



COLONY OF NATAL.

REPORT

OF THE

POSTMASTER-GENERAL

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1907.

PIETERMARITZBURG :

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Report of the Postmaster-General for the Year ended the 31st December, 1907.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—

I have the honour to submit my report on the Post Office Department for the year ended the 31st December, 1907.

Revenue.—The actual revenue of the Department (Post and Telegraph Branches) for the financial year ended the 30th of June, 1907, amounted to the sum of £182,683 1s. 9d., as compared with £195,619 10s. 7d., the revenue for the previous year.

Indirect Credits.—To this amount should be added the sum of £4,163 6s. 2d., being the value of certain "Indirect Credits," particulars of which are as follows:—

- (a) £1,612 8s. 2d., the value of the Superannuation deductions made from the salaries of Officers of the Department.
- (b) £407 9s. 6d., the sum paid over to the Public Works Department as rent for official residences occupied by Postmasters.
- (c) £143 8s. 6d., the cost to this Department of certain work, chiefly in connection with the installation and maintenance of Telephones established at Government Offices.
- (d) £2,000, being interest calculated at the rate of £4 per cent. per annum, due from the Durban Corporation on the sum of £50,000.

Free Services.—The Post Office is also called upon to perform various services for which it receives no remuneration. During the twelve months ended the 30th of June, 1907, the value of these services is estimated to have reached the sum of £35,638 9s. 1d. The following statement gives in detail the estimated value of each free service:—

	£	s.	d.
(1) Conveyance of Official Letters	14,740	0	0
(2) Transmission of Official Telegrams	10,831	3	4
(3) Registration of Official Telegraphic Addresses	69	6	0
(4) Official Telephone connections	783	17	6
(5) Official Calls passed over the Trunk Telephone Lines	25	11	7
(6) Colonial Newspapers conveyed free. Estimated value of postage	5,603	0	0
(7) Telegrams forwarded on behalf of the Imperial Military Authorities upon which half the cost is remitted	124	18	2
(8) Maintenance of the Telegraph Line between the Post Office and the Observatory, Durban	12	0	0
(9) Maintenance of the Harbour Department's Telephone System	80	0	0
(10) Private Bag Services performed for Government Departments	66	13	6
(11) Private Boxes allotted to Government Departments	166	19	0
(12) Cost of undertaking Savings Bank work at Durban and other Offices, up to the date of transfer	600	0	0
(13) Post Cart Services. Difference between the actual cost to the Post Office of the present services and the probable cost if services were performed by Carriers	2,535	0	0
Total	£35,638	9	1

Gross Revenue.—The gross revenue for the year under review, including the Indirect Credits, and the value of the Free Services, amounted to £222,484 17s., as compared with £238,400 14s. 5d. for the previous year.

Expenditure.—The actual expenditure amounted to £165,542 19s. 4d., being a decrease of £10,434 18s. 1d. in the amount expended during the previous year. The actual cost was increased by certain indirect charges, of which the following are the principal :—

	£	s.	d.
1. Cost of Railway Passes for Staff to the 31st of December, 1906	436	6	9
2. Value of Pensions and Gratuities paid by the Treasury ...	2,711	19	7
3. Cost of Stationery and Printing	2,901	8	7
4. Interest on Capital Expenditure from Revenue	193	1	1
5. Services performed by the Public Works Department ...	5,769	2	4
6. Value of Uniform Clothing supplied for the use of Postmen, Messengers, etc., by the Police and Gaols Dept. ...	80	5	0
7. Salary of Clerk to Commissioners of Stamps... ..	23	0	0
8. Annuity at 3½ per cent. per annum on the Debt Liability for Loan Works	11,226	10	9
Total	£22,441	14	1

Balance.—Deducting the total expenditure from the gross revenue, a balance of £34,500 3s. 7d. remains in favour of the Department, and this may be regarded as the profit on the working for the year under review. It should not be overlooked that the Department was put to heavy and exceptional expense during the year in consequence of the removal of the Post and Telegraph Offices from the old buildings to the new premises in Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg.

Extent of Traffic.—At the close of the report will be found a detailed statement showing the quantity of correspondence posted and delivered during the year 1907.

It is estimated that the number of postal articles delivered was 20,879,456, a decrease of 1,687,296 on the number delivered during 1906. Taking the total population of the Colony, the number of articles delivered to each person was approximately 18·831.

The number of parcels delivered was 179,452, as against 163,584 for the preceding year, an increase of 10,868.

A slight increase is apparent in the number of parcels sent from the Colony to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries, the number for 1906 being 9,718, and that for 1907, 9,872. The estimated value of articles exported from the Colony by Parcel Post is £8,205 16s. 7½d., being an increase of £603 9s. 2½d. on the figures for 1906.

The number of parcels entering the Colony from the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries was 32,856, as against 49,884 for the preceding year.

The value of goods imported through the Post Office was £66,138 5s. 11d., being £29,638 less than during the previous year.

The number of articles registered, namely 155,821, shows a decrease of 11,726 on the number for 1906.

General Remarks.—The revenue of the Department still exhibits a tendency to decrease. The revenue derived from all sources during the financial year which ended on the 30th of June, 1907, was £12,000 less than that earned during the preceding financial year.

The postage on all correspondence from the Railway Department is now prepaid by means of postage stamps, and the revenue derived therefrom is included in the ordinary Revenue of the Department under the sale of postage stamps.

The amount of commission earned on the sale of Postal Orders shows an increase, as also does the revenue from all classes of Telephone business.

The steady growth of the Telephone business of the Colony must be regarded as a gratifying feature of the year's work. Its cause is mainly due to a greater appreciation by all classes of the community of the advantages of the Telephone as a means of communication. But for the necessity for strict economy in expenditure it would have been possible to have made considerable extensions in the Telephone System by the opening of additional Public Call Offices.

The opening of the Natal-Transvaal Inter-Colonial Trunk Telephone Line has been fairly successful, and I am confident that as soon as trade revives still greater use will be made of this service.

Universal Postal Union Convention.—The Universal Postal Union Convention, signed at Rome in May, 1906, and which superseded the Washington Convention of 1897, came into operation on the 1st day of October, 1907.

The following are the principal alterations sanctioned by the Convention :—

Letters.—The unit of weight for letters addressed to Countries in the Postal Union may now be raised from 15 to 20 grammes (one ounce for countries not using the metric system), the rate of postage being 25 centimes for the first unit, and 15 centimes for every successive unit or fraction thereof.

The adoption of the aiteration is optional, and it has been decided by the South African Colonies, in view of the necessity for conserving revenue, not to make any change at present in the unit of weight of letters posted in South Africa.

Imperial Penny Postage.—The rate of postage to Natal from the United Kingdom, and certain of the *British Possessions oversea* which have adopted Imperial Penny Postage, is now 1d. per ounce. Although Natal has not yet adopted the ounce as the unit of weight, letters prepaid at the above rate and posted in Countries of the Postal Union will be delivered in this Colony without extra charge.

Post Cards.—The Post Card regulations have been amended as follows :—

Certain articles such as engravings, illustrations, drawings and photographs on very thin paper may now be affixed either to the back of the card or to the left-hand half of the address side of all Post Cards, whether of private manufacture or supplied by the Department. The left-hand half of the address side of all Post Cards may be used for communications.

International Reply Coupons.—International Reply Coupons of the value of 25 centimes, or the equivalent of that amount in British coin (2½d.) can be purchased at Post Offices in Natal for the sum of 3d., and these are exchangeable for postage stamps at Post Offices in countries participating in the arrangement. Coupons issued in other countries are exchangeable in this Colony for postage stamps of the value of 2½d. This service, which was introduced on the suggestion of the British delegates to the Conference, affords facilities for remitting very small sums to other countries and also for the prepayment of postage on a letter from almost any part of the world.

Printed and Commercial Papers.—The regulations relating to Printed and Commercial Papers have been modified to cover the transmission, at the "Book Post" rate, of articles which were, by reason of certain inscriptions or greetings thereon, formerly inadmissible, such as :—

- (1) Christmas and New Year Cards containing manuscript additions, hitherto permitted only in the case of visiting cards.
- (2) Printed Circulars having the name, commercial style, profession and address of the sender, as well as of the addressee, on the outside of the missive.
- (3) Shipping Advices, bearing the dates of the departures and arrivals of ships and the names of the ships.
- (4) Despatch Notes of Goods, etc., containing the date of the despatch.
- (5) Pupils' Exercises in original, and old and spent Letters and Post Cards, *i.e.*, Letters and Post Cards which have fulfilled their original purpose and have been delivered to the person to whom they were originally addressed.

Sample Post.—The following articles are now admissible under the Sample Post Regulations :—

- (a) Keys sent six
- (b) Fresh cut fow
- (c) Tubes of serum and pathological specimens, provided they are prepared and packed in such a manner as not to be a source of danger to the officials of the Post Office.

Money Order and Postal Order Business.—Comparative statements showing in detail the number and value of the Money Orders and Postal Orders issued and paid at Offices in the Colony will be found at the close of the Report.

