

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

REPORT

OF THE

POSTMASTER-GENERAL

(DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS)

FOR THE

Three Months ended March 31st, 1920.

*Presented to the Houses of Parliament by Command of His Royal Highness
the Governor-General.*

Price 1s. 6d.

CAPE TOWN :
CAPE TIMES LIMITED, GOVERNMENT PRINTERS.
1921.

[U.G. 14-31.]

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A. D. SKEA,
Superintendent.

Goevernements Drukwerk en Schrijfsbehoeften Kantoor,
Kaapstad, Kaap de Goede Hoop.
25 Januarie, 1921.

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A. D. SKEA,
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Memo.

24. 1. 20

It is pointed out by the Postmaster-General that in the Departmental Annual Report for the period ended 31st March 1920, the Statistical return (Page 8) and the Financial Statement (page 9) form part of the appendices instead of appearing in the letter press as has been done in previous reports and desires that it be noted that these statements be embodied in future reports of the Post Office. They have apparently been left out of the "Combined Departmental Reports" just out and the Postmaster-General attaches some importance to the two statements mentioned and wants them worked into the reports of the future please.

.....

A handwritten signature, possibly 'J. G.', written in dark ink with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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1921.

[U.G. 14—'21.]

THE GREAT WAR.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF HONOURS CONFERRED UPON OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR
SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE GREAT WAR.

James, A. J. .. Mentioned in Despatches,
Morton, F. W. .. Name brought to notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable
services rendered as Censor at Pretoria.

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The Honourable
the Minister of Post and Telegraphs.

SIR,—The Government having decided that in future this Department's report shall reflect its operations for the financial year instead of for the calendar year as heretofore, I have the honour to submit the following report upon the working of the Post, Telegraph and Telephone services of the Union for the three months ended March 31st, 1920.

I have, etc.,

General Post Office,
Pretoria,
January 27th, 1921

H. TWYXCROSS,
Postmaster-General.

INTRODUCTORY.

The publication of the present report signalizes a departure from the established practice of dealing with the work and activities of the Department during the calendar year.

It has long been felt that this practice is open to considerable objection inasmuch as unavoidable delay occurs in presenting the report to Parliament, the Session usually being well advanced before it is ready to be laid before the House. Moreover confusion is likely to arise owing to the financial and statistical statements being for a period differing from that falling within the financial year. In future, therefore, the report will deal with the work performed during the period covered by the financial year.

The present Report, although containing statistical and financial statements of the work done during the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1920, deals mainly with the work performed during the first three months of the current year.

[U.G. 14—'21.]

The total cash revenue of the Department* for the year increased by £312,982 as compared with 1918-1919, viz., from £2,056,645 to £2,369,627. The advance shown in these figures is explained as follows:—

COMPARISON OF REVENUE 1918-19, WITH 1919-20.

	Increase.	
<i>Postal.</i>		
Postage Stamps	£161,420	General increase in business.
Commission on Money Orders and Poundage on Postal Orders.	13,358	Money Orders issued on United States of America.
Box and Bag Rents	3,164	General increase in business.
Miscellaneous	5,973	General increase in business.
Savings Bank Revenue ..	6,886	Reimbursed under Act 42 of 1917, Section 10.
Ocean Mail Service Receipts ..	3,144	General increase in business.
	<hr/> £193,945	
<i>Telegraphs.</i>		
Ordinary Paid and Press Mess- ages	45,530	General increase in business.
Registered Address Fees ..	1,129	General increase in business.
Miscellaneous	10,600	57,268 General increase in business.
<i>Telephones.</i>		
Private Wire and Exchange Rentals.	23,160	General increase in business.
Subscribers Call Fees	31,658	General increase in business.
Call Office Receipts	5,628	General increase in business.
Miscellaneous	1,323	General increase in business.
	<hr/> 61,769	
	<hr/> £312,982	

Free services amounting to £300,455 were rendered by the Department during the year as follows:—Postal, £168,793; Telegraphs, £67,843; Telephone, £51,439; Miscellaneous, £12,380.

The services rendered to the Provincial Administrations, which are included in the foregoing figures were of the value of £38,318, as follows:—Cape, £10,984; Transvaal, £15,999; Natal, £6,744; Orange Free State £4,591.

In addition to the amount of £2,369,627 collected on account of purely departmental services, a sum of £1,108,439 was collected for other Departments as compared with £967,680 in 1918-19. The principal collections included in this amount were, Licences £97,103, Revenue Stamps £368,509, Customs Dues £299,923, Cigarette Stamps £341,745. The gross revenue collected by the Department was therefore £3,478,066, while the total amount of money handled by the Department's officers during the year was approximately £25,000,000. Pension Warrants approximating £215,000 in value were paid during the year; £160,000 was paid on behalf of the Treasury, and £55,000 on behalf of the Department of Railways and Harbours.

Expenditure rose from £2,074,937 in 1918-19 to £2,387,362 in 1919-20, the increase of £312,425 being due to additional payments for overtime, War Bonus and adjustments made in connection with the reports of the Public Service Commission of Inquiry.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department for the year are fully set forth in the financial statements, see Appendices 1 and 2, from which it will be seen that the cash loss for the year was £17,735. Taking into account the free services rendered to and by other Government Departments the year's working resulted in a balance against the Department of £39,623.

POSTS.

