

The Tramways Carriage Regulations 1947 were enacted for the purpose of securing improvement in facilities and services in this form of public transport. The regulations are not yet fully operative in respect of overcrowding because of the difficulties of providing the additional transport that is necessary.

The Housing Improvement Regulations 1947 were made in order to improve residential amenities.

In collaboration with the Solicitor-General, negotiations were undertaken for the acquisition of the rights of the Auckland Harbour Bridge Co. under the Auckland Harbour Bridge Act, 1931. A satisfactory agreement was reached, the terms of which will enable the Act of 1931 to be repealed, and legislation proposals in this connection have been prepared for consideration.

FINANCE

The payments and receipts in connection with the Public Works Account and other associated votes and accounts for the year 1947–48 are shown in the tabulation following.

The expenditure administered through the Department for the year reached a total of £23,779,896. In addition, a sum of £1,065,870 was expended from the Public Works Account by the Education Department on school buildings, &c. The miscellaneous receipts totalled £6,406,794.

Class of Work.	Expenditure, 1947–48.
EXPENDITURE, PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNT	
Railway-construction	£ 122,776
Housing construction	6,639,018
Public buildings	2,136,422
Education buildings	1,065,870
Lighthouses and harbour-works	9,803
Roads, &c.	325,534
Soil conservation and rivers control	326,914
Irrigation, water-supply, and drainage	417,312
Highways construction	1,333,303
	12,376,952
Electric Supply Account : construction (public works)	2,525,890
	14,902,842
EXPENDITURE, OTHER VOTES AND ACCOUNTS	
Consolidated Fund—	
Highways—	
Maintenance, repairs, and renewals	2,859,037
Administration, plant, and miscellaneous expenditure	268,316
Permanent appropriations (rate subsidies, &c.)	276,728
Salaries and expenses, Public Works Department and Ministry of Works	933,533
Maintenance, public buildings, roads, &c.	922,377
Plant, material, and miscellaneous services	4,549,324
Other accounts (expenditure by Public Works Department) : Amounts not included above	133,609
Total, other votes and accounts	9,942,924
Grand total of expenditure, Public Works Account and other votes and accounts, for the year ended 31st March, 1948	24,845,766