The net decrease in the value of the Money Orders issued is £47,279 10s. 8d., the number being reduced by 11,294.

This falling off is partially accounted for by the increased issue of Postal Orders, the latter being made use of to a much greater extent than formerly, for the purpose of remitting small amounts.

The commission derived from the sale of Postal Orders shows an increase of over £359.

During the year arrangements were completed for the substitution of British Postal Orders for the local issue. This change will take effect on and from the 1st of January, 1908.

Under this arrangement it will be possible for the public to purchase one Order for any amount from 6d. to 21s., which may be cashed in almost any part of the British Empire.

Money Orders.—In order to reduce as much as possible the time occupied in the transmission of Money Orders between the United Kingdom and Natal, it has been arranged that the advices of such Orders shall be forwarded direct from the Office of Exchange of the Country of issue to the Office of payment, instead of as heretofore, to the Office of Exchange of the Country of payment. By this arrangement it is anticipated that in many cases incoming Orders will reach the hands of the persons for whom they are intended from twelve to twenty-four hours earlier than would have been the case under the old arrangement.

Advice of payment of Money Orders.—A system has been introduced under which the Remitter of a Money Order may, upon application, either at the time of issue or subsequently, receive advice of its payment. The fee charged for this service, when the advice is furnished in ordinary course of post is 2½d. When the advice is by telegraph, the fee is 1s. 6d. in the case of a Money Order drawn upon an Office within the Cape Colony (including Bechuanaland), the Transvaal, and the Orange River Colony. In the case of Southern Rhodesia the charge is 3s.

The system is in operation between all the South African Colonies, the United Kingdom, and the majority of the British Possessions overseas. Many Foreign Countries also participate in the service.

Intermediate Agency for the O.R.C.—At the request of the Postmaster-General of the Orange River Colony, the Post Office of Natal now undertakes the work of an intermediate agency for the transmission of Money Orders passing between Offices in the Orange River Colony, and the following places, viz. :—

India	Japan
Ceylon	Hong Kong

and the British and Japanese Agencies maintained in China, the Straits Settlements and British North Borneo.

Similar work is undertaken by Natal in connection with the transmission of Orders issued in the above-mentioned places for payment in the Orange River Colony.

European Mail.—On the 4th July, 1907, use was first made of the Kroonstad-Ladysmith route for the conveyance of the incoming European Mail for Natal, the first outgoing Mail for Europe to follow this route being that despatched from Natal on the 7th of the same month.

Although the final section of the Railway Line, viz. :—that between Bethlehem and Kroonstad, was opened for traffic some time prior to these dates, it was not practicable to make earlier use of it for the conveyance of the European Mails owing to the difficulty experienced in fixing a suitable time table. This difficulty has, however, been overcome. By the adoption of the Kroonstad route, the delivery of the mail in Pietermaritzburg and Durban has been accelerated to a considerable extent. Since the opening, on the 2nd of July, of the Modderpoort-Bloemfontein section of the Bethlehem-Bloemfontein line, the whole of the mails exchanged between offices in Natal and offices in the Cape and Orange River Colonies have been forwarded by way of Harri-smith and Bethlehem.

Upper Tugela Branch Railway Line.—On the 15th of May, 1907, the Upper Tugela Branch Railway Line was opened for traffic between Loskop and Winterton, the terminus of the line, and the mails between the latter place and Estcourt were for the first time conveyed the whole of the way by train.

Weenen Narrow Gauge Line.—The Weenen Narrow Gauge Railway Line between Estcourt and Weenen was formally opened for traffic on the 18th day of April, 1907. From this date the mails between Estcourt and Weenen have been conveyed by train, the Post cart service being discontinued.

Post Cart Services.—By the cessation of the Estcourt-Weenen service the number of Post Cart services subsidised by the Department has been reduced by one, and this has been the means of effecting a reduction in the expenditure under this heading.

The only other alterations that have been carried out in the Post Cart services of the Colony are those affecting the time-tables. These are, for the most part, of a minor character.

It may perhaps be mentioned here that many of the Post Cart services, although subsidised wholly from the funds of this Department, are entirely unwarranted from a Post Office point of view. In some cases the amount of correspondence conveyed by the Post Cart is so small that the service could well be performed by Native carriers, either mounted or on foot.

Foreign Mail Services.—Correspondence is being exchanged with the French Postal Authorities with a view to an improvement in the parcel service between this Colony and the Island of Madagascar. At present parcels from Natal for places in Madagascar circulate by way of the United Kingdom and France. The proposal provides for the direct exchange of mails once a month in each direction.

Mail Service to Australasia.—Hitherto it has been found necessary to forward mail matter for Australasia from this Colony to Capetown in order to secure connection at that Port with the outgoing vessels of the regular lines of steamers running between South Africa and Australia. As, however, many vessels for Australia, which formerly passed Durban, now call at that Port for coaling purposes, it has been decided to utilise them for the conveyance of the mails direct when by so doing a faster service is assured.

Correspondence from the Transvaal for Australia is also forwarded through Durban when opportunity offers.

Parcel Post Service with Mauritius.—Owing to the vessels of the Union-Castle Steamship Company not now calling at Durban on the voyage to Mauritius, the Parcel Post Service between this Colony and the Island of Mauritius is restricted to a service once a fortnight by vessels of the Clan Line of Steamers.

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Parcel Post Service from Madeira.—Parcels for Natal from Madeira now circulate by way of the Cape Colony, instead of through the United Kingdom. No change has, however, been made in the circulation of parcels in the opposite direction.

Rate of Postage on Correspondence for the Colony of Labuan.—Owing to the amalgamation of the Administration of the Colony of Labuan with that of the Straits Settlements, the rate of postage on parcels from Natal for that place has been reduced to the rate applicable to parcels for the Straits Settlements.

Rate of Postage on Parcels for the Bechuanaland Protectorate.—On and from the 1st of April last the rate of postage on parcels exchanged between this Colony and the Bechuanaland Protectorate was reduced from 1s. 6d. to 1s. a pound weight.

Mixed Postal and Telegraph Service, Natal-United Kingdom.—On and from the 1st of April last the Mixed Postal and Telegraph service which had been in force for some time prior to that date, between this Colony and the United Kingdom, under which it was possible to forward a communication for the latter place by telegraph to Capetown for despatch thence as a letter to its destination, was extended to provide for the further transmission of the message as a telegram on the arrival of the Mail Boat at Southampton. Similarly a message sent by telegraph to Southampton for the conveyance thence to Capetown by Mail Boat as a letter, can, on arrival at the latter place, be telegraphed to its destination in Natal.

TELEGRAPHS.

Revenue.—The revenue derived from the transmission of Telegrams, including the sum received for Special Services, such as registration of addresses and instructions for the delivery of Telegrams, during the financial year ended the 30th of June, 1907, amounted to the sum of £45,623 14s. 7d., as against the sum of £54,859 11s. received for similar services during the previous financial year. The decrease is attributed principally to the depression in trade, but it is possible that the disturbed condition of the country following on the Native Rebellion was also a factor in the decrease.

Free Services.—The value of the Telegraph Services rendered by the Department, free of charge, to other Government Departments was £19,000 9s. 4d. In the case of telegrams transmitted on behalf of the Imperial Military Authorities a rebate of £124 18s. 2d. was made, this sum representing a 50 per cent. reduction of the ordinary rates.

Traffic.—The following comparative statement shows the Telegraph Traffic dealt with during the past three years:—

Year	Forwarded	Received	Transmitted	Totals
1905 ...	587,253	654,406	929,174	2,170,833
1906 ...	*666,265	704,809	1,039,586	2,410,660
1907 ...	531,917	581,682	930,924	2,044,523

* Including 125,554 Official Telegrams.

Although the decrease in Forwarded Telegrams is considerable, it must not be overlooked that the number of such telegrams dealt with during 1906 was swollen by the heavy Government traffic consequent upon the Native Rising of that year. A fairer comparison is that between 1907 and 1905, and here it is satisfactory to note that the falling off has, perhaps, been less than might have been expected, especially in view of the fact that some messages which would formerly have been telegraphed are now telephoned.

With the object of removing an anomaly that exists in those towns provided with a house-to-house delivery of letters by postmen, I proposed to the Government that the Department should undertake the free delivery of all telegrams received for persons residing within the free postal delivery area, irrespective of whether the houses were or were not within a distance of one mile from the Telegraph Office of delivery. Although a slight decrease might be looked for in the revenue received from portage fees, it was felt that this loss would be more than compensated for by the removal of what is a source of grievance to that section of the public residing in the suburbs of Durban and Maritzburg. I regret to state that the Government felt unable to agree to my proposal.

TELEPHONES.

Revenue.—The Telephone System of the Colony produced revenue amounting to £8,682 9s. 7½d., of which sum £6,766 12s. 2d. represents the earnings of the Telephone Exchanges.

The Trunk Telephone Lines earned £1,815 15s. 6½d., and other miscellaneous items brought in £100 1s. 11d.

