

*Presented to the House of Assembly*  
*1915*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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# REPORT

OF THE

# POSTMASTER-GENERAL

(DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS)

FOR THE

# YEAR 1914

(FOR OFFICIAL USE).

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CAPE TOWN :

CAPE TIMES LIMITED, GOVERNMENT PRINTERS.

1915.

1911/68555.500.515.  
C.T.L. (a) - B1329

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# UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

(DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.)

## REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL (dated 1st March, 1915) for the Year 1914.

(FOR OFFICIAL USE.)

### INTRODUCTORY.

There was every prospect during the first half of the year that the Department would again be able to record a satisfactory increase in business when instituting a comparison with previous years. The war was bound, however, seriously to affect a Department so closely connected with the commerce and industries of the country as is the Post Office and whereas the revenue for the first seven months of the year, *i.e.*, up to the outbreak of war showed a gratifying increase at the rate of almost £12,000 per month, as compared with the corresponding period of 1913, the comparison for the last five months showed a shortfall in revenue at the rate of £19,000 per month, the returns for the year resulting in a decrease compared with 1913 of £12,456.

The total revenue for the year was £1,651,306 as compared with £1,663,762 for 1913.

Revenue from Postal services decreased by £33,578, and from Telegraphs by £18,996; Telephone revenue, on the other hand, showed an increase over the previous year of £40,120.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £1,682,907, an increase of 3.82 per cent. over 1913.

The foregoing figures do not include the value of free services rendered by and to this Department. The Post Office performed free services to the total value of £252,392 during the year, *viz.*:—

Postal .. ..	£125,844	Telephone .. ..	£35,114
Telegraph .. ..	£87,834	Money Orders .. ..	£3,600

In return free services were rendered by other Departments to the total value of £81,359.

### POSTS.

*Post Offices.*—The number of offices transacting postal business on the 31st December, 1914, was 2,451, a decrease of 10 as compared with the previous year.

*Posting Receptacles.*—The number of posting receptacles, other than those at Post Offices, was 959,—an increase of 26 during the year. Twenty nine were on trains and nine on mail steamers.

*Mail matter dealt with.*—A return showing the mail matter posted in the Union for delivery therein is given in Appendix No. 7.

### INLAND MAIL SERVICES.

*Main Posts.*—The main posts in the Union, excluding railway services, numbered 330. The following were the principal changes effected during the year:—

#### Cape.

*Bizana posts.*—A horse post was substituted for the cart services between Emfundisweni and Bizana, and a post cart service thrice a week was introduced from Izingolweni. The connection between Umzimkulu and Harding was discontinued.

*Caledon to Bredasdorp, Napier and Stormsvlei.*—In consequence of the opening of the railway to Kykodie the services from Caledon to Bredasdorp, Napier and Stormsvlei were terminated. Bredasdorp and Napier were connected with Klipdale and Stormsvlei served from Reedpool.

# REPORT OF POSTMASTER-GENERAL FOR YEAR 1914.

*Stutterheim and Bolo services.*—These points are now served from Dohne instead of from Kubusie and Stutterheim respectively.

*Dordrecht to Roodenek.*—A direct cart now runs to Roodenek from Dordrecht, via Flaauwkraal.

*Graaff-Reinet to Pearston.*—This route being no longer of value as a "through" service, the contract which expired on the 31st December was not renewed.

*Loerie River to Hankey.*—The cart service was abolished upon the opening of the railway.

*Matatiele to Quachasnek and Palmietfontein to Quthing.*—Cart services were commenced over these routes, half the cost being borne by the Basutoland Administration.

*Prieska to Upington.*—The opening of the railway to Upington permitted the withdrawal of the cart services.

*Zwartkopsdorp to Mier.*—The camels employed on this route were disposed of to the Defence Department and an oxcart service was established. Later it was found necessary to discontinue the post.

## Natal.

*Hermansberg to Krantzkop.*—The railway was extended over this section and utilized for the conveyance of mails.

*Ladysmith to Bergville.*—A runner post was put on between these points to serve offices on the route when the railway line from Winterton to Bergville was opened for traffic.

*Moorriver to Rietrivers and Rosetta to Kamberg.*—Carrier services were found to meet all needs and were substituted for the cart posts.

## Orange Free State.

*Frankfort posts.*—The opening of the railway to Frankfort rendered the services from Vrede and Heilbron no longer necessary.

*Bloemfontein local cartage service.*—The departmental stables were discontinued and the service given out to contract.

*Memel to Bothaspass.*—The cart service was extended to Ingogo Rail.

## Transvaal.

*Louis Trichardt to Messina.*—The railway was opened to Messina and the cart service discontinued.

*Sabie to Pilgrimsrest.*—On the opening of the railway to Graskop the mail-cart running over the Sabie-Graskop section became unnecessary.

*Zandrivierspoort to Orangefontein.*—This service was re-arranged so that the cart runs through to Beantj direct.

*Pietersburg to Kalkbank.*—A mail cart was substituted for the carrier service.

*Branch Posts.*—The branch posts numbered 1,108. Owing to the unsettled state of the country and the attendant need for the most rigid economy all branch posts throughout the Union were subjected to review, and in cases where contract payments far exceeded the revenue earned restricted runnings were arranged. In certain instances unremunerative services were terminated.

Following upon the abolition of the office of Field Cornet in the Cape Province all Field Cornet posts were discontinued and postal agencies opened where the amount of correspondence warranted them. Practically all the bags were carried on cart and runner routes serving post offices, and most of the late Field Cornets by renting private post bags can therefore still command the postal facilities they enjoyed in the past.

*Summary of mail services.*—The following is a summary of the mail services other than those on the Union Government Railways:—

	CONVEYED BY										Total.
	Cart.	Tram.	Horse.	Foot.	Ox Cart.	Boat.	Cycle.	Motor Car.	Railway.	Hand-cart.	
Main Posts ..	265	11	10	2	5	7	..	25	1	4	330
Branch Posts..	209	3	241	615	4	..	21	1	3	11	1,108
	474	14	251	617	9	7	21	26	4	15	1,438

1,387 contractors and 1,779 men were employed on the above services, with 3,076 horses and mules, 18 oxen, 618 carts, 21 bicycles, and 40 motor cars.

The distance travelled by the mails in course of conveyance through the Union during the year was:—By train, 8,758,082 miles; by other means, 5,660,500 miles.

*Cost of mail conveyance.*—The contracts in force, exclusive of the ocean mail service, represented the following liabilities:—

Main and Branch Posts..	£95,966	Conveyance over Private	
Landing & shipping mails	1,949	Railways .. ..	3,600
Conveyance over Union			
Railways .. ..	77,500	Total .. ..	£179,015

*Delays to mails.*—In January, owing to the Strike, the railway services were interrupted and serious delays to mails resulted. A road motor post was established between Pretoria and Johannesburg, and the auto-carriers and motor cycles usually employed on posting box clearance work in Johannesburg maintained an excellent exchange of mails between that centre and offices on the East and West Rand.

A slight washaway occurred at Blaauwbank on the 6th February, which delayed the mails conveyed by the 4 Up train eleven hours.

On the 19th February, owing to heavy rains, the Aberdeen postcart reached Aberdeen Road twelve hours late and missed the train connection.

The Gamtoos River was in flood on the 6th March and the Patentie-Quagga mails were considerably delayed.

The Williston mail for Capetown despatched on the 20th March was delayed owing to a rain storm and only reached Fraserburg Road six days later.

On the 20th March the Calitzdorp mail for Capetown missed connection at Ladismith owing to swollen rivers.

Heavy rains and floods accounted for the late running of the mail services in the Beaufort West, Fraserburg, Barkly West and Queenstown Divisions on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th April.

There was a serious washaway in Mitchell's Pass on the 29th July, which led to the indefinite suspension of traffic on the Wolseley-Ceres line. Pending resumption the mails were conveyed in motor cars and carts.

*Accidents.*—In attempting to cross the Brak River the postcart which left Calvinia for Onderstedoorns on the 3rd August was washed away and the driver, a coloured passenger, and the span of four horses were drowned. All mail matter, with the exception of that contained in a private postbag, was recovered.

The mounted carrier returning to Kamberg from Rosetta on the 18th August was overtaken by a blizzard, and both he and his horse died from exposure.

*Private Postbags.*—The total number of private postbags in service on the 31st December was 3,038, as against 2,976 at the end of the previous year.

*Parcel Post.*—The following is a return of the parcels posted at the principal offices:—

Number and Postage Value of Parcels.	1914.		1913.	
	Number.	Postage.	Number.	Postage.
		£		£
Aliwal North ... ..	9,763	422	9,802	460
Bloemfontein ... ..	44,954	1,755	43,043	1,528
Cape Town ... ..	396,006	19,961	482,421	25,442
Do. Bree Street ... ..	9,347	445	12,410	813
Do. St. George's Street ... ..	16,728	709	36,070	1,353
Durban ... ..	138,359	5,971	139,728	6,308
East London ... ..	54,054	2,426	51,806	2,582
Grahamstown ... ..	27,079	939	29, ...	1,084
Johannesburg (Main Post Office) ... ..	259,779	10,102	236, ...	10,120
Kimberley ... ..	47,723	1,806	47,692	1,678
Kingwilliamstown ... ..	25,454	1,096	26,225	1,501
Oudtshoorn ... ..	8,879	370	10,543	458
Paarl ... ..	5,902	434	6,309	515
Pietermaritzburg ... ..	74,477	2,263	71,569	2,162
Port Elizabeth ... ..	143,403	7,744	132,283	7,394
Pretoria ... ..	70,915	1,672	78,359	2,020
Queenstown ... ..	29,887	1,322	31,208	1,456
Uitenhage ... ..	6,773	245	9,585	338
	1,369,482	£59,682	1,454,705	£67,217

In addition to the above it is estimated that 598,206 parcels, on which the postage paid approximated £28,210 were posted at the smaller offices, as contrasted with 635,433 parcels and £31,772 postage for the previous year.

*Curtailment of Railway Mail Services.*—Following upon the outbreak of hostilities in Europe and the need for curtailment of expenditure wherever possible the South African Railways from the 11th August cancelled the running of the "Orange Limited" and "Royal Mail" trains, which up to that date conveyed to the North passengers and mails arriving by the English mail steamers. A combined mail and passenger train scheduled to leave Capetown at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and reach Johannesburg at 2.50 a.m. Thursdays was substituted. Later the "Imperial Mail" train carrying the homeward bound English mails to Capetown was also cancelled.

*Abolition of the Eastern and Midland Travelling Post Offices.*—For reasons of economy the Eastern Travelling Post Office running between East London and Rosmead and the Midland Travelling Post Office running between Port Elizabeth and De Aar were discontinued. The last outward trips took place on the 22nd August. Postal facilities over those sections were considerably restricted thereby, but they have been accepted by the communities concerned with equanimity.

*Zwartmodder—Mier Camel Post.*—On the 1st April, owing to a shortage of workable camels through death and other causes, the camel post which has been running for several years between Zwartmodder and Mier gave place to an ox-cart service. The camels, twelve in number, were purchased by the Department of Defence.

*Destruction of mails by fire.*—Twenty-nine bags of mails due at Bloemfontein from the Natal-Bethlehem-Modderpoort line on the morning of the 20th December were destroyed by a fire which occurred in the guard's van near Modderpoort.

*Use of motor cycles on posting box clearances.*—The motor cycles with side car chassis and box attachment running on posting box collection work in Johannesburg have proved to be efficient and economical in service. During the year their use was extended to Durban, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria.

