1932. NEW ZEALAND.

STORES CONTROL BOARD

(ANNUAL REPORT OF).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Leave.

Stores Control Board, Wellington, 10th October, 1932.

The Right Hon. J. G. Coates, Chairman, Stores Control Board.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Stores Control Board for the period ended 31st March, 1932.

P. Ellerm, Acting-Secretary.

REPORT.

PURCHASES.

DURING the year ended 31st March, 1932, the total expenditure in the purchase of stores amounted to the sum of £2,757,214, as compared with £4,286,803 for the year ended 31st March, 1931, made up as under:—

				Year ending 31st March, 1931. $\stackrel{\pounds}{\mathfrak{L}}$		Year ending 31st March, 1932.	
Railways					1,739,133	1,048,570	
Public Works		. ,			1,368,394	859,666	
Post and Telegraph			, .		347,273	124,114	
Mental Hospitals					190,515	170,809	
Naval					87,458	74,898	
Defence					29,144	18,238	
Health					44,327	37.111	
Printing and Stationery					78,548	32,281	
Prisons					49,316	42,169	
Lands and Survey					39,269	34,323	
Education					50,370	29,034	
State Forest Service					26,584	$\frac{20,931}{11,927}$	
Agriculture					36,153	42,083	
Marine					27,243	$\frac{12,360}{16,760}$	
Mines					26,999	19.021	
Native					48,050	117.465	
Industries and Commerce	e, To	urist, and P			20,837	$\frac{111,100}{21,274}$	
Other Departments	·. ·		••		77,190	57,471	
Total				£	4,286,803	$\frac{£2,757,214}{}$	

The purchases during the previous years were as under:-

		£			£
1924	 	 4,080,000	1928	 	 3,947,117
1925	 	 4,416,833	1929	 	 4,199,822
1926	 	 4,690,569	1930	 	 4,345,030
1927	 	 3,877,275			

As an indication of the extent to which expenditure has been reduced by Government Departments the total amount paid for stores during the year shows a decrease of £1,529,590 when compared with the previous year, which is a reduction of over 35 per cent.

With the exception of a few instances where the circumstances were too urgent to allow of the usual procedure being followed, tenders or quotations were invited for the whole of the stores purchased.