With a view to the adjustment upon a more equitable basis of the cost to the public of a Telephone installation, the question of introducing the message rate system of payment in place of the system at present in force has engaged my attention for some time past. But although the system has a good deal in its favour from a Departmental point of view, it is more fitted for use in towns and cities having a larger population than Maritzburg. The increased cost in the working expenses of the message rate system would be great, and after making careful

personal enquiry into the question in England, I have come to the conclusion that it is better to retain the present system in Natal. In this connection I might add that I was enabled to peruse a copy of the Report of the Commission appointed by the British Post Office Authorities, to enquire into the different systems in use in the United States of America, and I find that the decision to continue the system at present obtaining in Natal is supported by the finding of the Commission.

The number of subscribers to the Telephone Exchange at Pietermaritzburg continues to increase, notwithstanding the depressed condition of business in the City, and there is but little doubt that a like improvement would be shown in the case of the Up-Country Exchanges at Ladysmith, Dundee and Newcastle, were the financial condition of the Colony to improve.

Private Telephone Lines.—An adjustment of the charges for the erection of Private Telephone Lines, uniformity of which has been secured to the renter of a Private Telephone Line, and the long distance subscriber to an Exchange Telephone.

Transmission of Telegrams over a Subscriber's Telephone Circuit.—The fee for the transmission of telegrams from the office of delivery to the residence of the addressee, over the telephone line rented by the latter, has been reduced from £2 2s. to £1 per annum.

Wireless Telegraphy Convention, 1906.—This Colony has agreed to become a subscriber to the Bureau established and maintained at the cost of the contracting parties to the International Wireless Telegraphy Convention held in Berlin in 1906.

Cable Traffic.—A statement showing in detail the Cable Traffic dealt with by the Department will be found at the close of the report.

The full amount of the subsidy to the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company, viz.:—£825, has been paid for the year 1907.

The following are the more important Works carried out by the Engineering Branch during the year 1907:—

New Lines Erected.—Telephone extension from Nkandhla to Babanango. Erection of Telegraph Line for the Transvaal Engineering and Contracting Co., Ltd., in connection with the Esperanza-Donnybrook Railway. This work has been in progress during the past six months and is now practically completed.

With the exception of the erection of an additional wire between Glencoe Junction and Dannhauser, for the purpose of effecting through communication between the Durban and Johannesburg Railway Stations, and the extension of the Telegraph line from North to South Shepstone, the Works undertaken for the Railway Department have been of a minor character.

The transfer of the Telegraph Office from the Church Street premises to the new G.P.O. was successfully carried out on the 26th October. The Secondary Cell System has been installed in the new offices and is giving entire satisfaction. Considerable economy will, it is thought, result from this change.

Telephonic communication between Natal and the Transvaal was opened on the 1st September, 1907.

Owing to the continued depression every effort has been made to restrict the expenditure upon Maintenance, and only such work as was absolutely necessary has been carried out.

SAVINGS BANK.

This Branch was transferred to the Post Office on the 1st July, 1907.

Deposits.—The Deposits have been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For the year 1906	367,512	14	8
For the year 1907	340,689	19	5
Showing a decrease of	26,822	15	3

During October, 1907, the Deposits amounted to £32,082 4s. 5d., as against £36,218 14s. 10d. in August, 1906 (the heaviest month of that year), being a decrease of £4,136 10s. 5d.

The smallest amount deposited in any one month in 1907 was £23,843 14s. 4d., as against the smallest amount deposited monthly in 1906.

Withdrawals for the year 1907 were less than those for 1906 by amounts being in 1907, £347,301 15s. 10d., and in 1906, £383,315 16s. 6d.

In 1907, £34,382 5s. 8d. was paid out to depositors, as against £36,324 10s. 7d. in August, 1906 (the heaviest month for that year) showing a decrease of

£1,941 10s. 9d. The smallest amount withdrawn during any one month in 1907 was £23,954 9s. This sum is less than the smallest amount withdrawn during any one month of 1906.

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Balances.—On January 1st, 1907, the Balance of the Bank was £509,285 5s. 2d., and at the end of the year £502,673 8s. 9d., a decrease of £6,611 16s. 5d.

Interest.—The total amount of interest paid for the year 1907 was £15,764 18s., and for the year 1906 £17,415 19s. 4d. a decrease of £651 1s. 4d. Included in the amount for 1907 is the sum of £13,912 0s. 2d., capitalised Interest drawn on June 30th, 1907.

Average Rate of Interest paid.—The average rate of Interest for the year 1906 was 3½ per cent., while that for 1907 was, approximately, 3 1-5th per cent.

Number of Depositors.—The number of open accounts at the end of 1907 was 21,525, as against 21,184 for the previous year, showing an increase of 341.

Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor.—The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor at the end of the year was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Europeans	23	15	5
Indians	20	0	2
Natives	19	2	5

Indian Depositors.—On the 31st of December, 1907, there were 1,847 Indian Depositors, as against 1,806 on the 31st December, 1906. The total amount standing to the credit of the Indian Depositors on the first-named date was £36,955 0s. 11d., and on the 31st of December, 1906, £40,204 15s. 3d., being a decrease of £3,249 14s. 4d.

Native Depositors.—There were 382 accounts open at the end of 1906, and 432 at the end of 1907, being an increase of 50. The balances were respectively £7,947 5s. 8d. and £8,260 10s. 9d., giving an increase of £313 5s. 1d. on the 1906 balance.

Unclaimed Fund.—The amount standing to the credit of the Unclaimed Fund on the 31st December, 1907, was £4,263 17s. 7d., made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Pietermaritzburg...	1,574	16	11
Durban	1,863	7	4
Branches	825	13	4

Investments.—On January, 1907, £1,000 South Australian 4 per cent. Stock matured, and was re-invested, with the £4,500 Canadian 4 per cent. Stock which matured on November 1st, 1906, in 3½ per cent. Natal Stock. The amount invested on December 31st, 1906, was £317,050 15s. 7d., and at the end of 1907, £321,401 4s. 9d., an increase of £4,350 9s. 2d.

Number of Branches.—The number of branches open on 1st January, 1907, was 36, and on the 31st of December, 1907, 56.

Management.—The cost of management for the financial year 1906-7, that is, prior to the transfer, was £3,745 19s. 6d.

General.—As already stated, the Savings Bank became a Branch of the Post Office on the 1st of July last. The country branches conducted at the various Magistracies were, with one or two exceptions, transferred to the local Post Offices. By the transfer of the Savings Bank to the control of the Post Office, the number of Savings Bank Offices has been increased by 20.

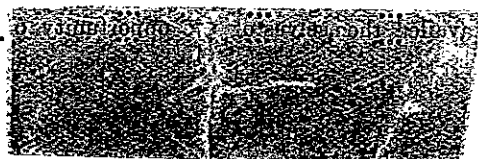
In Durban alone the number of Offices open for the transaction of Savings Bank business has been increased from one to six.

Two additional Branch Offices have also been opened in Pietermaritzburg.

Revenue amounting to £21 12s. was derived during the year from the sale of duplicate pass books.

The Telegraphic withdrawals during the year 1907 numbered 3,077, being a decrease of 358 as compared with the previous year. The number was made up as follows:—

Durban	2,321
Bergville	6
Charlestown	3
Dundee	101
Eshowe	7
Estur	46
Greytown	20
Harding	14
Howick	5
Ixopo	16
Elandslangte	1
Krantzkop	3
Ladysmith	170
Melmoth	21
Mooi River	28
Mtunzini	1



Newcastle ...	...	...	...	39
New Hanover ...	...	...	...	5
Nkandhla ...	...	...	...	19
Nqutu ...	...	...	...	4
Nongoma ...	...	...	...	14
Paulpietersburg ...	...	...	...	2
Pieterstown ...	...	...	...	15
Point ...	...	...	...	114
Port Shepstone ...	...	...	...	12
Richmond ...	...	...	...	10
Stanger ...	...	...	...	11
Umzinto ...	...	...	...	13
Underberg ...	...	...	...	1
Utrecht ...	...	...	...	9
Vernlam ...	...	...	...	19
Vryheid ...	...	...	...	21
Weenen ...	...	...	...	6

The number of withdrawals at sight (Head Office only) for which a fee of 1s. is charged, amounted to 3,131, a decrease of 49 as compared with last year.

On the 1st October, 1907, the system of transferring Savings Bank Accounts from one Administration to another was extended to Southern Rhodesia, at the same rate of commission chargeable in the case of transfers to the United Kingdom and certain Colonies.

The transfers to and from Natal during the year ended the 31st of December, 1907, were as follows:—

To the United Kingdom 117 accounts, representing £8,847 6s. 3d.

From the United Kingdom 30 accounts, representing £1,099 19s. 11d.

To the Transvaal the sum of £3,459 15s., on account of 73 depositors.

From the Transvaal the sum of £3,227 1s. 2d., on account of 59 depositors.

To the Orange River Colony the sum of £497 7s. 4d., on account of 9 depositors.

From the Orange River Colony the sum of £2,341 11s. 6d., on account of 59 depositors.

To Southern Rhodesia one account only was transferred from Natal, amounting to £43 4s. 5d.

The total sum transferred to other countries was £12,804 15s. 7d., as against £6,711 17s., the total amount received from other countries.