#### OCEAN MAIL SERVICE.

As was only to be expected the punctuality of the Ocean Mail Service suffered considerably as a result of the War, but it is satisfactory to note that despite the presence at one time, of enemy cruisers in the vicinity of the South African trade route the mails have, since the outbreak of war, been transported between this country and the United Kingdom without any interference or loss, a silent but remarkable tribute to the sea power of Great Britain. In the seven months prior to the declaration of war the period of grace of 12 hours over and above the contract time of 16 days 15 hours, was not once exceeded either on the outward or homeward voyage, but subsequently owing to the substitution by the contractors of slow-going boats for certain of the usual mail steamers, which had been chartered by the Admiralty, the contract time was exceeded on 14 outward and 10 homeward voyages. On sixteen of these occasions the period of grace was exceeded, the greatest delay being suffered by the mail which was despatched from Table Bay by the R.M.S. Balmoral Castle on August 27th, 1914. Permission was sought and given for the steamer to deviate in order to call at St. Helena, and in consequence the voyage occupied 23 days, 5 hours 3 minutes. The shortest time occupied was that of the R.M.S. Saxon on the voyage which commenced from Table Bay on August 1st. The Commander after leaving the Cape received information of the proximity of armed enemy merchant cruisers and wisely decided to avoid Madeira entirely, the voyage taking 15 days 16 hours 37 minutes. It is significant that at about this time the Union Castle Co.'s intermediate steamer "Galician" was "held up" in the vicinity of the Canary Islands by the "Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse" which was later sunk by H.M.S. "Highflyer." The Commander of the "Edinburgh Castle," which left Table Bay on August 15th, was ordered by the Admiralty to proceed to Gibraltar and the steamer lay there for 24 hours.

Although the Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company were able to maintain a weekly packet service from Great Britain to South Africa, the contractors on four occasions during the year failed to supply ships for the journey in the reverse direction. These failures occurred on the 29th August, 5th and 12th September and the 10th of October. Further the coastal voyage of the "Garth Castle" which left Capetown on the 6th September was on instructions from the contractors terminated at East London instead of Durban as provided for in the contract. The inability of the contractors to supply ships was due to the steamers being requisitioned by the Admiralty, but the mails did not sustain any very great delay as the following ships of other lines were utilized for the service, viz.:—the "Aeneas," "Commonwealth," "Demosthenes," "Ingoma" and



"Inkonka." Payment for the conveyance of the mails by these steamers was made at the "private ships" rate, and pro rata deductions were made from the subsidy payable to the Company in respect of the failures and the uncompleted voyage of the "Garth Castle."

Since the commencement of the war Southampton has with one or two intermissions been a closed port to ordinary commercial traffic and the South African mails have been loaded at London or Tilbury and the departure of the steamer often thus delayed until the Sunday morning. Similarly the homeward mail has been discharged at Plymouth, while on one occasion the mail was landed at Falmouth. It has been found necessary solely as a result of the existing conditions, to discontinue the Sea Post Office for the time being. The service was inaugurated in September, 1913, and its value was becoming increasingly manifest.

The average length of voyage for the past three years is shown below:—

Voyage.	1912.			1913.			1914.		
	Days.	Hours.	Mins.	Days.	Hours.	Mins.	Days.	Hours.	Mins.
To South Africa ..	16	9	38	16	8	52	16	23	20
From South Africa	16	12	50	16	12	34	16	22	50
	(49 voyages.)								

The following is a comparative statement of the quantity of mail matter conveyed by the Union-Castle steamers during the past 3 years.

	To South Africa.			From South Africa.		
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Mail Bags ..	95,406	94,623	87,413	35,373	34,257	28,235
Parcel Receptacles ..	22,340	22,711	17,224	2,650	12,490	1,997

The mails conveyed during 1914 by the Union Castle Co.'s mail steamers from the United Kingdom on the South African route, were divided as follows:—

Destination.	Mail Bags.	Parcel Receptacles.
Union of S.A. (including Bechuanaland Protectorate) ..	70,215	16,592
Rhodesia and Belgian Congo .. .. .	8,622	632
G.S.W.A. .. .. .	2,507	..
Port. East Africa and Nyasaland .. .. .	4,912	..
Madeira, Las Palmas, Teneriffe, Great Britain (Mails from outward Ocean Post offices transhipped at Madeira)	1,050	..
St. Helena .. .. .	5	..
Total .. .. .	87,413	17,224

From the figures quoted it will be apparent that a considerable diminution has taken place in the correspondence to and from European countries due unquestionably to the War and to the resultant restriction of correspondence with enemy and neutral European States. In this connection it is of interest to note that the estimated weight of mail matter despatched from Germany to South Africa in 1913 was 202,593 lbs., while the weight of the mail for Germany from South Africa was 43,037 lbs.

The total number of parcels despatched abroad was 57,457, valued at £47,560, and the number received in the Union was 208,295, valued at £734,181, this sum being almost identical with the value of the parcels received in 1913. The number of parcels received, however, shows a decrease for the year of 24.4 per cent., while the Christmas parcel traffic from the United Kingdom discloses the notable decrease on the previous year's figures of 44.3 per cent. This was expected in view of the withdrawal from South Africa of the Imperial Troops who used the parcel post extensively and there was a general suspension of the customary practice of making gifts to friends.

On the 1st July, 1914, the parcel post rates to Southern and Northern Rhodesia were reduced to 1s. 1d. and 1s. 3d. per lb. respectively. The effect of the reduction cannot accurately be gauged owing to the abnormal conditions at present existing; nevertheless it is noticeable that there is a slight increase in

the number of parcels forwarded from the Union and quite an appreciable increase in the number of those received from Rhodesia.

An arrangement was come to with the Rhodesian Administration by which men of the Rhodesian regiment serving with the Union Forces were unable to enjoy the free redirection of parcels addressed to them in Rhodesia: a similar concession being allowed to members of the Union Forces.

The introduction of a revised customs tariff during the year caused a considerable amount of extra labour to devolve upon officers of the Department.

#### MISSING MAIL AND CONFIDENTIAL ENQUIRIES.

The following statement shows the number of enquiries for missing articles and the results of the investigations made:—

Ordinary Letters	Registered Letters	Contents of Articles	Newspapers	Parcels	Result of Investigations.
2,833	—	146	76	387	No trace.
1,758	1,674	54	56	1,578	Delivered.
158	366	5	1	68	Returned.
87	—	2	8	17	Probably delivered or returned to sender.
158	12	12	11	102	Not dealt with in this Administration.
58	84	—	1	51	On hand, unclaimed, undeliverable or unreturnable.
60	8	5	2	16	Complaint withdrawn.
57	—	6	12	35	Doubtful if posted or contents enclosed.
46	108	8	1	23	Duly forwarded to other Administrations.
—	21	1	—	15	Lost in post.
80	16	18	4	17	Not posted or enclosed.
5,295	2,289	257	172	2,309	
					Total ... 10,322
Special cases, e.g., mail losses, frauds, forgeries, robberies, etc., investigated. } Also the arrest and return of letters to senders, etc.					... 256
GRAND TOTAL					... 10,578

During the year the sum of £120 15s. 9d. was paid to members of the public as compensation for registered and other articles which failed to reach the addressees.

Of this amount £27 11s. 8d. was in respect of losses by accident, etc., or defalcations by officers in the employment of this Department and of the South African Railways and is chargeable against the Vote of this Department, while the sum of £93 4s. 1d. was made good either by officers of this Department or by persons on their behalf, or by other Postal Administrations responsible for the loss.

#### MONEY ORDERS.

*Money Orders issued and paid.*—436,541 Money Orders were issued during 1914, as compared with 489,820 for the previous year. The value of the former was £2,634,608, a decrease of £315,518 (10.69 per cent.) on the figures for 1913. The average value of Orders issued was £6 0s. 8d. The number of Money Orders paid was 366,709 as against 386,193 in 1913. The value of the former was £2,125,878, a decrease of £145,664 (6.41 per cent.) on the value of the previous year's payments. The average value of paid Orders was £5 15s. 1d.

The value of Money Orders drawn on Oversea countries amounted to £690,913 as compared with £898,287 in 1913.

Money Order business with Austria-Hungary, Germany and Turkey was suspended on the outbreak of hostilities with those countries. This circumstance together with the industrial trouble in South Africa at the beginning of 1913 and the effect on trade generally as a result of the war are responsible for the marked falling off in Money Order business.

A statement showing the number and value of Money Orders issued in the Union for payment therein, and also of Orders issued in the Union for payment in other countries and *vice versa* is given in Appendix No. 2.

*Commission.*—The commission collected from the public amounted to £22,918, or £4,356 less than in 1913.

The net amount of commission which accrued to the Union from this class of business totalled £19,924.

*Free Money Orders.*—During 1914 64,400 free Orders, representing £436,200 in value and £3,600 in commission were issued to the public and to Government

Departments for the transmission of Government monies within the Union, an increase of 4,200 orders over the previous year. Numerous allotments to dependents of men on Active Service are being made by free Orders which partially accounts for the increase.

*Through Money Orders.*—The number and value of Money Orders exchanged between other countries through the intermediary of the Union of South Africa during 1914 were as follows:—

		No.	Amount.
Issued in Rhodesia,	payable in other Countries .. ..	1,757	£12,736
„ Mozambique,	„ „ .. ..	1,121	£3,431
„ other Countries,	„ Rhodesia .. ..	191	£854
„ „ „	„ Mozambique .. ..	91	£278
Exchanged between various other Countries	.. ..	28	£155
Total .. ..		3,188	£17,454

*Void Money Orders.*—In 1914 £1,260 was surrendered to Revenue in respect of Money Orders issued in the Union and not presented for payment within the prescribed period. £1,466 was surrendered in 1913.

*Conventions.*—During the year a Convention for the exchange of Money Orders to replace the separate Conventions in force prior to Union was completed with the Province of Mozambique.

#### POSTAL ORDERS.

*Postal Orders issued and paid.*—3,458,662 Postal Orders were issued in 1914, as compared with 3,595,255 for 1913. The value of the former was £2,156,313, a decrease of £107,518 (4.75 per cent.) from the previous year. 2,795,233 Postal Orders were paid in 1914 as against 2,788,167 in 1913. The value of the former was £1,669,566 a decrease of £18,458 (1.09 per cent.) from the figures of 1913. The actual number of payments is, however, 7,066 in excess of those for 1913.

Statements showing the Postal Orders issued and paid monthly since the date of Union are given in Appendix No. 3, from which it will be seen that for the seven months of 1914 the amount of Orders exceeded the total for the same period of 1913 by £69,409, and that but for the War a record would undoubtedly have been established for the Union in this class of business.

*Poundage.*—The Union revenue in respect of poundage on Postal Orders was £22,585 as compared with £23,620 for 1913.

*Void Postal Orders.*—The value of Postal Orders surrendered to revenue during 1914, amounted to £1,367.

*Summary.*—The total Money Order and Postal Order issues during the year amounted to £4,790,921, and the payments to £3,795,444, as against £5,213,957 and £3,959,566 respectively for the previous year.

#### POSTAL DRAFTS.

The Department made 19,259 demands on behalf of the public under the above system as compared with 15,160 during 1913, an increase of 3,099. The number of Drafts collected totalled 3,826, i.e., 19.87 per cent. of the number issued, representing £5,444. The revenue accruing from the Postal Drafts business amounted to £583 as compared with £461 for the previous year.

#### POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Statements showing the transactions of the Post Office Savings Bank for the year are contained in Appendix No. 1.

The progressive improvement reported each year since Union was not maintained in 1914, the war, as was inevitable, having adversely affected the Bank's operations. The number of accounts remaining open is 10,614 less while the balance due to depositors and certificate holders has been reduced by £375,721 as compared with the corresponding items in 1913, a decline of 4.18 per cent. and 5.63 per cent. respectively. During the month of August the amount withdrawn exceeded that deposited by no less a sum than £132,911, while the amount transferred to Savings Banks elsewhere during the same month exceeded that received on transfer by £18,692. The first named item is explained by the action of nervously inclined people, uncertain of developments, in withdrawing their deposits from the Savings Bank on the outbreak of war, while the second item is largely accounted for by the withdrawal of the Imperial Forces from South Africa and the consequent transfer of soldiers' accounts to the United Kingdom.

