

The following table shows the gross amount paid since the Act came into force, together with the cost per head of the population (exclusive of Maoris) in each year :—

	Gross Payments on Account of Pensions. £	Population at End of Year.	Cost per Head of Population. s. d.
Three months ended 31st March, 1899 (at £18)	3,124	746,676	0 1
Year ended 31st March, 1900 (at £18)	157,342	758,617	4 1
" " 1901	197,292	772,719	5 1
" " 1902	207,468	789,994	5 3
" " 1903	210,140	814,842	5 2
" " 1904	203,164	838,954	4 10
" " 1905	195,475	864,971	4 6
" " 1906*	254,367	889,968	5 8
" " 1907 (at £26)	314,184	913,873	6 10
" " 1908	325,199	937,587	6 11
Total ...	2,067,755		

* Five months at £18; seven months at £26.

RECOVERIES.

The amount recovered and paid to the credit of the Public Account during the year was £163 Os. 8d., being for the most part instalments collected by pensioners to which they were not by law entitled.

The following table shows the amounts recovered in each year since the Act came into operation :—

	£	s.	d.
Three months ended 31st March, 1899 ..	..	..	..
Year ended 31st March, 1900 ..	25	15	0
" " 1901 ..	63	18	4
" " 1902 ..	127	1	11
" " 1903 ..	1,039	11	1
" " 1904 ..	2,349	14	7
" " 1905 ..	1,526	10	9
" " 1906 ..	405	11	0
" " 1907 ..	357	16	8
" " 1908 ..	163	0	8
Total ..	£6,059	0	0

COST OF ADMINISTRATION.

The cost of administration for the past year was £5,765 15s. 3d., the details of the expenditure being as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries ..	3,618	11	1
Other charges,—			
Clerical assistance ..	336	7	1
Contribution to Post Office for paying pensions ..	1,010	0	0
Travelling - expenses of Registrar, Stipendiary Magistrates, Deputy Registrars, and police constables ..	143	9	0
Interpreters' fees ..	38	2	6
Postage and telegrams ..	468	6	9
Contingencies ..	150	18	10
	£5,765	15	3

The difference in the amount disbursed under this head and the amount voted by Parliament is accounted for by the fact that of the total vote of £2,500 appropriated for the purpose of paying pensions the sum of £1,010 only was claimed by the General Post Office. The balance of £1,450 has, however, been claimed since the close of the financial year and paid, and the appropriations for the current financial year will therefore require to exceed the actual amount required for the year's disbursements by this amount, which was short-collected last year.

The amount paid for administering the Act in each year since the Act was passed is as follows :—

	£
Three months ended 31st March, 1899 ...	510
Year ended 31st March, 1900 ...	2,360
" " 1901 ...	2,415
" " 1902 ...	2,535
" " 1903 ...	3,805
" " 1904 ...	3,655
" " 1905 ...	3,936
" " 1906 ...	4,758
" " 1907 ...	5,250
" " 1908 ...	5,766
Total ...	£34,990