Post Offices.—The number of Post Offices transacting business on the 31st March, was 2,684, including 33 offices in Basutoland and Swaziland, administered by the Union, being an increase of 19 during the three months under review.

Posting Receptacles.—The number of posting receptacles other than those at Post Offices was 1,956, being an increase of 4 since the 31st December last. Thirty-four are on trains and nine on mail steamers.

INLAND MAIL SERVICES.

Main Posts.—The main posts in the Union, excluding railway services, numbered 284. No changes were made during the period under review.

Branch Posts.—The branch posts numbered 1,247, being an increase of 21 on those running on the 31st December, 1919.

Cost of Conveyance of Mails.—The contracts in force on the 31st March, exclusive of the ocean mail service and services performed by the South African Railways represented a liability of £188,925 for the ensuing year.

Private Postbags.—The total number of private postbags rented on the 31st March, was 3,548, as against 3,650 on the 31st. December, 1919.

OCEAN MAIL SERVICE.

United Kingdom Service.—There were only two failures to provide steamers during the quarter ended 31st March, 1920, viz., one outward and one inward. The two failures were met by the employment of private ships for the conveyance of the mails concerned. The pre-war regularity in the observance of contract time for the voyage, namely, 16 days 15 hours, has not yet been resumed; this is attributable to the facts that all the first class mail steamers have not yet been reconditioned and it is therefore necessary to employ such vessels as the Llanstephan Castle and the Carisbrook Castle; that some of the ships in commission require dry dock attention; and that the quality of coal is inferior and the stokehold complement poor.

Mail boats now leave Table Bay at 4 p.m. on Fridays and the same day of sailing has been adopted in the opposite direction.

Inward and Outward Mails.—The mails conveyed from and to the United Kingdom during 1919-20 were divided as follows:—

Destination.	Mail Bags.	Parcel Receptacles.
<i>Inward:</i>		
Union of South Africa	48,849	37,321
Belgian Congo, Nyasaland, Rhodesia, East Coast, etc.	9,515	1,214
Madeira, Ascension, St. Helena	607	—
Mauritius	589	—
Ocean P.O., etc.	45	—
S.W.A. Protectorate	—	126
Transit various	—	1,329
Grand total	59,605	40,490
<i>Outward:</i>		
British Isles (Excluding London and London Districts)	6,319	3,780
London and London Districts	9,064	
Foreign Countries	3,284	
Madeira	765	
Grand Total	19,432	3,780

In the exchanges with countries other than the United Kingdom, served by private ships at irregular intervals 6,672 mail bags and 165 parcel receptacles were received and 5,684 mail bags and 131 parcel receptacles despatched.

Loss of Mail at Sea.—The S.S. "Ambar" left Boma, West Africa on the 7th February, 1920, with one bag of mails for Cape Town and was lost at sea between the port of departure and Loanda.

Illicit Exportation of Gold through the Post.—Owing to the vigilance of postal officials attempts to smuggle gold out of the Union were frustrated in a good many cases and approximately £600 in gold coin disguised or hidden in various forms in postal packages were detected and arrested.

AIR MAIL SERVICES.

With the object of ascertaining the practicability of an air route between Europe and South Africa which could be used either commercially or for the conveyance of urgent mail matter, a flight from London to Cape Town was undertaken in the early part of 1920. The honour of accomplishing the flight fell to Colonel van Ryneveld and Major Brand who piloted a machine purchased by the Union Government.

The brief story of this historic flight is that the two airmen left Brocklands aerodrome (London) for Cairo on the 4th February and arrived at the Egyptian capital five days later. The following day they left with the intention of making a non-stop flight to Khartoum, but their machine crashed at Wady Halfa on the 11th. Returning to Cairo, they made a fresh start on the 22nd, on a new machine fitted with the engines of the first. After encountering all sorts of climatic and other difficulties they reached Bulawayo on the 5th March, but on the next day their machine fell about a mile from the start, just when the goal was in sight and the worst parts of the journey had been negotiated. The Union Government sent another machine to Bulawayo and the voyagers were able to resume their flight to Cape Town on the 17th and successfully completed the journey on the 20th.

It may be mentioned as a point of interest that on arrival in Cape Town Colonel van Ryneveld handed to the Postmaster-General a letter of greetings from the Director-General of the Post Office of Egypt.

MISSING MAIL ENQUIRIES.

During the twelve months ended 31st March 1920, 16,239 enquiries were completed, regarding the disposal of articles of mail matter. The results of the investigations made are set forth in the schedule hereunder:—

Ordinary Letters.	Registered Letters.	News-papers.	Parcels.	Missing enclosures.	
3,378	—	38	860	240	No trace.
1,784	2,823	48	3,219	87	Delivered.
284	596	3	119	1	Returned.
116	7	13	22	5	Probably delivered or returned to sender.
8	16	—	45	1	Not dealt with in this Administration.
38	355	—	145	—	On hand, unclaimed, undeliverable, or unreturnable.
7	8	—	—	—	Complaint withdrawn.
44	10	2	57	9	Doubtful if posted, or if contents enclosed as stated.
272	765	5	383	23	Duly forwarded to other Administrations.
25	71	—	13	17	Lost in post.
77	70	3	99	25	Not posted or enclosed.
—	1	—	2	—	Destroyed by fire.
6,033	4,722	112	4,964	408	Grand Total 16,239

Claims for compensation were met in respect of 302 articles lost whilst in the custody of the Post Office. The total payments made amounted to £724 of which sum £423 was paid from the Post Office vote, the balance having been recovered from other sources.

