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Colonial Secretary's Office,
24th June, 1915.

THE GOVERNOR directs the publication, for general information, of the following Annual Report on the Post Office Department for the year ended 31st March, 1915.

By command,

ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

General Post Office, Jamaica, 15th June, 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the forty-seventh report on the Postal and Telegraph Department for the financial year ended 31st March, 1915.

REVENUE COMPARED WITH ESTIMATES.

Postal	..	..	..	£41,486	18	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Telegraphs	..	..	..	8,255	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
				49,742	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Revised Estimates are—						
Postal	..	..	..	42,500	0	0
Telegraphs	..	..	..	7,500	0	0
				50,000	0	0

2. There has therefore been a decrease in the forecast of Postal Revenue of £1,013 and an increase on Telegraph of £755 or a net decrease of £258, the original estimate called for a total of £52,000 and this I feel convinced would have been realised were it not for the check administered by the great European War waging since August, 1914.

3. Below is a comparison of the collections for 1914-15 with those for the two years immediately preceding.

	1912-13.			1913-14.			1914-15.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Postage	40,992	13	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	42,213	8	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	38,790	1	8
Commission on Money Orders	364	3	10	315	0	6	684	15	11
Local com. on British Postal Orders	753	19	4	787	2	0	943	3	1
Commission on Local Postal Orders	402	14	1 $\frac{1}{2}$						
Miscellaneous	583	3	9	750	16	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,068	17	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Telegraph	8,125	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	7,811	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8,255	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	51,221	9	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	51,877	17	1	49,742	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$

4. An examination of the foregoing discloses a decrease on account of postages of £3,423, while all the other items shew an increase in comparison with the preceding year.

5. The increase in commission accruing from Money Orders is due to the fact that during the latter part of the year the Bank rates having risen the public availed themselves of the use of the Money Order Exchange to a considerable extent until it became necessary to increase the commission charged as the Department would have found itself bearing the cost of remittance at the Bank rates in settling its balances with the United Kingdom and the United States to its detriment.

6. The estimated receipt from commission accruing from British Postal Orders sold and paid was £1,000, the actual is £943 or £67 less.

7. Miscellaneous receipts received an augmentation of £384 from Passengers fares in connection with the Motor Mail and Passenger Service, Ewarton to Montego Bay, the Public Works Department having taken the service entirely under its control since July, 1914.

8. The increase in Telegraph receipts is £414, and would, I feel convinced, have been more had it not been for the effects of the War; the receipts for the first six months of the year under review are £663 in excess of the similar six months of 1913-14.

RETROSPECT.

9. The progress, from a financial point of view, of the Department is exhibited in the undernoted return and shews that in the last ten years the Revenue has increased by £16,295 or nearly 50% and this notwithstanding a reduction in telegraph charges.

Date.	Postage.	Commission on Money Orders and British Postal Orders.	Commission on Local Postal Orders.	Telegraphs.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1894-94 ..	20,974	400	450	5,909	229	27,962
1904-05 ..	26,539	597	657	4,792	862	33,447
1914-15 ..	38,790	1,628	..	8,255	1,069	49,742

EXPENDITURE COMPARED WITH ESTIMATES.

10. The expenditure during the year was as under:—

	Expenditure.			Estimates.		
Personal Emoluments	£24,945	14	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	£25,181	6	8
Mail Conveyance	18,357	19	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	22,132	9	8
Services	6,075	19	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,744	1	0
Telegraph Maintenance by Department	466	15	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	468	5	0
	49,846	9	3	54,526	2	4
Telegraph Line Construction, Public Works Department	518	4	0	869	12	0
Telegraph Line Maintenance, Public Works Department	2,286	8	8	2,425	0	0
	52,651	1	11	57,820	14	4

11. There has therefore been a saving on the entire appropriation of £5,169 which is exhibited under each item above and is due to the rigid economy exercised since August, 1914.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE.

	1912-13.			1913-14.			1914-15.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Personal Emoluments	22,927	0	0	22,752	8	10	24,945	14	2½
Mail Conveyances	15,470	0	0	16,698	8	4½	18,357	19	8½
Other Charges	8,864	0	0	7,352	9	6½	6,075	19	5½
Telegraph Maintenance by Department				281	11	6	466	15	10½
	47,261	0	0	47,084	18	2¼	49,846	9	3
Maintenance of Telegraph Line by Public Works Department	2,089	0	0	2,048	4	8	2,286	8	8
Construction of Telegraph Line by Public Works Department	1,860	0	0	1,577	0	5	518	4	0
	51,210	0	0	50,710	3	3¼	52,651	1	11

12. The excess of expenditure for the year under review compared with the previous year is £1,941 and is due principally to items under personal emoluments and the increased cost of mail conveyance in connection with the Motor Mail Service for the northside. The vote for Construction and Maintenance of Telegraph Lines is provided and administered by the Public Works Department.

RETROSPECT OF EXPENDITURE.

13. Below are figures under the principal heads of expenditure for each tenth year from 1894-95:—

Date.	Personal Emoluments.	Services.	Maintenance of Telegraph Lines.	Mail Conveyances.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1894-95	13,039	5,787	1,630	13,448	33,904
1904-05	15,369	3,934	1,132	11,290	31,725
1914-15	24,946	6,543	2,804	18,358	52,651

14. I direct attention to the fact that this is the first period during the last ten years that the Expenditure of the Department has been in excess of its Revenue Receipts, £52,651 Expenditure against £49,742 Receipts; were I to add estimated credits for the conveyance free of charge of official correspondence, and for the collection of £6,250 of import duty handed over to the Revenue Department, there would certainly be a surplus instead.

