

Item.	Postal.			Telegraph.			Total.		
<i>Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries	104,120	0	0	157,057	0	0	261,177	0	0
Conveyance of mails by sea	61,471	18	3	..	..	..	61,471	18	3
Conveyance of inland mails	42,966	3	5	..	..	..	42,966	3	5
Conveyance of mails by railway	17,318	8	4	..	..	..	17,318	8	4
Money-order commission credited to foreign offices	1,939	7	5	..	..	..	1,939	7	5
Maintenance of telegraph-lines	..	..	..	25,878	13	0	25,878	13	0
Miscellaneous	25,525	1	0	29,245	3	0	54,770	4	0
Telegraph-cable subsidies	..	..	..	234	15	0	234	15	0
Balance of revenue over expenditure (Postal)	253,340	18	5	212,415	11	0	465,756	9	5
" (combined Department)	27,755	18	10½	..	..	..	22,816	12	6½
Totals	£281,096	17	3½	£212,415	11	0	£488,573	1	11½

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure year by year for the past ten years is shown in the table below. The figures for 1881–82—the first year after the amalgamation of the Post Office and Telegraph services—and 1891–92, are also given.

STATEMENT showing REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the POST and TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT for the Ten Years ended 31st March, 1902, and for the Years 1881–82 and 1891–92.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Balance of Revenue over Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1881–82	234,529	8	0	233,291	10	4	1,237	17	8
1891–92	320,058	1	3	268,343	1	1	51,715	0	2
1892–93	318,758	10	4	278,394	9	1	40,364	1	3
1893–94	344,676	12	3	293,704	7	3	50,972	5	0
1894–95	357,449	14	9	299,971	1	4	57,478	13	5
1895–96	365,727	6	5	332,325	4	8	33,402	1	9
1896–97	392,117	1	0	353,699	14	5	38,417	6	7
1897–98	408,383	15	3	364,403	3	1	43,980	12	2
1898–99	445,770	7	1	390,197	8	6	55,572	18	7
1899–1900	488,245	16	4	390,448	1	7	97,797	14	9
1900–1901	503,835	19	5½	418,271	16	11	85,564	2	6½
1901–1902	488,573	1	11½	465,756	9	5	22,816	12	6½
Total for ten years	£526,366	8	7	..	..	..	..	..	..

The balance of revenue over expenditure for last year was £22,816 12s. 6½d., as compared with £85,564 2s. 6½d. for 1900–1.

Adding the value of the free official correspondence and Government telegrams, there is a credit balance on the year's transactions of £112,466 10s. 0½d.

The amount payable to the Railway Department for the conveyance of mails was £40,847 7s., against which the sum of £30,426 6s. was recovered by this Department for the postage on Railway correspondence, private-box rents, transmission of Railway telegrams, and maintenance of Railway telegraph wires. £9,727 was also contributed by the Post Office on account of the salaries of Railway officers who also act as Postmasters and telegraphists or telephonists, leaving a balance in favour of the Railway Department of £20,148.

48,370,816 letters were posted, equal to 62·18 letters to each head of the population, an increase of 12,185,771. The percentage of letters to each head of the population is believed to be the highest in the world. The total increase on all letters dealt with was 12,881,969.

The number of forwarded telegrams of all codes was 4,167,981, an increase of 269,853.

74 post-offices were established (including 6 reopened). The number of post-offices open at the close of the year was 1,739.

405,967 money-orders, for £1,286,508 1s. 10d., were issued; and 283,611 orders, representing £1,108,399 6s. 2d., paid.

556,316 postal notes, of the value of £173,317 5s., were sold.

£4,611,456 6s. 1d. was deposited in the Post-Office Savings-banks, and £4,230,193 6s. 2d withdrawn.

The total amount to credit of depositors on the 31st December last was £6,350,013 9s. 2d., as compared with £5,809,552 5s. 3d. at the close of the previous year.

1,067 inland-mail services (excluding services by railway) were in operation during the year.

At the close of the year there were 7,469 miles of telegraph-line, and 21,705 miles of wire.

The net expenditure on telegraph construction was £31,728 16s. 2d.

There were 9,260 telephone-exchange connections on the 31st March last. The subscriptions received amounted to £55,542 4s. 9d.