Undeliverable Correspondence.—During the twelve months ended 31st March, 1920, 1,887,807 articles of mail matter could not be delivered by the Post Office. 504,116 bore the addresses of the senders on the cover and were returned direct by Postmasters. Of the 1,383,691 articles examined in the Returned Letter Office 492,453 were unreturnable owing to the absence of the senders' addresses. In the letters examined articles of value such as notes, coins, cheques and postal orders, to the value of £70,072 were found.

MONEY ORDERS, POSTAL ORDERS AND POSTAL DRAFTS.

Money Orders issued and Paid.—During the year ended March 31st, 1920, 444,060 money orders were issued to the value of £3,549,881, and 425,381 orders to the value of £2,998,101 were paid.

Commission.—The revenue from commission on money orders was £30,325.

Void Money Orders.—742 Money orders became void and their value, £1,596, was surrendered to revenue.

Army Money Orders.—57,524 army money orders were paid, the total value being £565,649.

Cable Money Orders.—1,424 orders valued at £23,871 were cabled from the Union for payment in the United Kingdom; and 467 orders valued at £8,434 were cabled from the United Kingdom for payment in the Union.

Postal Orders Issued and Paid.—3,347,766 postal orders valued at £1,974,031 were issued, and 3,002,910 valued at £1,707,723 were paid.

Poundage.—The revenue in respect of poundage on postal orders amounted to £21,353.

Void Postal Orders.—The value of postal orders surrendered to revenue was £5,339.

Postal Drafts.—The number of demands made by the Department on behalf of the public was 10,583. The number of drafts honoured was 1,859, the amount collected £2,793, and the revenue earned £314.

Summary.—The total money order and postal order issues amounted to £5,523,912 and the payments to £4,705,824, the combined revenue from commission and poundage amounting to £51,678.

SAVINGS BANK.

Statements reflecting the activities of the Savings Bank during the financial year 1919-20 are contained in Appendix No. 5 to this Report. The number of accounts open at 31st March, 1920, was 307,486, an increase of 1,383. The balance due to depositors was £7,079,789. The value of the certificates issued declined from £242,300 to £201,000, the repayments increasing from £161,100 to £252,400.

The decrease in the support accorded by the public to the Savings Bank is no doubt largely due to the issue of Union Loan Certificates, which have been taken up by former depositors in the Savings Bank. The higher rate of interest afforded by investments in Union Loan Certificates had the effect of inducing depositors to transfer their money.

TELEGRAPHS.

Offices.—The number of Telegraph Offices in the Union (including those worked by the Railway Department) on the 31st March, 1920, was 1,781.

Traffic.—The amount of telegraph business transacted during the year was well maintained. The forwarded traffic was as follows:—paid telegrams 6,723,288, Government and Imperial 369,541, Railway messages 541,594. Total 7,634,423.

Press Telegrams.—The number of press telegrams dealt with is estimated at 278,974 messages and 33,476,880 words.

Revenue.—The telegraph revenue reached £475,231. The value of free telegraph services rendered to other Government Departments and the Imperial Government was £67,843.

Cable Traffic.—The cable traffic from the Union during the year ended 31st March was: messages 133,628, value £178,851. In addition to the last-mentioned amount £2,086 was passed to the Cable Company in respect of press telegrams to the Union. The terminal and transit charges accruing to the Union on telegrams received from the Cable Company was £6,504 and the terminal charges collected by the Union on cablegrams handed over to the Company at Cape Town and Durban totalled £6,894.

Deferred Cablegrams.—132,325 messages, containing 2,337,685 words were forwarded.

Wireless Telegraph Traffic.—Following the resumption of more normal conditions and the reintroduction of regular sailings to and from South Africa the amount of paid wireless telegraph traffic is increasing, the figures for the financial year being: messages 10,030, words 135,408, value £3,949.

TELEPHONES.

It is regrettable to have to report that the period under review witnessed no relaxation of the delays and difficulties encountered in obtaining the delivery of supplies of material and equipment of practically all classes. The consequences of this was that the Department was able to do little in the direction of the restoration of the efficiency of the system and was obliged, even at the larger exchange centres to defer large numbers of applications for service owing to lack of switchboard accommodation and the inadequacy of the existing line and cable provision. Wherever service could be given, this was done, but the Department remained fully alive to the disappointment and inconvenience occasioned to the large numbers of applicants throughout the Union whose requirements could not be met, and spared no effort to hasten the delivery of the supplies which were the key to the situation. In the next Report it is hoped to show that in the financial year 1920-21 some measure of success was achieved and that, while still hampered to a considerable extent by the non-delivery of many essential items, the unfortunate position which resulted from almost six years suspension of development was appreciably relieved.

Trunk Service.—The mileage of telephone trunk circuits in use as on the 31st March, 1920, was: Metallic circuit 34,481; Superimposed circuit 8,478; total 42,959 miles.

The estimated number of local and trunk calls dealt with on the system during the financial year is 98,643,080. The number of telephone operators engaged in handling this traffic on 31st March was 801.