POSTAL MISCELLANEOUS.

15. The items which comprise the Miscellaneous Receipts aggregating £1,068 17s. 9d. are as under:

	£	s.	d.
Rent of Private Letter Boxes	182	8	0
do do Bags	31	10	0
Fines	5	19	0
Delivery Fees on C.O.D. Parcels	73	14	5
Detention Fees	0	3	0
Surplus Cash	1	2	10
Accrued postage on parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom	502	5	2
Miscellaneous	6	15	5
Value found in Unclaimed Dead Letters	20	13	1
Passengers Fares collected	496	15	4
Discount on Stamps purchased	0	3	4
	1,068	17	9

16. An excess of £318 is exhibited over the similar collections for 1913-14 and is due to the introduction of the item "Passenger Fares" and referred to at paragraph 7 of this report.

17. Impressed Stamps for Revenue purposes to the amount of £631 8s. 9d., and Judicial Stamps to the amount of £2,537 9s. 6d. were sold in Kingston and at District Post Offices and accounted for to the Stamp Commissioner.

DISTRICT POST OFFICES.

18. On the 18th June, 1914, a Post Office was established at "Fairy Hill" in the parish of Portland. The opening of other District Post Offices was suspended owing to the great necessity for economy, and the fact that the depressed conditions brought about by the War had produced some doubt with regard to the Revenue Receipts from new Post Offices.

19. The total number of District Post Offices in existence at the close of the year was 199.

20. The Post Offices at Alligator Pond in the parish of Manchester, and Windsor Castle in the parish of Portland were temporarily closed on the 15th July, 1914, and 26th August, 1914, and re-opened on the 20th September, 1914, and 5th October, 1914, respectively.

21. The Cross Roads Post Office premises were enlarged in June, 1914, to meet the demand for space in consequence of the increased business conducted at this office.

22. The usual inspection of District Post and Telegraph Offices was carried out by the Travelling Supervisor, in two cases there were shortages disclosed, in one the P.M. died suddenly and her accounts on examination were found wanting, in the other the Post Master was prosecuted but the case did not result in a successful issue for the prosecution, the amounts short have been in due course made the subject of a claim against the Guarantee Association.

CIRCULATION OF CORRESPONDENCE.

23. The return hereunder is an Estimate of the various articles of mail matter which have passed through the General Post Office, Kingston, and the several District Post Offices.

	Outwards.			Inwards.		
	1913-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Inland Mails—						
Ordinary Letters—						
Public	2,484,349	2,608,564	2,347,705	3,098,020	3,252,920	2,927,628
Official	310,915	326,460	293,814	449,640	458,632	412,769
Post Cards	339,080	345,860	311,274	346,990	353,928	318,536
By Vessels, not contract—						
U. K. and United States of America—						
Ordinary Letters	836,608	836,951	661,060	1,034,332	1,383,069	1,102,514
Post Cards	161,465	200,750	83,526	46,095	45,625	44,936
Other Countries—						
Ordinary Letters	313,432	564,685	398,850	618,280	671,308	351,835
Post Cards	47,567	12,541	8,890	5,405	5,167	4,108
Registered Letters, oversea	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	4,493,416	4,895,811	4,105,119	5,499,762	6,170,649	5,162,326

Registered letters for delivery in Kingston—

	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Local	80,668	80,426	77,976
Foreign	27,391	30,511	25,262
Official	33,743	34,449	33,758
Registered letters for delivery in the country—			
* Local	16,872	19,310	17,565
Foreign	57,230	64,740	48,998
Official	12,168	..	..
Registered letters for despatch—			
Oversea	26,627	29,531	24,283

At District Post Offices.

	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Ordinary letters	1,238,146	2,909,956	1,803,946
Post Cards	78,101	79,100	79,541
Registered letters	170,391	155,467	124,423
	1,486,638	3,144,523	2,007,910

24. It will be observed that there has been an appreciable falling off in the number of pieces of mail matter compared with the two preceding years, this is due principally to the conditions brought about by the great European War. In the case of letters to and from "Other Countries" the completion of the Panama Canal and the consequent return to Jamaica of many native labourers have also had the effect of reducing the number of letters exchanged.

25. I am pleased to be able to record that the number of ordinary letters alleged to have been posted and reported not received at their destination have been very few and in many of such cases the Department has been able to find the missing article, defective direction being accountable for its temporary hold up. I cannot too strongly urge the careful direction of mail matter before posting and the necessity for registration in the case of letters containing value, indeed the Department does not undertake the conveyance of letters containing value unless registered. The public fail to recognise the responsibility placed in the way of every individual through whose hand it passes from the time the letter leaves the writer until it reaches the addressee.

26. The House to House Delivery of correspondence by Letter Carriers in Lower St. Andrew was on the 1st February, 1915, extended to include the Woodford Park District and Admiral Pen, the letters being distributed from the Cross Roads Post Office, with this addition the Department is now delivering mail matter at the door of the addressees throughout Kingston and the residential area of Lower St. Andrew, and to expedite this the public are earnestly requested to have their correspondence plainly addressed, the Department experiences much difficulty in correctly placing mail matter frequently addressed "St. Andrew, Jamaica," there are many post offices in the parish of St. Andrew, and without the experience of some of its long service officers it is impossible to decide to which post office such a missive should be sent, frequently complaint is made that it should have been sent to the "Cross Roads P.O." and not the "Halfway Tree P.O."

