

Payments (Net Vote).

Branch.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Head Office	*	9,169	8,433	9,378	9,148	9,687	9,214	9,269
Harbours	5,194	4,216	6,279	3,911	3,862	4,338	7,882	3,739
Lighthouses	37,085	27,734	25,503	26,018	26,038	25,273	24,119	23,441
Meteorological Office ..	3,909	5,314	5,671	6,009	6,007	..	..	..
Mercantile Marine ..	12,632	11,901	13,422	14,262	15,413	14,813	15,087	15,128
Inspection of Machinery ..	27,492	25,279	24,821	24,714	26,181	28,294	27,045	26,942
Fisheries	13,784	10,456	10,792	12,539	15,351	14,922	14,238	13,030
Government Steamers ..	34,184	19,675	21,155	19,956	18,642	21,215	19,638	17,580
Miscellaneous Services ..	17,415	3,460	1,573	2,676	1,359	1,240	1,855	1,083
Totals	151,695	117,204	117,649	119,463	122,001	119,782	119,078	110,212

* It was formerly the practice to include Head Office expenditure under miscellaneous services.

It will be observed that the receipts have increased from £73,696 in 1921-22 to £138,940 in 1928-29, while the payments have decreased from £151,695 in 1921-22 to £110,212 in 1928-29. Thus by an increase of £65,244 in receipts and a decrease of £41,483 in payments the Department has improved its cash position to the extent of £106,727 in seven years.

Turning to the Income and Expenditure Account, which is the really reliable index of the Department's financial position, the figures for the past four years in comparison with 1922-23 are as follows :—

Branch.	1922-23.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
<i>Revenue.</i>					
Shipping Branch—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Light dues	39,688 16 8	82,875 6 3	81,064 9 8	81,247 11 8	80,979 13 11
Engagement and discharge fees	3,179 11 0	3,664 15 3	3,124 13 3	2,790 2 6	2,583 2 9
Survey fees	3,095 9 0	6,137 16 11	5,371 7 8	5,144 7 6	5,123 8 6
Examination fees ..	395 12 6	429 10 0	379 5 0	321 5 0	268 8 0
Miscellaneous	1,289 0 4	823 14 3	505 18 3	427 5 11	296 6 11
Harbours—					
Pilotage, port charges, &c.	764 14 6	870 11 8	920 17 1	1,801 18 10	1,998 18 5
Foreshore revenue ..	1,126 14 1	5,704 2 4	5,988 17 4	6,212 2 3	5,582 0 5
Inspection of Machinery—					
Inspection fees, &c. ..	17,126 19 0	18,005 8 10	19,531 8 3	19,549 16 9	19,922 9 4
Examination fees ..	667 0 0	657 5 0	556 4 0	497 5 0	402 5 0
Fisheries—					
Net profit from sale of oysters	2,546 9 6	2,517 3 11	1,347 11 7	1,003 17 11	1,160 0 11
Fishing-boat license fees, &c.	324 9 6	575 5 4	629 15 9	845 0 1	542 0 6
Rental of toheroa-beds ..	10 0 0	300 0 0	300 0 0	300 0 0	300 0 0
Government Steamers—					
Freight, passage-money, &c.	1,785 0 7	3,185 17 8	5,134 9 6	1,458 9 2	4,046 7 3
Ross Sea Revenue	..	1,720 12 6	2,921 5 0	7,176 15 0	13,961 17 6
Miscellaneous Revenue ..	2,800 11 4	1,818 1 10	1,693 12 2	1,616 3 7	2,719 13 3
Totals	74,800 8 0	129,285 11 9	129,469 14 6	130,392 1 2	139,886 12 8
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Head Office	9,612 2 8	9,626 13 9	10,007 16 10	9,721 15 2	9,397 4 4
Harbours	4,826 13 2	4,295 13 3	3,938 6 0	7,790 0 0	4,059 18 4
Lighthouses	26,995 19 5	24,220 2 2	24,157 5 4	24,266 9 2	23,919 13 11
Meteorological	5,374 0 3	6,124 12 6	..	..	..
Mercantile Marine ..	15,150 17 11	24,626 5 5	25,021 18 8	24,792 14 9	25,266 9 2
Inspection of Machinery ..	27,015 0 0	20,793 2 9	22,288 13 8	21,842 2 1	21,573 2 7
Fisheries	4,545 3 2	3,179 2 6	3,385 5 11	3,389 19 10	3,281 12 10
Government Steamers ..	21,697 19 6	24,309 19 11	22,605 0 4	20,733 16 9	21,559 12 3
Miscellaneous Services ..	2,655 3 8	2,189 17 10	2,861 17 4	2,161 11 7	2,146 4 0
Grants and Subsidies ..	1,510 0 0	540 0 0	290 0 0	594 0 0	260 0 0
Depreciation	8,035 4 9	8,862 19 6	9,032 5 3	9,158 5 10	9,662 2 8
Interest on Capital ..	15,716 7 3	17,811 11 0	18,005 6 0	18,119 18 0	17,285 17 5
Totals	143,134 11 9	146,580 0 7	141,593 15 4	142,570 13 2	138,411 17 6