It is gratifying, however, to record that in the following month, September, the deposits exceeded the withdrawals by over £5,000, while in November the excess in deposits had increased by nearly £30,000. December, usually a month in which the withdrawals exceed the deposits, also reflected an excess of deposits over withdrawals.

The following statement shows the position of the Savings Bank year by year since Union:—

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Deposits—Number ...	433,395	474,164	493,612	502,449	441,698
Amount* ...	£3,708,918	£3,926,711	£4,000,318	£4,009,744	£3,555,326
Withdrawals—Number ...	182,555	202,536	218,615	223,766	227,174
Amount ...	£2,983,996	£3,602,627	£3,755,439	£3,883,022	£3,828,448
Accounts remaining open ...	218,617	233,607	248,110	253,353	242,739
Certificates—Issued ...	£284,300	£321,700	£217,900	£200,000	£154,400
Repaid ...	£145,500	£190,900	£251,100	£243,100	£257,000
Balance due to depositors—					
In ordinary accounts*	£5,066,388	£5,390,472	£5,635,351	£5,757,029	£5,483,908
In certificate accounts	£851,300	£982,100	£948,900	£905,800	£803,200

\* Including Interest.

### TELEGRAPHS.

*Offices.*—The number of Telegraph Offices in the Union of South Africa (including those worked by the Railway) on the 31st of December, 1914, was 1,602. This is an increase during the year of 27 offices. Of this number 508 are worked by telephone as against 464 during the previous year.

*Traffic.*—There has been a falling away of 2·9 per cent. in public or paid telegraph traffic during the year. On the other hand Government and Railway traffic show large increases due in the first case to the strike in January and later to the war and rebellion. The increase in Government telegrams equals 62·8 per cent. and in Railway messages 13·8 per cent.

The figures since the first full year of Union are as follows:—

Class.	Messages.				Compared with 1913.	
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
Paid ...	4,352,359	4,764,127	4,946,707	4,799,741	...	146,966
Government ...	309,048	288,981	320,109	521,404	201,295	...
Railway ...	429,865	548,571	577,592	657,866	80,274	...
Imperial and Military ...	25,404	27,733	19,491	19,504	13	...
Total ...	5,116,676	5,629,412	5,863,899	5,998,515	134,616	...

*Press Telegrams.*—The number of press telegrams dealt with in the Union of South Africa during the last four years is shown below.

In 1914 there was an increase in the number of messages of 78,519 over the previous year. This entailed the transmission of 46,205,880 words, being an increase over 1913 of 5,008,248 words.

The outbreak of war caused an appreciable increase in the press telegraph traffic during the last four months of the year.

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
No. of Messages .. ..	235,767	298,463	306,530	385,049
No. of Words .. ..	28,574,960	39,313,420	41,197,632	46,205,880

In November the Government agreed to the official reports issued by the Defence Department regarding engagements in the field, casualties and matters intimately connected with the rebellion and the operations in German South-West Africa, being telegraphed by news agencies at parliamentary rates—one hundred words for one shilling.

*Revenue.*—The telegraph revenue for 1914 amounted to £356,739, being a decrease on the previous year of £18,999.

The value of free telegraph services to other Departments and the Imperial Government was £87,834, largely occasioned by the requirements of the Department of Defence and the Department of Justice.

During the last three years the value of free services was as follows:—

In 1912, £45,093; in 1913, £48,820; and in 1914, £87,834.

*Combined Post and Telegraph Service.*—This service designed to allow messages to be telegraphed to Capetown and thence sent on by steamers to be telegraphed to the destination on arrival in England or *vice versa*, has never been popular with the public. The traffic is almost negligible and it is thought the facility will not be largely used in the future.

The figures for the past three years are as follows:—

In 1912	Outwards,	83 ;	Inwards,	37
In 1913	„	46 ;	„	22
In 1914	„	31 ;	„	15

*Night Letter Telegrams.*—The under-mentioned figures show the approximate number of night letter telegrams dealt with during the last three years.

In 1912*	..	Messages,	143,316 ;	Words,	5,181,156
In 1913	..	„	278,256 ;	„	11,321,968
In 1914	..	„	293,608 ;	„	11,169,888

The number of telegrams of this class dealt with represents nearly 5 per cent. of the total inland telegraph traffic.

*Inter State Communications.*—Telegraph communication with Rhodesia has been particularly free from interruption during the past year.

Up to the outbreak of war communication with German South-West Africa on the land line *via* Ramans Drift worked well. This wire was disconnected at Steinkopf, the last telegraph station in Union territory, early in August.

Long and frequent interruptions have taken place on the Lourenço Marques wire on both sides of the border due to stormy weather and to the pressing necessity for reconstruction of the telegraph route through the mountainous country between Ermelo and Oshoek. This route was built over twenty years ago and a type of insulator used that is now obsolete and is giving a considerable amount of trouble. Heavy delay to public telegrams has taken place on these occasions. Temporary measures have been taken to combat the trouble until it is possible to improve the conditions within the Union.

*Traffic Arrangements.*—Considerable improvement in the circulation of telegraph traffic has been arranged in the Western District of the Cape Province by increasing the number of towns having direct communication with Capetown, thereby reducing working costs at transmitting stations and accelerating the traffic. It was intended to do more in this direction but the requirements of the Defence Department in the matter of telegraph apparatus has interrupted the work.

All the principal towns in Natal with the exception of Mooi River and Estcourt are now in direct communication with Durban. It is the intention to give these stations a direct wire to Durban as soon as the necessary line accommodation is available.

The Creed Fast Speed apparatus has proved economical in the matter of wires. One wire between Capetown and Johannesburg is able to carry all the telegraph traffic between these points by means of this system. Four duplex channels were necessary to dispose of the same quantity of work by the manual method. The new system of working allowed of two telegraph wires between Kimberley and Klerksdorp being given up for telephone purposes, which gave Kimberley much needed telephone communication with Johannesburg.

It is the intention of the Department to introduce the Creed system of working between Johannesburg and Durban in order to cope with the congestion that arises during the holiday season and to effect economies in dealing with the large quantity of parliamentary press which is received at the last named office.

The single current method of working is being gradually superseded by double current working at all telegraph offices of the Union. It is hoped to complete this work by the end of 1915.

The telephone, which calls for less skill in operating, is taking the place of the Morse telegraph instrument at offices where the telegraph traffic is light. There has been an increase of 44 in the number of telegraph offices worked by telephone during the year.

Damage was done to the telegraph lines in the Transkei during the native unrest in that part of the country, but by a judicious temporary re-arrangement of the telegraph circuits no place was at any time cut off entirely from the main arteries of the service.

\* The service was introduced on March 1st, 1912.

## WIRELESS TELEGRAPHS.

*Traffic.*—The following figures show the radio traffic (excluding Government traffic) for the last three years:—

In 1912 ..	Messages, 6,675 ; Words, 67,914 ; Value, £1,980
In 1913 ..	„ 6,044 ; „ 68,837 ; „ £2,012
In 1914 ..	„ 6,396 ; „ 51,890 ; „ £1,514

The falling away in traffic is due in the main to the Censorship restrictions imposed on the outbreak of war and to the fact that certain steamers did not disclose their whereabouts for obvious reasons.

Up to August the wireless stations at Luderitzbucht and Swakopmund continued to receive most of the inward traffic from the northwest which was disposed of to Capetown over the land wire from Keetmanshoop. This means of communication ceased on the outbreak of war, but the Slangkop station did not benefit correspondingly owing to the restrictions abovementioned.

The Government rarely uses the wireless as a means of communication, but since the commencement of hostilities in August 125,513 words Government traffic were dealt with by the radio stations to the value of £3,661.

Both the Slangkop and Durban stations have worked well during the year and exceptionally good distances have been achieved during the hours of night. The longest daylight distance for Slangkop was recorded when that station was able to emit signals that reached a warship 560 miles distant to the northwest.

When the s.s. "Ayrshire" caught fire on its way to Capetown, the Slangkop station was able to hear the signals sent out from the ship and sending her plight when she was crossing the Equator.

On another occasion wireless messages sent out by the radio station at Durban to all ships in the vicinity resulted in two lighters that had broken adrift off Cape St. Francis being recovered and their crews rescued.

*Amateur Wireless Stations.*—Notwithstanding the action of the Department in declining to sanction the erection of amateur installations within the Union, several were discovered in the vicinity of Johannesburg by means of special steps taken for their detection. Authority has now been given to the Police to act in conjunction with local Post Office officials to dismantle any wireless installations immediately they are known to exist. It has been found in the past that unauthorised wireless installations have interfered with the functions of the wireless stations and hindered the signalling of public messages and on one occasion they interfered with a distress signal in the neighbourhood of Durban. These installations become an added menace to the State during times of war and for this reason it became imperative to take the special action mentioned.

*Ocean Letters.*—This service, which was inaugurated in April, 1913, was not used to any extent on vessels calling at South African ports. The service was entirely suspended on the outbreak of war.

*Wireless Time Signal.*—Arrangements have been completed with the Royal Observatory at Capetown whereby time signals are sent out from the Slangkop wireless station at 11 p.m. daily. About five minutes before the signals are due the Slangkop station sends a warning signal to sea extending over a period of one minute to enable ship stations to tune their apparatus in readiness for the signal.

The wireless apparatus is then connected up to a wire to the Royal Observatory where signals are sent out automatically from a controlling clock in a series of dashes grouped as follows:—

Group I.			Group II.			Group III.			Group IV.			Group V.		
h.	m.	s.	h.	m.	s.	h.	m.	s.	h.	m.	s.	h.	m.	s.
10	59	30	10	59	38	10	59	44	10	59	48	10	59	54
10	59	32	10	59	40				10	59	50	10	59	56
10	59	34										10	59	58
												11	0	0

Each signal is about threequarters of a second in duration. Mariners have found the service to be of great utility as the signals can be received up to a distance of 2,000 miles and on the north western route ship stations are able to check their chronometers with either the signals from the Eiffel tower or those from Slangkop. It is proposed to send out a similar series of signals from the Durban stations but at a different hour. The Union astronomer at Johannesburg is being asked to co-operate in the matter.

## SUBMARINE SERVICE.

*Cable Traffic.*—There has been a slight decrease in the number of telegrams handed in at offices of the Union for transmission over the wires of the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company. The figures show a falling off of 18,799 messages to the value of £1,214.

The figures since Union are:—

1911	..	Messages, No.	100,092	; Value, £104,260
1912	..	"	110,621	; " £107,794
1913	..	"	121,481	; " £110,819
1914	..	"	102,682	; " £109,605

In addition to the last mentioned amount a sum of £5,131 was paid to the Eastern Telegraph Company in respect of press cablegrams the charges for which were collected from the addressees.

The terminal and transit charges accruing to the Union Government for cablegrams handed to the Eastern Telegraph Company for the year 1914 was £5,914.

The number of messages handed over by the Eastern Telegraph Company to the Post Office for transmission throughout South Africa was 88,828, producing £4,975 as terminal or transit rates.

Revenue derived from terminal and transit rates is included in the General Telegraph Revenue of the Union.

*Cable Revenue.*—The revenue derived by the Eastern Telegraph Company and its associated companies from South African traffic addressed to Europe or countries beyond Europe during 1914, is given as £296,781 subject to final audit and shows an increase on that of the preceding year of £23,114.

The revenue since 1900 is shown below:—

Year.	Rate per word to United Kingdom.	Amount.	Year.	Rate per word to United Kingdom.		Amount.
				Ordinary.	Deferred.	
	s. d.	£		s. d.	s. d. *	£
1900	4 0	457,366	1907	2 6	...	249,963
1901	3 6	336,986	1908	2 6	...	234,985
1902	3 0	465,791	1909	2 6	...	282,716
1903	2 6	391,108	1910	2 6	...	284,354
1904	2 6	340,284	1911	2 6	...	264,279
1905	2 6	324,216	1912	2 6	1 3	271,315
1906	2 6	301,947	1913	2 6	1 3	273,667
			1914	2 6	1 3 <sup>u</sup>	296,781

\* Also week-end telegrams which are charged for at the minimum rate of 12/6 for 20 words.

