

TRAFFIC.

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

Whangarei Section.

Revenue, £73,963 ; increase, £3,763. Passengers increased 3,585 ; season tickets decreased 238. Live-stock increased 13,850. Timber decreased 12,313 tons, and other goods increased 24,151 tons.

Kaihu Section.

Revenue, £8,866 ; decrease, £1,042. Passengers increased 34. Timber decreased 2,657 tons, and other goods 1,509 tons.

Gisborne Section.

Revenue, £38,301 ; decrease, £5,960. Passengers decreased 8,334, and season tickets 31. Live-stock decreased 9,456 (sheep). Timber decreased 3,961 tons, and all other goods increased 286 tons.

North Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £3,888,547 ; decrease, £8,483.

The principal items of traffic were : Passengers, 8,553,046 ; increase, 88,589. Season tickets, 337,116 ; increase, 19,988. Parcels, &c., revenue, £228,470 ; increase, £30,272. Live-stock, 3,403,943 ; decrease, 392,780. Goods tonnage, 2,405,523 ; increase, 59,208. Timber decreased 12,161 tons, and general goods increased 71,369 tons.

The revenue per mile of railway decreased from £3,439 11s. 4d. to £3,411 0s. 2d., but increased per train-mile from 15s. 3½d. to 16s. 1½d.

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

Auckland.—Revenue, £1,626,117 ; increase, £64,336. Passengers increased 176,680, and season tickets 14,826. Parcels, luggage, &c., increased £10,293. Cattle and calves increased 12,416, and sheep and pigs 62,641. Timber decreased 9,314 tons, but other goods increased 65,591 tons.

Ohakune.—Revenue, £487,130 ; decrease, £7,530. Passengers decreased 9,735, and season tickets 172. Parcels, luggage, &c., increased £5,439. Cattle and calves decreased 1,676, and sheep and pigs 142,318. Timber decreased 1,116 tons. Other goods increased 4,873 tons.

Wanganui.—Revenue, £637,851 ; decrease, £41,718. Passengers decreased 81,622, and season tickets increased 7. Parcels, luggage, &c., increased £5,443. Cattle and calves increased 5,683, but sheep and pigs decreased 170,389. Timber decreased 2,447 tons, and all other goods 2,788 tons.

Wellington.—Revenue, £1,161,020 ; decrease, £23,571. Passengers increased 7,266, and season tickets 5,327. Parcels, luggage, &c., increased £9,097. Cattle and calves decreased 12,948, and sheep and pigs 156,189. Timber increased 716 tons, and all other goods 3,693 tons.

Picton Section.

Revenue, £40,366 ; decrease, £2,985. Passengers decreased 19,652, and season tickets increased 43. Live-stock increased 12,495. Goods increased 1,491 tons.

Nelson Section.

Revenue, £23,824 ; decrease, £4,371. Passengers decreased 13,170. Live-stock increased 13,789. Goods decreased 4,637 tons.

Westport Section.

Revenue, £125,243 ; increase, £9,790. Passengers decreased 779, and season tickets increased 437. Timber increased 2,460 tons, and other goods 88,994 tons.

Westland Section.

Revenue, £184,756 ; decrease, £4,394. Passengers decreased 1,833, and season tickets 300. Parcels, &c., revenue decreased £809. Live-stock increased 16,439. Timber decreased 3,965 tons, and all other goods 15,560 tons.

South Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £2,334,586 ; increase, £96,563.

The principal items of traffic were : Passengers, 4,751,507 ; decrease, 58,432. Season tickets, 128,190 ; decrease, 6,580. Parcels, &c., revenue, £143,805 ; increase, £22,400. Live-stock, 3,821,576 ; increase, 92,347. Timber, 155,424 tons ; decrease, 11,080 tons. All other goods, 2,292,420 tons ; increases, 181,473.

The revenue per mile of railway increased from £1,569 13s. 11d. to £1,633 14s. 5d., and per train-mile from 14s. 11½d. to 16s. 0½d.

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

Christchurch.—Revenue, £1,006,411 ; increase, £25,560. Passengers decreased 10,979, and season tickets 4,901. Parcels, luggage, &c., revenue increased £8,226. Cattle and calves decreased 619, but sheep and pigs increased 47,274. Timber decreased 12,537 tons ; other goods increased 59,824 tons.

Dunedin.—Revenue, £800,577 ; increase, £26,506. Passengers decreased 27,942, and season tickets 2,252. Parcels, luggage, and mails revenue increased £8,660. Cattle and calves decreased 886, but sheep and pigs increased 78,823. Timber decreased 720 tons ; other goods increased 33,678 tons.