

Summary of Votes under the Control of the Minister of Works and Proposed Ways and Means of raising the Necessary Funds, Year ending 31st March, 1949

Vote.	Public Works Account: Loans.	Consolidated Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
Railway-construction	180,000	..	180,000
Housing construction	8,024,926	..	8,024,926
Public buildings	1,350,000	250,000	1,600,000
Lighthouses and harbour-works ..	25,000	..	25,000
Roads &c.	415,000	..	415,000
Soil conservation and rivers control ..	375,000	75,000	450,000
Irrigation, water-supply, and drainage ..	370,000	..	370,000
Highways construction	1,750,000	..	1,750,000
Highways maintenance	3,661,089	3,661,089
Maintenance of public works and services	6,607,986	6,607,986
	12,489,926	10,594,075	23,084,001

The miscellaneous receipts estimated to be credited to the Public Works Account for the year ending 31st March, 1949 (excluding £250,000 on account of public buildings, and £75,000 on account of soil conservation and rivers control works), amount to £878,900, and it is estimated that a sum of £3,763,100 will be recovered on account of votes—Maintenance of Public Works and Services, and Highways Maintenance.

HOUSING

The Government's policy of giving priority to housing over all other classes of building has continued, and this will be its accepted policy until every family, pakeha and Maori, is properly housed. Reasonable and adequate shelter for families is a prime necessity. It is most gratifying that the Government's efforts in this direction resulted in a record number of houses being completed during the year ended 31st March, 1948. Hereunder are quoted the official figures:—

State rental houses	2,875
State departmental houses	693
Maori houses	200
Private and local-body houses	8,966
	12,734

Transit housing—

Local bodies' units	164
Public Works Department units	113
Post and Telegraph Department units	172
State Hydro-electric Department units	8
State Forest Service units	10
	467

Hostels --

Miners' Hostel, Reefton : accommodation for	58 persons.
Post and Telegraph hostels : accommodation for	473 „
Immigrants' hostels : accommodation for	1,062 „
State Forest Service Hostel : accommodation for	12 „

Total hostel accommodation completed for .. 1,605 „