I propose to meet the convenience of investors in our war loans by affording them facilities for the conversion into inscribed stock of debentures issued under the authority of the Finance Act, 1916, War Purposes Loan Act, 1917, and Finance Act, 1918 (No. 2), Part IV.

Loans falling due.

The loans falling due during the seven years ending with the year 1927 are as follow:—

	Year ending 31st March,			London.	Australia.	New Zealand.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£	
1921				 83,000	5 51 ,200	9,471,257	10,105,457	
1922	• • •			 10,000	914,100	5,437,790	6,361,890	
1923	• • •			 30,300	666,850	8,165,006	8,862,156	
1924	•••			 1,721,100	29,700	8,478,065	10,228,865	
1925	• • •	•••		 188,100	212,200	14,213,747	14,614,047	
1926	•••			 1,400	•••	392,010	393,410	
1927				 100	•••	56,300	56,400	
1921	•••	•••	•••	 100	***	30,300	50,9	

The necessary action is being taken in connection with the redemption or renewal of the large amount which matures during the current financial year, but in view of the higher rate of interest now payable it is estimated that the permanent charges will be increased by £45,000.

COST OF BAISING LOANS.

The percentage cost of raising the respective loans issued in New Zealand is shown in the following table:—

Authority.	Amounts raised to 31st March, 1920.	Charges and Expenses.	Cost per Cent. of raising Loans.				
Winamas A.A. 1015 (All 4. D.Lli. W.	·1 \			£ 005 020	£	s.	d.
Finance Act, 1915 (Aid to Public W.	orks)	• •	• •	2,005,030	5,030	5	$0\frac{1}{4}$
Finance Act, 1916				11,572,450	54,667	9	$5\frac{1}{2}$
War Purposes Loan Act, 1917				23,273,500	103,540	8	$10^{\frac{3}{4}}$
Finance Act, 1918			• •	13,420,520	20,552	3	$0^{\frac{7}{4}}$
Finance Act, 1918 (No. 2)				3,388,525	14,209	. 8	41
					,		

COMPULSORY CONTRIBUTIONS TO WAR LOANS.

The scrutiny of the lists of subscribers to the war loans, and of taxpayers, has been continued during the year, with the result that many of those who failed to contribute their fair proportion to the war loans have been compelled to do so.

TREASURY LODGMENTS AND PAYMENTS.

As the following tables indicate, the work of the Treasury continues to increase both in volume and importance:—

Lodgments to Credit of Public Account.

				£	Increase over 1913-14.
1913-14				17,120,240	
1918-19				72,440,211	55,319,971
1919-20				87,098,113	69,977,873
		<i>ayments</i> aber of	from Pu	ublic Account.	Increase
			rnerease ver 1913–14		over 1913–14.
1913–14	190	3,455	••••	17,106,489	••••
		5,813	99,358	74,184,737	57,078,248
1919-20	377	7,859	181,404	87,596,662	70,490,173