

A R M Y.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.
1918-1919.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT of the sums granted by Parliament for ARMY SERVICES, for the year ended 31st March 1919.

(PRESENTED PURSUANT TO ACT 29 & 30 VICT., c. 39, s. 22.)

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1920.

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NOTE BY THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER.

Though less than two thirds of the financial year had elapsed when the Armistice was signed, the expenditure of 1918/19 exceeded that of the previous year by 171 millions gross and 99 millions net. Only one Vote (Vote 6) shows an important net reduction, of 21 millions, effected by the prompt stoppage of purchases of horses and mules and the sale of those in hand, and also by the contraction of expenditure on Inland Water Transport. Under other Votes the savings in the latter part of the year are more than balanced by increases due to three main causes: the character of the campaign of 1918, which led to a vast consumption of material of all kinds; the increases in the pay of officers and men of the Army, and in wages and prices generally; and the beginning of general demobilisation, involving large terminal charges for war gratuities, provision of civilian clothing, etc., far exceeding in amount the saving of a few weeks' pay of the men demobilised.

C. HARRIS.

PAPER No. 1.

ABSTRACT OF APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.

SHOWING the Grants of Parliament for ARMY SERVICES for the year ended 31st March 1919, the net amount issued in supplement thereof by the Treasury out of the Vote of Credit, and the sums which actually came in course of payment in that year; together with the estimated amounts of receipts to be appropriated in aid of the said grants of Parliament, and the sums actually realised in respect of the same.

PAPER No. 1.—ABSTRACT of APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT showing the grants of Parliament thereof by the Treasury out of the Vote of Credit, and the sums which actually appropriated in aid of the said grants of Parliament, and the sums actually realised

Reference to explanatory Paper.	Number of vote.	VOTES.
		EFFECTIVE SERVICES.
11	1	PAY, &c., OF THE ARMY
13	2	MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT: PAY, &c.
14	3	SPECIAL RESERVE
15	4	TERRITORIAL FORCES
16	5	ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MILITARY EDUCATION
17	6	QUARTERING, TRANSPORT, AND REMOUNTS
19	7	SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING
23	8	ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND GENERAL STORES
25	9	ARMAMENTS, ENGINEER STORES, AND AVIATION
27	10	WORKS AND BUILDINGS
29	11	MISCELLANEOUS EFFECTIVE SERVICES
30	12	WAR OFFICE
		NON-EFFECTIVE SERVICES.
31	13	HALF-PAY, RETIRED PAY, AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR OFFICERS, &c.
33	14	PENSIONS AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR MEN, &c.
34	15	CIVIL SUPERANNUATION, COMPENSATION AND GRATUITIES
34	—	BALANCES IRRECOVERABLE AND CLAIMS ABANDONED
Total Exchequer Grants, 1918-19:—		£.
	Original Estimate	15,000
	Supplementary Estimate	10
	Estimated Appropriations in Aid:—	15,010 - -
	Original Estimate	1,500
	Supplementary Estimate	160,000,000
		160,001,500 - -
	Deduct,—Amount of Appropriations in Aid not realised	160,016,510 - - 10,727,037 17 9
	Add,—Net Amount issued by Treasury out of Vote of Credit	149,289,472 2 3 824,744,290 4 1
		£. 974,033,762 6 4

I, the undersigned, declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that no part of the expenditure cases where such superior authority is required by the Regulations.

War Office,
31 December 1919. }

I certify that this Account has been examined by officers under my direction, in accordance with the of Treasury Minute of 20th March, 1876; and that (subject to the observations contained in the annexed

for ARMY SERVICES for the year ended 31st March 1919, the net amount issued in supplement came in course of payment in that year, together with the estimated amounts of receipts to be in respect of the same, in pursuance of the Act 29 & 30 Vict. c. 39, s. 22.

Num- ber of vote.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.						EXPENDITURE, 1917-18. (For Comparison.)					
	Gross expenditure.		Actual receipts in aid.		Net expenditure.		Gross expenditure		Actual receipts in aid.		Net expenditure.	
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
1	289,426,745	12 3	66,077,935	2 5	223,348,810	9 10	200,167,122	9 8	45,097,180	4 6	155,069,942	5 2
2	17,590,186	17 4	329,624	16 -	17,260,562	1 4	17,904,567	16 6	50,155	13 3	17,854,412	3 3
3	33,494	3 5		1 3	33,494	2 2	33,156	6 8	—		33,156	6 8
4	2,000,142	10 11	2,591	8 10	1,997,551	2 1	1,940,384	10 3	2,198	2 8	1,938,186	7 7
5	265,953	13 7	1,394	10 11	264,559	2 8	253,095	- 2	1,199	- 6	251,895	19 8
6	48,879,329	4 3	15,233,006	19 11	33,646,322	4 4	57,629,876	16 3	2,522,541	12 9	55,107,135	3 6
7	473,026,582	19 4	53,199,369	17 10	419,827,213	1 6	406,452,765	10 6	22,863,786	16 1	383,588,978	14 5
8	74,117,486	6 7	6,255,635	1 10	67,861,851	4 9	58,311,354	18 9	3,634,846	11 8	54,676,508	7 1
9	17,722,644	18 4	3,176,917	1 6	14,545,727	16 10	16,868,797	19 2	326,116	11 6	16,542,681	7 8
10	36,664,186	15 2	3,842,539	15 1	32,821,647	- 1	33,370,986	10 7	1,371,578	10 -	31,999,408	- 7
11	5,060,158	6 7	144,259	7 8	4,915,898	18 11	2,139,424	17 1	278,353	5 3	1,861,071	11 10
12	2,292,819	10 6	5,089	7 3	2,287,730	3 3	1,896,950	15 1	1,177	1 6	1,895,773	13 7
13	3,814,786	3 10	494,865	11 7	3,319,920	12 3	3,935,502	7 5	494,132	10 4	3,441,369	17 1
14	2,196,717	15 4	511,180	- 2	1,685,537	15 2	1,839,141	11 7	516,761	9 6	1,322,380	2 1
15	130,241	1 5	53	- -	130,188	1 5	126,913	11 2	54	14 5	126,858	16 9
—	812,286	7 6	—		812,286	7 6	123,121	2 6	—		123,121	2 6
	974,033,762	6 4	149,274,462	2 3	824,759,300	4 1	802,992,962	3 4	77,160,082	3 11	725,832,879	19 5
SUMMARY, 1918-19:—												
£ s. d.												
Net Expenditure . . . 824,759,300 4 1												
Less Exchequer Grants . . . 15,010 - -												
Net Deficit, chargeable } 824,744,290 4 1												
against the Vote of } Credit . . .												
149,274,462 2 3												
£. 974,033,762 6 4												

contained in this Appropriation Account has been incurred without authority superior to that of the Department, in

C. Harris,
Assistant Financial Secretary.

29th section of the Act 29 & 30 Vict. c. 39; that the examination has included a test audit as directed by paragraph 34 report) the Account is correct.

H. J. Gibson,
Comptroller and Auditor General.

PAPER No. 2.—Particulars of certain Appropriations in Aid for the year ended
31st March 1919.

Vote and Sub-head.	APPROPRIATIONS IN AID.	Actual Receipts.
1 Z	PAY, &c., OF THE ARMY:	£. s. d.
	I.—ORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS, &c.	
	Contributions from Colonial Revenues in aid of Military Expenditure—	
	£ s. d.	
	Ceylon - - - - - 30,249 - -	
	Mauritius - - - - - 36,718 8 3	
	Hong Kong - - - - - 427,754 - -	
	Straits Settlements - - - - - 165,257 - -	
	659,978 8 3	
	Contribution from the Government of Egypt on account of British Troops in that Country - - - - -	150,000 - -
	Payment by Indian Government in respect of Deferred Pay and Gratuities on Discharge, &c. of Soldiers on Indian Establishment - - - - -	10,500 - -
	Payment by Indian Government in respect of Home Effective Charges (other than Deferred Pay and Gratuities) for the Regular Forces serving in India - - - - -	631,700 - -
	TOTAL, ordinary contributions - - - - - £.	1,452,178 8 3
	II.—SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF THE WAR.	
	Repayment by Dominion Governments of expenses of the Dominion Forces in the Field :—	
	Australia - - - - -	14,544,944 5 4
	Canada - - - - -	15,544,588 3 2
	New Zealand - - - - -	6,648,365 7 5
	Contribution by the Union Government of South Africa* - - - - -	1,000,000 - -
	Repayments by American Government in respect of American Forces with British Army - - - - -	2,314,155 13 6
	Contributions by Indian Native States, &c. :—	
	£.	
	His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir - - - - -	37,500
	His Highness the Maharaja of Panna - - - - -	1,425
	His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala - - - - -	11,955
	His Highness the Maharaja of Udaipur - - - - -	22,500
	His Highness the Maharao of Cutch - - - - -	36,563
	His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Jhalawar - - - - -	150
	His Highness the Minor Nawab Sahib of Junagadh - - - - -	37,500
	His Highness the Nawab of Janjira - - - - -	1,875
	The Nawab of Mandot - - - - -	750
	His Highness the Nawab of Palanpur - - - - -	5,651
	His Highness the Raja of Chamba - - - - -	11,485
	His Highness the Raja of Hill Tippera - - - - -	8,625
	The Feudatory Chief of Bamra - - - - -	2,100
	The Feudatory Chief of Bonai - - - - -	150
	The Feudatory Chief of Sonpur - - - - -	969
	The Karafli Durbar - - - - -	600
	The Manipur State - - - - -	360
	The Council of Administration of Pataudi State - - - - -	525
	Diwan Udit Nayaran Singh, Zamindar of Khargawan - - - - -	525
	His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad - - - - -	298,750
	Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal - - - - -	11,765
	His Highness the Maharaja Holkar of Indore - - - - -	37,500
	His Highness the Maharaja of Jind - - - - -	2,250
	His Highness the Maharaja of Navanagar - - - - -	22,500
	His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa - - - - -	14,602
	His Highness the Maharao Raja of Bundi - - - - -	1,875
	His Highness the Raja of Suket - - - - -	974
	Special contributions carried forward - - - - -	571,424
		40,052,053 9 5

* In addition, the Union Government has borne the excess of South African over Imperial rates of pay for the South African Contingents in Africa.

PAPER No. 2—continued.

Vote and Sub-head.	APPROPRIATIONS IN AID.	Actual Receipts.
	PAY, &c., OF THE ARMY—continued.	
I Z	II.—SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF THE WAR—continued.	£ s. d.
	Special contributions brought forward - - -	571,424
	His Highness the Maharawal of Banskara - - -	450
	The Feudatory Chief of Dhenkanal - - -	337
	The Mandi Durbar - - -	1,500
	Colonel Nawab Mahommed Nusrulla Khan of Bhopal - - -	1,958
	Captain Nawab Mahommed Mubariz Khan, O.B.E. - - -	150
	Raja Ram Gopal Singh Bahadur of Manda - - -	2,388
	Rai Krishanji of Benares - - -	37
	Lal Bahadur Singh, Jamindar of Phuljhar - - -	750
	Sardar Gobindur Singh, Foreign Minister of Jind State - - -	45
	Mr. R. D. Mehta, C.I.E. - - -	1,875
	The People of Bhopal - - -	825
	His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner - - -	23,119
	His Highness the Maharaja of Datia - - -	1,912
	His Highness the Maharaja of Dewas (Senior Branch) - - -	1,125
	His Highness the Maharaja of Dewas (Junior Branch) - - -	2,250
	His Highness the Maharaja of Dhar - - -	1,875
	His Highness the Maharaja of Dhrangadhra - - -	15,000
	His Highness the Maharaja of Nabha - - -	14,583
	His Highness the Raja of Alirajpur - - -	1,047
	His Highness the Raja of Barwani - - -	1,125
	His Highness the Raja of Rajgarh - - -	900
	His Highness the Raja of Sitamau - - -	750
	His Highness the Raja of Sailana - - -	375
	His Highness the Khan of Kalat - - -	750
	His Highness Raja Sahib of Wankaner - - -	1,500
	His Highness Mir Haji Nur Mahommed Khan and his Mother - - -	80
	The Feudatory Chief of Kalahandi - - -	1,500
	The Feudatory Chief Sirguja State - - -	2,250
	The Administrator of Porbandar State - - -	7,500
	Nawab Sajjad Ali Khan Mandal of Karnal - - -	750
	Raja Badan Singh, C.S.I. - - -	750
	Shaikh of Mongrol - - -	187
	Raja Satya Niranjana Chakravarty and his brother Babu Mahima Niranjana Chakravarty - - -	750
	Khan Bahadur Umardraz Ali Khan Mandal of Karnal - - -	375
	Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammed Shafi, C.I.E. - - -	45
	Rao Bahadur Pandit Shukdeo Pershad of Udaipur - - -	38
	His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur - - -	35,417
	His Highness the Maharaja of Faridkot - - -	7,500
	His Highness the Maharaja of Danta - - -	170
	His Highness the Nawab of Radhanpur - - -	1,417
	His Highness the Raja of Bariya - - -	5,312
	The Jaghirdar of Ichalkaranji - - -	354
	Wadero Khair Mahomed and Wadero Mohamed Ali, Zamindars of Shabandar Taluka in Sind - - -	425
	His Highness the Raja of Dharanpur - - -	1,500
	Rai Onkar Mal Jetia Bahadur Rai Sita Nath Roy Bahadur and Dr. Radhika Nath Saha - - -	1,687
	Kunwar Ranzoor Singh of Sirmoor - - -	325
	His Highness the Maharaja Dhiraj of Shahapur - - -	19
	Other minor contributions from various persons - - -	464
	716,865	
	<i>Deduct,—</i>	
	Amount over-credited in 1917-1918 - - -	119,006
	Contribution by the Straits Settlements, in addition to the ordinary contribution shown under I. above - - -	597,859 - -
	Contribution by the Gold Coast Colony in aid of the expenses of the Gold Coast Contingent - - -	79,209 4 11
	Contribution by the Nigerian Government in aid of the expenses of the West African Frontier Force - - -	82,403 15 -
		134,000 - -
	Total, special contributions - - -	£ 40,945,525 9 4
	Total, carried forward - - -	£ 42,397,703 17 7

PAPER No. 2—continued.

Vote and Sub-head.	APPROPRIATIONS IN AID.	Actual Receipts.		
		£.	s.	d.
1 Z	<p style="text-align: right;">Brought forward -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">III.—OTHER RECEIPTS.</p> <p>Payment by Indian Government in respect of ordinary expenses of the Indian Expeditionary Forces, the cost of which on a war footing is borne by the Imperial Government - - - - -</p> <p>Sums earned by the Liverpool Dock Battalion - - - - -</p> <p>Sums earned by soldiers engaged on civil work - - - - -</p> <p>Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9,640,820 14 7</p> <p>Less Charge for refund of sums formerly paid in Purchase of Discharges by men rejoining - - - - -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2,223 2 2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total, other receipts - - - - -</p> <p>Additional contribution by Indian Government towards cost of war - - - - -</p>	42,397,703	17	7
1PW	<p>Amounts received in respect of Prisoners of War - - - - -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL, VOTE 1. - - - - -</p>	941,633	12	5
6 H	<p style="text-align: center;">QUARTERING, TRANSPORT, AND REMOUNTS :</p>	559,868	9	-
6 O		14,673,138	10	11
	TOTAL, VOTE 6 - - - - -	£.	15,233,006	19 11
7 G	SUPPLIES - - - - -	31,352,347	4	11
7PW	PRISONERS OF WAR - - - - -	34,580	7	5
7 P	CLOTHING DEPARTMENT - - - - -	21,783,180	15	9
7 T	CLOTHING FACTORY - - - - -	29,261	9	9
	TOTAL, VOTE 7 - - - - -	£.	53,199,369	17 10
13 P	<p>HALF PAY, RETIRED PAY, AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR OFFICERS, &c. :</p> <p>Sum to meet the non-effective charges for the Regular Forces serving in India - - - - -</p> <p>Sum to meet the non-effective charges for Officers lent for service under Colonial Governments, &c. - - - - -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL, VOTE 13 - - - - -</p>	490,370	-	-
		4,495	11	7
		£.	494,865	11 7
14 L	<p>PENSIONS AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR MEN, &c. :</p> <p>Sum to meet the non-effective charges for the Regular Forces serving in India - - - - -</p> <p>Sum to meet the non-effective charges for Warrant Officers, non-commissioned Officers, and men lent for service under Colonial Governments, &c. - - - - -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL, VOTE 14 - - - - -</p>	507,522	-	-
		3,658	-	2
		£.	511,180	- 2

VOTE 1.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for PAY, &c., of the ARMY, in the year ended
31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.			EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
VOTE 1.						
PAY, &c., OF THE ARMY.						
A.—Pay, &c., of Department of Inspector-General of the Forces	11,465	18	1	12,886	8	3
B.—Pay, &c., of Staff of Commands, &c.	5,952,300	3	9	5,002,015	9	11
C.—Regimental Pay, Extra Pay, and Messing Allowance	180,293,066	14	5	149,732,494	13	7
CC.—Pay of Liverpool Dock Battalion	297,853	8	—	312,751	—	8
CCC.—Pay, &c., of Officers and Men employed by the Ministry of Munitions	454,510	11	2	401,521	3	—
D.—Regimental Allowances, &c.	2,901,113	19	3	5,046,513	9	8
E.—Recruiting Staff and Expenses	1,624,925	18	6	1,804,377	15	3
F.—Gratuities and Deferred Pay to Soldiers on Discharge, &c.	32,365,110	6	9	1,126,925	5	4
F.F.—Gratuities to Officers on cessation of Employment	8,534,623	16	8	2,172,971	13	1
G.—Pay, &c., of Army Reserve	288	1	11	502	11	1
H.—Field Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
J.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of the Cavalry, Mounted Infantry, Camel Corps, Signal and Cookery Schools	305	—	4	570	7	10
K.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of Schools of Gunnery	55,765	19	4	44,864	—	7
L.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of Schools of Engineering	24,010	17	—	19,615	3	9
M.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of Central Flying School	—	—	—	132,666	1	5
N.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of School of Musketry	38,652	8	2	41,335	6	10
O.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of Gymnastic Instructors	56,590	1	2	34,000	17	7
P.—Pay, &c., of Chaplains' Department and Officiating Clergymen	872,179	10	5	720,324	2	3
Q.—Pay, &c., of Army Veterinary Service	670,485	1	1	642,278	17	2
R.—Pay, &c., of Army Pay Department	2,441,767	13	7	1,633,568	18	2
S.—Pay, &c., of Establishment of Judge Advocate-General, and Courts-Martial Expenses	13,442	4	7	11,000	15	—
T.—Pay, &c., of Establishments of Military Prisons and Detention Barracks	50,953	9	2	48,768	17	5
U.—Rewards, &c., for Apprehension of Deserters, &c.	15,728	1	4	21,175	4	8
W.—Wages of Civilians attached to Units, &c.	312,433	15	8	414,549	15	10
W.W.—Pay, &c., of Non-British Labour Units	6,714,268	2	4	3,790,930	2	7
W.W.W.—Pay, &c., of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps	1,768,857	16	4	540,123	12	1
X.—Expenses of Native Indian Troops on garrison duty	56,024	4	2	14,357	16	3
XX.—Payments to the Indian Government in respect of pay, &c., of Expeditionary Forces	40,466,261	17	9	25,105,268	—	2
Carried forward	285,992,985	—	11	198,828,417	9	5

12 PAPER NO. 3 cont.—STATEMENT OF THE SUMS EXPENDED IN THE YEAR 1918-1919.

VOTE 1.—ACCOUNT of the sum expended for Pay, &c. of the Army in the Year ended 31st March 1919—continued.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.		EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
VOTE 1—continued.				
PAY. &c., OF THE ARMY—continued.				
Brought forward - - - -	285,992,985	- 11	198,828,417	9 5
Y.—Miscellaneous and Unforeseen Charges - - - -	1,942,167	14 -	723,588	4 9
P.W. (A.)—Pay of Establishments of Internment Camps for Prisoners of War - - - -	890,536	18 2	389,704	1 0
P.W. (B.)—Pay of Enemy Prisoners of War (Army Officers) - - - -	589,881	17 8	213,821	4 0
P.W. (C.)—Pay of Enemy Prisoners of War (Naval Officers) - - - -	11,174	1 6	11,591	9 0
Total Expenditure - - - - £.	289,426,745	12 3	200,167,122	9 8
<i>Deduct,</i>				
Z—Appropriations in Aid* - - - -	65,136,301	10 -	44,739,290	6 6
P.W.—Appropriations in Aid - - - -	941,633	12 5	357,889	18 -
Total Appropriations in Aid - - - - £.	66,077,935	2 5	45,097,180	4 6
Net Expenditure - - - - - £.	223,348,810	9 10	155,069,942	5 2

The principal causes of the increase under this Vote are:—

- (1) The increased pay granted to officers and men in September 1917, which did not produce its full result on the charge for 1917-18.
- (2) The grant, from 1st February 1919, of "Army of Occupation Bonus" to all ranks of the Army not told off for prompt demobilisation.
- (3) The increased numbers of Indian troops raised for the war (Subhead XX.).
- (4) The growth of Non-British Labour units (Subhead W.W.) and of the Q.M.A.A.C. (Subhead W.W.W.).
- (5) The payment of war gratuities to officers and men (Subheads F.F. and F.). These payments, made late in the year, far out-balanced the savings on pay by demobilisation.

Recruiting (Subhead E.) was re-transferred to the War Office from the Ministry of National Service in January 1919. The charges under this Subhead represent mainly bounties paid to men retained in the army under certain Acts of Parliament and to other men who re-engaged for further periods of service after the Armistice.

The increase under Subhead R. (Army Pay Department) represents increased pay to civilians, and increased numbers taken on to cope with the work of demobilisation.

The expenditure under Subhead X. is for Native Indian Troops on normal garrison service at certain eastern stations; the increase in the figure is due to the revision, with retrospective effect, of the commuted charge made by the Indian Government for the upkeep of the Infantry Battalions and to the inclusion of the arrear charge referred to on page 11 of the Account for 1917-18.

The charges for Indian Expeditionary Forces under Subhead XX. and under other Votes of this Account are balanced to the extent of 21,253,800*l.* by credits under Appropriations in Aid, representing (1) the ordinary expenses on a peace footing of the troops concerned (8,153,800*l.*) and (2) an instalment of a further contribution by India, the scope and extent of which are not yet finally determined (13,100,000*l.*).

