

RETURN No. 6.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE ON CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS, ROLLING-STOCK, ETC., TO 31ST MARCH, 1918; NET REVENUE, AND RATE OF INTEREST EARNED ON CAPITAL EXPENDED ON OPENED LINES FOR YEAR ENDED SAME DATE.

Section of Railway.	Cost of Construction.		Net Revenue.	Rate of Interest earned.
	Opened Lines.	Unopened Lines.		
Whangarei	£ 765,729	£ ..	£ 15,488	£ s. d. 2 0 5
Kaihu	99,962	244,157	..	..
Tauranga .. .. .	..	17,211	- 1,182	..
Gisborne	682,706	352,761	..	..
North Island Main Lines and Branches ..	15,885,220	179,919	5,811	0 18 6
South Island Main Lines and Branches ..	14,591,671	869,983	1,078,396	6 17 2
Westland	2,089,946	191,516	..	..
Westport	605,880	687,544	46,039	2 4 0
Nelson	542,534	96,059	54,446	8 19 9
Picton	680,832	36,790	2,321	0 8 7
Lake Wakatipu steamer service	43,708	18,968	2,887	0 8 6
<i>In suspense—</i>			..	..
Surveys, North Island .. .. .	..	35,900	- 854	..
Miscellaneous, North Island .. .. .	..	5,169	..	..
Surveys, South Island .. .. .	..	5,752	..	..
Miscellaneous, South Island .. .. .	..	5,168	..	..
P.W.D. stock of permanent-way .. .. .	..	49,834	..	..
W.R.D. stock of A.O.L. stores	13,244	..	..	..
	£36,001,432	£2,796,731	£1,644,793	£4 11 11
Total cost of opened and unopened lines at 31st March, 1918	£38,798,163	..	..	£4 4 9

NOTE.—The amount stated in this return as the cost of construction of opened lines includes the Provincial and General Government expenditure on railways. It also includes the Midland Railway and expenditure by the Greymouth and Westport Harbour Boards on railways and wharves under the provisions of section 7 of the Railways Authorization Act, 1885, the information regarding the last mentioned being furnished by the respective Boards. The rate of interest earned has been computed on cost proportionately to the time during which lines taken over by the Working Railways Department within the financial year were earning revenue, thus:—

Gisborne Section.—Matawai-Motuhora opened for traffic 26th November, 1917.

North Island Main Lines and Branches.—Paerata-Patumahoe opened for traffic 10th December, 1917; Ohakune-Raetihi opened for traffic 18th December, 1917; Whangamomona-Kohouratahi opened for traffic 7th January, 1918.

J. MACDONALD, Chief Accountant.