The minimum for week end telegrams was reduced during the year from 15s. for 30 words to its present rate.

The net receipts of the Associated Cable Companies having fallen below the standard revenue (£300,000) the Union Government will have to meet its portion of the annual subsidy amounting to £8,825. The full subsidy is £13,500, the balance being guaranteed by the Imperial Post Office and the British South Africa Company.

The present agreement with the Companies regarding the subsidy expires in 1919.

Statement showing the number of week end and deferred cablegrams dealt with during the calendar year 1914:—

Cablegrams dealt with, 1914.	Week-end Messages.		Deferred Messages.	
	Messages.	Words.	Messages.	Words.
Incoming ..	1,960	70,112	20,000	234,290
Outgoing ..	8,029	288,015	22,890	284,710
Total ..	9,989	358,127	42,890	519,000

The deferred message service was suspended from 3rd August to 1st October.

The weekend message service was suspended on 3rd August.

## CABLE INTERRUPTIONS.

The deep sea cable *via* St. Helena—Ascension worked without interruption throughout the year. The West Coast cable *via* Loanda and Accra was interrupted at different periods for a total of 113 days. The East Coast cables were interrupted for a total of 213 days, but traffic was disposed of by alternative routes.

The sections of cable and entire duration of interruptions in 1914 on each are as follows:—

Sierra Leone—Accra	.. 14 days.	Sierra Leone—Konakry	.. 64 days.
Loanda—St. Thomé ..	.. 10 "	Beira—Mozambique	.. 48 "
Cape Town—Mossamedes	.. 16 "	Beira—Delagoa Bay	.. 117 "
Accra—Lagos	.. 6 "	Zanzibar—Mozambique	.. 48 "
Sierra Leone—Bathurst	.. 3 "		

### TELEPHONES.

The telephone system has been extended as follows:—

	At Union.	1913.	1914.	Increase over 1913.
Exchanges .. ..	112	300	400	100
Exchange Lines ..	9,290	17,664	19,870	2,206
Call Offices .. ..	416	1,309	1,763	454
Telephones in use ..	13,650	26,257	29,400	3,143
Miles of wire in use ..	..	70,272	85,494	15,222
Miles of wire spare ..	..	12,706	12,454	..

Local calls dealt with numbered 55,050,000 and trunk calls 2,350,000, representing increases of 10 per cent. and 23 per cent. respectively over the traffic for the previous year.

The expenditure on extensions of the system was £216,412 and the Capital Account now stands as follows:—

Cape.	Transvaal.	Natal.	Orange Free State.	Total.
£ 497,597	£ 1,089,607	£ 167,843	£ 108,680	£ 1,863,727

The revenue collected was £278,730, or £40,120 more than in the previous year. Telephone services to the value of £35,114 were provided for Government Departments and the credit for the year on the basis of work performed is, therefore, £313,844. The value of these free services shows an increase of £7,114 over last year, and practically the whole of this is due to the special requirements of the Defence Department.

The general question of telephone rates is receiving attention and it may be that important modifications will sooner or later be forced upon the Department; the matter is entirely one of costs and charges. The outstanding feature of telephone business in the Union is the high cost per telephone in service, viz.:—£63 7s. 0d., as compared with an average of £32 0s. 0d. in Great Britain, Germany, Australia and the United States of America. This is attributable mainly to the relatively high cost of skilled labour in South Africa and to the sparseness of the population to be served.

There is, of course, considerable disparity in the South African conditions, geographical, industrial and social, as compared with the countries named; but, so far as population figures are concerned, I think it is sufficiently close to regard 5 non-Europeans as economically equal to 1 white, and on this basis the telephone expenditure per head is greater in the Union than in any of the other countries mentioned.

The case is different, however, in regard to the distribution of telephones. Except in the Transvaal, where (on the population basis mentioned) the development actually exceeds that of Great Britain and Germany, the percentage in the Union is less than that of Great Britain. In the Cape, Natal and Orange Free State there is .9 telephone for each 100 population units, whilst in the Transvaal there are 2.3 telephones for the same number. Australia, with which the South African conditions more closely correspond, has a higher development (1913) than either Great Britain or Germany, the figure being 2.5 telephones for each 100 inhabitants.

It will be realised, therefore, that South Africa as a whole cannot be said to be even moderately well provided with telephone service. It cannot, of course, expect to rank with the United States where there are 9 telephones per 100 persons; but its need is surely as great as that of Australia, for instance, and this need is making itself felt through public, private and parliamentary agitation with greater insistence every year.



Trunk line communication has been extended to additional centres during the year as follows, the service in some cases being of restricted range.

Cape.	Transvaal.	Natal.	Orange Free State.	Total.
66	34	20	18	138

Wherever possible, existing telegraph lines have been utilized to provide service between neighbouring places and this policy will be continued. The building of lines specially for trunk use, under South African conditions, is a very costly undertaking.

All extensions of the telegraph to country stations are now so arranged that the lines can be used for both telegraph and telephone purposes. Telephones are installed instead of telegraph instruments and this renders unnecessary the employment of a skilled telegraphist.

The public demand for additional telephone services throughout the Union was maintained during the normal portion of the year. The Department's construction programme for 1914-'15 provided for an expenditure of £250,937 on new telephone works; but the outbreak of war seriously affected the position and only works actually in hand at the time, or of pressing public necessity, were proceeded with. Military requirements of an urgent nature made a heavy drain upon the Department's resources; but it is believed that material assistance was rendered through the prompt meeting of all requisitions.

Generally speaking the existence of a state of war had not greatly affected the telephone service up to the end of the year. There was no falling off in the number of subscribers, but the rate of increase was lowered and the use of the trunk lines reduced.

It is not anticipated that there will be any marked diminution in telephone business even if the war be prolonged. The telephone, admittedly, has great merit as an instrument of economy and there are indications that this is being realised more and more by the business community.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

New exchange systems were built as follows:—

Cape.	Transvaal.	Natal.	Orange Free State.	Total.
32	23	2	4	61

The extensions of the trunk system of the Midland District of Cape Province to Bluecliffe and Cookhouse, and that of the Orange Free State from Coalbrook to Wolvelhoek, Dover, Parys, Vredefont and Heilbron in the north and to Modderpoort in the south, referred to in my last report, have been completed and the extensions to Somerset East, Bedford and Adelaide are now in hand.

Additional trunk circuits were erected on the following sections of line:—

Cape Town and Somerset West.	Pietermaritzburg and Estcourt.
Wellington and Worcester.	Dundee and Dannhauser.
Wolverdind and Frederickstad.	Bloemfontein and Brandfort.

Considerable expansion took place in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg and Pretoria, necessitating the provision of additional pole routes and cables.

A good deal of interruption to the system was caused in various parts of the Union during the year by violent storms, particularly in the Transvaal Province. As mentioned elsewhere, a large number of telegraph lines in the Free State and Transvaal were interrupted for long periods owing to the routes being damaged by rebels. These lines were repaired and again cut many times during the period of unrest; but they have now all been temporarily connected and the work of effecting permanent repairs is well in hand.

In connection with the outbreak of hostilities and the consequent restriction of expenditure, it was possible to release a large number of men to proceed on active service with the Defence Force.

#### MILEAGE OF LINES AND WIRE.

The total mileage of lines and wire on the 31st December was as follows:—

Mileage of Line and Wire.	Cape.	Transvaal.	O. F. State.	Natal.	Total.
Telegraph Line .. ..	9, 34	2,483	830	2,504	15,021
„ Wire .. ..	30,805	8,428	4,346	6,773	50,352
Telephone-Telegraph Wire	2,397	2,439	440	970	6,246
Telephone Line .. ..	805	2,858	238	368	4,269
Telephone Wire, Working ..	16,366	57,609	3,866	7,653	85,494
„ „ Spare .. ..	6,209	5,700	253	292	12,454

## TELEPHONE STATISTICS.

Telephone Statistics.	Great Britain, 1913-14.	Germany, 1912.	Australia, 1912-13.	U.S.A., 1912.	Union, 1914.
Area in square miles .. ..	121,380	208,780	3,063,061	3,027,000	473,100
Population .. ..	45,250,000	65,000,000	5,000,000	95,545,336	*2,163,764
Density of population per sq. mile	372	311	2	31	5
Telephone investment .. ..	£23,447,576	£48,445,208	£4,058,209	£226,083,333	£1,863,727
Number of telephones .. ..	774,821	1,302,672	117,479	8,729,592	29,400
Investment per telephone .. ..	£30 5s.	£37 3s.	£34 10s.	£26 2s.	£63 7s.
Investment per mile of wire .. ..	£9 7s.	£11 12s.	£10 18s.	£11 5s.	£19
Investment per capita .. ..	10s. 4d.	14s. 9d.	16s. 0d.	£2 7s.	17s. 2d.
Telephones per 100 population .. ..	1.7	1.9	2.5	9.1	1.3
Maintenance per telephone .. ..	£2 12s. 0d.	..	£3 10s. 0d.	16s. 0d.	£2 16s. 0d.
Gross Revenue .. ..	£6,627,663	£9,266,958	£862,572	£58,785,833	£313,844
Revenue per telephone :					
Exchange .. ..	£6 13s. 0d.	£4 13s. 0d.	£6 0s. 0d.	£6 17s. 0d.	£8 6s. 0d.
Trunk .. ..	£1 6s. 0d.	£2 7s. 0d.	£1 5s. 0d.	£1 17s. 0d.	£2 7s. 0d.
Total .. ..	£7 19s. 0d.	£7 0s. 0d.	£7 5s. 0d.	£6 17s. 0d.	£10 13s. 0d.
Trunk Revenue per mile of wire ..	£3 9s. 0d.	£3 18s. 0d.	£3 3s. 0d.	£5 14s. 0d.	£2 6s. 0d.
Miles of wire per telephone .. ..	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.3	3.3
Percentages :					
Revenue to investment .. ..	28.2%	19.1%	21.2%	25.7%	16.7%
Maintenance to investment .. ..	8.7%	..	10.2%	3.9%	4.4%
Trunk revenue to total revenue ..	15.3%	34.0%	16.8%	29.6%	22.1%

\* On basis of 5 others = 1 European.

## GENERAL.

## DEPARTMENTAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following statement for 1914 covers the whole of the transactions of the Post Office, including the value of the services rendered to and by other Government Departments for which no actual payments were made.

To :—	£	By :—	£
Expenditure—Cash Payments ..	1,682,907	Revenue—Cash Receipts ..	1,651,306
Value of services for which no Cash Debit is taken :—		Value of services for which no Cash Credit is received :—	
Interest Liability—£150,851.		Services rendered to Government Departments, exclusive of Provincial Administrations, £233,295 :	
3½% on :		Postage .. ..	111,414
Capital from Loan Acts for Telegraphs and Telephones ..	77,892	Telegrams .. ..	84,860
Capital from General Revenue ..	29,172	Telephones .. ..	33,421
Stores Reserve Capital .. ..	7,000	Miscellaneous .. ..	3,600
Value of Government buildings ..	36,784	Services rendered to Provincial Administrations :	
Pension Funds :		Post-Tele-Tele.	
Government pro rata share of contributions .. ..	36,178	age.grams.phones.	
Services rendered by other Government Departments—£81,359 :		Cape .. 3,832	1,238
Printing and Stationery .. ..	27,392	Natal .. 1,566	189
Repairs to and supply of mail bags, etc. .. ..	600	Transvaal .. 4,946	625
Services rendered by Police .. ..	4,250	O.F.S. .. 4,086	922
Minor Works and furniture, maintenance and repairs, rents, rates, and taxes .. ..	48,356	Amount apportioned to capital for direction and supervision of Telegraph and Telephone Construction works .. ..	7,010
Miscellaneous .. ..	761	Balance .. ..	45,008
Miscellaneous—£4,421 :			
Audit Office Fees .. ..	2,171		
Proportion of cost of custody and issue of stamps .. ..	2,250		
	£1,955,716		£1,955,716

Note.—The above Balance Sheet is prepared on the basis of similar statements in previous years. This Department is not debited therein with the cost of buildings provided during the year out of revenue, but a debit is taken for interest charges on all such expenditure. Details in regard to the cash payments and receipts are given in Appendix No. 4. A summary showing the deficit (1) on a cash basis, and (2) on the basis of work performed is given in Appendix No. 5.

