

As mentioned in my previous report, the work of building new locomotives was suspended during the year owing to material being unobtainable, and this, together with sale of old locomotives, accounts for a decrease in the total tractive power of 16,876 lb., equal to 0·19 per cent.

Now that hostilities have ceased material may be expected to arrive shortly, when the work of building new locomotives will be resumed.

Boilers.—The work on renewals and repairs has been kept well up to date.

The following statement shows details of boiler-work done :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Tubes (Sets).	Tubes pieced and Second-hand (Sets).	New Smoke-box Tube-plate.	New Firebox.	New Firebox Tube-plate.	Boilers patched.
Boilers	307	116	191	42	68	1	9	9	98

Ten Class AB boilers were in hand at close of the year.

Carriages.—The stock on the 1st April, 1918, was 1,488, and on the 31st March, 1919, the number was 1,489. One new bogie car was built and added to stock.

The following table shows details of car-work done during the year :—

Particulars.	Number and Type of Carriages.			Total.
	Bogie.	Six-wheel.	Four-wheel.	
Number passed through shops	1,842	81	10	1,933
Built new	1	..	..	1
Converted	13	..	..	13
Thoroughly overhauled	179	1	..	180
Heavy repairs	652	12	..	664
Light repairs	997	68	10	1,075
Painted	553	12	1	566
Paint touched up	644	5	..	649

Thirty-nine cars were under construction in the railway workshops, material for which should shortly be available.

Brake-vans.—The number of brake-vans on the line on the 1st April, 1918, was 444, and the number on the 31st March, 1919, was 444. No new brake-vans were added during the year.

The following table shows the work done on brake-vans during the year :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Paint touched up.
Brake-vans	822	40	255	527	167	204

Fifteen bogie brake-vans were under construction at close of the year.

Wagons.—The wagon stock on the 1st April, 1918, was 22,073, and the number on the 31st March, 1919, was 22,214. Two wagons were sold. One hundred and forty-three new wagons were built and added to stock.

The carrying-capacity of wagon stock was increased by 2,120 tons, equal to 1·11 per cent., or an equivalent of 353 ordinary wagons.

The following table gives particulars of work done on wagons during the year :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Re-erected.	Rebuilt.	Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Paint touched up.
Wagons ..	23,151	143	3	14	187	5,110	17,694	3,391	10,951

Nine hundred and nine wagons were under construction in the railway workshops at the close of year, and comprised 138 bogie and 771 four-wheel wagons.

Tarpaulins.—The tarpaulin stock on the 1st April, 1918, was 17,632, and on the 31st March, 1919, the number was 18,232. Six hundred and twelve new tarpaulins were made in railway