

On the 10th July the Prime Minister did me the honour to commit to my care the administration of the finance of the Dominion, and it would, no doubt, have been satisfactory to members of Parliament if a statement of the position of the public accounts at the above-mentioned date had been presented for their consideration. There would have been some difficulty in doing this; it will suffice if the position on the 30th June be given instead and compared with the position on the 31st March, 1911, and on the 31st March, 1912. This is shown in the following statement:—

CONSOLIDATED FUND.

					£
Balance on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	..	586,483
Liabilities on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	..	236,374
Balance on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	807,276
Liabilities on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	293,741
Balance on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	..	782,547
Liabilities on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	..	540,445

PUBLIC WORKS FUND.

				£	£
Balance on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	1,140,045	
Loan-money, to receive	..	..	..	181,650	
				<hr/>	1,321,695
Liabilities on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	..	1,091,894
Balance on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	82,580	
Loan-money, to receive	..	..	..	1,050,000	
				<hr/>	1,132,580
Liabilities on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	1,135,812
Balance on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	299,881*	
Loan-money, to receive	..	..	..	477,207	
				<hr/>	777,088
Liabilities on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	..	1,649,349†

THE AID TO WATER-POWER WORKS ACT, 1910.

Unexhausted authority for raising loan	..	..	500,000	
Liabilities on 31st March, 1911	..	..	213	
			<hr/>	499,787
Unexhausted authority for raising loan	..	..	500,000	
Liabilities on 31st March, 1912	..	..	56,157	
			<hr/>	443,843
Unexhausted authorities for raising loan	..	..	500,000	
Liabilities on 30th June, 1912	..	..	95,459†	
			<hr/>	404,541

THE APPROPRIATION ACT, 1911 (SECTION 17).

Unexhausted authority for raising loan	..	..	100,000	
Liabilities on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..
			<hr/>	100,000
Unexhausted authority for raising loan	..	..	100,000	
Liabilities on 30th June, 1912	..	..	1,588	
			<hr/>	98,412

* Does not include £1,013,200 to pay off advances received for redemption of debentures.

† Includes some liabilities (as, for instance, some on account of Midland Railway contract) which do not have to be met during the current year.

STATE FORESTS ACCOUNT.

					£
Balance on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	..	14,200
Liabilities on 31st March, 1911	..	..	..	..	559
Balance on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	31,587
Liabilities on 31st March, 1912	..	..	..	..	601
Balance on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	..	29,408
Liabilities on 30th June, 1912	..	..	..	..	1,218