

The length of various items of telephone-exchange plant in existence on the 31st March, 1934, and 1935, respectively, was as follows :—

—	Pole-line.	Single Duct Line.	Cable.			Wire.				
			Under-ground.	Aerial.	Sub-marine.	In Under-ground Cable.	In Aerial Cable.	Sub-marine.	Open Aerial.	Under all Headings.
In existence on 31st March, 1934	Miles. 15,318	Chains. 44,520*	Chains. 96,274*	Chains. 38,076*	Chains. 1,266	Miles. 393,189*	Miles. 47,265*	Miles. 1,930	Miles. 106,780*	Miles. 549,164*
Erected during year	95	124	1,236	136	..	1,911	106	..	1,412	3,429
Dismantled during year	30	1	644	594	..	3,156	746	..	505	4,407
In existence on 31st March, 1935	15,383	44,643	96,866	37,618	1,266	391,944	46,625	1,930	107,687†	548,186

* Revised figures. † Includes 147 miles of earth-working circuit.

The percentages of the total wire-mileage in underground, aerial, and submarine cables and open aerial wire respectively for the year ended 31st March, 1935, are as under :—

Telephone-exchange wire in underground cables	..	..	71·5 per cent.
Telephone-exchange wire in aerial cables	..	..	8·5 „
Telephone-exchange wire in submarine cables	..	..	0·4 „
Telephone-exchange open aerial wire	..	..	19·6 „

TELEPHONE STATISTICS.

A comparison of statistics in respect of the telephone system is made in the following table, which shows annually since 1926 the number of exchanges, the total wire-mileage, the revenue, and the total number of telephone stations, together with the number of telephones for each 1,000 of population of the Dominion :—

Year.	Number of Exchanges.	Miles of Wire.	Revenue.	Number of Telephone-stations	
				Total.	Per 1,000 Population.
			£		
1926	341	402,433	980,281	130,186*	94·40
1927	342	440,253	995,071	137,307*	95·48
1928	344	463,356	1,057,177	144,552*	99·40
1929	351	495,470	1,135,795	152,541*	103·72
1930	349	513,096	1,206,714	161,323*	108·37
1931	349	528,568	1,238,649	161,739*	107·04†
1932	349	556,735	1,218,072	160,779*	105·45
1933	349	559,890	1,169,512	155,560*	101·21
1934	349	560,509	1,164,711	155,059*	100·18
1935	349	548,186†	1,190,773	159,170*	102·06

* Includes approximately 4,000 non-exchange stations.
to Hawke's Bay earthquake.

† Decrease owing to temporary loss of subscribers due

‡ Revised figures.

The manner in which the exchanges are classified, the number of exchanges in each class, and the number of stations connected therewith on the 31st March, 1935, are shown in the following table :—

—		Class I. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having more than 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.	Class II. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having 1,001 to 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.	Class III. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having 201 to 1,000 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.	Class IV. Exchanges or Networks where the Attendance is restricted.	Dominion Totals.
Subscribers' main stations	..	43,803	24,178	28,105	25,755	121,841
Toll and service stations	..	817	564	942	1,784	4,107
Public call offices		605	123	61	7	796
Extension stations—						
P.B.X.		10,837	2,502	809	105	14,253
Ordinary		7,668	3,527	2,222	993	14,410
Telephone-stations : Class totals		63,730	30,894	32,139	28,644	155,407
Number of exchanges in each class		4	14	61	270	349