

SOURCES OF MONEY EXPENDED ON ROAD BILL, 1933-34 TO 1936-37.

The Department has also analysed the expenditure on roads during the four years ended 31st March, 1937, in order to ascertain the sources from which the money expended has been derived.

The following table shows, under five main headings, the sources of revenue expended on (a) main highways, (b) urban roads, (c) other roads, and (d) all types of roads :—

—					1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Main highways—					£	£	£	£
Loan	..	..	..	..	237,469	360,118	549,546	892,274
Local rates	..	..	..	..	431,262	471,851	502,408	517,507
Unemployment taxation	..	..	..	..	89,612	280,751	45,638	5,662
General taxation	..	..	..	..	157,257	151,229	157,403	169,239
Motor-taxation	..	..	..	..	958,611	1,277,791	1,607,804	1,958,919
Total	..	..	..	..	1,874,211	2,541,740	2,862,799	3,543,601
Urban roads—								
Loan	..	..	..	..	70,291	71,307	118,745	199,783
Local rates	..	..	..	..	1,153,032	1,072,108	1,080,048	1,059,920
Unemployment taxation	..	..	..	..	616,278	475,306	384,050	330,156
General taxation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Motor-taxation	..	..	..	..	247,717	271,946	308,829	346,457
Total	..	..	..	..	2,087,318	1,890,667	1,891,672	1,936,316
Other roads—								
Loan	..	..	..	..	341,090	398,371	466,152	939,714
Local rates	..	..	..	..	734,844	781,010	863,458	916,181
Unemployment taxation	..	..	..	..	797,086	714,887	580,000	357,220
General taxation	..	..	..	..	971,955	985,081	1,010,496	1,017,082
Motor-taxation	..	..	..	..	210,958	385,689	403,398	298,586
Total	..	..	..	..	3,095,933	3,265,038	3,323,504	3,528,783
All roads—								
Loan	..	..	..	..	688,850	829,796	1,134,443	2,031,771
Local rates	..	..	..	..	2,319,138	2,324,969	2,445,914	2,493,608
Unemployment taxation	..	..	..	..	1,502,976	1,470,944	1,009,688	693,038
General taxation	..	..	..	..	1,129,212	1,136,310	1,167,899	1,186,321
Motor-taxation	..	..	..	..	1,417,286	1,935,426	2,320,031	2,603,962
Total	..	..	..	..	7,057,462	7,697,445	8,077,975	9,008,700

The principal points emerging from the 1936-37 figures as compared with those for the previous year are as follows :—

LOAN-MONEYS.

This item shows a large increase of £897,000 over the previous year's figures and now represents 22·5 per cent. of the total money expended. For the year 1930-31 this figure represented almost 30 per cent. of the total charges.

LOCAL RATES.

This item has shown only a slight increase and comprises 27·7 per cent. of the total expenditure. Up to the year under review this item has been the chief source of money for expenditure on roads, but in this year, 1936-37, it takes second place to motor-taxation.

UNEMPLOYMENT TAXATION.

Once again this item shows a sharp decline, approximately £316,000, and now accounts for only 7·7 per cent. of the total.

GENERAL TAXATION.

This item has remained almost constant. This year's figures represent 13·2 per cent. of the total, compared with 14·5 per cent. in 1935-36.

MOTOR-TAXATION.

The proportions of the road bill taken by motor-taxation again shows a substantial increase, this year's figures being £284,000 in excess of those for the previous year. This item has become the chief source of moneys for expenditure on roads and comprises 28·9 per cent. of the total. It is interesting