The expenditure at Sydney and Melbourne has been as under :—

	Sydney.	Melbourne.
	£	£
Rent	250	300
Salaries (including clerical assistance)	365	504
Miscellaneous	300	144

REPORT OF RESIDENT OFFICER, ROTORUA.

Rotorua, 12th July, 1919.

I BEG to submit my annual report for the year ending 31st March, 1919.

During the year the roads have had the usual attention as regards maintenance. In Fenton and Arawa Streets there has been a total length of 16 chains of new tarred macadam laid. In Hinemoa and Tutanekai Streets about 16 chains has been recoated with tarred chips. In accordance with an arrangement made with the Defence Department, that portion of Arawa Street from the Pukeroa entrance to its intersection with Hinemaru Street has been laid with blue metal, blinded with chips. This was done to carry the heavy and continuous traffic between the military hospital and the baths. Numerous culverts have been constructed and installed as requested, in order to provide for access of vehicles to various properties.

The financial aspect of the town administration has become very serious, as the fixed revenue is proving quite inadequate to meet the maintenance requirements. We cannot now carry out any additional permanent work—say, in the matter of putting blue metal on a road which has not hitherto been so treated. By reason of the increased cost of labour and material, and the greater demand made by motor traffic, our present revenue is all required for maintenance of works already done. This is not a position of affairs which can be continued indefinitely, or viewed with complacency. The need for some change in the system is imperative.

The levy on the Town Account made by the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board for the current financial year was £246 18s. 5d., to meet which a rate on the capital value of $\frac{1}{8}$d. in the pound was struck. The levy made by the Fire Board amounted to £418, which was met by a rate of $\frac{7}{16}$d. in the pound on the value of buildings within the town area. No library rate was levied this year.

Building permits were issued during the year for new buildings and additions to existing ones, the total value being £6,705. The rateable capital value of the town is £526,689.

I attach a statement of the Rotorua Town Account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE TOWN OF ROTORUA FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1919.

General Account.

Receipts.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance at 31st March, 1918	..	69 0 8
Treasury—		
Bath fees	1,269 5 0	
Rents (Crown lands)	1,832 9 2	
		3,101 14 2
Sanitary service fees	..	378 10 8
Public pound fees	..	108 12 6
Licenses and fees—		
Building permits	22 15 0	
Vehicle	67 0 0	
Driver	5 18 0	
Publicans'	186 0 0	
Auctioneers'	40 0 0	
Billiard-rooms	18 0 0	
Halls	6 0 0	
Shooting-gallery	3 0 0	
Shows	8 0 0	
Hawkers'	0 5 0	
Storage of explosives	3 15 0	
Dog-registration fees	23 10 0	
		384 3 0
Rents—		
Real property	32 6 0	
Explosive magazines	12 16 3	
Boat-shed compartments	15 0 0	
		60 2 3
Miscellaneous—		
Material sold	10 18 6	
Contributions to works	116 15 0	
Sale of by-laws	0 2 0	
Refunds—		
Hospital and charitable aid	2 15 0	
Government insurance	1 2 6	
New Zealand Railways	4 1 8	
Guides' badges	1 15 0	
Sundries	5 0 0	
		142 10 8
Ten-per-cent. penalty on overdue rates	..	11 10 5
Debit balance at 31st March, 1919	..	563 16 10
		£4,820 1 2

Expenditure.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Administration—		
Salaries	325 18 4	
Printing and advertising	5 7 6	
Audit	7 10 0	
Bank charges	0 10 0	
Bank interest on overdraft	12 5 6	
Office expenses	7 18 3	
		359 9 7
Public works—		
Maintenance of streets and roads (labour and material)	3,262 7 2	
Tree topping and pruning	118 18 0	
Street-lighting	158 18 6	
		3,540 3 8
Sanitary service—		
Labour	380 19 0	
Fodder and plant	175 0 2	
		555 19 2
Public pound—Wages, fodder, and advertising	..	105 18 9
Public health—Sanitary inspection	..	152 7 11
Licensing-expenses — Tauranga County Council	..	27 1 4
Miscellaneous—		
Insurance (fire and accident)	38 0 0	
Dog-registration	10 1 4	
Charitable aid	8 10 11	
Maintenance of town clock	18 15 0	
Sundries	3 13 6	
		79 0 9
		£4,820 1 2