## REVENUE COLLECTED FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS DURING 1914.

Inland Revenue.		Customs and Excise.		Agricultural Department.	Total.
Licences.	Revenue Stamps.	Customs Dues.	Cigarette Stamps.		
£81,543	£262,290	£92,032	£161,955	£7	£597,827

The total amount of money handled by the Department's officers during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1914, was approximately £21,000,000.

SUMMARISED PARTICULARS OF POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE BUSINESS,  
1912, 1913, 1914.

DESCRIPTION.	1912.	1913.	1914.
<i>Posts :</i>			
Revenue .. .. .	£1,016,974	£1,049,414	£1,015,836
Expenditure .. .. .	£977,189	£1,021,215	£1,060,231
Offices open .. .. .	2,322	2,461	2,451
Posting receptacles (excluding those at Post Offices .. .. .)	894	933	959
Private Post Bags in use .. .. .	2,785	2,976	3,038
Main posts running .. .. .	332	336	330
Branch posts running .. .. .	1,178	1,248	1,108
Cost of mail conveyance within the Union .. .. .	£183,774	£182,474	£179,015
Cost of Ocean Mail Service .. .. .	£150,000	£150,000	£145,673
Articles of mail matter posted .. .. .	190,763,754	191,693,385	172,524,052
Registered packets dealt with .. .. .	1,762,436	1,628,321	1,465,490
Parcels posted .. .. .	1,942,498	2,110,316	1,967,688
Articles despatched to places outside the Union .. .. .	15,307,096	14,837,849	13,354,065
Articles dealt with in Returned Letter Office .. .. .	1,780,274	1,655,083	1,623,347
Money Orders issued .. .. .	491,738	489,829	436,541
Money Orders paid .. .. .	378,629	386,193	366,709
Postal Orders issued .. .. .	3,261,045	3,595,255	3,458,662
Postal Orders paid .. .. .	2,485,700	2,788,167	2,795,233
Postal Drafts issued .. .. .	13,145	15,160	19,259
<i>Savings Bank :</i>			
Accounts open .. .. .	248,110	253,353	242,739
Amount to credit of depositors :			
In ordinary accounts .. .. .	£5,635,351	£5,757,029	£5,483,908
In certificates .. .. .	£948,900	£905,800	£803,200
Amounts deposited during the year (including interest) .. .. .	£4,000,318	£4,009,744	£3,555,326
Amount withdrawn .. .. .	£3,755,439	£3,883,022	£3,828,448
<i>Telegraphs and Telephones :</i>			
Telegraph offices open .. .. .	1,435	1,575	1,602
Revenue Telegraphs .. .. .	£372,222	£375,738	£356,739
Revenue Telephones .. .. .	£235,642	£238,610	£278,730
Expenditure .. .. .	£562,167	£599,762	£622,676
Capital Account : Telegraphs .. .. .	£1,119,146	£1,201,013	£1,224,843
"    "    Telephones .. .. .	£1,372,511	£1,640,651	£1,863,727
Miles of telegraph wire .. .. .	56,860	48,011	50,352
Miles of telephone wire :			
Working .. .. .	54,997	70,372	86,484
Spare .. .. .	8,000	12,706	12,454
Miles of telegraph-telephone wire .. .. .	..	6,190	6,246
Telegrams dealt with .. .. .	5,629,412	5,863,899	5,998,515
Number of Telephone Exchanges .. .. .	215	300	400
Number of Public Call Offices .. .. .	822	1,309	1,763
Number of Exchange Lines .. .. .	14,793	17,664	19,870
Number of Telephones in use .. .. .	21,993	26,257	29,400
Number of Telephone Calls .. .. .	37,000,000	50,022,000	57,400,000
<i>General :</i>			
Total amount of money dealt with .. .. .	£21,000,000	£21,500,000	£21,000,000
Revenue collected for other Depart- ments .. .. .	£637,921	£640,188	£59,327
Number of persons fully or partially employed (excluding mail cart drivers, native runners and others)	8,652	8,875	9,002

*Agricultural Parcel Post.*—It has been decided to prohibit the transmission of the following articles by produce post, viz., butter, eggs, raw and pickled fish. This action has been forced upon the Department as a result of the very serious damage constantly being caused to other articles of mail matter. Practical experience has proved beyond all doubts that it is not possible to so pack the products mentioned above as to prevent their damaging the general contents of mail bags and entirely separate accommodation cannot be provided.

*Stores Capital Account.*—Experience having shown that the amount at which the Stores Capital Account was fixed in 1912, viz.:—£140,000, was too low to permit of the Department promptly and satisfactorily meeting the rapidly increasing demands for telegraph and telephone facilities Parliament was asked during last Session to vote an amount of £60,000 from Loan Funds for the purpose of increasing the Capital Account. The necessary authority having been given the account now stands at £200,000.

*Encashment of Warrants issued by Members of Defence Forces.*—Difficulty having been experienced by members of the Defence Forces in cashing warrants at places devoid of banking facilities the Department has undertaken to cash warrants at such places on satisfactory proof of identity.

*Purchase of Local Stock.*—The Post Office has further extended its operations in undertaking to make purchases of Union  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. Stock for the public either on behalf of a depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank by debiting his account with the purchase price or by direct cash transaction over the counter at any Post Office of the Union at which Money Order and Savings Bank business is transacted.

Since the introduction of the arrangement purchases of Stock of the total value of £9,070 have been made through the medium of the Department. Of the purchase price, viz., £8,809 4s. 9d., the sum of £7,534 10s. 3d. was transferred from Savings Bank accounts, the remainder, £1,274 14s. 6d., being paid in cash.

*Acceptance of Railway Parcels at Post Offices.*—The system of accepting railway parcels at certain Post Offices, was extended during the year to Oudtshoorn.

*Imperial Wireless Telegraph System.*—The participation of the Union of South Africa in the proposed Imperial Wireless Telegraph system was approved by Parliament during last Session and an amount voted from Loan Funds sufficient to meet preliminary expenses. The war has prevented any further progress being made in the matter.

*Stamps in rolls.*—To meet the requirements of merchants and others who have installed machines for affixing postage stamps to mail matter the Department has arranged with the Contractors, Messrs. de la Rue & Co., for the supply of stamps in rolls of 500 of either the half-penny or penny denomination. The rolls are now on sale at face value plus 2d. per roll.

*Demonetisation of Revenue Stamps.*—From the 1st April revenue stamps of the Cape, Transvaal, Natal and the Orange River Colony were regarded as valueless and no longer available for the payment of stamp duties or fees or for any other purpose. Notice was given in the *Government Gazette* that holders of unused revenue stamps of the four Colonies could exchange the stamps for equivalent face value stamps of the Union series, provided application therefor was made within twelve months of the date of demonetisation.

*Universal Postal Union Congress.*—The last meeting of the Universal Postal Union was held in Rome in May, 1906; South Africa was then represented by delegates from the Cape Colony, the Transvaal and Orange Free State. Arrangements had been made for the next meeting to take place in Madrid early in September last. A large number of questions intimately affecting the Union Postal Service were down for discussion and in consequence the Government deemed it desirable that the Union should be represented by its own delegation. Unfortunately, owing to the war now raging in Europe, the meeting could not take place and it was intimated about the middle of August that it had been indefinitely postponed. The continuance of the arrangements in force under the Rome Convention are favourable to this Administration.

During my absence from South Africa Mr. Twycross acted as Postmaster-General and Mr. Sturman as Under Secretary.

*Post and Telegraph Guide.*—It has been decided not to issue the Post and Telegraph Guide on the 1st January. The edition published on the 1st July will continue in force therefore until the 1st July, 1915.

*Prisoners of War—Free postal facilities to.*—Article II. of the International Postal Convention reads:—

“Correspondence intended for prisoners of war or despatched by them is likewise exempt from all postal charges not only in the countries of origin and destination but in intermediary countries.”

Article XVI. of the Hague Convention (1899) reads:—

“Letters, money orders and valuables as well as postal parcels destined for the prisoners of war or despatched by them shall be free of all postal duties both in the countries of origin and destination as well as in those they pass through.”

In accordance with the terms of these articles of the Conventions mail matter and money orders from and to prisoners of war are dealt with free of all postal charges.

This action is compared by the public with the refusal of the Department to accept correspondence addressed to troops in the field without payment and has been the subject of much adverse criticism in the press. In the one case the Union Government is bound by International obligations and in the other the Government has gone beyond what is done by other Governments in regard to its forces in the field. Members of the Union forces are granted free postal services in so far as correspondence from them is concerned—a concession so far as this Department is aware, which is not granted by any other Government.

*Correspondence from Troops in the Field.*—The Government has authorised the free transmission through the post of letters, etc., emanating from troops in the field. A widespread request for a similar concession in respect of mail matter addressed to the troops has been considered by the Government, but in view of the considerable loss to revenue that would result it has been decided to confine the privilege to correspondence from men at the front.

Commandoes called out consequent on the rebellion were also allowed to forward correspondence free of postage.

*Army Post Office—Establishment of.*—In order to deal satisfactorily and promptly with correspondence for troops in the field a Post Office Corps was formed early in the campaign and together with the Field Telegraph Corps was organised under the designation of the South African Post and Telegraph Corps. Mr. E. A. Sturman, Assistant Under Secretary, has charge of the Postal Section of the Corps with the rank of Major and Mr. N. Harrison, Engineer-in-Chief, has charge of the Telegraph and Signalling Section, also with the rank of Major. With few exceptions the members of the Post and Telegraph Corps are officers of the Department.

*International Time Convention.*—The Union of South Africa has become an adherent to the International Time Convention which provides for the exchange of time signals and of statements showing the results of observations undertaken in connection therewith by the adherents to the Convention.

*Free Services.*—The Select Committee on Public Accounts recommended in their report on the Accounts for 1912-'13 that the question of direct payment for services rendered by the Post Office should be taken into consideration during the recess. I have made recommendations on the lines of my evidence given before the Committee, but it has not yet been found possible to deal finally with the question. It may of interest here to record that the postal statistics taken in June for a period of fourteen days show that the total value of the postal service rendered to all Departments during 1914 was £125,844. The value of telegrams forwarded free of charge, also ascertained from statistics, was £87,834. The actual value of telephone services rendered free was £33,114; money orders, £3,600. The total value of all free services was thus £252,392.

The number of articles of mail matter carried through the post for all Government Departments was approximately 9,000,000 of a total weight of 946½ tons. Of every 100 articles of mail matter handled 6 were official.

*Rebellion.*—During the term of the rebellion the mail services throughout the Union were disorganised owing to restricted railway running, the commandeering of post contractors' horses and like causes. Every effort was made to minimise so far as possible the delays to which correspondence was unavoidably subjected.

The Native in charge of the postcart returning to Settlers from Schildpadfontein on Saturday the 5th December, was held up by two dismounted rebels who commandeered the cart and took the boy with them to join their main body. On the way they opened the mail bag. When the cart came within range of the Defence forces at Rabouchang it was taken to be a rebel ammunition wagon and fired upon. The horse was shot dead and the Native wounded in the stomach. The latter seized one of the rebel horses and effected his escape to about four miles from Schildpadfontein, when he fainted and fell off the horse. Later he walked half a mile further, when he was seen by a Native who went to the Post Office Agent at Schildpadfontein for assistance. The Agent went out with his

motor car and carried the boy to the German Mission Station where everything possible was done, but he died from his wound the following day.

