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MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS.

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POSTS.

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REPORT ON THE WORKING

OF THE

CHINESE POST OFFICE

FOR THE

ELEVENTH YEAR OF CHUNG-HUA MIN-KUO (1922).

NINETEENTH ISSUE.

SHANGHAI:
PUBLISHED AT THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POSTS
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REPORT ON THE CHINESE POST OFFICE

FOR THE ELEVENTH YEAR OF CHUNG-HUA MIN-KUO (1922).

Part I.

GENERAL.

THE high hopes entertained at the close of 1921 of the results of the following year's working were not entirely realised in 1922. The state of the country being generally unpropitious for postal expansion, the thought and effort so fully expended in recent years upon inland extension and local mail ameliorations have this year been turned in large measure to the improvement of staff conditions. The abnormal and growing increase in the prices of commodities and the wages of labour has necessitated revisions of pay for employés of all classes upon an almost unprecedented scale. Steps have also been taken to reduce the working hours of the sorting and delivering staff who in the past have had to labour for longer hours than are generally prescribed in other government departments. This has necessitated an increase of *personnel* quite apart from the additional requirements under this heading to meet the augmented business anticipated as a result of the closing of the foreign Postal Agencies. A generous scheme of superannuation, too, has been introduced for the subsidiary grades, giving them the comfortable hope of an old age free from pecuniary anxieties.

These measures combined with the decline in the value of money and the consequent rise in the cost of all services have greatly enhanced the establishment charges, so that rigid economy in every other line of postal expenditure has been the keynote of the year. Building projects have been curtailed or abandoned, with exception of the new Shanghai Post Office, the completion of which as soon as possible is imperative, and also such others of minor importance as were already nearing completion. This policy, inculcated with considerable urgency and some anxiety, is accountable for the fact that the balance on the year's working is still on the right side of the account. The additional staff charges, however, have not yet had time to be completely felt; they will be appreciated to the full in future years.

A source of additional revenue was sought in the reversion from 1st November to the old domestic tariff in force during the early years of the Chinese Post Office, and the application of the 15-cent unit for international correspondence as approved by the Madrid Convention, but as the purpose of this alteration of the tariff was misconstrued and the application of the higher rates has not proved practicable, they are being withdrawn from the beginning of the new year.

In keeping with the general economy scheme there has been a progressive replacement of the more expensive Town Box Offices by Stamp-selling Agencies with pillar-boxes at their doors.

The method of taking statistics has been generally amended this year by the omission of all free correspondence—Acknowledgments of Receipt, Money Order and Trade Charge Advices, Reclamations, Bulletins de Verification, and all other strictly official correspond-

ence,—so that the results shown might more and more approximate to accuracy in the production of true figures of postage-paying, *i.e.*, revenue-producing, correspondence. Moreover, the statistics of mail matter which in past years were taken both at Sub-Offices and their Controlling Offices have this year been taken only at the Head Offices.

A glance at the General Returns of Mail Matter Posted will show that there was good and sufficient reason for the strict enforcement of the policy of economy and retrenchment. It has long been realised that the rate of progression of increase could not, under the old conditions, be maintained from year to year indefinitely, and in the early months it was recognised that 1922 would not be a very favourable year. Decreases of 5½ millions, 9¾ millions, and half a million, respectively, in the quantities of ordinary, registered, and express articles posted are shown, as compared with the figures of 1921,—representing a total diminution of barely 3½ per cent.,—yet, when allowance is made for, roughly, 10 million covers of free, *i.e.*, "On Service," correspondence omitted from the statistics this year, and for the fact that in past years discrimination between the mail matter posted at Sub-Offices and that posted at their Controlling Head Offices has not been so fully insisted upon, the final result probably represents an increase in mail matter handled, but one so small as to be a negligible accession in a turn-over of 400 millions.

The individual district reports which appear in Part II will show to what extent the state of the country was inimical to postal work, and the statistical tables will illustrate district development. Unfortunately for fair and accurate comparison, fictitious declines in normal business in any year, due to military activities in certain areas, cause fictitiously large increases in mail matter figures in these same areas in the following year, provided conditions during the statistical periods have returned to normal. But 1922 has been unfavourable in most districts, in both halves of the year. Indeed to a large extent the financial situation has been saved by the increase in parcels posted and especially by the enhanced money order business which continues to grow rapidly.

As the year closes the foreign Post Offices are withdrawing in accordance with the decisions taken at the Washington Conference. In this way the Powers have evinced their confidence in this Administration, and, when the necessarily trying period of transition is past, there is every reason to believe that full satisfaction will be given to the increasing postal needs of all residents in China.

EQUIPMENT.

Motor Transport.—The only additions to the Service fleet during the year were one "Packard" 2½-ton truck purchased for Tsingtau and two "Warner" trailers of 3-tons capacity each, one assigned to Peking and one to Tsingtau. One of the Tientsin "Ford" trucks was dismantled and written off, so that the year closes with 31 trucks in commission.

Postal Supply Department.— The functions of the Department were considerably enlarged when it undertook the manufacture of pillar-boxes, safes, and strong-room doors in its own workshops; but from the points of view of both economy and quality of output, the step taken has been amply justified. The year 1922 witnessed further developments in the way of internal production and has made this Department

a strong coefficient of the various Service undertakings that make for efficiency and economy. The mechanical department is now turning out, in quantities sufficient to cover all the needs of the Service, lead seals and lead types for daters (Chinese and foreign) at a cost from 30 per cent. to 45 per cent. lower than it has hitherto been possible to secure supplies. In the printing department important innovations were made. In the course of the year a large "Babcock" printing press was laid down primarily for the printing of postcards, which hitherto have been printed by the Customs Statistical Department. When not engaged on postcards, the press is used for the printing of forms, of which large quantities have already been turned out. Cloth tags, which have superseded the comparatively expensive wooden and manila tags formerly in general use, are also made and printed at the Supply Department at a cost considerably cheaper. The various uniforms in use in the Service were standardised in design during the year.

STATISTICS OF MAIL MATTER AND PARCELS.

(*a.*) MAIL MATTER.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING MAIL MATTER POSTED.

ARTICLES.	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
Ordinary	311,237,300	367,691,100	406,607,390	401,093,740
Registered	24,070,850	28,261,600	30,133,260	20,425,250
Express	4,589,170	4,914,770	5,353,110	4,824,700
Insured	25,672	19,465	22,598	19,926
TOTAL ..	339,922,992	400,886,935	442,116,358	426,363,616

With a view to obtaining more accurate figures of mail matter posted, a revised procedure for the taking of domestic statistics was put into operation during the year. The new scheme excludes the figures of free articles of Service correspondence which numbered over 9 millions in the return for the year 1921. Besides, the statistics of mail matter which hitherto were taken both at the Sub-Offices and at their Controlling Offices in certain districts have, under this new procedure, been taken only at the Head Offices. The above, in addition to the adverse results of certain districts in which business has been affected by local disturbances, has resulted in a decrease in the statistical figures. Consequently, the grand total of mail matter posted amounts to 426 millions, as against 442 millions in the year 1921, a decrease of 16 millions. The figures under discussion, however, surpassed those of 1920 by 26 millions. Of the above decrease of 16 millions, ordinary articles accounted for about 5½ millions, registered articles 9¾ millions, and express articles and insured letters slightly over half a million.

The Town Post System (articles posted for local delivery).—Extended use of the town service is again recorded for the year under review, and the returns show an

increase of almost 6½ millions above the total for 1921. The figures for the last four years are given hereunder:—

——	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
Articles posted for local delivery ..	20,928,000	24,843,100	28,537,660	35,008,790

Native Clubbed Mails.— The next table shows that the *min-chü* (民局) business has had a steady increase during the last four years. *Min-chü* and/or *hsin-k'o* (信客) smuggled mail matter seized during the year amounted to 5,425 articles, as against 6,287 last year. While 17 registered *min-chü* in Kwangtung have closed their doors, two in Anhwei, two in Kiangsi, six in Hunan, and 52 in Fukien have been registered in the Government Post Office.

NATIVE CLUBBED MAILS POSTED.

——	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
Number of packages	163,812	190,350	175,850	166,019
Number of letters contained in above packages.	2,903,352	3,017,463	3,383,550	3,435,011
Weight: kilos	23,294	24,979	25,538	26,564

(*b.*) PARCELS.

TABLE SHOWING PARCELS POSTED.

——	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
Number	3,551,105	4,216,220	4,569,660	4,791,420
Weight: kilos	14,788,916	20,416,137	23,372,410	24,464,426
Value: $	54,602,207	70,565,108	80,992,385	114,355,940

The increases in the number and weight of parcels posted in 1922 are not so great as the recorded results of 1921 show over those of 1920. The reason is attributed to the decrease in business in the provinces of Kiangsi, Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Yunnan, and Kweichow. In the beginning of the year, the seamen's strike in Kwangtung adversely affected trade, and all local shipping on the South China coast was entirely suspended for a period of two months. In Kwangsi the incessant blocking of routes and rivers for various causes necessitated the stoppage of the parcel business at various

times during the year. The routes in Yunnan and Kweichow were such that practically no goods could be transmitted from one place to another without strong military escorts.

Apart from these unfavourable conditions, the parcel business in North China continued to increase and more than made good the decreased returns from the southern part of the country, even although the civil war between the Chihli and Fengtien parties likewise affected trade to a certain extent. For instance, the parcel business in Shantung was very depressed during the first half-year but revived during the latter half. The total declared value of parcels posted in Chihli alone has been increased from 8 million dollars to over 20 million dollars, on account of the enormous export of furs to Europe and America. The extension of the "drawback" system by the Customs to goods of Siberian origin, imported into Manchouli (滿洲里) and re-exported abroad in their original packages, also contributed to the increase. In brief, the parcel business in the provinces not specified is on the increase and shows marked improvement.

The volume of ordinary, insured, and C.O.D. parcels dealt with during 1921 and 1922 is shown in the comparative table hereunder:—

—	Ordinary.			Insured.			C.O.D.		
	Number.	Value.	Weight.	Number.	Value.	Weight.	Number.	Value.	Weight.
		$	*Kilos.*		$	*Kilos.*		$	*Kilos.*
1922 ..	4,628,680	105,772,157	23,537,996	117,258	7,828,361	810,967	45,482	755,422	115,463
1921 ..	4,387,070	70,495,999	22,344,715	135,246	9,612,277	917,811	47,344	884,109	109,884
Increase	241,610	35,276,158	1,193,281	—	—	—	—	—	5,579
Decrease	—	—	—	17,988	1,783,916	106,844	1,862	128,687	—

(*c.*) TELEGRAMS TRANSMITTED BY THE POST OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Period.	Accepted Direct from Public.	Received from Telegraph Office.	Total.
1920	785 *	1,919 *	2,704 *
1921	4,807	13,845	18,652
1922	5,588	18,071	23,659

* Representing six months only, *i.e.*, 1st July to 31st December.

This service has been better patronised by the public, as shown in the above comparative table. Since its inauguration on the 1st July 1920 the new scheme has been carried on very satisfactorily and smoothly. Two years' experience gained in harmonious co-operation between the Telegraph and Post Offices convinced the authorities of both Administrations that further development of the Service was desirable and, on the 1st July 1922, an extension was made to places where Third Class Post Offices function with money order facilities but where there are no Telegraph Offices.

BUILDINGS AND LAND.

(*a.*) Buildings.

PEKING (Directorate General).—The extension of the Directorate buildings was completed and occupied in November 1922.

PEKING (local).—The new District Head Office was completed during the year and was occupied on 20th March 1922.

KI-HEI.—The building of three rows of two storied houses for the Chinese staff at Harbin was completed on the 25th July 1922 and occupied as from 1st August 1922. These buildings, equipped with modern fittings, were found to be necessary owing to its being impossible for the Chinese staff to rent quarters at rates which were not prohibitive. The construction of Service-owned buildings comprising the District Head Office and the official residence of the Commissioner at Harbin was, after prolonged preparation, actually commenced on 6th September 1921, and is expected to be completed about the middle 1923. A large building was purchased and altered to meet the needs of the Manchouli Post Office.

SHANTUNG.—The fine main building of the Tsinan Head Office, which was completed only in February 1920, was destroyed by fire on 13th October 1922. The building was insured but, while the Service thus suffers little financially, the loss of adequate working space is severely felt. To meet the demand for greater accommodation the Chefoo Post Office building, owned by the Service, was extended by the erection of a new Parcel Office.

SHANGHAI.—The construction of a modern building for the Shanghai Head Office was commenced towards the end of the year.

The following buildings which were mentioned in last year's Report as nearing completion were finished and occupied during the year:—

Two semi-detached staff residences at Tientsin; the new Kaifeng District Head Office; Wanhsien First Class Office and residence; a large modern Sub-Office in Nanking city; new Post Offices at Swatow and Samshui; a Sub-Office in Canton; and the new District Head Office and staff residences at Tihwa.

During the year sites with buildings used as Post Offices were purchased at the following places:—

Huashih (Peking).
Yenki (Ki-Hei).
Chalainoerh (Ki-Hei).
Kwangshui (Hupeh).
Shingpingkai (Swatow).
Szepingkai (Fengtien).
Hokow (Yunnan).

The official residence of the Co-Director General, hitherto leased, has been purchased by the Postal Service.

A site with buildings in Lanchow City (Kansu) has been purchased to provide official residences for the Commissioner and District Accountant.

At Pingliang in Kansu a site with building has been acquired for the premises of the Second Class Office there.

(*b.*) Land.

Sites for future Post Offices or staff quarters have been acquired in 1922 at:—

Pukow in Kiangsu.
Chowtsun in Shantung.
Hangchow (Chekiang).
Shasi in Hupeh.
Nanning (Kwangsi).
Szepingkai Chinese Mart (Fengtien).
Shihma in Fukien.
Foochow City (Nanchieh).
Shanghai (additional) for Head Office.
Shanghai (Postal Supply Department buildings).
Siushan in Szechwan.

Free sites have been donated to the Post Office by the Chinese Eastern Railway Company at the following places in the Ki-Hei District:—

Imienpo.
Hailar.
Siangfang (old Harbin).
Pokotu.
Chalantun.
Fularki.
Angangki.
Antachan.

At Chungking the property adjoining the existing First Class Office has been acquired for extension purposes.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

The following comparative table shows the number of **Major Establishments** (Post Offices) in the last four years:—

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

ESTABLISHMENTS.	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.MK. (1922).
Head Offices	22	22	23	23
First Class Offices	37	39	40	42
Second Class Offices	1,286	1,320	1,327	1,327
Third Class Offices	344	561	725	759
Sub-Offices	243	272	285	278
Agencies	7,830	8,255	8,632	8,877
TOTAL ..	9,762	10,469	11,032	11,306

The number of First Class Offices is augmented by two, which is accounted for by the conversion of the Hailar, Taiheiho, and Pengpu Second Class Offices into First Class Offices and the re-conversion of Yochow First Class Office to a Second Class Office.

The decrease in the number of Sub-Offices is due to the closing of such Offices as were found by experience to be superfluous and consequently wasteful. The above table, however, does not include the number of new Offices being established at the close of the year in place of the foreign or alien Postal Agencies which are being withdrawn as the result of the resolutions of the Washington Conference.

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

ESTABLISHMENTS.	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
Town Box Offices	2,488	2,538	2,614	1,823
Rural Box Offices	3,121	3,889	4,760	5,404
Rural Stations	6,986	14,379	17,053	19,231
Stamp-selling Agencies ..	—	—	—	821
TOTAL ..	12,595	20,806	24,427	27,279

The above statement shows that while very considerable progress was made in the development of rural services, a decrease of 791 *Town* Box Offices was recorded. This is explained by the policy of gradually replacing the latter by Stamp-selling Agencies and pillar-boxes. No record was kept of such Agencies in previous years owing to their number being insignificant.

MAIL LINES.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF MAIL LINES.

——	8TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1919).	9TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1920).	10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).	11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
Major Courier Lines	467,000	475,000	480,400	491,000
Minor Courier Lines	—	128,300	157,400	167,400
Steamer and Boat Lines ..	72,000	74,600	79,300	82,900
Railway Lines	20,000	20,400	21,200	21,500
TOTAL ..	559,000	698,300	738,300	762,800

Courier Lines.—The increase of 10,600 *li* (3,500 miles) in major courier lines is due to the extension or reorganisation of existing lines; to the total the Szechwan District contributes 3,000 *li*; Shanghai 1,600 *li*; Honan 1,200 *li*; Kwangtung 1,000 *li*; Kansu 800 *li*; Fengtien 800 *li*; and the remaining districts the balance.

The minor courier lines show an increase of 10,000 *li*. The district in which the greatest extension was made in minor lines was Chihli where an addition of 6,094 *li* (2,000 miles) of new rural delivery services was made.

The long contemplated extension of postal communications to Kokonor (Tsinghai 青海) was made during the year. A once-in-40-days mounted courier service has been established between Tangar (呷噶爾) and Jyekundo or Chiku (結古) in Yushu (玉樹), a route in a southwesterly direction, covering a length of 1,380 *li* and crossing the Machu (黃河). In the solitary region two mounted Couriers are allowed to travel together and the time allowed for the trip each way is 20 days. In addition to carrying the mails between these two places, the Couriers also deliver and collect mail matter at the military stations *en route*, performing almost the same work as Rural Postmen.