Other Appropriations in Aid arising out of the war, including the contributions by the Rulers and Governments of various States of the Empire, are detailed on pages 8 and 9.

The increased Appropriations in Aid in connection with prisoners of war arise from the extended employment of prisoners with farmers and other civilian employers who pay for their services.

NOTES:—

Expenditure in respect of which final audited statements have not been received, but which is included in this account with Treasury authority:—

COLONIAL.

East Africa and other Colonial Governments.—Total, 4,075,101*l.* Of this, 1,061,055*l.* is included in Vote 1.C., and 3,252*l.* in Vote 1.Y., and the remainder under appropriate subheads of Votes 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 14.

INDIA.

Expenditure amounting to 411,028*l.* incurred at the India Office. Of this, 342,202*l.* is charged under Vote 1 XX. and the remainder under Votes 6, 8, and 11.

Expenditure amounting to 1,585,890*l.* allowed by the Command Paymaster, Hong Kong, in connection with the raising of Chinese Labourers, though the relevant vouchers have not yet reached this country, is charged in this account with Treasury authority. Of this, 1,480,615*l.* is charged under Vote 1. W.W., and the remainder under the appropriate Subheads of Votes 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

Insufficiently vouched expenditure:—

Subhead C. contains unvouched expenditure to the extent of 235*l.*, the pay and mess book of a unit having been lost in transit. Other vouchers, amounting to 1,828*l.*, were also lost in this manner.

Subhead W. contains unvouched expenditure amounting to 209*l.*, the Imprest Account of a unit for March 1918, having been lost in transit.

Subhead W.W.—Unvouched expenditure on an Imprest Account of a Supply Depot amounting to 164*l.* in connection with employment of Greek labourers has been included. Vouchers supporting this amount were lost in transit.

Subhead W.W.W. includes unvouched expenditure to the extent of 797*l.* in respect of pay to Q.M.A.A.C.

Gifts:—

Gifts of veterinary stores and appliances, amounting approximately to 9,900*l.*, were received through the R.S.P.C.A. (*See also* Vote 10.)

* *Vide* Paper No. 2, page 8.

VOTE 2.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for the PAY, &c. of the MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT and for MEDICINES, &c., in the Year ended 31st March 1919.

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.			EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).			
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
VOTE 2.							
MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT, PAY, &c.							
A.—Pay, &c., of Army Medical Service - - - -	5,252,836	11	-	5,266,962	14	2	
B.—Pay of Civilian Medical Practitioners, &c. - - -	487,487	6	5	662,951	-	2	
C.—Pay, &c., of Army Nursing Service - - - -	1,678,377	12	2	1,438,763	16	7	
D.—Pay, &c., of Royal Army Medical College - - -	3,832	15	-	3,414	9	4	
E.—Pay of Clerks and other Subordinates - - - -	1,461,742	7	10	1,030,626	15	7	
F.—Cost of Medicines, &c. - - - - -	3,348,606	6	4	4,752,585	7	-	
F.F.—Capitation Grants to Auxiliary Hospitals - - -	5,251,267	6	4	4,724,186	16	7	
P.W. -Medical Expenses of Enemy Prisoners of War -	106,036	12	3	25,076	17	1	
	£.	17,590,186	17	4	17,904,567	16	6
<i>Deduct,</i>							
G.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -		329,624	16	-	50,155	13	3
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£.	17,260,562	1	4	17,854,412	3	3

Subheads B. and F. reflect the restriction of expenditure after the Armistice. The increase under C. represents gratuities to nursing staff on demobilisation; that under E. is due to increased war bonus to civilian employees, and that under F.F. to increased capitation rates for maintenance of patients.

The increased receipts under Subhead G. arise from sales of medicines and medical stores to Allied Governments.

NOTES:—

Loss by Fire:—

Subhead F.—Stores to the value of 1,287*l.* were lost by fire at a Casualty Clearing Station in October 1918. Total loss 4,280*l.* (See also Votes 8 and 10.)

Gifts:—

Gifts of medical supplies amounting approximately to 2,000*l.* were received from various sources. The Board of Customs and Excise handed over to the War Department confiscated medical stores valued at 1,000*l.*

VOTE 3.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended on the PAY, BOUNTY, &c., of the SPECIAL RESERVE, the OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS, and the RESERVE DIVISION of the MILITIA, in the year ended 31st March 1919.

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.		EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).	
VOTE 3. SPECIAL RESERVE.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
A.—Regimental Pay, &c. - - - -	—		—	
B.—Regimental Allowances - - - -	—		—	
C.—Gratuities to Officers; Bounty and Enlistment Expenses	217	10 -	371	2 10
D.—Miscellaneous Expenses of Special Reserve - -	—		—	
E.—Officers Training Corps - - - -	33,276	13 5	32,779	3 10
F.—Pay, &c., of Reserve Division of Militia - -	—		6	- -
£.	33,494	3 5	33,156	6 8
<i>Deduct,</i>				
G.—Appropriations in Aid - - - -		1 3	—	
Net Expenditure - - - - £.	33,494	2 2	33,156	6 8

The Special Reserve was embodied in the Regular Army, and its pay and other expenses were charged to the appropriate votes.

VOTE 4.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for the PAY, &c., of the TERRITORIAL FORCES and CHANNEL ISLANDS and COLONIAL MILITIA in the year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 4.		
TERRITORIAL FORCE AND VOLUNTEERS.		
A.—Pay, &c., of Permanent Staff of Territorial Force : Officers	—	—
B.—Pay, &c., of Permanent Staff of Territorial Force : Non-commissioned Officers	—	—
C.—Grants to County Associations	337,226 15 3	330,465 10 6
D.—Payments to County Associations for Buildings and Ranges	272,514 1 -	298,014 - 1
E.—Training of the Territorial Force	—	—
F.—Miscellaneous Charges of the Territorial Force	1,074,106 11 6	1,062,711 5 3
F.F.—Volunteer Force	250,809 1 -	187,423 14 2
£.	1,934,656 8 9	1,878,614 10 -
<i>Deduct,</i>		
G.—Appropriations in Aid	2,376 18 11	1,556 3 2
Net Totals, Territorial Force and Volunteers - £.	1,932,279 9 10	1,877,058 6 10
CHANNEL ISLANDS AND COLONIAL MILITIA.		
H.—Expenses of Channel Islands and Colonial Militia, &c.	65,486 2 2	61,776 - 3
<i>Deduct,</i>		
J.—Appropriations in Aid	214 9 11.	641 19 6
Net Totals, Channel Islands and Colonial Militia £.	65,271 12 3	61,128 - 9
Net Totals, Territorial Force and Volunteers -	1,932,279 9 10	1,877,058 6 10
Net Expenditure - £.	1,997,551 2 1	1,938,186 7 7

The increase under this vote is due to the growth of the Volunteer Force and to an increase in the grant per efficient.

NOTE: -

Subhead F. includes 529,622*l.* for pay, &c. of T.F. Nurses.

VOTE 5.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MILITARY EDUCATION
in the Year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 5.		
ESTABLISHMENTS FOR MILITARY EDUCATION.		
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
A.—Royal Military Academy - - - - -	54,925 15 3	51,116 9 -
B.—Royal Military College - - - - -	112,531 3 9	110,786 19 1
C.—Staff College - - - - -	4,157 5 -	1,673 16 4
D.—Administrative Training of Officers - - - - -	—	—
E.—Garrison and Detachment Schools - - - - -	46,503 5 8	39,881 15 1
F.—Duke of York's Royal Military School - - - - -	11,615 6 10	12,068 10 6
G.—Royal Hibernian Military School - - - - -	19,041 1 9	18,629 3 -
H.—Queen Victoria School - - - - -	9,970 16 6	12,623 8 1
J.—School of Music, Kneller Hall - - - - -	4,602 11 10	4,052 11 2
K.—Examination Expenses - - - - -	1,445 19 9	1,230 15 -
L.—Rewards for Proficiency in Languages - - - - -	1,160 7 3	1,031 12 11
	£. 265,953 13 7	253,095 - 2
<i>Deduct,</i>		
M.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -	1,394 10 11	1,199 - 6
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£. 264,559 2 8	251,895 19 8

The increase is due generally to the grant of "Army of Occupation Bonus" to officers and men of the Army, and of increased war bonus to civilians.

The Staff College reopened towards the end of the year. The decrease under Subhead H. is due to the supply of provisions in kind from Army Store instead of by contract.

VOTE 6.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for QUARTERING, TRANSPORT and REMOUNTS in the Year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918–1919.		EXPENDITURE, 1917–1918 (for Comparison).	
VOTE 6.				
QUARTERING, TRANSPORT AND REMOUNTS.				
A.—Lodging and Stable Allowances - - - -	1,275,723	10 10	1,160,074	16 4
B.—Field Allowances - - - - -	9,846,848	9 9	9,880,375	2 5
C.—Hire of Buildings to supplement Barracks - - -	1,539,123	14 3	1,430,261	9 3
CC.—Cost of Billeting - - - - -	1,294,294	9 10	3,121,162	10 9
D.—Barrack Services - - - - -	1,331,508	14 8	1,586,350	19 3
Compensation to Contractors - - - - -	1,682	- -	—	
E.—Conveyance of Troops, by Land and Coastwise - -	7,212,169	4 1	5,515,750	10 6
EE.—Hazelbrouck-Ypres Railway, not working expenses -	125,092	1 3	174,144	8 8
F.—Sea Transport of Troops - - - - -	162,502	18 11	50,850	1 1
P.W.—Expenses of Quartering, Transport, &c. of Enemy Prisoners of War - - - - -	108,307	10 7	79,924	9 2
£.	22,897,252	14 2	23,014,394	7 5
<i>Deduct,</i>				
H.—Appropriations in Aid connected with the foregoing Subheads* - - - - -	559,868	9 -	94,243	4 11
£.	22,337,384	5 2	22,920,151	2 6
J.—Carrriage of Stores - - - - -	7,822,963	1 1	6,507,380	11 3
Compensation to Contractors - - - - -	420	- -	—	
K.—War Department Vessels - - - - -	5,063,647	8 7	10,819,623	7 10
L.—Pay, Wages, &c., of Army Service Corps Subordinate Establishments - - - - -	6,527,117	10 7	4,628,788	- 9
M.—Mechanical Transport Vehicles - - - - -	923,915	11 5	1,395,075	14 11
Compensation to Contractors - - - - -	2,000	- -	—	
N.—Remounts - - - - -	5,641,992	18 5	11,264,414	14 1
£.	25,982,076	10 1	34,615,282	3 10
<i>Deduct,</i>				
O.—Appropriations in Aid, connected with Subheads J. to N.* - - - - -	14,673,138	10 11	2,428,298	7 10
£.	11,308,937	19 2	32,186,984	1 -
£.	22,337,384	5 2	22,920,151	2 6
Net Expenditure - - - - -	33,646,322	4 4	55,107,135	3 6

* Vide Paper No. 2, page 10.

VOTE 6—continued.

The effects of the Armistice in reducing expenditure are seen under Subheads K. (Inland Water Transport), N. (Purchase of Horses), and O. (Sales of Horses).

The reduction under Subhead C.C. (Billeting) is chiefly due to the substitution of central messing for billets with subsistence, and is to some extent off-set by increased charges for rations under Vote 7.

The increased charges for carriage of troops (Subhead E.) and stores (Subhead J.) arise mainly abroad, and reflect the great activity of the final campaign.

The charges under Subheads F. (Sea Transport) and M. (Mechanical Transport Vehicles) do not represent the main expenditure on these services, which is borne on the Votes of the Ministries of Transport and Munitions.

The increase in Subhead H. is due to credits received from certain Allied Governments and from Canada in respect of the transport of troops.

The increase under Subhead L. represents wages of large numbers of native carriers employed in East Africa and elsewhere.

The receipts under Subhead O. include 10,000,000*l.* for sales of surplus animals and 2,000,000*l.* for issues of animals to Allied and Dominion Forces on repayment.

NOTES:—

The Vote includes cost of animals to the value of 6,400*l.*, repayment for which was due from the Egyptian Government, but recovery was waived as similar action was taken by the Egyptian Authorities in regard to amounts due from the Imperial Government. (*See also* Votes 8 and 9.)

Mechanical Transport Companies, Royal Army Service Corps, have rendered services to the General Post Office in London and other areas; and to the Board of Trade, valued at 173,015*l.*, 1,891*l.*, and 22,609*l.* respectively.

Subhead N. includes a loss of 21,055*l.* incurred, consequent upon withdrawal of shipping facilities in October 1916, in disposal of 3,272 horses purchased and ready for transport from Australia to Egypt.

Deficiency:—

A deficiency of stores amounting to 4,441*l.*, which was revealed at Edinburgh M.T. Depot, has been treated as an incident of the service, under Treasury authority (*see* correspondence in 1916-17. Appropriation Account, pp. 62-65). Surpluses disclosed amounted to 4,746*l.*

Loss by Fire:—

Rubber tyres, amounting to 1,473*l.*, were lost by fire at Alexandria in August 1918. Total loss 1,475*l.* *See also* Vote 8.

Loss at Sea:—

A steam barge was lost in June 1918, valued at 2,678*l.* A lighter, valued at 507*l.*, sank in severe gale; damage to other craft in the gale resulted in a loss of 3,500*l.*—total loss 20,562*l.* *See also* Votes 7, 8 and 10. Two barges, valued at 800*l.* and 1,000*l.* respectively, were lost on voyage between Alexandria and Taranto. A barge valued at 3,000*l.* broke away from a tug whilst being towed into harbour, and was lost. Lighters, valued at 1,307*l.* (*see also* Vote 7) and 850*l.* respectively, were lost in Egypt.

A War Department tug valued at 17,600*l.* was wrecked off the coast near St. Abbs Head during a gale.

Special Payments:—

The following payments were made with Treasury sanction:—

*Subhead D.: 1,682*l.* to a contractor as compensation for cancellation of a scavenging contract.

*Subhead J.: 420*l.* to a contractor as compensation for cancellation of a cartage contract.

Subhead K.: 179*l.* in settlement of a claim by a contractor for loss incurred owing to the cancellation of a contract for the supply of barge towing gear and 64*l.* to a firm for purchases made in connection with an order for a steam crane before it was cancelled.

*Subhead M.: 2,000*l.* to contractors as compensation for the cancellation of a contract in respect of agricultural machines ascertained after order to be unsuitable.

General note on cancellation of contracts:—

In numerous cases, contracts the completion of which was rendered unnecessary by the armistice, were cancelled either by the application of the "Break" clause or by agreement with the contractors concerned. In many of these cases compensation was paid to the contractor under the authority of Treasury letter 43881/18 of 19th November, 1918, printed on page 67.

Expenditure incurred by the Admiralty on behalf of the War Office:—

Navy Votes have been charged with the following amounts in respect of Inland Water Transport Vessels:—

	New Construction.	Repairs.
1917-18	309,167 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	11,996 <i>l.</i> 19 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
1918-19	701,734 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	157,260 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>

The figures relating to the year 1917-18 were not notified sufficiently early for inclusion in the Appropriation Account for that year.

* *See* Correspondence, page 67.

VOTE 7.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for SUPPLIES and CLOTHING in the Year ended
31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.		EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).		
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	
VOTE 7.					
SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING.					
SUPPLIES, &c.					
A.—Cost of Provisions - - - - -	183,060,738	4 5	164,150,102	18 8	
Compensation to Contractors - - - - -	—		1,330	2 3	
A.A.—Separation Allowance - - - - -	124,571,016	5 9	113,287,000	1 5	
B.—Cost of Forage and Allowances in lieu, and Paillasso Straw - - - - -	32,158,709	- 9	29,070,735	10 1	
C.—Cost of Fuel and Light, and Allowances in lieu - -	28,901,853	7 -	16,756,582	6 1	
D.—Colonial Allowances - - - - -	290,527	3 8	289,448	10 8	
E.—Water Supply - - - - -	408,725	8 5	406,333	7 -	
F.—Advertisements in Newspapers - - - - -	12,314	13 6	21,923	4 10	
F. (A).—General Election Advertisement (Absent Voters)	20,003	12 6	—		
F. (B).—Advances to the Y.M.C.A. - - - - -	200,000	- -	20,085	15 3	
P.W.—Supplies for Enemy Prisoners of War - - -	593,715	16 9	548,983	9 11	
<i>Deduct,</i>	£.	370,217,603	12 9	325,159,131	6 2
G.—Appropriations in Aid, connected with Subheads A. to F.* - - - - -	31,352,347	4 11	15,350,440	5 -	
P.W.—Appropriations in Aid—Enemy Prisoners of War*	34,580	7 5	46,974	2 7	
	£.	31,386,927	12 4	15,397,414	7 7
Net Totals, Supplies - £. (carried to page 20)		338,830,676	- 5	309,761,716	18 7
CLOTHING					
ROYAL ARMY CLOTHING DEPARTMENT. (Exclusive of Factory.)					
H.—Pay, Wages, &c., of Clothing Establishments - -	2,533,948	19 6	2,649,785	13 8	
J.—Rents and Water Supply of Clothing Department -	45,130	3 4	45,781	18 9	
K.—Contracts for making Clothing - - - - -	8,848,376	5 10	3,946,351	9 1	
Carried forward - - - - -	£.	11,427,455	8 8	6,641,919	1 6

* Vid. Paper No. 2, page 10.

VOTE 7.—ACCOUNT of the sum expended for SUPPLIES and CLOTHING, in the year ended 31st March 1919
—continued.

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 7.		
SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING—continued.		
ROYAL ARMY CLOTHING DEPARTMENT—continued.		
Brought forward - - -	£. s. d. 11,427,455 8 8	£. s. d. 6,641,919 1 0
L.—Materials obtained by Contract to be made into Clothing and for Issues on Payment - - -	45,048,062 13 3	31,415,843 6 1
M.—Manufactured Articles of Clothing, &c., bought ready made - - - - -	42,307,478 6 11	41,777,820 13 10
Compensation to Contractors - - - -	—	24,000 - -
N.—Clothing Allowances, &c. - - - - -	2,488,614 13 4	226,883 13 2
O.—Machinery, Tools, &c., for Clothing Department - - -	29,738 17 5	52,873 7 6
P.W.—Clothing for Enemy Prisoners of War - - - - -	268,060 19 2	185,164 3 2
	£. 101,569,410 18 9	80,324,504 5 3
<i>Deduct,</i>		
P.—Appropriations in Aid (Clothing Department)* - - -	21,783,180 15 9	7,443,437 10 7
Net Totals of Clothing Department - - -	£. 79,786,230 3 -	72,881,066 14 8
CLOTHING FACTORY.		
Q.—Establishment and Wages of Clothing Factory - - -	241,241 1 8	168,588 10 9
R.—Value of Materials obtained from Store - - - - -	990,193 6 11	793,424 15 1
S.—Machinery and Miscellaneous Charges for Clothing Factory - - - - -	8,133 19 3	7,116 13 3
	£. 1,239,568 7 10	969,129 19 1
<i>Deduct,</i>		
T.—Appropriations in Aid (Clothing Factory)* - - - - -	29,261 9 9	22,934 17 11
Net Totals of Clothing Factory - - - - -	£. 1,210,306 18 1	946,195 1 2
Net Totals, Clothing Services - - - - -	£. 80,996,537 1 1	73,827,261 15 10
Net Totals, Supplies (from page 19) - - - - -	338,830,676 - 5	309,761,716 18 7
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£. 419,827,213 1 6	383,588,978 14 5

* Vide Paper No. 2, page 10.

VOTE 7—continued.

The main increase under this Vote is due to the rise of prices of meat, hay, coal and petrol, and to increased consumption of the last-mentioned in the Field.

The increased receipts under Subhead G. represent sales of supplies to the Allies and Dominions.

The charge under Subhead F. (A) is for Newspaper Advertisements inserted by order of H.M. Government for the information of soldier voters, and is here included under Treasury instructions.

Subhead F. (B) represents a loan to the National Council of Y.M.C.A.'s authorised by the Treasury, in view of the special demands upon their funds arising from their War activities.

The increase under Clothing Services is due mainly to the rise in prices of textiles and boots, and to some extent in wages. The heavy consumption in the earlier part of the year more than balanced the reductions made by cancellation of contracts, &c., after the Armistice; and there was considerable expenditure upon civilian suits for discharged soldiers and for cash allowances in lieu (Subhead N.).

The rebate from the Raw Materials Account (Vote of Credit, Head 12b), on account of the difference between the actual cost of Government wool and the price at which it is put into consumption by the trade, amounted to 1,560,000*l.* from the inception of the scheme in September 1916 to March 31st, 1918, and is brought to account under Subhead P. A further rebate of larger amount, for 1918-19, will be brought to account in 1919-20.

The remainder of the increase under Subhead P. represents increased sales to Allies.

NOTES:—

A special Subhead, "General Election, Advertisement (Absent Voters)," was opened with Treasury authority. See Correspondence, page 68.

Insufficiently vouchered expenditure:—

Subhead A. includes:—

Expenditure amounting to 33*l.* incurred by a unit whose Imprest Account was lost, and 587*l.* on account of purchase of provisions, &c.

Subhead C. includes the sum of 6,595*l.* on account of electric light bills and purchases of fuel.

Losses by fire, stocktaking deficiencies and other incidents of the service, &c.:—

Loss by fire took place at—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
Abancourt Advanced Supply Depot	262,534	*270,835	8 and 10
Altcar Camp	120	1,382	8, 9, and 10
Aulnois l'Ermitage Factory	10,441	10,441	—
Bakaritza	50	6,368	8, 9, and 10
Lambersart, Lille	350	1,021	8 and 9
Lanton, France	382	1,353	10
Liverpool	203	1,242	8
Minsterley, Forage Depot	8,761	4,254	8
Mucubi, Nyasaaland	1,819	1,819	—
Mnapo, Portuguese East Africa	1,304	1,382	8
Old Ford Forage Depot	3,412	6,990	9 and 10
Murmansk	960	2,375	8, 9, and 10
Mtarika, British East Africa	1,004	1,004	—
Redhill Chaffing Depot	1,505	3,406	8 and 10
Salonika (discharging Ship)	2,041	2,041	—
Salonika (Gumendje Railhead)	1,123	1,123	—
Spezia	1,207	1,207	—
Worgret Camp, Wareham	6	1,189	8 and 10

* 9,722*l.* of this amount, has been recovered by sale of damaged stores.

