

Tuakau (for residence), Waiuku (extension of post-office site), Wanganui East and Wellesley Street (for residences), Wellington (Khandallah) (with residence), Wellington (for radio-telephone station), Whangarei (for chief post-office), and Winchester and Woodlands (for post-offices).

An old residence on the new post-office site at Northland, the postmaster's old residence and site at Opunake, the linemen's old residences and sites at Kaikoura and Waverley, and the Ohariu Radio Station building were disposed of during the year.

Sites no longer required at the following places were also disposed of: Awahuri, Clinton (portion of site), Heriot, Kahutara, Kaihere, Karangahake, Kutarere, Leeston, Mandeville, Mataroa, Onerahi (portion of post-office site), Orepuki, Oterangi Bay, Ratanui, Springburn (portion of site), Taupo, Timaru, Whakapirau, and Whangaparaoa.

At the end of the year the following works were in progress: Blenheim, adapting of Army-type building for three transit flats; Christchurch, erection of line-depot conveniences; Culverden, erection of carrier building; Feilding, erection of post-office building; Inglewood, erection of residence; Karori, erection of automatic-exchange building; Masterton, erection of residence and adapting of Army-type building for additional workshop; Matamata, erection of residence; New Plymouth, adaptation of Army-type buildings for additional Engineering Branch accommodation; Paparoa, erection of staff residence from Army huts; Paraparaumu, erection of residence; Point Chevalier, erection of residence; Riverton, addition to post-office; Te Kuiti, erection of post-office building; Thames, erection of residence; Waikouaiti, erection of residence; Waitati, conversion of Army hut to post-office building; Wyndham, addition to post-office building.

NATIONAL SAVINGS

For the year ended the 31st March, 1947, the investments in national savings through Post Office channels amounted to £5,193,753, compared with £6,422,873 for the previous year. In addition, £457,041 was received from the sale of national savings bonds.

National savings gift coupons to the value of £989 were sold during the year. Sales of national savings stamps amounted to £3,041.

New accounts were opened as follows:—

Opened with the Post Office	..	..	17,427	(including 10,483 group depositors*)
Opened with trustee savings-banks	..	..	1,364	
			18,791	

* 259 new groups were established during the year.

(Tables showing (a) the extent of deposits to and withdrawals from national savings investment accounts year by year, and (b) the value of national savings bonds issued and redeemed appear in the Appendix (Tables Nos. 10 and 11).

DEPARTMENTAL MOTOR-VEHICLES

A number of new vehicles have been placed in service during the year, and these comprise 116 cars and 156 commercial vehicles. The fleet now totals 1,186, comprising 352 cars and 834 trucks and vans. The total mileage covered during the year was 8,152,029 miles.

POSTAL SERVICES

INLAND MAIL-SERVICES

MAIL-SERVICE CONTRACTS

Contracts covering the performance of inland mail-services in the South Island expired on the 31st December, 1946, and the majority were renewed for a further term of two years nine months from the 1st January, 1947, whilst the remaining few were renewed for a period of one year only.