Steamer, Launch, and Boat Lines.—A total increase of 3,600 *li* is recorded under this heading. To this increase, Kiangsu contributes 2,000 *li*; Chekiang 484 *li*; Shanghai 460 *li*; and the inauguration of the Changteh–Tsingshih launch service adds 400 *li* in Hunan.

Railways.—The railway lines show an increase of approximately 300 *li*, made up as follows:—

Kweihwa–Saratsi	195 *li*.
Kokiuchang–Mengtsz ..	120 *li*.
	315 *li*.

The Directors and officials of the various railways are cordially thanked for assistance cheerfully rendered to the Post Office in connexion with the transport of mails by train.

Motor-car Service.—During the year motor-car services maintained by the various companies in the Shansi and Ki-Hei Districts have been used for the carriage of mails on the following lines:—

Harbin–Paichüan–Antachan line (about 1,000 *li*).
Tsitsihar–Taheiho line (about 900 *li*).
Antachan–Paichüan–Koshan line (about 500 *li*).
Taiyüan–Kiehsiu line (310 *li*).
Taiyüan–Yangmingpao line (300 *li*).
Taiyüan–Fenchow line (230 *li*).

Aerial Postal Service.—During the period 4th August to 11th September, an aerial service carrying passengers and mails between Peking and Pehtaiho was maintained by the Aeronautical Department (航空署), leaving Peking for Pehtaiho every Friday evening, and Pehtaiho for Peking every Monday morning. The number of mail articles transmitted during the period was 170 from Peking to Pehtaiho and 230 from Pehtaiho to Peking.

TARIFF.

The following additions and alterations have been included in the tariff that becomes effective on the 1st January 1923:—

C.O.D. Registered Articles.—Registered articles of all kinds, except samples, may be taxed with C.O.D. charges for transmission between certain Offices.

Insured Boxes.—A service has been inaugurated by which jewellery and valuables may be sent through the Post mutually between certain domestic Offices and between these Offices and Japan.

Insured Letters.—A special Tariff for insured letters with Japan has been introduced.

FINANCIAL.

The financial results for 1922 are as follows:—

Revenue for 1922		$17,100,719.33
Payments:		
(1.) Working Expenses	$13,256,358.37	
(2.) Capital Expenditure (land and new property-buildings, furniture, mail-vans, motor-lorries, boats, and bicycles, etc.)	$ 1,902,421.05	
(3.) Repayment to Customs of advances made to Postal Service..	$ 627,836.57	
(4.) Remitted to Ministry of Communications for railway transport of mails and various expenses connected with Postal Service	$ 855,000.00	
(5.) Working Balance carried forward ..	$ 459,103.34	
TOTAL	$17,100,719.33	

Indemnities for Losses of Mail Matter and Parcels.—Losses of mail matter and parcels have not abated owing to the disturbed conditions in the country, especially in Honan, Szechwan, Kwangsi, and Kweichow Provinces. Comparatively, large amounts of indemnity have been paid for insured parcels lost through shipwreck, fire, etc.

For detailed particulars concerning insured letters and parcels, *see* Appendices *E* and *F*, on pages 74 and 75, respectively.

Revenue Stamps.—Sales for 1922 totalled $81,471.77, as against $88,837.69 for 1921.

Domestic Money Orders.—The following table shows the amounts issued and cashed during 1922, with comparative figures for the three preceding years:—

——	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	$	$	$	$
Issued	43,816,000	58,923,600	68,438,900	76,517,900
Cashed	43,857,500	58,409,300	67,917,400	75,795,600

The average value of each money order issued in 1922 was $22.81; in 1921 it was $21.60. The total value issued shows an increase of 11.7 per cent., over the total for 1921.

The disturbed conditions at many places along the various railway lines and elsewhere during the summer season affected largely the money order transactions, hence the percentage of increase is slightly less than that for the previous year.

FOREIGN MONEY ORDERS.

—	MACAO.	DUTCH EAST INDIES.	HONGKONG.	UNITED KINGDOM.	FRANCE.
	$	$	$	$	$
Issued in China	356.00	17.98	20,987.22	6,145.76	139.70
Cashed in China	383.26	23,589.24	24,535.78	16,650.06	295.38

It is expected that there will be a considerable increase under this heading in future owing to the closing of foreign Post Offices and the making of further money order agreements with various countries.

Trade Charge (C.O.D.) Parcels.—The total sums collected and refunded during 1922 were $628,600 and $614,300, as compared with $795,600 and $824,400, respectively, during 1921. The decrease both in collection and refund was due to the fact that there were fewer C.O.D. parcels sent from Hangchow which is the main centre for C.O.D. transactions.

For detailed particulars concerning the C.O.D. parcels, *see* Appendix *F*, on page 75.

RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN ADMINISTRATIONS.

General.—The relations of the Chinese Administration with the foreign Postal Administrations have continued to be friendly and cordial.

Foreign Postal Agencies in China.—In consequence of the "Resolution regarding foreign Postal Agencies in China" adopted by the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments at Washington on the 1st February 1922, the British Postal Agencies were closed and withdrawn on the 30th November 1922.

The American and French Postal Agencies were closed on the 31st December 1922.

66 Japanese Post Agencies other than those established in the South Manchuria Railway zone were closed on the following dates:—

24 on the 10th December 1922 and 42 on the 31st December 1922.

Exchange Services.—Direct closed mail services were inaugurated between Shanghai and Norway (Kristiania); between Shanghai and Medan (Dutch East Indies); and between Shanghai and Liverpool.

Arrangements were made with the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., the Admiral Line, and the Hamburg-Amerika Linie for the conveyance of Chinese mails to Hongkong, Manila, Japan, the United States of America, and Europe.

Postal Conventions and Agreements.—During the course of the year several Conventions and Agreements were concluded with foreign Postal Administrations, as follows:—

1°. *With Canada.*—Conventions for the direct exchange of parcels and money orders.

2°. *With France.*—Agreements for the direct exchange of insured letters and money orders.

3°. *With Germany.*—Agreements for the direct exchange of parcels and money orders.

4°. *With Holland.*—Agreement for the direct exchange of parcels.

5°. *With Japan.*—Agreements for the direct exchange of ordinary mails, parcels, insured letters and boxes, and money orders.

6°. *With United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.*—Agreement for the direct exchange of insured letters.

7°. *With United States of America.*—Convention for the direct exchange of money orders.

New Services.—The Chinese Postal Administration participates in the Identity Cards service since the 17th August 1922.

Miscellaneous.—A Sino-Japanese Postal Conference was held at Peking from the 18th August to the 9th December 1922, culminating in the withdrawal of 66 Japanese Postal Agencies in China and the signing of the four above-mentioned Postal Agreements.

STAFF.

Foreign Staff.—At the end of the year the staff consisted of 23 Commissioners, 15 Deputy Commissioners (of whom eight were acting as Commissioners), 69 Assistants (one of whom was acting as Commissioner and 15 as Deputy Commissioners), one Service Buildings Surveyor, one Proof-reader, three Postal Officers, and one Transport Officer.

Chinese Staff.—At the end of December 1922 the Chinese staff consisted of two Commissioners, eight Deputy Commissioners (one of whom was acting as Commissioner), 65 Assistants (11 of whom were acting as Deputy Commissioners), 1,143 Clerks, 20 Miscellaneous (five Draughtsmen, two Writers, nine Shroffs, and four Copy-holders), 3,113 Yu-wu-shêng, 2,533 Sorters, 8,875 Agents, 6,572 Postmen (5,823 Ordinary and 749 Rural), 7,386 Couriers, 657 *Laodahs,* Sailors, etc., 653 *T'ingch'ai,* and 1,540 Miscellaneous employés, a total of 32,573, as against 31,843 at the end of 1921.

Withdrawals from the Service during the year of employés of and above the rank of Yu-wu-shêng through resignations, men being paid off or invalided, dismissals, and deaths, numbered 381 (including five foreign). The number of men of and above the rank of Yu-wu-shêng appointed during the year was 891 (including five foreign). Five Clerks were promoted to the rank of Assistant.

Part II.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

PEKING.—Financial and other statistics for the year 1922 show continued postal progress in the Peking District. The receipts were $178,000 more than those for 1921, and $273,000 higher than in 1920. Over 30 million articles of mail matter were posted during the year, an increase of 10 millions, of which increase, newspapers and printed matter account for almost 70 per cent. The decrease of 467,000 registered articles and 3,800 insured letters is presumably due to increased confidence in the ordinary mail services. Articles posted for local delivery totalled 6,890,000, of which letters account for an increase of 130,000 and other articles 1,000,000.

The *min-chü* posted 2,600 packages of clubbed mails containing 72,400 letters and weighing 636 kilos, against 2,000 packages containing 75,400 and weighing 630 kilos in the previous year.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	28,741,100	920,000	480,700	1,087	30,142,887
1921	18,350,000	1,386,800	480,300	4,882	20,221,982
Increase ..	10,391,100	—	400	—	9,920,905
Decrease ..	—	466,800	—	3,795	—

As compared with the total of the previous year, about 6,000 additional parcels were posted during the year under review, in spite of less active market conditions. The weight and declared value, however, declined.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	491,800	2,236,600	6,351,600
1921	485,850	2,535,800	6,881,400
Increase	5,950	—	—
Decrease	—	299,200	529,800

The decrease in money orders issued as shown hereunder is possibly due to the civil strife in this district in the earlier part of the year, which brought business almost to a standstill.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,126,482.21	4,707,024.12
1921	4,469,722.92	4,262,736.86
Increase	—	444,287.26
Decrease	343,240.71	—

During the year one Second Class Office and four Agencies were transferred from the Chihli District to the Peking District; one new Third Class Office and one new Agency were opened, and eight Agencies were converted into Third Class Offices with money order facilities. Two Sub-Offices in Peking and one in Kalgan were closed in the interests of economy, as they were not considered necessary for public convenience.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	2	22	19	27	88	159 *
1921	1	2	21	10	30	91	155 *
Increase ..	—	—	1	9	—	—	4
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	3	3	—

(* Including one First Class Office, three Second Class Offices, two Third Class Offices, one Sub-Office, and two Agencies in Mongolia which are temporarily closed owing to unsettled conditions there.)

The number of minor establishments was augmented during the year by four Rural Box Offices—two newly opened and two transferred from the Chihli District—and 113 Rural Stations. Town Box Offices have gradually been replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies.

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	STAMP-SELLING AGENCIES.	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	87	12 *	12	376	487
1921	—	32	8	263	303
Increase	87	—	4	113	184
Decrease	—	20	—	—	—

(* Including four Town Box Offices in Mongolia which have temporarily been closed owing to unsettled conditions still prevailing there.)

During the year major courier lines were extended by 682 *li* and minor lines by 321 *li*. Of the former, 510 *li* were transferred from the Chihli District.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	13,799	2,111½	—	912	16,822½
1921	13,117	1,790½	—	912	15,819½
Increase ..	682	321	—	—	1,003

CHIHLI.—Articles of mail matter for the year are returned at 33 millions, a decre ase of nearly one million. The various totals work out as follows:—

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	31,484,100	1,298,900	484,500	1,100	33,268,600
1921	31,128,200	2,477,300	499,700	1,734	34,106,934
Increase ..	355,900	—	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	1,178,400	15,200	634	838,334

In explanation of these seemingly unfavourable results, it has to be explained that the protracted Chihli-Fengtien struggle seriously affected trade from April to August. At one time, business in the greater part of the province was brought to a standstill and it is estimated that receipts suffered to the extent of over $100,000. Another contributory cause was the introduction of the improved system of recording figures for statistics, which gives considerably more accurate results than were obtained formerly. Conditions, however, were favourable at the beginning and towards the end of the year and, with the temporary increase in tariff which took effect during November and December, the revenue from postage on mail matter other than parcels was just equal to last year's record. Ordinary articles remain practically the same as last year. Registers dropped from 2,400,000 to 1,200,000. The reasons mentioned above as generally affecting the results specially militated against this category of correspondence. Money order transactions being practically stopped and business greatly restricted, the number of registered letters was seriously reduced for a considerable time, though perhaps not quite so seriously as the figures would make it appear. Express letters and insured letters also suffered during the period of the civil war, but the drop in insured letters continued and became even more pronounced after peaceful conditions were restored. Articles for local delivery fully maintained last year's totals. One native hong, which transmits mails to Peking only, was added to the list of registered *min-chü*, with the result that there was a slight increase in the quantity of *min-chü* mails handled. Another record has been attained in parcel traffic. Despite unfavourable trade conditions and an increase of 17 per cent. last year, parcels posted reached a total of 629,000, an increase of 14 per cent. The total weight is not quite up to last year's figure but the total value has increased from $8,000,000 to over $20,000,000. This is principally accounted for by the enormous export of valuable parcels, especially furs, to Europe and America. This trade is particularly flourishing in Tientsin where the actual revenue from parcels increased nearly 60 per cent. The daily average of outgoing parcels from Tientsin alone is over a thousand. Parcels posted inland showed an advance of 21 per cent. Postage on parcels now constitutes one-third of the total revenue of the district. Insured and C.O.D. parcel business is still small, but both show signs of expansion.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	629,100	2,963,000	20,795,300
1921	552,500	3,038,200	8,102,900
Increase	76,600	—	12,692,400
Decrease	—	75,200	—

Money order business with transactions exceeding 17½ million dollars shows a slight advance on last year's figures. Money orders issued increased by three quarters of a million dollars while those cashed dropped by half a million. The returns were very good until the outbreak of the Fengtien-Chihli hostilities, but when railway communications broke down, remittance facilities had to be stopped entirely in the southern half of the province and for several months thereafter had to be seriously curtailed owing to the difficulty of moving funds. Large areas in the south were overrun by bandits which seriously dislocated trade. These conditions specially affected the cashing of money orders and, in particular, the remitting of funds by Chihli emigrants in North Manchuria. At the three Offices, Ningtsing (甯津), Wukiao (吳橋), and Yenshan (鹽山), in the south-east of the province, the cashing dropped by $226,000, accounting for over 40 per cent. of the decrease.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	6,136,969.44	11,553,618.09
1921	5,349,584.70	12,083,563.21
Increase	787,384.74	—
Decrease	—	529,945.12

For convenience of control, one Second Class Office and four Agencies were transferred to the Peking District. Notwithstanding this, the number of major establishments was increased by 37. Remarkable progress was made in the development of rural services. Minor establishments were increased by no fewer than 1,736 which added very considerably to the revenue-producing capacity of the district. The total number of Postal establishments in the district is now 5,749.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICE.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	1	121	50	18	970	1,161
1921	1	1	122	49	17	934	1,124
Increase ..	—	—	—	1	1	36	37
Decrease ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	73	189	4,326	4,588
1921	75	189	2,588	2,852
Increase	—	—	1,738	1,736
Decrease	2	—	—	—

The transfer to the control of the Peking District of the Fengning–Takochen and Kupehkow–Fengning lines, a length of 510 *li*, and the abolition of the expensive overland line from Chihfeng to Kailu, a distance of 535 *li*, reduced the major lines by 1,045 *li*. In spite of this, however, the total mail lines show a net increase of 6,094 *li* through the great extension of minor lines.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	32,260	16,363	18	2,286	50,927
1921	32,648	9,881	18	2,286	44,833
Increase ..	—	6,482	—	—	6,094
Decrease ..	388	—	—	—	—

SHANSI.—The statistical returns record a general expansion of business. Mail matter posted shows an appreciable increase of 1,102,053 articles. While the number of ordinary and express articles has greatly advanced, those insured show an increase of only 13 over last year's figures. The insured letter service is not much patronised by the public in this district. A decrease is shown in the number of registered articles dealt with, due to the fact that this year's free correspondence has been excluded from the total of the registered mail matter. Had it not been for the military operations between the Chihli and Fengtien Provinces, the famine in the south of Shansi, and the Cheng-tai Railway strike, the results would have been even better.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	7,898,000	643,500	39,600	72	8,581,172
1921	6,557,500	889,300	32,260	59	7,479,119
Increase ..	1,340,500	—	7,340	13	1,102,053
Decrease ..	—	245,800	—	—	—

The number of articles posted for local delivery has reached 139,000, or nearly 100,000 over last year's figures, an increase of nearly 200 per cent. The public is beginning to realise that it is preferable to expend a trifle in postage stamps rather than maintain a special messenger for local delivery of correspondence. It has been found that private agents are still being used for carrying letters for merchants and others at Taiku and Kihsien, Sha., and steps have been taken through the local magistrates to put a stop to this illicit business.