The following deficiencies, due in the main to accounting errors, on store accounts have been treated as incidents of the service, under Treasury authority (see correspondence in 1916-17, Appropriation Account, pp. 62-65).

Locality or Unit.	Amount of Deficiency under this Vote.	Total Deficiency.	Surpluses all Votes.	Other Votes.
Aldgate R.A.C.D. Depot	1,467	1,467	3,244	—
Arquarta Base Ordnance Depot	1,752	3,052	14,000	8
Calais Ordnance Depot	216	5,508	36,727	8 and 9
Cosham, Alexandra Hospital	489	1,241	—	8
Jerusalem	1,509	1,509	—	—
Llanthony Yard Chaffing Depot	1,227	1,227	568	—
Ludd, Palestine	1,758	1,758	—	—
Marylebone Boot Depot	1,034	1,034	261	—
Newhaven H.B.S.D.	18,144	18,144	1,126	—
Paris, R.A.O.C. Depot	1,532	1,532	—	—
Pimlico, R.A.C.D.	1,631	1,631	1,896	—
Port Said Main Supply Depot	5,226	5,226	—	—
Richborough Sub. Depot	5,455	5,455	—	—
Rouen, Base Ordnance Depot	1,472	1,472	909	—
Salonika	1,846	1,846	—	—
Varna Supply Depot	1,027	1,027	—	—
Vendroux, Base Supply Depot	22,079	22,079	—	—
Wadi Surar Junction	3,388	3,388	—	—
York	30	1,034	—	8 and 9

a 0,7

B 3

VOTE 7—continued.

In addition, the following deficiencies of supplies were brought to light in discharging steamers overseas. Losses to a great extent accounted for by rapidity of discharge, frailty of package, rough handling, heavy seas, dryage, &c.

Place.	Loss.
	£
Alexandria (various ships) -	2,116
Basra (surplus 639 <i>l.</i>) (two ships) -	3,504
Bordeaux (one ship) -	1,186
Boulogne† (various ships) -	10,693
Boulogne and Calais (various ships)	1,217
Calais (surplus 1,125 <i>l.</i>) (two ships) -	25,176
Cairo (surplus 521 <i>l.</i>) (one ship) -	1,493
Constantinople (one ship) -	1,503
Dieppe (one ship) -	2,672
Dunkirk (one ship) -	* 1,994
Haifa (various ships) -	2,162
Havre (various ships) -	2,607
Kantara (two ships) -	1,374
Port Said (various ships) -	2,444
Rouen (various ships) -	13,949
Salonika (various ships) -	12,615
France (various ports and ships) -	1,700

* This deficiency of 148,880 lb. of flour is probably attributable only to confusion at port of loading, as three other vessels sailing from the same port (West St. John), one on the same day, discharged at Havre surpluses over bills of lading figures aggregating 171,920 lbs.

† Of this amount a deficiency of 2,224*l.* is probably due to confusion at Montreal, another vessel sailing from the same port having discharged at Boulogne 149,360 lbs. of flour in excess of bill of lading quota.

Subhead A includes the following losses by deterioration, &c. :-

Rice and mealie meal damaged by rain during a gale at Chindi	£ 3,954
Bacon became unfit for issue at Dublin	1,056
Sausage meat condemned in France	3,384
Onions deteriorated whilst awaiting shipment in Egypt	1,776
Supplies damaged by sea water off East Africa	1,200
Potatoes deteriorated through climatic conditions in Egypt	1,840
Deficiency in weight of flour on consignments from India due to dryage	1,844
Deterioration of potatoes at Alexandria due to lack of facilities for shipment	4,390
Loss of onions at Port Said due to dryage	1,411
Idéal milk became unfit for issue owing to climatic conditions	1,308
Mutton condemned at Salonika	1,678
Sugar and tea deteriorated through stacking in the open in France	8,344
Potatoes found to be unfit for issue and condemned in Egypt	1,412
Milk, &c., deteriorated at Salonika due to stacking in the open	1,234
Meat deteriorated in France during transit, slow because of congestion	1,791
Potatoes deteriorated during shipment to Egypt through ships having been held up at Cyprus pending provision of a naval escort and through stowage in close holds	3,140
Provisions damaged by sea water as result of steamer meeting with an accident on voyage from Alexandria to Salonika	3,778
Sausage meat condemned at Victoria Docks and Poplar	6,984
Potatoes deteriorated <i>en route</i> from Egypt to Salonika	1,118
Supplies deteriorated in Nyasaland through storage and climate	228
Preserved meat condemned in France	1,919
Deterioration of potatoes in France due to dryage	7,782
Margarine found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned at Cologne	3,016
Oranges condemned in France through deterioration due to delay in transit	1,669

There were also the following losses :-

A lighter, valued at 1,307*l.* was lost in Bitter Lakes during a gale, with a cargo of flour valued at 4,403*l.* A steamer arriving at Salonika with 1,281 tons of caroub beans valued at 6,729*l.* was found to be infested with rats which were dying of plague. The ship was taken to sea and the cargo jettisoned. Crushed gram, rice and coke valued at 1,520*l.* were lost at Alexandria as result of an explosion in a steamer. Supplies valued at 11,912*l.* on board lighters at Taranto were lost during a severe gale. (Total loss, 20,662*l.*, see also Votes 6, 8 and 10.) A steamer foundered during a gale, off the coast of Euboia, with a resultant loss of petrol and M.B. oil, valued at 9,094*l.* Ordnance stores were lost in transit by rail between Sarakli and Stavros valued at 25*l.* (Total loss, 1,406*l.*, see also Votes 8 and 9.) 226,164 lbs. of sugar, valued at 2,932*l.*, were lost in Egypt as the result of an accident to a steam barge. Owing to an outbreak of plague on board a ship carrying hay valued at 3,242*l.*, from India to Salonika, the cargo was off-loaded at Mudros and burnt.

Provisions to the value of 20,609*l.* were lost in transit between Cherbourg and Taranto, through pressure of time, frailty of packing, frequent and unskilled handling. Sheep and goats to the value of 7,702*l.* were lost at Kantara through sickness ensuing upon a long journey over sea and land under bad climatic conditions.

Subhead B includes the following losses :-

Hay and straw found damaged by sea water on ship arriving at Salonika	£ 9,813
Deficiency in weight of hay received at Cardiff in wet condition necessitating dryage before chaffing	1,156
Deficiency in weight of hay, straw, &c., in stores at Bradford, Stockton, and Woolwich, due to dryage	3,035

Subhead C includes the following losses of petrol and oil by leakage, fire, &c. :-

Arquarta, Italy	£ 29,216
Calais	1,049
East Africa	12,945
Nyasaland	21,846
Rouen	4,805
Kantara	4,034

Special Payments :-

Subhead A. includes a payment of 80*l.* to Port of London Authority in full settlement of a claim against War Department of 162*l.* in respect of tea damaged through exposure, the Royal Army Service Corps being in occupation of sheds at quayside.

Subhead M. includes a payment of 283*l.* to four firms in compensation for the cancellation of their contracts for aviation helmets.

For General Note regarding cancellation of contracts, see page 18.

Gifts :-

Gifts of supplies approximately estimated at 64,000*l.* were received from various sources. In addition, some 4,500,000 eggs were contributed by the general public through the National Egg Collection.

Stores valued at 40,000*l.* were handed over to the Portuguese Government without charge.

VOTE 8.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENTS and GENERAL STORES in the year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 8.		
ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND GENERAL STORES.		
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
A.—Establishments and Wages of the Army Ordnance Department - - - - -	3,792,699 10 9	3,182,376 4 1
B.—Police at Ordnance Establishments - - - - -	108,222 11 8	105,187 5 9
C.—Barrack, Hospital, and Prison Stores - - - - -	11,337,099 1 4	12,990,577 4 7
D.—Equipment Stores - - - - -	23,363,576 12 1	17,352,715 8 2
E.—Miscellaneous Stores and Services - - - - -	35,494,213 2 4	24,658,278 3 9
P.W.—General Stores required in connection with Enemy Prisoners of War Internment Camps - - - - -	21,675 8 5	22,220 12 5
	£. 74,117,486 6 7	58,311,354 18 9
F.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -	6,255,635 1 10	3,634,846 11 8
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£. 67,861,851 4 9	54,676,508 7 1

The retreat in the spring of 1918, and the subsequent advance, both increased the consumption of stores under this Vote. Under Subhead E. is included (with Treasury authority) a sum of 13,400,000L. expended by the Government of India on behalf of the War Office before 31st March 1919, although it has not been possible for the Government of India to include the expenditure in their audited accounts for the year 1918-19.

Important savings were effected under Subhead C. by cancellation of contracts after the Armistice. The Appropriations in Aid represent mainly sales to Allies.

NOTES:—

Insufficiently vouched expenditure:—

Subhead D. includes unvouched expenditure amounting to 591L. in respect of purchase of harness, and Subhead F. the sum of 2,164L. on account of contractors' deposit refunded.

Losses by fire, stocktaking deficiencies and other incidents of the service, &c.:—

Loss by fire took place at—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
	£	£	
Altcar Camp - - - - -	175	1,382	7, 9, and 10
Abancourt - - - - -	1,901	*270,835	7 and 10
Alexandria - - - - -	2	1,475	6
Arquarta - - - - -	1,767	2,019	10
Bakaritza - - - - -	390	6,368	7, 9, and 10
Lessness Park Camp - - - - -	13,703	14,636	10
Lambertart - - - - -	367	1,021	7 and 9
Lichfield, Central Hospital - - - - -	325	1,025	10
Liverpool - - - - -	1,039	1,242	7
Minsterley Forage Depot - - - - -	493	4,254	7
Mnapo - - - - -	78	1,382	7
Murmansk - - - - -	587	2,375	7, 9, and 10
Redhill - - - - -	701	3,406	7 and 10
Sequence Canal Depot - - - - -	8,427	8,427	—
Stratford - - - - -	123	1,723	10
Weelsby Camp, Grimsby - - - - -	112	1,012	10
Worgret Camp, Wareham - - - - -	133	1,189	7 and 10
No. 36 C.C. Station, France - - - - -	479	4,280	2 and 10

* 9,722L. of this amount has been recovered by sale of damaged stores.

B 4

VOTE 8—continued.

The following deficiencies on store accounts have been treated as incidents of the service under Treasury authority (see correspondence in 1916-17, Appropriation Account, pp. 62 to 65), mainly nominal deficiencies due to breakdown in accounting.

Locality or Unit.	Amount of Deficiencies under this Vote.	Total Deficiency.	Surpluses all Votes.	Other Votes.
Alexandria	£ 2,166	£ 6,045	£ 70,524	9
Arquata Base Ordnance Depôt	1,300	3,052	14,000	7
Calais	1,566	5,508	36,727	7 and 9
Cosham, Alexandra Hospital	782	1,241	—	7
Didcot, Army Ordnance Depôt	4,334	4,334	1,863	—
Dover	2,772	2,772	2,240	—
Havre	10,329	10,329	1,844	—
Tidworth	8,548	8,548	39,360	—
Woolwich	28,262*	36,967	31,645	9
York (Territorial Reserve Battalion)	590	1,034	—	7 and 9

In addition, Nose Bags to the value of 3,343*l.* on board lighters, were lost in a severe gale, off Taranto. (Total loss, 20,662*l.* See also Votes 6, 7 and 10.) Ordnance Stores to the value of 1,317*l.* were lost in transit by rail between Sarakli and Stavros. (Total loss, 1,406*l.* See also Votes 7 and 9.) 100 Tarpaulins, valued at 1,448*l.*, and 201 wagon covers, valued 1,477*l.*, were lost on French Railways. Mobilisation equipment, valued at 1,109*l.*, was lost during transit and embarkation of a unit from France.

Loss due to breakage on discharge of ships—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
Constantinople (one ship)	£ 317	£ 2,104	7 and 9
Salonika	1,981	1,981	—

This Vote includes cost of stores to the value of 20,100*l.*, repayment for which was due from the Egyptian Government, but recovery was waived as similar action was taken by the Egyptian authorities in regard to amounts due from the Imperial Government. (See also Votes 6 and 9.)

For General Note regarding cancellation of contracts, see page 18.

Gifts :—

Hospital Stores, valued at 269*l.*, were received from the Harvard Medical Unit, and Band Instruments, valued at 160*l.*, from Musical Instruments Fund per Madame Novello Davies.

Blankets, &c., valued at 332,491*l.*, were issued without charge to the Ministry of Shipping from Army Depôts during 1918-19 for use on Government Transports.

The value of furniture and fittings transferred without charge from the Office of Works to the War Office during 1918-19 was 293*l.*

Subhead F. includes a contribution of 25*l.* from Mr. J. M. Fisher of Lovedale, Cape Province, South Africa, "towards providing equipment of men proceeding as soldiers overseas."

* Included in this total is a deficiency of blankets, to the value of 14,294*l.*, which is more than counterbalanced by surpluses, not connected as far as can be seen, at other depôts.

VOTE 9.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for ARMAMENTS, AVIATION, and ENGINEER STORES in the year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE 1917-1918. (for Comparison).
VOTE 9.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
ARMAMENTS, AVIATION, AND ENGINEER STORES.		
A.—Ordnance Board	—	—
B.—Research Department	—	—
C.—Experimental Establishment	—	—
D.—Ordnance College	45,418 14 -	35,513 - 3
E.—Royal Artillery and Royal Engineer Committees	1,381 6 3	185 4 11
F.—Royal Artillery Institution, &c., and Royal Engineer Institute	1,206 11 5	747 9 2
G.—Inspection of Warlike and Engineer Stores	354,918 12 -	233,953 7 8
H.—Rewards to Inventors	100 - -	80 - -
J.—Guns and Carriages	122,060 18 2	115,310 7 11
K.—Ammunition	818,359 8 3	921,461 3 3
L.—Small Arms	88,662 19 5	6,541 11 6
M.—Transport Vehicles	221,566 6 1	302,860 2 3
N.—Miscellaneous Ordnance Stores	277,878 16 10	50,623 3 -
O.—Engineer Stores	15,790,986 5 6	14,884,331 2 -
P.W.—Stores required in connection with Enemy Prisoners of War	105 - 5	333 - -
£.	17,722,644 18 4	16,551,944 11 11
<i>Deduct,</i> P.—Appropriations in Aid	3,176,917 1 6	324,902 18 1
Net Total Armament and Engineer Stores - £.	14,545,727 16 10	16,227,041 13 10
K.K.—High Explosives	—	4,547 3 9
<i>Deduct,</i> P.P.—Appropriations in Aid	—	448 15 6
Net Total, High Explosives	—	4,098 8 3
Q.—Establishment and Wages of Royal Aircraft Factory	—	—
R.—Inspection of Aeronautical Stores	—	7 16 6
S.—Aircraft, Stores, and Materials	—	312,298 7 -
—	—	312,306 3 6
<i>Deduct,</i> T.—Appropriations in aid (Aviation)	—	764 17 11
Net Total, Aviation	—	311,541 5 7
Net Expenditure	14,545,727 16 10	16,542,681 7 8

The expenditure under Subheads J. to N. represents purchases from Allies and other local purchases, repairs, &c., not authorised by the Ministry of Munitions.

The campaign of 1918 led to greatly increased expenditure on Engineer Stores, not wholly counter-balanced by the restriction of expenditure after the Armistice.

The Appropriations in Aid represent chiefly sales of munitions in the field to the Allies.

The G.P.O. continues to supply without charge to Army Funds all telegraph, telephone, and other similar stores which are common to both W.D. and P.O. services. Issues to the value of 2,513,187*l.* were made from G.P.O. stocks to the Army during the year. Stores of this kind in W.D. custody, to the value of 12,449*l.*, were handed to the G.P.O. during the year.

VOTE 9—continued.

NOTES :—

Insufficiently vouched Expenditure :—

Sub-head M. includes unvouched expenditure amounting to 2,820*l.* in respect of purchase of transport vehicles, and Sub-head O. the sum of 711*l.* on account of repair material for R.E. workshops.

Loss by fire, stocktaking deficiencies, and other incidents of the service :—

Loss by fire took place at—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
	£	£	
Altcar Camp	928	1,382	7, 8 and 10
Bakaritza	385	6,368	7, 8 and 10
Lambertart, Lille	304	1,021	7 and 8
Murmansk	820	2,375	7, 8 and 10
Old Ford, Storage Depot	563	6,990	7 and 10
Woolwich	529	3,709	10

Stocktaking Deficiencies :—

The following deficiencies on store accounts have been treated as incidents of the Service under Treasury authority (see correspondence in 1916-17 Appropriation Account, pp. 62 to 65). Mainly nominal deficiencies due to breakdown in accounting.

Locality or Unit.	Deficiency under this Vote.	Total Deficiency.	Surpluses. All Votes.	Other Votes.
	£	£	£	
Alexandria	3,879	6,045	70,524	8
Calais	3,736	5,508	36,727	7 and 8
Italy	7,114	7,114	2,864	—
Rouville (R.E. Park)	1,989	1,969	—	—
Woolwich	13,695	36,957	31,645	8
York	406	1,034	—	7 and 8

In addition, stores amounting to 65*l.* were lost in transit by rail between Sarakli and Stavros. Total loss 1,406*l.* See also Votes 7 and 8. Water supply stores, valued at 2,000*l.*, were lost during transit by rail in France.

Discharging Ships :—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
	£	£	
Constantinople (one ship)	274	2,194	7 and 8

This Vote includes cost of stores to the value of 9,600*l.*, repayment for which was due from the Egyptian Government, but recovery was waived as similar action was taken by the Egyptian authorities in regard to amounts due from the Imperial Government. (See also Votes 6 and 8.)

For General Note regarding cancellation of contracts, see page 18.

Gifts :—

Two issues of rifles, valued at 11*l.* and 6*l.*, were made respectively to the Norwegian and Swedish Governments. In addition ammunition, fuzes, &c., amounting to 68*l.*, were presented to the Spanish Government.

Rewards to Inventors :—

Major A. T. Stead.—Invention of collar attachment for ground sheet	25
Lieutenant J. L. Addison.—Improvements in design of telescopic levels	50
Acting Sergeant Major A. E. Hutton.—Invention of electric sights for night shooting from aeroplanes	25

VOTE 10*.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for WORKS and BUILDINGS, in the Year ended
31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 10.		
WORKS AND BUILDINGS.		
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
A.—Staff for Works and Engineer Services - - -	681,467 8 4	587,089 7 3
B.—Incidental Expenses of War Department Estates -	57,549 17 10	45,729 6 1
C.—Telegraph and Telephone Services - - -	35,864 11 11	34,395 - 4
D.—Miscellaneous Engineer Services - - -	66,076 1 5	113,415 19 3
E.—Part I.—New Works, Additions, Alterations, and Special Repairs, amounting to 2,000l. each and upwards - - - - -	923,060 16 8	747,249 7 3
F.—Part II.—New Works, Additions, Alterations, and Replacements, amounting to less than 2,000l. each -	44,641 9 1	68,475 18 2
G.—Part III.—Ordinary Repairs, Renewals, and Maintenance - - - - -	2,105,256 13 2	1,937,743 16 5
H.—Grants in Aid of Works - - - - -	21,085 1 9	15,136 - 7
J.—Purchases of Land - - - - -	10,097 16 9	35,296 8 6
K.—Rents of Lands and Buildings (other than those of Buildings hired to supplement Barracks, provided in Vote 6) - - - - -	231,005 - -	280,660 19 11
W.—War Services - - - - -	31,346,222 11 7	28,330,490 14 5
Compensation to Contractors - - - - -	6,000 - -	—
P.W.—Works Expenditure in connexion with Enemy Prisoners of War - - - - -	241,698 10 8	280,542 16 5
	£. 35,770,025 19 2	32,476,825 14 7
<i>Deduct,</i> L.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -	3,842,539 15 1	1,371,578 10 -
NET TOTALS, Subheads A to L - - -	£. 31,927,486 4 1	31,105,247 4 7
M.—Repayments under the Military Works Acts - -	894,160 16 -	894,160 16 -
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£. 32,821,647 - 1	31,999,408 - 7

* *Vide* Paper No. 4, pages 35 to 37.

The expenditure under Subhead E. on works of a permanent character was estimated in Parliamentary Paper 51 of 17th March 1919 at 526,615l. The excess of about 396,000l. represents expenditure on temporary works of defence. Particulars of the expenditure under the various items of the estimate appear in Paper No. 4.

VOTE 10.—ACCOUNT of the sum expended for Works and Buildings, in the Year ended 31st March 1919—*continued.*

Details of expenditure under Subhead H. (Grants in Aid) and J. (Purchases of Land) and of receipts for sales of land (Subhead L.) are given in Papers Nos. 4 and 5.

The expenditure under Subhead W. includes about 800,000*l.* in respect of hutting in the United Kingdom (as against 3,000,000*l.* in 1917-18), and about 25,000,000*l.* (as against 21,750,000*l.*) for services in the field, including works expenditure on Railways and Inland Water Transport.

The increase under Appropriations in Aid is due to refunds by the Ministry of Shipping on account of the National Shipyards, and by the Air Ministry on account of various aerodrome works.

NOTES:—

Inefficiently Vouchered Expenditure:—

Sub-head W. includes unvouchered expenditure to the extent of 6,940*l.* in respect of purchase of timber, R.E. stores, &c.

Losses by fire, stocktaking deficiencies, and other incidents of the service:—

Loss by fire took place at—

Place.	Loss under this Vote.	Total Loss.	Other Votes.
Abancourt	7,000	*270,885	7 and 8
Altcar Camp	150	1,382	7, 8, and 9
Arquarta	252	2,019	8
Bakaritza	5,542	6,368	7, 8, and 9
Camp, Canadian Forestry Corps, Lanton, France	971	1,353	7
" " " " France	3,625	†7,250	—
No. 36 C.C. Station, France	2,514	4,280	2 and 8
Lessness Park Camp	933	14,636	8
Lichfield Central Hospital	700	1,025	8
Murmansk	8	2,375	7, 8, and 9
Old Ford, Forage Depôt	3,015	6,990	7 and 9
Pouces Farm, Munston	5,205	5,205	—
Redhill	1,200	3,406	7 and 8
Stratford	1,600	1,722	8
Weelsby Camp, Grimsby	900	1,012	8
Woolwich	3,180	3,709	9
Worgret Camp, Wareham	1,050	1,189	7 and 8
1st Signal Corps, France	1,540	1,540	—

* 9,722*l.* of this amount has been recovered by sale of damaged stores.

