

are concerned, with any portion of the charge for rent. Then, with respect to the question of washing, a single man has to pay his washing bill no matter where he is; he cannot go about in the same clothes from the 1st January till the 31st December. Therefore it cannot be reasonably claimed that the washing bill is a fair charge against the relieving-allowances. Now, all that the relieving-allowances are provided for is to cover the difference in a man's cost of living in settled location and when moving from place to place. If he has to pay transport expenses for his port-manteau, the Department has never, to my knowledge, stuck up a voucher for that item or any item of that kind. It is within my knowledge that items that were considered unreasonable, and which the man who claimed could not justify, have been struck out. Now, with regard to the sufficiency of the amount to reasonably cover board expenses, I just looked last night through the official pocket Guide of the Railway Department. I do not know the houses advertised, but according to the blocks they look all right. They are known as commercial houses—the class of house that our officers would stay at in the main—and the tariffs are as follows:—

Town.	Hotel.	Rates.	
		Per Day.	Per Week.
		s. d.	s. d.
Auckland	Metropolitan	7 0	..
Christchurch	Gloucester House	6 0	30 0
"	Empire	5 0	..
Cambridge	Carlton	5 0	25 0
Dunedin	City	8 0	..
Gore	Palace	6 0	31 6
"	Criterion	6 0	31 6
Hamilton	Commercial	6 6	..
"	Westcourt	6 0	..
Hamilton East	Grande Vue	6 0	35 0
Hastings	Hastings	6 6	..
Hawera	Empire	6 0	..
Napier	Terminus	6 6	..
"	Provincial	6 0	..
"	Masonic	12 6	42 0
New Plymouth	Terminus	6 6	..
Ohakune	Railway	6 6	..
"	Windsor	6 6	..
Palmerston North	Excelsior	4 6	20 0
Queenstown	Hamilton House	6 0	35 0
Rangataua	Williams's	6 0	..
"	Eagle Tea-rooms	6 0	..
Rotorua	Carlton	6 0	30 0
"	Commonwealth	6 0	35s. and 30s.
"	Randwick	5 0	25s. and 30s.
"	Australia	6 0	35s. and 30s.
"	Columbia	6 0	30s. and 25s.
"	People's Palace	5 0	..
"	Fenton House	5 0	30 0
"	Park View	6 0	35 0
"	Bungalow	6s. 6d. and 7s.	38s. and 42s.
"	Thirwell House	6 0	30s. and 35s.
"	Langham	5s. and 6s.	30s. and 35s.
Stratford	Crystal Coffee Palace	5 0	22 0
"	Club	4 6	..
Taihape	Temperance	4 0	..
Timaru	Crown	6 0	..
"	Excelsior	6 6	..
Waipawa	Waipawa	8 0	..
"	Grand	6 0	35 0
Wakatipu	Mountaineer	6 0	..
Wanganui	Ellesmere	5 0	25 0
"	Parkville	6 0	30 0
"	New Criterion	6 6	..
"	Metropolitan	6 6	..
"	Hazelwood House	5 0	25 0
Wellington	New Occidental	8 0	..
"	Masonic	7 0	35 0
"	Trocadero	6 0	..
"	New-Zealander	..	42 0
"	Kenilworth	..	35s. and 42s.