27. Requests are also frequently made for the temporary detention in Kingston of mail matter addressed to either of the two offices above named and it may seem a small matter to the addressee to carry out, but it has in many instances to be carried out under the greatest pressure of despatch and frequently in consequence of the delay which would result to the despatch it must be overlooked to the annoyance of the individual who made the request, but the Department in such cases have to exercise discretion and not permit the greater to suffer for the less. These facilities, I am advised, are not given at Post Offices abroad, the rule being that correspondence must be forwarded as addressed and any request for redirection must be given at the office of destination.

INSURED LETTERS.

28. Hereunder is a comparative return of insured letters received and despatched, there is a decrease of 21 in the number received and an increase of 6 in those despatched. I take this opportunity to point out that letters are not accepted for insurance to the United States of America, a list of the countries which are included in the scheme will be found in the Post Office Handbook issued annually. There has not, I am glad to report, been any loss of an insured packet.

Year.	No.	Received.			No.	Despatched.		
		Declared Value.				Declared Value.		
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1912-13 ..	27	2,990	0	0	28	1,407	5	2
1913-14 ..	38	1,583	8	2	19	554	9	6
1914-15 ..	17	1,120	19	6	25	272	14	0

RETURN LETTER BRANCH.

29. The Return Letter Branch received and disposed of the undernoted pieces of mail matter:—

	Paid.	Unpaid.
Letters returned to United Kingdom	3,550	301
" " Other Countries	9,211	4,497
" " writers in the Island	54,515	22,875
Letters destroyed being illegible or anonymous, writers not having been found	24,565	17,486
Newspapers returned to publishers	420	

30. The above figures are in a very small proportion when contrasted with the return at paragraph 23 and do not, I submit, disclose an unsatisfactory result considering the floating nature of the population, particularly in Kingston.

31. £814 8s. 2½d. was found in registered and unregistered packets numbering 5,016 and were duly reposted to the writers.

32. Irrecoverable postage written off amounted to £104 7s. 10½d.

MAIL CONVEYANCE—OCEAN.

33. Hereunder is a comparative return of the mails received and despatched from abroad:—

	Outwards.						Inwards.					
	1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.		1912-13.		1913-14.		1914-15.	
	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.	Vessels.	Mails.
Kingston—												
Non-contract	609	2,843	643	2,575	397	1,978	705	2,763	699	3,656	440	2,082
Outport—												
Non-contract	89	193	57	100	79	189	130	400	..	..	..	..
	698	3,036	700	2,675	476	2,167	835	3,163	699	3,656	440	2,082

The mails in transit Jamaica numbered 196.

34. There is a very perceptible decrease in the number of vessels which have conveyed mails Inwards and Outwards and consequently in the number of mails as well, this is due to the cessation of the Hamburg-American Line of Steamers consequent on the War.

35. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company discontinued on the 13th January, 1915, their fortnightly service between Southampton and New York via Barbados, Trinidad, La Guayra, Savanilla, Cartagena, Colon and Jamaica, maintaining only that portion without calling at Jamaica thence to New York. Mails for the other West India Islands have since been forwarded every fortnight through the British Packet Agent at Colon to make connection with the contract service of the Company still maintained intercolonially, this is not as expeditious but is nevertheless very useful.

36. Return mails are received in a similar manner as well as via New York.

37. The steamers of the United Fruit Company have afforded regular opportunities for the frequent despatch of mails direct to England, the United States and Central America.

38. The cost to the Department for its Ocean Mail Conveyance is £3,746 and is, I submit, not an unreasonable amount for the service rendered.

39. I am glad to be able to record that no mails to or from Jamaica have been lost as a result of the European War.

MAIL CONVEYANCE—INLAND.

40. £14,612 is the amount expended for the maintenance of the Inland Mail Conveyance.

41. The Daily Motor Mail conveyance recorded at paragraph 38 of the report for 1913-14 as having been started on 20th October, 1913, between Ewarton and Dry Harbour was subsequently extended to Montego Bay and successfully conducted under the supervision of the Public Works Department until the 31st March, 1915, when in the interest of economy it was remodelled and the Motor conveyance is now operated between Ewarton and St. Ann's Bay, and Falmouth and Montego Bay, the intervening gap, St. Ann's Bay to Falmouth, being supplied by mule van conveyance.

42. On the 14th November, 1914, a tri-weekly Motor Mail and Passenger Service contract between Kingston and Port Antonio was awarded to Mr. Harold E. Bolton and this has been creditably carried out up to date, the public have appreciated the opportunity for passenger conveyance.

43. All other contracts with the Department have been faithfully performed and the Public Works Department have supervised those services under their control in a manner creditable to the officers of that Department.

MONEY ORDERS.

44. A comparative statement shewing the issues and payments of Money Orders is attached to this report and discloses increased transactions in the case of issues payable in the United Kingdom and the United States. In both cases this is due to the effect which the war has had on the money market necessitating a rise in the Bank rates. the commercial public taking advantage immediately of the Money Order System until, in order to check the increased business which would not have proved lucrative, since our balances have to be settled by Bank drafts, the rates of commission were increased as follows:—

On 8th October, 1914, United Kingdom

Up to £10

For each additional £1

Commission 3/
5d.

On 24th March, 1915, United States and Canada—

Up to £1

" £2

" £3

" £4

Commission 9d.
" 1/
6
" 1/11, etc.

