

Summary of Expenditure approved during the Year ended 31st March, 1919.

Name of Vote or Account.	Net Amount voted.	Gross Expenditure.	Recoveries.	Net Expenditure.
<i>Consolidated Fund.</i>				
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Lands and Survey	165,770	180,094 9 5	43,123 5 8	136,971 3 9
Lands and Survey, Miscellaneous	108,804	75,783 6 8	3,351 14 8	72,431 12 0
State Forests Account	69,257	41,728 4 4	384 14 3	41,343 10 1
Land for Settlements Expenses	7,560	3,488 9 0	..	3,488 9 0
Scenery-preservation Account.. .. .	9,888	3,588 17 1	..	3,588 17 1
<i>Public Works Fund.</i>				
Improved-farm Settlements	2,000	472 17 5	394 13 10	78 3 7
Lands, Miscellaneous	5,000	218 5 2	4,563 19 7	Cr. 4,345 14 5
<i>Land for Settlements Account.</i>				
Roads to open up Lands for Settlement	100,500	51,612 8 5	256 18 8	51,355 9 9
Totals	468,779	356,986 17 6	52,075 6 8	304,911 10 10
Land for Settlements Account	..	33,308 3 6	..	33,308 3 6
Rangitaiki Land Drainage Account (Section 7, Rangitaiki Land Drainage Act, 1910)	..	29,221 3 11	197 0 7	29,024 3 4
Hauraki Plains Settlement Account (Section 93, Reserves, &c., Act, 1916)	..	27,325 3 0	929 16 10	26,395 6 2
Swamp Land Drainage Account (Section 95, Reserves, &c., Act, 1916) —	£ s. d.			
Kaitaia	17,095 4 4			
Waihi	6,710 17 4			
Poukawa	101 9 0			
General Expenses.. .. .	250 0 0			
		24,157 10 8	32 17 1	24,124 13 7
National Endowment Account	..	6,239 2 7	..	6,239 2 7
Native Land Settlement Account	..	28,682 14 3	..	28,682 14 3
Special Acts, Deposit Account, Refunds, &c.	..	10,191 15 9	..	10,191 15 9
Waimarino Bush-fire Relief Account	..	52,548 1 11	..	52,548 1 11
Discharged Soldiers Settlement Account	..	594,920 19 8	..	594,920 19 8
Totals	..	806,594 15 3	1,159 14 6	805,435 0 9
Grand totals	..	1,163,581 12 9	53,235 1 2	1,110,346 11 7

GRASS-SEED SUPPLIED TO SETTLERS.

For many years it has been the practice of the Department to assist Crown tenants and in some cases holders of freehold lands who have suffered financial hardship through bush fires. The method adopted has been to purchase grass-seed and dispose of it to the settlers, payment being secured by promissory notes.

The bush fires of 1917 in the Waimarino District were of such an extensive character and caused so much suffering and distress that it has been deemed desirable to make special mention of the working of the relief measures adopted to deal with the cases in that locality, and full information on the subject will be found in Appendix IV.

REVALUATIONS OF CROWN LEASEHOLDS.

During the year twenty-seven holdings were revalued under section 15 of the Land Laws Amendment Act, 1915. The capital values were reduced from £91,079 to £82,689, and the annual rentals from £4,225 to £3,895. At the close of the year there were twenty-nine applications not dealt with.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT.

The area of national-endowment land in the Dominion at the 31st March, 1919, was 8,935,835 acres. Of this area 6,835,130 acres was held under lease or license, providing an annual rental of £119,734. The gross amount of rents, &c., received from this endowment during the year was £128,125. As section 258 of the Land Act, 1908, provides that the area in the endowment shall not exceed nine million acres, it will be seen that this limit must shortly be reached, as only another 65,000 acres are necessary to bring the total up to the statutory requirement.