

ROAD MOTOR SERVICES.

The year's operations resulted in a profit of £8,598, as compared with £5,672 for the previous year, an improvement of £2,926.

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure is afforded below :—

	1936. £	1935. £	Variation. £	Per Cent.
Revenue	103,280	90,278	+13,002	14·40
Expenditure	94,682	84,606	+10,076	11·91
Net revenue	<u>£8,598</u>	<u>£5,672</u>	<u>+£2,926</u>	<u>51·59</u>

In the expenditure provision has been made for interest on capital, depreciation on vehicles and plant, and the establishment of necessary reserve funds.

A comparison of the results obtained on the various services is as follows :—

	Profit, 1936. £	Profit, 1935. £	Variation. £
Napier-Hastings	1,419	1,158	+ 261
Wellington-Hutt Valley	5,983	3,760	+ 2,223
Wellington-Wanganui*	400	90	+ 310
Oamaru-Tokarahi	10	25	— 15
Dunedin-Port Chalmers	692	588	+ 104
Waipahi-Edievale	94	51	+ 43
Total	<u>£8,598</u>	<u>£5,672</u>	<u>+£2,926</u>

* The Wellington-Wanganui service was commenced on 1st September, 1934.

A satisfactory feature of the year's operations is that a profit has again been made on each of the services, the Department's road services in common with other business concerns having benefited by the general improvement in economic conditions. The Department now operates fifty-six omnibuses and ten service cars, the latter being used to maintain the Wellington-Wanganui service. Seven of the omnibuses are de luxe vehicles, the design and upholstery of which have occasioned favourable comment. These vehicles are often used for "contract work," and since their introduction there has been a substantial increase in revenue, particularly in long-distance traffic.

The results of operating the various services are shown below :—

NAPIER-HASTINGS.

	1936. £	1935. £	Variation. £	Per Cent.
Revenue	17,986	16,559	+ 1,427	8·62
Expenditure	16,567	15,401	+ 1,166	7·57
Net revenue	<u>£1,419</u>	<u>£1,158</u>	<u>+ £261</u>	<u>22·54</u>
Passenger journeys	512,292	481,691	+30,601	6·35

All classes of traffic showed steady increases during the year, the revenue from special trips undertaken for tourist, picnic, and sporting parties showing an appreciable increase.

HUTT VALLEY.

	1936. £	1935. £	Variation. £	Per Cent.
Revenue	65,180	59,489	+ 5,691	9·57
Expenditure	59,197	55,729	+ 3,468	6·22
Net revenue	<u>£5,983</u>	<u>£3,760</u>	<u>+ £2,223</u>	<u>59·12</u>
Passenger journeys	2,437,868	2,264,257	+173,611	7·67

The returns from this service for the year's operations are very satisfactory, revenue increasing by 9·57 per cent. and expenditure by 6·22 per cent. All classes of traffic show increases, and the revenue per passenger journey increased from 6·31d. to 6·42d., this being due to a greater proportionate increase in the number of longer-distance trips.

WELLINGTON-WANGANUI.

	1936. £	1935. £	Variation. £	Per Cent.
Revenue	10,448	5,438	+ 5,010	92·13
Expenditure	10,048	5,348	+ 4,700	87·88
Net revenue	<u>£400</u>	<u>£90</u>	<u>+ £310</u>	<u>..</u>
Passenger journeys	10,707	6,229	+ 4,478	71·89

This service, which now consists of ten vehicles, was taken over from the S.O.S. Motors, Ltd., and commenced running as a departmental service on 1st September, 1934. Revenue per passenger journey increased by 24·67d., and expenditure by 19·17d. Ordinary passenger revenue showed a distinct improvement during the year, as also did the revenue from special trips. It is anticipated that the latter class of traffic will show an even better return during the next tourist season.