45. The Money Order System was intended to afford an easy means of remittance of small sums and was clearly never intended for the use of Commercial Houses to make large remittances, had the system not been used in this wise the necessity to increase the rates to keep just above the Bank rates would not have arisen. The small remitter therefore suffers as a result of the action of his bigger brethren.

POSTAL ORDERS.

46. Hereunder is a return of the British Postal Orders issued during the year.

1913-14.				1914-15.			
Denomination.	No.	Face Value.	Commission.	Denomination.	No.	Face Value.	Commission.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6d.	13,943	438 11 6	29 0 11½	6d.	12,717	317 18 6	26 9 10½
1/	36,937	1,846 17 0	76 19 0½	1/	35,128	1,756 8 0	73 3 8
1/6	22,787	1,709 0 6	47 9 5½	1/6	22,800	1,710 0 0	47 10 0
2/	36,817	3,681 14 0	76 14 0½	2/	37,783	3,778 6 0	78 14 3½
2/6	27,978	3,497 5 0	58 5 9	2/6	29,322	3,665 5 0	61 1 9
3/	22,878	4,531 14 0	95 6 6	3/	22,063	3,309 9 0	91 18 7
3/6	10,089	1,765 11 6	42 0 9	3/6	9,578	1,676 3 0	39 18 2
4/	27,867	5,573 8 0	116 2 3	4/	28,272	5,654 8 0	117 16 0
4/6	11,879	2,672 15 6	49 9 11	4/6	11,778	2,650 1 0	49 1 6
5/	44,544	11,136 0 0	185 12 0	5/	39,031	9,757 15 0	162 12 7
7/6	4,330	1,623 15 0	27 1 3	7/6	5,160	1,935 0 0	32 5 0
8/	15,028	6,011 4 0	125 4 8	8/	14,495	5,798 0 0	120 15 10
10/	35,735	17,867 10 0	297 15 10	10/	34,765	17,382 10 0	289 14 2
20/	16,140	16,140 0 0	269 0 0	20/	14,940	14,940 0 0	249 0 0
Total	326,952	77,303 6 0	1,496 2 5	Total	317,832	74,331 3 6	1,440 1 5

47. Compared with the previous year the issues have been less in number by 9,120 and in amount by £2,974.

48. Postal Orders actually sold amount to £74,991 16s. 6d. the similar amount last year was £76,844 18s. 0d.

49. The total commission collected on sales was £1,454 16s. 10d. The credit accruing to the Colony under the arrangement being as follows:—

Local commission collected on larger denominations	£371 2 3½
Allowance by the London Post Office at the rate of £1 on every 1,000 Orders sold and paid	558 9 3
Orders not claimed by Payees within six years from the end of the year in which issued	12 12 0
	<u>942 3 6½</u>

50. British Postal Orders were paid as under during the year in comparison with the previous year:—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
At the G.P.O., Kingston	£9,472	£10,255
At the Treasury, do	12,664	14,663
At District Post Offices and Parochial Treasuries	20,074	20,274
	<u>£42,210</u>	<u>£45,192</u>

PARCELS POST.

51. On reference to the usual comparative statement of the Parcels Post transactions attached to this report it will be found that the number of parcels received from the various Countries with which there exists an exchange total 47,469 or 2,618 less than in 1913-14, the declared value on these parcels was £56,860 or £99 less than 1913-14, while the import duty assessed was £6,028 or £1,005 more than the assessment in 1913-14, this is due to the fact that in September 1914, the rate of ad valorem duty was increased from 10% to 10½%.

52. The actual duty collected and transferred to the Revenue Department is £6,249 19s. 6d. and is £756 10s. 8d. in excess of the similar transfer last year.

53. Officers of this Department continue to conduct the assessment and necessary examination of parcels, the Customs Branch of the Revenue Department only coming in in cases of detention on account of under valuation, in such cases fines are inflicted when excuses warrant it rather than confiscation, during the year £1 11s. 3d. was collected under this head.

54. A reference to the Jamaica Tariff will disclose that nearly every article imported into the Colony is subject to duty, Post Office Officials have in consequence to be very watchful that packets passing through the post, i.e., by letter or printed matter mail and which present the appearance of anything liable to duty, are detained for examination and collection of import duty. During the year the result of such detention was a yield of £492 17s. 9d. to the Revenue.

55. The public are advised to use the parcels post exchanges always as a means for the importation of articles liable to duty as delay and consequent irritation to the importer must occur otherwise and there is always the danger of a packet escaping the eye of the Post Office Official and loss of Revenue to the Government. The examination of these packets is limited to Kingston where alone the necessary machinery exists; payment of duty and delivery can now be effected at any Post Office throughout the Island.

56. A falling off of 1,599 is exhibited in the total number of parcels despatched, 15,596 being the previous year's record, while 11,997 is the number despatched during the year under review.

57. The portion of the Post Office revenue receipts which are directly traceable to the foreign parcels post is £1,209 and when this is compared to the cost of handling and distributing the parcels despatched and received, it cannot be recorded as profitable; there is however to be taken into account the duty collected and transferred to the Revenue Department.

