

Service.	Annual Subsidy or Payment.	Duration of Service.		Number of Voyages per Annum.	Mileage for Complete Voyage.	Cost per Mile.
		When established.	When terminated or terminable.			
	£ s. d.					s. d.
Auckland and San Francisco ..	10,288 8 2	April, 1871	Mar., 1900	13	11,850	1 4·08
Wellington and Vancouver ..	7,500 0 0*	Dec., 1897	Mar., 1899	13	13,320	0 10·40
Auckland and Fiji ..	1,690 0 0	June, 1880	..	13	2,334	1 1·37
Auckland and South Pacific Islands ..	1,200 0 0	June, 1885	..	12	6,992	0 3·43
Auckland and Devonport ..	60 0 0	Aug., 1863	Dec., 1899	939	6	0 2·56
Auckland and Great Barrier ..	250 0 0	Oct., 1891	Dec., 1899	52	120	0 9·62
Dargaville and Tangihua ..	75 0 0	Nov., 1893	Dec., 1899	52	46	0 7·53
Helensville and Matakoho ..	500 0 0	Jan., 1881	Dec., 1899	52	118	0 5·04
Helensville and Dargaville ..				104	170	
Horeke, Kohukohu, Rawene, Wai- tapu, and Opononi ..	148 10 0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1899	52	48	1 2·28
Russell and Opuā ..	90 0 0	Jan., 1889	Dec., 1899	104	16	1 0·98
Whangaroa and Totara North ..	25 0 0	Jan., 1891	Dec., 1899	52	2	4 9·69
Wellington, Ketu Bay, Homewood, Maori Bay (and other offices), and Havelock ..	180 0 0	Dec., 1891	June, 1898	13	183	0 9·08
Nelson, Motueka, Totaranui, Ta- kaka, and Collingwood ..	†260 0 0	July, 1898	..	13		1 1·11
Westport and Karamoa ..	125 0 0	..	Dec., 1899	52	130	0 4·44
Westport and Little Wanganui ..	200 0 0	June, 1886	Dec., 1899	26	102	1 1·20
Hokitika, Okarito, Bruce Bay, Pa- ringa, Haast River, Okuru, Wai- toto, and Jackson's Bay ..		Jan., 1895	Dec., 1899	12	82	
Lyttelton and Chatham Islands ..	600 0 0	Jan., 1886	Dec., 1899	6	384	5 2·50
Bluff and Half-moon Bay ..	300 0 0	..	Mar., 1899	6	1,050	0 11·43
Bluff, Te Oneroa, and Cromarty ..	300 0 0	July, 1886	Dec., 1899	52	48	2 4·85
Interprovincial service in connection with San Francisco line ..	360 0 0	April, 1893	..	12	208	2 10·62
Interprovincial service in connection with Vancouver line ..	3,000 0 0	Nov., 1886	Mar., 1900	13	..	..
	3,000 0 0	Dec., 1897	Mar., 1899	..	..	..

* Minimum subsidy.

† Service carried on at £10 per trip, temporarily, from 1st July, 1898.

BUILDINGS.

In last year's report attention was called to the pressing need for additional accommodation at the Chief Post Office, Dunedin, the Circulation Branch, Wellington, and the Chief Post Office, Auckland. Beyond temporary alterations at Dunedin and a rearrangement of the counter space at Wellington, nothing has yet been done to meet urgent requirements, and it will be impossible to carry on at these offices much longer with satisfaction to the department and the public unless steps are taken to provide additional space for handling mail matter, and to enable prompt attention to be given the public at the counters. The volume of mail work has increased so enormously during the past few years that at times it is only with difficulty that arrangements for its prompt disposal can be made at the offices mentioned, particularly at Dunedin and Wellington. The duties connected with collecting and paying money for other departments having been so largely increased, much greater counter space is required than was contemplated would be needed for many years to come.

New offices were opened at Miller's Flat and Otahuhu, and the building at Owaka was removed and re-erected on another site.

The following general repairs, additions, &c., were carried out during the year: Renovating and altering rooms to accommodate new telephone-switchboard, &c., Auckland; additions and alterations, painting, &c., Arrowtown; enlargement of mail-room, building strong-room, &c., Ashburton; renovations, repairs, improving lighting, &c., Christchurch; alterations and repairs, Dunedin; painting and repairs, Dargaville; repairing damage done by flood, Hutt; repairs, painting, &c., Hokitika; erecting new chimney, concrete water-tank, repairs, &c., Kawakawa; painting and repairs, Lyell; additions to building, repairs, &c., Mangonui; improving drainage, alterations, repairs, fittings, &c., Napier; water-supply and repairs to quarters, Ophir; alterations to office and Postmaster's quarters, Opotiki; painting and repairs, Palmerston North; additions to Postmaster's quarters, Palmerston; alteration, &c., Picton; repairs, &c., Rakaia, Sanson, and St. Bathans; additions and repairs, Timaru; repairs and painting, Te Kopuru; improving drainage, erection of passenger and goods hydraulic lift, repairs, fittings, &c., General Post Office building, Wellington; hot-water service, fire-service, &c., Telephone Exchange, Wellington; repairs, &c., Westport; general repairs to staff quarters and residence of Officer-in-Charge, Wakapuaka; alterations and additions, drainage, &c., Waitara; additions, Waitekauri and Whangarei; repairs, &c., Warkworth.

MONEY-ORDERS.

Twenty-three money-order offices were opened during the year—namely, Addison's, Aoroa, Blackburn, Burnett's Face, East Oxford, Ellerslie, Gladstone, Golden Cross, Komata, Mauriceville, Molesworth Street (Wellington), Mount Roskill, Oponui, Puhoi, Studholme Junction, Taheke, Tokatea, Waerenga, Waihou, Waikanae, Whananaki, Wharekawa, and Woodend.

Two offices were closed—namely, Cape Foulwind and Mokihinui.

The number of offices open at the end of the year was 417, as against 396 twelve months previously.