† 3,625*l.* of this amount has been borne by French Authorities.

Stocktaking Deficiencies.	Deficiency under this Vote.	Total Deficiency.	Surpluses.	Other Votes.
Rinxent Quarries, B.E.F.	2,136	2,136	—	—
Salonica	4,313	4,313	5,698	—

In addition, the sum of 1,400*l.* is included in expenditure under this Vote in respect of damage to quays, lighters and cargoes in a gale at Taranto. (Total loss 20,662*l.* *see also* votes 6, 7, and 8.)

Subhead W.—Charges for Swiss timber are included under this heading for which store credit has not been fully secured. The matter is being pursued.

Special Payments:—

The following payments were made with Treasury sanction:—

*Subhead W.—Nugatory payment of 2,000*l.* to a contractor in full settlement of claim for compensation on account of the cancellation of a former order for steel sheds.

*4,000*l.* to a contractor as compensation for cancellation of a contract for the erection of huts.

1. 30*l.* to a contractor as compensation for loss arising through an unforeseen increase in the cost of work undertaken.

2. 200*l.* to a contractor in consideration of extra cost incurred by him through the great delay in supplying ready-made hutting which he was engaged to erect.

3. 134*l.*, *ex gratia*, to a Swiss firm in consideration of the fall in the value of the French franc during the period intervening between date of their tender for the supply of huts and that of payment. The contract price, originally computed in Swiss francs, was converted into French francs at the exchange rate ruling when tender was made. Payment represents moiety of total loss.

For General Note regarding cancellation of contracts, *see* page 18.

Gifts:—

Seven Nissen huts valued at 497*l.* were presented, with Treasury sanction, to Countess van den Steen for use of orphan Belgian children.

Huts and wards for medical and other purposes to the approximate value of 1,194*l.* were received from the Harvard Medical Unit.

Stables for veterinary purposes valued at approximately 6,300*l.* were presented through the R.S.P.C.A. (*See also* Vote 1.)

* *See* correspondence, page 68.

VOTE 11.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for MISCELLANEOUS EFFECTIVE SERVICES in the year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 11.		
MISCELLANEOUS EFFECTIVE SERVICES.		
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
A.—Grants in Aid of certain Institutions, &c. - - -	5,084 1 8	126,508 4 8
A.(A.)—Grants in Aid for British Prisoners of War - -	416,923 10 4	26,636 12 3
A.(B.)—Expenses of Prisoners of War interned in Switzerland and Holland - - - -	382,619 8 6	196,144 -- 10
A.(C.)—Grants to Officers in Serbian Army - - -	184,595 4 -	—
B.—Technical Instruction of Soldiers - - - -	—	—
C.—Commission to Bankers - - - - -	4,313 17 8	1,208 11 1
D.—Compensation for losses - - - - -	957,578 5 3	890,101 17 8
E.—Medals - - - - -	55,371 15 3	27,380 8 9
F.—Police at other than Ordnance Stations - - -	40,922 13 9	37,187 3 4
F.F.—Army Books and Forms Store :—Wages, &c. - -	25,768 12 5	19,543 8 4
G.—Extra Regulation Expenditure - - - - -	5,579 1 -	5,100 15 -
H.—Postal and Telegraphic Expenses, &c. - - -	852,792 7 2	534,971 19 9
J.—Miscellaneous - - - - -	1,195,347 4 6	85,047 3 9
J.(A.)—Expenses of Examination Service - - -	132,470 9 2	168,132 19 9
J.(B.)—Cost of Civil Administration in Syria and Cilicia	570,333 6 8	—
J.(C.)—Relief of Refugees - - - - -	183,257 14 2	—
P.W.—Expenses of Prisoners of War Information Bureau -	47,200 15 1	21,461 11 11
	£. 5,060,158 6 7	2,139,424 17 1
<i>Deduct,</i>		
K.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - - £.	144,259 7 8	278,353 5 3
Net Expenditure - - - - - £.	4,915,898 18 11	1,861,071 11 10

A special grant of 120,000*l.* under Subhead A. to British Red Cross funds 1917–18 was devoted to British Prisoners of War. All the grants for this service in 1918–19 are shown under Subhead A.(A.). The numbers of such prisoners increased considerably.

The charge under Subhead A.(C.) represents a grant of 5 francs a day, under the authority of H.M. Government, to Officers of the Serbian Army for a period of about four months.

The increase under Subhead H. reflects the increased use of telegraphs and cables found necessary in the process of demobilising the Army.

Subhead J. includes losses by exchange to the extent of nearly a million.

The expenditure under Subhead J.(B.) represents payments made to the Administrations of the North, West and East zones of Syria and Cilicia, in respect of excess of expenditure over revenue. Treasury authority for the inclusion of these charges, together with those under Subhead J.(C.), is given in the correspondence printed on page 68.

The charges under Subhead J.(C.) are cash payments for the relief of refugees in various parts of Syria. Other expenditure on refugee camps, mainly for Armenians, at Baqubah (Mesopotamia) and Port Said, amounting to 1,350,000*l.* and 54,000*l.* respectively, is included under the various Army Votes for food, stores, &c.

NOTES:—

Subhead C.—The net gain on raising money for the various Treasury Chests abroad in 1918–19 in respect of advances for Army Services is estimated at 5,340*l.*

VOTE 12.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for the WAR OFFICE in the year ended 31st March 1919.

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.		EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
VOTE 12. WAR OFFICE.				
A.—Salaries and Allowances of the War Office - - - - -	1,889,833	6 10	1,578,389	8 6
B.—Pay of Copyists, &c. - - - - -	244,463	16 -	200,084	19 1
C.—Salaries and pay of Office Keepers, Messengers, &c. -	143,307	3 8	101,034	5 9
D.—Contingent Expenses - - - - -	15,415	4 -	17,442	1 9
	£.	2,292,819 10 6	1,896,950 15 1	
<i>Deduct,</i>				
E.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -		5,089 7 3	1,177 1 6	
Net Expenditure - - - - -	£.	2,287,730 3 3	1,895,773 13 7	

The growth of this vote is due to increases of staff, to the grant of "Army of Occupation Bonus" to officers and men of the Army, and to increased war bonus to civilians.

NOTES:—

Under Subhead A. is included a sum of about 27,300*l.* for payments under Treasury regulation to civilian officials in the War Office who have joined the Army.

Salaries amounting approximately to 12,335*l.* are included in this account in respect of officers temporarily lent to other departments.

Salaries amounting approximately to 43,950*l.* are included in the accounts of other departments in respect of officers temporarily lent to the War Office.

VOTE 13.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for HALF-PAY, RETIRED PAY, and other NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR OFFICERS in the year ended 31st March 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
VOTE 13.		
HALF-PAY, RETIRED PAY, AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR OFFICERS.		
REWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICES, &c. :		
A.—Rewards to Officers for Distinguished or Meritorious Services - - - - -	14,454 13 6	13,997 3 -
HALF-PAY, &c. :		
B.—Half-pay of Field Marshals and General Officers eligible for Employment - - - - -	28,034 5 11	22,734 10 10
C.—Half-pay of Regimental and Departmental Officers eligible for Employment - - - - -	47,843 13 5	73,171 11 6
£.	75,877 19 4	95,906 2 4
RETIRED PAY, GRATUITIES, &c. :		
D.—Retired Pay of General Officers - - - - -	96,700 11 6	102,036 8 -
E.—Retired Pay, &c., of Regimental and Departmental Officers - - - - -	1,647,629 15 2	1,582,302 12 7
F.—Gratuities to Officers in lieu of Pensions, &c. - - - - -	7,079 17 6	1,610 7 8
G.—Commutation of Retired Pay, &c., of Officers of the Regular Army - - - - -	50,509 8 -	58,363 19 -
£.	1,801,919 12 2	1,744,313 7 3
WIDOWS' PENSIONS, &c. :		
H.—Pensions and Gratuities to Widows, &c., of Officers - - - - -	153,810 1 5	160,421 13 10
J.—Compassionate Allowances and Gratuities to Children of Deceased Officers - - - - -	10,022 4 8	12,339 17 -
K.—The Relief Fund - - - - -	625 - -	1,230 - -
L.—Pensions, Compassionate Allowances, and Gratuities to Widows and Children of Civil Officers, &c. - - - - -	702 - -	1,635 2 7
£.	165,159 6 1	175,626 13 5
Carried forward - - £.	2,057,411 11 1	2,029,843 6 -

VOTE 13.—ACCOUNT of the sum expended for Half pay, Retired Pay, and other Non-effective Charges for Officers, in the year ended 31st March 1919—*continued.*

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.			EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).			
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
<i>VOTE 13—continued.</i>							
HALF-PAY, RETIRED PAY, AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR OFFICERS—<i>continued.</i>							
Brought forward - - - - -	2,057,411	11	1	2,029,848	6	-	
PENSIONS FOR WOUNDS.							
M.—Pensions and Gratuities to Wounded Officers, &c. -	1,748,170	19	5	1,894,649	14	11	
N.—Commutation of Pensions for Wounds - - -	5,284	5	7	5,648	7	-	
	£.	1,753,455	5	-	1,900,298	1	11
RETIRED ALLOWANCES, &c., TO OFFICERS OF THE AUXILIARY FORCES :							
O.—Retired Allowances to Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Officers - - - - -	3,919	7	9	5,360	19	6	
GROSS TOTALS - - - - -	£.	3,814,786	3	10	3,935,502	7	5
<i>Deduct,</i>							
P.—Appropriations in Aid* - - - - -	£.	494,865	11	7	494,132	10	4
Net expenditure - - - - -	£.	3,319,920	12	3	3,441,369	17	1

The principal features of the course of expenditure under this vote are the increase under Subhead E. (Retired Pay), due to the release from the active list of Officers who had reached the age for retirement, and the decrease under Subhead M. (Wounds, Pensions and Gratuities), due to the smaller number of awards made in the year.

* *Vide* Paper No. 2, page 10

VOTE 14.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for PENSIONS and other NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES for WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, MEN and OTHERS, in the year ended 31st MARCH 1919.

SERVICE.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 14.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
PENSIONS AND OTHER NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES FOR WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, MEN, AND OTHERS.		
IN-PENSIONS :		
A.—Chelsea Hospital - - - - -	45,828 19 1	33,659 1 10
B.—Kilmainham Hospital - - - - -	6,315 9 -	7,597 14 5
£.	52,144 8 1	41,256 16 3
OUT-PENSIONS :		
C.—Chelsea Pensions of Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, Men, and others, and Gratuities in commutation and in lieu of Pensions - - -	2,009,353 10 1	1,733,687 6 5
D.—Maintenance of certain Unpensioned Lunatic Ex-Soldiers - - - - -	1,019 6 8	1,330 4 11
E.—Pensions and Gratuities of Army Schoolmistresses and Nurses - - - - -	12,555 13 4	9,458 12 0
£.	2,022,928 10 1	1,744,426 3 10
REWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICES, &c. :		
F.—Rewards to Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers for Distinguished or Meritorious Services -	7,927 - -	8,255 17 5
G.—Victoria Cross Pensions - - - - -	2,595 8 5	1,332 14 3
H.—Yeoman Warders of the Tower of London - -	951 5 8	940 5 2
J.—Gratuities to Soldiers for Distinguished Conduct, and for Long Service and Good Conduct - - -	73,554 19 -	32,967 - 9
£.	85,028 13 1	43,395 17 7
WIDOWS' PENSIONS, &c. :		
K.—Pensions, Compassionate Allowances, and Gratuities to Widows and Children of Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men, &c. - - -	36,616 4 1	10,062 13 11
£.	36,616 4 1	10,062 13 11
GROSS TOTALS - £.	2,196,717 15 4	1,839,141 11 7
Deduct,		
L.—Appropriations in Aid* - - - - -	511,180 - 2	516,761 9 6
Net Expenditure - - - - - £.	1,685,537 15 2	1,322,380 2 1

The increase under this Vote is mainly due to the issue (under Subhead C.) of arrears of pension to serving soldiers who were allowed to draw pension retrospectively from the date on which they had completed 22 years' service.

The growth of Subhead K. is due to gratuities paid to dependents of deceased members of the South African Native Labour Corps, which fall on Army and not on Pensions funds because these men were not enlisted soldiers.

* Vide Paper No. 2, page 10.

VOTE 15.

ACCOUNT of the sum expended for CIVIL SUPERANNUATION, COMPENSATION, and GRATUITIES, in the year ended 31st March 1919.

S E R V I C E.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.	EXPENDITURE 1917-1918 (for Comparison).
VOTE 15.		
CIVIL SUPERANNUATION, COMPENSATION, AND GRATUITIES.		
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
A.—Superannuation Allowances - - - - -	68,241 5 10	79,803 18 7
B.—Compensation Allowances - - - - -	20,304 16 3	22,470 18 6
C.—Additional Allowances and Gratuities to Established Officers - - - - -	9,644 6 2	5,508 10 2
D.—Compassionate Gratuities - - - - -	7,687 - 11	4,088 - 5
E.—Civil Compassionate Fund - - - - -	286 5 6	274 - -
F.—Injury Grants - - - - -	23,389 11 9	13,903 8 6
G.—Commutation of Compensation Allowances, &c. - -	687 15 -	804 15 -
	£. 130,241 1 5	126,913 11 2
<i>Deduct,</i>		
H.—Appropriations in Aid - - - - -	53 - -	54 14 5
	£. 130,188 1 5	126,858 16 9

The expenditure in 1917-18 was increased by an arrear payment of some 10,000*l.* for Police pensions. The further increase in 1918-19 arises mainly under the head of Injury Grants.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
BALANCES IRRECOVERABLE AND CLAIMS ABANDONED -	812,286 7 6	123,121 2 6
DEFICIT - - - - - £.	812,286 7 6	123,121 2 6

This sum is the total amount of the cash liabilities from which Army Accountants and others have with the approval of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, been relieved during 1918-19. See Paper No. 6 (pages 39 to 63), in which the details are given.

PAPER No. 4.—Details of expenditure under Vote 10, WORKS and BUILDINGS,
for the year ended 31st March 1919.

FORTIFICATIONS AND ARTILLERY RANGES.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	ESTIMATE, 1918-1919. Parliamentary Paper, No. 51.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.
PART I.		
NEW WORKS, ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND SPECIAL REPAIRS, AMOUNTING TO £2,000 EACH AND UPWARDS.		
HOME STATIONS.		
<i>Eastern Command :</i>		
Shoeburyness :—New Roads, Bridges, &c. - - - -	10,000	6,731 4 -
Shoeburyness :—Clear danger area and re-provide buildings -	2,750	1,655 - 11
<i>Northern Command :</i>		
<i>Add Fines :—Artillery ranges - - - - -</i>	—	1,489 11 3
<i>Southern Command :</i>		
<i>Weymouth, Nothe Fort :—Repair Exterior Slope - - - -</i>	—	251 12 5
<i>Various Stations :</i>		
Adapting defences to modern requirements - - - -	400,000	802,999 13 7
TOTALS, HOME, carried below - - - - £.	412,750	813,127 2 2
COLONIAL STATIONS.		
Boaz Island :—Reconstruction of Bermuda sea wall - - -	1,325	1,097 16 8
<i>Various Stations :</i>		
Adapting defences to modern requirements - - - -	13,000	3,179 2 5
TOTALS, COLONIAL - - - - £.	14,325	4,276 19 1
TOTALS, HOME - - - - £.	412,750	813,127 2 2
TOTALS, HOME AND COLONIAL - - - - £. (carried forward to Recapitulation, page 37)	427,075	817,404 1 3

ARMY ORDNANCE BUILDINGS, &c.

HOME STATIONS.		
<i>Eastern Command :</i>		
Shoeburyness :—Improve W.D. Railways - - - - -	600	246 13 2
<i>Southern Command :</i>		
<i>Hilsea :—Re-provide buildings to be handed over to Navy at Portsmouth - - - - -</i>	—	17,411 14 9
<i>Devonport :—Gun Wharf, reinstate storehouse destroyed by fire -</i>	—	4,813 14 10
<i>Woolwich Arsenal, &c. :</i>		
Woolwich Arsenal : Storehouse B 38.—Repair and strengthen foundations - - - - -	5,500	2,939 12 3
TOTALS, HOME - - - - - (carried forward to Recapitulation, page 37)	6,100	25,411 15 -

PAPER No. 4.—Details of expenditure under Vote 10, for WORKS and BUILDINGS—continued.

BARRACKS AND RIFLE RANGES.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	ESTIMATE, 1918-1919. Parliamentary Paper, No. 51.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.
<i>PART I.—continued.</i>	£.	£. s. d.
HOME STATIONS.		
<i>Aldershot Command :</i>		
Sandhurst :—Hospital Improvements - - - -	8,300	8,329 12 4
Central Power Station :—Extension - - - -	6,140	4,056 1 3
TOTALS - - - £.	14,440	12,385 13 7
<i>Eastern Command :</i>		
<i>Dover :—Complete accommodation at Fort Burgoyne for a whole Battalion - - - - -</i>	—	1,635 9 4
<i>Woolwich :—Royal Herbert Hospital, Electric Light Wiring -</i>	—	259 18 2
TOTALS - - - £.	—	1,895 7 6
<i>Northern Command :</i>		
<i>Strensall :—Drainage - - - - -</i>	—	90 19 4
<i>Scottish Command :</i>		
Edinburgh :—Construct Barracks for a Cavalry Regiment -	5,000	56 16 8
Edinburgh :—Construct Barracks for an Infantry Battalion -	9,300	56 16 9
Fort George :—Married Quarters - - - - -	—	587 9 -
TOTALS - - - £.	14,300	701 2 5
<i>Southern Command :</i>		
<i>Netley :—Victoria Hospital—Additional Lift and Pump - -</i>	—	317 8 2
<i>Various Stations :</i>		
Rifle Ranges and Appliances :—Minor new services and maintenance	60,000	60,967 16 6
<i>Additional accommodation for Depôts - - - - -</i>	—	290 15 4
<i>Accommodation at Practice Camps - - - - -</i>	—	134 15 7
TOTALS - - - £.	60,000	61,393 7 5
TOTALS, HOME, carried to page 37 - - - £.	88,740	76,783 18 5

PAPER No. 4.—Details of expenditure under Vote 10, for WORKS and BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.

BARRACKS AND RIFLE RANGES.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	ESTIMATE, 1918-1919. — Parliamentary Paper, No. 51.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.
PART I.—continued.		
COLONIAL STATIONS.		
<i>Malta :</i>		
Intarfa :—New Hospital - - - - -	1,400	601 9 4
<i>West Africa :</i>		
Wilberforce :—Renew Native Huts - - - - -	1,800	872 2 -
<i>Various Stations :</i>		
Rifle ranges and appliances :—Minor new services and maintenance	1,500	1,987 10 8
TOTALS, COLONIAL - - - - - £.	4,700	3,461 2 -
TOTALS, HOME, from page 36 - - - - - £.	88,740	76,783 18 5
TOTALS, HOME AND COLONIAL - - - - - £.	93,440	80,245 - 5
RECAPITULATION :		
TOTALS. PART I. { FORTIFICATIONS AND ARTILLERY RANGES, from page 35	427,075	817,404 1 3
{ ARMY ORDNANCE BUILDINGS, &c., from page 35	6,100	25,411 15 -
{ BARRACKS AND RIFLE RANGES, from above	93,440	80,245 - 5
TOTALS - - - - - £.	526,615	923,060 16 8
Excess -		£396,445 16 8

GRANTS IN AID OF WORKS.

DESCRIPTION.	EXPENDITURE, 1917-1918.	EXPENDITURE, 1918-1919.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Khartoum :—Maintenance of British Barracks - - - - -	5,002 10 -	2,580 - -
Bentley and Bordon Light Railway :—Interest on Capital Expenditure -	1,400 - -	1,400 - -
Bulford and Amesbury Light Railway :—Interest on Capital Expenditure	64 - 2	72 17 10
Special Grants for Roads and Bridges - - - - -	—	2,850 - -
Newcastle-on-Tyne :—Orthopædic Hospital - - - - -	—	10,000 - -
Miscellaneous - - - - -	8,069 10 5	4,182 3 11
TOTALS - - - - - £	15,136 - 7	21,035 1 9

PAPER No. 5.

A.—STATEMENT showing details of expenditure incurred in connexion with the PURCHASE of LAND during 1918-19.

Description of Property.	Valuation.	Expenditure.					
		To 31st March, 1918.	In 1918-19.	Total to 31st March, 1919.			
				Purchase Money.	Costs.	Total.	
£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
BRAMSHOTT—Part of hutment site	3,850	—	3,232 19 4	3,200 — —	32 19 4	3,232 19 4	
CHISLEDON—Easement	204	176 19 6	8 11 —	149 10 —	36 — 6	185 10 6	
COVE—Land for training	38,250	38,106 12 8	204 11 7	37,637 — —	674 4 3	38,311 4 3	
DEPTFORD—Land for siding	*	1,294 4 4	2 16 —	1,176 6 —	120 14 4	1,297 — 4	
DIDCOU—Land for siding	—	—	6 — —	6 — —	—	6 — —	
FELIXSTOWE—Site for battery	36,000	34,382 8 2	—	32,160 — —	2,222 8 2	34,382 8 2	
KILWORTH—Manoeuvring rights and land	*	5,369 15 3	—	5,064 12 2	295 3 1	5,369 15 3	
KINGHORN—Sites adjoining battery	*	194 16 10	—	184 16 10	10 — —	194 16 10	
NEWTOWARDS—Site of camp	4,000	6 5 4	4,000 — —	4,000 — —	6 5 4	4,006 5 4	
PLYMOUTH (EFFORD)—Site for huts	3,300	—	2,263 14 —	2,200 — —	63 14 —	2,263 14 —	
RICHBOROUGH—Land for stores, &c.	*	543 9 9	—	543 9 9	—	543 9 9	
SHOEBURYNES—Land for ranges	*	140,061 18 5	69 14 —	138,040 17 6	2,090 14 11	140,131 12 5	
TEDDINGTON—Land for factory	200	—	200 — —	200 — —	—	200 — —	
JERSEY—Land adjoining Government House	100	—	100 — —	100 — —	—	100 — —	
MALTA—Improvements to roads and paths	—	960 17 9	3 — 10	699 5 —	204 13 7	963 18 7	
SIERRA LEONE—Land for cemetery	—	—	5 — —	5 — —	—	5 — —	
MISCELLANEOUS	—	—	1 10 —	—	1 10 —	1 10 —	
		Total - £.	10,097 16 9				

* Valuation not published pending completion of purchase.

