

WESTPORT-KARAMEA RADIO SERVICE.

The radio service instituted between Westport and Karamea following the destruction of the telephone-line to Karamea during the earthquake of June, 1929 (see page 15 of this report), ceased on the 31st March, 1930. Thereafter traffic was handled by telephone. The radio sets are, however, being kept in position, and will be operated should necessity arise.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS FOR AVIATORS.

From the 26th July, 1929, the privilege of obtaining from Postmasters weather reports by means of prepaid weather telegrams was accorded aero clubs and aviators. The charge for such messages is at the uniform rate of 1s., including reply, the number of words in each message not to exceed twelve. If required, the messages may be made urgent at double the above rate.

VISITS OF FOREIGN WARSHIPS: TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES.

The German cruiser "Emden" arrived in New Zealand on the 25th June, 1929. The privilege of sending, free of charge, inland telegrams from officers of the vessel and radio-telegrams from the Commander to or from the ship was extended during the period of the visit.

The French cruiser "Tourville" arrived on a visit to New Zealand on the 30th July, 1929. Similar privileges were extended to the Commander and officers of this vessel.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE OFFICES OPEN FOR BUSINESS.

During the year twenty-two offices were opened and sixty-two closed. The number of offices remaining open at the 31st March, 1930, was 2,098, classified as follows:—

Telephone-offices and toll stations combined	1,719
Morse telegraph-offices and toll stations combined	352*
Telephone-offices (no toll station)	6
Morse telegraph-offices (no toll station)	4
Toll station (no telephone-office)	9
Radio-telegraph stations (including coast stations, Auckland, Awarua, Chatham Islands, and Wellington)	8
	<hr/> 2,098

* Five converted from telephone to Morse, and three from Morse to telephone.

TELEGRAPH AND TOLL TRAFFIC.

The figures which follow show the position in regard to telegraph and telephone traffic. Fuller information is contained in Table 10.

TOTAL OF ALL CLASSES OF MESSAGES AND VALUE THEREOF.

—	1929-30.	1928-29.	Increase.	Increase per Cent.
Number	18,347,104	17,560,372	786,732	4.48
Value	£891,977*	£851,159	£40,818	4.795

* Includes £3,802 representing the value of franked Government telegrams and urgent marine telegrams.

SCHEDULE OF PAID TELEGRAMS, CABLE MESSAGES, AND TOLL COMMUNICATIONS.

	Number.	Value. £
Ordinary	5,694,886	491,423
Urgent	219,314	21,524
Press	580,867	80,528*
Letter	404,444	18,048
Toll communications	11,404,175	482,571
	<hr/> 18,303,686	<hr/> 1,094,094
Less net amount paid to other Administrations on cable and radio messages	205,919
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1929-30	18,303,686	888,175
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1928-29	17,516,343	847,461

* Includes £3,719 paid to other Administrations.