The amount earned as commission on the transfers was £27 2s. 10d., being at the rate of 1d. for every £2 or fraction thereof transferred.

The number of deposits and withdrawals for the year ended the 31st of December, 1906, was as follows:—

Deposits 49,133, withdrawals 29,136, as against 48,018 deposits and 27,740 withdrawals for the year 1907, being a decrease of 1,115 deposits and 1,396 withdrawals.

The average value of each deposit was of £7 1s. 10d., as against £7 9s. 7d. for the preceding year, and of each withdrawal £12 10s. 4d., as against £13 3s. 1d.

The average amount standing to the credit of each Depositor on the 31st of December, 1907, was £23 7s., as against £24 0s. 9d. on the 31st of December, 1906.

A comparison between the balance on hand on the 31st December, 1907, with that on hand on the 31st of December, 1906, shows a decrease of £6,612.

For the first six months of the year the deposits were less than the withdrawals by £19,144 19s. 6d., and consequently reduced the balance to £490,140 5s. 8d. For the latter half of the year the deposits exceeded the withdrawals by £12,533 3s. 1d., and brought the balance from £490,140 5s. 8d. to £502,673 8s. 9d.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Staff.—The number of persons on the Staff of the Department on the 31st of December, 1907, was 1,344. Of this number 437 were natives. The European Staff is divided into two classes, viz.:—Established and Unestablished. During the year the Staff has been reduced by seven Clerks, viz.:—six Established and one Unestablished. The transfer of the Savings Bank to the Post Office, however, added seven Established and two Unestablished Officers to the Staff, being two less than the number employed before the Post Office undertook Savings Bank business.

The total number of Established Officers is now 306, the number of Unestablished being 601.

The Natives may be sub-divided into three classes, as follows:—

Mail Carriers ...	...	...	302
Messengers ...	...	...	86
Telegraph Line-boys ...	...	...	49

The total number of white Telegraph Messengers employed by the Department is 76. Of this number 64 boys availed themselves of the opportunity offered by the Government Night

Schools for improving their educational attainments. A bonus of £5 was awarded to each boy whose conduct and attendance were satisfactory, and who was successful in passing the examination. Twelve boys attached to the Maritzburg Office and 20 boys belonging to the Durban Office were successful in obtaining the bonus.

Offices.—The number of Post Offices and Post Office Agencies open on the 31st of December, 1907, was 380.

The following Offices were opened during the year under review :—

For Telegraph Business :

✓ Babanango.

For Postal Business :

✓ Driefontein.
✓ Droogdal.
✓ Fort Louis.
✓ The Hermitage.
✓ Deemount.
✓ Kongolona.

✓ Lenjane's Drift.
✓ Metzelfontein.
✓ Mooi Klip.
✓ N'kalweni.
✓ Palmiet.
✓ Rivenhail.

For Postal and Telegraph Business :

✓ Creighton.

✓ Hart's Hill.

The following Offices were re-opened after being temporarily closed during the Native Rebellion of 1906 :—

✓ Esidumbeni Mission Station
✓ Insuzi.

✓ Spudeni.

The undermentioned Offices were closed :—

✓ Umfolozi Rail.
✓ Glastonbury.
✓ Broadacre.

✓ Taylor's.
✓ Henley.
✓ Deepdale Rail.

The transfer of the Post and Telegraph Offices to the new building in Longmarket Street was carried out on Sunday, the 27th of October. The increased accommodation available in the new offices for both the general public and the staff has made it possible to carry on the work of the Department in a far more satisfactory manner than was the case in the old offices, where want of space seriously interfered with the work.

In carrying out this change much credit is due to the Telegraph Engineer (Mr. Weightman), the Assistant Engineer (Mr. Williams), and others for the able manner in which the transfer of the wires and apparatus was effected, a transfer which had entailed much thought and many months work in its preparation. The engineering arrangements for both the Telephone and Telegraph Branches were excellently made and carried out, and of those officers who were responsible for the work I cannot speak too highly.

On the 30th of November, on receipt of an order to mobilize issued by the Commandant of Militia, a good many men belonging to the Staff of the Department were withdrawn from civil employment. The majority of these had resumed duty in their respective offices by the 31st of December. Their absence necessitated the performance by other members of the staff of a considerable amount of overtime.

On the 26th of November, during the prevalence of a very heavy storm, the Post Cart travelling between Harding and Port Shepstone, whilst crossing the Boi Boi River, was overturned and swept down the stream. The whole of the mails, with the exception of one private post bag, were subsequently recovered and found to be intact. I am glad to say no lives were lost.

On the night of the 24th of October, the Pinetown Post Office was broken into. An attempt to blow open the safe proved unsuccessful, and, beyond the damage to the lock, no injury or loss was sustained.

I regret to say that on the 30th November last the Durban Post Office was broken into and the strong room robbed of £2,523 14s. 7d. This matter is still under investigation.

C. MAXWELL HIBBERD.

Postmaster-General.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DELIVERY
WITHIN THE COLONY; OF CORRESPONDENCE POSTED WITHIN THE
COLONY; AND OF THE NUMBER OF ARTICLES REGISTERED AT OFFICES
WITHIN THE COLONY.**

Correspondence Received	1906	1907	Increase	Decrease
Letters, Ordinary	13,722,072	13,006,812	...	715,260
Letters, Official	1,418,716	1,322,256	...	96,460
Post Cards	1,166,880	1,005,368	...	161,512
Parcels	168,584	179,452	10,868	...
Books and Sample Packets	2,682,472	2,130,804	...	551,668
Newspapers	3,408,028	3,234,764	...	173,264
Total	22,566,752	20,879,456	...	...
Correspondence Posted	23,642,476	20,779,824	...	2,862,652
Articles Registered	167,547	155,821	...	11,726

Net Decrease, Articles Delivered, 1,687,296.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF ARTICLES DEALT WITH IN THE
RETURNED LETTER BRANCH.**

Correspondence	1906	1907	Increase	Decrease
Returned to senders within the Colony	89,124	82,311	...	6,813
Returned to other Countries	54,904	53,332	...	1,572
Destroyed	38,481	34,892	...	3,589
Total	182,509	170,535	...	...

Net Decrease, 11,974.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF BAGS AND CASES
OF PARCELS DEALT WITH.**

	1906	1907	Increase	Decrease
Despatched to adjoining Territories	33,571	37,444	3,873	...
Received from adjoining Territories	34,661	39,970	5,309	...
Bags despatched to the United Kingdom	4,671	4,193	...	478
Bags received from the United Kingdom	11,404	13,098	1,694	...
Bags despatched to Foreign Countries	1,190	2,067	877	...
Bags received from Foreign Countries	3,964	4,945	981	...
Bags received in Transit	6,250	7,231	981	...
Boxes of Parcels despatched to the United Kingdom	294	293	...	1
Boxes of Parcels received from the United Kingdom	3,252	2,244	...	1,008
Boxes of Parcels despatched to Oversea Colonies	414	485	71	...
Boxes of Parcels received from Oversea Colonies	491	526	35	...
Totals	100,162	112,496	...	...

Net Increase, 12,334.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FOREIGN PARCELS TRAFFIC.

	1906	1907	Increase	Decrease
Number of Parcels despatched to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	9,718	9,372	154	...
Number of Parcels received from the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	49,884	39,856	...	10,028
Total	59,602	49,728	...	...
Value of Articles Exported to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	£ 7,602 7 5	£ 8,205 16 7½	£ 603 9 2½	...
Value of Articles Imported from the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	95,776 6 8	66,138 5 11	...	29,638 0 9
Amount of Customs Dues collected on Parcels and Letters from other Countries	9,063 7 7	8,572 1 1	...	491 6 6

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF MONEY ORDERS ISSUED.

Payable in	1906		1907		Increase		Decrease	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Natal	18,601	£ 75,661 5 10	17,119	73,325 13 9	...	£ ...	1,482	2,335 12 1
United Kingdom	39,157	139,224 12 7	31,730	117,213 8 8	...	...	7,407	22,011 3 11
Cape Colony	4,083	15,822 7 10	3,490	15,014 14 7	...	...	683	807 13 3
Transvaal	4,424	20,951 15 2	3,748	18,126 6 1	...	...	676	2,825 9 1
Orange River Colony	584	2,851 15 8	637	3,477 19 1	53	626 3 5	...	...
Rhodesia	66	510 5 1	62	259 14 5	...	...	4	250 10 8
St. Helena	58	99 14 6	62	83 17 0	4	...	...	15 17 6
Mauritius	741	2,373 0 11	654	2,146 9 10	...	...	87	226 11 1
India	11,130	87,205 3 11	9,791	69,908 0 9	...	...	1,339	17,297 3 2
Australia	2,482	9,574 14 6	2,255	8,342 14 7	...	...	227	1,231 19 11
Ceylon	71	274 12 7	39	202 2 9	...	...	12	72 9 10
British Central Africa	3	9 5 6	8	15 15 1	5	6 9 7	...	...
Mozambique	74	370 10 3	56	261 6 7	...	...	18	109 3 8
British East Africa	35	157 17 0	15	62 0 6	...	...	20	95 16 6
Norway ... ..	...	...	599	2,107 9 9	599	2,107 9 9	...	...
	81,509	355,087 1 4	70,215	310,547 13 5	661	2,740 2 9	11,955	47,279 10 8

Net Decrease No. 11,294. Amount £44,539 7s 11d.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF MONEY ORDERS PAID.

