

The receipts from the Customs-tax on tyres and tubes shows a small increase on the amount for the preceding year.

Registration, license fees, &c., amounted to a record total, exceeding by £500 the previous highest figures, reached in 1930-31. The receipts under this heading for the year ended 31st March, 1936, were over £40,000 more than for the year 1934-35.

The proceeds from the motor-spirits tax were very much higher for the year 1935-36, exceeding the previous year's figure by £478,000, and representing the largest sum which has been credited to the Revenue Fund in any one year.

The gross importations of motor-spirits since 1926 have been as follows, these figures providing a good index of the volume of motor traffic, to which maintenance requirements especially are closely related :—

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1926 (January to December) ..	44,800,000	1931 (January to December) ..	61,800,000
1927 ..	48,000,000	1932 ..	58,400,000
1928 ..	54,500,000	1933 ..	55,400,000
1929 ..	62,400,000	1934 ..	64,600,000
1930 ..	68,300,000	1935 ..	65,300,000

It will be seen that the importations for the calendar year 1935 were slightly more than for 1934.

For the year ended 31st March, 1936, the summarized expenditure under the Revenue Fund was as follows :—

	Expenditure.
	£
Maintenance works—	
North Island	771,289
South Island	418,890
Administration and general charges	56,732
Loan charges (including commutation of toll-gate charges and Hutt Road fees)	291,651
Subsidies on rates	184,855
Special subsidy on farm-land rates. (Finance Act, 1935)	186,117
	<u>£1,909,534</u>

An analysis of the expenditure for 1935-36 by the Board and by local authorities on maintenance, as distinct from interest on loans and other overhead charges, is shown in the tabulation below :—

—	Board's Contribution.	Local Authorities' Contribution.	Total.	Percentage Board's Contribution to Total.	Percentage Local Authorities' Contribution to Total.
	£	£	£		
North Island	771,289	190,619	961,908	80·18	19·82
South Island	418,890	93,804	512,694	81·70	18·30
Total	1,190,179	284,423	1,474,602	80·71	19·29

An analysis of the actual expenditure by the Board on maintenance in each Island, as compared with the number of motor-vehicles in each Island at the 31st March, shows the following comparisons for the last ten years :—

—	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
North Island—										
Maintenance expenditure	64·86	67·51	66·13	62·30	59·23	62·31	62·84	63·80	65·44	64·80
Motor-vehicles ..	61·86	62·19	63·08	63·63	63·84	63·77	63·78	63·94	64·31	64·84
South Island—										
Maintenance expenditure	35·14	32·49	33·87	37·70	40·77	37·69	37·16	36·20	34·56	35·20
Motor-vehicles ..	38·14	37·81	36·92	36·37	36·16	36·23	36·22	36·06	35·69	35·16