

TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure of the year on public works was not only in excess of that of the previous year, but was the largest in any single year for over thirty years, and amounted to the very large sum of £2,476,156—viz., £2,387,411 out of the Public Works Fund and allied special accounts, and £88,745 out of the Consolidated Fund.

The following table shows the brief particulars of the expenditure of the year, and also the total under each class of work from the inauguration of the public works policy up to the 31st March last :—

Class of Work.	Expenditure.	
	Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1912.	Total Expenditure to 31st March, 1912.
	£	£
Railways—		
New construction	763,711	21,266,133
Additions to open lines	362,194	8,413,781
Roads	424,578	9,349,520
Public buildings	350,655	5,042,032
Immigration	11,681	2,239,912
Purchase of Native lands	2,066,638
Lighthouses, harbour-works, and harbour-defences	12,576	1,081,422
Tourist and health resorts... ..	13,361	216,633
Telegraph-extension	147,692	2,025,751
Development of goldfields	21,244	868,173
Defence-works (general)	10,437	920,419
Departmental	49,864	726,669
Development of water-power	9,082	18,451
Irrigation and water-supply	2,794	4,356
Payment to Midland Railway bondholders	150,000
Lands-improvement	20,876	82,546
Minor works and services	312,607
Cost and discount, raising loans, &c.	67,470	1,242,423
	2,268,215	56,027,466
Wellington-Hutt Railway Improvement	1,635	238,582
New Hutt Road	6,070	88,799
Railways Improvement Account	51,428	567,514
Opening up Crown Lands for Settlement Account	49,739	584,202
National Endowment Account	6,555	17,149
Waihou and Ohinemuri Rivers Account	3,769	3,769
	2,387,411	57,527,481
Totals		

WAYS AND MEANS.

At the 31st March, 1911, the available ways and means for public-works purposes were £ 1,140,045 and further funds were received as under :—

Under the Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act, 1910	181,650
Under the Aid to Public Works and Land Settlement Act, 1911	450,000
Under the New Zealand Loans Act, 1908	66,950
Transfer from Consolidated Fund	500,000
Miscellaneous receipts	12,150
Making a gross total of	£2,350,795

The ordinary expenditure of the year amounted to £2,200,745, and charges and expenses in respect of raising loans, £67,470, thus bringing the total disbursements up to £2,268,215, and leaving a credit balance at the end of the year of £82,580.