

SESSION II.
1906.
NEW ZEALAND.

PUBLIC WORKS STATEMENT.

BY THE HON. W. HALL-JONES, MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS,
19TH OCTOBER, 1906.

MR. SPEAKER,—

I have the honour to present to honourable members my eleventh Public Works Statement, together with the estimates of the amounts required for the effective prosecution of works during the current year.

Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather experienced and the scarcity of labour during the summer months, good progress has been made with the several works in hand.

The more important undertakings I refer to in detail later on, but, with respect to railway-construction generally, I am pleased to say that we are nearing a time when the expenditure thereon can be concentrated upon the most urgent works, thus insuring greater expedition in completion than when a large number of works are under construction and the money available is limited.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during last financial year was considerably in excess of that of the previous year. The following table shows, as regards each class of work, (a) the total expenditure from the inauguration of the public-works policy to the 31st December, 1890; (b) the similar expenditure between the 1st January, 1891, and the 31st March, 1906; (c) the gross total expenditure to the 31st March, 1906; and (d) the expenditure for the late financial year:—

Class of Work.	Expenditure.			
	A Total to 31st December, 1890.	B 1st January, 1891, to 31st March, 1906.	C Total to 31st March, 1906.	D Year ended 31st March, 1906.
Railways—	£	£	£	£
New construction	11,975,098	4,529,174	16,504,272	661,360
Additions to open lines	2,092,002	3,220,305	5,312,307	351,044
Utilisation of water-power ... ..	...	3,370	3,370	2,902
Roads	3,575,804	3,614,452	7,190,256	351,204
Public buildings	1,776,003	1,575,533	3,351,536	165,312
Immigration	2,144,386	18,842	2,163,228	8,753
Purchase of Native lands	1,191,137	833,285	2,024,422	13,777
Lighthouses, harbour-works, and harbour defences	880,095	133,058	1,013,153	4,946
Tourist and health resorts ... ..	...	71,248	71,248	15,888
Telegraph-extension	600,849	609,327	1,210,176	77,186
Development of goldfields	561,101	205,860	766,961	18,533
Defence-works (general)	429,720	425,000	854,720	35,569
Departmental	349,789	183,667	533,456	13,517
Payment to Midland Railway bondholders	...	150,000	150,000	...
Minor works and services	300,689	19,768	320,457	1,599
Cost and discount, raising loans, &c.	1,021,472	227,831	1,249,303	235
Totals	26,898,145	15,820,720	42,718,865	1,721,825
Paeroa-Waihi Railway Account ... ..	...	75,000	75,000	8,862
Gross totals	26,898,145	15,895,720	42,793,865	1,730,687