial Government Supplies .. .. .	296	10	0	141	9	7
Internal Affairs .. .. .	1,315	11	3	701	0	10
Internal Affairs, Minister's Offices .. .. .	394	13	10	332	2	9
Justice .. .. .	1,194	3	3	1,405	5	5
<i>Kahiti</i> .. .. .	2,081	6	1	..	..	..
Labour .. .. .	1,436	8	9	361	4	5
Land and Deeds .. .. .	541	7	0	272	7	8
Land and Income Tax .. .. .	2,024	13	8	325	4	8
Land for Settlements .. .. .	6	14	6	16	14	7
Lands and Survey .. .. .	3,654	18	0	1,705	0	0
Legislative Council—Journals .. .. .	117	14	6	..	..	..
"    Miscellaneous .. .. .	44	10	6	25	17	9
"    Order Paper .. .. .	71	5	0	..	..	..
Marine .. .. .	1,487	1	3	321	3	6
Meteorological .. .. .	54	1	6	12	1	10
Mental Hospitals .. .. .	288	12	2	243	16	4
Mines .. .. .	423	6	9	128	9	6
Dominion Museum .. .. .	680	5	6	55	6	10
National Provident Fund .. .. .	249	4	0	172	3	2
Native .. .. .	735	7	5	307	12	5
New Zealand Naval Adviser .. .. .	21	9	0	51	4	0
Pensions .. .. .	1,603	10	9	324	12	8

RETURN OF PRINTING AND STATIONERY ISSUED TO DEPARTMENTS, ETC.—*continued.*

	Printing.			Stationery.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Patents .. .. .	833	3	0	52	18	11
Police .. .. .	2,915	19	9	1,279	9	10
Post and Telegraph-Head Office .. .. .	5,125	17	0	68	1	1
"    Controller of Stores .. .. .	28,545	15	10	702	11	0
Prime Minister's Office .. .. .	141	17	6	57	9	10
Prisons .. .. .	307	18	0	287	14	4
Public Health .. .. .	1,044	15	8	318	18	3
Public Service Commissioner .. .. .	245	10	7	248	11	10
Public Service Stores Tender Board .. .. .	25	7	6			
Public Service Superannuation Board .. .. .	100	8	6	20	18	5
Public Trust Office .. .. .	4,182	4	5	1,792	15	1
Public Works .. .. .	1,589	19	3	1,670	2	10
Railways—Head Office .. .. .	807	19	0	6	1	0
"    Accountant .. .. .	67	2	0	10	0	2
"    Day tickets .. .. .	788	4	9			
"    Chief Engineer .. .. .	2	11	0	1	13	6
"    Mechanical Engineer .. .. .	26	11	6			
"    Stationery Clerk .. .. .	16,211	16	5	62	13	3
"    Stores Manager .. .. .	0	8	0	1	2	0
"    Stores, Petone .. .. .	27	1	0	1	19	10
"    Ticket-printer .. .. .	1,175	1	5	4	9	9
"    Time-table .. .. .	1,432	0	1			
"    Chief Traffic Manager .. .. .	56	10	6			
Registrar-General .. .. .	905	6	0	275	19	8
Stamp .. .. .	1,035	6	9	456	18	3
State Advances .. .. .	356	4	3	112	6	8
State Coal—Head Office .. .. .	19	19	6	33	6	8
"    Christchurch Depot .. .. .				6	1	8
"    Dunedin Depot .. .. .	1	17	6			
"    Greymouth Depot .. .. .	111	1	7	52	17	11
"    Wanganui Depot .. .. .	8	8	6	4	15	5
State Fire Insurance .. .. .	552	7	2	408	5	7
Tourist .. .. .	419	15	0	159	18	6
Treasury .. .. .	2,041	8	4	529	11	5
Valuation .. .. .	546	3	9	319	16	8
Totals .. .. .	159,990	12	2	32,391	14	5

## SUMMARY.

1918—April .. .. .	10,798	17	8	1,696	10	2
May .. .. .	12,716	2	2	3,100	15	9
June .. .. .	12,692	5	7	3,125	12	8
July .. .. .	14,873	13	1	3,350	4	7
August .. .. .	14,833	14	2	3,843	13	5
September .. .. .	12,720	9	11	2,577	17	7
October .. .. .	12,362	14	10	2,811	3	4
November .. .. .	9,288	16	10	1,857	1	10
December .. .. .	12,504	9	9	2,466	19	2
1919—January .. .. .	10,305	17	8	1,656	10	9
February .. .. .	12,314	16	3	2,183	19	4
March .. .. .	24,578	14	3	3,721	5	10
Totals .. .. .	159,990	12	2	32,391	14	5

RETURN OF ADHESIVE AND IMPRESSED STAMPS PRINTED FROM 1ST APRIL, 1918, TO 31ST MARCH, 1919.

Description.	Sheets.	Stamps.	Value.		
			£	s.	d.
Postage .. .. .	605,004	129,829,572	887,193	18	0
Duty .. .. .	7,012	823,485	2,402,820	0	0
Railway .. .. .	3,000	360,000	1,125	0	0
Postal notes .. .. .	191,200	1,912,000	7,774	19	3
Letter-cards .. .. .	177,552	1,597,968	9,815	17	4
Post-cards .. .. .	52,500	840,000	3,493	15	0
Newspaper-wrappers .. .. .	50,000	400,000	907	8	0
Impressed stamps .. .. .	..	12,639,848	105,250	12	9
Totals .. .. .	1,086,268	148,402,873	3,418,361	10	4

WAR-LOAN CERTIFICATES.

Sheets, 3,500. Notes, 35,000. Value, £791,900.

*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given ; printing (750 copies), £6 10s.

By Authority : MARCUS F. MARKS, Government Printer, Wellington.—1919.

Price 6d.]