58. Below is a statement of the insured parcels and Cash on Delivery parcels received and despatched:

<i>Insured Parcels.</i>				<i>Cash on Delivery Parcels.</i>			
Received.				Received.			
Year.	No.	Amount.		No.	Trade Charges.	Fees.	
1912-13	2,838	£10,795 18 4	3,869	£5,414 2 1	81 13 3		
1913-14	2,873	9,479 19 3	4,264	5,699 3 10	106 18 0		
1914-15	2,178	7,280 2 0	3,962	5,113 11 3	99 15 6		
Despatched.							
1912-13	130	£1,214 8 2					
1913-14	222	1,365 18 7					
1914-15	249	1,227 2 11					

59. There has been a decrease in the number of Insured and Cash on Delivery parcels received which is in keeping with the decrease shown on the total number of parcels received and is due to the conditions brought about by the war.

60. In consequence of the trouble experienced in delivering Cash on Delivery parcels due to the addressees not paying the trade charges promptly and receiving the parcel, it became necessary to modify the scheme, and this has been done with the consent of the London Post Office. A Cash on Delivery parcel is now only retained at the disposal of the addressee for 28 days after its receipt and is returned to the sender at the expiration of that time without further notice to the addressee, this has, I am glad to say, had the desired effect, and the office is now more rapidly cleared and ceases to be somewhat of a bonded warehouse. Exporters have also assisted by, in some cases, not forwarding parcels Cash on Delivery except a remittance on account is made.

TELEGRAPHS.

61. At the end of the year there were 70 Telegraph Offices and 38 Telephone Offices in existence.

62. A telephone office was established at the Frankfield Post Office in the parish of Clarendon on 30th June, 1914, and one at the Rock River Post Office in the same parish on 11th March, 1915.

63. The installation of the Closed Circuit System of telegraphy in place of the Open Circuit which was begun in 1910 and gradually extended is now complete throughout the Island, and has resulted in a marked improvement in the rapidity of handling messages due to direct working to principal stations thus obviating transmissions.

64. New sections of telegraph lines from Kingston to May Pen, Chapelton to Spaldings, and Balaclava to Santa Cruz were completed during the year and as a result alternative routes north and south to Dry Harbour and Santa Cruz have been provided, and there therefore now exist three independent routes to the West end of the Island.

65. Alternative routes have also been provided between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay and Kingston and Port Antonio. With all these alternative routes the Department feels in a better position to maintain its service.

66. The Phantophone (a type of telephone adapted to work simultaneously over the same wire with telegraph) was introduced and 18 offices have been installed. These offices are the smaller type of District Post Offices and are conducted by local individuals, there has therefore been some difficulty experienced owing to the lack of technical knowledge by the P. Ms., but with careful instructions from the Travelling Supervisor on his visits of inspection the difficulty will be overcome.

67. Vibratory superimposed telegraph circuits were introduced and gave excellent results. Five such circuits were installed. The employment of this system enables two separate and distinct telegraph circuits over the same line and at the same time to be worked, but full advantage cannot be taken of it owing to inadequacy of staff.

68. The usual return of messages sent and received is attached and displays an increase of 1,675 over the year 1913-14.

69. During the year £3,172 9s. 7d. was collected on behalf of the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, and £198 4s. 11d. on behalf of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, which amounts have been duly paid over to the respective Superintendents.

MISCELLANEOUS.

70. Mr. J. B. Lucie-Smith, the late Postmaster, retired from the public service on the 20th March, 1915, after a service of 43 years, ten of which were spent in this Department. During his administration the development of several postal and telegraph facilities was rendered possible, notably among them being the introduction of Motor Mail Conveyance and the sixpenny telegrams. I regret to record that Mr. Lucie-Smith died on the 4th May, 1915.

71. I record my cheerful testimony of the creditable manner in which the staff in Kingston and at the several District Post Offices have performed their duties, this has been particularly noticeable during the period 4th August, 1914, to say December, 1914, when the urgent necessity existed for the prompt transmission of telegraph messages at all hours of the night.

72. The usual returns are herein enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ELLIS WOLFE,

Postmaster for Jamaica.

The Honourable,
The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Kingston.

Returns showing the Gross Revenue and Expenditure of the Post and

1914-15.

	£	s.	d.
Postage on unpaid correspondence	829	6	6
Stamps sold by Post Office Department	32,973	10	2
Stamps sold by Stamp Commissioner	4,987	5	0
Rent of private letter boxes	182	8	0
Fees for conveyance of private letter bags	31	10	0
Commissions on Money Orders	684	15	11
Void Money Orders			
Commissions on British Postal Orders	943	3	1
Fees for detention of country letters per packet for delivery in Kingston			
Commission on Inland Postal Orders			
Miscellaneous	610	16	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Telegraph Stamps sold	7,236	11	11
Collections by Jamaica Government Railway	360	12	0
Additional charge on books of Telegraph forms	2	10	0
Fees for keeping Telegraph Offices open out of office hours	50	17	6
Official Telegrams	594	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Telegraph Code Addresses	12	17	3
Passenger Fares Sold	496	15	4
	49,997	12	4 $\frac{3}{4}$

LESS REFUNDS—

Postal Revenue	£252	11	10
Telegraph Revenue	2	17	2
	255	9	0
	£49,742	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$

Telegraph Department during the financial year ended 31st March, 1915.