The number of parcels posted showed an increase of 35,000 over last year's figures. The enforcement of uniform inland taxes on both postal parcels and those carried by private companies is to some extent responsible for the increase referred to, but it has also to be recorded that the increased demand for dried grapes and felt in Manchuria has caused a considerable export of these commodities through the Post Office. The number of sheepskin parcels posted for the Yangtze ports has also been augmented to a very large extent. These parcels were posted mainly at Taiyüan, Kiaocheng, Tsing-yüansiang, and Tatung, Sha.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	127,220	757,120	940,160
1921	92,240	444,710	651,300
Increase	34,980	312,410	288,860

The money orders issued and cashed have again shown appreciable increase. Notwithstanding the fact that money order fees at several Offices had to be increased, the cashing continued unabated to the end of the year. Shansi merchants residing in Shantung and Manchuria, who prefer to remit their funds through the Post Office rather than through the banks, have continued during the year to patronise the former.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	1,530,158.56	1,854,915.50
1921	1,407,293.66	1,622,299.00
Increase	122,864.90	232,616.50

103 new Postal establishments were opened during the year. Practically all places where postal facilities are necessary have been opened up, and this year attention was given mostly to local improvements for which the Inspectors have been used exclusively. Eighty-five Stamp-selling Agencies were established and several pillar- and letter-boxes installed in principal streets of towns and in military camps and colleges. It has been found that Stamp-selling Agencies are more economical than Box Offices and several of the former have therefore been established to replace the latter.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICE.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	1	29	60	2	260	353
1921	1	1	29	60	2	255	348
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	5	5

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	13	146	1,052	1,211
1921	23	150	940	1,113
Increase	—	—	112	98
Decrease	10	4	—	—

Mail lines have shown only a small increase, as it was found necessary to make certain improvements in the already complex network of difficult lines running lengthwise and breadthwise throughout the province before adding any new lines. A few delays were recorded during the summer season, caused by heavy rains flooding the important highways. The Kin-sui Railway railhead is now within a few *li* of Paotowchen and it is anticipated that Paotowchen itself will be reached by the beginning of January 1923. It is to be recorded that, during the year, several motor roads were opened to traffic and motor-bus services inaugurated for the transportation of passengers under the control of the provincial government. These roads radiate from Taiyüan and are distributed as follows: Taiyüan to Yangmingpao 300 *li*; Taiyüan to Fenchow 230 *li*; and Taiyüan to Kiehsiu 310 *li*. The Post Office has availed itself of these motor services by entering into a contract with the Provincial Authorities for the conveyance of light mails. In consequence of this, the courier lines between Taiyüan and Yangmingpao

and Taiyüan and Kiehsiu were temporarily abolished; owing, however, to the reduction of the motor-bus service from a daily to a bi-daily one, an alternate day-and-night service had to be re-established to meet the requirements of the public. Mails are therefore conveyed by both courier and motor-bus services on these lines. It is anticipated that, during the coming year, schemes for the extension of these motor highways will be pushed forward with a view to their reaching Tatung, Sha., in the north and Yüncheng in the south. Only one daring case of highway robbery was recorded during the year in the vicinity of Luan, when the Courier in charge of the mails was mortally wounded.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	18,128	8,257	—	1,308	27,693
1921	17,768	7,363	—	1,113	26,244
Increase ..	360	894	—	195	1,449

HONAN.—In the year 1922, parts of Honan were in a state of disturbance which caused considerable losses to the people. In the circumstances the wonder is that mail matter results are not far more depressing than they actually are. Although the number of articles of ordinary and of registered mail matter posted fell as compared with last year's figures, there was an increase of express and insured articles, and the parcel and money order services showed satisfactory progress.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	12,354,300	884,100	242,300	2,100	13,482,800
1921	13,057,800	1,730,800	186,100	1,438	14,976,138
Increase ..	—	—	56,200	662	—
Decrease ..	703,500	846,700	—	—	1,493,338

Conforming with the figures of ordinary domestic mail matter posted, the figures of articles posted for local delivery show a decrease of 96,000. Native clubbed mails show a falling-off of 200 in number of packages, and 20 in weight of kilogrammes, but the number of articles contained remains the same as in 1921, *i.e.*, 10,600. A study of the statistics of parcels posted provides more cheerful reading, advances being recorded in number, weight, and declared value. It is in the total value, however, that the greatest increase has to be recorded, this being no less than $683,000, an advance of over 36 per cent.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	191,470	990,720	2,577,560
1921	182,620	964,760	1,894,210
Increase	8,850	25,960	683,350

Every opportunity was availed of to develop the money order service and to meet public requirements during the times when the native banks and local merchants closed their doors. Great difficulty was experienced at times in moving funds to and from inland Offices. However, the year has ended with satisfactory increases in the total values of money orders issued and cashed, and this in spite of the fact that a number of Offices in bandit-infested areas had temporarily to suspend the issuing and cashing of money orders altogether for the time being.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,905,920	4,663,373
1921	4,113,882	3,977,065
Increase	792,038	686,308

In addition to 40 new Agencies and 53 new Rural Box Offices, 42 Rural Stations were opened. Express delivery facilities were extended to 12 more Offices. The number of Offices, whose status as money order issuing establishments was raised, was 19.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Head Office.	First Class Offices.	Second Class Offices.	Third Class Offices.	Sub-Offices.	Agencies.	Total.
1922	1	—	85	50	12	712	860
1921	1	—	85	50	12	672	820
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	40	40

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Town Box Offices.	Rural Box Offices.	Rural Stations.	Total.
1922	197	584	1,926	2,707
1921	202	531	1,884	2,617
Increase	—	53	42	90
Decrease	5	—	—	—

Additions were made to the total lengths of major and minor courier lines during the year 1922, increasing the total length of Postal lines in the district from 59,129 *li* in 1921 to 61,783 *li* in 1922.

MAIL LINES.

—	Major Courier Lines.	Minor Courier Lines.	Steamer, Launch, and Boat Lines.	Railway Lines.	Total.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	24,295	35,168	—	2,320	61,783
1921	23,042	33,767	—	2,320	59,129
Increase ..	1,253	1,401	—	—	2,654

SHENSI.—In the year under review the political situation somewhat improved and trade in general was not so stagnant as in the previous year. Postal business in this district continued to expand and the revenue increased by 19 per cent. The various totals are as follows:—

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	3,161,900	472,410	15,800	—	3,650,110
1921	3,089,700	515,400	26,900	—	3,632,000
Increase ..	72,200	—	—	—	18,110
Decrease ..	—	42,990	11,100	—	—

The decrease in registered and express articles was due to the fact that the 11th Army Division and Tsin-kuo-chün (靖國軍) were transferred to Chihli and Honan in May and June respectively. Ordinary articles, however, increased in number.

On account of political troubles, there was a great decrease in parcels posted in 1921, the total being 41,000, as against 64,000 in 1920. As will be seen, however, from the following table, the parcel trade in 1922 again shows marked improvement.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	66,200	455,700	1,133,700
1921	41,000	213,100	516,800
Increase..	25,200	242,600	616,900

Notwithstanding the transfer of troops from the province, the results of the money order business show an increase of $840,000 in the total value of money orders issued and cashed over the figures for 1921.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	2,241,313	1,278,522
1921	1,738,821	939,172
Increase	502,492	339,350

In the course of the year 39 Town Box Offices were closed. The number of Agencies was increased by two, and of Rural Box Offices by 18. Seven Stamp-selling Agencies were opened. There are now 224 major and 107 minor establishments operating in this district.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	—	24	28	4	167	224
1921	1	—	24	28	4	165	222
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	2

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	STAMP-SELLING AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922..	1	81	18	7	107
1921..	40	63	19	—	122
Increase	—	18	—	7	—
Decrease	39	—	1	—	15

Extensions were made this year of both major and minor courier lines of communication. The total length of these in the district is now 18,724 *li*.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	17,859	865	—	—	18,724
1921	17,516	835	—	—	18,351
Increase ..	343	30	—	—	373

KANSU.—It will be seen from the following table that the number of articles posted during the year showed a decrease, as compared with the figures for the previous year. In this connexion, it may be mentioned that the amount of free correspondence is not included in the 1922 return, according to the revised system of rendering statistics for the year. While ordinary articles showed an increase, registered and express articles declined. In 1920 the number of registered articles showed a falling-off of 17,000, and in 1921 a set-back of 69,000 was noted. This continuous falling-off in the past three years is due chiefly to the financial embarrassment in Kansu. Not only did the official institutions post fewer despatches but the public also saved registration fees by forwarding their correspondence under ordinary covers. In this province there are no subsidiary silver coins in circulation, and dollars are scarce. The principal currency used in the market is sycee and copper coins. Owing to the depreciation of the poorly-minted copper coins, the postal rate of exchange, which followed the market fluctuations, on one occasion rose as high as 10,000 cash in copper coins for a single dollar. That means that it costs the public 800 cash to mail a single registered letter under the weight of 20 grammes. The amount thus spent exceeded in some cases the daily wages of an ordinary workman. It is therefore easy to see why, under the circumstances, the public were prepared to trust to the security of the unregistered mails rather than pay what local exchange rates made an exceptionally high fee for registration.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	1,069,300	210,500	3,900	—	1,283,700
1921	1,058,500	269,800	4,700	—	1,333,000
Increase ..	10,800	—	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	59,300	800	—	49,300

The parcel trade continues to show expansion, the 1922 increase being more than the grand total for the year 1918, in which only 9,400 parcels were posted. The increase in 1920 was 20,000 in number, or 218,000 kilos in weight, and in 1921 was 15,000 in number, or 114,000 kilos in weight. The total of 66,700 parcels posted, with a weight of 600,000 kilos, is the largest on record. Of this number, 8,000 parcels were posted at Lanchow, the remaining 58,700 parcels originating at inland establishments, among which Tsinchow, Kan. (秦州), Sining (西寧), Hochow, Kan. (河州), Liangchow (涼州), Taochow Old City (洮州舊城), and Haicheng, Kan. (海城), were the principal busy Offices for parcel trade.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	66,700	557,200	1,731,000
1921	56,800	416,700	1,462,900
Increase	9,900	140,500	268,100

Practically all the important *hsien* cities and busy market towns in Kansu have been provided with Second or Third Class Offices doing money order work. No new Office was opened during the year. In order to test postal business at certain fairly important places before converting the Agencies there into Offices, Sorters were appointed to Shantan (山丹), Wenhsien, Kan. (文縣), and Pinglo, Kan. (羅平), to

assist in the Agencies, and a six months' trial will determine the result. Ten Agencies were opened, of which eight were converted from Rural Box Offices. In the course of the year 19 Rural Box Offices were opened, while three were closed and eight converted into Agencies. Ten Rural Stations have been added to the list of minor establishments.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICE.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	—	21	25	1	119	167
1921	1	—	21	25	1	109	157
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	10	10

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	17	48	34	99
1921	17	40	24	81
Increase..	—	8	10	18

The total length of major and minor lines has increased as shown in the table below. The principal increase in the major lines is due to the extension or reorganisation of the existing courier lines to serve more villages. No new main line was inaugurated during the year. Attention was paid to the improvement of the existing service which resulted in greater efficiency and acceleration. One minor line for the rural delivery service was inaugurated but, owing to the sparse population in Kansu, the rural delivery service does not yet show the same measure of success as in more populous provinces.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	20,580	1,023	—	—	21,603
1921	19,783	630	—	—	20,413
Increase ..	797	393	—	—	1,190

SINKIANG (Chinese Turkestan).—Isolated and sparsely populated as the New Dominion is, the general development of postal business must be a gradual process. The decrease of 10,800 in the ordinary articles posted, which is nevertheless 79,600 more than the total for 1920, is attributed to the general depression in trade and also to the fact that, owing to the usual difficulty in transferring funds, the issue of interprovincial money orders was suspended during part of the year.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	449,000	195,400	—	—	644,400
1921	459,800	195,200	—	—	655,000
Increase ..	—	200	—	—	—
Decrease ..	10,800	—	—	—	10,600

The number of parcels posted during 1922 advanced by 700. This increase is to a large extent due to the usual camel caravan route through the Ts'aoti—between Kweihwa in Shansi (the present terminus of the Peking-Suiyüan Railway) and Sinkiang—being unavailable for traffic throughout the year owing to the political situation in Mongolia. Consequently, merchants had to resort to the parcel post service for the forwarding of their goods, chiefly furs, sheep and marmot skins, and antelope horns, to the coast.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	7,900	31,000	100,000
1921	7,200	24,800	107,900
Increase	700	6,200	—
Decrease	—	—	7,900

The issue of interprovincial money orders was restricted during part of the year, yet the amounts issued and cashed show a considerable increase (for this province) over the totals for the previous year. The money order service is thus gaining popularity even in this far-off province. For instance, in Tihwa alone, a city of approximately 60,000 inhabitants, not one-third of whom are Chinese from China Proper, on the reopening of the service after a period of restriction, a sum of not less than $30,000 was issued on other provinces in about four days. The totals of money orders issued and cashed include $33,869 and $33,425, respectively, of provincial money orders. However, the currency situation in the province, which has been growing continually worse of late years, is a factor that prevents any great advance in this branch of the service, hence the cashing of interprovincial money orders remains restricted to only one Office (Tihwa).

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	293,169	33,706
1921	208,313	27,779
Increase	84,856	5,927

Owing to the scarcity of stably populated centres of sufficient importance, few additions could be made to the existing number of Postal establishments. However, during the year, one Agency (Puerhtsinho in the Altai region) was converted into a Second Class Office with money order facilities, while four new Agencies and two Rural Box Offices were tentatively opened in other parts of the province, bringing up the total of major establishments to 70, and minor establishments to 19.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICE.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICE.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	1	19	2	1	46	70
1921	1	1	18	2	1	42	65
Increase ..	—	—	1	—	—	4	5

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATION.	TOTAL.
1922	12	6	1	19
1921	12	4	1	17
Increase	—	2	—	2

Consequent upon the opening of various new establishments, the total length of courier lines was increased by 370 *li*. Owing to the political situation in Mongolia, the Hakosha–Kobdo section of the Kitai–Kobdo line, a distance of 1,480 *li*, remains interrupted. Apart from occasional attacks on Couriers by robbers from nomadic tribes, and accidents where swollen streams had to be crossed, there were no incidents to hinder the regular mail services which were maintained along all lines throughout the year. Heavy and light mails from the coast were subjected to severe delays on only two occasions through fighting or disturbances in Chihli and Honan.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	18,440	320	—	—	18,760
1921	18,070	320	—	—	18,390
Increase ..	370	—	—	—	370

FENGTIEN.—As the figures for 1921 represent the mail matter posted in the whole of Manchuria during the first half-year and that in the Fengtien District during the second half-year, it is not possible to show the real increase or decrease as compared with the figures of 1922, which cover the Fengtien District results only. The separation of the Ki-Hei District, controlling a number of establishments and mail lines formerly under the superintendence of the Manchuria District, with its Head Office at Moukden, also renders impossible any reliable comparison of the progress made during the years 1921 and 1922 by the Offices in the Fengtien District. Therefore, the statistics of mail matter and parcels posted as well as the results of money order transactions, etc., for *1922 only*, are shown hereunder:—

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	24,617,500	1,825,100	136,400	1,100	26,580,100

The number of articles posted for local delivery was 284,600, as against 335,000 of 1921. Of the 252,000 parcels posted during 1922, 350 parcels, weighing 1,500 kilos and valued at $7,500 were for America. Considerable progress in the parcel business in general was made throughout the district.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	252,000	734,900	3,412,200

The number of workmen from other provinces has increased as a result of the opening of two more collieries, the completion of certain railways, and the establishment of an additional arsenal in Moukden. The embargo on silver dollars was strictly enforced in Fengtien and the famine relief surcharge was abolished, thus making the money order rates lower and increasing the money orders issued. The fact that the embargo on silver money was also enforced by the authorities of the Kirin and Heilungkiang Provinces, and that the branches of the Three Eastern Provincial Bank at certain places in Chihli suspended their remitting business for a considerable period during the year, increased the money orders cashed in no small measure.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,858,543	2,342,898

To meet public requirements, the Pataokow Agency was converted into a Third Class Office with money order facilities. The Fenglochen, Feng., Agency was closed. The conversion of Sukiatun Agency into a Third Class Office made the Agency at Sukiatunkai also unnecessary. Owing to the place being looted by bandits, Nakinho Agency has been temporarily closed and mail matter is being delivered by passing Couriers. The opening of a new Agency and the conversion of three Rural Box Offices into Agencies were also effected. The Rural Box Office at Taying was temporarily closed. One rural delivery and collection section of 485 *li*, covering 109 villages around Changtu Second Class Office, was inaugurated. Seeing that no mail matter was collected from, or delivered to, some Rural Stations in the Suichung rural section, and in view of the fact that certain others of the surrounding villages are prosperous, 34 Rural Stations have been excluded from, and eight villages included in, the section.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	2	68	49	25	306	451

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	66	230	927	1,223

The transfer to the control of the Fengtien District of the Sincheng, Kir.,-Taonan line (430 *li*) from Ki-Hei; the inauguration of the additional Moukden-Fushun heavy mail cart service (112 *li*); the reorganisation of the Hweinan-Shatsientze line (extended from 150 *li* to 265 *li*); and the Hweinan-Mengkiang line (increased from 160 *li* to 340 *li*), etc., resulted in an increase in the length of major courier lines. The establishment of the Changtu rural delivery and collection service (485 *li*) also extends the minor courier lines. On account of the opening of through traffic between Szepingkai and Tungliaochen, the railway mileage is also increased.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	20,317	8,327	—	3,468	32,112

KI-HEI (Kirin and Heilungkiang; previously styled North Manchuria).—Comparison with the previous year's totals is not possible, as the Ki-Hei District was created only in July 1921. The mail matter posted shows a greater postal activity per capita than in other parts of China, the population of Ki-Hei District being only 10 millions.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	19,028,600	1,334,100	136,500	1,500	20,500,700

