

During the year a contract was entered into with Messrs. A. and G. Price (Limited), of Thames, for twenty simple-superheated tender engines, Pacific type, Class AB. At the close of the year there were on order in the railway workshops twenty engines, consisting of ten simple-superheated tender engines, Pacific type, Class AB, and ten heavy tank engines, 4-6-4 type, Class WAB. Altogether there were on order on the 31st March, 1920, forty engines.

The tractive power of locomotives was increased by 24,868 lb., equal to 0.28 per cent.

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.	Built new.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Tubes (Sets).	Tubes pieced and Second-hand (Sets).	New Firebox Throat-plate.	New Smoke-box Tube-plate.	New Firebox.	New Firebox Tube-plate.	Boilers patched.
Boilers ..	296	1	135	160	80	42	1	2	8	11	105

Twenty-three new boilers were in hand at the close of the year, consisting of ten Class AB, three Class F, and ten Class WAB.

Carriages.—The stock on the 1st April, 1919, was 1,489, and on the 31st March, 1920, the number was 1,492. Three new bogie cars were 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 ..	2,172	120	11	2,303
Built new	3	..	..	3
Converted	4	..	..	4
Thoroughly overhauled	213	1	..	214
Heavy repairs	852	22	4	878
Light repairs	1,100	97	7	1,204
Painted	619	15	1	635
Paint touched up	870	6	..	876

Forty cars were under construction at the close of the year in the railway workshops.

Brake-vans.—The number of brake-vans on the line on the 1st April, 1919, was 444, and the number on the 31st March, 1920, 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	920	40	269	611	149	279

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

Wagons.—The wagon stock on the 1st April, 1919, was 22,214, and the number on the 31st March, 1920, was 22,493. Two hundred and seventy-nine new wagons were built and added to stock.

The carrying-capacity of wagon stock was increased by 3,242 tons, equal to 1.67 per cent. or an equivalent of 540 ordinary wagons.

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

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Rebuilt.	Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Paint touched up.
Wagons	25,703	279	24	243	6,614	18,543	3,346	14,235

Six hundred and twenty-five wagons were under construction in the railway workshops at the close of the year, and comprised 99 bogie and 526 four-wheel wagons.