B.—STATEMENT showing details of receipts over 1,000*l.* in connexion with the SALE of WAR DEPARTMENT LANDS and BUILDINGS during 1918-19, also of receipts of less amount where the original cost was 5,000*l.* or upwards.

Description of Property.	To whom Sold.	Sums Received.	Date of Purchase or Construction.	Original Cost.	Remarks.
		£. s. d.		£.	
Halifax, Nova Scotia.—Lumber Yard, about 5½ acres.	Dominion Government of Canada.	44,068 4 1	Part 1778, Part 1812,	Not known.	
Downpatrick. — Saul Cottage, 29 acres 1 rood 50 poles.	By auction.	3,800 — —	1878; small area added, 1889.	2,439 100	
Cape Town.—Site of Main Barracks, 1 rood 7 poles.	Cape Town Municipality.	1,898 16 8	1840	Nil	

C.—STATEMENT showing the TRANSFERS during the year 1918-19 of LAND, the property of the WAR DEPARTMENT, in which either the money that passed represented only a portion of the consideration, or no money at all passed.

Nil.

PAPER No. 6.

STATEMENT showing the detail of the amount of BALANCES IRRECOVERABLE and CLAIMS ABANDONED for the Year ended 31st March 1919.

SUMMARY:—

	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
I.—LOSSES DUE TO THEFT, FRAUD, ARSON, OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE -	£. s. d. 327,409 9 1	£. s. d. 10,411 14 11
II.—LOSSES OTHER THAN BY THEFT, FRAUD, &c.	589,219 13 10	801,874 12 7
TOTAL	916,629 2 11	812,286 7 6

DETAILS:—

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
LOSSES DUE TO THEFT, FRAUD, ARSON, OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1.—Loss of clothing stores from a hospital ship while at anchor off Netley. Three members of the crew were prosecuted for theft and fined, but the greater part of the missing stores could not be traced. (46961/18) -	250 9 9	—
2.—Loss of hospital cotton shirts sent to a laundry in Salonika. The loss was attributed to carelessness on the part of the Quartermaster at the hospital, but as he was retired shortly after for ill-health, no recovery was made. (46961/18) -	120 - -	—
3.—Loss of engineer stores purchased at Athens and despatched to Salonika by rail. It is thought they were stolen at Salonika. (46961/18) -	387 - -	—
4.—Loss of tins of milk at Malta. The main supply was at one time transferred from one store to another, and it was thought that the losses occurred partly during the removal, partly during the issue of a large consignment to the Navy, and partly from the store. (46961/18) -	107 - -	—
5.—Deficiency of clothing which formed part of a cargo sent from Dar-es-Salaam to Lindi. The discharge of the vessel had to be delayed for six days, and it was not possible to provide a guard on the vessel during the time she was lying at anchor. (46961/18) -	132 18 8	—
6.—Loss of engineer stores at Malta owing to use by storemen of forged issue forms, and disposal by mechanics after issue from store. Some of the employees charged were convicted. (46961/18) -	159 14 5	—
7.—Loss of stores by theft at No. 78 General Hospital, Belah, Egypt. This loss is attributed to a series of thefts, but all efforts to catch the thieves at the hospital failed. (2194/19) -	349 9 8	—
8.—Theft of butter at Port Said for which responsibility could not be fixed on any individual. (2194/19) -	110 16 -	—
9.—Loss of rum by theft at Base Supply Depot, Avonmouth. Enquiry was instituted, but it was not possible to establish by whom or how the theft was committed. (2194/19) -	334 8 -	—

C 4

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
10.—Deficiencies of clothing and equipment, "A" Battery, 346th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Attributed partly to irregularities on the part of the Battery Quarter-master Sergeant, who was tried and found guilty and was sentenced to two years imprisonment. The Officer Commanding was required to contribute 10 <i>l.</i> towards the value of the deficiencies. (5263/19)	744 13 3	---
11.—Deficiencies of stores, &c., on charge of the 1st (Old) Reserve Battalion, London Regiment. The deficiencies were considered to be chiefly due to the incompetence of the former Quarter-master, who was later arrested for uttering worthless cheques, court-martialled and dismissed the service. The Officer Commanding was required to contribute 10 <i>l.</i> towards the value of the deficiencies. (10540/19)	230 3 8	--
12.—Deficiency of fuel, at the fuel dump at St. Jans Capell, IX. Corps Area, France. A considerable portion of the deficiency is believed to be due to thefts by civilians during a period when there was no guard over the dump, but it is known that issues of fuel from the dump were made from time to time by the Area Commandant to certain units, to an extent which cannot be determined, as the vouchers for the issues were lost. (10540/19)	1,662 - -	--
13.—Loss of hospital bedding on charge of 48th Stationary Hospital, Egypt. Attributed to thefts by natives employed at the Hospital. The Officer Commanding was required to contribute 10 <i>l.</i> towards the total loss of 119 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> (10540/19)	108 7 11	--
14.—Damage to cargo, and repairs to I.W.T. barge "Gaza." A court of enquiry found that the damage was due to the neglect of the engineer, and recommended that he be fined a fortnight's pay. This recommendation could not be carried out as the engineer had already been dismissed. (10540/19)	265 - -	--
15.—Deficiencies of equipment and stores on charge of the 191st Infantry Brigade. Apparently lost during a move of the Brigade from Cromer to Thetford. Pilfering was suspected, but none of the deficient articles could be traced. Responsibility for the loss could not be fixed upon anyone. (10540/19)	494 11 5	--
16.—Loss by theft of compasses off-loaded at the Ordnance Depot, Vendroux. (10540/19)	178 16 6	--
17.—Deficiencies of supplies.—Stocktaking revealed deficiencies to the value of 258 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> , and surpluses, value 146 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> It was also discovered that the stock had been tampered with, and a thorough overhaul of the packages revealed further deficiencies to the value of 55 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> , less value (17 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i>) of supplies recovered. Net value, 54 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> The civilian issuer was prosecuted and convicted. (15597/19)	312 14 3	--
18.—Losses of supplies, which were discovered on off-loading the cargoes shipped from Liverpool on two vessels which arrived at Kantara in February 1918. The losses were attributed to pilfering from broken cases and crates. As the vessels concerned were requisitioned transports, no claim against the masters or owners could be maintained. (15597/19)	790 4 10	--
19.—Loss of 150 pairs of trousers S.D. in transit from Clothing Depot, York, to R.A. Command Depot, South Camp, Ripon. It was not possible to fix responsibility for the loss. (15597/19)	101 5 -	--

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
20.—Deficiencies of clothing and oil discovered in consignments which reached Salonika from England. The loss of oil, value 37 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> , may be attributed to leakage during the voyage, but the deficiencies of clothing, &c. were considered to be due to pilfering. (15597/19) - - - - -	251 9 11	—
21.—Deficiency of 423 blankets on charge of an R.A. and Tank Corps Depôt. A temporary Dispersal Unit was established in the depôt to disperse convalescents. It is considered that in many cases the men took their blankets away with them. (15597/19) - - -	174 9 9	—
22.—Loss of clothing and boots in transit from the Ordnance Depôt, Calais, to 74th Division, France. It was considered that no blame could be attached to any individual. (15597/19) - - - - -	177 5 -	—
23.—Loss of handkerchiefs in transit from Alexandria to Royal Army Clothing Depôt.—The case was shipped at Alexandria, and on being opened in the presence of an officer was found to contain waste paper. It was concluded that the case was opened on the journey, and skilfully recovered. (19955/19) - - - - -	132 10 -	—
24.—Deficiency of blankets at Nos. 2 and 3 Rest Camps, Folkestone, in January 1919. The deficiency was attributed to the great congestion in the Camps of leave men from the Expeditionary Force owing to unrest and suspension of sailings. (19955/19) - - - - -	305 5 -	—
25.—Loss of Gaberdine cloth from the Women's Clothing Stores, Richmond. The Officer Commanding was considered negligent for having failed to check stock periodically, and was required to contribute 10 <i>l.</i> towards the deficiency. (19955/19) - - - - -	201 11 8	—
26.—Deficiencies of stores on closing down the Ordnance Depôt, El Arish, Egypt. This Depôt was opened in March 1917, and was closed in the following November, and was always working at high pressure with a depleted staff, consequently accurate accounting was very difficult. Many of the deficiencies were attributed to over-issues, loss during pressure of work, losses in the sand, and pilfering by natives. (19955/19) - - - - -	557 10 2	—
27.—Deficiency of blankets at the London District Labour Centre when the Detachment was disbanded. Prior to disbandment, the personnel of the Detachment were scattered, some sleeping in Tramway Company stables, and in billets scattered about in the district. The loss is attributed to theft by the men to whom the blankets were issued. (19955/19) - - - - -	206 5 -	—
28.—Loss of stores and clothing in transit to Alexandria. Part of the loss was due to leakage of oil, owing to rough handling on board ship, but the greater part is attributed to pilfering of stores during transit via the Overland Route (Cherbourg—Taranto). (19955/19) - - -	1,808 12 7	—
29.—Deficiencies of stores, Q.M.A.A.C. Hostel, Nottingham. It was not possible to obtain any definite information as to how those deficiencies arose, but it was suggested that some of the articles became worn out or broken, while others were probably misappropriated. (19955/19)	135 17 11	—
30.—Deficiency of blankets, Scottish Command Discharge Centre, Edinburgh. During four months about 15,000 men passed through the Centre, and it is thought that many of them took away the blankets which had been issued to them. (19955/19) - - - - -	246 13 6	—
31.—Deficiencies of stores, Camp Hospitals, Ghain Tuffieha, Malta. The stores were in order up to the date of the armistice. From that time until the closing of the camps the patients became troublesome. In some cases men took stores out of the camps and sold them to the native population. Several people were found to be in possession of military stores, and were tried and convicted. (19955/19) - - - - -	460 - 9	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
32.—Theft of waterproof coats and cutlery from the Army Ordnance Depot, White City, which occurred early in 1919. The depot was a difficult one to guard, owing to its lay-out and situation, and, with the working personnel continually changing, effective control was a matter of extreme difficulty. (19955/19) - - - -	398 17 1	—
33.—Loss of cigarettes which formed part of a consignment loaded in France for Italy. The matter was put into the hands of the French Railway and Police Authorities, with the result that 176 lbs. of the stolen cigarettes were recovered, and two Chinamen were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour. (19955/19) -	156 14 5	—
34.—Loss of stores at a storehouse at R.E. Base Park, Salonika. Every effort was made, without result, to trace the thieves and missing stores. (19955/19) - - - -	115 - 1	—
35.—Deficiency of blankets, No. 5 Rest Camp, Boulogne. The stores were broken open on two occasions by troops, and a number of blankets stolen. The then Officer Commanding was required to pay 25 <i>l.</i> towards the value. (19955/19) - - - -	293 18 9	—
36.—Loss of stores by theft, &c. from the Base Ordnance Depot, Alexandria. A large native and other personnel is necessarily employed in the depot, and every reasonable precaution appears to have been taken to prevent theft. (30702/19) - - - -	449 19 8	—
37.—Theft of 133 Government watches from a case loaded into a barge at Richborough Wharf, from which 142 watches were found to be missing. The Civil Police were at once made acquainted with the loss, and eventually nine watches were recovered and eight soldiers and a civilian were prosecuted for the theft. (30702/19) - -	266 - -	—
38.—Loss by theft from a consignment of tea, sugar, and bacon sent from Port Said to Saronia. (30702/19) - - - -	216 2 9	—
39.—Loss by theft from a consignment of supplies despatched from Kantara to Carmel Supply Depot. On arrival at Carmel the seals on the truck were found to be broken, and the deficiencies were discovered. (30702/19) - - - -	110 19 9	—
40.—Deficiencies of clothing from a consignment despatched from Rouen to the Guards Division. When the truck arrived at railhead, correctly sealed, the formation to which it was consigned had been transferred to another area. While in transit back to the regulating station it was discovered that pilfering had taken place, and on arrival at final destination a check revealed the deficiencies. Due precautions had been taken. (30702/19) - - - -	388 14 -	—
41.—Deficiencies of clothing from consignment despatched from Rouen to the Ordnance Officer, XIII. Corps Troops. The truck passed through the regulating station, and was later taken over from the French Railway Authorities in good condition. When it arrived at railhead both doors were open and the contents showed signs of having been tampered with. (30702/19) - - - -	446 8 3	—
42.—Deficiencies of razors discovered in the course of departmental stock-taking at Kantara Ordnance Depot. The loss is attributed to undetected pilfering during a long period, to issues being made during the stress of work and omitted to be charged to units, and to errors made when receiving large consignments from Britain via Taranto. (30702/19) - - - -	313 16 -	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
43.—Loss by theft of stores in transit from Ordnance Depôt at Namur to Charleroi. (30702/19) - - - - -	177 6 9	—
44.—Deficiencies of supplies which formed part of a cargo which left Avonmouth for Mesopotamia in September 1917. The deficiencies were probably due to some extent to pilfering, and possibly also to errors in tallying. As the vessel was a requisitioned transport recovery from the owners was not practicable. (30702/19) - - - - -	175 18 10	—
45.—Loss of bacon on a consignment in transit from Dudular (near Salonika) to Guvesne Supply Depôt, and apparently due to theft. At the time when the loss took place there was great difficulty, owing to shortage of personnel, in providing adequate supervision to prevent pilfering during transit. (30702/19) - - - - -	226 11 5	—
46.—Loss by theft of underclothing from laundry at Mantua. The laundry which had carried out the washing of the forward British troops in Italy, under contract, was taken over by the British Military Authorities in October 1918. A British Officer was in charge, and the previous manager, an Italian civilian, was engaged to act as sub-manager. The washing was not done in the laundry itself, but was issued on receipt to some 300 Italian women home-workers from whom it was collected under the supervision of the Italian sub-manager. In January 1919 it was suspected that theft was taking place, and investigation showed that, in addition to a certain amount of pilfering by the Italian women and British soldiers employed in the laundry itself, theft on a large scale was being carried out, by collusion, by the Italian sub-manager, who was eventually arrested and dealt with by the Italian police. A Court of Inquiry which investigated the losses was of opinion that the Officer in charge could not be held personally responsible, taking into consideration the system under which it was necessary to issue the washing all over the town. (30702/19) - - - - -	2,353 19 6	—
47.—Losses by theft of goods in transit to the East between Cherbourg and Taranto. There was no evidence to show at what point the losses occurred or on whom responsibility, if any, should rest. It was not possible to prefer a claim against the Italian Railway Authorities, as the stores were carried in British trains. (30702/19) - - - - -	388 15 4	—
48.—Loss by theft of 82 pairs of ankle boots from a consignment of stores despatched from Kantara Depôt to Aleppo. (30702/19) - - - - -	102 10 -	—
49.—Loss of a Ford car, stolen while the driver was inside a building in Parliament Street awaiting instructions. It is considered that the loss was not due to negligence on the part of anyone concerned. (46961/18) - - - - -	135 - -	—
50.—Loss of two War Department "Douglas" motor cycles on charge of a Mechanical Transport Company, R.A.S.C., from a garage, which was forced, and the cycles stolen by some person or persons unknown. It was considered that no blame attached to the Officer in charge. (15597/19) - - - - -	107 13 -	—
51.—Loss of a War Department "Ford" car stolen while left standing outside Queen's House, Kingsway. The Court of Inquiry held to investigate the case reported that the driver could not in any way be held responsible for the loss. (15597/19) - - - - -	110 - -	—
52.—Lost by theft of a Daimler landaulet brought with other vehicles and parked in Basing Road, Grove Park. All reasonable precautions appear to have been taken for safeguarding the vehicles. (30702/19)	650 - -	—
53.—Loss by theft of Clyno motor cycle and ammunition carrier from the Transport Shed of the Prisoners of War Reception Camp, Old Park, Canterbury. Loss could not be brought home to any individual. (30702/19) - - - - -	123 4 5	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.		Cash.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
54.—Loss by theft of a Ford car detailed for duty under the Ministry of Munitions, Princes Street, Westminster, and stolen whilst left standing at the entrance of the building. No blame was attached to the driver. (30702/19) - - - - -	110	- -	—	
55.—Loss by theft of three motor cycles, set of tools, spare belt and bicycle stolen from the courtyard within the precincts of the Headquarters of the 5th Army Corps in France. No blame could be attached to any individual. (30702/19) - - - - -	116	- -	—	
56.—Loss of Crossley box car on charge of 3rd Royal Horse Guards, Machine Gun Regiment, proceeding on military duty from Marseilles to Rouen. The estimated value of the car was 400 <i>l.</i> The sum of 1 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> was stopped as a fine from the driver, as he was held to be guilty of negligence. (30702/19) - - - - -	398	7 4	—	
57.—Loss by theft during the night of two mules and head collars on charge of 357th Company, R.E., stationed in the Jerusalem area. (10540/19)	184	17 6	—	
58.—Loss of two horses and two sets of saddlery from a stable in Lille, where they were left on the assurance by the French owner that they would be safe while the two grooms in charge went to the town. When the grooms returned to the stable the horses and their saddlery were missing. The owner of the stable said they had been taken away by a British soldier. All possible steps were taken to recover the animals, but without success. Disciplinary action was taken against the two grooms. (30702/19) - - - - -	133	12 -	—	
59.—Loss of two horses and saddlery on charge of No. 2 Company, 74th Divisional Train at Ollignies, stolen whilst the picket were visiting other stables. It was considered that blame could not be attached to any individual. (30702/19) - - - - -	119	3 6	—	
60.—Loss of three horses on charge of 16th Manchester Regiment at Herseaux. The animals of this unit were picketed in an open shed, and while the picket on duty were endeavouring to capture a mule that had broken loose, the tethering rope of one horse was cut and the other two were unchained. Exhaustive search was made, and the Civil and Military Police were informed, but no trace of the animals could be found (30702/19) - - - - -	210	- -	—	
61.—Loss by fire at No. 2 Heavy Repair Shop, Rouen. The cause of the outbreak was obscure. The Court of Enquiry was of the opinion that the weight of evidence indicated incendiarism. It was not considered that negligence could be attributed to any individual. (30702/19) - - - - -	5,487	17 10	—	
62.—Loss of public money which was left behind in a box at a camp when a unit proceeded overseas. On its subsequent arrival at the unit's destination, the box was found to have been opened during the voyage and the money extracted. Loss not due to carelessness or negligence on the part of any individual. (28852/17) - - - - -	—		114	14 -
63.—Loss of cash in a Pay Office, in connection with the compilation of pay lists for Female Staff by a Warrant Officer, who was convicted by court-martial of making false entries and reduced to the ranks. Three officers responsible failed to detect the irregularities, and disciplinary action was taken against them. Recovery was made from them of 39 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> , 39 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> , and 25 <i>l.</i> respectively, leaving a balance of 251 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> (24472/18) - - - - -	—		251	13 11
64.—Deficiency due to a Camp Commandant having allowed public money to be in possession of two N.C.O.'s, and to defalcations on their part. They were convicted of theft and forgery, and sentenced to 2 years and 18 months imprisonment respectively. The Camp Commandant was tried by court-martial and sentenced to be severely reprimanded. (17982/18) - - - - -	—		688	12 2