The rebellion caused considerable interruption to the telegraph service owing to the destruction of telegraph lines over important sections by those connected with the rising. The heavily congested route between Bloemfontein and Johannesburg was destroyed at various points. The first sign of trouble occurred on the morning of the 25th October when the whole of the telegraph lines for some distance were taken down and removed. Interruptions continued at several points so that it was impossible to effect complete restoration of communication through the Free State to the North until the 26th of November.

On the eastern side of the Free State total interruption of telegraph communication resulted from the activity of the rebels in the neighbourhood of Senekal, Aberfeldy and Harrismith. The first interruption took place on the 2nd of November, and it was not until the 8th of December that final repairs to the extensive damage done in this district could be effected. This route is important inasmuch as it provides Capetown with one of the wires to Durban and is also the medium by which most of the Free State traffic reaches Natal.

The main service was thus dependent on the Fourteen Streams and Transkeian routes. It was here the new Creed Fast Speed printing telegraph apparatus played a great part in minimising the ill effects of the prolonged interruptions of the routes mentioned. A large amount of extra transmission was thrown upon the Johannesburg and Capetown telegraph offices and by means of this up-to-date system the delay was kept well within reasonable bounds. Several smaller towns were isolated telegraphically for days through the rebels cutting the wires.

Continuous telegraph attendance was provided at all the more important points throughout the service in readiness for any emergency that might arise.

Much wanton damage was caused to telegraph and telephone lines and apparatus. It is not yet possible to state the cost of repairs and replacement, but the necessary statements are being compiled and the information will be available as soon as the work of renewal is completed. At several offices the rebels stole the cash on hand.

*Stamp vending and Stamp cancelling Machines.*—Additional stamp vending machines have been obtained for use at Port Elizabeth and Claremont.

The use of stamp cancelling machines has been extended by the introduction of a third machine at Johannesburg and one at Pretoria.

*Buildings.*—New State-owned Post Office buildings were taken over at Babanango, Brakpan, Carolina, Durbanville, Fraserburg, Hattingspruit, Johannesburg (motor garage), Maquassi, Pilgrimsrest, Slangkop wireless station (living houses for staff), Tougaat, Ubombo, Umzinto.

It is anticipated that the new buildings now under construction at Adelaide, Amabele Junction, Boksburg (Telephone Exchange), Cathcart, Krugersdorp (Telephone Exchange), Sterkström Station and Yeoville, will be ready for occupation early in 1915.

Improved rented accommodation was secured at Alicedale, Bergville, Bonouivale, Cookhouse, Cradock Station, Denver, Erasmus, Franklin, Gezina, Greylingstad, Hatherley, Humansdorp, Kakamas, Kalk Bay, Kinross, Memel, Messina, Paul Ronx, Rosettenville, Sheba, South Coast Junction, Treurfontein, Trichardt, Vermaas, Villiersdorp, Walmer (Telephone Exchange), and Worcester Station.

At Alexandria, Graaff-Reinet, Plettenberg Bay, Riebeeck West, Southwell, Wellington and Worcester the Post Office premises have been enlarged to meet the expansion of the Department's work at those points; important extensions are in hand at Kokstad and Queenstown, and a tender for the construction of a new Post Office at Mossel Bay has been accepted.

At the close of the year the number of offices, depots and telephone exchanges accommodated in State-owned premises was 273; those in rented buildings numbered 296. The corresponding figures as at the 31st December, 1913, were 269 and 277. At other places the accommodation is provided free of charge or the remuneration paid to Postmasters and Agents covers the cost of providing the necessary room for Post Office work.

*Fires.*—The Post Offices at the following places were destroyed by fire:—Belmont, De Witte Krans, Greylingstad, Herbergsfontein, Kinross, Morgenzon, Op de Banken, Penvaan, Quest Mue, Raudjesfontein, Serfontein, Standerton, Valsch River, Vley River and Wagenpadspruit. Most of these cases were relatively unimportant, but the fires at Belmont and Standerton, both of which were attributed to the action of lightning, resulted in the destruction of Government buildings causing unforeseen expenditure for replacement. The reconstruction of the

Standerton premises is approaching completion and the Railway Administration has in hand the necessary restoration at Belmont.

*Burglaries.*—Losses of a minor character arose through burglaries at Annyspruit, Felixton, Highway, Ida, Klipdam, Market Street West (Johannesburg), Mid Illovo, Ottery, Piggs Peak, Roberts Heights, Sterkwater, Trichardts, Walmer and Westhuizen. At Roodepoort a burglary in May was accompanied by the dynamiting of the safe and the loss of some £460. A loss of £150 arose through a similar occurrence at Vrededorp in July, when also considerable damage was caused to the building and plant therein. An unsuccessful attempt to enter the Post Office at Thornhill was also made.

*Dead and undelivered correspondence.*—The Returned Letter Offices of the Union dealt with 1,623,347 articles during the year, 31,736 less than in 1913. Articles of the value of £66,721 4s. 0d., were found in undelivered letters. In all cases where the sender's address was disclosed or ascertained the articles were returned; but about 1.5 per cent. could not be returned owing to the absence of any indication of the senders' whereabouts.

In addition to the undelivered matter dealt with in the Returned Letter Offices, 544,468 articles were returned by Postmasters direct to the senders in conformity with the request to that effect appearing on the cover of the article.

*Shipping Post Offices, Capetown.*—The marked falling off in the number of passenger steamers calling at Capetown has necessarily caused a diminution in the activities of the Post and Telegraph officers employed at the Docks Post Office. The number of steamers visited during the year was 566 as compared with 778 in 1913, while there was a corresponding fall in revenue, viz., £1,928 11s. 0d. in 1914, as compared with £2,973 8s. 7d. in 1913. The service, however, is highly appreciated by the shipping community and, especially in the case of vessels making only a limited stay in the port, affords a welcome means of communicating, either by post or telegraph, with correspondents in South Africa and oversea.

*Inspection of Offices.*—The important duty of checking the accounts of Postmasters has been continued uninterruptedly and systematically as in former years, notwithstanding the many drawbacks that manifested themselves during the latter portion of the year consequent on the war.

*Censorship.*—On the outbreak of war a censorship of telegrams and mail matter was established and the despatch of correspondence to enemy countries suspended.

#### STAFF.

The number of employees of all grades on the 31st December, 1914, was as follows:—

Administrative and Clerical Division Officers	...	...	...	3,302
General Division Officers	...	...	...	3,324
Local persons and Railway Officials performing Post Office work...				2,376

The loss of staff of all grades—excluding local persons and railway officials—during the year through resignations, retirements, dismissals, deaths and transfers to other Departments was at the rate of 13 per cent.

Twenty-three officers were retired on account of failing health and eight officers by reason of their having reached the superannuation age. The vacancies on the clerical staff have mainly been filled by the promotion of learners trained in South Africa. 135 were so promoted during the year and eight postmen received advancement to the Sorters' grade. All appointments to the Administrative and Clerical Division are made on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission.

*Promotion of Lower Grade Officers.*—Examinations were held in March and September in connection with the creation of a class of Sorters referred to in my previous report, with a view to providing an avenue of promotion for Postmen. 43 candidates presented themselves for examination in March, of whom 12 were successful and 22 were examined in September, of whom 8 were successful. Eight of the passed candidates have been promoted to the Sorters' grade and the remainder are being held in view for promotion when vacancies occur.

*Technological and Science Examinations.*—The technical and science examinations in connection with the City and Guilds of London Institute, and the Board of Education, South Kensington, were held in April and June. 52 candidates serving in this Department presented themselves for examination, of whom 33 were successful, 16 being awarded certificates of the first class and 17 certificates of the second class.



*Employment of Female Telegraphists.*—A limited number of female learners has been admitted to the Telegraph Schools at Cape Town and Johannesburg, where they are taught telegraphy and typewriting. Several have already been given appointments in the telegraph offices at Capetown and Johannesburg where they have displayed a considerable amount of aptitude.

*Sick and Holiday Leave.*—2,923 officers were granted 40,554 days sick leave, averaging 13.8 days per officer, and 2,942 officers obtained 90,480 days holiday leave, averaging 30.7 days per officer.

The marked decrease in the figures shown under the heading of holiday leave as compared with the previous year, is due to the suspension of vacation leave shortly after the declaration of war.

*Conclusion.*—The military operations undertaken by the Union Government, consequent upon the outbreak of war in Europe, brought about a considerable increase in the work of the Department, especially on the telegraph side. At the same time the Department was called upon by the Defence authorities to provide a considerable number of men for the Army Post Office Corps and the Field Telegraph and Signalling Section. To cope with the increased work and to meet the demands of the military for men for the field, special measures had to be taken. It early became apparent that the combination of increased work and the reduction of staff caused by the release of men for military duty, could not be met except by a restriction of the services available to the public. As a first step to this end the majority of the branch post offices in the larger towns were closed and the officers drafted into the busier offices. At a later date it became necessary to curtail postal facilities generally throughout the Union by reducing the hours of attendance and at practically all offices, with the exception of those in the largest towns, the hours for public business were made from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2 to 5 p.m. The necessity for the curtailment of facilities is regretted, but I am pleased to say that the public generally have accepted the position, recognising that the present exceptional circumstances of the country rendered such action unavoidable. As a result of these steps and the suspension of vacation leave to its officers the Department was enabled to supply practically all the men required for the Field Postal and Telegraph Corps. At the end of the year 595 officers of all grades were absent on military duty. Large numbers of the staff also made application to be allowed to proceed on active service when volunteers were called for by the Government. While commending the officers for their patriotism, the Department had reluctantly to inform them that their services could not be spared and that in remaining at their civil posts to perform the heavy military telegraph work they were rendering quite as good service to the Government as they would do as combatants in the field.

Earlier in the year the industrial troubles throughout the country occasioned a considerable increase in the telegraph traffic and dislocated the mail services. It affords me much pleasure to place on record the efficient manner in which the staff dealt with the extra work and the excellent spirit which animated them in meeting a difficult situation which demanded lengthy attendance and strenuous effort.

Capetown,  
1st March, 1915.

JER. WILSON,  
Postmaster-General.



## APPENDICES.

APPENDIX No. 1.—Summarised particulars of Post Office Savings Bank Business for the twelve months 1st April, 1913, to 31st March, 1914. Full details are given in the various statements subjoined.

	No.	Amount.				No.	Amount.		
		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Savings Bank Offices open	671	...	...	...	Average amount of interest earned on investments	...	3	16	1
Accounts opened :—	55,830	...	...	...	Average cost of each transaction	...	0	0	10½
Ordinary	55,625	...	...	...	Fees collected :—	...	...	...	...
Trust fund	205	...	...	...	For replacing lost deposit books	...	85	0	0
Accounts closed :—	45,591	...	...	...	For issuing "special repayments"	...	811	0	0
Ordinary	45,455	...	...	...	For re-transferring certificates without notice	...	660	0	0
Trust fund	136	...	...	...	Commission on transfers to other States	...	0	5	6
Accounts remaining open :—	253,537	...	...	...	Surplus interest transferred to Postal Revenue	...	59,741	0	0
Ordinary	252,312	...	...	...	Dormant accounts	48,103	17,923	0	0
Trust fund	1,245	...	...	...	Penny bank accounts	31	1,019	0	0
Deposits received :—	507,211	3,927,998	0	0	Deceased depositors' claims paid	802	47,476	0	0
Ordinary	502,418	3,821,652	0	0	Cross entry transactions :—	...	...	...	...
Trust fund	4,004	58,365	0	0	Deposits	128,848	...	...	...
Transfers from other States	789	37,982	0	0	Withdrawals	80,811	...	...	...
Withdrawals effected :—	228,912	4,046,397	0	0	Lost books replaced	346	...	...	...
Ordinary	226,031	3,836,324	0	0	Special withdrawals issued	16,228	230,481	0	0
Trust fund	1,139	75,848	0	0	Telegraphic withdrawals issued	97,638	1,397,095	0	0
Transfers to other States	1,742	134,225	0	0	Transferred to Revenue (Accounts having no transactions for 15 years)	1,545	3,201	0	0
Certificates Issued	...	186,100	0	0	Re-transferred from Revenue	13	232	0	0
Do. Repaid	...	257,300	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Interest added to depositor's accounts :—	...	187,733	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Ordinary	...	159,877	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Certificate	...	27,856	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Balance due to depositors :—	...	6,671,759	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Ordinary accounts	...	5,670,880	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Trust fund accounts	...	121,879	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Certificate accounts	...	879,000	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Average amount due to each depositor :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
In ordinary and trust fund accounts	...	22	16	11	...	...	...	...	...
On total balance	...	26	6	3	...	...	...	...	...