Issued in	1906		1907		Increase		Decrease	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Natal	18,554	£ 75,479 8 7	17,112	73,336 3 4	...	£ ...	1,442	2,143 5 3
United Kingdom	4,298	18,926 1 1	3,837	17,443 1 11	...	...	461	1,482 19 2
Cape Colony	6,626	28,354 16 10	7,025	33,318 4 4	399	4,963 7 6	...	...
Transvaal	15,247	83,178 16 4	14,917	85,901 6 6	...	2,722 10 2	330	...
Orange River Colony	2,022	11,397 11 6	1,645	8,485 18 10	...	...	377	2,911 12 8
Rhodesia	525	2,378 19 2	506	2,495 3 2	...	116 4 0	19	...
St. Helena	8	24 10 3	5	26 4 7	...	1 14 4	3	...
Mauritius	79	218 18 3	104	738 5 11	25	519 7 8	...	...
India	130	526 11 9	114	617 2 10	...	90 11 1	16	...
Australia	420	1,584 19 4	509	1,744 13 7	89	159 14 3	...	...
Ceylon	17	56 0 3	10	28 11 4	...	...	7	27 8 11
British Central Africa	6	19 1 2	1	7 10 3	...	...	5	11 11 2
Mozambique	123	331 16 7	128	353 1 8	5	21 5 1	...	...
British East Africa	47	184 11 2	28	85 9 3	...	...	19	99 1 11
Norway ... ..	...	...	65	714 19 0	65	714 19 0	...	...
	48,102	222,662 2 3	46,006	225,295 16 3	581	9,299 13 1	3,679	5,675 10 1

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED BY ADJOINING ADMINISTRATIONS WHICH WERE PAID IN NATAL—1907.

Issued in		Denomination																	Totals	
		1-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	3/6	4/-	4/6	5/-	7/5	10/-	10/6	12/6	15/-	17/6	20/-	21/-	No.	Amount
Colony ...	...	284	192	...	309	...	...	...	...	1,051	57	490	...	...	96	...	646	...	3,115	£ s. d. 1,306 17 0
Swaziland ...	...	447	255	451	564	573	281	393	275	1,195	307	1,876	231	...	650	...	5,957	386	13,936	8,770 12 6
Orange River Colony ...	...	754	361	713	664	638	398	660	293	2,174	293	1,827	324	...	733	...	4,905	...	14,737	7,774 1 6
Bechuanaland ...	...	11	8	...	5	...	...	...	...	10	3	11	...	3	5	1	30	...	87	47 8 0
South Central Africa ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Natal ...	...	22	11	...	7	...	...	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	...	143	73 8 6
1907 ...	...	1,518	827	1,164	1,549	1,211	679	1,153	566	4,473	660	4,204	555	3	1,474	2	11,592	386	32,018	17,972 7 6
1906 ...	...	2,084	1,137	1,534	2,153	1,535	885	1,564	974	3,989	1,002	4,921	756	1	1,695	3	13,361	420	36,914	20,813 9 6
1905 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	484	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
1904 ...	...	566	310	370	604	324	206	411	306	...	342	717	201	...	221	1	1,769	34	5,896	2,841 2 0

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BRITISH COLONIES AND OTHER PLACES ABROAD, AND PAID IN NATAL—1907.

Denomination																											Totals															
6d.	1/-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	3/6	4/-	4/6	5/-	5/6	6/-	6/6	7/-	7/6	8/-	8/6	9/-	9/6	10/-	10/6	11/-	11/6	12/-	12/6	13/-	13/6	14/-	14/6	15/-	15/6	16/-	16/6	17/-	17/6	18/-	18/6	19/-	19/6	20/-	21/-	No.	Amount
35	932	535	935	1,265	815	504	767	412	3,571	21	35	12	29	514	35	14	16	10	4,290	558	12	9	30	29	17	12	14	7	1,113	8	14	4	18	11	12	10	24	3	13,260	605,30,917	10,384 16 0	
14	122	72	166	203	105	19	85	36	261	17	25	10	26	57	15	10	14	7	539	59	10	7	15	11	12	5	7	3	117	2	9	5	12	8	5	4	10	5	1,889	152,4,381	2,819 19 6	
21	810	463	769	1,062	710	455	682	376	2,110	4	10	2	3	457	20	4	2	3	3,731	499	2	14	16	5	7	7	4	996	6	5	...	6	3	7	6	14	...	11,371	453,26,536	16,564 16 6		
...

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED IN NATAL AND PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT IN THE RESPECTIVE COLONIES DURING THE YEAR 1907.

Where Paid	Denomination																Totals	
	1/-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	3/6	4/-	4/6	5/-	7/6	10/-	10/6	12/6	15/-	17/6	20/-	No.	Amount
Natal	5,171	3,055	5,656	7,700	6,241	3,618	6,472	3,666	18,323	4,458	21,594	2,412	291	6,413	98	41,063	136,451	£ 70,210 s. 10 d. 6
Cape Colony	520	234	418	4,56	448	261	384	194	789	227	869	167	23	350	4	1,552	6,876	3,010 2 0
Transvaal	572	281	476	591	500	319	431	275	1,185	271	1,457	167	14	441	2	3,978	12,960	5,983 7 0
Orange River Colony	106	60	123	152	117	86	126	60	307	83	344	45	5	129	2	889	2,634	1,406 10 6
Rhodesia	3	2	2	2	6	2	3	1	5	2	9	2	...	2	...	30	71	41 17 6
Mozambique	3	1	1	...	2	3	2	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	20	37	23 11 0
Totals, 1907	6,375	3,633	6,676	8,881	7,314	4,289	7,418	4,196	20,811	5,041	24,276	2,793	333	7,335	106	47,532	157,009	80,675 18 6
" 1906	5,714	2,943	5,517	7,520	6,086	3,162	6,214	3,089	18,177	4,099	19,931	2,281	971	5,474	649	38,776	130,603	66,702 17 0
Increase	661	690	1,159	1,361	1,228	1,127	1,204	1,107	2,634	942	4,345	512	...	1,861	...	8,756	26,406	13,973 1 6
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	638	...	543	...	...	...

BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS ISSUED IN NATAL AND PAYABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BRITISH COLONIES AND OTHER PLACES ABROAD DURING 1907.

		Denomination														Totals		
		1/-	1/6	2/-	2/6	3/-	3/6	4/-	4/6	5/-	7/6	10/-	10/6	15/-	20/-	No.	Amount	
Totals, 1907	1,831	808	1,591	2,002	1,620	926	1,359	744	4,617	846	6,775	588	1,682	14,052	39,441	£ 22,667 s. 11 d. 7
" 1906	1,482	750	1,261	1,532	1,300	753	1,026	329	3,360	595	4,320	455	988	9,719	27,880	15,131 17 0
Increase	349	58	330	470	320	173	333	415	1,257	251	2,445	133	694	4,333	11,561	6,935 14 7

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF POSTAL DRAFTS ISSUED AND COLLECTED IN THE COLONY.

Country of Issue	Drafts Issued								Drafts Honoured							
	1906		1907		Increase		Decrease		1906		1907		Increase		Decrease	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Natal ...	141	£ s. d. 425 17 0	152	£ s. d. 324 9 0	11	£ s. d. ...	...	£ s. d. 101 8 0	26	£ s. d. 62 8 3	41	£ s. d. 77 14 9	15	£ s. d. 15 6 6	...	£ s. d. ...
Cape Colony ...	35	59 1 2	70	152 9 5	35	93 8 3	...	...	13	20 17 7	15	15 1 0	2	...	...	5 16 7
Orange River Colony ...	7	19 1 3	4	6 10 8	...	...	3	12 10 7	1	1 9 6	...	...	...	...	1	1 9 6
Totals	183	503 19 5	226	483 9 1	46	93 8 3	3	113 18 7	40	84 15 4	56	92 15 9	17	15 6 6	1	7 6 1

Drafts Issued:—Net Decrease, value £20 10s. 4d. Net Increase, No. of Drafts, 43.

Drafts Honoured:—Net Increase, No. of Drafts, 16; value £8 os. 5d.

RETURN OF CABLE TRAFFIC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1907.