During the first three months of 1920 the system was extended as follows :—

	1st January. 1920.	31st March, 1920.	Increase during period 1st January to 31st March, 1920.
Exchanges	461	468	7
Exchange lines	29,447	30,069	622
Call Offices	2,246	2,242	—
Telephones	42,419	43,022	603
Miles of working wire	122,501	123,520	1,019

The Capital expenditure and the revenue earned are shown below :—

	Cape.	Transvaal.	Natal.	O.F.S.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Capital Expenditure.</i>					
To 31st December, 1919 ..	752,850	1,273,666	253,053	159,741	2,439,310
1st January to 31st March, 1920	41,562	37,732	5,702	9,512	94,508
Total	£794,412	£1,311,398	£258,755	£169,253	£2,533,818

The telephone revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, was as follows :—

	Cape.	Transvaal.	Natal.	O.F.S.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash Collections	173,050	267,741	50,325	32,525	523,641
Value of services provided for Government Departments ..	12,211	31,564	4,813	2,851	51,439
Total	£185,261	£299,305	£55,138	£35,376	£575,080

MILEAGE OF ROUTES AND WIRES.

The mileage of routes and wires on the 31st March, 1920, was as follows :—

	Cape.	Natal.	Transvaal.	O.F.S.	Union.
1. Telegraph Routes	8,165	1,386	2,598	693	12,842
2. Telegraph Wire	26,691	3,618	7,850	5,779	43,938
3. Telephone Trunk Route	933	61	1,979	279	3,252
4. Telephone Trunk Wire	9,926	5,578	14,148	4,829	34,481
(a) Telephone trunk wire carried on purely telephone routes ..	1,938	357	6,908	1,137	10,340
(b) Telephone trunk wire carried on telegraph-telephone routes ..	4,586	3,815	5,069	3,069	16,539
(c) Telegraph-telephone wires used for trunk purposes	3,402	1,406	2,171	624	7,603
5. Superimposition trunk wire ..	522	440	1,591	408	2,961
6. Telephone wire working	31,264	11,336	73,330	7,590	123,520
7. Telephone wire spare	5,297	525	2,617	767	9,206
8. Superimposed circuits (teleg.) ..	947	1,548	1,759	1,264	5,518

STORES.

The difficulty in procuring steady and constant supplies of essential material is still very pronounced. No reliability can be placed on material being shipped on due dates and manufacturers are now quoting very extended periods of delivery for such items as telephones and switchboards. Prices continue on the upward grade and considerable advances are anticipated in respect of all items, particularly telephones, switchboards and clothing.

Owing to the non-provision of the necessary funds, no improvement in Stores accommodation has been effected during the period under review. The need in this respect has been strenuously advocated in previous reports. With the present make-shift arrangements it is impossible to secure the best results and to afford that security and shelter to valuable stock which is absolutely essential.

The Stores turn-over for the year was £755,625.

BUILDINGS.

The new offices at Empageni and Macleantown have been completed.

Burglaries.—The following Post Offices were burgled during the three months ended the 31st March, 1920:—Umzumbi, Retreat, Langlaagte, Elandshoek, Gezina, Chapel Street (Pietermaritzburg), Hartebeestpoort (twice), New Guelderland, Bultfontein, Bosmansrust, Redhill, Westleys, Smithfield, Hillary, Bloemhof, Remnion and Dalton. Unsuccessful attempts were made to enter the offices at Wellington Station, Sir Lowry Road, and Hankey (twice).

Fires.—An outbreak of fire caused by lightning occurred at the Hutchinson office. The damage was not serious.

STAFF.

The number of employees of all grades on the 31 March, 1920, was as follows:—

Administrative and Clerical Division	3,541
General Division	4,038
Learners in training	321
Local persons and Railway officials performing Post Office work	2,569

The wastage of staff in the Administrative and Clerical Division during the year through resignations, retirements, dismissals, deaths and transfers to other Departments was 4.4 per cent. and in the General Division 20.8 per cent.

Twenty-three officers were retired on account of failing health and fourteen by reason of their having reached superannuation age.

Shortage of Staff.—The Department is still suffering from serious shortage of trained officers, but during the year considerable progress was made with the recruitment of learners and by the end of the year 1921 it is anticipated that there will be an appreciable improvement in the staff position and a material reduction in the overtime expenditure. For the period April, 1919, to March, 1920, the overtime expenditure (including Sunday and Holiday pay) was £96,485 as against £88,838 for the period January to December, 1919. The increase is partly due to the salary adjustments under the Fourth Report of the Public Service Commission of Inquiry and the consequent payment of overtime at the higher rates provided in the regulations.

Education of Post Office Messengers.—During the period under review further progress was made in this direction and arrangements, which have since been carried out, were put in train for the establishment of a Messengers' school at Cape Town. This matter falls to be dealt with in the next report.

Returned Soldiers.—Employment of.—The Department has reinstated approximately 1,000 returned soldiers in their old positions, and since November, 1919, has found employment for 339 men who were not in the Post Office service before the war. These men have been employed as follows:—Temporary assistants and sorters, 43; night telephone operators, 9; postmen and mail porters, 10; watchmen, 1; engineer's workmen, 271.

Sick and Holiday Leave.—For the twelve months ended 31st March, 1920, 4,294 officers obtained 69,613 days' sick leave averaging 16.25 days per officer, and 5,348 officers were granted 145,240 days' vacation leave, averaging 27.14 days per officer.

