APPENDIX B.

EXTRACT FROM THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

EDUCATION RESERVES.

On the 31st March, 1911, the School Commissioners ceased to hold office, under the provisions of the Education Reserves Amendment Act, 1910, which provided, inter alia, that on the 1st April, 1911, the date on which the Act came into force, the School Commissioners appointed under the principal Act should cease to hold office, and that all reserves and endowments hitherto vested in them should be vested in the Crown and dealt with by the Land Board of the district in which they were situated. Accordingly in future years the statistics in regard to education reserves will be set out in this report in a somewhat different form.

The cordial thanks of all those interested in the progress and development of education in this Dominion are due to the gentlemen who have so ably and unselfishly carried out in the past the important work of administering the education reserves, primary and secondary, in the several districts.

Tables G1, G1a, and G1B give a summary of the accounts of the School Commissioners, which are also given in full in the same appendix. These accounts may be presented in outline as follows:---

TABLE G.

(8	.) Rece	ipts and	Expe	enditure	of School Commissioners, 19	10.			
Receipts.				\pounds Expenditure.			e. £		
Balances, 1st January,	1910	••		14,002	Office expenses and salaries	• •		2,273	
Receipts—					Other expenses of management			2,439	
Primary reserves		• •		59,990	Paid for primary education	• •	• •	53,032	
Secondary reserves				6,168	Paid for secondary education			4,198	
Investments repaid				4,560	Investments and refunds			14,852	
Interest				0 995	Relances 31st December 1910			10 647	

Receipts— Primary reserve Secondary reserv Investments rep Interest Sundries 386 Total £87.441 Total £87,441

(b.) Cash Assets and Liabilities of School Commissioners, 31st December, 1910.

£			ssets.	A		£			Liabilities.
7,830			due	interest	Arrears of rent and	1,292			Amounts due to Capital Account
	£10,969		• •	• •	Balance at bank				Other liabilities
	39,348	• •	• •		On mortgage	48,227		• •	Net balance, 31st December, 1910
50,317									
					-	050 145			m / 1
£58,147	:	• •	• •	'otal	'1	£58,147	• •	• •	Total

Balance brought down, 1st January, 1911, £48,227.

The payments made to Education Boards for primary education out of proceeds from education reserves during the year amounted to £53,032, as compared with £55,367 for the previous year. The revenues of the Boards are not, however, increased by this amount, for the Government deducts a like amount from grants payable to the Boards.

The payments made by the School Commissioners to the governing bodies of the various secondary schools are shown in Table K7 of the secondary-education report (E.-6), and amounted during the year to £4,198, as against £4,628 in 1909. This sum was distributed to the various secondary schools within the district administered by the School Commissioners in proportion to the number of pupils in average attendance at these secondary schools, exclusive of those in any lower department.

The cost of administration during 1909 and 1910 is as follows:-

				1909.	1910.
			•	£	£
Total net income				65,708	68,515
Cost of administration				\dots 4,522	4,712
Cost of administration per c	ent. of	income		6·88	6.88

Table G2 shows the total income from education reserves for the several districts for the ten years 1901-10, and the cost of administration for the same period. Summarized, this appears as follows, the figures for the period 1900-9 being inserted for purposes of comparison:

	1900–9. £	1901−10. £
Total income for ten years	 587,003	608,005
Cost of administration for ten years	 37,537	37,840
Cost of administration per cent. of income	 6.39	6.22

As will be seen from these figures, the decrease in the cost of administration, which was noticed last year in connection with the figures for 1900-9, is this year still more marked. In one or two districts, however, the cost of administration was very high.