Though there is a small amount of illicit letter carrying between adjacent towns in certain parts of the district, there is no *min-chü* organisation. 450,000 articles were posted for local delivery. Much attention was given during the year to parcel traffic, resulting in considerable development. Extension of the "drawback" system by the Customs to goods of Siberian origin, imported into Manchouli and re-exported abroad in their original packages, resulted in the Post Office becoming a popular carrying medium. On shipment of the parcels from Shanghai, the senders are refunded the import duty by the Customs at Manchouli. Post Office receipts for parcels are recognised by Harbin banks and insurance companies, and large sums are paid over on the evidence of these modest documents. The absence of other exports of a nature suitable to postal carriage militates against parcel totals approaching those of the largest Postal districts. The prohibition of the export of tarbagan (marmot) skins at Manchouli by the Heilungkiang authorities, though permitted at Harbin and other places in Kirin Province, reduced parcel receipts considerably. There is no Parcel Agreement between China and Russia, so that the Siberian route cannot be availed of for the great potential business awaiting facilities, but it is hoped that the Agreement almost concluded with the Far Eastern Republic, when that state was merged into Soviet Russia, may be the basis of a working arrangement with Moscow in 1923.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	208,300	1,082,000	5,030,000

The Ki-Hei District is believed to be first in China for the total of money orders issued, remittances from Shantung and Chihli labourers, tempted by the high wages ruling in Manchuria, being largely responsible for this position. The total issue was 8¾ million dollars. The Post Office money order facilities at 106 places in the Kirin and Heilungkiang Provinces are eagerly availed of by the labourers, and, in one town of 20,000 Chinese, the monthly issue has on several occasions reached $100,000, or $5 per capita per mensem. If the issue per capita in China had been at the same rate as in the Ki-Hei District, China would have had a total for 1922 of approximately 375 million dollars. The Post Office has been a great factor in encouraging immigration to North Manchuria, for in most places there are no other facilities for remittance of small sums to the Shantung and Chihli villages, where families look eagerly for the arrival of the monthly registered letter. The transfer of money order surpluses to Harbin from areas infested by brigands presented difficulties seldom paralleled even in China. The money order service grows steadily in popularity, notwithstanding the frequent alteration of rates due to exchange vagaries. During 1922 the rate charged on money orders at Harbin for Shanghai has fluctuated between two and 15 cents per dollar.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	8,726,927	1,817,810

Two new First Class Offices were created, and to the total number of Rural Box Offices were added 21 in the course of the year, 88 Stamp-selling Agencies were also opened. As a result of the re-organisation of the minor establishments, 54 Town Box Offices and nine Rural Stations were either closed or raised in status according to requirements.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922..	1	6	43	56	13	236	355
1921..	1	4	44	56	13	223	341
Increase ..	—	2	—	—	—	13	14
Decrease..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	STAMP-SELLING AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	43	110	43	88	284
1921	97	89	52	—	238
Increase	—	21	—	88	46
Decrease	54	—	9	—	—

In spite of its fertile soil, North Manchuria—and more especially the Heilungkiang Province—is only sparsely populated, there being, for instance, on the territory between Moho and Tsitsihar (a distance of roughly 500 miles), no settlement big enough to warrant a Postal establishment or to connect these termini by a direct courier line. Similarly, on the Aisimen–Moho courier line of 730 *li* (240 miles), there is only one Postal Agency whose monthly stamp sales amount to $3.50. Relatively, few extensions could, therefore, be effected, work in this connexion being directed mainly towards the improvement and consolidation of lines already existing, *e.g.*, by altering the course of lines in such a way that they now touch settlements deserving of regular mail connexion, abolishing others that lead to places ravaged by robbers and therefore gradually becoming depopulated, etc. Motor-car services connect Harbin with Hulan, Pehtwanlintze, Hailun, Paichüan, and Antachan, and also Anta with Koshan *via* Paichüan. They have all been utilised for the carriage of mails. Cart services were introduced this year on the Harbin–Sansing and Sansing–Fuchin lines, maintaining a daily day-and-night service on the former and a daily day service on the latter. This resulted in the lengthening of major courier lines. While steamers carry mails on the Sungari and Amur Rivers, these waters are frozen several feet deep in winter, and the Ki-Hei District, having no rivers navigable all the year round, shows no total under "Steamer and Launch Lines." The length of the "Railway Lines" remains unchanged.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	27,227	415	—	3,509	31,151
1921	26,645	602	—	3,509	30,756
Increase ..	582	—	—	—	395
Decrease ..	—	187	—	—	—

SHANTUNG.—The statistics for ordinary and registered mail matter show a decrease of about 1,300,000 articles, due to a partial suspension owing to the military operations in the neighbouring province during the spring, and to a general stagnation of business during the greater part of the year.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	17,113,300	1,068,700	259,800	1,000	18,442,800
1921	17,930,320	1,607,440	222,350	739	19,760,849
Increase ..	—	—	37,450	261	—
Decrease ..	817,020	538,740	—	—	1,318,049

The number of articles posted for local delivery increased by 90,000. For two years no clubbed mails had been posted in the district but, during the current year, 39 clubbed mails, of an average weight of 36 grammes, were posted by the Chefoo *min-chü*, this revival apparently being due to a desire to preserve their certificates from cancellation. The parcel business was very depressed during the first half-year but revived during the later months, the second half-year yielding an increase of 150,000 parcels and an increased value of 10 million dollars over the first half; the net result is shown below. The increased values are due to the large number of hair-net parcels posted at Tsinan and Chefoo.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	328,500	1,720,300	17,359,800
1921	321,700	1,549,400	6,277,700
Increase	6,800	170,900	11,082,100

Money orders issued show a decrease due to the military operations during April and May, which brought business to a standstill and, despite the fact that the money order rates were reduced by 50 per cent., caused a large decrease in the value of money orders issued during that period. Money orders cashed, however, exceeded last year's total by $430,000. The bulk of these money orders were purchased by Shantung emigrants to Manchuria, the Post Offices being extensively used to remit money to their families. A large increase is noticeable during the last month of the year, when the emigrants remit their savings prior to their return home for the New Year holidays.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,888,178	9,126,460
1921	4,902,814	8,694,585
Increase	—	431,875
Decrease	14,636	—

As there remains but little scope for postal development in the province, the number of establishments shows only a slight change. Of the 25 Japanese Post Offices in Shantung, 24—12 in the railway zone and 12 in the Leased Territory of Kiaochow—were closed at noon on 10th December, the remaining Office, namely that at Chefoo, ceasing to function on the 31st December. As the Chinese Post Office was not established in the Leased Territory of Kiaochow, the withdrawal of the Japanese entailed the provision of a special Chinese Postal staff, numbering 148 employés, to take up the work discontinued by the Japanese Post Offices in that area.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Head Office.	First Class Offices.	Second Class Offices.	Third Class Offices.	Sub-Offices.	Agencies.	Total.
1922	1	2	113	31	13	638	798
1921	1	2	112	27	10	616	768
Increase ..	—	—	1	4	3	22	30

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Town Box Offices.	Rural Box Offices.	Rural Stations.	Total.
1922	88	799	6,113	7,000
1921	90	631	6,334	7,055
Increase	—	168	—	—
Decrease	2	—	221	55

The length of courier lines remains practically unchanged.

MAIL LINES.

—	Major Courier Lines.	Minor Courier Lines.	Steamer, Launch, and Boat Lines.	Railway Lines.	Total.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	21,219	48,621	115	1,916	71,871
1921	21,253	48,602	115	1,916	71,886
Increase ..	—	19	—	—	—
Decrease ..	34	—	—	—	15

SZECHWAN.—The political situation throughout the year has considerably hindered the development of postal operations. Severe fighting took place during the summer. Not less than 193 cases of losses of mails were recorded, involving a considerable quantity of postage stamps. In two of the most serious robberies, stamps *en route* to Kweiyang amounting to $9,300 were lost; $4,450 of that amount was subsequently recovered through direct negotiations with the bandits.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	21,802,900	2,182,700	188,700	—	24,174,300
1921	21,676,300	3,926,100	259,800	—	25,862,200
Increase ..	126,600	—	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	1,743,400	71,100	—	1,687,900

The reduction in the number of registered articles while, to some extent, due to increasing public confidence in the Post Office may also be accounted for this year by the exclusion of free correspondence from the statistical figures. Express articles show a further decrease which seems to prove that the few hours' priority gained by this class of mail matter over other classes is not sufficient to warrant the extra postage, especially over long distances. Articles posted for local delivery also show a decline of 157,100 from 702,500 in 1921 to 545,400 in 1922. The activities of the *min-chü* appear also to have been affected by the provincial conditions, seeing that the number of clubbed mails handed to the Post Office for transmission dwindled from 1,450 packages containing 25,100 letters and weighing 200 kilos in 1921 to 1,330 packages containing 15,700 letters and weighing 200 kilos in 1922, a decline of 120 packages containing 9,400 letters.

The parcel business continues to flourish, although a slight decrease is noticeable in the number of insured parcels posted, which has fallen from 7,500 to 5,900. The total number of parcels posted in 1922 with their weight and value is shown below. During the year some C.O.D. parcels containing silk-piece goods were posted at Chengtu for down-river ports.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	359,400	2,399,700	4,343,500
1921	265,100	1,913,300	2,830,600
Increase	94,300	486,400	1,512,900

Money orders issued in Szechwan this year amounted to four millions as against five millions issued in 1921, or a decrease of 20 per cent. In 1921, thanks to an agreement concluded with the Bank of China to remit surplus funds to Shanghai at a low fixed rate, it was possible to maintain very low money order fees throughout the province. During 1922, however, owing to the practical cessation of business by the Bank of China, to the uncertainty of the market rate for remitting surplus funds to the coast, and to the difficulties encountered in transferring funds within the province, higher fees had to be maintained on both interprovincial and provincial money orders. Although the amount issued was less than last year, the proceeds from money order fees were augmented.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,173,723	3,690,509
1921	5,216,060	3,379,897
Increase	—	310,612
Decrease	1,042,337	—

The number of Second Class Offices remains unchanged at 99, no additions having been made during the year, while the conversion of nine Agencies into Third Class Offices brought the number of the latter from 56 to 65. In April a Sub-Office was opened at Chengtu. The number of Agencies functioning shows an increase of 35; four new Agencies were opened and 40 Rural Box Offices were converted into Agencies. On the other hand, nine Agencies were raised to the status of Third Class Offices. Rural Box Offices increased in number from 214 to 264; 97 new ones were opened, 40 raised to Agencies, and seven withdrawn—a net increase of 50. Town Box Offices also show an increase of nine. The number of Rural Stations functioning at the end of the year was 76. During the year two new ones were opened and 13 were raised to Rural Box Offices. The sale of stamps in connexion with the rural delivery service shows an increase of $200 over last year's figures. Money order facilities were extended to 21 new Offices, bringing the number from 139 to 160.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	2	99	65	16	722	905
1921	1	2	99	56	15	687	860
Increase ..	—	—	—	9	1	35	45

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	127	264	76	467
1921	118	214	87	419
Increase	9	50	—	48
Decrease	—	—	11	—

Of the major courier lines, 1,855 *li* were converted from minor courier lines, 180 *li*—Yungning, Sze.,-Chihshui, Kwei., line—transferred to Szechwan from Kweichow, and 360 *li*—Sikaito-Wangkiaying line—opened during the year, while the remaining 701 *li* represent additions and alterations effected on various lines. New minor courier lines totalling 855 *li* were opened, while the 1,855 *li* above mentioned were converted into major lines and 15 *li* withdrawn. No additions to the steamer and boat lines occurred during the year. With the exception of the frontier lines, which still suffer delays as hitherto, all fast

lines worked satisfactorily throughout the year, despite adverse conditions. It is, however, a matter for regret that serious delays to the interprovincial heavy mail and parcel services occurred through fighting and other causes. Steps are being taken to place these services on a sound basis. Whilst in the execution of their duties, one Courier and one boatman were murdered by robbers, another Courier was drowned in crossing a river, and many were attacked and wounded by highway robbers.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	56,540	4,411	5,380	—	66,331
1921	53,444	5,426	5,380	—	64,250
Increase ..	3,096	—	—	—	2,081
Decrease ..	—	1,015	—	—	—

During the year 3,639,151 kilos of mail matter were transported over the Ichang–Wanhsien–Chungking water-route. Of this amount, 1,538,346 kilos were carried by the Service-owned post-boat fleet, 588,690 kilos by hired native boats, 1,464,379 kilos by contract steamers, and 47,736 kilos by American, British, and French gun-boats, for which thanks are due to the several Commanders. From Chengtu to Chungking 872,026 kilos of mail, principally parcels containing silk, tobacco, etc., were despatched by contract boats, 217 having been used for the purpose. Over the Peimuchen–Shihkiaotsing water-route—a section of the Chungking–Chengtu line—526,335 kilos of heavy mail matter were conveyed by means of 130 native boats. In addition to the foregoing, and owing to the interruption of the Chungking–Chengtu main route by fighting, two consignments of mails weighing 21,580 kilos were despatched by steamers from Chungking to Süchow, Sze., and thence by seven native boats to Chengtu. During the year no attempt was made to augment the post-boat fleet on the Upper Yangtze, which remains at 55 boats. During the steamer navigation season (April–November) 15 post-boats only are kept running, but in winter 49 post-boats are employed between Ichang and Wanhsien, while six, supplemented by outside *wupans*, ensure the service between Wanhsien and Chungking. The conveyance of mail on the Upper Yangtze is under consideration and will shortly be put on a more satisfactory basis. One large pontoon was built for Wanhsien, another for Chungking is under construction, while for loading and discharging mails to and from steamers and post-boats three lighters were constructed for Chungking. Due to fighting, the steamer service on the Upper Yangtze was suspended for nearly two weeks in August, resulting in congestion of mails both at Chungking and Ichang, which were, however, soon cleared. Following the withdrawal of the garrison troops to Chungking, Kikiang, a *hsien* city situated on the Szechwan–Kweichow border, has never been free from the brigand menace, and, in consequence, communications between Szechwan and Kweichow have been completely interrupted. Parcel services with the latter province had also to be suspended. In October 1,400 bags of parcel mails, etc., for Kweichow, which had been held up at Chungking on account of the insecurity of the route, were despatched to Shanghai for further transmission to Kweichow *via* Tonkin and Yunnan.

HUPEH.—In spite of the fact that the tables for mail matter posted and money orders issued show slight decreases as compared with the previous year, the district revenue has increased by over 7 per cent. From the figures given below it will be noted that the number of articles of mail matter for the year 1922 shows a decrease of over one million articles as compared with 1921. The chief reason for the decrease is that the figures of the previous year included some 845,400 articles of Service correspondence, the statistics of which are not now included; therefore, making allowance for these, the grand total of mail matter posted in 1922 decreased by about 330,000 articles only.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	18,201,400	944,600	291,300	1,800	19,439,100
1921	18,596,200	1,730,900	295,100	1,252	20,623,452
Increase ..	—	—	—	548	—
Decrease ..	394,800	786,300	3,800	—	1,184,352

An increase of nearly 50 per cent., or 623,700, is recorded under articles for local delivery. The figures for native clubbed mails posted, viz., 275,100 letters contained in 22,300 packages weighing 3,013 kilos, are about the same as for the preceding year. The number of registered *min-chü* is the same as last year, namely, 22.

The parcel business continues to expand. Increases of 7 per cent. and 8½ per cent. are recorded in the number and weight, respectively, of parcels posted and a decrease of about 3¾ per cent. in value. The parcels posted averaged $10 in value each, as against $12 in 1921. The reduction of freight charges, as a method of business competition among the Upper Yangtze steamship companies, which resulted in losses to the companies, had a marked effect on the Shasi parcel traffic during the high-water season. Nankeen for Szechwan, hitherto posted in parcels, was sent by steamer from Ichang at considerably reduced freight charges to Chungking and posted at the latter place in order to avoid the double rate of postage from Hupeh. Parcels received from other provinces with trade charges to be collected show a drop of 15 per cent. in value, while those posted for refund within the district advanced by about 2 per cent.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	336,500	1,835,042	3,572,892
1921	314,460	1,690,746	3,711,280
Increase	22,040	144,296	—
Decrease	—	—	138,388

Money orders issued and cashed have decreased by 2½ per cent. and 1 per cent. respectively, as compared with the previous year. The decrease in transactions is attributed to the transfer of Honan troops from Hupeh, the restriction and suspension of issue on certain provinces where disturbed conditions prevailed, and tightness of the money market generally. The total value of money orders issued at Wuchang decreased by 12 per cent., and at Shasi by 11 per cent., while Hankow orders increased by 2 per cent.