The total number of days' vacation leave granted during the twelve months ended 31st March, 1920, was less than during the period ended 31st December, 1919, and there was a slight diminution in the number of officers released. More officers were released, however, during the months January to March, 1920, than was the case during the same period of 1919. The decrease in the leave granted is due to the fact that during the first quarter of 1919, the majority of officers on active service in Europe availed themselves of the opportunity of taking leave before returning to duty in the Union.

SUMMARISED PARTICULARS OF POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE BUSINESS.

Description.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.
<i>Posts :</i>			
Revenue	£1,167,825	£1,176,810	£1,370,755
Expenditure	£1,074,466	£1,224,213	£1,408,543
Offices Open No.	*2,604	*2,623	2,684
Posting receptacles	*1,027	*1,030	1,056
Private Post Bags in use	*3,334	*3,348	3,548
Private Boxes let	—	—	28,852
Main posts running	*291	*288	284
Branch posts running	*1,154	*1,189	1,247
Cost of inland mail conveyance	£168,937	£174,298	£181,143
Cost of Ocean Mail Service	£154,446	£154,590	£153,751
Undeliverable articles dealt with No.	*2,061,018	*1,869,932	1,887,807
Money Orders issued	400,829	379,210	444,066
Amount	£2,654,226	£2,546,188	£3,549,881
Commission.. .. .	£19,218	£17,951	£30,325
Money Orders paid No.	378,369	350,511	425,381
Amount	£2,384,357	£2,330,008	£2,998,101
Postal Orders issued No.	3,501,159	3,214,457	3,347,766
Amount	£2,064,118	£1,890,185	£1,974,031
Poundage	£22,175	£20,887	£21,353
Postal Orders paid No.	3,087,933	2,847,670	3,002,910
Amount	£1,749,724	£1,597,794	£1,707,723
Postal Drafts issued No.	13,008	11,144	10,583
Commission.. .. .	£385	£335	£314
<i>Savings Bank :</i>			
Accounts open No.	288,833	306,103	307,486
Amount to credit of depositors :			
In ordinary accounts	£6,553,538	£6,972,875	£6,386,289
In Certificates	£663,700	£744,900	£693,500
Deposits No.	526,525	533,433	518,415
Amount including interest	£3,862,339	£4,107,832	£4,374,458
Withdrawals No.	230,692	232,172	285,816
Amount	£3,591,106	£3,688,596	£4,961,044
Balance due to depositors	£7,217,238	£7,717,775	£7,079,789
<i>Telegraphs and Telephones.</i>			
Telegraph offices open No.	*1,703	*1,738	1,781
Telegrams "Forwarded"	6,223,441	6,813,455	7,634,423
Revenue telegraphs	£380,024	£417,963	£475,231
Revenue telephones	£425,752	£461,872	£523,641
Expenditure	£746,662	£850,724	£978,819
Capital Account :			
Telegraphs	*£1,271,203	*£1,273,648	£1,283,104
Telephones	*£2,210,390	*£2,272,420	£2,533,818
Miles telegraph wire No.	44,195	44,201	43,938
Miles telephone wire	124,571	127,094	131,061
Working	112,365	117,008	123,520
Spare	12,206	10,086	9,206
Miles of telegraph-telephone wire	7,313	7,541	7,603
Telephone Exchanges	437	452	468
Public Call Offices	2,145	2,202	2,242
Exchange Lines	25,233	26,887	30,069
Telephones in use	37,195	39,122	43,022
Telephone Calls	79,095,700	89,129,000	94,643,080
Telephone Trunk Calls	3,523,900	3,382,000	4,000,000
<i>General :</i>			
Total amount of money dealt with	£24,000,000	£24,500,000	£25,000,000
Revenue collected for other Departments	£782,453	£967,680	£1,108,439
Free services rendered	—	—	£300,455
Persons employed No.	9,327	9,424	10,148
Full time staff	6,834	6,917	7,579

*At 31st December. †Excluding mail cart drivers, native runners and others.

APPENDIX 1.—DEPARTMENTAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following statement for the financial year ended 31st March 1920, covers the whole of the transactions of the Post Office including the value of services rendered to and by other Government Departments for which no actual payments were made.

To Expenditure : Cash Payments	£2,387,362	By Revenue : Cash Receipts	£2,369,627
Value of services for which no cash debit is taken :—		Value of services for which no cash credit is received :—	
Interest Liability on Capital—		Services rendered to Imperial Government and Union Departments—	
From Loan Acts for Telephones ..	75,732	Postage	144,349
From Loan Acts for Telegraphs ..	29,326	Telegrams	57,642
From Revenue Funds, Telephones ..	14,247	Telephones	47,766
From Revenue Funds, Telegraphs ..	16,096	Miscellaneous	12,380
For Stores Reserve	8,460	Services rendered to Provincial Departments—	
Value of Government Buildings ..	35,582	Post-Tele-Tele-	
Pension Funds : Government Liability—		age.grams.phones.	
To Contributors to Funds	45,183	Cape £4,713 £5,667 £604	10,984
To Non-Contributors	8,310	Transvaal .. 12,230 1,516 2,253	15,999
Services rendered by other Departments—		Natal 4,612 1,682 450	6,744
Printing and Stationery	36,204	O.F.S. 2,883 1,336 366	4,591
Minor Works and furniture, maintenance and repairs, rents, rates and taxes	48,475	Amount apportioned to Capital for direction and supervision of Telephone and Telegraph Construction Works	2,340
Law Costs and damages	400	Balance	39,623
Minor Services	360		
Miscellaneous—			
Control and Audit Office Services ..	2,308		
	£2,712,045		£2,712,045

APPENDIX 2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, FINANCIAL YEAR, 1919-20.

