

HEALTH OF STAFF.

109. The following table gives the average absence of permanent officers on sick-leave. Figures in parentheses represent last year's return.

	Number of Officers on Staff. 30/11/18.	Number of Officers absent during the Year.	Number of Days Officers absent.	Average Number of Days each Officer absent Sick.	Average Absence for the whole Staff (in Days).	Number of Deaths.
<i>General Service—</i>						
Male	5,110 (5,188)	1,675 (1,041)	35,165 (23,146)	21 (22)	7 (4)	88* (62)
Female	1,239 (1,159)	589 (388)	11,464 (6,771)	20 (17)	9 (6)	3 (3)
Totals	6,349 (6,347)	2,264 (1,429)	46,629 (29,917)	21 (21)	8 (4)	91 (65)
<i>Post and Telegraph Department</i>						
Male	5,156 (5,147)	3,226 (1,797)	61,081 (22,653)	19 (12)	12 (4)	53 (12)
Female	1,264 (920)	1,022 (559)	25,428 (10,236)	25 (18)	20 (11)	3 ..
Totals	6,420 (6,067)	4,248 (2,356)	86,509 (32,889)	20 (14)	13 (5)	56 (12)

* Includes 24 (15) officers killed or died of wounds whilst serving with Expeditionary Forces.

The high average is attributable to the influenza epidemic.

MOVEMENT OF STAFF.

Departments other than Post and Telegraph.

110. The classified staff on the following dates was,—

	Number.	Amount. £
1st April, 1913	4,641	874,437
„ 1914	5,095	953,343
„ 1915	5,613	1,098,960
„ 1916	5,985	1,158,949
„ 1917	6,217	1,208,979
„ 1918	6,282	1,231,433
„ 1919	6,210	1,431,724

111. Of the increase of £557,287 since the 1st April, 1913, £137,957 is accounted for by temporary officers made permanent (£81,412), the nationalization of School Inspectors (£20,581), and converted emoluments (£35,964).

112. The increases as the result of the general regrading provided on the 1st April, 1919, amount to £214,702, as against £46,595 in the preceding year. The gross increase of £214,702 incorporates war bonuses which were being paid at the rate of £117,000 per annum on the 31st March, 1919. Had there been no regrading, the normal classification increase would have approximated £47,000. The net cost of the regrading is therefore £50,702, or, taking into account overlapping increments brought to the common date of 1st April, 1919, approximately £60,000.

113. The average salaries at the following dates were,—

	£
1st April, 1913	188
„ 1914	187
„ 1915	195*
„ 1916	194
„ 1917	194
„ 1918	196
„ 1919	230

* Converted emoluments account for £4 18s. of this increase.