

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, 1936, are shown in the following table :—

|                                   | Class I.<br>Exchanges or Net-<br>works observing<br>Continuous<br>Attendance and<br>having more than<br>3,500 Paying<br>Subscribers' Main<br>Stations con-<br>nected therewith. | Class II.<br>Exchanges or Net-<br>works observing<br>Continuous<br>Attendance and<br>having 1,001 to<br>3,500 Paying<br>Subscribers' Main<br>Stations con-<br>nected therewith. | Class III.<br>Exchanges or Net-<br>works observing<br>Continuous<br>Attendance and<br>having 201 to<br>1,000 Paying<br>Subscribers' Main<br>Stations con-<br>nected therewith. | Class IV.<br>Exchanges<br>or Networks<br>where the<br>Attendance<br>is restricted. | Dominion<br>Totals. |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Subscribers' main stations ..     | 46,177                                                                                                                                                                          | 25,096                                                                                                                                                                          | 29,205                                                                                                                                                                         | 26,578                                                                             | 127,056             |
| Toll and service stations ..      | 832                                                                                                                                                                             | 565                                                                                                                                                                             | 964                                                                                                                                                                            | 1,785                                                                              | 4,146               |
| Public call offices .. ..         | 663                                                                                                                                                                             | 134                                                                                                                                                                             | 65                                                                                                                                                                             | 8                                                                                  | 870                 |
| Extension stations—               |                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                    |                     |
| P.B.X. .. .. .                    | 11,789                                                                                                                                                                          | 2,863                                                                                                                                                                           | 899                                                                                                                                                                            | 120                                                                                | 15,671              |
| Ordinary .. .. .                  | 7,881                                                                                                                                                                           | 3,631                                                                                                                                                                           | 2,367                                                                                                                                                                          | 1,048                                                                              | 14,927              |
| Telephone-stations: Class totals  | 67,342                                                                                                                                                                          | 32,289                                                                                                                                                                          | 33,500                                                                                                                                                                         | 29,539                                                                             | 162,670             |
| Number of exchanges in each class | 4                                                                                                                                                                               | 14                                                                                                                                                                              | 61                                                                                                                                                                             | 269                                                                                | 348                 |

In addition to the stations shown in the preceding table, there were 3,895 stations connected by private telephone-lines directly or indirectly with departmental toll stations, making a grand total of 166,565 telephone-stations on the 31st March, 1936.

The following table shows the number of telephone-stations in the North and South Islands on the 31st March, 1935 and 1936, respectively :—

| Number of Telephone Stations on 31st March, |                   |                        |         |                   |                        |         |                         |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
|                                             | 1935.             |                        |         | 1936.             |                        |         | Percentage<br>Increase. |
|                                             | Main<br>Stations. | Extension<br>Stations. | Total.  | Main<br>Stations. | Extension<br>Stations. | Total.  |                         |
| North Island ..                             | 90,163            | 20,419                 | 110,582 | 94,233            | 21,798                 | 116,031 | 4·9                     |
| South Island ..                             | 36,581            | 8,244                  | 44,825  | 37,839            | 8,800                  | 46,639  | 4·0                     |
| Totals ..                                   | 126,744           | 28,663                 | 155,407 | 132,072           | 30,598                 | 162,670 | 4·6                     |

The number of telephone-stations (main and extension) connected with each of the fifteen principal exchanges on the 31st March, 1936, was—Auckland, 23,130 ; Wellington, 21,333 ; Christchurch, 13,340 ; Dunedin, 8,691 ; Wanganui, 3,478 ; Palmerston North, 3,316 ; Hamilton, 3,255 ; Invercargill, 3,096 ; Hastings, 2,745 ; Gisborne, 2,731 ; New Plymouth, 2,318 ; Timaru, 2,125 ; Napier, 2,119 ; Masterton, 2,025 ; Nelson, 1,869.

The number of party and rural lines on the 31st March, 1936, was 13,100, to which were connected 47,872 main stations—an increase of 1,026 and 1,839 respectively on the figures for the previous year.

The following table shows, for each class of exchange, the respective percentages of business and residential stations, also the respective percentages of individual and party-line stations, on the 31st March, 1936 :—

| Percentage of                     | Class I<br>Exchanges. | Class II<br>Exchanges. | Class III<br>Exchanges. | Class IV<br>Exchanges. | Dominion<br>Percentages. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Business stations .. ..           | 38                    | 33                     | 27                      | 20                     | 31                       |
| Residential stations .. ..        | 62                    | 67                     | 73                      | 80                     | 69                       |
|                                   | 100                   | 100                    | 100                     | 100                    | 100                      |
| Individual-line stations .. ..    | 86                    | 74                     | 48                      | 30                     | 63                       |
| Party- and rural-line stations .. | 14                    | 26                     | 52                      | 70                     | 37                       |
|                                   | 100                   | 100                    | 100                     | 100                    | 100                      |