REVENUE.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	£		£	£
(a) Postal (£1,370,755).			Postal, Telegraph and Telephone.		
Postage	1,074,188		Salaries, Wages and Allowances	1,865,788	
Commission on Money Orders ..	30,325		Subsistence and Transport ..	39,870	
Poundage on Postal Orders ..	21,353		Uniforms, etc.	13,134	
Private Box and Bag Rents ..	35,838		Conveyance of Mails	334,894	
Ocean Mail Service Receipts ..	141,033		Subsidy and Subscriptions ..	896	
Miscellaneous	19,217		Maintenance of Telegraphs and		
Savings Bank Revenue	48,801		Telephones	63,450	
		1,370,755	Purchase and Maintenance of		
(b) Telegraphs (£475,231).			Transport	19,767	
Ordinary Paid and Press Messages	389,060		Technical Furniture and Fittings	4,145	
Registered Address Fees	7,305		Postage Stamps	20,737	
Miscellaneous	78,866		Telegraph and Telephone Stores	1,132	
		475,231	Postal Stores	16,080	
(c) Telephones (£523,641).			Incidental	7,469	
Private Wire and Exchange Rentals	262,546				
Subscribers Call Fees	183,046				
Call Office Receipts	65,482				
Miscellaneous	12,567				
		523,641			
Grand Total Revenue		£2,369,627	Grand Total of Expenditure		£2,387,362

APPENDIX 3.—REVENUE COLLECTED FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS DURING 1919-20.

Inland Revenue.			Customs and Excise.		Agricultural Department.	Total.
Licences.	Revenue Stamps.	Warmbaths Tickets.	Customs Dues.	Cigarettes Stamps.	Fumigation Fees.	
£97,103	£368,509	£1,152	£299,923	£341,745	£7	£1,108,439

APPENDIX 4.—SUMMARY OF TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CAPITAL ACCOUNT AT 31ST MARCH, 1920.

	From Loan Funds.		From Revenue Funds.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Telegraphs	823,666	0 0	459,438	0 0	1,283,104	0 0
Telephones	2,131,383	0 0	402,435	0 0	2,533,818	0 0
Total	£2,955,049	0 0	£861,873	0 0	£3,816,922	0 0

APPENDIX 5.—POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Annexure (a).—Summarised particulars of Post Office Savings Bank business for the year ended 31st March, 1920.

Particulars.	No.	Amount.		Particulars	No.	Amount.	
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Savings Bank Offices open	684			Fees collected :			
Accounts opened—				For replacing lost deposit			
Ordinary	56,741	..	..	books .. .. .	..	94	16 0
Trust Fund	102	..	..	For issuing special War-			
Accounts closed—				rants .. .. .	..	1,194	0 0
Ordinary	55,363	..	..	For issuing special War-			
Trust Fund	97	..	..	rants by telephone ..	..	1,026	8 0
Accounts remaining open—				For issuing Circular War-			
Ordinary	306,400	..	..	rants .. .. .	..	3	0 0
Trust Funds	1,086	..	..	For Retransferring Certifi-			
Deposits—Ordinary ..	515,321	4,124,247	7 9	cates without notice ..	..	759	0 0
Trust Funds	3,094	65,729	7 0	Commission on transfers to			
Withdrawals—Ordinary ..	284,950	4,904,127	6 7	Foreign States .. .. .	..		7 6
Trust Funds	866	56,917	2 1	Penny Bank Accounts ..	633	11,448	7 7
Certificates—Issued ..	..	201,000	0 0	Dormant Accounts	51,479	35,179	16 0
Repaid .. .. .	..	252,400	0 0	Deceased depositors—claims			
Interest added to depositors'				paid	1,687	87,964	0 9
accounts :				Cross Entry transactions—			
Ordinary & Trust Funds	..	184,481	5 7	Deposits	140,680	..	..
Certificate holdings ..	..	26,089	14 2	Withdrawals	96,891	..	..
Balance due to depositors :				Lost books replaced ..	976	..	..
Ordinary accounts .. ..	..	6,280,954	1 6	Special Warrants issued ..	23,880	336,300	3 4
Trust Fund Accounts ..	..	105,334	11 5	Circular Warrants issued ..	61	1,756	0 0
Certificate Accounts ..	..	693,500	0 0	Telegraphic Warrants issued	116,834	1,593,715	1 10
Amount invested with				Transferred to Revenue (Ac-			
Public Debt Commis-	..	6,918,707	12 5	counts having no trans-			
sioners .. .. .	..			actions for 15 years) ..	15,839	9,752	12 5
Average amount due to each				Transferred from Revenue	116	559	10 11
depositor—				Inter Province transactions :			
Ordinary and Trust Fund	..	20	15 5	Deposits	18,686	172,445	10 8
Accounts .. .. .	..	23	0 6	Withdrawals	19,716	361,670	15 5
Total balance .. .. .	..			Inter Province Transfers ..	267	12,769	18 11
Average amount of interest				Transfers—			
earned on investments ..	..	4	1 4	From other States ..	716	49,344	2 3
Average cost of each trans-				To other States	870	92,928	8 5
action .. .. .	..		11½				

Annexure (b).—General Statement of Transactions in Depositor's Accounts.

