

1939.

NEW ZEALAND.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS SUPERANNUATION FUND.

REPORT OF BOARD.

Laid before Parliament in pursuance of Section 124 of the Government Railways Act, 1926.

THE Board has the honour to transmit for the information of Parliament the following report upon the transactions of the Government Railways Superannuation Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1939. The Revenue Account, Balance-sheet, and statements in connection therewith will be found appended.

The income for the year exceeded the expenditure by £9,631 1s. 9d.

Members' Contributions.—The income under this heading showed an increase of £7,627 13s. 11d. The number of contributors at 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 per cent. increased by 1,027, 87, 47, 36, 30, and 26, while contributors at 3 and 4 per cent. decreased by 125 and 9 respectively. The increase in amount of contributions is due to appointments to the permanent staff.

Contingent Contributors.—During the year 323 casual employees elected to contribute to the fund so that in the event of their subsequently being permanently appointed they would not be faced with a liability in respect of service prior to permanent appointment. The total number of employees so contributing at the end of the year under review was 684, and the amount standing to their credit £13,043 8s. 9d.

Subsidy.—In addition to the sum of £170,000 paid into the fund by the Working Railways Department, a subsidy of £52,000 was received from the Treasury in accordance with the provisions of section 17 of Finance Act (No. 2), 1934.

Interest.—The interest earned amounted to £63,997 11s. 5d., a decrease of £591 9s. 5d. as compared with the previous year. Table D, Statement of Investments, shows that the average rate of interest on securities held at the 31st March, 1939, was 4·251 per cent., and the average rate earned on the mean funds for the year 5·123 per cent., as against 4·315 per cent. and 5·213 per cent. respectively for the previous year.

Life Allowances.—The expenditure on account of life allowances to members amounted to £433,369 9s. 10d., an increase of £8,518 9s. 1d. as compared with the figures for the previous year. Year ended 31st March, 1938, showed an increase under this heading of £4,642 6s. 6d. Table A, Statement of Allowances, shows that the average amount of the 181 allowances granted during the year was £189 8s. 4d. and the average amount of 124 allowances discontinued was £163 6s.

Allowances to Widows and Children.—The expenditure under the heading of allowances to widows and children showed an increase of £1,249 8s. 4d. The sum of £13,451 17s. 4d. was received from the Working Railways Account during the year on account of the increased payments to widows and children, as provided in section 114, Part III, of the Government Railways Act, 1926.

Approval was received for the continuance of the cost-of-living bonus to annuitants in cases of special hardship where the allowance was less than £100, the amount of bonus granted being sufficient to bring the allowance up to £100, but with a maximum bonus of £26. The bonus is provided for out of the Working Railways Account, and is not a charge on the Superannuation Fund.

At the 31st March, 1939, there were 2,388 members, 662 widows, and 353 children, making a total of 3,403 persons actually on the fund, involving an annual liability of £454,691 13s. 2d.

D. G. SULLIVAN,

Chairman, Government Railways Superannuation
Fund Board.

TABLE A.—STATEMENT OF ALLOWANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1939.

		Section 102.			Section 111.			Section 113.			Total Retiring and other Allowances.			
		On Attainment of Retiring Age or for Length of Service,			Medically Unfit,			Widows,			Children.			
Number.		Annual Amount.			Annual Amount.			Annual Amount.			Annual Amount.			
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	E.	
Retiring and other allowances—														
Existing at beginning of year ..	1,739	1	1,740	355,140	17	10	591		591	72,231	2	3	653	
Granted during year ..	140		140	28,297	10	6	41		41	5,986	19	6	34	
Total ..	1,879	1	1,880	383,438	7	10	632		632	78,218	1	3	687	
Discontinued during year ..	195		195	105	17,829	10	7	19		19	2,419	11	4	25
Existing at end of year ..	1,774	1	1,775	365,698	17	3	613		613	75,798	9	11	662	

Particulars of Retiring and other Allowances discontinued during the Year.

