

## STAFF.

*Comparative Return of Officers of the Post and Telegraph Department for the Years ended 31st March, 1912, and 31st March, 1913.*

The total number of officers on the staff on the 31st March, 1912 and 1913, was as under :—

|                                                       | 31st March,<br>1912. | 31st March,<br>1913. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Postmaster-General                                    | 1                    | 1                    |
| Classified staff,—                                    |                      |                      |
| First Division                                        | 3                    | 5                    |
| Clerical Division                                     | 2,791                | 2,262*               |
| General Division                                      | 2,122                | 3,094                |
| Telegraph message-boys                                |                      |                      |
| Total, classified staff                               | 4,917                | 5,362                |
| Employees not on permanent staff,—                    |                      |                      |
| Country Postmasters and Postmistresses                | 2,178                | 2,219                |
| Nightwatchmen                                         | 2                    | 5                    |
| Mail-cart drivers                                     | 4                    | ...                  |
| Postmasters and telegraphists or telephonists who are |                      |                      |
| Railway officers                                      | 157                  | 155                  |
| Total                                                 | 7,258                | 7,741                |

## HEALTH OF STAFF.

The following table gives the average absence of officers on sick-leave :—

|       | Numbers<br>comprised. | Average Absence<br>per Sick Officer. | Average Absence<br>for each Officer<br>employed. |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|       |                       | Days.                                | Days.                                            |
| Men   | 4,598                 | 11·09                                | 4·38                                             |
| Women | 764                   | 17·59                                | 10·34                                            |

Thirteen officers died during the year.

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The Hon. R. Heaton Rhodes assumed office as Postmaster-General on the 10th July, 1912.

## PERSONAL.

The decoration of the Imperial Service Order was conferred on Mr. D. Robertson, late Secretary of the Department, in June, 1912. Mr. Robertson, who assumed the position of Secretary of the Department in 1907, having been appointed Commissioner under the Public Service Act, 1912, severed his connection with the Postal and Telegraph service as from the 1st January, 1913.

Mr. W. R. Morris was appointed Secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department on the 1st January, 1913, *vice* Mr. D. Robertson. On the same date Messrs. F. V. Waters and G. B. Dall were appointed Assistant Secretaries: Mr. D. Miller, Chief Inspector of Post-offices; and Mr. J. C. Williamson, Chief Clerk.

Mr. W. St. G. Douglas, Chief Postmaster, Dunedin; Mr. J. W. Gannaway, Telegraph Engineer, Christchurch; Mr. W. J. Chaney, Chief Postmaster, Napier; Mr. H. W. Capper, Chief Postmaster, Timaru; Mr. E. C. Gannaway, Assistant Postmaster, Wellington; Mr. J. H. Stevens, Assistant Inspector of Post-offices; Mr. B. N. Martin, Officer in Charge of the Telegraph-office, Christchurch; and Mr. H. Logie, Chief Postmaster, Thames, retired on pension during the year, after long and faithful service.

Mr. J. K. Logan, I.S.O., who retired on pension on the 1st January, 1911, after over forty-five years' service, during the last seventeen years of which he filled the position of Superintendent of Electric Lines, died on the 8th November, 1912, while travelling abroad.

## CLASSIFICATION.

By virtue of an Order in Council of the 7th October, 1912, persons of exceptional skill in the mechanical arts who have proved their qualifications to the satisfaction of the Minister may be appointed to the Non-clerical Division at a higher age than thirty-five years.

By Order in Council of the 18th November, 1912, provision was made for any officer who acts in a higher position at his own station for more than three consecutive months to be paid the difference between his salary and the minimum of the class above that in which he is placed. If he is in receipt of a higher salary than such minimum he may be paid an allowance at the rate of £10 per annum while so acting.

Provision was also made for the payment of £10 per annum, pending promotion to a higher class, to any officer of the Seventh Class who has passed the Civil Service Senior Examination or the Senior Technical Examination, or any equivalent examination, and has been in receipt of the maximum salary of the class for one year.

\* A number of these officers was included in the figures for the Clerical Division in previous year.