

YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH, 1944.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENTS ACCOUNT.

NATIVE MINISTER.

AN ESTIMATE of the Sum that will be required in the Year ending 31st March, 1944, to defray the Wages and Expenses of the Native Department on the SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATIVE LAND AND LAND LEASED TO OR OCCUPIED BY NATIVES, and on NATIVE HOUSING.

SUMMARY.

	1943-44.			1942-43.	
	Salaries.	Other Charges.	Total.	Voted.	Expended.
Vote—Native Land Settlement—	£	£	£	£	£
GROSS TOTAL	..	702,000	702,000	750,000	687,014
CREDITS-IN-AID	..	652,000	652,000	650,000	693,586
NET TOTAL	..	50,000	50,000	100,000	Cr. 11,572

Number of Persons.		VOTE—NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT.	1943 44.	1942-43.	
1943-44	1942 43			Voted.	Expended.
		NATIVE LAND DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES—	£	£	£
		Acquisition of land or leasehold	2,000	2,000	(a) 1,079
		Advances to occupiers of farms	125,000	130,000	(a) 111,242
		Advances under share-milking and other agreements ..	1,000	1,000	(a) 961
		Aerial surveys	50	50	
		Development expenditure on land	93,700	100,000	(a) 48,853
		Equipment and chattels for blocks being developed ..	4,000	5,000	(a) 3,304
		<i>Ex gratia</i> payments in lieu of rates on non-rateable lands ..	(b) 500	..	
		Live-stock for blocks being developed	90,000	80,000	(c) 98,942
		Payments out of the proceeds of farming operations to persons owning an interest in or engaged on development schemes	15,000	11,000	(d) 15,739
		Recoupment of interest to Consolidated Fund	80,000	85,200	(e) 114,172
		Seasonal expenditure on blocks being farmed	30,000	20,000	(f) 40,886
		Store buildings and plant	200	200	(a) 28
		Wages—			
		Employment promotion	130,000	180,000	(a) 131,165
		Charged to schemes	55,000	60,000	(a) 50,268
		Seasonal	30,000	20,000	(f) 31,359
		Contingencies	50	50	(g) 30
			656,500	694,500	648,028
		DEVELOPMENT OF NATIVES' LANDS NOT INCLUDED IN DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES—			
		Employment-promotion wages	20,000	30,000	(a) 23,769
		Advances to Natives under section 48, Native Land Amendment Act, 1936	500	500	7
			20,500	30,500	23,776

(a) The underexpenditure is due to the shortage of materials and the flow of men into the armed forces as a result of which new development works are not now being undertaken.

(b) Where Crown or other land specially exempted from rates is being farmed at a profit, a sum equivalent to the rating for the year is paid.

(c) Live-stock sales were heavy, replacements being correspondingly increased.

(d) As more schemes have come into profit, increased payments have been possible to Native owners of the land contained therein.

(e) With more schemes in profit it was possible to meet arrears of interest. In future 4 per cent. interest will be paid to the Consolidated Fund, the remaining 1½ per cent. being retained in the General Profit and Loss Account to meet administration.

(f) As development expenditure decreases on blocks, general farm maintenance costs will increase.

(g) Refunds 19s. 6d.; recoverable expenditure (Maori war effort, &c.) £28 18s. 7d.: total, £29 18s. 1d.