MONTH	Number of Messages received from Eastern Company for Transmission to South African Stations	Number of Messages collected in South Africa and handed to Eastern Company for transmission abroad	Total	Payments to Eastern Telegraph Company	Amount received on behalf of B.S.A. Company	Amount received from Eastern Company on account of Prepaid Reply Messages	Payments made by Eastern Telegraph Company for Messages handed to Department for re-transmission	Value of Government Messages received from Eastern Telegraph Company for re-transmission	Total amount received by Department on Messages received from Eastern Company for re-transmission
January ...	1,635	901	2,536	£ s. d. 1,242 7 8½	£ s. d. 22 19 3½	£ s. d. 2 8 11½	£ s. d. 61 1 5½	£ s. d. 9 15 1	£ s. d. 96 4 9½
February ...	1,603	1,002	2,605	1,228 7 8	22 12 10	10 13 9	58 7 7	9 8 7	101 2 9
March ...	1,787	1,029	2,816	1,281 3 4	25 4 5½	7 19 9	57 14 0½	7 3 11	108 2 2
April ...	1,890	1,077	2,967	1,380 3 11½	29 11 0	11 11 9	72 0 4½	7 3 7	120 6 8½
May ...	1,373	1,062	2,435	1,231 16 4	21 9 7½	14 1 5	52 14 2½	4 14 5	95 3 3
June ...	906	950	1,856	1,094 11 10½	16 9 2	6 0 1	32 0 10	6 14 10	80 17 4
July ...	1,432	950	2,382	1,133 3 3½	26 17 4½	5 6 6	52 0 6½	7 10 3	91 14 8
August ...	1,026	1,042	2,068	1,161 2 6	25 0 2½	10 13 3	38 9 0½	6 14 10	80 17 4
September ...	1,525	963	2,488	1,285 3 9½	27 11 0½	5 7 6	52 15 2½	7 1 10	92 15 7
October ...	1,766	1,188	2,954	1,285 14 6	30 0 2½	14 2 6	65 4 11	7 14 5	117 2 0½
November ...	1,726	1,028	2,754	1,257 12 1	33 13 0	10 13 10	59 4 11	7 2 2	110 13 11
December ...	1,543	1,187	2,730	1,307 5 10½	30 1 0½	10 16 1	67 9 4½	7 7 7	115 14 1
Totals ...	18,212	12,398	30,610	14,734 12 11	311 9 3	109 15 4½	679 2 6	89 14 8	1,190 1 9½
January to December (Western)	...	107	107	161 7 3	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	18,212	12,505	30,717	14,896 0 2	311 9 3	109 15 4½	679 2 6	89 14 8	1,190 1 9½

POST OFFICE BALANCE SHEET FOR 1906-1907.

ACTUAL EXPENDITURE:-				ACTUAL REVENUE:-			
Administration:-				Postage:-			
Salaries	...	...	103,020 15 3	Stamps	...	...	115,293 5 3
Travelling	...	...	512 9 10	Other Countries	...	...	3,721 1 8
Contingent Expenses	...	...	1,374 5 8	Commission:-	...	...	2,624 13 10
Uniform Clothing, etc.	...	...	909 16 4	Money Order	...	...	774 7 1
Mails	...	...	33,879 6 4	do. from other Countries	...	...	1,135 10 8
Supply of Stamps	...	...	1,694 19 5	Postal Order	...	...	911 11 11
Maintenance and Construction:-	...	...	11,217 4 8	British Postal Order	...	...	4,016 13 6
Salaries	...	...	151 8 9	Miscellaneous:-	...	...	7 10 7
Travelling	...	...	1,525 3 8	Commission on Stamp purchased...	...	...	1,324 3 6
Wages	...	...	3,561 13 3	Box Fees	...	...	609 5 42
Materials	...	...	2,200 0 0	Bag Fees	...	...	201 6 6
Removal to New G.P.O.	...	...	39 11 0	Special Receipts	...	...	20 15 11
Insurance of General Stores	...	...	85 9 6	Fines	...	...	73 14 1
Losses by Fraud and Theft	...	...	5 12 2	Sale of Government Property	...	...	122 7 8
Losses by Fire	...	...	18 1 19	Repayment Services	...	...	2,659 3 84
Discrepancies in Money Order and other Accounts	...	...	10 5 1	Telephone Receipts:-	...	...	6,796 12 3
Repayment Services	...	...	10 5 1	Rentals	...	...	1,815 15 69
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	...	...	165,542 19 4	Trunk Lines	...	...	169 1 11
	...	...	17,140 2 5	Other Receipts...	...	...	8,682 9 74
	...	...	182,683 1 9	Telegraph Receipts:-	...	...	31,004 17 104
	...	...		Stamps	...	...	736 8 6
	...	...		Registrations	...	...	5,635 0 34
	...	...		Other Receipts...	...	...	257 16 0
	...	...		Reimbursements	...	...	7,670 12 5
	...	...		do. Credit Sub-hand N.	...	...	45,623 14 7
	...	...		Stores (Excess of Issues over Receipts)	...	...	793 10 0
	...	...		Sums received and paid over to Consolidated Loans Fund under Schedules 1 and 2 of Act No. 1904	...	...	181,609 18 4
	...	...		1. Proceeds of Sales of Stores	...	...	558 3 3
	...	...		2. Unclaimed Postal and Money Orders	...	...	454 18 2
	...	...			...	...	813 3 5
	...	...			...	...	182,683 1 9
INDIRECT CHARGES TO BE TAKEN UP:-	...	...	436 6 9	INDIRECT CREDITS TO BE ALLOWED:-	...	...	1,612 8 2
Railway Passes (to 31st December, 1906)...	...	...	3,711 19 7	Superannuation deductions	...	...	467 9 6
Pensions, etc., paid by Treasury	...	...	2,031 3 7	Rent for Quarters paid to P.W.D.	...	...	143 8 6
Stationery and Printing	...	...	11,225 10 9	Works performed for other Government Departments	...	...	2,009 0 0
Annuity at 54 per cent. on Debt Liability for Loan Works as at 30th June, 1906...	...	...	185 1 1	Interest due by Durban Corporation on £50,000 @ 4 per cent.	...	...	4,103 6 2
Interest on Capital Expenditure from Revenue	...	...	5,769 2 4	Excess of Debits over Credits...	...	...	18,278 7 11
Services met by P.W.D.	...	...	39 5 0		...	...	22,411 14 1
Clothing supplied by Police and Goods Department	...	...	25 0 0		...	...
Clark to Commissioners of Stamps	...	...	25 0 0		...	...
	...	...	22,411 14 1		...	...
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	...	...	17,140 2 5	In addition the Department rendered the following free Services:-	...	...	14,249 0 0
Less Excess of Services received over Services rendered	...	...	38,278 7 11	Conveyance of Official Letters	...	...	16,831 3 4
	...	...		Transmission of Official Telegrams (including Rebellion, 22,702)	...	...	69 6 0
	...	...		Registration of Official Telegraph Addresses	...	...	781 17 8
	...	...		Official Telephone Connections	...	...	25 11 7
	...	...		Official Calls on Trunk Telephone Line	...	...	5,903 0 0
	...	...		Trafalgar on Colonial Newspapers	...	...	124 18 3
	...	...		Half Cost of Military Telegrams	...	...	13 0 0
	...	...		Upkeep of Observatory Lines	...	...	80 0 0
	...	...		Upkeep of Harbour Department Telephone System	...	...	68 13 6
	...	...		Private Bag Services for Government Departments	...	...	106 10 0
	...	...		Private Bages allotted to Government Departments	...	...	690 0 0
	...	...		Savings Bank work at Durban and other Offices	...	...	2,535 0 0
	...	...		Difference between Cost of Post Cart Contracts and Carrier Services	...	...	35,638 9 1
Net Loss	...	...	1,138 5 6		...	...

SAVINGS BANK.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

LIABILITIES				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance due to Depositors on 31st December, 1907:—				Value of Securities at the cost price			
Pietermaritzburg ...	148,952	3	3	Treasurer's Cash in hand ...	176,957	7	9
Durban ...	257,124	11	10	Drafts Outstanding at the 31st December, 1907 ...	4,296	5	7
Branches ...	92,332	16	1				
			498,409 11 2	Deposits in transit to Treasury at 31st December, 1907 ...			8,611 1 10
Unclaimed Fund:—							
Pietermaritzburg ...	1,574	16	11				
Durban ...	1,863	7	4				
Branches ...	825	13	4				
			4,263 17 7				
			£502,673 8 9				£502,673 8 9

The following Investments on behalf of Savings Bank Funds are held conjointly by Sir Walter Peace, K.C.M.G., and William Smart, Esq.