How discontinued—	..	105	..	105	17,829	10	7	18	..	18	2,378	5	4	12	372	0	0	..	..	..	..	..
By death ..			..			..		1	..	1	..	41	6	0	13	403	0	0	26	34	60	1,560	0	0
By expiry ..			..			..		..	105	105	17,829	10	7	19	..	19	..	..	25	775	0	0	26	34
Total ..																									
<i>Progress of Retiring and other Allowances since Establishment of the Fund to 31st March, 1939.</i>																									
Total granted*† ..	3,440	2	3,442	465,755	2	2	1,015	1	1	1,016	112	529	14	3	1,165	31,655	0	0	991	978	1,969	42,185	0	0	
Total discontinued* ..	1,666	1	1,667	256,146	4	4	4,02	2	2	4,03	3	731	4	4	4,43	11,133	0	0	81 ¹ ₂	862	1,616	33,697	0	0	
Total existing at 31st March, 1939 ..	1,774	1	1,775	365,698	17	3	613		613	75,798	9	11	662		177	176	353	9,178	0	6	2,564	839,3,493	47,167	7	2
Less amount receivable from the Working Railways Account ..																			..	..	..	..	..	..
																				16,415	14	0			
																				2,454,691	13	2			

* Total allowances granted and discontinued include 266 widows at £18 only, and 693 children at £18 only, except prior to increase of allowances.

† These figures include 134 allowances totalling £1,620 per annum granted under section 14, Finance Act, 1931. Of these allowances, 108 were increased by £3,523 s.

TABLE B.—STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTORS.

	3 per Cent.	4 per Cent.	5 per Cent.	6 per Cent.	7 per Cent.	8 per Cent.	9 per Cent.	10 per Cent.	Total.
Contributors at commencement of year	1,242	30	11,502	1,415	247	32	23	20	14,511
New contributors during year	..	..	1,460	155	64	39	30	26	1,774
Total	1,242	30	12,962	1,570	311	71	53	46	16,285
Contributors discontinued during year	125	9	433	68	17	3	..	..	655
Total contributors at 31st March, 1939	1,117	21	12,529	1,502	294	68	53	46	15,630

TABLE C.—PROGRESS OF THE FUND.

		Balance forward, £ s. d.	Allowances granted, £ s. d.
1903 ..	..	..	..
1904 ..	..	..	12,010 14 8
1905 ..	..	..	8,519 7 8
1906 ..	..	..	6,348 13 7
1907 ..	..	..	4,398 14 11
1908 ..	..	..	7,332 7 11
1909 ..	..	..	6,359 11 0
1910 ..	..	..	11,828 0 6
1911 ..	..	..	8,064 11 5
1912 ..	..	..	7,065 16 4
1913 ..	..	..	8,568 6 6
1914 ..	..	..	9,865 17 8
1915 ..	..	..	11,871 14 3
1916 ..	..	..	9,662 2 5
1917 ..	..	..	11,733 11 11
1918 ..	..	..	8,386 4 0
1919 ..	..	..	9,252 17 8
1920 ..	..	..	20,341 7 3
1921 ..	..	..	20,346 8 9
1922 ..	..	..	23,050 2 0
1923 ..	..	..	22,791 1 0
1924 ..	..	..	21,272 4 0
1925 ..	..	..	36,409 14 0
1925 (increased allowances to widows and children)	..	..	12,246 0 0
1926 ..	..	..	23,509 6 0
1927 ..	..	..	28,281 4 0
1928 ..	..	..	21,120 12 0
1929 ..	..	..	23,006 11 0
1930 ..	..	..	27,986 14 0
1931 ..	..	..	40,573 13 0
1932 ..	..	..	143,807 12 0
1933 ..	..	..	26,199 19 0
1934 ..	..	..	12,970 9 0
1935 ..	..	..	13,394 7 0
1936 ..	..	..	14,637 7 0
1937 ..	..	..	13,863 2 0
1937 (increased allowances, section 27, Statutes Amendment Act, 1936)	..	..	3,553 8 0
1938 ..	..	..	24,622 14 0
1939 ..	..	..	36,872 9 0
		752,124 16 5	
Less members died, &c.	..	281,017 9 3	
Less liability of Working Railways Account	..	16,415 14 0	
		297,433 3 3	
Annual liability at 31st March, 1939	..	£454,691 13 2	

TABLE D.—STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS.