It is interesting to note that one-third of the total amount of money orders was issued at Hankow, one-third between the three First Class Offices—Wuchang, Ichang, and Shasi,—and one-third at the 102 Second and Third Class Offices inland. In the matter of money orders cashed, Shasi records a decrease in total value of 43 per cent., Ichang of 32 per cent., and Hankow of 6½ per cent. Wuchang orders cashed increased by 13 per cent. Hankow alone cashed nearly 50 per cent. of orders issued on Hupeh, and Wuchang 16 per cent. Hankow was made an Exchange Office for international money orders with the United Kingdom from 1st December.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	3,939,372	2,740,161
1921	4,046,000	2,769,492
Decrease	106,628	29,331

As in past years, the development of the district has received close attention. During the year under review, 62 additional major and 204 minor establishments, totalling 266, were opened. With regard to major establishments, 63 Agencies, which previously functioned as Rural Box Offices, have been opened, and the Hwachingkai (華景街) and Sanyüanli (三元里), Hankow, Sub-Offices were closed and merged into one Office, known as the Simachangkow (西馬場口) Sub-Office, equi-distant between the two former Offices and at the entrance to the foreign race course. Minor establishments show a decrease of 31 Town Box Offices, which have been replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies located near pillar-boxes, and 11 Rural Box Offices converted into Agencies; 246 Rural Stations have been added to the list.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	3	66	54	19	500	643
1921	1	3	66	54	20	437	581
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	63	62
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	4	73	562	639
1921	35	84	316	435
Increase	—	—	246	204
Decrease	31	11	—	—

The length of mail lines has been increased, either through extended or by newly opened lines. The insecurity of the roads in the north and south-west parts of the province and interruptions to traffic on the Upper Yangtze and Han Rivers resulted in no less than six Couriers and five post-boatmen on various lines being severely injured and the mail services repeatedly interrupted. On the 30th April, on her downward trip from Ichang to Hankow, a fire broke out on the s.s. *Kiangtung*, and 390 bags of mail were burnt. During the year 1,550 tons of mail were despatched up-river from Ichang to Szechwan—43 per cent. by steamers, 53½ per cent. by post-boats, and 3½ per cent. by hired boats, as against 1,654 tons despatched by the same means in the previous year. Owing to unsettled conditions, the Szechwan steamer traffic was stopped for three weeks in September; the result was that light mail had, as in winter, to be sent overland, and heavy mail by post-boats until the steamers resumed their sailings. A winter steamer service between Ichang and Chungking has, for the first time, been inaugurated by the s.s. *Tzushui*, s.s. *Dah Var*, and s.s. *Hsiakiang*. These shallow draft steamers hope to ply throughout the winter and low-water season.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	19,469	3,082	5,034	646	28,231
1921	18,653	1,883	5,034	646	26,216
Increase ..	816	1,199	—	—	2,015

HUNAN.—Notwithstanding the heavy drop of about 600,000 in the number of registered articles posted—due chiefly to the evacuation of Yochow and its neighbourhood by the Northern troops, which caused a notable decrease of some 52,600; the military movements at Changteh and Yungchow, which accounted for a decrease of 59,400; and the exclusion of the 1922 statistics of Acknowledgments of Receipt, Money Order Advices, and other free correspondence (which used to be dealt with as registered articles),—the postal results for 1922 show quite a satisfactory increase, the total of mail matter posted exceeding the previous year's figures by roughly two millions.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	10,488,000	737,400	77,000	197	11,302,597
1921	7,967,100	1,319,200	63,600	128	9,350,028
Increase ..	2,520,900	—	13,400	69	1,952,569
Decrease ..	—	581,800	—	—	—

Articles for local delivery jumped from 237,100 to 426,900, an increase of nearly 50 per cent. Collections from letter-boxes, Box Offices, and pillar-boxes amounted to 2,843,200, as against 2,637,300 in 1921. The exceptionally serious decline in the number of native clubbed mails from 710 packages containing 3,630 letters and weighing 23,600 grammes in 1921, to 300 packages containing 2,000 letters and weighing 20,000 grammes, is remarkable and inclines one to think that it will not be long before *min-chü* activities will come to an end altogether in Hunan. Of the 13 unregistered *min-chü* establishments functioning at the close of 1921, three have closed their doors and six registered at the Post Office, resulting in the present total of 12 registered and four unregistered. Parcels posted in the district during the year, as shown in the table hereunder, slightly increased over those posted last year. Of the total of 67,306 parcels posted, 66,600 were ordinary, 700 insured, and six C.O.D. parcels.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	67,306	273,006	791,300
1921	53,750	206,680	687,700
Increase	13,556	66,326	103,600

The absolute confidence the public places in the Post Office in handling its funds is shown by the results of money orders issued and cashed during the year, which not only surpass those of the immediately preceding year, but of all previous years.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	4,304,646.09	4,994,253.83
1921	3,836,059.98	4,292,047.18
Increase	468,586.11	702,206.65

Special attention was directed during the year to economy as well as to the extension of postal facilities. Consequently, a slight decline in the number of Postal establishments is observed, but care has been taken not to decrease the facilities offered. Yochow First Class Office, which was not of sufficient importance, was reduced to a Second Class Office; and the Sub-Offices at Changteh and Siangtan, being unnecessary, were closed. As regards Agencies, generally speaking, it is not very desirable to reduce them to the status of Rural Box Office, but those which continued to show large deficits or whose continuance was otherwise not warranted—56 in all—were reduced to Rural Box Offices; 14 were entirely closed. One Agency (Shihmen, Hun.), however, was converted into a Third Class Office and six new Agencies were established. Thirty-four Town Box Offices, some owing to their proximity to Post Offices and others to insufficient business, were closed, and replaced in some cases by Stamp-selling Agencies, supplemented by pillar-boxes. It is expected that, with a few exceptions, Box Offices will eventually be supplanted by the more economical combination of Stamp-selling Agencies and pillar-boxes, a reform which would effect a saving. Of the Rural Box Offices, six were converted into Agencies, eight suspended, and 67 new ones opened. The abolition of a number of unnecessary Rural Stations, and the establishment of a few new ones diminished the total by 50. The net increase or decrease of each class of Postal establishment may be seen from the two following tables:—

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	1	42	30	4	269	347
1921	1	2	41	29	6	334	413
Increase ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	1	—	—	2	65	66

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	60	283	1,146	1,489
1921	94	174	1,196	1,464
Increase	—	109	—	25
Decrease	34	—	50	—

Major courier lines were shortened, some by diversion to include Rural Stations, some by being reorganised or abandoned owing to their being unprofitable, some by rearrangement consequent upon the abolition of certain Agencies, while minor courier lines, to link up the additional Rural Stations, were extended. The inauguration of the Changteh–Tsingshih launch service added 400 *li* to launch lines, while the length of railway lines remained unchanged.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	19,108	14,230	4,855	621	38,814
1921	20,892	13,552	4,495	621	39,560
Increase ..	—	678	360	—	—
Decrease ..	1,784	—	—	—	746

KIANGSI.—The year under review was one of the gloomiest and most discouraging periods that this district has had to endure. During a considerable part of the year and in most parts of the province, the Post Office work was impeded. It is, therefore, not surprising that the returns of mail matter posted should show a decrease of 1,600,000 articles from last year's figures. Express articles, however, advanced by 6,000. This increase is attributed to public confidence in this quick and secure service during most difficult times.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	7,277,830	578,920	139,200	160	7,996,110
1921	8,814,800	620,100	133,100	210	9,568,210
Increase ..	—	—	6,100	—	—
Decrease ..	1,536,970	41,180	—	50	1,572,100

The number of articles posted for local delivery totalled 160,000, as against 140,000 for 1921. Of the total, Nanchang Head Office handled 119,000 articles. This is largely the result of an increase of the population due to numbers of refugees who have poured in from the surrounding country places. From letter-boxes, Box Offices, and pillar-boxes, 1,150,000 articles were collected—50,000 less than in 1921. The *min-chü* handed in for transmission 11,200 packages containing 67,600 letters and weighing 500 kilos. Packages increased by 3,700 and letters by 1,400, but the total weight shows a slight decrease of 10 kilos. The number of registered *min-chü* is 19, of which two were registered during the year. Parcels posted decreased as compared with those posted in 1921. Of the total, 640 were insured and 60 were C.O.D., as against 136 and 134, respectively, in 1921. Had it not been for the suspension of the parcel service on many of the mail lines during the year, a great increase would have been recorded.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	36,550	75,000	311,800
1921	69,820	252,660	371,860
Decrease..	33,270	177,660	60,060

At many Offices either in or near the spheres of military operations, money order transactions were suspended for some considerable time. At other Offices although money order transactions were not entirely suspended, they were severely restricted owing to the unsettled condition of the country in the vicinity. As soon, however, as more settled conditions prevailed, money order transactions were resumed, restrictions were removed, and rates generally were lowered—particularly for provincial money orders—with the result that a quick recovery was recorded and the issue of money orders during the 4th Quarter was actually higher than that during the same period of the previous year, when conditions generally were normal. Hence the decrease in the issue of money orders—which at one time seemed to be reaching serious proportions—was reduced to what can be considered, in proportion to the total volume, the comparatively insignificant amount of $12,686. The increase shown in money orders cashed consisted in large part of provincial money orders handled in the district during the latter part of the year.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	Issued.	Cashed.
	$	$
1922	1,493,348	1,356,380
1921	1,506,034	1,297,791
Increase	—	58,589
Decrease	12,686	—

During the year two Agencies were raised to Third Class Offices and seven Offices were given money order facilities. Twelve Rural Stations were closed owing to the rearrangement of some of the rural delivery sections. Town Box Offices decreased by four, three being replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies supplemented by pillar-boxes, and one closed.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Head Office.	First Class Offices.	Second Class Offices.	Third Class Offices.	Sub-Offices.	Agencies.	Total.
1922	1	1	78	10	9	471	570
1921	1	1	78	8	9	473	570
Increase ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Town Box Offices.	Rural Box Offices.	Rural Stations.	Total.
1922	120	73	417	610
1921	124	65	429	618
Increase	—	8	—	—
Decrease	4	—	12	8

The length of major courier lines decreased slightly as a result of the rearrangement of some of the lines. A number of the Mail Time Tables have been rearranged and a considerable speeding up in the time taken for mail transmission thus effected.

MAIL LINES.

—	Major Courier Lines.	Minor Courier Lines.	Steamer, Launch, and Boat Lines.	Railway Lines.	Total.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	23,897	6,830	1,490	373	32,590
1921	24,097	6,991	1,490	373	32,951
Decrease ..	200	161	—	—	361

KIANGSU.—This year a special attempt was made throughout the district to obtain accurate statistics, and, as shown in the following table, a general decrease in the number of all categories of mail matter posted is recorded, as compared with the previous year.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	25,973,300	1,582,600	714,900	430	28,271,230
1921	29,019,000	1,770,200	820,400	603	31,610,203
Decrease ..	3,045,700	187,600	105,500	173	3,338,973

Articles posted for local delivery totalled 1,292,000 in 1922, being 140,000 less than the 1921 total. During the year 21,570 clubbed packages containing 246,200 letters and weighing 1,750 kilos were posted by *min-chü*; these figures representing a decrease of 3,330 packages, 28,000 letters, and 200 kilos, as compared with the previous year, 1921. As a result of the enforcement of the new Postal Law, 37 *min-chü*, which had remained unregistered for a number of years, applied for, and were granted, registration in 1922, the total of *min-chü* functioning in the Kiangsu District at the end of 1922 being 140.

As will be seen from the table below, parcels posted during the year have decreased in number and in weight, but increased in declared value. The total of 323,000 parcels was made up of 290,000 ordinary, and 33,000 insured and C.O.D. parcels.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	323,146	1,304,880	10,013,160
1921	355,725	1,542,720	8,302,600
Increase	—	—	1,710,560
Decrease	32,579	237,840	—

Increases in the values of money orders both issued and cashed are recorded, due in both cases to the following reasons: the granting of money order facilities to more Offices (14 additional Offices have been opened since September 1921); the increased number of soldiers in the province; the unsettled conditions, on account of which merchants who were formerly in the habit of remitting their funds through shops, etc., are now afraid to do so or find it impossible; and probably the growing habit of travellers of remitting their money through the Post instead of carrying it with them. The lowering of fees by the Manchuria and other districts has also tended to account for the increase in money orders cashed in this province.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	6,944,659	8,071,618
1921	5,707,773	6,531,792
Increase	1,236,886	1,539,826

During the year the number of major establishments was increased by 29 Agencies, while one Sub-Office was closed at Nanking. The latter was replaced by a Stamp-selling Agency which has been found to be sufficient. The number of minor establishments functioning at the beginning of the year was increased by 66 Rural Box Offices and 65 Rural Stations. A reduction of 35 was made in the number of Town Box Offices, the establishments closed being replaced, where necessary, by Stamp-selling Agencies.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	4	73	43	23	537	681
1921	1	4	73	43	24	508	653
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	29	28
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	252	427	270	949
1921	287	361	205	853
Increase	—	66	65	96
Decrease	35	—	—	—

As a result of the opening of new Agencies and Rural Box Offices, and ameliorations and extensions to existing routes, major and minor courier lines, as well as boat lines, were increased during the year. Rural delivery and collection services were introduced in the vicinity of Kiangyin, Changchow, Ku., Yangchow, and Takiao, and, in consequence, the villages in the neighbourhood of these places, where circumstances do not permit the maintenance of regular Postal establishments, have now all been postally served. Construction work on the Lung-hai Railway is proceeding, and the line was extended during the year to the bank of the Grand Canal, 142 *li* east of Süchow. Only a construction car service is at present available on that section of the line, which is not yet used for the transmission of mails.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	11,658	2,472	18,710	874	33,714
1921	10,946	1,662	16,555	874	30,037
Increase ..	712	810	2,155	—	3,677

SHANGHAI.—While absolute reliance cannot always be placed upon results obtained by statistics, figures are a necessary factor in almost all undertakings. A modified procedure introduced for taking domestic statistics has reduced the number of articles of mail matter handled to 72 millions, as against 96½ millions recorded for 1921, but no definite comparison is possible until the activities of a second year are recorded by the same system. The withdrawal of the alien Post Offices will also no doubt make a difference in the returns of certain branches of postal work which in the past have made no appreciable progress, such as the insured letter service.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	69,424,800	1,592,100	920,100	2,300	71,939,300
1921	92,460,900	2,686,600	1,344,600	2,064	96,494,164
Increase ..	—	—	—	236	—
Decrease ..	23,036,100	1,094,500	424,500	—	24,554,864

A useful and interesting feature to record, which reveals the extensive use of the town service, is that the articles posted for local delivery increased by one million over the figures for 1921. Another significant fact, indicating a precarious and declining business, is that two registered *min-chü* establishments closed their doors during the year, thereby reducing the number of these native letter-hongs from 38 to 36. Despite the new method of taking statistics, parcel business continued to show expansion. The number of parcels posted and their weight and value are shown hereunder:—

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	660,700	4,123,100	20,994,388
1921	653,400	3,753,000	18,995,326
Increase..	7,300	370,100	1,999,062

An increase of 16.25 per cent. for money orders issued, and 7 per cent. for those cashed is recorded. Although the results show only a slight improvement over the figures for the previous year, they must be regarded as very satisfactory considering the general depression in trade resulting from the unsettled state of the country. Owing to internal domestic troubles, trade with the interior of the country was partly suspended during the latter part of the year. This was very noticeable in the case of cotton goods, and business firms maintained that it was the worst period of depression that they had experienced in 20 years.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	3,941,427	4,765,796
1921	3,388,480	4,449,513
Increase	552,947	316,283

Conversions and adjustments account for an increase in the major establishments of 12, and in the minor establishments of 31. Letter-boxes to the number of 28 in hotels and clubs, which have hitherto not been accounted for, are now included under Town Box Offices; two Box Offices were withdrawn. The Fuyulu and West Gate Sub-Offices under the Head Office were removed into more commodious premises. A reorganisation of departments at the Head Office, in order to provide additional posting facilities consequent upon the withdrawal of the alien Post Offices, has resulted in the entire ground floor space being now reserved for public requirements.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	—	38	5	23	73	140
1921	1	—	38	5	24	60	128
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	13	12
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	99	157	389	645
1921	73	141	400	614
Increase..	26	16	—	31
Decrease..	—	—	11	—

The need of better transportation inland has resulted in an enterprising Chinese company organising a motor-road over a distance of 78 *li* between Shanghai and Liuho, Ku. (劉河), and providing a service which has functioned regularly since the beginning of the year. Mails to and from six establishments are now entrusted to this new service. As occasion occurs, Box Offices are being closed and replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies whose number has increased by eight, giving a total to date of 23. They have been given a fair trial and are found to serve a very useful purpose. Other four pillar-boxes were placed out, thereby raising the number from 175 to 179.