*Schedule of Investments held by the Public Debt Commissioners on behalf of the Post Office Savings Bank at 31st March, 1914.*

Nominal.	Description of Investment.	Cost Price.		
		£	s.	d.
355,000	Transvaal 3 % (1923-53)	326,872	0	9
188,900	Transvaal 3 % (1958)	169,191	15	11
800,000	Union Local 4 % (1933-53)	791,565	3	2
2,966,130	Union Local 3½ % (1933-53)	2,906,025	1	10
1,000	Cape 4 % (1918-48)	994	6	3
499,500	Cape 3 % (1924-44)	458,859	18	4
25,000	Cape 4 % (1917-23)	25,281	4	4
15,000	Cape 4 % (1923)	15,107	13	8
90,000	Cape 4 % (1916-36)	89,780	14	1
716,000	Cape 3½ % (1929-49)	714,790	12	10
144,400	Cape 3 % (1933-43)	122,326	5	5
30,000	Natal 3½ % (1934-44)	28,704	12	2
188,500	Natal 3 % (1929-49)	168,118	7	8
25,000	Canada 3½ % (1909-34)	24,932	5	5
14,000	Canada 3 % (1935)	15,467	11	4
13,000	Ceylon 3 % (1940)	12,634	6	8
25,000	New S. Wales 3½ % (1924)	25,332	16	9
2,000	New S. Wales 3½ % (1918)	1,791	12	3
35,000	New S. Wales 3 % (1935)	31,089	10	1
61,000	New S. Wales 3½ % (1930-40)	57,461	2	10
25,000	New Zealand 3 % (1945)	21,006	8	8
21,000	Queensland 3 % (1922-47)	16,566	19	11
10,000	Queensland 3½ % (1924)	9,371	15	4
10,000	Queensland 3½ % (1930)	9,271	15	4
15,000	Queensland 4 % (1915)	16,412	11	6
22,000	S. Australia 3 % (1916 and after)	17,935	19	0
4,800	S. Australia 4 % (1916)	4,965	0	0
52,000	S. Australia 3½ % (1926-36)	47,931	7	4
40,000	S. Australia 3 % (1916-26)	37,575	19	6
8,000	Tasmania 3½ % (1920-40)	7,265	14	8
10,000	Victoria 3½ % (1921-26)	9,378	0	4
50,000	Victoria 3 % (1929-49)	42,363	17	0
31,000	W. Australia 3 % (1915-35)	26,551	7	11
10,000	W. Australia 3 % (1927)	8,789	3	4
31,000	W. Australia 3 % (1916-26)	28,053	13	7
13,000	Krugersdorp Municipal 4 % (1930)	...	...	...
Loans to Local Authorities 5 %	...	...	...	...
Treasury Bills 4 %	...	...	...	...
Cash	...	...	...	...
		469,636	18	9
		12,708	7	0
		179,020	2	5
		213,000	0	0
		258	16	4

## APPENDICES.

*General Statement of Transactions in Depositors' Accounts.*

## CAPE AND ORANGE FREE STATE.

Year.	Deposits and Interest.		Withdrawals.		Balance due to Depositors Account.		Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor in Current Account	Accounts.		
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Current.	Certificate.		Opened.	Closed.	Re-maining open.
1909-10	180,182	£ 1,645,643	75,463	£ 1,527,137	£ 2,317,942	£ 773,800	20 9 7	22,487	17,506	113,015
1910-11	156,091	1,441,236	58,470	1,220,543	2,538,635	898,600	21 5 3	19,535	13,152	119,398
1911-12	228,312	2,028,710	85,485	1,813,325	2,751,020	935,800	21 14 9	28,798	21,502	126,694
1912-13	242,844	2,047,987	104,564	1,940,207	2,861,800	861,100	22 1 1	27,373	26,318	127,749
1913-14	247,318	1,917,383	99,035	1,825,490	2,953,693	757,100	21 17 10	25,928	18,765	131,912

## TRANSVAAL.

1909-10	161,130	1,526,187	76,366	1,301,365	1,802,075	...	25 6 4	23,623	14,007	71,185
1910-11	153,772	1,384,185	76,557	1,078,162	2,108,099	...	26 8 9	20,048	11,506	79,727
1911-12	191,943	1,848,604	96,472	1,753,127	2,198,576	23,900	25 12 10	23,120	17,115	85,732
1912-13	190,106	1,847,077	101,739	1,839,698	2,205,955	74,100	25 5 10	23,982	22,496	87,218
1913-14	191,918	1,723,651	99,194	1,774,427	2,155,179	100,900	24 4 9	22,742	21,034	88,926

## NATAL.

1909-10	55,102	350,497	26,670	285,760	547,145	...	22 6 3	5,928	4,176	24,520
1910-11	47,972	296,128	20,511	260,153	583,119	...	22 6 7	5,094	3,501	26,113
1911-12	62,960	431,875	27,345	389,176	625,819	7,100	22 15 11	7,998	6,661	27,450
1912-13	62,704	476,869	30,064	447,018	655,670	15,000	23 2 6	7,241	6,340	28,351
1913-14	64,975	474,698	30,683	446,480	683,888	21,000	23 0 3	7,160	5,792	29,802

GENERAL STATEMENT OF COMBINED TRANSACTIONS IN DEPOSITORS' ACCOUNTS  
PRIOR TO AND SINCE UNION.

1909-10	396,414	3,522,327	178,499	3,114,262	4,667,162	773,800	22 7 3	52,038	35,789	208,720
1910-11	357,835	3,015,950	155,538	2,328,469	5,229,853	898,600	23 5 5	44,677	28,159	225,238
1911-12	483,215	4,161,872	209,302	3,960,628	5,578,415	966,800	23 5 1	59,916	45,278	239,876
1912-13	495,654	4,371,952	236,367	4,226,923	5,723,425	950,200	23 10 5	58,596	55,154	243,318
1913-14	507,211	4,115,732	228,912	4,046,397	5,792,759	879,000	22 16 11	55,830	45,591	253,557

*Saving Bank Certificates.*

Province and Year.	Certificates issued.	Certificates repaid.	Balance due to Certificate Holders.
Cape and Orange Free State :—			
1909-10 .. .. .	£ 247,900	£ 139,400	£ 773,800
1910-11 .. .. .	230,400	105,600	898,600
1911-12 .. .. .	259,000	221,800	935,800
1912-13 .. .. .	153,300	228,000	861,100
1913-14 .. .. .	120,000	224,800	757,100
Transvaal :—			
1911-12, 1 Sept. to 31 March ..	25,300	1,400	23,900
1912-13 .. .. .	60,600	10,400	74,100
1913-14 .. .. .	54,100	27,300	100,900
Natal :—			
1911-12, 1 Sept. to 31 March ..	7,500	400	7,100
1912-13 .. .. .	11,100	3,200	15,000
1913-14 .. .. .	11,200	5,200	21,000
Total, Union of South Africa :—			
1909-10 .. .. .	247,900	139,400	773,800
1910-11 .. .. .	230,400	105,600	898,600
1911-12 .. .. .	291,800	223,600	966,800
1912-13 .. .. .	225,000	241,600	950,200
1913-14 .. .. .	186,100	257,300	879,000

## APPENDICES.

*General Statement of Transactions in Depositors' Accounts.*

## CAPE AND ORANGE FREE STATE.

Year.	Deposits and Interest.		Withdrawals.		Balance due to Depositors Account.		Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor in Current Account	Accounts.		
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Current.	Certificate.		Opened.	Closed.	Re-opening.
		£		£	£	£	£ s. d.			
1909-10	180,182	1,615,613	75,463	1,527,137	2,317,912	773,800	20 9 7	22,487	17,506	113,015
1910-11	156,091	1,441,236	58,470	1,220,543	2,533,635	898,600	21 5 3	19,535	17,162	113,398
1911-12	228,312	2,028,710	85,485	1,813,325	2,754,020	935,800	21 14 9	28,798	21,502	126,694
1912-13	242,844	2,047,987	104,564	1,940,207	2,861,800	861,100	22 8 1	27,378	26,313	127,749
1913-14	247,318	1,917,383	99,035	1,825,490	2,953,693	757,100	21 17 10	25,928	18,765	134,912

## TRANSVAAL.

1909-10	161,130	1,526,187	76,366	1,301,365	1,802,075	...	25 6 4	23,623	14,007	71,185
1910-11	153,772	1,384,185	76,557	1,078,162	2,108,099	...	26 8 9	20,048	11,506	79,727
1911-12	191,943	1,848,604	96,472	1,758,127	2,198,576	23,200	25 12 10	23,120	17,115	85,732
1912-13	190,106	1,847,977	101,739	1,839,698	2,205,955	74,100	25 5 10	23,982	22,496	87,218
1913-14	194,918	1,723,651	99,194	1,774,427	2,155,179	100,900	24 4 9	22,742	21,034	88,926

## NATAL.

1909-10	55,102	350,497	26,670	285,760	547,145	...	22 6 3	5,928	4,176	24,520
1910-11	47,972	296,128	20,511	260,153	583,119	...	22 6 7	5,094	3,501	26,113
1911-12	62,960	431,875	27,345	389,176	625,819	7,100	22 15 11	7,998	6,661	27,450
1912-13	62,704	476,869	30,084	447,018	655,670	15,000	23 2 6	7,241	6,340	28,351
1913-14	64,975	474,698	30,683	446,480	683,888	21,000	23 0 3	7,160	5,792	29,802

GENERAL STATEMENT OF COMBINED TRANSACTIONS IN DEPOSITORS' ACCOUNTS  
PRIOR TO AND SINCE UNION.

