

STAFF.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN THE POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT ON THE
1ST APRIL, 1927 AND 1928.

The total number of persons employed on the 1st April, 1927 and 1928 was as under :—

					1st April, 1927.	1st April, 1928.
Permanent staff—						
Administrative Division	..	..	..	..	4	4
Clerical and Engineering Divisions	..	..	..	..	3,543	3,519
General Division	..	..	..	..	4,993	5,041
					8,540	8,564
Temporary staff	..	..	..	..	192	165
Casual staff	..	..	..	..	1,557	1,061
Totals	..	..	..	..	10,289	9,790
Non-permanent staff—						
Country Postmasters and Telephonists	..	..	..	..	1,910	1,867
Postmasters who are Railway officers..	..	..	..	..	101	96
					12,300	11,753

HEALTH OF PERMANENT STAFF.

The following table gives the average absence of officers on sick-leave :—

				Number on Staff.	Average Absence per Sick Officer.	Average Absence for each Officer employed.
Men	..	..	..	7,824	9.20	4.33
Women	..	..	..	740	15.64	10.02

Eleven officers died during the year.

PERSONAL.

Mr. A. Gibbs, M.I.E.E., Chief Telegraph Engineer, was absent from the Dominion for several months attending the International Radio-Telegraph Conference held at Washington, D.C., and investigating in Europe and America the latest engineering developments of telegraph and telephone communications. The report furnished by Mr. Gibbs on his return to the Dominion is a most valuable one, and not only should it lead to greater efficiency by the adoption of more advanced methods of working, but it should also assist the Department in all engineering matters.

While Mr. Gibbs was absent from the Dominion Mr. C. S. Plank, A.M.I.E.E., Deputy Chief Telegraph Engineer, acted as Chief Telegraph Engineer, Mr. Plank, in turn, being replaced by Mr. H. L. Cummings, Inspecting Engineer.

PROMOTION BOARD ELECTION.

A Promotion Board election held on the 15th February, 1928, resulted in the return of Mr. H. M. Patrick as the elective member of the Board. Two officers contested the election. Mr. L. L. Hills, who had been the elective member since November, 1921, did not seek re-election.

APPEAL BOARD.

The Post and Telegraph Appeal Board, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. C. Cutten, S.M., sat on three occasions during the year. Sixty appeals were dealt with, of which two were allowed.

DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL.

There were 1,300 enrolments during the year in the Departmental Correspondence School, which provides tuition for officers who require to sit for departmental examinations. The new classes for junior officers resulted in a large influx of students, and necessitated increasing the instructional staff to twelve. Officers generally have profited greatly by the facilities provided for study, and the value of the tuition given is reflected in all branches of the service by increased efficiency.