An adjustment was made in the major and minor courier lines, resulting in the use of more boat services for the carriage of mails. The actual additions to the district totals are 100 *li* of boat and 78 *li* of motor-car lines.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	MOTOR-CAR LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	2,106	1,949	3,482	299	78	7,914
1921	442	3,974	3,021	299	—	7,736
Increase ..	1,664	—	461	—	78	178
Decrease ..	—	2,025	—	—	—	—

ANHWEI.—The district revenue for the year exceeds that of 1921, but with regard to the statistics of mail matter posted the decrease shown in the following comparative table is due to the amended system of reckoning mail matter passing through the Post Office. Express articles increased by 74,300, this being partly due to the nine additional Express Delivery Offices opened during the year. Articles posted for local delivery dropped from 71,600 to 68,800.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	10,165,500	735,100	292,700	100	11,193,400
1921	11,012,500	1,128,800	218,400	59	12,359,759
Increase ..	—	—	74,300	41	—
Decrease ..	847,000	393,700	—	—	1,166,359

The number of native clubbed mails posted by the *min-chü* was 17,200 packages containing 99,100 letters and weighing 1,600 kilos, showing an increase of 700 packages, 14,100 letters, and 400 kilos. Two *min-chü* establishments were registered at the Post Office during the year. From the table below, it will be seen that, while the number of parcels posted increased, the declared value and the weight decreased which is due mainly to the tea and silk parcels falling off during the year. Most of the parcels posted in the province contained silk from Pochow, Nanling, Tsingteh, Tatung, Yingchow, An., and Tsingyang, An., and tea from Hweichow, Liuan, Wanan, Kimen, Mafow, Taiping, An., S., and Lüchow, An.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	61,600	117,800	400,600
1921	59,900	159,100	457,400
Increase	1,700	—	—
Decrease	—	41,300	56,800

The money order business has shown steady progress, which is due mainly to the reasonable rates charged by the Post Office, the development of trade, and the ever-increasing confidence in the Postal Service. A large quantity of tea is exported to meet the increasing demand. The same may be said regarding native silk and tobacco. Much of the money that comes to Anhwei through the money order service is for the purchase of the foregoing articles, and, on the other hand, there is a great sum of money remitted to Shanghai and other places from the province through the Post Office to buy foreign goods.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	5,993,220	5,809,838
1921	4,306,230	3,898,765
Increase	1,686,990	1,911,073

Major establishments show a total increase of 22, attributable to the conversion of 18 Rural Box Offices and three Rural Stations into Agencies. Two new Agencies were opened. The Second Class Office at Pengpu, which is a controlling and distributing centre and the seat of the Anhwei Military Governor's yamên, has been converted into a First Class Office. One of the Sub-Offices at Anking has been closed. As regards minor establishments, the 88 Town Box Offices were closed and replaced by 79 Stamp-selling Agencies, while the number of Rural Box Offices was increased by 16, and of Rural Stations by 28.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	2	72	40	8	497	620
1921	1	1	73	40	9	474	598
Increase ..	—	1	—	—	—	23	22
Decrease ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	—	132	260	392
1921	88	116	232	436
Increase	—	16	28	—
Decrease	88	—	—	44

The total length of mail lines shows an increase, as compared with last year's total. 17 major courier lines were accelerated and extended, and five new minor courier lines opened during the year. The steamer, launch, and boat lines were shortened, due to the alteration of the Tunki–Yenchow (Chekiang) boat line of 400 *li* (160 *li* in Anhwei and 240 *li* in the Chekiang Province) into two lines—Tunki–Shentu line, a distance of 110 *li*, and Yenchow (Chekiang)–Shentu line of 290 *li*. There was no change in railway lines.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	20,425	1,632	2,032	522	24,611
1921	19,350	1,573	2,082	522	23,527
Increase ..	1,075	59	—	—	1,084
Decrease ..	—	—	50	—	—

CHEKIANG.—While the general results of the district for the year under review may be considered as satisfactory when compared with those of the previous twelve months, there are both increases and decreases to be noted under some of the chief headings. Ordinary articles posted show an increase over last year's figures, but other categories of mail matter decrease, the most noticeable being registered and express articles. There were also fewer insured letters despatched, the total being 300 with a collective value of $20,600, as against 340 insured for $26,809.50 in 1921. Articles posted for local delivery give a total of 963,800, being 100,000 over the figure for the previous year.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	24,903,900	968,000	239,600	300	26,111,800
1921	23,500,300	1,304,800	271,800	340	25,077,240
Increase ..	1,403,600	—	—	—	1,034,560
Decrease ..	—	336,800	32,200	40	—

The number of clubbed mails posted by the *min-chü* is much below that of the previous year, but little reliance can be placed on the particulars given by the postal hongs. For 1921 it is noted that there were 9,000 packages posted with a combined weight of 1,210 kilos and a total of 210,100 letters. These figures give an average of 174 letters per kilo weight. For the past twelve months the number of packages was reduced to 6,700 with a combined weight of 900 kilos and a total of 203,600 letters, being an average of 226 letters per kilo weight. Smuggling on the part of both the *min-chü* and *hsin-k'o* hongs is on the increase. It is also noted that the majority of them are doing a thriving business. No *min-chü* were registered at the Post Office during the year. The number of registered and unregistered native letter-hongs remains the same as at the close of 1921. During the past year 43 newspapers were registered at the Post Office, and 32 ceased publication. At the end of the year the total registered was 90. There was an appreciable difference in the number, weight, and value of the parcels posted during 1922. The total number amounted to 164,000, as compared with 196,600, a decrease of nearly 17 per cent., the weight and value showing similar reductions. The number of C.O.D. parcels posted amounted to 14,320 only, with a collective value of $267,737, the decrease being 10,380 parcels and the total value $260,363, nearly 50 per cent. less than in 1921, although there are now 42 firms carrying on business on a cash-on-delivery basis through the Post Office.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	164,400	576,000	5,891,500
1921	196,600	729,000	7,061,800
Decrease	32,200	153,000	1,170,300

The aggregate value of the money orders dealt with during the year ameunted to $5,902,980, as compared with a total of $5,033,130 for 1921—an increase of $869,850, as shown hereunder:—

MONEY ORDERS.

—	Issued.	Cashed.
	$	$
1922	2,514,486.19	3,388,494.05
1921	2,096,395.60	2,936,734.90
Increase	418,090.59	451,759.15

The number of major establishments in the district was increased by one Third Class Office and six Agencies. Among the minor establishments there were 34 Rural Box Offices added, and 15 Town Box Offices ceased to function. Rural Stations remain as before. A classification of the district establishments, as on the 31st December last, is shown hereunder:—

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Head Office.	First Class Offices.	Second Class Offices.	Third Class Offices.	Sub-Offices.	Agencies.	Total.
1922	1	3	62	23	18	335	442
1921	1	3	62	22	18	329	435
Increase ..	—	—	—	1	—	6	7

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	Town Box Offices.	Rural Box Offices.	Rural Stations.	Total.
1922	357	346	262	965
1921	372	312	262	946
Increase	—	34	—	19
Decrease	15	—	—	—

Courier lines were extended on the main routes as well as on the minor routes. Steamer, launch, and boat lines were also increased owing to new routes being available for boat traffic. The total length of mail lines in the district is now 27,078 *li*.

MAIL LINES.

—	Major Courier Lines.	Minor Courier Lines.	Steamer, Launch, and Boat Lines.	Railway Lines.	Total.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	8,546	4,102	14,031	399	27,078
1921	8,491	3,888	13,547	399	26,325
Increase ..	55	214	484	—	753

FUKIEN.—The month of October, during which statistics throughout the Service were taken for the second half of 1922, was unfortunately the worst of the year for the Post Office in Fukien, trade in Foochow and other localities being almost completely paralysed as a result of the invasion of the province by the southern troops. The October stamp sales were as much as $8,000 below the average for the first nine months, and over $9,000 below the average for the last two months of the year. The actual stamp sales for the year, however, amounted to $434,885; in 1921 the total was $383,666; in 1911 it was $87,616. These figures exclude money order fees. The rise of $51,000 in the stamp sales was accompanied by an increase of $200,000 in the total value of money orders issued.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	9,865,400	459,200	57,500	1,100	10,383,200
1921	9,893,900	665,700	51,500	1,124	10,612,224
Increase ..	—	—	6,000	—	—
Decrease ..	28,500	206,500	—	24	229,024

The total number of articles posted—10,383,200—is approximately three-fourths of the population of the district; on an average, therefore, each group of 491 people posted between them one article daily. Of the statistical decline of 33 per cent. in registered articles, a part is genuine, owing to the exclusion from the 1922 total of "On Service" covers. Lottery ticket dealers and tea merchants are mainly responsible for the increase in the number of express articles. Unlike other categories of mail matter, express letters did not suffer abnormally during the October statistical period, as a number of officials and others made use of the express delivery service in lieu of sending telegrams. Articles posted for local delivery numbered 523,700, against 327,600 in 1921; but the latter total failed to include mail matter posted at the Foochow Sub-Offices and forwarded to each other or to the Head Office for local delivery. Newspapers and articles of printed matter increased by 321,900, the total being 1,550,700. The number of newspapers now registered in the district is 76, as many as 33 new periodicals having sprung into existence in the course of the year. Registered articles of printed matter were fewer, statistically, by 19,600, or 54 per cent. Native clubbed mails—21,500 in number and 5,500 kilos in weight—numbered 800 less, and weighed 400 kilos more, than in 1921. At Amoy a considerable amount of smuggled *min-chü* mail matter was seized at various times. One registered *min-chü* establishment closed during the year, while 52 unregistered letter-hongs took out licences. The number of *min-chü* establishments registered at the Post Office is now 142.

Taken during a month when the parcel traffic, owing to the southern invasion, was at a standstill in places, the parcel statistics for the second half of the year, and therefore for the whole year, fail to represent the actual amount of parcel business. Three Offices in the district suffered a heavy decrease in the number of parcels posted. At Amoy alone—one of the three—the decline was 11,037, the gross weight of the parcels posted dropping from 66,579 to 4,707 kilos. All export was very slack at that port throughout the year. Tea parcels, which form the bulk of the district export parcels, are mostly posted from April to September. Insured parcels show a decrease of 500 in number (total, 1,200) and an increase of $31,800 in value (total, $59,400). In 1921 only 200 C.O.D. parcels, valued at $1,500, were posted; in 1922 the number rose to 2,200 and the value to $8,039.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	178,600	880,800	1,684,380
1921	203,500	917,400	1,271,500
Increase	—	—	412,880
Decrease	24,900	36,600	—

The money order business in the district continues steadily to grow. The 1922 increase of nearly $200,000 in the amount of money orders issued, while attributable in part to the influx of troops, is mainly due to a normal expansion of the service. To this increase, the four largest contributors were Foochow, with $96,000, Amoy with $38,500, Hankong with $22,800, and Chüanchow, Fu. with $10,600. The money orders cashed largely represent the payments by Chihli, Honan, and Shansi retail purchasers of a portion of the Fukien tea-crop.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	1,922,820	1,421,112
1921	1,726,447	1,316,446
Increase	196,373	104,666

In the matter of postal development, attention was mainly given during the year to meeting the requirements of the smaller towns and villages. To some extent, the revenue derived from the more important and richer places goes to pay for the postal facilities given to their poorer brethren; for many of the latter do not pay their way. The district population of 13,157,800 is now served by 1,297 Postal establishments. There is thus one establishment to each 10,145 of population; and, on an average, the number of articles of mail matter posted daily in the province by each group of 10,145 people is 21.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICE.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	1	57	32	13	325	429
1921	1	1	57	31	13	324	427
Increase ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	2

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	FLOATING BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	155	355	20	338	868
1921	153	321	20	179	673
Increase	2	34	—	159	195

The 46,000 square miles of territory in the province are now served by 5,182 miles of major courier lines, 709 miles of minor courier lines, 962 miles of steamer, launch, and boat lines, and 18 miles of railway lines. Extensions during the year consisted of 746 *li* of major and minor courier lines. The changes included the opening of a new line from Siayang (峽陽) to Tuchi (瀆溪), the closing of the Yentsiencheng (巖前城)–Hsiapa (下壩) courier service, and the extension of the Hsienshui (鮮水)–Yentsiencheng line to Chenping, Tung. (鎮平) in Kwangtung. The motor-car services established during the year between Shihma (石碼) and Changchow (漳州) and between Anhai (安海) and Chüanchow, Fu. (泉州) were utilised by the Post Office for the conveyance of mails whenever the cars ran. The contract with the motor-bus company in Foochow for the conveyance of mails was terminated, as a service of contract foot-couriers was found more rapid and regular.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	15,546	2,128	2,886	55	20,615
1921	15,369	1,559	2,888	55	19,871
Increase ..	177	569	—	—	744
Decrease ..	—	—	2	—	—

KWANGTUNG.—Not in any previous year has Kwangtung been in a state of more continuous turmoil, whereby trade was adversely affected. Early in the year, the seamen's strike paralysed trade for almost two months, *i.e.*, from 13th January to 8th March, and during this period all local shipping on the South China coast was entirely suspended. Following the settlement of the strike, political dissension arose in April and was prolonged until August. Then came the disastrous typhoon that swept over Swatow and the neighbourhood, resulting in enormous loss of life and depression of business. All these things considered, however, the financial results for the year were not unsatisfactory. The comparative table below records increases in all the categories of mail matter posted.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	50,157,300	730,300	59,000	4,600	50,951,200
1921	41,497,900	696,100	57,100	4,455	42,255,555
Increase ..	8,659,400	34,200	1,900	145	8,695,645

The number of articles posted for local delivery advanced from 3,549,500 to 4,448,100, the increase of 904,600 articles being contributed mainly by Canton. During the year 17 registered *min-chü* were closed (one at Canton and 16 at Kiungchow), but the business of these hongs had for some time been practically of no importance, and it was already realised that their closing would be but a matter of time. The decrease shown in the parcel traffic is attributed to the disturbed conditions already explained. Owing to the troubles in Kwangsi, the parcel business with that province was occasionally suspended. On the other hand, a great number of parcels posted in Kwangtung (Fatshan) for places in Kwangsi were lost as the result of brigandage and piracy in Kwangsi. These losses and adverse conditions have had a serious affect upon the Fatshan parcel business to Kwangsi, as the merchants suffered considerably during the year. It is noticed already that, owing to these causes and the continued interruption of the motor-boat traffic on the West River above Wuchow, the merchants, who formerly forwarded their parcels to Namheung and places beyond through the post, are now forwarding them by "Hungtan" (紅單船) boats to Pakhoi and then by (private) couriers to destination. The parcels posted at Fatshan during the year declined by half, as compared with the figures for 1921. The temporary suspension of the parcel business with places in Southern Kiangsi from June to August, and also with Fukien in October, further added to the general decline of business.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	173,000	1,033,000	6,088,300
1921	192,300	1,256,000	4,744,800
Increase	—	—	1,343,500
Decrease	19,300	223,000	—

While the following table shows an advance in money orders issued, as compared with the previous year's figures, a decrease is recorded in those cashed. This, however, is not surprising since there is

a marked decrease in the number of parcels despatched. The events already described undoubtedly affected money order transactions in no little measure, in common with all other branches of postal operations.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	1,692,950	1,279,301
1921	1,604,667	1,373,319
Increase	88,283	—
Decrease	—	94,018

In the course of the year, three Agencies were converted into Third Class Offices, and 18 Rural Box Offices to Agencies. The Hoihow Second Class Office, as it was within the delivery radius of its controlling Kiungchow First Class Office, and had no delivery work, and also two Agencies, owing to proximity to their Controlling Offices, were closed and replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies. The total number of major establishments, as indicated in the following table, has been increased by 15. With regard to minor establishments, two Town Box Offices were closed and replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies. The number of Rural Box Offices, after the conversion of 18 into Agencies and the closing of one, were increased by 22, while the Rural Stations were augmented by 36. Six Stamp-selling Agencies were opened and seven closed owing to proximity to their Controlling Offices.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	4	106	46	24	998	1,179
1921	1	4	107	43	24	985	1,164
Increase ..	—	—	—	3	—	13	15
Decrease ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	STAMP-SELLING AGENCIES.	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	313	64	950	874	2,201
1921	314	66	928	838	2,146
Increase	—	—	22	36	55
Decrease	1	2	—	—	—

The inclusion of the new establishments, referred to in the previous paragraph, in the provincial postal field, lengthened the major courier lines by more than 1,000 *li*, while the extension of existing lines and the opening of new ones account for the increase recorded. Three new minor courier lines were also organised during the year.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	36,415	1,931	13,903	1,203	53,452
1921	35,370	1,689	13,903	1,203	52,165
Increase ..	1,045	242	—	—	1,287

KWANGSI.—The results of postal operations during 1922 are merely a reflection of the unsettled condition of the province. The 1921 net surplus has been turned into a net loss of a like amount. A decrease of over 845,000 articles is recorded in comparison with previous year's figures for mail matter posted.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	2,957,050	193,050	7,300	560	3,157,960
1921	3,607,000	386,500	9,200	368	4,003,068
Increase ..	—	—	—	192	—
Decrease ..	649,950	193,450	1,900	—	845,108

The influx of troops from Kwangtung and neighbouring provinces in 1921 accounts, to a certain extent, for the advance shown in postal operations over previous years. The comparison, therefore, of 1920 and 1922 figures allows a more just estimation of the results achieved during 1922. The number of articles of mail matter posted amounted to 3,160,000 in 1922, as against 3,400,000 in 1920, a decrease, but a very slight one only.

The parcel business, inwards and outwards, undoubtedly experienced a serious set-back through the incessant blocking of routes and rivers, for short as well as prolonged periods. The number of parcels posted decreased as compared with the 1921 figures. However, the 1922 results show an advance of 26,000 kilos in weight over parcels posted in 1921, which in itself was a record year.

