

TRAFFIC.

Mr. H. Buxton, Chief Traffic Manager, reports that the following are the leading features of the traffic in the various districts as compared with the previous year :—

Whangarei Section.

Revenue, £69,252 ; increase, £8,394. Passengers increased 9,133, and season tickets 327. Live-stock decreased 2,342. Goods tonnage increased 9,702 tons (timber 2,800 tons and general goods 7,082 tons ; minerals decreased 180 tons).

Kaihu Section.

Revenue, £9,133 ; increase, £2,645. Passengers increased 4,043. Timber increased 412 tons, minerals 438 tons, and general goods 173 tons.

Gisborne Section.

Revenue, £47,305 ; increase, £8,068. Passengers decreased 789 and season tickets 97. Live-stock decreased 31,335. Goods tonnage increased 8,121 tons (timber increased 4,280 tons and general goods 5,389 tons, but minerals decreased 1,548 tons).

North Island Main Line and Branches.

Revenue, £4,009,296 ; increase, £749,549.

The principal items of traffic were : Passengers, 8,824,932 ; increase, 1,706,602. Season tickets, 305,872 ; increase, 50,024. Parcels, &c., revenue, £194,502 ; increase, £27,604. Live-stock, 3,598,052 ; decrease, 203,486. Goods, 2,361,978 tons ; increase, 287,395 tons.

The revenue per mile of railway opened increased from £2,894 19s. 7d. to £3,538 13s. 1d., but decreased per train-mile from 15s. 3½d. to 15s.

The variations of traffic in the individual districts were approximately as follows :—

Auckland.—Revenue, £1,530,362 ; increase, £318,965. Passengers increased 784,714 and season tickets 33,496. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £9,979. Cattle and calves increased 5,415, sheep 28,854, and pigs 6,501. Timber increased 26,933 tons, minerals 53,306 tons, and general goods 61,114 tons.

Ohakune.—Revenue, £490,707 ; increase, £77,509. Passengers increased 80,814 and season tickets 27. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £3,157. Cattle and calves increased 7,573 and pigs 1,839 ; but sheep decreased 20,309. Timber increased 29,508 tons, minerals 19,198 tons, and general goods 2,397 tons.

Wanganui.—Revenue, £718,433 ; increase, £127,253. Passengers increased 199,043 and season tickets 245. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £7,018. Cattle and calves increased 8,139, sheep 19,961, and pigs 4,695. Timber increased 1,485 tons, minerals 11,100 tons, and general goods 11,620 tons.

Wellington.—Revenue, £1,269,794 ; increase, £225,822. Passengers increased 642,031 and season tickets 16,256. Parcels, luggage, and mails increased £7,450. Cattle and calves decreased 18,599 and sheep 249,115. Pigs increased 1,560. Timber increased 5,144 tons, minerals 31,738 tons, and general goods 33,852 tons.

Picton Section.

Revenue, £42,397 ; increase, £4,517. Passengers increased 195. Live-stock increased 30,434. Goods decreased 265 tons.

Nelson Section.

Revenue, £40,928 ; increase, £4,194. Passengers increased 5,859. Live-stock increased 2,579. Goods increased 886 tons.

Westport Section.

Revenue, £101,508 ; increase, £11,369. Passengers increased 2,627. Goods increased 1,408 tons (the mineral traffic shows a slight increase of 2,360 tons, but timber declined).

Westland Section.

Revenue, £196,500 ; increase, £37,177. Passengers increased 4,965 and season tickets 2,448. Parcels revenue increased £868. Live-stock decreased 344. Goods increased 33,751 tons (minerals 29,000 tons and timber 3,000 tons).

South Island Main Lines and Branches.

Revenue, £2,383,223 ; increase, £329,019.

The principal items of traffic were : Passengers, 5,372,359 ; increase, 819,983. Season tickets, 139,785 ; increase, 11,008. Parcels, &c., revenue £122,427 ; increase, £15,473. Live-stock, 3,543,970 ; increase, 37,169. Goods, 2,426,925 tons ; increase, 146,221.