	Funds invested at 31st March.	1939.	1938.
At 3 per cent.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
„ 3·375 „	3,198 0 0	.. .. .. .. ..
„ 3·5 „	25,000 0 0	25,000 0 0
„ 4 „	172,081 16 1	143,940 15 2
„ 4·125 „	229,145 10 0	227,145 10 0
„ 4·25 „	1,704 7 2	1,725 0 0
„ 4·4 „	341,483 6 10	317,886 17 6
„ 4·5 „	335 0 0	335 0 0
„ 4·75 „	293,946 15 8	269,064 8 10
„ 5 „	3,379 16 11	1,510 18 6
„ 6 „	185,403 0 5	262,873 0 5
Cash in hand	1,748 5 0	1,796 11 8
		3,991 3 7	1,708 15 8
		1,261,417 1 8	1,252,986 17 9

	1939. Per Cent.	1938. Per Cent.
Average rate of interest on securities held at 31st March	4·254	4·315
Average rate of interest earned on the mean funds, including reimbursements made by the Treasury in respect of reduction of interest ..	5·123	5·213

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 123, GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT, 1926.

Receipts and Payments Account for Year ended 31st March, 1939.

Dr.	Receipts.	£ s. d.	Cred.	Payments.	£ s. d.
Balance in hands of Public Trustee on 31st March, 1938	10,966 15 1		Retiring-allowances paid to members	432,862 9 5	
Contributions by staff	203,695 13 11		Allowances to widows and children	29,600 15 10	
Contributions by contingent contributors	9,070 6 8		Contributions refunded to members who have left the Service	33,031 8 1	
Fines	233 15 0		Contributions refunded to contingent members who have left the Service	1,913 6 7	
Working Railways Account— Subsidy	170,000 0 0		Rebates of contributions	288 9 9	
Increased allowances to annuitants as provided for by Statutes Amendment Act, 1936	3,313 6 7		Refund to legal representatives of deceased bene- ficiaries under section 120 (e) of Government Railways Act, 1926	1,152 0 2	
Increased allowances to widows and children	13,153 1 0		Contributions transferred to other funds	1,016 3 4	
Cost-of-living bonus to annuitants	1,471 3 6		Travelling-expenses of Board members	79 15 0	
Subsidies from— Consolidated Fund	52,000 0 0		Public Trust charges (legal costs)	178 9 8	
New Zealand Railway Officers' Institute	14 6 4		Public Trust Commission	1,439 9 3	
Railway Tradesmen's Association	15 16 3		Audit Office fee	50 0 0	
New Zealand Engine-drivers', Firemen and Cleaners' Association	23 14 5		Salaries	1,415 0 8	
Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants	15 3 11		Postages	204 13 5	
Interest— Investments	57,077 2 7		Printing and stationery	160 3 7	
Treasury Department	10,876 1 7	67,953 4 2	Cost-of-living bonus to annuitants	1,462 12 6	
Rates and fees (recovered)	174 0 4		Investments	11,726 15 4	
Commission on collection of Government Life Insurance premiums	46 19 10		Contributions paid (in suspense)	75 0 0	
		£532,147 7 0			£532,147 7

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, ETC.—*continued.*

Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1939.

