

The number of cable messages received in New Zealand during 1907, exclusive of Press, was as follows :—

				<i>Pacific.</i>	
				International.	Australia.
1907	...	...	...	17,134	52,696
1906	...	...	...	17,071	50,145
Increase				63	Increase 2,551
				<i>Extension.</i>	
				International.	Australia.
1907	...	...	...	11,020	23,273
1906	...	...	...	8,870	19,482
Increase				2,150	Increase 3,791

The forwarded and received cable Press business for the ten years ended the 31st December, 1907, was :—

Year.	Forwarded.			Received.		
	Number of		Value.	Number of		Value.
	Messages.	Words.		Messages.	Words.	
1898	1,154	133,342	£ 907 s. 7 d. 0	3,599	232,882	£ 1,599 s. 7 d. 0
1899	1,570	182,066	1,800 10 4	3,822	298,218	1,690 12 4
1900	1,034	139,295	1,457 4 5	4,014	333,300	1,878 9 1
1901	1,420	148,400	2,718 12 0	3,989	351,291	1,967 19 3
1902	1,830	202,968	1,772 8 4	4,443	396,438	2,200 10 6
1903	1,595	159,732	1,235 11 1	5,636	425,824	2,333 10 2
1904	1,551	161,094	1,147 8 8	4,488	392,888	2,169 1 3
1905	2,226	181,196	1,290 9 3	4,548	398,878	2,254 18 5
1906	1,815	186,128	1,290 7 9	4,061	394,337	2,163 17 0
1907	1,874	135,325	1,003 5 5	4,204	405,498	2,423 4 11

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

Eight new exchanges were opened and one closed during the year, and the number of subscribers increased by 2,999.

The total number of exchanges now is 112, made up of 30 central and 82 sub-exchanges.

The total number of connections is 23,881, compared with 17,403 in 1907. They may be classified as follows : Paying, 18,091 ; free, 337 ; bureaux, 1,974 ; extensions, 3,479.

New connections numbered 4,023, and those given up 1,024.

The increase in subscribers is equal to 17.23 per cent.

Connections on extension lines, not hitherto counted, are this year included, in accordance with the practice of almost all other countries.

On the 31st March, 1908, there were 1,039 miles of telephone line and 16,816 miles of wire.

The following is a comparative return of telephone-exchange connections for the years 1907-8 and 1906-7 :—

Exchange.	Number of Subscribers or Connections :	
	March 31, 1908.	March 31, 1907.
Ashburton	197	161
Auckland	3,184	2,224
Cambridge	61	50
Devonport	48	42
Onehunga	28	28
Blenheim	261	198
Picton	70	50
Christchurch	2,978	2,162
Akaroa	41	35
Cust	15	8
Doyleston	11	7
Duvauchelle	16	7
Kaiapoi	41	...
Leeston	17	12
Lincoln	10	5
Little River	16	9
Lyttelton	19	18
Rangiora	27	18