

MONTAGUE HARRISON WYNYARD examined. (No. 24.)

Witness: I am the representative of the motorists on the Main Highways Board, and I am speaking as that representative at the request of the Motor Conference. The clause I am asked to deal with is clause 54, providing for the payment of subsidies by the Highways Board on roads that are not main highways. I wish to speak from the point of view of the financial provisions of the highways at present so far as it affects that matter. I would like to read the following tables, which have been provided to me by the officials of the Main Highways Board:—

Estimated Position of Revenue Fund, 31st March, 1930.

£				£			
Balance 1st April, 1929	521,000			Expenditure on general maintenance	1,000,000		
Tire-tax	200,000			Earthquake damage	75,000		
Motor fees	350,000			Interest and other charges	113,000		
Petrol-tax	800,000			Transfer to Government Fund	750,000		
Public Works Fund	35,000			Balance	155,000		
Interest and miscellaneous receipts	37,000						
Repayment from Construction Fund	150,000						
	<u>£2,093,000</u>				<u>£2,093,000</u>		

The expenditure of £150,000 on other roads and streets would reduce the balance at 31st March, 1930, to £5,000. The transfer of £750,000 provides for an extra £100,000 which it has been found necessary to transfer to maintain present rate of progress.

Expenditure on Relief Works.

£					
1926-27	43,234				
1927-28	74,921				
1928-29	219,394				
1929-30 (to 31st August, 1929)	97,492				
	<u>£435,041</u>				

Expenditure on Maintenance of Secondary Highways.

£					
1928-29	147,873				
1929-30	337,664				

The latter figure (£337,664) represents the total of approved items submitted on the annual estimates.

Main Highways Estimates, 1929-30.

		Construction.			Maintenance.		
		Amounts applied for.	Amounts approved.	Cash allocation.	Amounts applied for.	Amounts approved.	Amount approved on Secondary Highways.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
1 ..		198,125	142,492	125,000	102,567	99,973	32,184
2 ..		187,243	128,150	140,000	171,157	168,041	57,469
3 ..		63,597	31,957	20,000	52,613	52,613	6,504
4 ..		110,778	62,328	31,000	61,667	61,530	14,305
5 ..		68,949	49,754	32,000	132,867	103,474	24,191
6 ..		85,175	57,762	40,000	55,230	53,700	11,483
7 ..		98,046	59,375	41,000	81,408	68,085	13,343
8 ..		108,063	56,984	32,000	69,975	54,521	17,173
9 ..		218,490	120,092	82,000	107,872	103,817	9,875
10 ..		82,191	48,404	31,000	68,397	55,473	8,720
11 ..		26,771	35,756	33,000	91,507	91,507	29,046
12 ..		53,514	35,760	20,000	120,801	112,828	27,711
13 ..		44,304	36,341	30,000	42,575	38,924	7,557
14 ..		230,701	136,255	90,000	44,042	44,042	16,464
15 ..		79,048	75,708	60,000	77,372	69,154	14,700
16 ..		51,022	30,770	45,000	42,754	37,882	13,320
17 ..		95,570	105,944	80,000	44,117	40,492	16,936
18 ..		56,399	47,163	28,000	54,078	51,338	16,683
		1,857,986	1,260,995	960,000	1,420,999	1,307,844	337,664