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Bents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
65.—Deficiency in the accounts of a Home Service Employment Co., due to an Imprest Holder fraudulently misapplying to his own use public money entrusted to his care. Tried and dismissed the Service. (17982/18) - - - - -	—	120 6 10
66.—Deficiency on accounts of a Battalion, Essex Regiment. The Imprest Holder was tried and cashiered. (26349/18) - - -	—	138 11 4
67.—Loss of public money stolen from a dug-out during temporary absence of officer. Insufficiency of staff accounted for cash box being left unguarded. 250 francs were recovered. (26349/18) - - -	—	146 15 6
68.—Cash stolen from private room of an Imprest Holder. Amount of cash was unduly large, and he was called upon to make good the sum of 500 francs. (37977/18) - - - - -	—	127 7 11
69.—Loss on the accounts of the 6th Observer Company R.D.C. The imprest holder was tried, found guilty of fraud, and cashiered. Cheques improperly drawn, 18 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> ; cash shortage, 125 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> (46961/18) - - - - -	—	309 17 9
70.—Loss by theft at Genoa. The amount, represented by one hundred 1,000 lire notes, was believed to have been stolen from the person of an acting paymaster while at the bank endeavouring to obtain change for a large number of notes. The loss was reported to the bank officials and the police, but no clue to the thief was found, and the notes were not traced. The officer concerned was ordered to make good 60 <i>l.</i> of the loss. (2194/19) - - - - -	—	3,273 6 8
71.—Cash deficit in captain's account of a company of the 5th Yeomanry Cyclist Battalion. The total deficit was 220 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> , and the evidence suggested that the non-commissioned officer, who acted as company accountant, made false entries in the account in such a manner as to conceal the deficit, but it was considered that the officers commanding the company did not exercise proper supervision, and sums of 50 <i>l.</i> , 10 <i>l.</i> and 25 <i>l.</i> were recovered from the three officers successively responsible. (2194/19) - - - - -	—	135 7 8
72.—Theft of imprest money of "B" Company, 4th Reserve Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers. The robbery is supposed to have been effected by means of skeleton keys, but all efforts to discover the thieves or the money proved fruitless. As it was considered that the loss was due to the neglect of the O.C., it was decided to recover from him 115 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> of the total of 215 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> (5263/19) - - - - -	—	100 - -
73.—Loss of supplies which formed part of the cargo of the S.S. "Rotenfels," which left Liverpool for Basrah in July 1918. The loss consisted of deficiencies to the value of 581 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> , and damages amounting to 182 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i> The losses were attributed partly to dryage and partly to pilfering. As the "Rotenfels" was a Government transport, recovery from the owners was not practicable. (34932/19) - - - - -	764 7 -	—
74.—Loss by theft of underclothing dispatched by rail from 2nd Army Laundry, Condekerque, to the 41st Divisional Railhead.—Every effort was made to trace where the thefts occurred, but without success. Owing to lapse of time and demobilization, it was not possible to fix responsibility for the losses. (34932/19) - - -	365 4 2	—
75.—Loss of Vauxhall car valued at 500 <i>l.</i> —The driver was ordered to convey an officer from Brias to Divion, and subsequently to return to Brias. Having set down the officer at Brias he proceeded, unorderd, with the car to St. Pol. While he was inside a house having coffee the car disappeared, and all efforts to trace it proved unsuccessful. The driver was tried and placed under stoppage of pay until he made good the sum of 20 <i>l.</i> (34932/19) - - -	480 - -	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
76.—Loss of Albion lorry parked in the Barracks Road, Hounslow.—From the evidence given before the Court of Enquiry it appeared that no vehicles were seen by the piquet to leave the parking ground during the night. The military and civil police were informed of the loss, but were unable to trace the lorry. (34932/19) - -	650 - -	—
77.—Loss of supplies brought to light on the off-loading of the cargo of the S.S. "Rounton," which arrived at Kantara from Taranto in July 1918. The loss was attributed mainly to pilfering. (34932/19) -	251 18 7	—
78.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of Military Collecting Place, Ripon. The deficiencies, due to theft and breakages, were discovered on the marching-out inspection. The circumstances at the time were generally such as to render control, accounting, and the fixing of individual responsibility abnormally difficult. (34932/19) - -	188 11 11	—
79.—Loss of a Fiat lorry and driver's kit. While making purchases at Vicenza the driver went about 75 yards from the lorry, being within sight of it all the time, but having left the engine running. During his absence someone mounted the lorry and drove it away. The Military Police endeavoured to trace the lorry, but without result. The Court of Inquiry considered that the driver was not responsible for the loss. (34932/19) - - - - -	478 15 8	—
80.—Loss by theft of clothing in transit from Abbeville to Gembloux on a consignment of stores despatched by rail in a sealed truck from Abbeville. Efforts were made to trace those responsible for the theft, but without result. (34932/19) - - - - -	200 6 8	—
81.—Loss of four mules from No. 1 Prisoners of War Camp, Marsh Pier, Salonika, attributed to theft during the night. (34932/19) - -	160 - -	—
82.—Loss of flour sacks, part of a consignment of empty flour sacks despatched from Istrana to Arquata, apparently due to theft. There was no evidence of negligence on the part of any individual. (34932/19) - - - - -	234 3 -	—
83.—Loss of Daimler car stolen from a farm at Lembeecq, near Brussels. The Court of Enquiry considered that every precaution had been taken for the security of the car, and that no blame for the loss could be attached to any individual. (34932/19) - - - - -	320 - -	—
84.—Deficiency of bedding at a Training Depot, discovered at a quarterly stocktaking Board. The loss was attributed mainly to theft by the men during a period of unrest which occurred after the Armistice, and in some measure to wilful destruction. (34932/19) - - - - -	1,285 18 -	—
85.—Loss of 10 mules, at Dudular Camp, Salonika, attributed to theft. The protection afforded appeared to be the best possible in the circumstances. (34932/19) - - - - -	610 - -	—
86.—Loss by theft of clothing and necessaries at Salonika. The matter was reported to the Police but with no success. (34932/19) -	305 15 11	—
87.—Loss of two motor cycles from the garage at Shepherd's Bush. The loss was reported to the Civil Police, who were unable to trace the machines. (34932/19) - - - - -	100 13 4	—
88.—Loss of supplies, due to pilfering, at the Supply Depot, Haifa. On two occasions members of the guard were tried by Court Martial for stealing supplies, and were convicted. In addition to this, numerous cases of petty theft by native employees were reported by the Egyptian Guard and the offenders dealt with. (34932/19) - -	311 13 1	—
89.—Loss of Germain Renault car on charge of a British Unit from the garage inside the Germain works at Monceau-sur-Sambre. The car was driven out during the night, apparently, by an Officer. Endeavours were made to trace the car, but without result. (34932/19) - - - - -	220 - -	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
90.—Deficiency of ankle boots stolen from consignment of stores in transit from Kantara to Damascus. There was no reason to believe that any person in Government employment was concerned in the theft. (34932/19) - - - - -	112 10 -	—
91.—Loss of three horses, left in a stable with the door bolted. They were stolen during the absence of the N.C.O. and men in charge. Immediate steps were taken to recover the animals, but without success. Disciplinary action was taken against the non-commissioned officer in charge. (34932/19) - - - - -	170 - -	—
92.—Fire at Bettisfield Park Camp, Vehicle Shed, No. 3 Camp. The court of inquiry found that there was not sufficient evidence available to show the cause or to fix the responsibility for the outbreak, but that in view of the number of fires which had occurred in the locality at that period, and of the lack of evidence as to the discovery of the outbreak, the possibility of incendiarism could not be excluded. (34932/19) - - - - -	2,104 3 2	—
93.—Loss of petrol, oil and containers by fire from an explosion which occurred in the port at Constantinople on board a lighter, into which a consignment of petrol and oils had been transhipped. A naval court of inquiry found that the fire was occasioned by some members of the lighter's crew either smoking or displaying a naked light. There was a British guard on the disembarking vessel and a crew of Turks and Greeks on the lighter. Responsibility could not be brought home to any individual, owing to lives having been lost as a result of the fire. (34932/19) - - - - -	1,109 15 10	—
94.—Losses sustained in a fire which occurred at the Base Supply Depot, Murmansk, North Russia. No definite evidence was available as to the cause of the outbreak, but there was a presumption of incendiarism. (34932/19) - - - - -	17,312 8 11	—
95.—Deficiencies of ordnance stores in consignments despatched from Ordnance Base Depot, Batoum, to Ordnance Officer, Baku. Attributed to pilfering on a considerable scale. (34932/19) -	2,002 19 2	—
96.—Loss of six mules, one horse and equipment, &c., at Lembet Baths, Salonika. Every effort was made to recover the animals, but the efforts were unavailing. (34932/19) - - - - -	321 2 8	—
97.—Loss of timber by fire at No. 2 Engineer Store Depot, Les Attaques, France. Incendiarism was suspected, but there was no definite evidence. (5738/19) - - - - -	242,342 19 2	—
98.—Fire at Crowborough Camp which involved the destruction of unoccupied buildings comprising the officers' mess. Incendiarism was suspected, but there was no evidence forthcoming to lead to the identity of the person or persons responsible. (5263/19) - - -	2,400 - -	—
98a.—Loss by misappropriation by a C.Q.M.S. by alteration of Acquittance Rolls. He was sentenced to be reduced and to undergo six months' imprisonment. The officer concerned has since been killed. (26349/18) - - - - -	—	206 - 10
98b.—Loss of money drawn for the payment of men of an Infantry Battalion. Grave suspicion attached to the officer concerned, but it was decided that the evidence was insufficient to warrant prosecution, and, as the officer had previously been allowed to relinquish his commission on grounds of ill-health, no recovery could be effected. (2194/19) - - - - -	—	110 - -

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned or Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
98c.—On 22nd May 1917 the Officer Commanding the 6th Macedonian Battalion drew a sum of 20,000 drachmæ from the Field Cashier. On receipt of the imprest account by the paymaster it was found that 12,000 drachmæ only was shown as having been received on that date. A court of inquiry was held to inquire into the deficiency of 8,000 drachmæ. The Officer Commanding was unable to explain why 12,000 only had been entered in the imprest account or to say what had become of the money. It was considered that the loss was due to the gross carelessness of the officer concerned, but in view of his circumstances it was decided to recover from him only 90% out of the total deficit of 320% involved. (2194/19) -	—	230 - -
99.—Cases of separation allowance obtained by fraudulent means. In the majority of cases criminal proceedings were instituted and the persons concerned sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The amounts ranged from 8 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> to 226 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> (Treasury Letters 37977/18, 46961/18, 2194/19, 5263/19, 10540/19, 15597/19, 19955/19, 30702/19, 34932/19) -	5,134 12 11	401 10 5
Minor sums written off under Treasury authority -	200 18 11	1,642 5 7
Sums written off by authority of the Army Council (<i>i.e.</i> , losses up to 10 <i>l.</i> in cases of fraud, 50 <i>l.</i> cash losses, and 100 <i>l.</i> stores losses). (23303/14) -	18,252 7 11	2,154 15 11
Sums written off by authority of General Officers Commanding (<i>i.e.</i> , losses up to 20 <i>l.</i> in cases of cash, and 50 <i>l.</i> for stores). (23303/14) -	3,053 10 4	260 8 5

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
LOSSES OTHER THAN BY THEFT, FRAUD, &c.		
100.—Over-issue of allowances to N.C.O.'s and men of a T.F. Battery, R.H.A. O.C. was unable to obtain Army Orders for some time, and so was unaware of the proper allowance. (7490/17) - -	—	159 17 6
101.—Over-issue of allowances in respect of an officer erroneously reported a prisoner of war. (32760/17) - - - - -	—	144 9 9
102.—Deficiencies of ordnance stores consigned to Salonika. (954/18) - -	104 - -	—
103.—Deficiencies of supplies consigned to Salonika. (954/18) - -	591 18 2	—
104.—Overpayment to clerks employed in recruiting office, for whom authority was given for billeting. The officers responsible possessed little or no previous experience, and the soldiers were mostly recruits. (17982/18) - - - - -	—	444 2 5
105.—Deficiencies of stores and equipment, due to inexperience and illness of the Quartermaster. (8815/18) - - - - -	254 14 8	—
106.—Money erroneously paid in respect of a working party. The payments were made at a period when regulations for the issue of working pay were imperfectly understood, and before instructions had been given as to the method of rendering claims. (17982/18) - -	—	298 8 7
107.—Over issue of Out-of-Port allowance to crews of two War Department vessels stationed at Devonport and Falmouth. The O.i/c. erroneously considered the allowance admissible, the crew having been put to additional expense through the vessels being away from their usual moorings. (17982/18) - - - - -	81 19 -	141 15 6
108.—Over-issue of War Bonus to General Service Women at a general hospital, owing to a misreading of regulations. (17982/18) - -	—	253 17 -
109.—Unvouched recruiting expenditure (17982/18) - - - - -	—	136 10 6
110.—Cash lost in the field owing to an attack by the Turks (17982/18) - -	—	210 - -
111.—Deficiencies at stocktaking of engineer stores at Wareham. (22375/18)	123 7 2	—
112.—Loss of 5,230 francs drawn for payment of men and for officers' advances. As the loss was attributable to an officer's neglect it was decided to recover from him 500 francs. (22375/18) - -	—	173 8 8
113.—Loss of 4,260 francs, the result of enemy action. (26349/18) - -	—	156 4 -
114.—Erroneous issue of pay to a man who enlisted when recruiting for specially enlisted wheelers at 6s. a day was open. A proportion of the total over-issue was recovered. (26349/18) - - - - -	—	138 12 11
115.—Deficit on an account at a Recruiting Area, due to faulty accounting. It was considered that the whole amount was spent on admissible services. No responsibility attached to any officer. (37977/18) - -	—	366 8 11
116.—Over-issue of pay to the Permanent Staff of a Militia Regiment, due to a genuine misunderstanding. (37977/18) - - - - -	—	225 13 8
117.—Over-issue of pay to a driver in the A.S.C., amounting to 125l. 18s. 3d. 17l. 8s. 10d. was recovered from the man. (37977/18) - - - - -	—	108 9 5
118.—Debtor balance on account of a battalion of Transport Workers, due to unsatisfactory accounting and lack of experience. No officer could be held responsible. (37977/18) - - - - -	—	332 19 6

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PAPER No. 6—*continued.*

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
119.—Deficit on the accounts of a General Hospital due to advances of pay made to soldiers on discharge. The O.C. could not be held financially responsible. (37977/18)	—	103 - -
120.—Deficit on accounts of a battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment, due to a faulty system of accounting, and to the fact that all the officers were inexperienced in Army matters. Before the matter could be properly investigated the battalion had lost all its senior officers in action. (37977/18)	—	373 9 9
121.—Deficit on account of a battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment due to faulty accounting through lack of experienced staff. (37977/18)	—	480 8 6
122.—Loss on an Imprest Account of 5,620.10 francs, due to enemy action. (37977/18)	—	215 8 9
123.—Loss of equipment and clothing stores on charge of a battalion of Notts and Derby Regiment, attributed to confusion caused by amalgamation of two battalions. 10l. recovered from the officer concerned. (37977/18)	167 8 2	—
125.—Deficit on the accounts of a Battery of R.F.A., due to a fire in the R.P. Office, Shrewsbury, which destroyed a number of vouchers. (37977/18)	—	138 18 4
126.—Overpayment of billet money, due to a misunderstanding of instructions relating to the employment of soldiers on agricultural work. (37977/18)	—	130 7 6
127.—Unrecovered advances to men in hospital for which no vouchers were forthcoming. (37977/18)	—	110 8 1
128.—Loss of money caused by an enemy shell falling on the building in which the money was kept. (37977/18)	—	157 13 4
129.—Loss of money held by a R.F.A. Brigade, due to enemy action. (37977/18)	—	158 16 3
130.—Deficit on the Imprest Account of a Convalescent Hospital, believed to consist entirely of advances made to soldiers on leaving hospital, vouchers for which had gone astray. (37977/18)	—	308 8 11
131.—Balance unrecovered from two artificers to whom special rates of pay as for shoeing and carriage smiths were granted under misapprehension. (37977/18)	—	143 12 -
132.—Over-issue of Corps pay to certain artificers of the R.A.S.C. The over-issue was made and received in good faith owing to an excusable ignorance of the rules regulating the matter. (37977/18)	—	171 9 7
133.—Balance of the Imprest Account of a battalion of the Cheshire Regiment, lost by enemy action. (37977/18)	—	122 14 10
134.—Payment in respect of damage to billets arising from explosion. The officer responsible was called upon to pay 30l. (37977/18)	233 10 -	—
135.—Deficiency of petrol cans, due to cans issued to units not having been returned to store, but it is probable that many of these cans were brought on charge at Ports of Embarkation. (46961/18)	935 - -	—
136.—Overpayment of 131l. 10s. to a man whose name was incorrectly included in a list with those of men who had been enlisted on a special rate of pay. 17l. 10s. 9d. was recovered from the man. (46961/18)	—	113 19 3

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
137.—Overpayment to a man who was erroneously shown as a specially-enlisted shoing smith with a special rate of pay. 34 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i> of the total of 156 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> was recovered from the man. (46961/18)	—	122 7 1
138.—Overpayment of 150 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> to a man erroneously treated as a specially-enlisted man. Recovery of 21 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> was made. (46961/18)	—	128 19 9
139.—Overpayment of pay at staff rates to an officer in India Office payment during sick leave, when entitled to regimental pay only. The officer was incorrectly informed at the India Office that he was entitled to the pay he was receiving. No recovery made. (46961/18)	144 14 2	—
140.—Erroneous issue of great coats to men transferred to Class W. of the Army Reserve. (46961/18)	588 — —	—
141.—Loss of money belonging to a Company of the Machine Gun Corps, when the Company Headquarters were captured and occupied by the enemy. (46961/18)	—	117 19 9
142.—Deficiencies amounting to 1,505 <i>l.</i> in stores and equipment, attributed mainly to errors in accounting and to inexperience of the staff. It was considered that the C.O. was also at fault, and he was required to contribute 25 <i>l.</i> towards the loss. (46961/18)	1,480 — —	—
143.—Loss of money held on imprest, by a Company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, consequent on an enemy attack. (46961/18)	—	202 19 —
144.—Deficiency of petrol cans on charge of the R.A.S.C. probably due to inefficient book-keeping and inexperience of staff. (46961/18)	171 10 —	—
145.—Over-issue of a wounds gratuity based on a wrong classification by a Board which was accidentally not aware of the different history of the case given by a previous Board. The officer pleaded that financial difficulties prevented him from making any refund. (46961/18)	229 3 4	—
146.—Deficiencies of equipment in a Battalion of Welsh Regiment, attributed mainly to bad accounting and inexperienced staff. (46961/18)	411 4 1	—
147.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a Battalion of the Devon Regiment, brought to light during stocktaking. The discrepancies had accumulated for some time, and were considered as due to frequent changes of command and staff. (46961/18)	861 1 9	—
148.—Deficiency in the out-turn of a shipment of meat on a transport which arrived at Salonika from England. The original papers dealing with the case were lost in a fire at Salonika. (46961/18)	679 — —	—
149.—Deficiencies of stores and medical equipment at a temporary military hospital due to expansion of hospital and inadequacy of staff. (46961/18)	250 19 8	—
150.—Barrack damages outstanding on claims assessed against the Canadian troops in this country up to 31st December 1917 amounted to 21,491 <i>l.</i> , but owing to the difficulty of substantiating all the claims, and having regard to the special circumstances in which liability for providing accommodation for the Canadian Forces was accepted by the Home Government, 5,000 <i>l.</i> was, after discussion, received as a final payment from the Canadian Authorities. (32778/18)	16,491 — —	—

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PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.			Cash.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
151.—Deficiency of petrol tins at a Supply Depot, accumulated over a considerable period, and attributed to inexperience and frequent changes of staff. (46961/18)	229	4	—	—	—	—
152.—Loss of cash held on imprest by a Company Officer. The money was kept in the officer's hut, which was struck by a shell and demolished. The imprest holder himself was killed in action. (46961/18)	—	—	—	138	9	8
153.—Deficit (due to faulty book-keeping) on the accounts of a Company of the Essex Regiment, discovered when the unit proceeded overseas. (46961/18)	—	—	—	135	8	6
154.—Over-issue of rations at Vendroux, due to confusion arising from cancellation of existing authorities and the issue of new. (46961/18)	556	—	—	—	—	—
155.—Deficit on a Recruiting Account, made up partly by legitimate but unvouched expenditure, and partly by expenditure inadmissible but irrecoverable as no officer could be held directly responsible. (46961/18)	—	—	—	174	14	9
156.—Loss of 19 horses at a camp in Egypt during a stampede at night. (46961/18)	1,925	—	—	—	—	—
157.—Deficiency in the number of horses shown on charge in a Battery of R.F.A. There were a large number of transfers consequent on the reorganisation of the Battery, and the deficiency was believed to be due to a transfer voucher having been lost. (46961/18)	150	—	—	—	—	—
158.—Loss of supplies and sacks at an Issue Depot, owing to moves of units and to errors in accounting. (46961/18)	763	—	—	—	—	—
159.—Loss of flour at Dieppe due to deterioration. (46961/18)	486	—	—	—	—	—
160.—Losses of ammunition in transit between Woolwich and Richborough and overseas. It was considered that the deficiency might be one of account only. (46961/18)	411	—	—	—	—	—
161.—Money drawn for payment of two Companies of a Battalion of the Gloucester Regiment, and captured in an attack by the enemy. (46961/18)	—	—	—	383	6	8
162.—Deficiency of preserved meat discovered at Salonika. The whole consignment was damaged. (46961/18)	1,846	—	—	—	—	—
163.—Over-issue of rations to Volunteer Units, due to amalgamations of certain groups, and by the premature closing of camps. (46961/18)	138	15	6	—	—	—
164.—Deficiencies at two supply depôts, due to inexperience and frequent changes of staff. (46961/18)	660	5	—	—	—	—
165.—Loss of lamp chimneys in a store at Didcot owing to fire. (46961/18)	250	—	—	—	—	—
166.—Loss of hay at Avonmouth, which became damaged by the weather. (46961/18)	248	16	—	—	—	—
167.—Deficiency of equipment on charge of a Training Reserve Battalion, attributed mainly to difficulties created by frequent moves of station under adverse conditions, changes of personnel, and unsatisfactory accounting. (46961/18)	1,002	19	6	—	—	—
168.—Deficit on accounts of a battery of R.G.A. The position, with acquittance rolls, cash balance and most of the personnel, fell into the hands of the enemy. (46961/18)	—	—	—	122	19	9

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.			Cash.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
169.—Deficiency of two horses, probably due to an issue voucher being missing. (46961/18)	140	-	-	-	-	-
170.—Loss of golden syrup due to partial destruction of containers filled with the syrup. (38239/18 and 44705/18)	103	2	2	-	-	-
171.—Deficit on accounts of a Field Ambulance of the R.A.M.C. due to faulty accounting and inexperience of the staff. (2194/19)	-	-	-	106	5	2
172.—Deficiency of stores at a Military Hospital owing to the rapid expansion of the hospital and the difficulty in keeping a proper check over the stores in use. (2194/19)	1,109	16	1	-	-	-
173.—Deficiency of bacon on a consignment from Avonmouth to Mesopotamia. (2194/19)	349	2	0	-	-	-
174.—Deficiency of frozen meat for Salonika and Egypt, which was loaded in London. Part of the meat was off-loaded at Salonika, and the balance sent on to Egypt. It was not possible to ascertain how the loss occurred. (2194/19)	2,509	14	8	-	-	-
175.—Erroneous payment of billeting allowance owing to a general misunderstanding. (2194/19)	-	-	-	103	15	9
176.—Deficit on the accounts of various companies of an infantry battalion, owing to the loss of payment records which occurred during the operations at Gallipoli. (37977/18)	-	-	-	169	14	8
177.—Barrack damages to buildings at Great Yarmouth occupied by the 51st (Grad) Battalion, Manchester Regiment. When the men were withdrawn barrack damages were assessed at 322 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> and settled by the unit. On the final marching-out inspection, a further sum of 189 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> was assessed but not recovered. (2194/19)	189	1	9	-	-	-
178.—Over-issue of pay to an officer in receipt of Indian rates of pay, due to misinterpretation of instructions. Recovery would involve serious financial embarrassment. (2194/19)	167	-	10	-	-	-
179.—Non-recovery of cash payments from men of two companies of the R.A.S.C. owing to certain pay and mess-book charges being overlooked in Woolwich Pay Office. The error was due to the exceptional difficulties existing at the time through want of staff and accommodation. (2194/19)	-	-	-	119	7	7
180.—Deficiencies of stores at a Q.M.A.A.C. hostel, largely due to faulty accounting for stores at a time of great pressure. (2194/19)	321	12	-	-	-	-
181.—Deficiency of barrack stores on charge of a Q.M.A.A.C. hostel, due to an inefficient system of checking and accounting for stores. (5263/19)	137	11	9	-	-	-
182.—Loss of clothing stores and equipment on charge of a Reserve Battalion, discovered after the amalgamation of two units. The accounting in the Quarter-master's Stores of one unit was defective, and to this must be attributed the bulk of the deficiencies. (5263/19)	497	4	1	-	-	-

