

TELEGRAPH AND TOLL TRAFFIC—continued.

	1923-24.	1922-23.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase per Cent.	Decrease per Cent.
<i>Total of all Classes of Message and Value thereof.</i>						
Number	14,476,866	13,513,208	963,658		7·131	..
Value	£705,259	£709,171	..	£3,912	..	0·552
<i>Telegraph and Telephone Receipts.</i>						
	£	£	£	£		
Telegraph receipts ..	711,896	713,380	..	1,484	..	0·21
Telephone receipts ..	830,470	595,967	234,503	..	39·35	..
Total ..	1,542,366	1,309,347	233,019	..	17·79	..
<i>Telegraph and Telephone Payments.</i>						
	£	£		£		
Total ..	1,093,882	1,117,726	..	23,844	..	2·134

SCHEDULE OF PAID TELEGRAMS, CABLE MESSAGES, AND TOLL COMMUNICATIONS.

	Number.	Value. £
Ordinary	5,581,185	472,091
Urgent	265,772	27,686
Press	432,120	61,661
Night-letter	106,219	5,287
Toll communications ..	8,021,973	317,512
	14,407,269	884,237
Less net amount paid to other Administrations on cable and radio messages	..	183,908
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1923-24	14,407,269	700,329
Net total for paid messages of all codes, 1922-23	13,342,823	699,444

TABLE SHOWING USE BY THE PUBLIC OF TELEGRAPH AND TOLL SERVICES.

	1923-24.	1922-23.
Number of ordinary telegrams sent per unit of population	4·38	3·98
Number of toll communications per unit of population	5·81	5·58
Number of paid messages, telegrams, or toll communications per unit of population	10·38	10·27
Number of paid telegrams for every 100 letters posted	5·08	5·07

CABLE TRAFFIC.

The number of cable messages, excluding Press, sent from New Zealand to International offices during the year shows an increase of 10·1 per cent. on the number sent during 1922-23, and the number sent to Australian offices shows an increase of 7·18 per cent. Messages received from International offices increased by 8·62 per cent., and messages from Australia increased by 7·62 per cent.

The proportion of cable messages sent "via Pacific" was less than that sent by the same route the previous year, the percentages being 65·9 and 67·4 respectively.

The following table shows the total number of cable messages, excluding Press, forwarded by each route during each of the past five years, and also the percentage of such traffic falling to each.

PACIFIC.			EASTERN.		
Year.	Messages.	Percentage of Total.	Year.	Messages.	Percentage of Total.
1919-20	139,772	67	1919-20	68,832	33
1920-21	159,896	70	1920-21	68,406	30
1921-22	147,781	68	1921-22	69,515	32
1922-23	157,895	67·4	1922-23	76,455	32·6
1923-24	167,922	65·9	1923-24	86,797	34·1

Press messages numbering 2,674 were sent via Pacific and 4,177 via Eastern, compared with 2,051 and 2,835 respectively during 1922-23. The number received via Pacific was 6,817 and via Eastern 3,483, compared with 7,081 and 2,922 respectively.