

## WAYS AND MEANS.

On the 1st April, 1918, the available ways and means for public-works purposes were .. .. .	£	295,540
Additional funds were received as follows :—		
Under Finance Act, 1917, section 77 .. .. .	725,000	
Under Finance Act, 1918 (No. 2), section 29 .. .. .	360,000	
Other receipts and recoveries .. .. .	13,141	
Making a gross total of .. .. .	£1,393,681	
The net expenditure on all works and services chargeable against the Public Works Fund for the year 1918–19 amounted to .. .. .	£1,207,482	
This left a credit balance in the Ways and Means Account at 31st March, 1919, of .. .. .	186,199	
Authority exists for providing further funds :—		
In terms of the Finance Act, 1918 (No. 2), to the extent of .. .. .	2,140,000	
Making a total of .. .. .	£2,326,199	
In addition it is proposed to ask for authority to provide a further .. .. .	750,000	
Thus making available for expenditure during the current financial year ending 31st March, 1920, a sum of .. .. .	£3,076,199	

The estimated expenditure on public works for the current year (exclusive of accounts which have their own ways and means) is £2,986,257, leaving an estimated credit balance of £89,942 to be carried forward to next year (1920–21).

In addition to the amounts above described statutory authority exists for raising the balances under the following accounts, viz. :—

Aid to Water-power Works Act, 1910 .. .. .	£	51,000
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Act, 1910 .. .. .	50,000	
		101,000
Statutory authority is being asked for the hydro-electric development of Mangahao and Arapuni schemes, and further extensions of Lake Coleridge ; also for the purchase of Horahora, the extension thereof, and the erection of transmission-lines, amounting in all to .. .. .	6,830,000	
	£6,931,000	

## RAILWAY-CONSTRUCTION.

Construction and maintenance have been continued on twenty-nine sections of railway with all the available man-power that could be obtained at reasonable rates. No sections were handed over to the Working Railways Department, however, although I anticipate being in a position to do so during the ensuing twelve months. In all cases where the lines were in a forward state of completion goods have been carried for the convenience of settlers, and in some cases passengers were also accommodated.

The total expenditure on railway construction and improvements during the financial year amounted to £467,297, particulars of which are as follows :—

Construction of new lines .. .. .	£	296,019
Additions to open lines .. .. .	91,904	
Railways Improvement Authorization Act 1914 Account .. .. .	79,375	

The following is a brief summary of the works in progress during the year just closed, fuller details of which will be found in Appendix B.