	1914-15.		
	£	s.	d.
PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS—			
Salaries of Staff	7,254	17	4
Allowance for services out of office hours	2,408	12	9
Wages for sorters, letter carriers, etc.	1,839	13	4
Telegraph messengers, Head Office	238	16	3
Telegraph messengers, District offices and office servants	1,212	13	8½
Messenger conveying mails between Post Office and Railway Stations	341	16	6
Box clearers and indoor men	523	15	3
Clerical assistance	155	12	2
Salaries of District Postmasters and Telegraph Clerks	9,460	11	3
Duty pay allowance	152	18	5
Salaries of Auxilliary Telegraph Clerks	368	14	10
Commission of 1 per cent. on sale of stamps	280	15	3
Remuneration of Officers of Public Works Department in connection with mail services	305	0	0
Allowance to cover loss by Banking Clerk	12	11	8
Discount of 2½ per cent. on stamps sold by Stamp Commissioner	173	19	7
Opening of new Post Offices—Fees to D. P. Ms.	15	14	5
Train Post Office clearers	153	17	8
Com. of 10% on sale of Motor Passenger Fares	45	13	10
	£24,945	14	2½
OTHER CHARGES—			
Travelling charges	704	3	11
Mail bags and wrappers	130	6	6
Date stamps, seals, etc.	63	4	1
Twine and wax and lead seals	536	1	9
Conveyance of letter carriers by tram car	250	0	0
Manufacture of Stamps and post cards	149	12	7
Rent of Post Offices	1,312	1	0
Telegraph Stores	466	15	10½
Ship letter gratuities	3,059	18	9
Uniforms	332	18	5
Rent of telephones	43	1	0
Advertising			
Lighting	135	11	5
Water Supply	137	15	11½
Repairing instruments	26	7	6
Cleaning latrines	138	18	6
Contingencies	484	2	3½
Furniture	129	15	8
Porterage	564	14	11
Subsidy to Jamaica Government Railway	400	0	0
Mail conveyance miscellaneous	160	9	5½
Mail conveyance, Inland	8,834	0	9
Services by Railway	4,085	16	8
Renewal of live stock	92	1	11
Transit rates payable Postal Union Countries other than United Kingdom	686	1	2
Proportion of cost of supply and repairs of Parcels Post receptacles, United Kingdom and Jamaica	25	17	4
Purchase and repairs of bicycles	82	3	11
Repairs to clocks	39	9	3
Stamp selling machine and power to operate Electric Stamping machine	6	15	4
Instruments for Electrical Inspector	2	18	1
Opening of new Post Offices, mail conveyance and furniture	19	8	10
Private letter boxes	53	7	4
Premium on bonds	191	7	6
Purchase of Motor Cars	1,439	11	0
Losses through hurricane, etc., written off	89	16	5
Train Post Office—Uniforms	26	0	0
	24,900	15	0½
RECAPITULATION—			
Personal Emoluments	£24,945	14	2½
Other Charges	24,900	15	0½
	£49,846	9	3

PARCELS RECEIVED.

From	Consignments.			Parcels.			Import Duty		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
United Kingdom	52	50	42	23,754	24,111	20,856	£ 4,296 11 2	£ 3,271 17 3	£ 3,826 3 11
British West Indies	118	134	117	244	334	227	11 19 5	15 5 2	20 5 4
United States of America	645	740	691	16,451	21,104	21,404	1,241 14 7	1,372 13 1	1,827 6 7
Dominion of Canada	54	48	50	5,336	1,940	1,435	150 7 8	133 1 3	107 2 9
Turks Island	8	7	5	13	16	7	0 5 6	0 4 7	0 5 1
Canal Zone	250	200	155	3,781	2,580	3,539	200 18 4	230 0 0	247 8 8
Bermuda	1	1	1	1	2	1			0 0 8
	1,128	1,181	1,061	49,500	50,087	47,469	5,901 16 8	5,023 1 4	6,028 13 0

	Postage accrued to Jamaica.			Declared value of Parcels.		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	1,136 5 6	1,200 9 6	761 7 7½	34,853 4 9½	37,408 2 5	39,957 7 5
British West Indies	..	..	..	143 6 1	239 5 11	117 13 11
United States of America	..	..	..	11,946 13 8½	15,380 17 9	14,180 10 7
Dominion of Canada	68 2 3	38 13 6	45 8 0	1,590 5 6	1,384 11 0	818 16 11
Turks Island	..	..	..	2 9 6	1 14 0	2 0 0
Canal Zone	..	..	..	1,794 18 11	2,543 15 1	1,783 11 3
Bermuda	..	..	..	0 8 0	0 15 0	..
	1,204 7 9	..	806 15 7½	50,331 6 6½	56,959 1 2	56,860 0 1

PARCELS DESPATCHED.

	Consignments.			Parcels.			Accrued to Jamaica.		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	51	48	53	4,846	5,845	4,841	325 16 4	213 16 2	120 15 11
British West Indies	209	229	176	1,381	1,594	1,357	30 17 0	36 4 0	9 12 0
United States of America	174	193	128	3,021	3,578	3,533	179 18 0	215 10 6	202 7 0
Dominion of Canada	28	36	41	1,491	1,439	778	47 8 0	54 6 9	33 17 4
Turks Island	11	11	8	60	70	49	6 13 0	5 3 0	1 7 4
Canal Zone	149	164	103	1,239	931	637	56 1 0	55 0 0	34 9 6
Bermuda	1	..	..	1	..	..	0 1 0	..	..
H. M. Warships	..	..	12	..	..	802	..	..	..
	623	690	521	12,039	13,596	11,997	646 14 4	580 0 5	402 9 1

	Declared value of Parcels.		
	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	5,587 1 6½	7,284 18 0	7,274 9 11
British West Indies	1,229 12 1	1,378 12 2	1,078 3 3
United States of America	1,583 15 2½	2,134 8 3	1,905 15 4
Dominion of Canada	1,766 17 0	1,911 4 10	565 12 7
Turks Island	44 4 7	49 15 11	27 16 8
Bermuda	1 0 0	..	..
Canal Zone	701 8 9	387 2 1	269 12 2
H. M. Warships	..	..	42 13 6
	10,913 19 2	13,146 1 3	11,164 3 5

Return shewing the number of Telegraph Messages sent from and received at each Telegraph Station, from 1st April, 1914, to 31st March, 1915, as compared with return from 1st April, 1913, to 31st March, 1914.