Year.	Deposits and Interest.		Withdrawals.		Balance due to Depositors.		Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor in Current Account.	Accounts.		
								Opened.	Closed.	Re- main- ing open.
	No.	£	No.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	No.	No.	No.
1915-16	471,028	3,655,816	228,866	3,444,153	5,940,223	767,800	22 16 7	53,038	41,565	260,196
1916-17	515,613	3,747,555	220,282	3,405,374	6,282,405	670,000	22 15 5	52,279	36,571	275,904
1917-18	526,525	3,862,339	230,692	3,591,106	6,553,538	663,700	22 13 10	51,286	38,357	288,833
1918-19	533,433	4,107,832	232,172	3,688,596	6,972,875	744,900	22 15 7	52,880	35,610	306,103
1919-20	518,415	4,374,458	285,816	4,961,044	6,386,289	693,500	20 15 5	56,843	55,460	307,486

Annexure (c).—Savings Bank Certificates.

Year.	Certificates issued.	Certificates repaid.	Balance due to Certificate holders.
	£	£	£
1915-16	144,300	178,900	767,800
1916-17	125,600	223,400	670,000
1917-18	160,600	166,900	663,700
1918-19	242,300	161,100	744,900
1919-20	201,000	252,400	693,500

Annexure (d).—Accounts transferred from and to the Savings Banks of other Administrations during the Financial Year 1919-20.

Name of Administration.	Union of South Africa.			
	Transferred to		Transferred from.	
	No.	£ s. d.	No.	£ s. d.
India	2	10 17 2	—	—
Mozambique	—	—	3	33 9 9
Southern Rhodesia ..	96	3,277 2 9	79	3,792 5 6
South West Protectorate	11	902 12 11	5	192 16 10
United Kingdom	607	45,153 9 5	783	88,909 16 4
	716	49,344 2 3	870	£92,928 8 5

Annexure (e).—Cash Account for Financial Year, 1919-20.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.					
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance 1st April, 1919:—					Cash paid	4,613,881	3 2		
Ordinary Account	6,972,875	1 3			Less 1918-19 Warrants cashed	28,943	15 10		
Certificate Account	741,900	0 0				4,584,937	7 4		
			7,717,775	1 3	Add 1919-20 Warrants issued but not cashed	36,409	18 2		
Cash received ..	3,781,983	18 11				4,621,347	5 6		
Inter Province Transfers	12,769	18 11			Inter Province Transfers	12,769	18 11		
Official entries ..	116,174	11 10			Official entries ..	116,174	11 10		
Retransfers from:—					Transfers to:—				
Revenue	559	10 11			Revenue	9,752	12 5		
Certificate Account	252,400	0 0	4,163,888	0 7	Certificate Account	£201,000	0 0	4,931,044	8 8
Certificates issued ..			201,000	0 0					
Interest allowed on:—					Certificates retransferred			252,400	0 0
Ordinary Account	184,481	5 7			Balance due to depositors on the 31st March 1920:—				
Certificate Account	26,088	14 2	210,569	19 9	Ordinary Account	6,386,288	12 11		
					Certificate Account	693,500	0 0	7,079,788	12 11
Total receipts	£12,293,233	1 7			Total Repayments	£12,293,233	1 7		

Annexure (f).—Balance Sheet.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance due to depositors on the 31st March, 1920:—		Funds lodged with the Public Debt Commissioners for investment ..	6,918,707 12 5
Ordinary Account	6,386,288 12 11	Interest added to depositors' Accounts for 1919-20, due by the Public Debt Commissioners	210,569 19 9
Certificate Account	693,500 0 0		
Warrants issued but not cashed by 31st March, 1920	36,409 18 2		
Amount over-invested with the Public Debt Commissioners ..	13,079 1 1		
	£7,129,277 12 2		£7,129,277 12 2

Annexure (g).—Statement reconciling the total figures for the year 1919–20, with the Cash Account figures shown on the 31st March, 1920.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance due to depositors on the 31st March, 1920 as per Savings Bank ledgers	7,079,788	12	11	Balance due to depositors on the 31st March, 1920, as per Accountants ledgers	6,905,628	11	4
Outstanding warrants on the 31st March, 1920	36,409	18	2	Interest added to depositors' accounts for 1919–20	210,569	19	9
	£7,116,198	11	1		£7,116,198	11	1

APPENDIX 6.—UNION LOAN CERTIFICATES.

Approximate Issues and Repayments from 22nd September, 1919, to the 31st March, 1920.

	£1	£10	£25	Over £25	Total Issues.		Repayments.	
					Units.		Units.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
S.W. Pro. ..	172 1 0	193 15 0	755 12 6	3,576 12 6	6,062	4,698 1 0	75	58 2 6
Cape ..	19,535 8 6	45,632 0 0	129,463 15 0	738,291 7 0	1,203,771	932,922 10 6	29,138	22,581 19 0
O.F.S. ..	2,287 16 0	4,309 0 0	15,035 0 0	52,332 13 0	95,438	73,964 9 0	2,064	1,599 12 0
Transvaal ..	10,634 11 0	21,452 0 0	75,039 7 6	279,730 16 6	499,170	386,856 15 0	22,447	17,396 8 6
Natal ..	5,052 4 6	10,935 5 0	42,993 2 6	196,972 9 0	330,262	255,953 1 0	6,409	4,966 19 6
Union ..	37,682 1 0	82,522 0 0	263,286 17 6	61,270,903 18 0	2,134,703	1,654,394 16 6	60,133	46,603 1 6
			Balance		2,074,570	1,607,791 15 0		

APPENDIX No. 7.—STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBER AND VALUE OF MONEY ORDERS—

(a) Issued in the Union of South Africa for Payment in other Countries.

