

The total of the annual appropriations this year is £74,078,000 compared with the net expenditure last year of £31,752,000, a net increase of £42,326,000. This is accounted for by—

	£
Transfers of items from War Expenses Account .. .. .	19,741,000
Credits in aid now abolished .. .. .	4,143,000
Increase in wheat subsidy .. .. .	954,000
Increase in social security transfer .. .. .	11,000,000
Special items—	£
Transfer of film studios .. .. .	85,000
Contribution to international organizations .. .. .	176,000
Abolition of recovery by Land and Income Tax Department from Social Security Fund .. .. .	132,000
Abolition of Recovery by Health Department from Social Security Fund .. .. .	136,000
Decentralization of the Land and Income Tax Department .. .. .	32,000
Drought relief .. .. .	30,000
Transfer to Land for Settlement Account .. .. .	100,000
General election expenses .. .. .	120,000
Milk marketing expenses .. .. .	450,000
Other items .. .. .	191,000
	1,452,000
Departmental expansion—	
Public Works Department .. .. .	1,012,000
National Employment Service .. .. .	404,000
Education .. .. .	774,000
War pensions .. .. .	654,000
Health .. .. .	299,000
Rehabilitation .. .. .	127,000
Police .. .. .	198,000
Scientific and Industrial Research .. .. .	112,000
All other Departments .. .. .	1,456,000
	5,036,000
	<u>£42,326,000</u>

It should not be overlooked that Departments are now resuming activities which, through lack of man-power, were heavily curtailed during the war period.

Full particulars of the proposed expenditure are set out in the printed Estimates.

### SOCIAL SECURITY FUND

The part which social security now plays in the economic life of the community focuses increasing attention on the position of the Social Security Fund. Monetary benefits for last year totalled £16,552,000, an increase of over £3,000,000 as compared with the previous year. Medical and hospital benefits and administration expenses amount to £6,408,000, an increase of approximately £500,000, making a total expenditure out of the Fund for the year of £22,960,000.