Station.	1913-1914.		1914-1915.		Remarks.
	Messages sent.	Messages received.	Messages sent.	Messages received.	
Kingston	55,811	63,175	57,463	58,713	Transmitting station and Telephone.
Myrtle Bank	1,891	751	992	309	
Spanish Town	5,232	5,233	5,333	5,098	
Bog Walk	2,057	1,935	2,191	1,994	
Linstead	2,175	2,087	2,233	2,157	Transmitting station and Phantophone.
Ewarton	1,375	1,236	1,259	1,309	
Moneague	1,709	1,914	1,385	1,627	
Claremont	948	886	948	963	And Telephone.
St. Ann's Bay	6,614	6,257	6,483	6,093	Transmitting station.
Runaway Bay	660	519	498	463	
Dry Harbour	1,050	1,020	1,041	964	Ditto
Brown's Town	2,952	3,140	2,929	2,901	Ditto
Cave Valley	426	515	498	735	
Boroughbridge	532	542	664	746	
Stewart Town	411	496	373	565	Telephone Station.
Jackson Town	288	307	473	521	Telegraph and Telephone.
Ulster Spring	452	527	450	591	Ditto
Rio Bueno	596	499	869	472	
Duncans	883	961	1,007	1,019	And Telephone.
Falmouth	5,686	5,504	5,066	4,713	
Montego Bay	12,229	12,040	12,261	12,679	Transmitting Station and Telephone.
Ramble	812	805	814	861	Telephone.
Sandy Bay	313	279	319	410	
Lucea	3,994	3,875	5,127	4,700	
Green Island	954	972	865	1,034	
Grange Hill	915	889	845	880	
Sav-la-Mar	9,570	8,234	8,531	7,792	Ditto and Telephone and Phantophone.
Bluefields	320	435	260	321	Telephone Station.
Black River	5,072	5,029	5,461	5,184	Telegraph and Telephone.
Lacovia	929	748	1,013	866	
Santa Cruz	858	781	865	806	Transmitting Station.
Malvern	1,837	1,727	2,003	1,723	
Mandeville	5,856	5,849	5,021	5,163	Ditto
Newport	671	897	546	687	
Shooter's Hill	972	868	787	781	Ditto
Mile Gully	593	673	487	650	
Balaclava	2,271	1,863	2,426	2,018	And Telephone.
Christiana	1,101	1,298	1,681	1,827	
Spaldings	861	833	1,306	1,118	
Porus	858	795	688	655	
May Pen	2,205	1,710	2,112	1,678	Ditto
Chapelton	2,796	2,795	2,692	2,543	And Telephone.
Alley	840	824	959	1,106	Ditto and Telephone.
Salt River	423	461	587	561	Telephone Station.
Race Course	371	486	337	577	Ditto
Milk River	343	387	400	347	Telephone.
Old Harbour	3,018	2,800	2,852	2,736	
Yallahs	534	441	472	419	
Morant Bay	5,104	4,616	5,462	5,039	Transmitting Station.
Seaforth	468	393	434	466	
Trinity Ville	639	663	460	516	And Telephone.
Port Morant	1,676	1,709	1,867	1,672	Telephone Station.
Bowden (wireless)	1,234	805	629	1,015	Opened 1.2.10.
Bowden	399	317	516	417	Telephone.
Bath	669	730	598	680	Changed to a telephone station 28.6.09.
Golden Grove	361+802	314+645	1,359	903	Transmitting Station and Telephone.
Hector's River	328	275	312	308	
Manchioneal	1,386	1,346	1,377	1,277	
Priestman's River	456	394	517	407	
Port Antonio	18,353	16,383	17,326	17,605	Ditto
Hope Bay	602	533	586	540	
Buff Bay	1,274	1,277	1,470	1,234	
Annotto Bay	4,437	4,241	4,478	4,323	Transmitting Station.
Highgate	1,249	1,365	1,155	1,288	
Port Maria	7,494	6,792	6,817	6,299	
Oracabessa	1,012	1,082	1,066	1,041	Ditto
Retreat	460	525	452	507	And Phantophone.
Gayle	1,117	1,063	1,062	1,124	Ditto
Ocho Rios	1,141	1,092	1,010	1,038	
Port Royal	901	558	1,636	833	And Telephone.
Cross Roads	1,857	2,271	2,044	2,825	
Halfway Tree	1,255	2,415	1,383	2,690	
Gordon Town	204	328	266	384	Telephone Station.
New Castle	76	81	55	53	
Castleton	209	187	224	221	Ditto
Stony Hill	268	473	252	433	Ditto
Constant Spring	427	596	561	811	And Telephone
Willamsfield	1,695	1,282	1,293	1,085	Telephone Station.
Railway	4,871	4,672	3,712	3,822	
Glengoffe	419	551	424	678	Telephone.

