CONCLUSION.

It will be gathered that, apart from the ordinary everyday work of the Department, the Board has devoted much time and thought to introducing, developing, and perfecting those features of the organization which were found to require special attention.

During its term of office there has been a general overhaul of the methods adopted in the conduct of business both at Head Office and at District Offices. some cases the benefits have already become apparent, but in others the full effect has not yet materialized. The changes have been of a far-reaching character, and have made for safety, efficiency, and expedition.

Apart from this aspect, considerable economies have resulted which in some cases have rendered officers available for other duties, and in other cases have

obviated additional appointments to the staff.

The Board is of opinion that the savings already effected amount to not less than £5,000 per annum, and that when certain improved methods now in course of introduction are brought into effect the economies will be largely increased. It will be recognized that to introduce important changes of organization and practice in an extensive Department like the Public Trust Office would impose a severe strain upon the staff even in normal times, and this has been accentuated as the result of a long period of war.

The Board takes this opportunity of expressing its thanks to the officers of

all grades for the loyal and cheerful service rendered to the Board and to the clients

and beneficiaries of the Office throughout the year.

I have, &c., Robert Triggs. Public Trustee.

T. S. Ronaldson, Assistant Public Trustees. J. W. MACDONALD,

The Right Hon. Sir J. G. Ward, Bart., Minister of Finance.

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