

The telegraph receipts for the financial year, including telephone-exchange subscriptions, private-wire rents, &c., amounted to £344,251 0s. 6d., compared with £307,520 15s. 11½d. in 1906-7, an increase of £36,730 4s. 6½d., or 11·94 per cent.

The expenditure was £357,581 1s. 3d., as against £291,359 12s. 6d. for the previous year, an increase of £66,221 8s. 9d., or 22·73 per cent.

There were 9,656 miles of line and 29,344 miles of wire at the close of the year—an increase of 703 and 2,313 miles respectively.

The net expenditure out of Public Works Fund for telegraph-extension was £155,491 8s. 6d., as compared with £114,067 19s. 9d. in 1906-7.

The number of private wires and subsidised lines was 389, compared with 351 in 1906-7. The amount received for rent, maintenance, &c., was £2,206 6s. 4d., as against £2,123 3s. 8d. in 1906-7.

The total number of telegraph and telephone offices open at the close of the year was 1,611. Of these, 280 were telegraph offices and 1,331 were telephone offices.

The number of telegrams of all codes forwarded during the last financial year was 7,042,923, an increase of 646,591, or 10·11 per cent. over 1906-7.

The proportion of paid telegrams per head of population was 7·42, and 6·84 the previous year.

The number of ordinary telegrams forwarded was 5,040,044, of the value of £159,244 3s. 7½d., compared with 4,548,532, of the value of £148,659 5s. 3½d. in 1906-7, an increase of 491,512 and £10,584 18s. 4d.

The urgent telegrams numbered 255,525, of the value of £15,621 13s. 2d., an increase of 19,794 in number and £1,281 14s. 10d. in amount.

The average value of each ordinary telegram was 7·58d., and of each urgent telegram 1s. 2·67d.

452,536 Press telegrams, of the value of £21,201 8s. 1½d., were forwarded in 1907-8, as compared with 389,917, valued at £18,089 1s. 4d., forwarded in 1906-7—an increase of 62,619, or 16·06 per cent., in number, and an increase of £3,112 6s. 9½d., or 17·2 per cent., in value.

The value of each Press telegram averaged 11·24d., as against 11·13d. in 1906-7.

The bureau messages numbered 1,210,174, of the value of £26,858 13s. 6d., as compared with 985,900, of the value of £21,212 15s. 6d., in 1906-7—an increase of 224,274 in number and £5,645 18s. in amount.

The average value of each bureau message was 5·33d., as against 5·16d. in 1906-7.

TELEGRAPH MESSENGERS' DELIVERIES.

Telegraph-messengers' deliveries (by departmental messenger) were established as follows: Auckland—Mount Eden, Papakura, Te Kuiti, Upper Symonds Street; Christchurch—Waiatu; Wellington—Brooklyn.

TELEGRAPH-OFFICES OPENED AND CLOSED DURING FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1908.

Opened.

Anatimo	Kaiuma	Muripara	Ruahine
Arero	Kakahu Bush	Netherton	Ruakaka
Aria	Kakahu School	Newstead	Sedgebrook
Arthur's Point	Kanieri Forks	Ngakuta	Slope Point
Awamangu	Karamea Heads	Ngarara	South Hillend
Awariki	Karitane	Nihoniho	Spreydon
Balmoral	Katea	Nydia Bay	State Collieries
Brookside	Kelburne	Ohaupo Bureau	Sutton
Brydone	Kinohaku	Okau	Swannanoa
Cass	Kiwi	Okere Falls	Swyncombe
Castle Hill	Lake Kanieri	Okukari	Tahakopa
Centre Island	Lake Pukaki	Okuku	Taringaturi
Christchurch North	Langridge	Okura	Tatare
Clarkville	Lower Ruakaka	Onamalutu	Tauhinu
Copnoor	Mahunga	Onapua	Taupirikaka
Coutt's Island	Maina	Oparure	Tautuku
Crofton	Mairoa	Opawa	Te Awaite
Croixelles	Makarewa	Otangiwai	Te Karaka
Dyerville	Makarora	Otarawao	Te Kowhai
Eastown	Makarora Wharf	Otarere	Te Ngae
Elaine Bay	Makatote	Paekakariki	Te Puia Springs
Eureka	Mangatuna	Pahia	Te Taho
Evansdale	Maori Bay	Pakorari	Te Towaka
Eyretton	Mareretu	Papatowai	Te Weka
French Pass	Marima	Paringa	The Peaks
Gordonton	Marton Junction	Parnassus Ferry	Tiakitahuna
Government Buildings (Wellington)	Matahuru	Pinohia	Upcot
Haast	Matarawa	Piopia	Wahipai
Hakahaka	Matawai	Pori	Waihaha
Haunui	Matuku	Port Charles	Waiharakeke
Havelock Suburban	Maungatautari	Pnaha	Waikawa Bay
Hekeia	Maungatawhiri	Pukekakariki	Wairangi
Hinehaka	Maungawera	Pukepito	Waitati Bureau
Hopelands	Mautoroa	Puketoto	Waitomo Caves
Horotiu	Medbury	Puketowai	Waiuta
kamatua	Meremere	Purahi	Walton
Jordan	Mokai	Rakahuri	Weld's Hill
Kahuika	Mokoreta	Rakauroa	Whareama
Kaiaka	Molesworth	Rangataua	Whatamango
Kaimatarau	Morrison's Bush	Reidston	Whatanihi
Kainui	Moturakau	Riponui	Willowbridge
	Moutoa	Rototuna	Woodhill.

Closed.

Awawaro.

Exhibition Christchurch.

Macleod's Terrace.