

The number of post-offices open at the end of the year was 2,064.

PARCEL-POST.

Since the 28th October, 1907, the limit of amounts for which parcels addressed to the United Kingdom are insured has been raised from £50 to £400. The rate is 1s. 6d. for £60 and 3d. for each additional £12 up to £396, and 8s. 9d. for £400. The limit in respect of certain other countries named in the Post and Telegraph Guide has also been raised to £400.

Parcels containing coin exceeding £5 sterling in value addressed to the United Kingdom and other countries sent through London are not now accepted.

The following table shows the number and weight of parcels posted during the years 1890, 1900, 1906, and 1907 :—

Postal Districts.	1890.		1900.		1906.		1907.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.
Auckland	21,882	57,912 10	40,287	122,449 9	76,913	260,576 14	154,371	482,075 1
Blenheim	1,846	4,357 11	1,961	5,976 4	2,795	9,775 10	5,618	16,188 15
Christchurch	19,383	58,708 4	30,897	118,206 3	49,511	178,269 13	90,910	320,873 2
Dunedin	22,500	65,329 13	34,411	125,419 10	49,751	186,478 12	87,354	305,449 11
Gisborne	938	2,570 6	2,022	5,771 15	3,075	10,100 7	8,236	25,987 10
Greymouth	2,509	6,243 13	2,583	7,711 4	4,151	10,692 0	5,975	19,673 0
Hokitika	1,413	3,924 5	2,527	9,173 5	3,530	12,206 10	4,508	14,975 0
Invercargill	3,458	7,477 5	6,661	20,617 0	8,082	24,575 9	17,443	45,757 11
Napier	6,265	17,075 14	8,848	28,142 15	14,884	44,267 1	26,027	115,703 7
Nelson	4,723	13,370 7	5,261	16,916 4	7,380	22,278 2	14,032	37,801 12
New Plymouth	1,007	2,674 3	3,038	9,615 9	5,569	16,803 0	11,376	33,184 14
Oamaru	859	2,123 3	1,149	4,162 7	1,851	6,130 11	3,587	10,933 0
Thames	1,491	3,661 8	2,989	9,094 4	4,422	12,263 11	8,436	23,497 6
Timaru	2,013	4,774 8	1,743	5,294 1	3,341	9,291 11	6,659	19,151 15
Wanganui	4,035	9,563 8	8,846	28,206 10	16,122	52,085 9	34,076	99,592 15
Wellington	25,893	74,544 2	44,322	160,737 4	98,480	346,010 8	196,680	703,800 12
Westport	1,077	2,332 4	1,868	4,645 15	2,852	7,782 10	5,647	14,826 4
Totals	121,292	336,643 12	199,413	682,140 7	352,209	1,209,588 10	680,935	2,289,472 7

The following table shows the number and weight of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom and the undermentioned places during the years 1906 and 1907 :—

Country.	Received.				Despatched.			
	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.	Number.	Weight.
		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.		Lb. oz.
United Kingdom and foreign countries (<i>via</i> London)	65,806	344,608 0	91,065	487,962 8	9,574	25,407 10	11,098	30,171 10
United States of America ..	6,757	18,088 9	4,924	13,349 5	1,384	2,942 7	1,124	2,381 9
Canada	491	719 0	509	1,090 0	255	461 5	377	668 12
Victoria	7,739	22,190 3	8,377	25,748 0	3,200	6,272 6	3,453	7,200 6
New South Wales	11,506	32,908 0	12,153	34,936 0	4,925	8,607 0	5,257	9,833 7
South Australia	494	1,274 7	528	1,394 14	521	991 2	502	1,083 15
Queensland	706	1,812 4	759	1,699 2½	742	1,262 7	749	1,382 12
Tasmania	442	1,142 4	483	1,196 0	748	1,433 10	707	1,425 8
Western Australia	357	809 4	359	812 2	587	1,087 9	530	1,065 15
Samoa	12	36 10	24	98 4	205	663 10	212	709 13
Fiji	87	223 14	133	314 2½	359	1,012 4	468	1,179 0
Ceylon	283	831 10	303	1,047 3½	123	293 9	103	347 0
Uruguay	..	..	..	..	64	185 7	88	247 8
Cape Colony	416	669 9	418	664 8	150	283 15	185	322 5
Natal	85	187 6	105	169 4	306	563 13	300	560 3½
India	781	3,141 8	862	3,954 12	236	631 0	256	717 3½
Totals	95,962	428,642 8	121,002	574,436 1½	23,379	52,099 2	25,409	59,296 14½

The declared value of parcels received from places outside the Dominion in 1907 was £310,219. The Customs duty collected amounted to £49,108 14s. 1d.

The declared value of parcels despatched to places beyond the Dominion was £27,395, as against £21,540 in 1906.