H.—2.

My remarks in last year's report as to the difficulty in carrying on with insufficient revenue apply with added force to the year under review. The difficulty has appreciably increased with the rising prices of materials and labour. Two separate awards giving local bodies' workmen increases of wages have been made during the year, and although the Department is exempt from the operations of awards the municipal staff had been given the increases in wages, thus putting them on the same footing as men employed in other boroughs. These increases of wages were inevitable, but in the absence of rating-powers or some other means of supplementing our fixed revenue the resultant effect on our finances is disastrous. All new work such as increasing our area of tarred-macadam road-formation has had to be stopped, and practically no new tarred footpaths have been laid down during the year. Indeed, several sections of footpaths previously tarred but now in urgent need of renovation cannot be dealt with. This is the first year in our civic history in which such a condition of affairs has had to be recorded, and the consequent condition of the streets is not viewed with any pride or satisfaction by those responsible for the maintenance.

7

The levy on the Town Account made by the Waikato Hospital and Charitable Aid Board for the current financial year was £237 6s. 8d., as compared with £246 18s. 5d. for the previous year. To use this a rate of $\frac{1}{10}$ d. in the pound on the capital value was levied. The levy for fire-prevention purposes made by the Fire Board was £720 5s., as compared with £418 for the previous year. This was met with a rate of $\frac{11}{16}$ d. in the pound on the value of buildings within the town area. The library rate was $\frac{1}{16}$ d, in the pound.

year. This was met with a rate of \$\frac{11}{16}d\$, in the pound on the value of buildings within the town area. The library rate was \$\frac{1}{13}d\$, in the pound.

Forty-two building permits were issued during the year for new buildings and alterations to existing ones, the total value of such being £15,580. The rateable (capital) value of the town in \$\frac{6598}{150} \frac{250}{16} \frac{1}{16}d \frac

is £528,359. I attach a statement of the Rotorua Town Account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF ROTORUA FOR YEAR ENDING 31st March, 1919.

General $Account.$														
	Receipts.							Expenditure.						
		£	s.	đ.	£	s.	d.	•	£	s.	d.	£	s,	d.
Treasury—								Debit balance at 31st March,						
Bath fees		1,398	9	8				1919				563	16	10
Fees and fines	٠.	2	5	0				Administration—			L			
Rents (Crown lands)		2,156	ı	5				Salaries	299		7			
					3,556		1	Printing and advertising	6		0			
Sanitary service fees	• •	• •			443	9	3	Audit	6	0 4	0			
Public pound fees Licenses and fees—	٠.	• • •			175	0	0	Legal expenses Bank charges		10	ö			
Building permits		· · 41	0	0						1	6			
Vehicle	• • •	79		0				Office expenses	20		9			
Driver	• •		18	0				office expenses				359	14	10
Publicans'	• •	208	0	ő				Public works—				0.,,,	17	LU
Auctioneers'		100		0				Maintenance of streets and						
Shooting-gallery		3	ŏ	ŏ				roads (labour and ma-						
Billiard-rooms		28	ŏ	ŏ				terial)	3,266	6	3			
Hall	• •		_	ŏ				Tree topping and pruning	62		6			
Show		13	0	Ö				Street-lighting.	192	10	6			
Hawkers'		0	10	0								3,521	10	3
Second-hand dealers'		()	5	()				Sanitary service—						
Storage of explosives		2	5	0				Labour	535	7	0			
Dog-registration fees		24	12	6				Fodder and plant	156	6	3			
					542	5	6	1				691	13	3
Rents—		_						Public pound—Wages, fodder,						
Real property	• •		10	0				and advertising	• •			136	19	10
Explosive magazines	• •	6	5	0			_	Public health—Sanitary in-				00		,
D	1:-				13	15	0	spection	• •			89	3	1
Peace celebrations — pub					205	15	0	Peace celebration — Adver-				310	19	3
subscriptions, &c. Miscellaneous—	• •	• •			225	LĐ	9	tising, prize-money, &c. Licensing - expenses Tau-	• •			310	19	3
Contributions to works		25	8	6				ranga County Council				22	10	7
Material sold		16	0	0				Miscellaneous—	• •			-4	19	•
Sale of by-laws	• •	10	8	ő				Insurance (fire and acci-						
Refunds—	• •	.,	.,	•				dent)	46	4	6			
Charitable aid		9	8	11				Dog-registration	26		1			
Government insuran		1	7	0				Charitable aid	2	2	10			
Miscellaneous		1	8	2				Maintenance of town clock	20	0	0			
Guides' badges		0	10	0				Sundries	4	4	4			
_					54	10	7				_	99	2	9
Ten - per - cent. penalty	on													
overdue rates					18	10	10							
Debit balance at 31st Mar	ch,													
1920	• •	• •			765	10	8							
					0. 505						-	- =0×		
					£5,795	13	8				2	5,795	13	8
							_				•			_

Separate Accounts.

No. 1. HOSPITAL AND CHARITABLE AID ACCOUNT.

Receipts.							Expenditure.	£	s.	d		
Rates— Arrears		••	• •		10	£	s.	d.	Debit balance at 31st March, 1919 Waikato Hospital Board	$\begin{array}{c} 25 \\ 237 \end{array}$		8
Current	••	••	••	196 10		269	12	1	Printing and advertising Refund rates overpaid	3 0 0 2	7	10 7 6 8
						£269	12	1	,	£269	12	.— 1