

TRAFFIC.

Mr. H. Buxton, Chief Traffic Manager, reports that the following are the leading features of the traffic in the various districts as compared with the previous year:—

Whangarei Section.

Revenue, £70,200; increase, £948. Passengers decreased 13,772, season tickets increased 102. Live-stock increased 19,374. Timber decreased 5,463 tons, and minerals 11,287 tons. General goods increased 2,980 tons.

Kaihu Section.

Revenue, £9,908; increase, £775. Passengers decreased 3,503. Timber increased 849 tons, minerals 1,661 tons, and general goods 71 tons.

Gisborne Section.

Revenue, £44,261; decrease, £3,044. Passengers decreased 15,059. Season tickets increased 228. Live-stock decreased 4,397. Timber decreased 2,199 tons, and general goods 2,594 tons: minerals increased 705 tons.

North Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £3,897,030; decrease, £112,266.

The principal items of traffic were: Passengers, 8,464,457; decrease, 360,475. Season tickets, 317,128; increase, 11,256. Parcels, &c., revenue, £198,198; increase, £3,696. Live-stock, 3,796,723; increase, 198,671. Goods tonnage, 2,346,315; decrease, 15,663. Timber increased 11,769 tons, and minerals 37,184 tons. General goods decreased 64,616 tons.

The revenue per mile of railway opened decreased from £3,538 13s. 1d. to £3,439 11s. 4d., but increased per train-mile from 15s. to 15s. 3½d.

The variations of traffic in the individual districts were approximately as follows:—

Auckland.—Revenue, £1,561,781; increase, £31,419. Passengers decreased 66,749. Season tickets increased 5,711. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £4,897. Cattle and calves decreased 28,994, and sheep 82,948. Pigs increased 31,617. Timber increased 12,012 tons, minerals 50,853 tons, and general goods 7,484 tons.

Ohakune.—Revenue, £494,660; increase, £3,953. Passengers decreased 16,697, and season tickets 193. Parcels, luggage, and mails decreased £461. Cattle and calves decreased 13,170. Sheep increased 121,004, and pigs 2,463. Timber increased 375 tons. Minerals decreased 7,210 tons, and general goods 11,139 tons.

Wanganui.—Revenue, £679,567; decrease, £38,864. Passengers decreased 157,213. Season tickets increased 814. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £608. Cattle and calves decreased 16,137. Sheep increased 2,421, and pigs 4,738. Timber decreased 1,265 tons, minerals 9,035 tons, and general goods 23,033 tons.

Wellington.—Revenue, £1,161,020; decrease, £108,774. Passengers decreased 119,816. Season tickets increased 4,924. Parcels, luggage, and mails decreased £1,348. Cattle and calves decreased 9,467. Sheep increased 183,512, and pigs 3,632. Timber increased 645 tons, and minerals 2,676 tons. General goods decreased 37,928 tons.

Picton Section.

Revenue, £43,351; increase, £954. Passengers decreased 29,051. Live-stock, 128,751; increase, 11,744 (sheep). Goods decreased 5,675 tons.

Nelson Section.

Revenue, £28,195; decrease, £12,733. Passengers decreased 39,757. Live-stock decreased 3,476. Goods increased 340 tons. From the 1st April, 1921, the revenue of the Nelson wharves was collected by the Harbour Board.

Westport Section.

Revenue, £115,453; increase, £13,945. Passengers decreased 1,224. Goods increased 40,806 tons (including 36,000 tons of coal).

Westland Section.

Revenue, £189,150; decrease, £7,350. Passengers decreased 22,406. Season tickets increased 1,248. Parcels, &c., increased £46. Live-stock increased 2,967. Goods decreased 21,731 tons. The decrease of timber was 4,274 tons, and coal 18,600 tons. General goods showed a slight increase.

South Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £2,238,023; decrease, £145,200.

The principal items of traffic were: Passengers, 4,809,939; decrease, 562,420. Season tickets, 134,770; decrease, 5,015. Parcels, &c., revenue, £121,405; decrease, £1,022. Live-stock, 3,729,229; increase, 185,259. Goods, 2,277,451 tons; decrease, 149,474 tons.

The revenue per mile of railway decreased from £1,681 17s. 7d. to £1,569 13s. 11d., but increased per train-mile from 14s. 5d. to 14s. 11d.

The variations in traffic in the individual districts were approximately as under:—

Christchurch.—Revenue, £980,851; decrease, £55,665. Passengers decreased 265,547. Season tickets increased 2,776. Parcels, luggage, and mails decreased £479. Cattle and calves decreased 6,264. Sheep increased 164,257, and pigs 6,813. Timber increased 2,248 tons. Minerals decreased 19,026 tons, and general goods 55,385 tons.

Dunedin.—Revenue, £774,071; decrease, £57,844. Passengers decreased 161,517, and season tickets 7,471. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £222. Cattle and calves decreased 7,609, and sheep 33,304. Pigs increased 594. Timber decreased 297 tons, minerals 48,782 tons, and general goods 7,206 tons.