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PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
183.—Abandoned claim against a contractor for supplies of fish in Egypt. From the time the contract commenced short quantities were supplied, and purchases in default were resorted to. Finally, the contractor refused to carry out the contract on the ground that he was bankrupt. No recovery was possible. (5263/19) - -	149 14 9	—
184.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment, ascribed to pressure of work, inadequate storage, and accounting errors. (5263/19) - - - -	669 11 8	—
185.—Deficiencies of supplies at a General Hospital mainly due to errors in accounting. Surpluses of 302 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> were shown. (5263/19) -	297 16 10	—
186.—Deficiency of coke at Calais, attributed to (1) Loss on issue to bakeries; (2) Errors in receipts and issues; and (3) Loss, some of the coke having worked into the sand where it was dumped. (5263/19) - - - -	2,939 - -	—
187.—Loss of frozen meat despatched from Boulogne and inadvertently delayed before reaching Dunkirk. (5263/19) - - -	175 16 6	—
188.—Over-issue to men of R.F.C. who drew separation allowances and other allowances instead of family allowance. Owing to changes of personnel and the re-organisation of the Air Force, it was impossible to fix responsibility for the losses. (5263/19) - -	—	172 19 7
189.—Over-issue of sick pay to Girl Clerks under 16 years of age employed in various Pay Offices in the Eastern Command, who through a misunderstanding of the Regulations were regarded as unestablished employees of a class brought within the provisions of Section 47 of the National Insurance Act. (5263/19) - - - -	—	823 17 -
190.—Deficiency of petrol contained in underground tanks discovered on reorganisation of an M.T. Co., partly due to water having got into the tanks and partly to an error in the formula used for calculating the contents of tanks. (5263/19) - - - -	179 10 -	—
191.—Deficiencies of clothing at a Q.M.A.A.C. Hostel, due to inexperience of a former Quarter-mistress, pressure of work, and sickness of the staff. (5263/19) - - - -	231 13 -	—
192.—Deficit on account of a company of R.E., due to loss of vouchers and acquittance rolls which were destroyed in a blizzard. (5263/19) -	—	394 19 5
193.—Over-issue of working-pay to soldiers engaged in R.A.O.C. duties due to misunderstanding of regulations. (5263/19) - - -	640 - -	—
194.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of Q.M.A.A.C. at various hostels, attributed mainly to inadequacy and inexperience of staffs. (5263/19) - - - -	286 14 3	—
195.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a company of R.G.A., attributed to inaccurate accounting, owing to heavy pressure of work, and constant changes in men and company staff. (5263/19) - -	554 17 2	—
196.—Overpayment to a driver of the R.A.S.C., who was paid at 4 <i>s.</i> per diem. Recruiting for drivers at this special rate was open at the time and he was erroneously considered both by the corps and pay office authorities as entitled to the higher rate. As the man's good faith was unquestioned, recovery from him was restricted to 15 <i>l.</i> of the total of 149 <i>l.</i> 19 <i>s.</i> (5263/19) - - - -	—	134 19 -
197.—Loss on barrack damages, assessed against a unit of King's Liverpool Regiment on vacation of hired buildings. (5263/19) - - -	193 13 11	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
198.—Loss of clothing in transit from Deir Sineid to Kantara. Proper supervision of stores at Deir Sineid at the period was rendered impracticable by the fact that the winter rains had set in and the locality was waterlogged, rendering movement of transport most difficult. (5263/19) - - - - -	443 18 -	—
199.—Cash payments irrecoverable from men of a machine gun squadron. Payments were made to men on acquittance rolls, some of which were destroyed by fire and some lost in a storm at Suvla. (5263/19) - - - - -	—	128 14 -
200.—Deficit on accounts of an R.A.S.C. (M.T.) Company, made up partly of payments to soldiers of outlying detachments, for which no vouchers or receipts could be produced. The Company cash book was also destroyed by fire in the pay office. (5263/19) -	—	247 6 6
201.—Deficiency on consignment of coke sent from Rouen to Havre, due mainly to the difference in cubic measurement per ton at Rouen and Havre. (5263/19) - - - - -	292 - -	—
202.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battalion of the Monmouthshire Regiment, due to frequent change of Company Commanders and inexperience of staff. (5263/19) - - - - -	476 1 -	—
203.—Loss due to failure of contractor to carry out a contract for tables. Purchases in default involved additional cost of 456 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> Owing to shortage of labour and difficulty in obtaining timber, the contractor lost heavily on his Government contracts. He had ultimately to dispose of his business and was shortly after called up for Service. (3802/19) - - - - -	456 - 10	—
204.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, mainly due to faulty accounting and frequent changes of officers and personnel. (10540/19) - - - - -	330 - 8	—
205.—Over-issue of pay and gratuity to the estate of an officer who was killed in action. The rates were assessed on the Staff scale, whereas the officer had reverted to regimental duties nearly a month before his death. No recovery could be obtained from the executrix. (2723/19) - - - - -	120 17 1	—
206.—Deterioration of potatoes sent from Italy to Egypt, owing partly to indifferent stowage and partly to the poor condition of the bags in which the potatoes were supplied. Claims were made on the Italian Shipping Companies concerned, but were repudiated by them. (10540/19) - - - - -	7,424 1 4	—
207.—Damages to buildings, attributable to wilful damage by troops. The damages occurred long ago and there are no regimental funds to meet the charges. (35108/19) - - - - -	229 16 8	—
208.—Over-issue of Engineer pay. On transfer of the accounts of the Territorial R.E. to Chatham, it was ascertained that a number of men had been credited with a wrong rate of Engineer pay. As the over-issues were made and received in good faith it was decided to waive recovery. (10540/19) - - - - -	521 14 8	—
209.—Deficiencies of stores at a camp in Dublin due to the insufficient staff available for the checking of issue and collection of equipment on the departure and hurried replacement of troops. (10540/19) -	1,295 1 8	—

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PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
210.—Damage to hirings at Yarmouth, assessed against a battalion of Manchester Regiment. Owing to urgent demands for men overseas, the hirings were hurriedly vacated and it was not possible to fix responsibility. (10540/19)	143 14 3	—
211.—Net loss occasioned by the destruction of a motor car by fire. As its use at the time was unauthorised, the officer driving was called upon to pay 200 <i>l.</i> The value of the salvaged parts was 75 <i>l.</i> (10540/19)	220 — —	—
212.—Loss on manure contract, Egypt, through default of contractor who became a bankrupt. (15597/19)	184 12 2	—
213.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a Siege Battery, R.G.A. in France, due to a shortage of personnel, brought about by war conditions. (15597/19)	240 — 11	—
214.—Puttees issued on payment to a Macedonian Labour Unit. As no part-worn puttees were available new pairs were issued, the part-worn rate being charged in error. (15597/19)	146 10 5	—
215.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battalion of the Liverpool Regiment, due to understaffing and frequent changes of stations. (15597/19)	158 15 7	—
216.—Deficiencies in clothing and equipment on charge of a brigade of the R.F.A., due partly to alteration of Issue Vouchers and partly to faulty accounting. A N.C.O. was tried by Court Martial and acquitted. (15597/19)	200 13 9	—
217.—Over-issue of dried peas to prisoners of war. The bags were issued at an incorrect weight owing to an error in waybillings, due to pressure of time. (15597/19)	143 — —	—
218.—Over-issue of biscuits to Q.M.A.A.C. and V.A.D. Nurses in Rouen Aren, due to a misunderstanding of the instructions issued. (15597/19)	328 — —	—
219.—Deficiencies of clothing and equipment on charge of a Highland Division Cyclist Co., due to unsatisfactory accounting, discovered on disbandment of the company. (15597/19)	360 — —	—
220.—Deficiencies of part-worn emergency great coats and chevrons on charge of a Territorial Association. In many cases issues were made hurriedly and no receipts were taken from the men, some of whom joined the Army and others left the district. (15597/19)	305 19 9	—
221.—Barrack damages irrecoverable, assessed against a battalion of the Mounmouthshire Regiment, in respect of occupation of premises. (15597/19)	203 2 9	—
222.—Deficiencies of clothing and stores on charge of a Reserve Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, attributed to inexperience of staff, frequent and sudden changes of Company Commanders, and changes of station. (19955/19)	1,104 1 1	—
223.—Loss of stores on charge of various cyclist units, due to hurried removals and inadequacy of transport arrangements. (19955/19)	1,629 6 1	—
224.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battery R.F.A. which were the subject of a Board in November 1916. The proceedings of the Board and the original ledgers cannot be found. The cause of the losses is unknown. (19955/19)	112 — 10	—
225.—Deficiencies of clothing at a hospital. The staff from the beginning was very inadequate, and the deficiencies are mainly due to accounting errors. (19955/19)	230 3 9	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
226.—Loss on over-issue of hay, due to an error in computation. (19955/19)	312 4 4	—
227.—Deficiencies of equipment and barrack stores on charge of a battalion of Machine Gun Corps, mainly due to bad accounting and carelessness. (19955/19) - - - - -	185 3 10	—
227A.—Abandoned claim against a contractor for excess cost on purchases in default. (19955/19) - - - - -	129 3 7	—
228.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battery of R.G.A., attributed to lack of method in accounting for and issuing stores. (19955/19) -	106 17 2	—
229.—Deficiencies of blankets and bedding at a labour centre, due to urgency of removal and short time available for handing over. (19955/19) - - - - -	386 4 5	—
230.—Loss on barrack damages assessed against a battalion of Durham Light Infantry. (19955/19) - - - - -	176 14 1	—
231.—Deficiencies of supplies disclosed on the balancing of the Central Supply Account for Egypt, for the period from 1st March 1916 to 30th June 1917. Surpluses amounting to 41,332 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> were also disclosed. (19955/19) - - - - -	3,112 4 7	—
232.—Deficiencies of locust beans on a consignment from Calais to Outreau. (19955/19) - - - - -	109 17 9	—
233.—Deficiency of preserved meat on a consignment which arrived at Havre from Buenos Aires. The ship's owners denied liability, on the ground that no check was made at the ship's rail. In the circumstances existing at French ports at the time, tallying at the ship's side was not practicable. (19955/19) - - - - -	256 15 -	—
234.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of a battalion of the Cheshire Regiment (I.F.) attributed to a want of care on the part of the late quarter-master and to a general lack of supervision over accounts and stores. The O.C. was called upon to pay 10 <i>l.</i> towards the loss. (19955/19) - - - - -	319 11 8	—
235.—Over-issue of rations which occurred at Le Cateau railhead, due to the misinterpretation by the Railhead Supply Office of instructions issued with regard to percentages of extra rations. (19955/19) -	1,333 3 -	—
236.—Loss on barrack damages assessed on houses occupied by a reserve battalion, Queen's Regiment. (19955/19) - - - - -	375 17 6	—
237.—Loss on barrack damages assessed on the schools under the Newcastle Education Authorities occupied by various units. Owing to an unavoidable delay in assessment, the movement overseas of the units, and the difficulty of attributing responsibility to individuals, it was not found possible to recover. (19955/19) -	116 7 4	—
238.—Loss by damage to Ford car through a collision. The accident was due to the driver taking a bend in the road at excessive speed on the wrong side. The driver was sentenced by court-martial to 90 days' detention. (19955/19) - - - - -	130 - -	—
239.—Loss by barrack damages on houses occupied as part of the receiving dépôt for men of the M.T.R.A.S.C. (19955/19) -	474 17 5	—
240.—Damage to War Department vessel, caused by the engines having been put "ahead" when the order given was "astern." The engineer was considered to blame, and dismissed. (19955/19) -	205 - -	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
241.—Cash losses sustained in consequence of the fall of Kut-el-Amara. <i>See also</i> No. 90 of the Appropriation Account for 1917-18. (2574-17) - - - - -	—	4,524 11 6
242.—Discrepancies in Store Accounting (R.E. Stores), Dover Defences, due mainly to accounting errors. (30702/19) - - - - -	221 13 11	—
243.—Over-issue of Separation Allowance to the wife of a private in Lovat's Scouts, discharged medically unfit. Recovery was impracticable. (30702/19) - - - - -	117 15 -	—
244.—Deficiency of supplies disclosed on striking the final balance of the Italian Central Supply Account. Surpluses amounting to 25,900 <i>l.</i> were revealed at the same time. The discrepancies were attributable mainly to the difficult conditions under which the Supply and Transportation Services in Italy had to work during the first few months. (30702/19) - - - - -	7,813 - -	—
245.—Loss on an over-issue of preserved meat made at Guvezna Supply Depôt. (30702/19) - - - - -	138 2 -	—
246.—Deficiency of forage between July 1915, when purchases of forage in Ireland commenced, and 31st October 1917, on which date a complete stocktaking of forage in all Forage Stores in Ireland was held. Owing to the congestion at the Stores, and the incessant stream of overseas shipments, any general earlier stocktaking was impossible. In every case the deficiencies were small in comparison with the large quantities handled. (30702/19) - - - - -	19,537 13 3	—
247.—Irregular free issues of necessaries. The audit of the Final Clothing Account of the 4th Battalion, Royal Defence Corps, showed that necessaries were erroneously issued free to replace articles worn out by fair wear and tear, instead of being paid for by the men out of the kit allowance. (30702/19) - - - - -	115 19 6	—
248.—Deficiency of four light draught horses on charge of No. 1 Section, 69th (East Anglian) Divisional Ammunition Column. It was suggested that the deficiency was due to bad accounting. (30702/19) - - - - -	160 - -	—
249.—Loss on barrack damages due from the Highland Cyclist Battalion, which occupied various houses (30702/19) - - - - -	290 19 4	—
250.—Loss on barrack damages due from the 51st (Grad) Battalion Training Reserve. Damages assessed at 580 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> were charged against the battalion on vacating premises, to meet which a sum of only 287 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> was available. (30702/19) - - - - -	292 16 7	—
251.—Deficiency of timber discovered on stocktaking of small timber at No. 1 Transportation Stores Depôt, Audruicq. The turn-over of these items during the period concerned amounted to over 10,000 standards, and the deficiency to 0.75 per cent.. (30702/19) - - - - -	3,764 - -	—
252.—Deficiencies of stores on charge of 31st and 56th Squadrons, Royal Flying Corps, Wyton. It was considered probable that the deficiencies were attributable mainly to bad accounting. It was found to be impossible to fix liability. (30702/19) - - - - -	808 6 -	—
253.—Deficiency of barrack stores at dispersal unit, Thetford, due mainly to misappropriation by soldiers on dispersal, (30702/19) - - - - -	302 14 11	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
254.—Deficiencies of supplies which formed part of a cargo which left Barry for Basrah in December 1917. Endeavours were made to ascertain the cause, but without any definite result. The ship being a hired transport, recovery from the owners was not practicable. (30702/19)	598 1 6	—
255.—Deficiencies in equipment stores and clothing on charge of No. 2 Section, 69th Divisional Ammunition Column, mainly attributable to bad accounting and lack of system in the custody of the stores, due to the inexperience of the Officers Commanding and Staff of the unit. The Commanding Officer was held not to be personally liable for any portion of the loss. (30702/19)	840 13 1	—
256.—Loss of four mules on charge of 208 (B.T.) Company, Royal Army Service Corps, at Kalamaria, which were stated to have disappeared, but there was no evidence to show how the loss occurred. (30702/19)	160 — —	—
257.—Loss on the unrecovered value of seeds, supplied to native cultivators in the 12th Corps Area of the Salonika Force on the understanding that their value would be repaid in kind or cash after the harvest. Part of the total value was duly recovered and credited to the public. Of the remainder, recovery of part was not pressed in view of the total failure of the crops, and the balance represents the part not recovered owing to the difficulty of tracing the individuals from whom it was due. (30702/19)	244 — —	—
258.—Loss on barrack damages at British Prisoners of War Reception Camp. Owing to the extreme pressure on the Permanent Staff of the Camp, due to the rapid influx and dispersal of the men, it was not possible to bring home the damages to individuals. (30702/19)	103 15 6	—
259.—Loss on sacks not returned by a contractor in Egypt. Every endeavour was made to obtain the return of the sacks outstanding, but the Director of the Company, a Greek, disappeared, and recovery could not be effected. The value of the sacks deficient (11,554 in number) was 592 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> , but the sum of 150 <i>l.</i> , deposited by the Company under the contract, was taken in relief of the debt. (30702/19)	442 10 3	—
260.—Over-issue of pay to an officer promoted to be temporary captain only. 15 <i>l.</i> out of the total over-issue of 190 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> was recovered, as the officer urged hardship and want of private means. (30702/19)	175 18 10	—
261.—Deficiencies of medical stores disclosed at a stocktaking held at the Base Depot of medical stores, Genoa, attributed to errors in accounting on the part of an inexperienced staff. Surpluses amounting to 580 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> were disclosed at the same time. (34932/19)	434 5 6	—
262.—Loss of supplies on a consignment received at Salonika from Egypt in December 1918, on S.S. "Achlibster," attributed mainly to leakage from damaged containers. Recovery from the owners of the vessel was not practicable as the "Achlibster" was a Government transport. (34932/19)	2,288 19 3	—
263.—Deficiency of supplies disclosed on the balancing of the Rouen Section of the Central Supply Account, France. Surpluses to the value of 28,381 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> were disclosed at the same time. The discrepancies were apparently due mainly to inaccurate and incomplete accounting incidental to the conditions of active service. (34932/19)	6,252 3 ..	—

PAPER NO. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
264.—Over-issue of hay and oats to the 8th Army Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, in France, and consumed without authority. In view of the fact that the unit had been demobilised it was not possible to establish any definite responsibility. (34932/19)	112 17 5	—
265.—Abandoned claim against a firm of contractors for compressed forage in Egypt. Whole grain was issued free from army stocks while the tibbon for mixing in the authorised proportion was supplied by the contractors. Claims were preferred against the contractors for overcharges for crushing grain and for tibbon supplied. They counterclaimed for tibbon alleged to have been supplied, and other items, amounting to 5,196/ 15s. 6d. The contractors dissolved partnership, and both claim and counterclaim remain unpaid. (34932/19)	1,206 12 3	—
266.—Deficiencies of barrack stores at a Prisoners of War Reception Camp. Owing to the limited number of the permanent staff at the camp supervision over the movements of individuals and of damage done by them was impossible. (34932/19)	1,423 17 5	—
267.—Deficiencies from a large quantity of clothing and personal equipment handed over by the Norfolk County T.F. Association to No. 977 M.T. Coy., R.A.S.C. (34932/19)	120 4 2	—
268.—Deficiencies of barrack stores at Rest Camp, Dublin, discovered at a quarterly stocktaking. The blanket store was once "rushed" by the men owing to unavoidable delay in issue of blankets, and this incident probably accounted for a fair proportion of the loss. The staff was admittedly inadequate to cope with the work. (34932/19)	256 3 10	—
269.—Deficiencies of hospital clothing issued on loan to U.S. Navy Base Hospital, Strathpeffer. This hospital admitted 305 patients from the B.E.F., free of all charges, between July and December 1918. (34932/19)	170 9 6	—
270.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of a driver in the R.A.S.C. who failed to rejoin his unit on expiration of furlough. The casualty was not notified to the Pay Office. The payee, whose circumstances did not permit of a refund, appeared to have been ignorant of her husband's whereabouts, and to have accepted the allowance in good faith. (34932/19)	140 17 11	—
271.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of a driver in the R.A.S.C. who deserted while on sick furlough, and has not been apprehended. (34932/19)	132 17 -	—
272.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of a staff sergeant of the R.A.S.C. who enlisted on 18th February 1915, but did not claim separation allowance. Owing to an error in the Pay Office, separation allowance and allotment were issued. (34932/19)	160 3 7	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
273.—Overpayment of separation allowance to the wife of a deserter from the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, who deserted 1st July 1915, but as no notification was received by the Territorial Force Association, separation allowance was continued up to 11th November 1917. The wife stated that she had not seen him or heard from him since July 1915, and was unaware that he was a deserter. (34932/19)	145 17 8	—
274.—Deficit on account of 605 M.T. Company, R.A.S.C. The Officer Commanding received orders to embark the company at a moment's notice and took with him the accounts to complete on his journey. The ship was either mined or torpedoed, and sank with the accounts and the cash balance. About half of the men on board the ship were drowned. The debtor balance on the Company Account at the time was about 3,500 <i>l.</i> after the bank balance had been collected. By the efforts of the Officer Commanding, the accounts have since been largely reconstructed and the loss is reduced to 1,077 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> (34932/19)	—	1,077 5 9
275.—Loss on barrack damages on some houses occupied by the 52nd Battalion Queen's Regiment. It was contended that the damage was to a large extent unavoidable. No other accommodation was available. (34932/19)	181 11 3	—
276.—Over-issue of dependant's allowance. A fire in the Pay Office destroyed most of the relevant documents. (46961/18)	107 10 3	—
277.—Excess expenditure incurred in the purchase of civilian suits of clothing for discharged soldiers owing to the instructions being misinterpreted. (46961/18)	157 17 6	—
278.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of a soldier who had not been living with or supporting her for about two years prior to enlistment. The woman apparently received the money in good faith. (2194/19)	104 13 9	—
279.—Over-issue of allotment. The weekly rate was erroneously paid to the wife of a soldier as the daily rate. The total amount was 127 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> , of which 5 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> was recovered. The soldier died early in 1918. There was no evidence to show that the woman drew payment otherwise than in good faith. (2194/19)	121 17 —	—
280.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of a deserter from the Manchester Regiment. The payee was unaware of any irregularity. (5263/19)	139 — 11	—
281.—Balance of over-issue of dependants' separation allowance as for an unmarried wife with one child. The soldier and the payee were considered blameless in the matter, and recovery from either was possible to only a small extent. (10540/19)	122 17 6	—
282.—Over-issue of separation allowance and allotment for the wife and three children of a deserter from the Royal Sussex Regiment, T.F. The payee, who appeared to be blameless in the matter, was unable to pay any part of the amount. (10540/19)	108 15 9	—

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.	Cash.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
283.—Over-issue of pay and separation allowance, consequent on irregular promotions of certain N.C.O.'s, due to pressure of work and inexperience of officers. No recoveries were made. (41765/17) -	—	321 2 6
284.—Loss on debtor balances on the accounts of 14 soldiers of a remount depôt, due to a genuine misunderstanding. It was decided to recover 6 <i>l.</i> from each man. (46961/18) - - - -	—	407 2 8
285.—Overpayment of separation allowance in the case of a deserter from the Royal Army Service Corps. There is no evidence of fraudulent intent, and, owing to the numerous changes in the staff in the Pay Office since the mistake occurred, it has not been found possible to fix responsibility for the irregular payments. As the man had not been apprehended, recovery was impracticable. (19955/19) -	127 13 11	—
286.—Separation allowance continued to the wife of an N.C.O. owing to omission of notification of his discharge. Recovery impracticable. (17982/18) - - - -	109 12 3	—
287.—Separation allowance continued to the wife of a private in the King's Royal Rifles who deserted. The woman appeared to be unaware of her husband's desertion. (37977/18) - - - -	114 5 -	—
288.—Separation allowance continued to the wife and children of a man who deserted from Durham Light Infantry. No evidence that the woman was aware of her husband's desertion. (37977/18) -	157 4 3	—
289.—Separation allowance issued to the mother of two illegitimate children of a soldier. She was wrongly understood to be his "unmarried" wife. Both the payee and the soldier appeared to be blameless. (37977/18) - - - -	—	133 1 3
290.—Separation allowance continued to wife and children of a deserter, no notification having been received by T.F. Association. The wife stated that she was unaware of the man's desertion. (37977/18) -	131 8 6	—
291.—Separation allowance issued for five motherless children after the father had deserted. No notification received in the Pay Office, and the payee appeared to be ignorant of the casualty. (37977/18)	105 - -	—
292.—Over-issue of separation allowance in the case of a man who was transferred from R.E. to R.A.O.D., and later finally discharged. Notification of discharge cannot be traced as received in the Pay Office. Neither the man nor his wife appeared to be aware of any irregularity. (46961/18) - - - -	113 12 6	—
293.—Separation allowance continued to the wife of a soldier after discharge. As she was not in communication with her husband it is probable that she knew nothing of his discharge. (46961/18) -	109 15 11	—
294.—Cash deficiency and inadequately vouched expenditure, due to a fire, in the accounts of supernumerary companies of a battalion of King's Liverpool Regiment. Owing to the irregularities disclosed the gratuity of 148 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> due to the Officer Commanding was withheld. (19955/19) - - - -	—	548 5 10
295.—Over-issue of separation allowance in the case of three men, owing to failure in the communications between a Territorial Force Association and a regimental pay office. No recoveries were practicable. (19955/19) - - - -	630 18 10	20 14 -

PAPER No. 6—continued.