Return shewing the number of Telegraph Messages sent, etc., *continued.*

Station.	1913-1914.		1914-1915.		Remarks.
	Messages sent.	Messages received.	Messages sent.	Messages received.	
Brainerd ..	114	228	181	345	Telephone.
Lawrence Tavern ..	144	174	174	209	Ditto
Richmond ..	3,016	2,341	3,337	2,479	Telephone Station.
Little River ..	284	256	338	321	Ditto
Bethel Town ..	545	536	594	876	Ditto
New Market ..	454	503	359	516	Ditto
Cambridge ..	288	315	676	747	Ditto
Darliston ..	328	337	455	505	Ditto
Petersfield ..	986	980	1,131	1,182	Ditto
Alexandria ..	628	654	569	617	Ditto
Clarks Town ..	507	622	393	447	Ditto
Negril ..	677	546	615	588	Ditto
Little London ..	636	833	744	999	Ditto
Montpelier ..	623	562	731	586	Ditto
Smith's Village ..	156	108	177	132	Ditto
Albert Town ..	138	171	249	300	Ditto
Warsop ..	131	116	158	263	Ditto
Adelphi ..	55	61	260	249	Ditto
Pedro ..	36	64	152	210	Ditto
Carron Hall ..	281	315	432	614	Ditto
Bensonson ..	5	9	62	113	Ditto
Kelletts ..	24	35	317	491	Ditto
Cedar Valley ..	105	95	170	183	Ditto
Troy ..	90	84	119	180	Ditto
Guys Hill ..	226	275	406	604	Ditto
Rock River ..	..	..	8	2	Telephone
Frankfield ..	..	..	336	394	Phantaphone.
Riversdale ..	..	..	244	253	
Troja ..	..	..	148	122	
	226,497	226,497	228,172	228,172	

MONEY ORDERS.

Year.	Jamaica Issue.		Payable in Jamaica.		Proportion of Commission accruing to Jamaica.	Year.	Jamaica Issue.		Payable in Jamaica.		Proportion of Commission accruing to Jamaica.
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	
		<i>United Kingdom.</i>					<i>Turks Islands.</i>				
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1912-13	2,405	9,297 9 6	783	3,235 8 10	143 19 6	1912-13	3	2 1 5	88	362 18 6	1 16 8
1913-14	1,799	8,149 7 7	729	2,712 2 11	115 0 2	1913-14	1	0 8 0	178	638 6 2	3 3 10
1914-15	2,475	37,143 8 0	620	2,204 1 5	362 12 11	1914-15	3	14 0 5	102	382 6 9	2 0 1
		<i>United States of America.</i>					<i>Panama.</i>				
1912-13	3,293	6,947 15 0	29,835	72,230 4 1	177 2 0	1912-13	1	20 7 0	..	..	0 4 10
1913-14	2,713	6,505 2 2	31,328	76,393 18 0	167 3 5	1913-14	15	38 6 10	5	31 3 9	0 4 0
1914-15	2,964	15,422 11 3	24,434	58,851 13 11	290 18 1	1914-15	20	68 6 6	3	10 3 4	0 9 11
		<i>Dominion of Canada.</i>					<i>British Honduras.</i>				
1912-13	381	683 10 4	795	1,942 8 8	19 13 0	1912-13	1	20 7 0	51	115 17 4	0 10 11
1913-14	241	1,035 8 1	1,051	2,357 17 5	18 0 2	1913-14	..	..	61	148 16 5	0 14 11
1914-15	197	844 0 2	965	2,138 4 9	16 10 0	1914-15	1	7 0 0	112	157 6 5	0 8 5
		<i>British Guiana.</i>					<i>Trinidad.</i>				
1912-13	35	192 14 11	46	236 11 5	2 4 9	1912-13	64	73 18 3	104	318 9 1	1 19 11
1913-14	14	51 16 9	39	76 11 8	0 8 11	1913-14	17	110 1 4	96	199 6 6	1 2 7
1914-15	11	37 19 1	37	75 7 6	0 12 5	1914-15	8	43 11 7	92	190 14 11	1 4 9
		<i>Barbados.</i>					<i>Bermuda.</i>				
1912-13	32	99 18 5	62	170 11 4	1 18 11	1912-13	4	15 13 2	25	173 11 8	1 2 0
1913-14	11	32 6 6	44	107 7 3	0 11 6	1913-14	3	9 16 4	21	57 6 4	0 6 0
1914-15	17	66 5 3	31	139 1 8	1 2 6	1914-15	..	..	34	382 5 2	1 18 3
		<i>Windward and Leeward Islands.</i>					<i>Grand Cayman.</i>				
						1912-13	58	262 11 3	81	756 17 7	5 6 4
						1913-14	57	303 15 5	198	1,068 11 9	5 14 2
						1914-15	44	183 5 4	63	578 5 8	4 1 8
		<i>Port Limon.</i>					<i>Cayman Brac.</i>				
1912-13	28	109 7 11	58	127 3 8	1 7 8	1912-13	..	..	5	36 13 6	0 3 8
1913-14	10	69 2 10	59	129 14 6	0 14 8	1913-14	1	0 4 6	59	145 4 3	0 14 6
1914-15	13	91 6 2	39	83 11 11	1 0 2	1914-15	..	..	5	12 15 4	0 1 3
		<i>St. Thomas, B. W. I.</i>					<i>St. Thomas, B. W. I.</i>				
						1912-13	..	Nil	..	Nil	Nil
						1913-14	1	0 2 7	2	0 17 11	0 0 1
						1914-15	..	..	7	56 9 7	0 5 8