

YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH, 1944.

SOCIAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT.

MINISTER OF HEALTH.

AN ESTIMATE of the Sum that will be required in the Year ending 31st March, 1944, to defray the Contingencies, and Expenses of the MEDICAL, HOSPITAL, ETC., BENEFITS.

SUMMARY.

	1943-44.			1942-43.	
	Salaries.	Other Charges.	Total.	Voted.	Expended.
Vote—Medical, Hospital, &c., Benefits—	£	£	£	£	£
Subdivision I.—Maternity Benefits	..	539,000	539,000	560,000	505,224
„ II.—Medical Benefits	..	1,030,000	1,030,000	960,000	1,016,053
„ III.—Hospital Benefits	..	2,076,000	2,076,000	1,472,000	1,540,959
„ IV.—Pharmaceutical Benefits	..	537,000	537,000	400,000	563,247
„ V.—Supplementary Benefits	..	160,000	160,000	125,000	97,424
GROSS TOTAL	..	4,342,000	4,342,000	3,517,000	3,722,907
CREDITS-IN-AID	..	10,000	10,000	2,400	1,728
NET TOTAL	..	4,332,000	4,332,000	3,514,600	3,721,179

Number of Persons.		VOTE—MEDICAL, HOSPITAL, ETC., BENEFITS.	1943-44.	1942-43.	
1943-44	1942-43			Voted.	Expended.
		Subdivision No. I.—Maternity Benefits.			
		CHARGES FOR AND INCIDENTAL TO—	£	£	£
		Public hospital fees	110,000	110,000	110,217
		Private hospital fees	220,000	230,000	207,575
		Medical practitioners' fees	170,000	180,000	158,208
		Mileage fees—medical practitioners	7,000	7,000	5,089
		Obstetrical nurses' fees and expenses	20,000	25,000	15,089
		Contribution to Consolidated Fund: Value of discontinued maintenance fees (St. Helens Hospital)	12,000	8,000	9,046
		Estimated credits-in-aid under Section 51 of the Public Revenues Act, 1926 (see end of vote)—			
		Miscellaneous	300		
		Total—Subdivision No. I	539,000	560,000	505,224
		Subdivision No. II.—Medical Benefits.			
		CHARGES FOR AND INCIDENTAL TO—			
		Capitation fees	80,000	100,000	71,149
		General medical services	800,000	750,000	831,397
		Special arrangements under section 82, Social Security Act	(a) 75,000	50,000	49,468
		Mileage fees: Medical practitioners	(b) 75,000	60,000	64,039
		Estimated credits-in-aid under Section 51 of the Public Revenues Act, 1926 (see end of vote)			
		£200			
		Total—Subdivision No. II	1,030,000	960,000	1,016,053

(a) Additional provision this year to cover possible establishment of further special arrangements under section 82.

(b) Since the introduction of the General Medical Services Refund Scheme on 1st November, 1941, the claims for mileage fees have shown a gradual increase, and the amount paid last year is not considered a full normal year's expenditure.