D.—1. 24

the amount under the Construction Act, and including the amount for subsidies, is about £170,000 less than last year, and I hope we shall be able to do with a less actual expenditure.

Mr. Speaker,—I have extended my remarks this evening to a somewhat unusual length, so many important points having to be dealt with by any one holding the position of Minister for Public Works, and no doubt I have trespassed

too long upon your patience and that of honourable members.

It only now remains for me to thank you, Sir, and the House for the great indulgence you have afforded to me to-night, and to express a hope that when we meet next session the anticipations I have ventured to make may be found to be fully realized.