Description of Securities	When Redeemable	Period for which Interest is calculated	Amount	Cost Price of Stock	Amount of Interest
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cape of Good Hope Incrbed Stock 4 per cent. ...	1936	Jan. 1 to Dec. 31	9,796 13 4	9,630 7 6	391 17 4
Canada Debenture Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1908	" Oct. 31	100 0 0	107 10 0	3 6 8
Canada Debenture Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1910	" Dec. 31	700 0 0	722 14 7	28 0 0
Canada Incrbed Stock, 3½ per cent. ...	1909-1934	" "	9,456 4 9	10,000 0 0	330 19 4
Canada Incrbed Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1938	" "	13,845 10 6	13,335 0 0	415 7 4
New South Wales Incrbed Stock, 3½ per cent. ...	1918	" "	900 0 0	902 3 3	368 6 3
New South Wales Incrbed Stock, 3½ per cent. ...	1924	" "	9,623 6 3	10,018 4 7	400 0 0
New South Wales Debenture Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1909	" "	10,000 0 0	10,787 11 0	300 0 0
New South Wales Debenture Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1935	" "	10,000 0 0	10,262 4 6	114 18 10
Victoria Incrbed Stock 3½ per cent. ...	1923	" "	4,141 7 10	3,299 13 5	600 0 0
Victoria Incrbed Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1911-1926	" "	10,000 0 0	9,581 6 0	600 0 0
Victoria Incrbed Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1929-1949	" "	20,000 0 0	19,024 12 10	38 0 0
Queensland Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1913-1915	" "	15,000 0 0	16,312 11 6	192 0 0
*South Australia Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1908-1909	" "	2,000 0 0	2,132 10 4	600 0 0
South Australia Stock, 4 per cent. ...	1916	" "	4,800 0 0	4,965 0 0	58 0 0
South Australia Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1916-1926	" "	20,000 0 0	19,725 8 6	192 0 0
South Australia Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1916	" "	5,500 0 0	5,231 16 0	600 0 0
West Australia Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1915-1935	" "	6,000 0 0	5,707 13 6	165 0 0
West Australia Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1916-1936	" "	15,500 0 0	15,020 14 6	180 0 0
New Zealand Incrbed Stock, 3½ per cent. ...	1940	" "	30,016 17 7	28,628 13 0	465 0 0
New Zealand Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1945	" "	5,000 0 0	5,056 5 0	1,050 11 8
Mauritius Incrbed Stock 4 per cent. ...	1937	" "	500 0 0	469 2 7	150 0 0
Ceylon Incrbed Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1940	" "	12,010 0 0	11,799 17 6	20 0 0
Queensland Stock, 3 per cent. ...	1922-1947	" "	650 0 0	605 4 8	360 6 0
Indian Government, 3½ per cent. ...	...	" "	...	2,932 3 7	19 10 0
Loan—29,000 Rupees	...	" "	...	...	65 19 5
Natal Government Securities, 3 per cent. ...	1929-1949	" "	105,000 0 0	98,527 16 10	3,150 0 0
Cape of Good Hope, 3 per cent. ...	1933-1943	" "	1,391 5 0	1,198 5 3	41 14 9
Natal Government, 3½ per cent. ...	1934-1944	Jan. 21	5,812 18 6	5,416 14 4	192 6 1
Amount of Interest assessed at 4 per cent. on uninvested balances during the year ...	...	Jan. 1	...	...	4,842 7 0
£100 matures on 1st Jan., 1908	...	...	327,744 3 9	321,401 4 9	15,535 10 8
*£900 " " 1st July, 1908	...	...	...	...	...
£1,000 " " 1st Jan., 1909	...	...	...	...	...

Statement of the Head Office and Branch Ledger Balances at 31st December, 1907, to support the Controller's Consolidated Account for the period 1st July to 31st December, 1907.

Office	Balances, 30th June, 1907		Deposits, 1st July to 31st Dec., 1907		Withdrawals, 1st July to 31st Dec., 1907		Transferred to Unclaimed Fund		Balances, 31st Dec., 1907	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Pietermaritzburg	145,173	0 11	50,353	8 5	45,583	1 6	991	4 7	148,952	3 3
Durban	254,356	3 11	91,935	10 8	88,838	5 6	328	17 3	257,124	11 10
Babanango	12	8 10			12	0 0				8 10
Bellair										
Berea Road			2	0 0					2	0 0
Bergville	722	15 3	374	18 3	359	11 11			738	1 7
Boshoff Street										
Bulstrodes										
Camperdown			1	10 0					1	10 0
Chapel Street										
Charlestown			103	13 0					103	13 0
Clarke Road										
Dalton										
Dannhauser			58	0 0					58	0 0
Dundee	11,309	4 10	4,000	5 7	4,324	11 9	6	3 0	10,978	15 8
East End										
Elandslaagte			143	12 3					143	12 3
Eshowe	2,986	9 2	505	0 1	674	6 9	9	1 2	2,808	1 4
Estcourt	6,924	0 3	2,021	19 0	2,168	12 8	27	2 0	6,750	4 7
Florida Road										
Greytown	4,745	0 10	869	5 0	1,089	19 3	18	9 2	4,505	17 5
Greyville			8	0 0					8	0 0
Harding	2,129	4 4	169	8 9	535	14 4			1,762	18 9
Howick	2,374	16 5	695	6 11	597	11 6	6	12 6	2,465	19 4
Ingwavuma										
Ipoela	1,005	6 8	293	5 11	287	15 9			1,010	16 10
Ixopo	1,683	18 11	506	18 0	259	18 1	1	16 2	1,929	2 8
Krantzkop	201	10 9	147	19 8	104	1 11			245	8 6
Ladysmith	17,979	9 5	5,016	3 5	4,851	14 9	93	4 2	18,050	13 11
Lower Umkomaas			44	0 0					44	0 0
Mapumulo	132	16 8	132	11 5	23	18 0			241	10 1
Melmoth	630	4 2	412	7 7	110	0 0			932	11 9
Mooi River	566	5 2	584	0 6	282	17 3			867	8 5
Musgrave Road										
Mtunzini	221	15 9	55	0 0					276	15 9
Newcastle	8,331	3 9	2,135	17 11	2,664	9 4	9		7,802	11 7
New Hanover	130	9 4	77	9 0	15	0 0			192	18 4
Nkandhla	1,033	7 9	973	7 0	523	16 8	29	10 9	1,453	7 4
Nondweni										
Nongoma	173	7 2	609	15 7	167	10 0			615	12 9
Nqutu	883	8 5	194	19 2	70	16 0			1,007	11 7
Paulpietersburg	49	19 5	34	17 0	11	0 8			73	15 9
Point	2,282	13 6	2,801	18 1	1,186	2 11			3,808	8 8
Port Shepstone	2,372	9 5	876	6 6	455	16 5	4	11 6	2,788	8 0
Pinetown	478	16 3	171	0 0	175	7 11			474	8 4
Richmond	4,783	0 9	834	11 8	710	6 1			4,907	6 4
Stamford Hill										
Stanger	5,455	16 0	1,645	3 10	1,146	14 7	10	11 0	5,943	14 3
Underberg	187	10 8	71	18 4	102	15 10			156	13 2
Umsinga										
Umzinto	1,787	9 10	721	8 8	443	4 0	10	3	2,065	4 3
Utrecht	1,009	12 0	485	8 0	317	16 8			1,177	3 4
Verulam	3,523	9 0	1,141	5 3	885	16 1			3,778	18 2
Vryheid	670	5 10	775	13 2	243	6 5			1,202	12 7
Weenen	693	7 5	351	17 2	176	13 7			868	11 0
West End										
Unclaimed Fund	3,139	6 11			403	3 7			4,263	17 7
	490,140	5 8	172,337	0 9	159,803	17 8	1,527	14 3	502,673	8 9

CONTROLLER'S CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT.

1907 July 1	To Balance	...	...	...	...	Dr.		Cr.	
						£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1907 July 1	To Balance	...	...	...	...	490,140	5 8	...	...
Dec. 31	„ Deposits from 1st July to date	...	...	...	...	172,337	0 9	...	...
	„ Amounts transferred to Unclaimed Fund	...	...	...	...	1,527	14 3	...	...
	By Withdrawals from 1st July to date	...	...	...	...	...	...	159,803	17 8
	„ Amounts transferred to Unclaimed Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,527	14 3
	„ Balance	...	...	...	...	...	...	502,673	8 9
						664,005	0 8	664,005	0 8
	To Balance	...	...	...	...	502,673	8 9		

INDIAN DEPOSITORS, 31st DECEMBER, 1907.

Branch	No. of Depositors	Amount	Increase as compared with		Decrease as compared with	
			No. of De-positors	Amount	No. of De-positors	Amount
Pietermaritzburg ...	682	£ s. d. 9,402 12 1	5	£ s. d. ...	...	£ s. d. 1,194 5 10
Durban ...	760	19,783 5 4	...	...	30	3,111 11 5
Babanango ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bellair ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Berea Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bergville ...	3	45 15 5	3	45 15 5	...	...
Boshoff Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bulstrodes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camperdown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chapel Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charlestown ...	1	10 0 0	1	10 0 0	...	...
Clarke Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dalton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dannhauser ...	1	30 0 0	1	30 0 0	...	...
Dundee ...	71	1,704 12 4	20	382 12 8	...	...
East End ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elandslaagte ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eshowe ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Estcourt ...	32	450 2 11	5	...	...	87 16 11
Florida Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greytown ...	10	203 10 10	...	...	1	11 16 0
Greyville ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Harding ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Howick ...	27	323 8 0	5	93 14 11	...	...
Ingwavuma ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ipoela ...	8	55 5 1	3	...	...	21 18 8
Ixopo ...	8	36 3 4	2	20 17 6	...	...
Krantzkop ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ladysmith ...	61	1,334 19 3	7	189 11 5	...	...
Lower Umkomaas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mapumulo ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Melmoth ...	1	6 14 2	...	0 4 2	...	...
Mooi River ...	1	10 12 6	...	2 12 6	...	...
Musgrave Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mtunzini ...	1	5 5 7	...	2 17 7	...	...
Newcastle ...	33	1,021 12 10	...	...	8	338 2 7
New Hanover ...	1	0 2 6	1	0 2 6	...	...
Nkandhla ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nondweni ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nongoma ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nqutu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paulpietersburg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pinetown ...	1	0 2 6	...	...	...	34 19 1
Point ...	33	645 5 2	12	402 10 8	...	...
Port Shepstone ...	12	275 2 4	5	78 15 3	...	...
Richmond ...	20	271 17 11	7	84 5 10	...	...
Stamford Hill ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanger ...	39	742 19 1	7	119 11 5	...	...
Underberg ...	1	2 13 3	...	...	1	21 9 0
Umsinga ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umzinto ...	4	58 3 3	...	...	6	3 8 6
Utrecht ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Verulam ...	32	474 16 2	4	103 11 10	...	...
Vryheid ...	3	49 9 1	...	...	2	2 0 0
Weenen ...	1	10 10 0	1	10 10 0	...	...
West End ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1,847	36,955 0 11	89	1,577 13 8	48	4,827 8 0

