

this account from the regular monthly payments of the capitation allowance: this is merely a matter of account, and was adjusted in due course. In addition to capitation the Boards received for purposes of maintenance about £1,530 from local sources, and, from Government, subsidies amounting to £4,000 for inspection. The year's income for maintenance, in the strict sense—that is, for salaries, training, administration, inspection, and grants to Committees—was more than £358,000. The expenditure on maintenance, in this sense, was only about £350,500, as may be ascertained by adding together the first four items of expenditure in Table N, while the aggregate of balances of cash, as may be seen by reference to the same table, was diminished by about £5,500. The expenditure on maintenance for the year fairly represents the actual cost of maintenance, for the liabilities outstanding on account of maintenance at the end of the year (£11,978) differs by a very small amount from the liabilities (£12,242) at the beginning of the year. There appears, then, to have been a real saving of between £7,000 and £8,000 on maintenance, and this saving, together with the diminution of the cash balances, has enabled the Boards to spend on school buildings between £11,000 and £12,000 more than was granted to them specially for that use. At the same time they increased their liabilities on contracts for school buildings by about £3,500.

The Wanganui Board has transferred the sum of £3,500 from its Maintenance Account to its Building Account, and the Southland Board has made a similar transfer of £1,000. In several other cases the Building Account is overdrawn, while the balance on Maintenance Account is large enough to cover this deficiency and leave a margin. In Tables O and P the money assets and liabilities of the Boards at the end of the year are shown. In the preparation of this statement the sum of £34,093, distributed in the first quarter of 1891 in grants for buildings, has been included in the assets. The total of the amounts set down in Table O as due from Government is about £7,000 less than the sum just mentioned, because some of the Boards held money to that amount which they had received from School Commissioners. The outstanding liabilities of the Boards on account of buildings in progress amounted to more than £19,000, and the difference between this sum and the money lately distributed in building grants is about £15,000. Some of the Boards have a part of this money in hand (£9,850 in the aggregate) to meet the new necessities of the current year; but in some cases the grant was not sufficient to cover liabilities under contract, and to repay money that had been practically borrowed from the ordinary fund and applied to buildings. In the case of Otago the Building Fund will be nearly £3,000 in debt to the Maintenance Fund when the outstanding liabilities under building contracts are discharged; in Auckland there is a deficiency of the same kind amounting to £1,850, and in Marlborough one of £156. Wellington requires £5,237 to balance its Building Account; but this is not an ordinary case, as the deficiency is due to a contract for about £6,000 for erecting a technical school.

TABLE O.—MONEY ASSETS (AND DEFICITS), DECEMBER, 1890.

Education Districts.	Cash.	Due from		Deficit on Account of		Totals.
		Government.	Other Sources.	Buildings.	Other Purposes.	
Auckland	£ s. d. 7,656 18 6	£ s. d. 5,940 7 9	£ s. d. 323 0 4	£ s. d. 1,850 9 0	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 15,770 15 7
Taranaki	289 14 4	582 1 0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	871 15 4
Wanganui	2,835 10 11	2,290 0 0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	5,125 10 11
Wellington	1,184 13 2	3,172 9 9	.. ..	5,237 11 1	.. ..	9,594 14 0
Hawke's Bay	1,353 5 6	2,291 8 0	89 14 0	.. ..	.. ..	3,734 7 6
Marlborough .. ..	.. ..	780 0 0	457 10 11	156 1 2	.. ..	1,393 12 1
Nelson	2,825 2 11	1,843 1 4	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4,668 4 3
Grey .. ..	.. ..	916 18 4	40 0 0	.. ..	343 16 3	1,300 14 7
Westland	116 19 3	603 0 0	0 9 5	.. ..	6 4 6	726 13 2
North Canterbury	7,206 6 6	.. ..	3 5 0	.. ..	.. ..	7,209 11 6
South Canterbury	1,444 7 2	588 12 4	112 0 0	.. ..	.. ..	2,144 19 6
Otago	952 2 0	5,835 1 9	150 0 0	2,988 4 6	.. ..	9,925 8 3
Southland	2,871 17 11	2,400 0 0	50 0 0	.. ..	.. ..	5,321 17 11
Totals	28,736 18 2	27,243 0 3	1,225 19 8	10,232 5 9	350 0 9	67,788 4 7