EXPENDITURE.	1938-39.		1937-38.		INCOME.		1938-39.		1937-38.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Retiring allowances to members	433,369	9 10	124,851	9	Members' contributions ..	..	197,862	15 5
Allowances to widows and children	29,658	2 10	28,408	14 6	Members' contributions on account of casual service ..	..	19,280	15 2
Refund of total contributions	33,291	6 9	24,669	4 5	Fines ..	..	249	10 0
Refund of contributions in excess of allowance drawn by deceased beneficiaries	1,119	7 5	1,481	14 10	Subsidies—	..	..	..
Transfers to other funds	1,016	15 3	429	6 6	Consolidated Fund ..	..	52,000	0 0
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts	8,610	11 1	1,054	13 8	Working Railways ..	..	170,000	0 0
Administration charges—							Increased allowances to annuitants as provided for by Statutes Amendment Act, 1936 ..	..	3,298	15 5
Travelling expenses of Board members	79	15 0	72	15 0	Working Railways, on account of increased allowances to widows and children ..	..	..	..
Public Trust Office commission	1,154	2 10	1,299	4 9	New Zealand Railway Officers' Institute ..	..	..	..
Public Trust charges (legal costs)	195	17 11	175	11 1	New Zealand Railway Tradesmen's Association ..	..	..	..
Audit Office fee	50	0 0	50	0 0	New Zealand Engine-drivers, Firemen, and Cleaners' Association ..	..	..	..
Salaries	1,415	0 8	1,373	12 1	Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants ..	..	..	..
Postages	204	13 5	154	4 7	Interest—	..	..	..
Printing and Stationery	160	3 7	181	18 5	Investments ..	..	53,121	9 10
Balance carried down, being excess of income over expenditure for the year	9,631	1 9	21,863	17 3	Treasury Department ..	..	10,876	1 7
							Commission on Government Life Insurance collections ..	..	..	..
	319,956	8 4	505,456	17 10						
Accumulated funds brought forward on 1st April	519,956	8 4	505,456	17 10
Widows' allowances	1,282,354	1 9	1,272,724	7 5	1,272,724	7 5	1,282,355	9 2
Balance accumulated funds as at 31st March	1,282,354	0 2	1,272,724	7 5	1,272,724	7 5	1,282,355	9 2

amounts previously written off now claimed—
Widows' allowances ⁱⁱ £1,000
Debtors' commuted funds as at 31st March

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, ETC.—continued.

Balance-sheet as at 31st March, 1939.

	LIABILITIES.	1938-39,	1937-38,	ASSETS.	1938-39,	1937-38,
Accumulated funds as per Revenue Account	..	1,282 354 0 2	1,252 124 7 5	Investment Account—	..	1,257 425 18 1
Causal employees' contingent contributions	..	13,043 8 9	8,833 17 11	Investments	..	3,961 3 7
Retiring and other allowances due (not paid)—				Cash in hand	..	..
Members	1,122 3 10	672 7 10	Current Account—	..	1,261,417 1 8
Widows and children	209 11 1	159 5 6	Cash in hand	..	12,490 14 5
Refund of contributions authorized (not paid)	..	1,043 7 9	157 9 3	Contributions and fines in transit	..	16,765 13 0
Refund of contributions in excess of allowance drawn by beneficiaries (not paid)	..	175 17 10	298 19 7	Contributions outstanding	..	922 1 1
Transfers to other funds authorized (not paid)	21 3 7	Concessions due by members in respect of casual service	..	26,355 1 5
Interest paid in advance	396 13 1	Working Railways—	..	..
Public Trust Office	945 13 4	7,289 5 3	On account of increased allowances to annuitants as provided for by Statutes Amendment Act, 1936	..	268 7 16 0
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts	4,061 0 0	6,699 0 0	On account of cost-of-living bonus	..	123 19 1
Rebates of contributions (National Expenditure Adjustment Act, 1932)	..	40,046 5 4	27,125 16 0	On account of additional allowance to widows and children ..	..	2,946 9 1
Subsidy paid in advance	3 7 11	Interest due but not paid ..	..	10,084 9 3
Sundry creditors	57 16 6	Interest accrued but not due ..	..	12,556 8 9
Contributions paid in advance	642 13 4	1,197 7 9	Rates and fees paid ..	..	1 1 1
				Insurance premiums ..	..	28 0 5
					..	24 7 9
						1,344,061 17 0
						1,344,061 17 0

W. BISHOP,
Chief Accountant, New Zealand Railways.

I hereby certify that the Statement of Receipts and Payments, Revenue Account, and Balance-sheet have been duly examined and compared with the relative books and documents submitted for audit, and correctly state the position as disclosed thereby.—J. H. FOWLER, Controller and Auditor-General.

D. G. SULLIVAN,
Chairman of the Government Railways
Superannuation Fund Board.

