

POST OFFICE.

POSTAL STATISTICS.

The Post Office Department reports an increase in the fiscal year 1913-14 of 913 miles in the system over which the mails are carried by railway, thus bringing the total actual track mileage for the carriage of mails to 29,704 on March 31, 1914. The total mileage of mail conveyance in the fiscal year 1914 was 58,617,893, of which 34,666,281 was by railway, 2,409,649 was by water, and 21,541,963 was by stage or road. The total represents an increase in mileage, as compared with 1913, of 4,288,257, of which 2,079,539 was by railway, 72,702 by water, and 2,136,016 by road. The increase in the estimated number of letters and post cards sent during the fiscal year 1913-14 was 43,519,000, or 6.3 p.c. The expenditure of the Department increased by \$1,939,253, and the surplus from the operations of the Service was \$134,158. At the end of the calendar year 1914 there were 2,737 rural mail delivery routes, on which were erected 116,683 boxes; the corresponding figures for the calendar year 1913 were 2,016 routes and 74,359 boxes. A parcel post for the transmission within the Dominion of parcels up to 11 lb. in weight was inaugurated on February 10, 1914. From January 1, 1914, the parcel post rate to Australia was reduced to 24 cents for a parcel not exceeding 1 lb. in weight and 12 cents for each additional lb., the corresponding rates from Australia to Canada being 1s. and 6d. respectively.

63.—Revenue and Expenditure of the Post Office Department for quinquennial periods 1868-1910 and for the years 1911-1914.

Fiscal Years.	Net revenue.	Expendi- ture.	Deficit.	Surplus.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1868.....	808,858	785,299	-	23,559
1870.....	788,905	933,399	144,494	-
1875.....	1,172,381	1,509,113	336,732	-
1880.....	1,179,678	1,818,271	638,593	-
1885.....	1,790,495	2,488,315	697,820	-
1890.....	2,357,389	3,074,470	717,081	-
1895.....	2,792,790	3,593,647	800,857	-
1900.....	3,183,984	3,645,646	461,662	-
1905.....	5,125,373	4,634,528	-	490,845
1910.....	7,958,547	7,215,337	-	743,210
1911.....	9,146,952	7,954,223	-	1,192,729
1912.....	10,482,255	9,172,035	-	1,310,220
1913.....	12,060,476	10,882,805	-	1,177,671
1914.....	12,956,216	12,822,058	-	134,158