NATIVE DEPOSITORS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

Branch	Number of Depositors	Amount	Increase as compared with 1906		Decrease as compared with 1906	
			No. of Depositors	Amount	No. of Depositors	Amount
Pietermaritzburg ...	148	£ s. d. 1,763 15 1	6	£ s. d. ...	...	£ s. d. 171 10 2
Durban ...	86	996 10 11	19	30 5 8	...	...
Babanango ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bellair ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Berea Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bergville ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boshoff Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bulstrodes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camperdown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chapel Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charlestown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clarke Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dalton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dannhauser ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dundee ...	13	289 2 5	7	237 13 8	...	...
East End ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elandslaagte ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eshowe ...	34	1,494 1 10	...	...	...	254 7 0
Fstcourt ...	11	240 6 10	5	...	...	183 0 2
Florida Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greytown ...	10	231 12 7	2	13 10 9	...	...
Greyville ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Harding ...	5	25 0 9	...	...	...	2 12 2
Howick ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ingwavuma ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ipoela ...	2	9 10 0	2	9 10 0	...	...
Ixopo ...	3	126 11 8	...	0 11 0	1	...
Krantzkop ...	2	6 13 5	...	0 4 6	...	...
Ladysmith ...	31	435 2 0	...	...	10	323 5 10
Lower Umkomaas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mapumulo ...	3	48 4 2	3	48 4 2	...	...
Melmoth... ..	2	5 12 9	1	1 3 1	...	...
Mooi River ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Musgrave Road ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mtunzini ...	...	...	...	...	1	10 2 6
Newcastle ...	12	337 13 7	2	94 18 6	...	...
New Hanover ...	1	20 6 7	1	20 6 7	...	...
Nkandhla ...	17	976 0 8	3	571 10 4	...	...
Nondweni ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nongoma ...	1	19 3 11	1	19 3 11	...	...
Nqutu ...	14	610 4 3	4	...	...	16 7 10
Paulpietersburg ...	...	...	...	...	1	4 0 10
Pinetown ...	2	104 10 1	2	104 10 1	...	...
Point ...	1	18 2 3	...	...	...	2 2 9
Port Shepstone ...	2	25 19 5	...	0 9 5	...	...
Richmond ...	9	149 18 9	4	96 18 4	...	...
Stamford Hill ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanger ...	8	190 1 9	...	35 15 5	...	...
Underberg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umsinga ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umsinto ...	5	68 5 5	2	19 5 3	...	...
Utrecht ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Verulam ...	7	61 12 5	1	22 13 9	...	...
Vryheid ...	2	6 3 7	...	...	...	30 14 8
Weenen ...	1	0 3 8	...	...	2	15 5 5
West End ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	432	8,260 10 9	65	1,326 14 5	15	1,013 9 4

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS OPENED AND CLOSED DURING YEAR 1907.

Branches	Total		Branches	Total	
	Opened	Closed		Opened	Closed
Pietermaritzburg ...	1,346	1,191	Umzinto ...	26	21
Durban ...	2,580	2,690	Underberg ...	3	4
Babanango ...	...	2	Bergville ...	11	9
Dundee ...	136	96	Utrecht ...	8	6
Eshowe ...	25	18	Verulam ...	37	37
Estcourt ...	71	51	Vryheid ...	32	15
Greytown ...	36	35	Weenen ...	9	9
Harding ...	10	19	Bellair ...	...	...
Howick ...	31	38	Berea Road ...	2	...
Ingwavuma ...	...	...	Boshoff Street ...	...	...
Ipolela ...	13	13	Bulstrodes ...	...	...
Ixopo ...	24	25	Camperdown ...	1	...
Krantzkop ...	9	4	Chapel Street ...	...	...
Ladysmith ...	181	208	Charlestown ...	8	...
Mapumulo ...	2	5	Clarke Road ...	...	...
Melmoth ...	27	5	Dalton ...	...	...
Mooi River ...	34	16	Dannhauser ...	4	...
Newcastle ...	75	79	East End ...	...	...
New Hanover ...	8	...	Elandslaagte ...	6	...
Nongoma ...	50	3	Florida Road ...	...	...
Nkandhla ...	18	4	Greyville ...	1	...
Nqutu ...	10	3	Lower Umkomaas ...	4	...
Paulpietersburg ...	4	3	Musgrave Road ...	...	...
Pinetown ...	12	7	Nondweni ...	...	...
Point ...	114	66	Stamford Hill ...	...	...
Port Shepstone ...	33	15	Umsinga ...	...	...
Richmond ...	33	17	West End ...	...	...
Stanger ...	49	26			
Mtunzini ...	1	3			
			Total ...	5,084	4,743

Statement of Deposits and Withdrawals for the Year 1907.

Office	Deposits		Withdrawals		Office	Deposits		Withdrawals	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Pietermaritzburg ...	98,918	8 0	98,397	13 2	Lower Umkomaas ...	44	0 0	...	...
Durban ...	185,461	9 5	197,534	15 4	Mapumulo ...	166	18 6	177	5 11
Babanango ...	18	6 6	29	0 0	Melmoth ...	754	16 9	436	6 3
Bellair ...	...	...	...	...	Mooi River ...	1,021	15 11	681	9 5
Berea Road ...	2	0 0	...	...	Musgrave Road ...	...	...	...	...
Bergville ...	601	12 1	621	13 3	Mtunzini ...	165	11 11	115	11 1
Boshoff Street ...	...	...	...	...	Newcastle ...	4,486	6 3	4,784	0 6
Bulstrodes ...	...	...	...	...	New Hanover ...	228	19 8	167	16 9
Camperdown ...	1	10 0	...	...	Nkandhla ...	1,226	2 3	752	7 6
Chapel Street ...	...	...	...	...	Nondweni ...	...	...	...	...
Charlestown ...	103	13 0	...	...	Nongoma ...	784	14 5	203	10 0
Clarke Road ...	...	...	...	...	Nqutu ...	363	11 5	360	5 10
Dalton ...	...	...	...	...	Paulpietersburg ...	43	12 10	110	1 1
Dannhauser ...	58	0 0	...	...	Pinetown ...	437	13 3	233	8 4
Dundee ...	7,361	6 8	6,234	8 1	Point ...	4,368	7 8	2,664	5 0
East End ...	...	...	...	...	Port Shepstone ...	1,462	2 6	986	3 6
Elandslaagte ...	143	12 3	...	...	Richmond ...	1,802	11 10	1,565	0 2
Eshowe ...	875	1 8	1,082	0 5	Stamford Hill ...	...	...	...	...
Estcourt ...	4,045	16 10	3,795	11 1	Stanger ...	3,039	7 0	1,695	1 0
Florida Road ...	...	...	...	...	Underberg ...	134	10 9	145	16 1
Greytown ...	1,762	11 9	2,220	8 1	Umsinga ...	...	...	...	...
Greyville ...	8	0 0	...	...	Umzinto ...	1,247	1 10	982	1 10
Harding ...	448	18 0	706	8 10	Utrecht ...	893	18 10	560	16 2
Howick ...	1,320	10 7	1,514	8	Verulam ...	2,302	18 1	2,117	3 11
Ingwavuma ...	...	...	...	...	Vryheid ...	1,108	0 10	781	4 2
Ipolela ...	743	6 6	1,043	12 10	Weenen ...	589	12 2	476	14 9
Ixopo ...	1,030	19 9	614	10 8	West End ...	...	...	...	...
Krantzkop ...	291	0 1	167	17 0	Unclaimed Fund ...	...	...	...	...
Ladysmith ...	10,801	1 8	12,327	17 4					
						340,689	19 5	347,301	15 10

Total paid into Treasury during 1907 ...	£	s. d.
Less 1906 Deposits paid into Treasury in 1907 ...	338,679	3 7
	6,600	6 0
Add 1907 Deposits paid into Treasury in 1908 ...	332,078	17 7
	8,611	1 10
	<u>£340,689</u>	<u>19 5</u>