3 C.—13.

It was also decided to issue a leaflet and book descriptive of the numerous attractions of the park as soon as a suitable opportunity offered, and at a subsequent meeting Mr. James Cowan was authorized to prepare the book in question.

As large funds will be necessary to construct the access roads and necessary tracks throughout the park, it was with great pleasure that the Board received an offer by Mr. A. G. Simpson (representing the trustees in the estate of the late R. C. Bruce) to contribute £1,000 towards the cost thereof; and in recognition of this donation it was decided to call the road leading from the main Waimarino-Tokaanu Road to the site of the Whakapapa huts and to the new hostel the "Bruce Road."

It was not found practicable to hold the second meeting of the Board until the 11th April, after the close of the Board's financial year; but it may be stated that arrangements are being made to gradually give effect to the objectives of the Board as indicated above, and as a welcome help towards this end Mr. Gunson, Mayor of Auckland, offered, on behalf of the Auckland City Council, to contribute the sum of £1,000 towards the development of the park, &c., provided the Wellington City Council donated a similar amount, and that the Government subsidize the sums contributed by local bodies and others towards the development of the park.

During the period the park was under the control of the Tourist and Health Resorts Department an annual sum appeared on the estimates of the Department for administration expenses, and it is hoped that the Government may see its way to contribute a similar amount in the future for the Board's expenses. Beyond such subsidy the Board has no funds for current expenses other than the receipts from fees payable by visitors to the park for camp accommodations, &c., so that the strictest economy requires to be exercised in all directions at the present time. It is, however, hoped that with the gradual development of the park, and the provision of better accommodation, fees from visitors will be largely augmented, and that at no distant date the Board's finances may be on a thoroughly satisfactory footing.

The attached statement of receipts and expenditure indicates the financial position of the Board at the 31st March last, and must be considered a very satisfactory state, considering the difficulty attendant on the establishment of the new Board.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR PERIOD 1ST JANUARY, 1923, to 31st March, 1923.

Re	ceipts.	£	s.	d.	Payment	8.		£		d.
Donation by R. C. Bruce		1 000	^	0	Postages	• •			$\frac{16}{12}$	3
for road-construction		1,000		0	Printing and stationery	• •				
Park fees		47	10	0	Park equipment	• •				0
Royalties on firewood		4	-0	0	Horse-feed, shoeing			6	6	1
,,					Travelling-expenses					8
					Purchase of horse			14	0	0
					Balance as per bank pass-	£	s. d.			
					book	1,045	7 0)		
					Less unpresented cheques	35	8 7	•		
					Cash in hand	1,009	18 5 10 7		9	0
		£1,051	10	0				£1,051	10	0

J. B. Thompson, Chairman, Tongariro National Park Board.

J. H. O'DONNELL, Treasurer, Tongariro National Park Board.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (625 copies), £3 15s.

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