

The comparative table for the two years is as follows :—

	1909-10.	1908-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	2,671,121	2,801,248	..	130,127
Railways	3,258,263	2,918,507	339,756	..
Stamps (including Post and Telegraph receipts)	1,537,352	1,591,328	..	53,976
Land-tax	642,270	604,901	37,369	..
Income-tax	316,835	321,044	..	4,209
Beer duty	115,369	116,214	..	845
Registration and other fees	88,305	117,061	..	28,756
Marine	42,918	43,815	..	897
Miscellaneous	296,099	264,210	31,889	..
Territorial revenue	202,587	222,857	..	20,270
Endowment revenue	67,142	..	67,142	..
			476,156	239,080
			239,080	
Totals	9,238,261	9,001,185	237,076	

EXPENDITURE.

I can now pass on to the results of the expenditure of the Ordinary Revenue Account of last year, and I find that as compared with my estimates the actual amount underspent was £119,777, which shows that care in the expenditure was exercised, and should call for recognition from impartial critics, as a Finance Minister must necessarily see that a sufficiency of funds are provided to insure the year's requirements being met.

The estimated expenditure for all services was £9,110,699, and the amount actually spent £8,990,922. As the permanent appropriations exceeded the estimate by £11,612, the saving, I am pleased to say, was effected in the departmental appropriations, for which purpose £5,607,902 was voted and £5,476,513 was expended, the amount unissued being £131,389. In every class except Legislative there was a saving on the amount appropriated. Even the Railways, which had the authority by law to make use of the surplus revenue amounting to £208,263, did not require to trench upon this amount.

It may also be interesting to honourable members to compare the expenditure on departmental appropriations of last year with that of the previous year. I find that the amount spent in 1909-10 was less than that expended in the financial year 1908-9 by the sum of £98,970.

A comparative table below will further go to show that there was a saving in eleven classes of no less than £210,223, while five classes show an increase of £111,253; but it may be desirable to point out that these classes comprised the Post and Telegraph (£41,226), Working Railways (£47,881), and Education (£14,712), in which the services cannot be cut down without impairing their efficiency or depriving the public of many conveniences.

	1909-10.	1908-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Legislative	28,634	29,281	..	647
Department of Finance	73,757	96,457	..	22,700
Post and Telegraph Department	855,862	814,636	41,226	..
Working Railways	2,168,189	2,120,308	47,881	..
Public Buildings, Domains, and Maintenance of Roads	86,729	85,596	1,133	..
Native Department	18,874	30,840	..	11,966
Justice Department	357,141	350,840	6,301	..
Mines Department	24,704	31,457	..	6,753
Department of Internal Affairs	256,466	344,566	..	88,100
Defence Department	190,347	195,685	..	5,338
Customs, Marine and Harbours, and Inspection of Machinery Departments	122,782	131,321	..	8,539
Department of Labour	24,212	30,277	..	6,065
Department of Lands and Survey	205,538	232,167	..	26,629
Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Tourists	189,914	219,690	..	29,776
Education Department	862,946	848,234	14,712	..
Services not provided for	10,418	14,128	..	3,710
Totals	5,476,513	5,575,483	111,253	210,223