

The amounts shown in the list attached to the balance-sheet are those actually disbursed during the year, and do not represent the total annual allowances granted by the Board to the 31st March, 1907, which were:—

Life allowances on account of voluntary retirements (376 persons)	23,599	15	1
Life allowances on account of retirements as "medically unfit" (71 persons)	3,797	12	11
Allowances to 91 widows and 172 children	3,880	2	10
Total annual allowances granted	£31,277	10	10

Fifty-one beneficiaries have, however, died since the inauguration of the Fund, including nineteen during the year under review, and six members who had been placed on the Fund as "medically unfit" resumed duty. The Fund was relieved of an annual liability of £3,523 2s. 4d. in respect to these fifty-seven members. Thirty-six children have reached the age of fourteen years—fourteen during the past year—one child has died, and five widows remarried, lessening the liability of the Fund by an additional £572 6s. 5d. per annum. Six hundred and ten persons were actually on the Fund at the 31st March, 1907, involving an annual liability of £27,182 2s. 1d.

A friendly suit to determine the position and rights of widows to receive compensation under section 16, subsection (6) of the Act, in cases where their husbands who were contributors to the fund died before becoming entitled to come on the fund, was taken to the Supreme Court, Wellington, by agreement between the parties concerned. The case was subsequently taken by the Board to the Court of Appeal, which upheld the decision of the Court below and gave judgment in favour of plaintiff as against the Board.

WM. HALL-JONES, Minister for Railways,
Chairman of the Board of Administration.

BALANCE-SHEET of the GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS SUPERANNUATION FUND, under Section 24 of "The Government Railways Superannuation Fund Act, 1902," for the Year ended 31st March, 1907.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward on 1st April, 1906	90,984	11	10	By Life allowances paid, 1st April, 1906, to 31st March, 1907	22,379	11	10
Contributions from members, as per statement subjoined	43,933	17	5	Payments under section 20 (3) of the Act	155	0	2
Fines	310	17	6	Allowances paid to widows and orphans, 25th March, 1906, to 23rd March, 1907	3,069	17	11
Interest added by Public Trust Office for year ended 31st March, 1907	4,602	10	2	Contributions refunded to members who have left the Service	2,621	5	4
				Fines remitted and refunded	2	15	0
				Travelling expenses of members of Board attending quarterly meetings	68	6	6
				Payment under section 16 (6) and costs and interest in connection with test case	371	17	8
				Public Trust Office commission	426	10	3
				Balance at 31st March, 1907, as per statement from Public Trust Office, carried forward	110,736	12	3
	£139,831	16	11		£139,831	16	11

WM. HALL-JONES,
Chairman of the Board of Administration.

H. DAVIDSON,
Accountant, New Zealand Railways.

Examined and found correct.—J. K. WARBURTON, Controller and Auditor-General.—
26th June, 1907.