1909-10	396,414	3,522,327	178,499	3,114,262	4,667,162	773,800	22 7 3	52,038	35,789	208,720
1910-11	357,835	3,015,950	155,538	2,328,459	5,329,853	898,600	23 4 5	44,677	28,159	225,238
1911-12	483,215	4,161,872	209,302	3,960,628	5,578,415	966,800	23 5 1	59,916	45,278	239,876
1912-13	495,654	4,371,933	236,367	4,226,923	5,723,425	950,200	23 10 5	58,596	55,154	243,318
1913-14	507,211	4,115,732	228,912	4,046,397	5,792,759	879,000	22 16 11	55,880	45,591	253,557

*Saving Bank Certificates.*

Province and Year.	Certificates issued.	Certificates repaid.	Balance due to Certificate Holders.
Cape and Orange Free State:—	£	£	£
1909-10 .. .. .	247,900	139,400	773,800
1910-11 .. .. .	230,400	105,600	898,600
1911-12 .. .. .	259,000	221,800	935,800
1912-13 .. .. .	153,300	228,000	861,100
1913-14 .. .. .	120,000	224,800	757,100
Transvaal:—			
1911-12, 1 Sept. to 31 March ..	25,300	1,400	23,900
1912-13 .. .. .	60,600	10,400	74,100
1913-14 .. .. .	54,100	27,300	100,900
Natal:—			
1911-12, 1 Sept. to 31 March ..	7,500	400	7,100
1912-13 .. .. .	11,100	3,200	15,000
1913-14 .. .. .	11,200	5,200	21,000
Total, Union of South Africa:—			
1909-10 .. .. .	247,900	139,400	773,800
1910-11 .. .. .	230,400	105,600	898,600
1911-12 .. .. .	291,800	223,600	966,800
1912-13 .. .. .	225,000	241,600	950,200
1913-14 .. .. .	186,100	257,300	879,000

## APPENDICES.

*Cash Accounts for Financial Year, 1913-'14.*

Cash Account financial year, 1913-14.	Cape and Orange Free State.			Transvaal.			Natal.			General Cash Account, S.A. Union.		
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Depositors on 1st April, 1913:												
Ordinary Account ..	2,861,799	13	6	2,205,954	11	0	655,669	11	10	5,723,423	16	4
Certificate Account ..	861,100	0	0	74,100	0	0	15,000	0	0	950,200	0	0
Cash received from Depositors	1,535,380	3	2	1,592,076	8	1	416,521	15	1	3,543,978	6	4
Inter-Province transfers ..	2,229	0	5	7,557	2	11	1,372	19	7	11,159	2	11
Official entries ..	49,002	18	3	33,780	16	0	32,546	0	4	115,329	14	7
Retransfers from Revenue ..	229	2	7	2	2	6	0	7	0	231	12	1
Do. Certificate Account	224,800	0	0	27,300	0	0	5,200	0	0	257,300	0	0
Certificates issued ..	120,800	0	0	34,100	0	0	11,200	0	0	186,100	0	0
Interest allowed on Ordinary Accounts ..	80,835	3	0	60,458	14	3	18,583	0	0	159,876	17	3
Do. Certificate Account	24,906	10	0	2,475	10	0	474	5	0	27,856	5	0
<b>Total Receipts ..</b>	<b>5,761,082</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4,057,805</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,156,567</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10,975,455</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Payments.</i>												
Cash paid ..	1,646,402	8	6	1,681,804	17	3	400,310	8	5	3,728,517	14	2
Less 1912-13 warrants cashed	12,270	18	3	8,292	16	5	2,478	13	1	23,042	7	9
	1,634,131	10	3	1,673,512	0	10	397,831	15	4	3,705,475	6	5
Add 1913-14 warrants issued but not cashed ..	12,882	19	3	9,203	13	0	3,044	12	5	25,131	4	8
	1,647,014	9	6	1,682,715	13	10	400,876	7	9	3,730,606	11	1
Inter-province transfers ..	6,846	0	4	2,613	11	10	1,699	10	9	11,159	2	11
Official entries ..	49,002	18	3	33,780	16	0	32,546	0	4	115,329	14	7
Transferred to Certificate Ac- count ..	120,800	0	0	54,100	0	0	11,200	0	0	186,100	0	0
Do. Postal Revenue ..	1,826	9	4	1,216	9	2	158	4	8	3,201	3	2
Certificates retransferred ..	224,800	0	0	27,300	0	0	5,200	0	0	257,300	0	0
Balance due to Depositors on 31st March, 1914:												
Ordinary Account ..	2,953,692	13	6	2,155,178	13	11	683,887	15	4	5,792,759	2	9
Certificate Account ..	757,100	0	0	100,900	0	0	21,000	0	0	879,000	0	0
<b>Total Payments ..</b>	<b>5,761,082</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4,057,805</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,156,567</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10,975,455</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>

*Union Savings Bank.—Balance Sheet.*

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance due to depositors on 31st March, 1914:—			Funds lodged with Public Debt Commissioners for investment	6,504,508	18 8
Ordinary Account ..	5,792,795	2 9	Interest added to depositors' accounts for 1913-14 due by Public Debt Commissioners ..	187,733	2 3
Certificate Account ..	879,000	0 0	Indian and Rhodesian transfers	287	12 1
Warrants issued in 1913-14 but not cashed on 31st March, 1914 ..	25,131	4 8	Natal deposits "In transit" ..	100	6 0
			Cash in Postmaster-General's deposit account ..	4,260	8 5
	<b>£6,696,890</b>	<b>7 5</b>		<b>£6,696,890</b>	<b>7 5</b>

APPENDIX No. 2.—Statement showing number and value of Money Orders:—(a) issued in the Union for payment in other countries; (b) issued in the Union for payment within the Union during 1914.

(a) Money Order exchange with.	Issued in the Union.		Issued in the other country.		(a) Money Order exchange with.	Issued in the Union.		Issued in the other country.	
	No.	£	No.	£		No.	£	No.	£
Australia ..	6,378	22,112	2,296	7,801	New Zealand ..	411	2,533	511	2,259
Austria ..	891	3,327	63	327	Norway ..	895	3,684	200	988
British E. Africa ..	90	536	181	1,282	Nyasaland ..	42	377	17	241
Canada ..	728	3,358	895	2,640	Rhodesia ..	1,375	10,353	9,523	55,427
Ceylon ..	35	210	38	126	St. Helena ..	26	238	44	513
France ..	2,170	5,260	264	916	United Kingdom	67,057	384,531	13,721	70,756
German E. Africa ..	2	57	121	805	United States of America ..	6,153	14,785	2,058	8,908
" S.W. ..	86	591	2,747	13,284	Zanzibar ..	38	397	10	60
Germany ..	4,423	16,534	1,024	6,201					
Hong Kong ..	115	577	10	19	Total (a) ..	107,607	690,913	34,772	177,943
Hungary ..	145	623	23	65	Issued in, for pay- ment, in Union	328,734	1,943,694	..	..
India ..	14,946	207,828	236	1,182					
Mauritius ..	396	2,293	197	610	Grand Total ..	436,541	2,634,607	..	..
Mozambique ..	1,405	10,709	593	3,499					

## APPENDICES.

APPENDIX No. 3.—Comparative Statement showing the number and value of Postal Orders, (a) issued, and (b) paid monthly throughout the Union, from 1 January, 1912, to 31 January, 1914.

	1912.		1913.		1914.	
	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
(a) <i>Issued :</i>						
January ..	232,011	147,277	259,286	165,703	247,992	155,718
February ..	245,991	154,953	272,963	172,429	288,006	180,484
March ..	262,385	169,348	291,756	185,858	315,489	197,601
April ..	262,629	167,704	299,741	188,998	310,319	194,064
May ..	258,911	164,598	288,529	183,234	305,940	190,853
June ..	273,760	175,549	308,095	196,284	321,866	201,492
July ..	271,575	176,618	281,089	174,570	322,074	200,726
August ..	281,035	177,012	300,205	183,997	274,404	168,781
September ..	272,639	174,083	300,988	192,345	263,824	159,065
October ..	274,033	171,328	312,979	193,733	253,404	157,202
November ..	310,145	199,782	316,575	196,538	265,275	168,321
December ..	315,931	202,375	363,049	230,142	291,069	182,006
Total (a) ..	3,261,045	2,080,627	3,595,255	2,263,831	3,458,662	2,156,313
(b) <i>Paid :</i>						
January ..	183,475	111,497	209,657	129,096	199,043	120,158
February ..	188,737	115,260	212,550	130,214	223,908	135,542
March ..	202,520	123,101	221,583	134,986	250,519	149,768
April ..	196,974	120,742	235,521	144,218	241,248	145,142
May ..	202,069	123,965	228,786	139,260	248,517	148,998
June ..	210,561	130,121	237,342	145,497	258,821	156,249
July ..	212,213	131,691	225,787	137,479	257,636	154,302
August ..	212,726	129,946	227,151	136,356	238,332	141,145
September ..	206,861	126,341	243,398	145,413	230,956	136,008
October ..	218,000	132,515	246,691	146,521	220,238	130,728
November ..	217,243	132,246	235,058	139,738	191,931	112,688
December ..	234,321	143,949	264,643	159,246	234,084	138,838
Total (b) ..	2,485,700	1,521,374	2,788,167	1,688,024	2,795,233	1,669,566

APPENDIX No. 4.—Revenue and Expenditure—Calendar Year, 1914.

## A.—REVENUE.

(a) <i>Postal</i> (£1,015,836).						
Postage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	£	£
Commission on Money Orders .. .. .	..	..	..	..	772,865	£1,015,836
Poundage on Postal Orders .. .. .	..	..	..	..	19,925	
Private Box and Bag Rents .. .. .	..	..	..	..	22,305	
Federal Mail Service Receipts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	26,815	
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	99,513	
Savings Bank Revenue .. .. .	..	..	..	..	8,734	£356,740
(b) <i>Telegraph</i> (£356,740).					65,679	
Ordinary paid and Press Messages .. .. .	..	..	..	..	285,673	
Registered Address Fees .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5,352	£278,730
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	65,715	
(c) <i>Telephone</i> (£278,730).						
Private Wire and Exchange Rentals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	146,567	£278,730
Subscribers' Call Fees .. .. .	..	..	..	..	94,134	
Call Office Receipts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	30,231	
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7,798	
Grand Total A Revenue .. .. .	..	..	..	..		£1,651,306

## APPENDICES.

## B.—EXPENDITURE.

*Postal, Telegraph and Telephone.*

	£	£
Salaries, Wages, and Allowances .. ..	1,204,937	
Transport and Travelling .. ..	29,946	
Uniforms .. ..	6,247	
Commission .. ..	2,003	
Conveyance of Mails .. ..	336,829	
Cable Subsidy .. ..	8,825	
Maintenance of Telegraphs and Telephones ..	48,753	
Purchase, Maintenance and Hire of Transport ..	14,518	
Technical Furniture and Fittings .. ..	5,525	
Postage Stamps .. ..	4,107	
Telegraph and Telephone Stores .. ..	2,975	
Postal Stores and Supplies .. ..	15,705	
Contributions to International Bureaux .. ..	475	
Incidental .. ..	5,062	

Grand Total B Expenditure .. .. ———— £1,685,907

## APPENDIX No. 5.—Summary of Profit and Loss Account for the Calendar Year 1914.

Revenue.			Expenditure.			Deficit on basis of	
Cash Receipts.	Value of Free work.	Total.	Cash payments.	Value of free services received.	Total.	Cash.	Work performed.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,651,306	290,628	1,941,934	1,682,907	272,809	1,955,716	31,601	13,782

## APPENDIX No. 6.—Summary of Telegraph and Telephone Capital Account at 31st December, 1914.

	From Loan Acts.	From Revenue.	TOTAL.
Telegraphs ..	£766,327	£458,516	£1,224,843
Telephones ..	1,481,724	382,003	1,863,727
Total ..	£2,248,051	£840,519	£3,088,570

*Note.*—Telegraph Capital has been reduced by £33,448 11s. 11d., and Telephone Capital by £33,169 0s. 2d., representing the proportionate cost of raising loans previously included.

## APPENDIX No. 7.—Mail matter posted at Offices in the Union and Basutoland in 1914, for delivery therein, with a comparison for 1913.

MAIL MATTER.	1914.	1913.
Letters (Ordinary) : Prepaid .. ..	89,830,120	99,811,244
Taxed .. ..	707,991	786,656
Postcards : Single .. ..	6,341,213	7,045,792
Reply Paid .. ..	17,784	19,760
Newspapers .. ..	16,690,378	18,544,864
Printed Papers .. ..	10,371,582	11,523,980
Book and Sample Packets .. ..	20,550,863	22,834,292
Official Correspondence : Letters .. ..	9,961,474	11,068,304
Other Articles .. ..	1,567,426	1,741,584
Parcels .. ..	1,816,496	2,018,328
Registered Articles .. ..	1,231,870	1,368,744
Total .. ..	159,087,197	176,763,548