

increase in the cost of living during the past few years, and justifies the care taken by the Workers' Dwellings Board in selecting and approving suitable applicants. As in previous years, a considerable proportion of the arrears due on the 31st March was paid by the 16th April—viz., £506 16s. 4d. The sums due on the 31st March and not paid by the 16th April (£846 18s. 3d.) amount to an average of 7s. 6d. per dwelling per year, compared with 7s. 9d. in 1918 and 7s. 6d. in 1916. This year the arrears are, with one exception, more than covered by the amount paid off the principal after deducting depreciation.

The following table shows the position in regard to arrears as at the 31st March, 1919, as compared with the four previous years:—

Date.	Number of Dwellings.	Arrears.			Average Arrears per Dwelling.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
31st March, 1915 .. .. .	471	1,215	14	5	2	11	8
31st March, 1916 .. .. .	553	1,251	12	8	2	5	3
31st March, 1917 .. .. .	619	1,013	11	11	1	12	9
31st March, 1918 .. .. .	639	1,514	16	9	2	7	4
31st March, 1919 .. .. .	653	1,353	14	7	2	1	6

The following are the usual returns respecting the workers' dwellings erected to date:—

#### RETURNS.

(a), (b), and (c) made pursuant to section 18 of the Act.

(a.) THE MONEYS EXPENDED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR IN ACQUIRING LAND UNDER THIS ACT, IN PREPARING THE SAME FOR WORKERS' DWELLINGS, AND IN ERECTING SUCH DWELLINGS.

	£	s.	d.
1. Amount expended in acquiring land and dwellings already erected	1,427	17	6
2. Amount expended in preparing land for workers' dwellings	..	399	7 10
3. Amount expended in erecting dwellings	..	5,466	2 1
Total (paid out of Public Works Fund)	..	7,293	7 5
4. Amount expended in administration and travelling (paid out of Labour Department's vote)	..	303	19 9
Total	..	£7,597	7 2

The above return does not include the sum of £1,813 11s. 6d. incurred for maintenance, fire insurance, rates, &c., in respect of some of the dwellings. These amounts are charged for in the rents and instalments collected. The total expenditure in connection with the workers' dwellings during the year was thus £9,410 18s. 8d.—viz., £7,293 7s. 5d. out of Public Works Fund, and £2,117 11s. 3d. out of the Labour Department's vote.

(b.) THE NUMBER OF DWELLINGS ERECTED AND PURCHASED DURING THE YEAR, AND THE NUMBER DISPOSED OF.

The number of dwellings erected or purchased	..	..	..	..	14
The number of dwellings disposed of	..	..	..	..	14

(c.) THE WEEKLY OR OTHER PAYMENTS CONTRACTED FOR, THE AMOUNT OF SUCH PAYMENTS RECEIVED, AND THE AMOUNT OF ARREARS OUTSTANDING.

(1.) Settlement.	(2.) Arrears outstanding as at 31st March, 1918.	(3.) Weekly or other Payments contracted for (exclusive of Arrears, Col. 2). (Total for Year.)	(4.) Total Amount received for Year.	(5.) Arrears outstanding as at 31st March, 1919.	(6.) Number of Dwellings on Settlement unpaid for.	(7.) Average Arrears per Dwelling.
Auckland—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Lawry ..	303 12 6	3,058 9 3	3,161 9 2	200 12 7	81	2 9 6
Eccleston ..	37 14 6	1,187 17 2	1,181 11 9	43 19 11	31	1 8 5
Grey Lynn ..	0 18 6	221 6 10	209 17 4	12 8 0	6	2 1 4
Wellington—						
Taitville ..	45 3 9	1,574 8 3	1,578 7 11	41 4 1	33	1 5 0
Island Bay ..	38 16 4	1,014 19 9	1,031 6 3	22 9 10	25	0 18 0
Latta ..	40 17 0	425 8 4	452 11 9	13 13 7	8	1 14 2
Coromandel Street	12 11 7	492 0 0	488 5 5	16 6 2	12	1 7 2
McIntosh ..	18 15 7	381 13 8	395 10 8	4 18 7	10	0 9 10
Heretaunga ..	61 11 10	1,341 7 9	1,351 16 10	51 2 9	34	1 4 2
Christchurch—						
Camelot ..	87 10 1	1,150 9 2	1,189 11 5	57 7 10	35	1 12 9
Walker ..	43 2 11	533 10 0	548 15 2	27 17 9	16	1 14 10
Chancellor Street ..	3 12 6	258 5 6	24 17 7	7 0 5	7	1 0 1
Hulbert ..	15 2 1	495 1 2	485 14 11	24 18 4	11	2 4 5