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	16,170	76,845	179,400
1921	18,110	50,474	249,240
Increase	—	26,371	—
Decrease	1,940	—	69,840

The already meagre banking facilities that existed previous to the Kwangtung–Kwangsi imbroglio totally disappeared. There being no security either in the towns or on their connecting road or waterways, trade was paralysed, and the transfer and supply of funds and stamps became a serious problem. Silver disappeared from the market in most places, finding its way to Yunnan and Kweichow. To meet the financial stringency, the printing machine was brought into requisition at various places for the issue of bank-notes, without adequate corresponding security. An alarming depreciation of notes and a serious monetary crisis are the result. To obviate serious losses of funds through looting, robberies *en route*, etc., money order issuing operations had to be restricted by prohibitive rates in some instances, though every attempt was made to meet public demands—the Post Office being the only safe banking institution left—as soon as circumstances permitted. The restriction, however, resulted in the reduction of money order transactions in general.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	244,481	138,685
1921	304,712	274,582
Decrease	60,231	135,897

During the year one Third Class Office was reduced to the status of an Agency, one Agency was closed, and three were raised to be Third Class Offices. Seven Rural Box Offices and 17 Rural Stations were added, and 12 Town Box Offices replaced by letter-boxes.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	2	26	12	2	227	270
1921	1	2	26	10	2	230	271
Increase ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	1

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	46	63	45	154
1921	58	56	28	142
Increase	—	7	17	12
Decrease	12	—	—	—

Through the chaos prevailing in the province, the strength of the staff was really overtaxed in maintaining efficient and regular services and overcoming difficulties. Extension and the amelioration of the existing lines had, in consequence, to be held in abeyance. However, attention was paid to posting facilities, the town-post system, mail connexions, etc. During interruptions of the motor-traffic, special overland lines were organised and maintained on various routes. Thanks are due to the various high military and civil authorities in the province for the transport of mails by gun-boats and motor-boats under military control. Foreign men-of-war as well as certain foreign motor-launches also extended their kind help by conveying mails between various points whenever circumstances permitted.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	19,222	1,641	3,397	—	24,260
1921	19,139	1,620	3,347	—	24,106
Increase ..	83	21	50	—	154

YUNNAN.—The totals of mail matter posted and the financial results in 1922 have slightly declined in comparison with those for the preceding year (1921), although they compare favourably with the statistics of previous years. The total of 3,300,000 articles of mail matter posted shows a decrease of 89,600 on the preceding year's total, but exceeds the total of 1920 by over 261,000 and that of 1919 by over 666,000. The totals under each heading are shown hereunder:—

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	2,744,460	538,970	11,800	420	3,295,650
1921	2,690,000	684,400	10,500	380	3,385,280
Increase ..	54,460	—	1,300	40	—
Decrease ..	—	145,430	—	—	89,630

A slight increase is noticed in the results of articles posted for local delivery, the total of 32,000 being 2,000 more than in 1921. Articles collected from letter-boxes and Box Offices declined from 165,000 to 115,000. In the course of the year 11 newspapers were registered at the Post Office, while 16 ceased publication. The return of many Yünnanese troops in the spring, the gradual disbandment of those remaining in other provinces, and increased confidence in the service are taken to be the main causes of the decrease in registered articles.

The exports of Yunnan depend upon the native products from inland. As practically no goods can be transmitted from one place to another without strong military escorts, and pack-animals have been continually commandeered for service by the military authorities, the parcel traffic in Yunnan for the year 1922 has deteriorated, as is illustrated hereunder:—

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	32,158	175,500	502,500
1921	41,600	236,800	667,400
Decrease	9,442	61,300	164,900

The amount of money orders issued during the year shows a substantial increase over the previous year's total; but it has to be borne in mind in making this comparison that the issue of interprovincial money orders was suspended during the first five months of 1921. Banking business is mostly with Hongkong, Shanghai, and Szechwan; members of the public wanting to remit to other places have to use the Post Office money order system. Money orders cashed showed a decrease due to the partial suspension of business in Yünnanfu and many commercial towns inland through the unsettled state of affairs, and partly to the return of many Yünnanese soldiers from other provinces.

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	562,808.23	280,818.72
1921	364,295.39	333,248.04
Increase	198,512.84	—
Decrease	—	52,429.32

Three Third Class Offices were re-converted into Agencies as their postal transactions did not warrant their retaining the higher status. Three Agencies were reduced to the status of Rural Box Offices and two new Agencies opened during the year. The actual number of Postal establishments is given hereunder:—

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICES.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	4	35	11	5	187	243
1921	1	4	35	14	5	185	244
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Decrease ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	1

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	22	36	93	151
1921	34	28	68	130
Increase	—	8	25	21
Decrease	12	—	—	—

With the increase of Rural Stations, the minor courier lines were extended by 92 *li*, while the railway line was increased by 120 *li* after the completion of the Ko-pi Railway. Owing to the extension in railway lines and the reorganisation of courier lines, the length of major courier lines was decreased by 335 *li*. The reduction of the length of major lines in the places connected by train services means improvement in the mail service, while the abolition of other lines does not affect unfavourably the transmission of mails.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	26,842	464	—	1,078	28,384
1921	27,177	372	—	958	28,507
Increase ..	—	92	—	120	—
Decrease ..	335	—	—	—	123

KWEICHOW.—For the first time this district has to record in the year under review a decrease in the numbers of all categories of mail matter posted as well as in revenue. Business was at a standstill. That not a few of what were once important and busy centres of trade were practically deserted by the merchants, and that the number of loss-of-mails cases increased to 324, as against a normal 40 to 50 in past years, will illustrate the recent state of affairs in this province. Articles of mail matter posted, as shown in the following table, decreased by 400,000 in number, or roughly 19 per cent.

MAIL MATTER POSTED.

—	ORDINARY.	REGISTERED.	EXPRESS.	INSURED.	TOTAL.
1922	1,214,800	329,600	26,100	—	1,570,500
1921	1,492,500	405,800	37,200	—	1,935,500
Decrease ..	277,700	76,200	11,100	—	365,000

Articles for local delivery dropped from 101,400 to 65,800. Owing to the necessary suspension of the parcel service during the greater part of the year, due to the extreme insecurity of the routes, parcels posted show a decrease of 51 per cent. in number and weight, and of 55 per cent. in value. The respective totals are given hereunder:—

PARCELS POSTED.

—	NUMBER.	WEIGHT.	VALUE.
		Kilos.	$
1922	12,700	65,200	150,900
1921	26,200	134,400	335,500
Decrease	13,500	69,200	184,600

Decreases in the totals of both money orders issued and money orders cashed are recorded—18 per cent. in money orders issued and 19 per cent. in those cashed. These results are not so discouraging as might have been expected in view of the fact that the money order service was suspended for some six months at all Offices except four, and that more or less prohibitive fees had to be charged on interprovincial orders due to the difficulty in moving funds. The following table gives the various totals:—

MONEY ORDERS.

—	ISSUED.	CASHED.
	$	$
1922	342,791	220,071
1921	418,202	272,504
Decrease	75,411	52,433

As shown in the following tables, only one Agency was added during the year, while the number of minor establishments was increased by two (Rural Box Offices) and decreased by 31—ten Town Box Offices having been replaced by Stamp-selling Agencies and 21 Rural Stations having been abolished on account of the insignificant amount of mail matter handled. Thus, facilities for posting were not reduced, while a reduction in the maintenance of upkeep was effected.

MAJOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	HEAD OFFICE.	FIRST CLASS OFFICES.	SECOND CLASS OFFICES.	THIRD CLASS OFFICES.	SUB-OFFICE.	AGENCIES.	TOTAL.
1922	1	—	28	18	1	192	240
1921	1	—	28	18	1	191	239
Increase ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

MINOR ESTABLISHMENTS.

—	TOWN BOX OFFICES.	RURAL BOX OFFICES.	RURAL STATIONS.	TOTAL.
1922	24	40	31	95
1921	34	38	52	124
Increase	—	2	—	—
Decrease	10	—	21	29

The length of major courier lines was decreased slightly, as the result of two lines of a total length of 260 *li* having been transferred to the adjacent districts; of two lines of 90 *li* each, that could be dispensed with without detriment to the mail services, having been abolished; and of one line having been shortened by diverting the route. The length of minor lines was also diminished through the withdrawal of the Rural Stations mentioned above. Two special heavy-mail-service lines were established and one bi-daily-service line connecting Kweichow with Szechwan was accelerated to a daily day-and-night service, thus augmenting the total distance covered by Couriers by about 147,000 kilometres.

MAIL LINES.

—	MAJOR COURIER LINES.	MINOR COURIER LINES.	STEAMER, LAUNCH, AND BOAT LINES.	RAILWAY LINES.	TOTAL.
	Li.	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*	*Li.*
1922	17,140	1,080	—	—	18,220
1921	17,630	1,660	—	—	19,290
Decrease ..	490	580	—	—	1,070

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF POSTS,
PEKING, 1st *January* 1923.

H. PICARD-DESTELAN,
Co-Director General.

Part III.

APPENDIX *A*.

SUMMARY OF CHINESE POST OFFICE ESTABLISHMENTS OPEN AT THE END OF 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922), WITH COMPARATIVE SUMMARY FOR PREVIOUS YEAR.

Districts.	10th Year of Chung-hua Min-kuo (1921).												11th Year of Chung-hua Min-kuo (1922).											
	Head, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class, and Sub-Offices.	Postal Agencies.	Offices with Special Functions.*										Head, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class, and Sub-Offices.	Postal Agencies.	Offices with Special Functions.*									
			1	2	3	4	5	5*a*	6	7	8	9			1	2	3	4	5	5*a*	6	7	8	9
Peking (local)	64	91	42	59	52	41	62	..	3	57	34	1	71	88	43	67	61	38	59	..	3	54	34	1
Chihli	190	934	58	172	171	21	120	..	9	81	40	2	191	970	59	175	174	22	121	..	9	82	40	2
Shansi	93	255	10	87	85	13	18	..	4	12	7	..	93	260	10	91	90	13	23	..	4	12	7	1
Honan	148	672	53	148	148	125	117	..	11	72	46	..	148	712	53	148	148	137	117	..	11	72	46	1
Shensi	57	165	..	36	32	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	57	167	..	38	34	11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kansu	48	109	..	46	45	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	119	..	46	45	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sinkiang ...	23	41	..	11	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	46	..	18	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fengtien ...	141	309	60	138	119	15	90	..	8	64	16	1	145	308	59	142	124	15	95	..	9	65	16	1
Ki-Hei	118	223	43	118	115	23	70	..	3	45	8	..	119	236	40	119	116	23	74	..	4	42	8	..
Shantung ..	152	616	45	134	129	33	96	..	9	72	26	4	160	638	50	145	138	37	101	..	14	77	26	17
Szechwan ..	173	687	12	154	150	47	10	..	..	12	..	1	183	722	13	176	172	48	10	..	..	13	..	1
Hupeh	144	437	41	126	122	40	99	38	7	53	16	3	143	500	41	125	125	40	98	38	7	53	16	4
Hunan	79	334	24	78	73	19	33	7	2	27	..	..	78	269	22	78	74	17	30	7	2	26	..	3
Kiangsi	97	473	11	97	88	73	22	11	4	12	25	..	96	471	11	96	90	70	22	9	4	12	25	..
Kiangsu....	145	508	72	138	132	88	130	208	9	110	21	3	144	537	71	138	132	87	130	216	9	108	21	..
Shanghai (local).	68	60	27	68	55	13	78	1	5	38	9	1	67	73	28	67	55	13	81	3	5	39	9	1
Anhwei	124	474	34	118	112	50	54	31	4	43	35	..	123	497	33	119	119	58	55	31	4	42	35	2
Chekiang ...	106	329	40	98	89	40	93	92	8	73	31	2	107	335	40	104	95	40	94	92	8	74	31	2
Fukien	103	324	28	97	97	33	46	9	4	46	12	2	104	325	28	98	98	33	46	9	4	46	12	2
Kwangtung	179	985	69	158	149	59	253	61	29	124	8	20	181	998	68	161	152	58	252	61	32	123	8	50
Kwangsi ...	41	230	16	41	39	12	26	17	1	16	..	..	43	227	19	43	41	12	25	17	1	19	..	6
Yunnan	59	185	8	53	48	8	28	..	3	23	..	2	56	187	9	51	46	8	30	..	4	24	..	..
Kweichow ..	48	191	..	46	46	26	..	2	..	..	..	..	48	192	..	46	46	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total....	2,400	8,632	693	2,221	2,097	793	1,445	477	123	980	334	42	2,429	8,877	697	2,291	2,176	809	1,463	483	134	983	334	94

* 1 indicates Domestic Parcel Insurance and C.O.D. Offices.
2 „ Money Order Issuing Offices.
3 „ Money Order Cashing Offices.
4 „ Express Delivery Offices.
5 „ Steam-served Offices.

* 5*a* indicates Offices allowed steam-served privileges for domestic parcels only.
6 „ Insured Letter Offices.
7 „ Offices accepting parcels under Union regulations.
8 „ Post Office Savings Banks.
9 „ International Money Order Offices.

APPENDIX *B*.

MAIL MATTER POSTED DURING 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).

Districts.	Letters.	Postcards.	Ordinary and Special Mark News-papers.	Bulk News-papers.	Printed Matter and Books.	Unad-dressed Trade Circu-lars.	Commer-cial Papers.	Samples of Merchandise.	Total.	Included in the Total were:				Number of A.R's.	Value of Insured Letters.
										Registered Articles.	Express Articles.	Insured Letters.	Articles Posted for Local Delivery.		
															$
Peking (local)	16,026,687	1,446,600	7,036,800	762,800	4,581,600	281,300	3,600	3,500	30,142,887	920,000	480,700	1,087	6,892,500	269,600	126,700
Chihli	24,337,000	1,421,100	3,791,800	1,141,800	1,516,400	958,200	64,900	37,400	33,268,600	1,298,900	484,500	1,100	2,604,300	532,100	64,393
Shansi	6,609,372	550,600	947,300	..	470,600	..	300	3,000	8,581,172	643,500	39,600	72	139,500	270,420	13,142
Honan	11,689,100	887,500	398,700	..	483,500	200	4,800	19,000	13,482,800	884,100	242,300	2,100	130,100	403,200	135,000
Shensi	3,320,910	86,400	110,600	..	130,700	..	100	1,400	3,650,110	472,410	15,800	..	31,010	197,200	..
Kansu	1,183,300	19,200	38,200	..	42,400	..	..	600	1,283,700	210,500	3,900	..	2,100	123,900	..
Sinkiang	625,500	10,700	..	..	7,400	..	..	800	644,400	195,400	..	..	1,200	141,300	..
Fengtien	19,402,000	1,127,300	4,129,200	374,100	1,302,600	..	197,400	47,500	26,580,100	1,825,100	136,400	1,100	284,600	599,500	63,600
Ki-Hei	17,875,700	589,200	1,320,000	..	611,300	8,600	78,300	17,600	20,500,700	1,334,100	136,500	1,500	453,700	691,700	213,000
Shantung ...	14,893,400	736,500	2,009,000	..	663,800	21,700	98,900	19,500	18,442,800	1,068,700	259,800	1,000	293,500	575,600	60,600
Szechwan ...	18,643,000	849,200	3,623,800	..	1,024,800	300	3,900	29,300	24,174,300	2,182,700	188,700	..	545,400	973,500	..
Hupeh	13,524,300	1,683,500	2,597,900	..	1,491,100	108,000	20,500	13,800	19,439,100	944,600	291,300	1,800	2,198,100	423,300	83,545
Hunan.....	8,684,897	1,055,700	1,240,900	100	304,900	1,300	7,100	7,700	11,302,597	737,400	77,000	197	426,900	277,500	6,922
Kiangsi.....	6,227,060	831,290	686,600	700	217,900	30	7,000	25,530	7,996,110	578,920	139,200	160	158,900	218,300	14,500
Kiangsu	18,099,530	6,537,900	1,780,000	2,000	1,719,800	15,100	89,500	27,400	28,271,230	1,582,600	714,900	430	1,833,300	312,700	44,800
Shanghai (local).	26,735,800	3,746,000	6,474,100	24,192,500	9,825,700	198,200	669,900	97,100	71,939,300	1,592,100	920,100	2,300	12,113,000	109,900	203,749 Frs. 216,726
Anhwei	8,502,500	1,313,300	864,300	..	494,300	100	4,800	14,100	11,193,400	735,100	292,700	100	68,800	232,500	3,500
Chekiang....	13,571,300	5,807,900	1,433,500	902,900	1,760,300	2,469,200	107,400	59,300	26,111,800	968,000	239,600	300	979,600	218,100	19,700
Fukien.....	7,926,300	750,000	1,133,300	..	554,800	..	10,400	8,400	10,383,200	459,200	57,500	1,100	523,700	147,500	88,459
Kwangtung..	43,973,400	287,100	2,975,000	2,387,500	976,600	312,600	22,000	17,000	50,951,200	730,300	59,000	4,600	5,211,800	278,300	310,500
Kwangsi	2,877,160	50,550	171,400	..	55,700	..	1,800	1,350	3,157,960	193,050	7,300	560	21,650	117,950	1,136,700
Yunnan	2,897,190	58,260	196,800	..	136,500	100	2,400	4,400	3,295,650	538,970	11,800	420	29,330	319,400	26,600
Kweichow...	1,322,800	149,700	65,500	..	25,900	..	900	5,700	1,570,500	329,600	26,100	..	65,800	110,900	..
Total	288,948,206	29,995,500	43,024,700	29,764,400	28,398,600	4,374,930	1,395,900	461,380	426,363,616	20,425,250	4,824,700	19,926	35,008,790	7,544,370	2,615,410 Frs. 216,726

APPENDIX *C.*

NUMBER OF ARTICLES POSTED FOR LOCAL DELIVERY DURING 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922), WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR PREVIOUS YEAR.

