

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

The following table shows the operating expenditure under the main headings, together with appropriate comparisons with the previous year's figures :—

Operating Expenditure.	Amount.		Variation 1944 with 1943.		Percentage of Operating Revenue.	
	1944.	1943.				
Maintenance—	£	£	£	Per Cent.	1944.	1943.
Way and Works ..	2,146,448	1,829,311	+ 317,137	17·34	15·94	14·73
Signals ..	326,190	271,499	+ 54,691	20·14	2·42	2·19
Rolling-stock ..	2,868,006	2,380,260	+ 487,746	20·49	21·30	19·17
Examination, lubrication, and lighting of vehicles	128,896	119,213	+ 9,683	8·12	0·96	0·96
Transportation—						
Locomotive ..	2,427,060	2,311,134	+ 115,926	5·02	18·03	18·62
Traffic ..	3,207,782	2,862,653	+ 345,129	12·06	23·82	23·06
General charges ..	261,535	245,589	+ 15,946	6·49	1·94	1·98
Totals ..	11,365,917	10,019,659	+1,346,258	13·44	84·41	80·71

SUBSIDIARY SERVICES

The following table shows the variations in revenue and expenditure for the year as compared with 1942-43 :—

Subsidiary Services.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	Amount, 1944.	Variation, 1944 with 1943.		Amount, 1944.	Variation, 1944 with 1943.	
	£	£	Per Cent.	£	£	Per Cent.
Lake Wakatipu steamers ..	9,168	+ 276	3·10	15,216	+ 1,832	13·69
Refreshment service ..	397,513	+ 34,004	9·35	346,247	+ 27,785	8·72
Bookstall service ..	188,292	+ 3,426	1·85	182,226	+ 3,799	2·13
Advertising service ..	29,883	+ 2,246	8·13	26,991	+ 1,312	5·11
Dwellings ..	155,141	+ 1,531	1·00	212,621	— 201	0·09
Other buildings ..	43,142	— 129	0·30	27,969	+ 914	3·38
Road motor services ..	646,682	+ 91,703	16·52	580,149	+ 73,224	14·44
Miscellaneous revenue (non-operating)	390,506	+ 13,357	3·54	..	..	..
Totals ..	1,860,327	+146,414	8·54	1,391,419	+108,665	8·47

STORES BRANCH

An analysis of the amount expended in connection with the purchase of stores during the year is as under :—

	Value of Purchases made, Year 1944.	Variation, 1944 with 1943.
	£	£
To merchants, manufacturers, and others in New Zealand ..	2,722,755	+1,090,023
Through Supply Liaison Officer in Australia ..	633,374	+ 168,111
Through High Commissioner in London ..	397,203	+ 209,205
Material manufactured in Railways workshops ..	398,321	+ 58,430
Coal and coke ..	916,751	— 62,576
Manufactured and used material received from other branches, &c.	135,346	— 15
Timber from Railways sawmill and stores used ..	47,802	+ 583
Totals ..	5,251,552	+1,463,761*

* Net increase.

The increases in payments are due to the receipt of heavy shipments of munition materials and to higher prices for railway material.

The total issues to all branches (including coal and munition material) for the year amounted to £5,364,602, as against £3,870,859 for the previous year, an increase of £1,493,743.