

to various schemes which would mean the permanent removal of considerable numbers from the ranks of the unemployed, and it is anticipated that during the present summer several of these schemes will be finalized and put into operation, thus materially relieving the position so far as next winter is concerned.

As honourable members are aware, the Government has given an undertaking that all unemployed capable of employment will be placed in work at a certain date. A sub-committee of Cabinet has the matter in hand, and proposals in this direction are at the present time receiving that committee's attention.

EXPENDITURE.

The total net expenditure under all votes and accounts appearing on the public-works estimates for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929, was £8,331,884. Of this sum £3,777,006 was expended out of General Purposes Account, and the balance, £4,554,878, out of special accounts.

A brief summary of this expenditure, as well as the total expenditure since the inception of the public-works policy to the 31st March last, follows in tabular form:—

Class of Work.	Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1929.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1929.
Railways—	£	£
New construction	1,002,872	36,166,445
Additions to open lines	213,405	16,003,639
Payment to Midland Railway bondholders	..	150,000
Roads	833,577	17,799,274*
Public buildings	213,505	10,341,786
Immigration	50,266	3,234,549
Purchase of Native lands	..	2,061,147
Lighthouses, harbour-works, and harbour defences	17,063	1,266,276
Tourist and health resorts	39,254	499,580
Telegraph extension	624,414	9,916,361
Development of mining	..	881,585
Defence works (general)	67,652	1,347,920
Departmental	142,253	2,544,318
Irrigation and water-supply	55,197	836,472
Lands-improvement	85,861	512,381
Minor works and services	..	312,607
Plant, material, and stores	4,594	351,770
Quarries (acquisition and operating)	Cr. 6,030	5,114
Timber-supply and sawmills for Public Works Department	Cr. 5,115	390
Motor-transport services	..	33,635
Cost and discount, raising loans, &c.	438,238	3,031,051
Total General Purposes Account	3,777,006†	107,296,300
Aid to Water-power Works and Electric Supply Account	1,183,103‡	8,395,910‡
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Improvement Account	52,310‡	660,299‡
Total Public Works Fund	5,012,419	116,352,509
Wellington-Hutt Railway, &c.—		
Railway	..	228,374
Road	..	101,658
Railways Improvement Account	..	641,275
Railways Improvement Authorization Act, 1914 Account	2,007,617§	6,482,284§
Loans to Local Bodies Account—Roads to open up Crown lands	..	697,408
Opening up Crown Lands for Settlement Account—Roads to open up Crown lands	..	206,626
Lands for Settlement Account—Roads to open up Crown lands	..	590,025
National Endowment Account	..	53,401
Education Loans Account	375,352§	3,747,433§
Main Highways Account—Construction Fund	936,496	2,681,924
	8,331,884	131,782,917

* Includes £4,500 expended under section 16, subsection (1), Native Land Amendment and Native Land Claims Adjustment Act, 1923. † Does not include expenditure under the Ellesmere Land Drainage Act, 1905.
‡ Excludes interest during construction. § Includes proportionate cost of loan raised under these accounts.