DISTRICTS.	LETTERS.	OTHER ARTICLES.	TOTAL, 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).	TOTAL, 10TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1921).
Peking (local)	3,483,100	3,409,400	6,892,500	5,729,100
Chihli	946,800	1,657,500	2,604,300	2,600,200
Shansi	134,200	5,300	139,500	43,600
Honan	114,200	15,900	130,100	226,000
Shensi	26,510	4,500	31,010	32,400
Kansu	2,100	..	2,100	1,400
Sinkiang	1,200	..	1,200	300
Fengtien	202,500	82,100	284,600	335,000
Ki-Hei	368,200	85,500	453,700	75,260
Shantung	203,700	89,800	293,500	201,400
Szechwan	427,600	117,800	545,400	702,500
Hupeh	1,481,400	716,700	2,198,100	1,574,400
Hunan	366,200	60,700	426,900	237,100
Kiangsi	135,900	23,000	158,900	144,000
Kiangsu	1,310,700	522,600	1,833,300	1,434,000
Shanghai (local)	9,109,100	3,003,900	12,113,000	10,241,200
Anhwei	58,600	10,200	68,800	71,600
Chekiang	756,800	222,800	979,600	855,400
Fukien	403,500	120,200	523,700	327,600
Kwangtung	4,957,000	254,800	5,211,800	3,549,500
Kwangsi	17,650	4,000	21,650	24,300
Yunnan	26,530	2,800	29,330	30,000
Kweichow	65,800	..	65,800	101,400
TOTAL	24,599,290	10,409,500	35,008,790	28,537,660

APPENDIX *D.*

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING AMOUNTS OF MAIL MATTER POSTED BY *MIN-CHÜ* DURING 1919–1922.

Districts.	8th Year, C.H.M.K. (1919).			9th Year, C.H.M.K. (1920).			10th Year, C.H.M.K. (1921).			11th Year, C.H.M.K. (1922).		
	Number of Packages.	Weight.	Number of Letters Contained in.	Number of Packages.	Weight.	Number of Letters Contained in.	Number of Packages.	Weight.	Number of Letters Contained in.	Number of Packages.	Weight.	Number of Letters Contained in.
		Kilos.			*Kilos.*			*Kilos.*			*Kilos.*	
Peking (local)	2,410	573	72,910	2,100	603	73,333	2,000	630	75,400	2,600	636	72,400
Chihli	2,980	1,039	107,530	2,790	1,008	101,350	2,890	968	92,420	3,180	1,036	104,930
Shansi	200	11	700	160	7	480	..	..	..	..	..	..
Honan	1,800	150	12,400	1,800	157	13,600	1,600	120	10,600	1,400	100	10,600
Shensi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kansu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sinkiang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fengtien	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ki-Hei	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shantung	22	3	312	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	1	181
Szechwan	1,500	280	21,100	1,600	400	21,900	1,450	200	25,100	1,330	200	15,700
Hupeh	25,600	2,774	290,700	29,500	3,242	322,100	29,400	2,850	285,700	22,300	3,013	275,100
Hunan	700	70	8,200	400	38	3,000	710	24	3,630	300	2	2,000
Kiangsi	7,800	600	35,700	7,300	530	34,300	7,500	510	66,200	11,400	550	71,900
Kiangsu	24,400	1,850	173,200	23,900	1,858	229,300	24,900	1,950	274,200	22,170	1,850	257,900
Shanghai (local)	39,000	6,144	491,500	41,800	6,886	600,200	45,100	7,376	629,400	43,000	7,026	610,900
Anhwei	17,400	1,300	99,700	17,800	1,400	96,000	16,500	1,200	85,000	17,200	1,600	99,100
Chekiang	6,400	700	116,500	9,200	1,050	222,100	9,000	1,210	210,100	6,400	850	192,200
Fukien	20,500	4,900	882,400	39,500	4,600	717,200	22,300	5,100	1,032,800	21,500	5,500	971,300
Kwangtung	13,100	2,900	590,500	12,500	3,200	582,600	12,500	3,400	593,000	13,200	4,200	750,800
Kwangsi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yunnan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kweichow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	163,812	23,294	2,903,352	190,350	24,979	3,017,463	175,850	25,538	3,383,550	166,019	26,564	3,435,011

APPENDIX *E*.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING NUMBER AND VALUE OF INSURED LETTERS POSTED DURING 1919–1922.

Districts.	8th Year, C.H.M.K. (1919).		9th Year, C.H.M.K. (1920).		10th Year, C.H.M.K. (1921).		11th Year, C.H.M.K. (1922).	
	Number.	Insured for	Number.	Insured for	Number.	Insured for	Number.	Insured for
		$		$		$		$
Peking (local)	4,356	205,344	2,625	143,752	4,882	331,846	1,087	126,700
Chihli	3,339	129,563	2,052	91,212	1,734	95,093	1,100	64,393
Shansi	31	1,497	36	1,844	59	10,433	72	13,142
Honan	362	18,032	409	21,532	1,438	87,193	2,100	135,000
Shensi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kansu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sinkiang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fengtien	4,384	351,177	2,929	166,131	2,349	128,536	1,100	63,600
Ki-Hei					418	32,867	1,500	213,000
Shantung	973	50,079	884	63,733	739	38,404	1,000	60,600
Szechwan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hupeh	1,090	51,499	1,101	43,145	1,252	84,943	1,800	83,545
Hunan	77	9,139	143	12,584	128	9,793	197	6,922
Kiangsi	150	3,650	178	13,838	210	11,190	160	14,500
Kiangsu	656	41,286	576	32,126	599	36,743	430	44,800
Shanghai (local)	2,929	386,255	2,204	138,512	2,064	177,526	2,300	203,749
Anhwei	61	4,229	77	3,071	59	4,914	100	Frs. 216,726 3,500
Chekiang	480	21,709	356	44,689	340	26,809	300	19,700
Fukien	990	67,049	1,132	78,099	1,124	88,273	1,100	88,459
Kwangtung	5,647	401,177	4,518	328,470	4,455	339,975	4,600	310,500
Kwangsi	141	8,921	132	5,778	368	17,430	560	1,136,700
Yunnan	6	930	113	6,594	380	33,958	420	26,600
Kweichow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	25,672	1,751,536	19,465	1,195,110	22,598	1,555,926	19,926	2,615,410 Frs. 216,726

APPENDIX *F*.

PARCELS POSTED DURING 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922).

Districts.	Ordinary Parcels.			Insured Parcels.			C.O.D. Parcels.			Total.		
	Number.	Value.	Weight.	Number.	Value.	Weight.	Number.	Value.	Weight.	Number.	Value.	Weight.
		$	*Kilos.*		$	*Kilos.*		$	*Kilos.*		$	*Kilos.*
Peking (local)	478,700	6,025,300	2,129,403	12,600	317,700	105,233	500	8,600	1,977	491,800	6,351,600	2,236,613
Chihli.....	624,100	20,568,300	2,946,900	2,200	172,600	7,500	2,800	54,400	8,600	629,100	20,795,300	2,963,000
Shansi	127,200	939,800	757,100	20	360	20	..	..	..	127,220	940,160	757,120
Honan	191,300	2,574,200	989,900	160	3,000	800	10	360	20	191,470	2,577,560	990,720
Shensi	66,200	1,133,700	455,700	..	..	..	..	..	..	66,200	1,133,700	455,700
Kansu	66,700	1,731,000	557,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	66,700	1,731,000	557,200
Sinkiang	7,900	100,000	31,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,900	100,000	31,000
Fengtien	250,300	3,300,500	729,900	1,500	108,200	4,300	200	3,500	700	252,000	3,412,200	734,900
Ki-Hei	206,000	4,825,000	1,071,000	1,500	179,000	6,000	800	26,000	5,000	208,300	5,030,000	1,082,000
Shantung	327,100	17,304,800	1,715,800	1,100	50,000	4,100	300	5,000	400	328,500	17,359,800	1,720,300
Szechwan	353,400	4,184,300	2,355,100	5,900	157,200	44,500	100	2,000	100	359,400	4,343,500	2,399,700
Hupeh	334,600	3,507,285	1,830,493	1,100	58,991	3,469	800	6,616	1,080	336,500	3,572,892	1,835,042
Hunan	66,600	746,100	270,300	700	45,000	2,700	6	200	6	67,306	791,300	273,006
Kiangsi	36,180	294,100	72,000	250	14,400	2,500	120	3,300	500	36,550	311,800	75,000
Kiangsu.....	282,100	6,470,600	1,027,100	41,000	3,541,700	277,700	46	860	80	323,146	10,013,160	1,304,880
Shanghai (local) ..	603,700	18,331,817	3,793,600	38,100	2,406,524	273,100	18,900	256,047	56,400	660,700	20,994,388	4,123,100
Anhwei	61,300	373,900	117,500	300	26,700	300	..	..	..	61,600	400,600	117,800
Chekiang	142,500	5,257,800	523,200	3,200	253,200	22,900	18,700	380,500	29,900	164,400	5,891,500	576,000
Fukien.....	175,200	1,616,955	867,200	1,200	59,386	2,900	2,200	8,039	10,700	178,600	1,684,380	880,800
Kwangtung	167,200	5,789,000	983,100	5,800	299,300	49,900	..	..	..	173,000	6,088,300	1,033,000
Kwangsi	16,100	178,600	76,800	70	800	45	..	..	..	16,170	179,400	76,845
Yunnan	31,600	368,200	172,500	558	134,300	3,000	..	..	..	32,158	502,500	175,500
Kweichow	12,700	150,900	65,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,700	150,900	65,200
Total.....	4,628,680	105,772,157	23,537,996	117,258	7,828,361	810,967	45,482	755,422	115,463	4,791,420	114,355,940	24,464,426

APPENDIX G.

MONEY ORDER TRANSACTIONS DURING 11TH YEAR, C.H.M.K. (1922), WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEAR.

Districts.	Issued.				Cashed.			
	10th Year, C.H.M.K. (1921).		11th Year, C.H.M.K. (1922).		10th Year, C.H.M.K. (1921).		11th Year, C.H.M.K. (1922).	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
		$		$		$		$
Peking (local)	215,500	4,469,700	187,100	4,126,500	177,700	4,262,700	187,300	4,707,000
Chihli	292,300	5,349,600	290,800	6,136,700	585,100	12,083,600	515,400	11,553,600
Shansi	65,700	1,407,300	64,700	1,530,200	57,500	1,622,300	62,000	1,854,900
Honan	209,800	4,113,900	228,500	4,905,900	208,400	3,977,100	221,800	4,663,400
Shensi	49,500	1,738,800	68,500	2,241,300	19,200	939,200	25,300	1,278,500
Kansu	6,400	288,700	14,800	742,000	2,800	97,400	6,000	260,400
Sinkiang	7,100	208,300	8,600	293,200	3,200	27,900	3,700	33,700
Fengtien	351,300	7,470,800	227,700	4,858,500	124,800	2,525,200	110,400	2,342,900
Ki-Hei	120,100	4,024,000	270,900	8,726,900	18,700	565,200	50,300	1,817,800
Shantung	215,700	4,817,300	219,800	4,888,200	379,800	8,690,800	386,300	9,126,500
Szechwan	133,800	5,216,100	133,200	4,173,700	111,700	3,379,900	123,800	3,690,500
Hupeh	191,600	4,046,000	190,100	3,939,400	109,300	2,769,500	116,000	2,740,200
Hunan	126,300	3,836,100	155,500	4,304,600	133,700	4,292,000	168,600	4,994,200
Kiangsi	82,400	1,506,000	75,400	1,493,400	60,100	1,297,800	61,800	1,356,400
Kiangsu	346,100	5,707,800	387,800	6,944,700	406,200	6,531,800	473,500	8,071,600
Shanghai (local)	213,100	3,388,500	243,700	3,941,400	234,800	4,449,500	265,300	4,765,800
Anhwei	203,300	4,306,200	234,100	5,993,200	178,300	3,898,800	222,300	5,809,800
Chekiang	144,000	2,096,400	162,000	2,514,500	177,300	2,936,700	193,500	3,388,500
Fukien	91,200	1,726,400	94,700	1,922,800	65,200	1,316,400	66,100	1,421,100
Kwangtung	64,400	1,604,700	64,100	1,693,000	55,400	1,373,300	55,200	1,279,300
Kwangsi	11,700	333,800	7,400	242,200	9,000	274,600	4,900	138,600
Yunnan	14,200	364,300	16,300	562,800	13,700	333,200	11,200	280,800
Kweichow	12,500	418,200	9,300	342,800	9,400	272,500	7,000	220,100
Total	3,168,000	68,438,900	3,355,000	76,517,900	3,141,300	67,917,400	3,337,700	75,795,600

APPENDIX *H.*

POPULATION OF CHINA (APPROXIMATE)—

(As estimated in 1922 by provincial officials.)

Peking	4,014,619.	Hunan	28,443,279.
Chihli	30,172,092.	Kiangsi	24,466,800.
Shansi	11,114,951.	Kiangsu	28,235,864.
Honan	30,831,909.	Shanghai	5,550,200.
Shensi	9,465,558.	Anhwei	19,832,665.
Kansu	5,927,997.	Chekiang	22,043,300.
Sinkiang	2,519,579.	Fukien	13,157,791.
Fengtien	12,824,779.	Kwangtung	37,167,701.
Ki-Hei	9,258,655.	Kwangsi	12,258,335.
Shantung	30,803,245.	Yunnan	9,839,180.
Szechwan	49,782,810.	Kweichow	11,216,400.
Hupeh	27,167,244.		

TOTAL: 436,094,953.

Not included in the above (no data available) :—

(*a.*) 1 *Hsien* and Mongolia in Peking District.
(*b.*) 1 *Hsien* in Fengtien District.
(*c.*) Tibet.

DIAGRAM SHOWING VOLUME OF MAIL MATTER POSTED DURING THE YEARS 1913-1922.

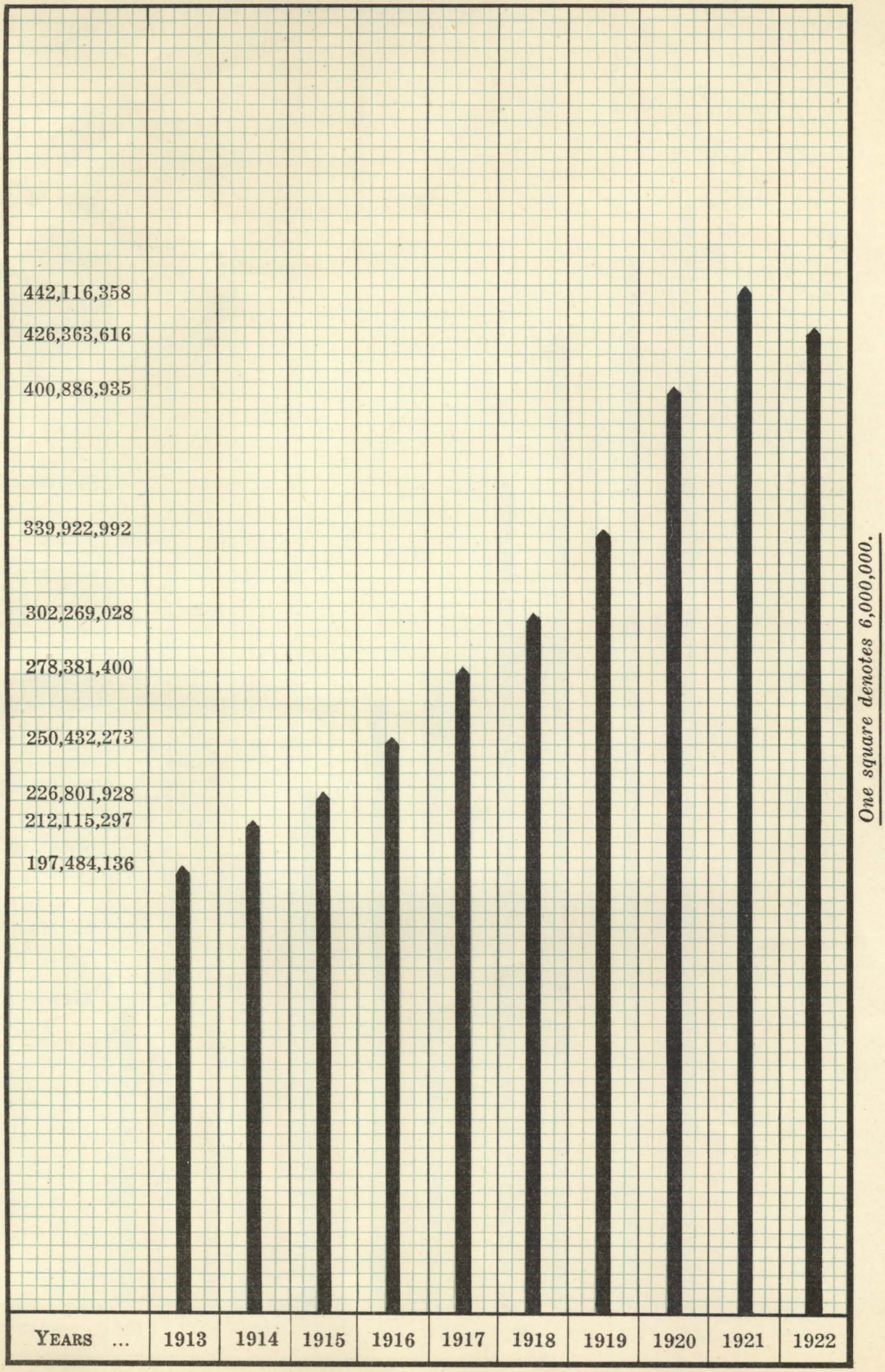

DIAGRAM SHOWING VOLUME OF PARCEL TRADE DURING THE YEARS 1913-1922.