(b) Issued in the Union for Payment within the Union, During the financial year ended 31st March, 1920.

Money Order exchange with.	Issued in the Union.		Issued in other Countries.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£		£
Australia	4,818	18,871	1,950	6,960
British East Africa	51	720	510	6,310
Canada	1,008	18,583	636	2,450
Ceylon	29	217	70	278
France	839	2,574	205	1,692
Hong Kong	101	791	23	57
India	12,223	207,806	624	9,206
Mauritius	252	1,840	788	14,848
Mozambique	709	7,353	811	22,910
New Zealand	317	1,912	385	2,289
Norway	339	1,658	133	1,626
Nyasaland	64	693	84	1,043
Rhodesia	1,131	9,960	6,705	43,269
St. Helena	32	257	224	5,918
South West Africa	937	10,091	6,307	45,678
United Kingdom	42,202	300,233	3,896	100,918
United States of America	15,301	803,608	1,638	6,944
Zanzibar	13	172	28	481
Army Money Orders	—	—	37,580	566,283
Total (a)	80,366	£1,387,339	62,597	£839,160
(b) Issued in the Union for payment in the Union	363,694	2,162,542		
	444,060	£3,549,881		

APPENDIX NO. 8.—ARTICLES OF MAIL MATTER HANDLED AT POST OFFICES IN THE UNION IN 1919-20.

Mail Matter.	Letters.		Postcards.		Newspapers.	Book and sample packets, printed matter.
	Prepared	Taxed.	Single.	Reply paid.		
Posted	136,258,148	1,457,768	8,545,108	21,164	26,932,228	48,028,916
Received	132,451,644	1,305,460	7,740,252	20,228	22,424,532	37,213,488
In Transit.. ..	49,064,860	895,284	2,292,836	16,692	12,101,908	11,010,220
Totals	317,774,652	3,658,512	18,578,196	58,084	61,508,668	96,252,624

Mail Matter.	Parcels.		Registered articles.	Official Correspondence.		Total number of articles handled.
	Ordinary.	Agricultural.		Letters.	Other articles.	
Posted	3,387,904	370,812	2,311,868	13,937,820	1,550,744	242,852,480
Received	3,218,280	296,972	2,435,108	10,326,732	966,212	218,398,908
In Transit.. ..	2,021,804	311,844	1,303,016	2,020,876	214,396	81,253,796
Totals	8,628,048	979,628	6,049,992	26,285,428	2,731,352	542,505,184

	Price. s. d.
Factories Act 23 of 1918, Structural Requirements of the ..	0 6
Fencing Act, No. 17, 1912 (English and Dutch)	0 6
Field-Cornet's Manual, 1904 (English) ..	2 0
French Refugees at the Cape, (Cloth) (G. Graham Botha) ..	5 0
Geodetic Survey of South Africa, Vol. I., 1894	7 6
Do. do. Vol. II., 1899	10 6
<i>Gaslacht Register der Oude Kaapsche Familien:</i>	
Vol. 1, A-J, $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloth ..	7 6
Do. do. do. ..	14 0
Vol. 2, A-O, $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloth ..	7 6
Do. do. do. ..	11 6
Vol. 3, P-Z, $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloth ..	17 0
Do. do. do. ..	7 6
Do. do. do. ..	13 9
Do. do. do. ..	20 0
1 Set Vols. 1, 2, and 3, $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloth ..	21 0
<i>Gazette, Cape Govt., Proclamations and Principal Govt. Notices, Index to, 1803-1881 ..</i>	6 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Govt., Proclamations and Principal Govt. Notices, Index to, 1891-1901 ..</i>	6 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Govt., Index to, to June, 1906 ($\frac{1}{2}$ yearly) ..</i>	1 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Govt., Index to, July, 1906, to December, 1908 ($\frac{1}{2}$ yearly) ..</i>	2 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Govt., Index to, January, 1910, to 30th May, 1910 ..</i>	2 6
<i>Gazette, Union Govt., Index to, June to September, 1910 ..</i>	5 0
<i>Gazette, Union Govt., Index to, January, 1911, to March, 1914 ..</i>	5 0
<i>Gazette, Union Govt., Index to, April, 1914, to September, 1918 (Quarterly) ..</i>	2 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Official, Index to, June to December, 1910 ..</i>	1 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Official, Index to, January to June, 1911 ..</i>	1 0
<i>Gazette, Cape Official, Index to, July, 1911, to December, 1918 ($\frac{1}{2}$ Yearly) ..</i>	1 6
<i>Gazette, Cape Official, Index to, January, 1919, to June, 1920 ..</i>	0 6
Griqualand West, Laws of, 1871-1880 ..	6 6
Historical Documents (Theal), Dutch, 1896, Vols. 1 and 2 ..	1 6
Historical Documents (Theal), Dutch, 1911, Vol. 3	12 6
Horse, Diseases of and their Treatment, by Dr. Hutcheon (English or Dutch) ..	4 0
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