

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to boilers for the year ending 31st March, 1897:—

Year ending 31st March, 1897.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Tubes.	Tubes pieced.	New Barrels.	New Smoke-box Tube-plates.	New Copper Fire- boxes complete.	New Copper Tube-plates.	Boilers patched.
Boilers	122	3	49	70	27	21		9	1	4	45

The following new work is in hand: Six new Class U passenger engines, one new Class Wa engine, the conversion of one Class F engine to Fb, and conversion of eight Class L engines to La. There are thirty-five new boilers in hand.

Carriage Repairs and Rebuilding.—Five hundred and fifty-three cars passed through shops, twenty-two new cars, Class A, were built, and eleven four-wheel and four six-wheel old-type cars were entirely rebuilt to fourteen bogie cars, Class A.

A patent compressed-oil-gas works has been erected and brought into operation at Dunedin, and twenty-five carriages have been fitted for the use of compressed gas. This light has proved very successful, and arrangements have been made to considerably extend its use.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to carriages for the year ending the 31st March, 1897:—

—	Number.	Class of Car.
Number passed through shops	543	380 Class A, 46 Class B, 70 Class C, 47 Class D.
Erected new	22	Class A.
Rebuilt	...	...
Converted	14	11 Class D to 10 Class A, and 4 Class C to 4 Class A.
Thoroughly overhauled... ..	32	1 Class A, 5 Class B, 15 Class C, 11 Class D.
Heavy repairs	89	69 Class A, 15 Class B, 3 Class C, 2 Class D.
Light repairs	334	222 Class A, 26 Class B, 52 Class C, 30 Class D.
Number fitted with standard draw-gear	45	Class A.
Wholly painted and varnished	159	113 Class A, 17 Class B, 20 Class C, 9 Class D.
Paint or varnish renewed	151	90 Class A, 15 Class B, 32 Class C, 14 Class D.

The following new work is in hand: The conversion of forty-five Class C and D cars to Class A.

Brake-van Repairs and Rebuilding.—Two hundred and twenty-seven vans have passed through the shops. Three old-type four-wheel vans were rebuilt to bogie type.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to brake-vans for the year ending 31st March, 1897:—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Erected new.	Rebuilt.	Converted.		Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Fitted with Standard Draw-gear.	Wholly painted or varnished.	Paint or Varnish renewed.
				From	To						
Brake-vans... ..	227	...	...	3 4-wheel	3 bogie	22	43	158	4	66	33

The following van-work is in hand: Three new bogie brake-vans, and conversion of eight old-type of four-wheeled brake-vans to bogie-vans.

Wagon Repairs and Rebuilding.—Four thousand one hundred and thirty-six wagons have passed through shops. Fifteen Class J, ten Class K, 186 Class L, one Class O, one Class Q, ten Class R, sixteen Class U, five Class V, two Class W, and one Class Z were built and added to stock during the year.

At the close of the year 1896 150 lowside wagons were disposed of to the Western Australian Government, and new stock of an improved type, and more suited to the requirements of the department, was put in hand. The difference in cost to the 31st March—£7,831—has been charged to the working-expenses of the department.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to wagons for the year ending the 31st March, 1897:—