

booklets descriptive of the alpine district and Rotorua were republished, and the Department assisted in the publication of works by Mr. W. Lawson as follows: "Picton to Christchurch via Kaikoura"; "Across Marble Mountains" (which is a description of Nelson and Takaka districts); "Rotorua and the Bay of Plenty"; "Mount Egmont"; and "The Wonderful West Coast."

The expenditure on all resorts has increased from £53,656 to £68,858, a result mainly due to the increased cost of supplies, and the cost-of-living increases in salaries of the officers.

SCHEDULE SHOWING FINANCIAL POSITION AT MAIN RESORTS.

Resort.	Year 1919-20.				Year 1918-19.			
	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Excess of Expenditure over Receipts.	Excess of Receipts over Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Excess of Expenditure over Receipts.	Excess of Receipts over Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Te Aroha	1,798	3,281	1,483	..	1,370	2,813	1,443	..
Rotorua	19,245	26,435	7,190	..	17,631	18,349	718	..
Rotorua Acclimatization District	1,065	1,043	..	22	789	506	..	283
Waitomo Caves	6,699	3,886	..	2,813	3,866	2,815	..	1,051
Hanmer Springs	2,327	5,029	2,779	..	2,272	4,097	1,825	..
Hermitage, Mount Cook	5,912	5,918	6	..	4,529	5,370	841	..
Te Anau and Manapouri steamers, Glade House, and Milford Track	1,978	2,621	643	..	849	2,188	1,339	..
Queenstown	179	627	448	..	158	488	330	..

NOTE.—No allowance is made in these figures for interest on capital expenditure or for depreciation of plant or buildings.

Return of Receipts.

The following table shows the receipts of the Department from all sources since 1914-15:—

	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	26,630	31,067	33,137	32,935	33,689	42,218

The amount of the passenger bookings at the different agencies shows an increase from £30,812 to £53,369.

Return of Expenditure.

The following is a comparison of the expenditure for the past six years:—

	£	£	£	£	£	£
Consolidated Fund	49,823	47,966	45,785	48,732	53,656	68,858
Public Works Fund	8,232	5,167	1,094	967	1,620	6,194

I give below a short summary of the operations of the Department in the various places under its control.

ROTORUA.

Tourist Season.—The value of tickets sold exceeds the total of the previous year by £660, while the fares and launch hires in connection with the "round trip" show an increase of over £900 on the revenue of the previous year.

Buildings.—The usual maintenance work has been attended to, the principal items being the re-roofing of a large portion of the Pavilion Bath building and the launch-master's house at Te Wairoa with malthoid; the renovation of departmental residences at Kuirau and Whakarewarewa, the head gardener's residence, and the exterior of the Sanatorium. Various buildings in the gardens have also been repainted, notably the Duchess bath and the bowling pavilion.

Gardens and Reserves.—The new grass tennis-courts behind the main bath building are now in grass, and should be ready for playing next season if the necessary equipment in the form of subdividing the ranges of courts can be provided in time.

A commencement has also been made with the establishment of the asphalt tennis-courts on a new site, fronting the Queen's drive and opposite the new grass courts. The site has been cleared, excavated, roughly levelled, and prepared for the concrete bed. A new site was necessary owing to the continuous damage done to the asphalt on the present courts by sulphur deposits underneath.

The new sports-ground for football and hockey has been cleared, ploughed, disked, and harrowed, and is now ready for sowing in the early spring.

A large area formerly in scrub has been cleared behind the main bath building, and is being used as a nursery for native plants and shrubs. When sufficiently advanced these will be transplanted to various parts of the gardens. This is in pursuance of a policy of making a greater feature of native flora than has hitherto been done.

The boundary-fence around the model pa at Whakarewarewa is being renewed, special care being given to the palisading of the front entrance.