

The following table reduces the above figures to index numbers :—

Table No. 111.—Table showing Index Numbers of Persons engaged in Paid Domestic and Personal Service at various Census Dates from 1901 to 1936

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1901	1000	1000	1000
1906	1131	1083	1091
1911	1361	1196	1228
1916	1341	1136	1179
1921	1365	1176	1213
1926	1236	1308	1294
1936	1878	1561	1650

This table shows in a marked way the drift back to paid domestic service during the depression. The trend in subsequent years has been all the other way. There is a general trend away from domestic service, and considerable evidence was adduced to show that there was a very acute shortage of domestic servants at the present time. The situation is very interesting. As society progresses there is a greater demand for assistance in the home and for such paid domestic services as assistants in hotels, but in actual fact the attraction to this work is very much less than the attraction into certain other types of occupation, and, in general, the remuneration is considerably lower on the average than in those other occupations. Hence the paradox arises that society in its progress is able to afford considerably increased domestic assistance, but the very fact of that social progress makes such domestic assistance less and less available.

XIII. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The importance of Government employment in New Zealand, whether in the central or the local Government, is well illustrated in the following tables. The first table shows the absolute number employed in the central Government services at the census dates in 1921, 1926, and 1936; the second table shows the local government employees at the same date, while the third table shows the total central and local Government employees as at the same dates :—

Table No. 112.—Table showing Employees of Central Government in 1921, 1926, and 1936, classified according to Type of Occupation

	1921.			1926.			1936.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Primary industry ..	1,552	70	1,622	1,514	45	1,559	2,468	95	2,563
2. Secondary industry ..	3,652	143	3,795	4,993	129	5,122	12,442	195	12,637
3. Tertiary industry—									
(a) Transport and communication	22,438	1,961	24,399	25,105	1,599	26,704	26,371	1,290	27,661
(b) Commerce and finance	1,018	283	1,301	1,074	295	1,369	1,596	458	2,054
(c) Public administration and professional	8,422	2,325	10,747	8,299	2,201	10,500	8,201	2,625	10,826
(d) Domestic and personal	151	252	403	23	128	151	151	302	453
(e) Total tertiary ..	32,029	4,821	36,850	34,501	4,223	37,724	36,319	4,675	40,994
4. Total	37,233	5,034	42,267	41,008	4,397	45,405	51,229	4,965	56,194