Case and Number of Treasury Authority.	Claims abandoned for Pay, &c., over-issued in prior Years, Rents, Value of Stores, &c.		Cash.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
296.—Loss arising out of the re-sale of printing plant purchased by the War Department at a cost of 589 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> for the Inland Waterways and Docks Depot at Rieborough. (41017/18) - -	--	--	176	17 -
297.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife and child of a man who had served in the Army and who probably enlisted early in the war under an assumed name, as he was seen in khaki in August 1914. The authority for the payment could not be traced, but there was no reason to believe that the payee acted otherwise than in good faith, and recovery was not practicable. (37977/18) - -	127	2 6	--	--
298.—Over-issue of separation allowance for the wife and children of a deserter from the R.G.A. who has not been traced. There was no evidence to show that the payee knew that an over-payment had occurred. (37977/18) - - - -	158	14 2	--	--
299.—Over-issue of separation allowance to the wife of an N.C.O. of the Royal Field Artillery who received a commission early in the war. The error was due to an oversight in the Pay Office, for which responsibility could not be fixed. The woman had not heard from her husband for 16 months, and probably did not know of his promotion. No recovery could be effected. (37977/18) - -	105	2 7	--	--
Other sums (not exceeding 100 <i>l.</i>) written off under Treasury Authority -	670	11 1	558	11 6
Unvouched expenditure and sums (not exceeding 100 <i>l.</i>) written off by the authority of the Army Council. (23303/14) - - -	34,176	17 9	127,295	7 8
Sums (not exceeding 100 <i>l.</i>) written off by authority of General Officers Commanding. (23303/14) - - - -	433,021	- 11	48,389	- 7
Debtor Balances on Non-Effective Soldier's Accounts - - -			616,331	14 1
<i>Deduct</i> ,—			820,444	6 3
Balances unsupported by adequate accounts, &c. - - -	--	--	8,157	18 9
Total - - - - -	916,629	2 11	812,286	7 6

Note.—Losses of stores in areas of actual military operations are excluded from the above statement (27220/14). As regards ordinary losses due to incidents of the service, see correspondence with the Treasury, printed on pages 62 to 65 of the 1916-17 account.

Losses of stores on home railways for which the Railway Companies admit liability are not included above, although, in view of the financial relations between H.M. Government and the Companies, no actual recovery takes place.

PAPER No. 7.

MISSING and INCOMPLETE STORE and SUPPLY ACCOUNTS for the Year ended
31st March 1919.

(See Paper No. 7 in the Accounts for 1916-17 and 1917-18.)

Thirty-one units' accounts (16 Clothing and 15 Equipment), some of them relating to prior years, were dispensed with either as being incomplete or as not forthcoming. This number represents a very small fraction of the number of accounts which were rendered for audit.

In addition the following miscellaneous accounts were dispensed with :—

Medical Accounts.—Hospital Ships “Devanha,” “Assaye,” “Royal George,” “Chepstow Castle.”
Owing to constant movements difficulty was experienced in obtaining accounts from ships.

Medical Accounts.—Mauritius, Sutton Veny Military Hospital.—These accounts for short periods were unreliable.

Supply Accounts :—

Richborough.—Between September 1917 and March 1918 large quantities of forage were shipped to France and no regular way-bills were compiled.

Palestine.—Eighteen advanced supply depôts for short periods during the advance from Gaza into Palestine.

Salonika.—Eleven supply depôt accounts. Owing to the change in the lines of communications during the operations against the Bulgarians and Turks, depôts had to be closed down and opened hurriedly with a shortage of personnel.

Shop Stock Account.—Richboro’.—Prior to 1918, the records of this account were incomplete. The value of the stocks was small, and there was no evidence of misappropriation of stores.

No. 3 Base Medical Stores Depôt, Rouen.—Up to January 1918. The accounts bear so little relation to stock that it was decided to treat them as worthless.

Tank Central Stores Depôt, France.—Accounts up to January 1919, when stock was counted, treated as worthless.

No. 4 Field Supply Depôt, Fives-Lille, France.—Account for month of November unsatisfactory.

Ordnance Accounts, Calais.—The gun groups of the Ordnance Depôt at Havre were transferred to Calais in 1917. Owing to the discrepancies resulting from this transfer the account was unreliable and Treasury sanction for dispensing with the account was obtained. (Treasury letter dated 29th January 1919, No. 2629/19).

PAPER No. 8.

STATEMENT showing the amount of EXTRA REMUNERATION received by officers on the staff of the War Office and the sub-departments thereof, whose salaries, &c. are provided for in the Army Estimates.—(Prepared in pursuance of Treasury circular letter, 28th August, 1897.)

1. The following amounts have been paid during the year 1918-19 as Extra-Remuneration :—

	Military.		Civilian.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Examination Fees	-	-	258	6 -
Medical Research, etc.	-	-	150	- -
Collection of Income Duty	-	-	144	5 4
Inspection of Customs Boats	-	-	70	- -
			552	11 4
			70	- -
Total	-	-	£ 622	11 -

2. In addition, Overtime Pay has been drawn by the following classes :—

Clerical Staff (Junior Ranks)	-	-	-	-	} War Office.
Technical Assistants	-	-	-	-	
Messengers, Cleaners, &c.	-	-	-	-	} Ordnance and other Army Departments.
Principal Foremen, Foremen, &c.	-	-	-	-	
Clerks, Writers, &c.	-	-	-	-	

The amounts drawn cannot be stated without undue labour.

PAPER No. 9.

STATEMENTS showing the Accounts excluded from the ARMY APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT,
1918-1919.

No. 1.

STATEMENT of the Number and Amount of Accounts relating to the Year 1918-1919 which had been received in the War Office, or by Local Auditors in the Commands, on the 30th September 1919, but which could not be allowed in time to be included in the Army Appropriation Account for 1918-1919.

NIL.

No. 2.

STATEMENT of the Accounts relating to the Year 1918-1919 which had not been received in the War Office, or by Local Auditors in the Commands, on the 30th September 1919, when the Appropriation Account for 1918-1919 was closed.

NIL.

Expenditure amounting to 7,190*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* provisionally allowed, has not been included in this Appropriation Account, owing to the non-completion of vouchers at the date of closing the account.

PAPER No. 10.—STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE ON ENEMY PRISONERS of WAR in the
Year ended 31st March 1919.

Vote and Subhead.		Expenditure.
		£. s. d.
1. P.W. (A)	Pay of Establishments of Internment Camps - - - -	890,536 18 2
P.W. (B)	Pay of Prisoners of War (Army Officers) - - - -	589,881 17 8
P.W. (C)	Pay of Prisoners of War (Naval Officers) - - - -	11,174 1 6
2. P.W.	Medical Expenses - - - -	106,036 12 3
6. P.W.	Expenses of Quartering, Transport, &c. - - - -	108,307 10 7
7. P.W. (Supplies).	Supplies - - - -	593,715 16 9
P.W. (Clothing).	Clothing - - - -	268,060 19 2
8. P.W.	General Stores - - - -	21,675 8 5
9. P.W.	Ordnance Stores - - - -	105 - 5
10. P.W.	Works Expenditure - - - -	241,698 10 8
11. P.W.	Expenses of the Prisoners of War Information Bureau - - - -	47,200 15 1
		2,878,393 10 8
	<i>Deduct:—</i>	
1. P.W. Appropriations-in-Aid.	Amounts received in respect of Prisoners of War -	£. s. d. 941,633 12 5
7. P.W. Appropriations-in-Aid.	Payments for food, &c., by enemy officers -	34,580 7 5
		976,213 19 10
		1,902,179 10 10

In addition, stores to the value of approximately 8,497,942*l.* were supplied from Army stocks during the year 1918-19 for the use of Prisoners of War. The pay, &c., of the troops employed as guards is not included.

PAPER No. 11.

ANALYSIS OF CIVIL NON-EFFECTIVE PAYMENTS.
(See Correspondence, page 58, in the Account for 1917-18.)

	£	£	
I.—Recurrent Charges.			
(i) Superannuation Allowances (Pensions) [Pensions granted under the Superannuation Act, 1859 (Sections 2, 4, 9, 12, &c.), under the Superannuation Act, 1909 (Section 1), and under the Superannuation (War Department) Act, 1890]	56,865		
(ii) Contribution to the Metropolitan Police in aid of the pensions of retired Officers of that Force formerly employed at military establishments	11,376	} 68,241	A
(iii) Compensation Allowances [Compensation Allowances granted under the Act of 1859 (Section 7), under the Act of 1909 (Section 6), and under the Superannuation (War Department) Act, 1890]	20,305	20,305	B
II.—Gratuities and other non-recurrent Charges.			
A. Statutory—			
(i) Additional Allowances granted under the Superannuation Act, 1909 (Sections 1 (2) and 3 (1))	*8,148		
(ii) Death Gratuities granted under the Superannuation Act, 1909 (Section 2 (1)), and the Act of 1914 (Section 2); and Supplementary Death Gratuities granted under the Act of 1909 (Section 2 (2))	*1,233	} 9,644	C
(iii) Gratuities granted to established officers under the Act of 1859 (Section 6)	263		
(iv) Gratuities granted to unestablished officers under the Act of 1887 (Section 4)	*4,434		
(v) Gratuities granted to the dependants of unestablished officers under the Act of 1887 (Section 4) as amended by the Act 1914 (Section 3)	*3,158	} 7,687	D
B. Non-statutory—			
(i) Marriage gratuities	95		
(ii) Supplementary gratuities granted under Treasury Minute of 31st March 1892	Nil	Nil	C
(iii) Grants from the Civil Compassionate Fund	286	286	E
III.—Injury Grants.			
(i) Grants under the Warrants made under Section 1 of the Superannuation Act, 1887	*650		
(ii) Grants under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897, 1906 and 1917, or under the Schemes framed under the Acts of 1897 and 1906	*13,450	} 23,390	F
(iii) Grant under the Schemes framed under the Injuries in War (Compensation) Acts, 1914	*9,290		
IV.—Commutation of Compensation Allowances.	688	688	G
Gross Total	-	130,241	
<i>Deduct—</i>			
Appropriation in Aid	53	53	H
Net Expenditure	-	130,188	

* Approximate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

No. 1.

VOTES 6—10, inclusive.

Cancellation of Contracts under "Break Clause."

(43881/18.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 19 November 1918.

THE Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury have had before them Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 15th instant on the subject of the cancellation of War Office contracts.

In reply, I am to state for the information of the Army Council that, subject as follows, My Lords agree in principle that your department should be empowered to cancel any existing contract without reference to this Department in individual cases, upon the best terms of settlement that can be arranged.

In order to preserve the responsibility to Parliament of the Finance Member and of the Accounting Officer, the consultation and accord with the Finance Member of Council, or his representatives, in all cases, as proposed by the Council, will be essential. When the terms of a Contract include a Break Clause providing for compensation in case of cancellation the sum to be paid under the general authority given above should not exceed the maximum amount payable as compensation under the express terms of the contract itself.

In no case should the terms of settlement provide for a larger payment in compensation than the amount which would have been payable by your department if the contract had been allowed to run out in ordinary course.

In cancellation of contracts not subject to a Break Clause, the rate of profit allowed to the contractor should not ordinarily exceed that which would have been allowed him had the contract price been fixed after cost accounting examination of his books.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 2.

VOTE 6 D.

Barrack Services: Compensation to Contractors.

(48791/18.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 30 December 1918.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 17th instant (Western 16/908, Q.M.G.F.), relative to a War Department contract with Messrs. Brookes Brothers, of Rhyl, for the performance of scavenging services at the camps at Kinnel Park and Bodelwyddan.

In reply I am to state that, while regretting the unauthorised action of the local Military Representative, by which the case appears to have been unfortunately prejudiced, My Lords are willing in the circumstances to authorise payment by the Army Council to the contractors of a sum not exceeding 1,682*l.* in full and final settlement of all claims in respect of this contract.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 3.

VOTE 6 J.

Carriage of Stores: Compensation to Contractors.

(10893/18.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 23 March 1918.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 15th instant (14/Southern/913 (F. 5)) respecting a claim from Mr. Sargent, a Cartage Contractor, for the payment of 650*l.* in respect of transport which was hired by him from various sources in order to enable him to carry out Army work at Larkhill, but which was not required owing to the unexpected withdrawal of troops.

In reply I am to state that in the circumstances represented by the Army Council, My Lords sanction the payment of two-thirds of the claim (420*l.*) as an act of grace and without admission of legal liability.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 4.

VOTE 6 M.

Mechanical Transport Vehicles: Compensation to Contractors.

(4683/19.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 11 February 1919.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Corcoran's letter of the 28th ultimo (121/3/852. (F. 5.)), enclosing copy of a report showing the circumstances in which the demand for 25 "Sunshine" Harvesters was cancelled, together with an extract from a covering minute of the Government of India.

It would appear that these Harvesters were ordered by the General Officer Commanding in preference to the Tractors and Self-Binders proposed by the War Office, without full knowledge of the type of machine or of the conditions under which it should be used; further, that after the order for the Harvesters had been cancelled, no other machines were ordered instead.

In the circumstances, My Lords cannot feel that adequate precautions were taken to safeguard the proper outlay of public funds; nevertheless, They will not refuse Their covering sanction for the nugatory expenditure of 2,000*l.* which has been incurred.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

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No. 5.

VOTE 7.

General Election Advertisement (Absent Voters).

(6785/19.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 21 February 1919.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury your letter of the 17th instant (5/Elections/297 (Q.M.G.F.)), on the question of the incidence of the cost of the advertisements which were inserted in the Press, explaining the procedure to be followed by soldiers in recording their votes at the recent General Election; and I am to request you to convey to the Army Council the following reply:—

My Lords understand that expenditure of 3,118*l.* 13*s.* was incurred in the first instance in this connection both for the Army and the Navy; accounts for this sum have been rendered to the Local Government Board. It was, however, subsequently decided that advertising on a much larger scale was necessary, and further expenditure amounting in all to the sum of 30,284*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* was incurred. Of this sum, 19,077*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* was in respect of the Army and 11,206*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* of the Navy.

My Lords consider that as this advertising was incurred for the benefit of Navy and Army personnel who were debarred from voting in the normal manner by the exigencies of the Service, expenditure thereon should be charged respectively to Navy and Army Votes and They accordingly sanction the payment from the Funds of your Department (1) of the sum of 19,077*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* the Army share of the expenditure of 30,284*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*; and (2) of a share of the sum of 3,118*l.* 13*s.* calculated in a similar proportion (subject, of course, to examination of the bills in detail).

The expenditure should be recorded under a Special Sub-head, e.g., "General Election Advertisement" (Absent Voters).

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 6.

VOTE 10 W.

(13915/18.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 12 April 1918.

IN reply to Mr. Cubitt's letter received in this Department on the 8th instant (Contracts S/4842 (D.C. 3 (C))), I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to request you to inform the Army Council that in view of the information now given They sanction the nugatory expenditure of 2,000*l.* involved in the proposed acceptance of the tender of the Glasgow Steel Roofing Company for fifty 60-foot Span Steel Aeroplane Sheds in full settlement of their claim for compensation on account of the cancellation of a former order for eight Steel Sheds which had been placed with them.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 7.

VOTE 10 W.

(22605/18.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 20 June 1918.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 6th instant (Contracts Works/2329, D.C. 3 A.), relative to a claim made by The Thames Steam Saw Mills, Ltd., for the payment of compensation in connection with a contract with the War Department for the erection of hutments and other work at Dibgate and St. Martin's Plain near Shorncliffe.

In reply I am to request you to convey to the Army Council Their Lordships' authority to negotiate with the contractor for the settlement of the claim by a payment not exceeding 4,000*l.*

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

No. 8.

VOTE 11.

Subheads J (B) and J (C).

(121/Finance/1679.) (F. 1.)

Sir,

War Office, 4 December 1919.

I AM commanded by the Army Council to refer to your letters No. 4316 and 4464 of the 19th March last, concerning the method of accounting for the expenditure on Civil Administration and Relief in the Occupied Enemy Territories of Syria and Palestine.

The amounts advanced from Army Funds in respect of the North, West and East Administrations up to the end of March 1919 were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Civil Administration, North	-	-	-
" " West	-	-	-
" " East	-	-	-
" " Relief	-	-	-
	5,641	-	6
	304,692	6	2
	260,000	-	-
	183,257	14	2
	<u>£753,591</u>	-	10

I am to ask for Their Lordships' authority for the inclusion of these figures in the Army Appropriation Account for 1918-19 under two subheads of Vote 11, viz.: Cost of Civil Administrations in Syria and Cilicia, Subhead J (b), and Relief of Refugees, Subhead J (c).

With regard to the Palestine Civil Administration (South), the complete accounts up to 31st March 1919 are not yet available. The Council are informed, however, that excluding the cost of Military personnel loaned to the Administration and issues from Army stocks, the accounts of the Administration show a considerable

credit balance, and it is expected that, when the accounts are complete, it will be found that this credit will not be entirely extinguished. Copies of the accounts up to the end of September 1918, as received from the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Egypt, after audit by the Exchequer and Audit Department, have already been furnished to the Treasury, and the accounts completed up to the end of March 1919, will be communicated to your Department as soon as they are received.

It is not proposed to include in the Army Account for 1918-19 any charges or credits in respect of the South Administration.

The Secretary to the Treasury, S.W.1.

I am, &c.,
(signed) B. B. Cubitt.

No. 9.

(52272/19.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 31st December 1919.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 4th instant (121/Finance/1679 (F.1.)) concerning the method of accounting for the expenditure on Civil Administration and Relief in the Occupied Enemy Territories of Syria and Palestine, as subsequently modified by Mr. Whittle's semi-official letter of the 16th idem.

In reply, I am to request you to inform the Army Council that My Lords authorise the inclusion in the Army Appropriation Account for 1918-19 of the following figures under two Subheads of Vote 11, cost of civil administration in Syria and Cilicia under J (B) and Relief of Refugees under J (C).

	£	s.	d.
Civil Administration, North	5,641	—	6
" " West	304,692	6	2
" " East	260,000	—	—
" " Relief	183,257	14	2
Total	753,591	—	10

with the addition of an explanatory note in the terms proposed in Mr. Whittle's letter.

My Lords also concur in the Council's proposal not to include in the Army Account for 1918-19 any charges or credits in respect of the South Administration.

The Secretary, War Office, S.W.1.

I am, &c.,
(signed) G. L. Barstow.

No. 10.

(10/2980) (F. 1.)

Sir,

War Office, Whitehall, S.W.1, 31st December 1919.

I AM commanded by the Army Council to send you the enclosed copy of the Appropriation Account of Army Expenditure and Receipts for the year 1918-19.

The outcome of the Account, which has been prepared in the same form as that for 1917-18, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Gross expenditure	974,033,762	6	4
Deduct receipts	149,274,462	2	3
	824,759,300	4	1

The net Exchequer Grants voted by Parliament amounted to 15,010*l.*, and authority is requested to charge the balance of 824,744,290*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* against the Vote of Credit. This figure compares with the forecast of 823,000,000*l.* furnished to the Treasury on the 25th April 1919.

With reference to Subheads J (B) and J (C) of Vote 11, the Treasury reply to War Office letter No. 121/Finance/1679 (F.1.), dated 16th December 1919, on the subject of civil expenditure, &c., in Syria and Cilicia will be printed, when received, with the other correspondence appended to the Account.

The Secretary, The Treasury, S.W.1.

I am, &c.,
(signed) B. B. Cubitt.

No. 11.

(157/20.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 17th January 1920.

THE Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury have had before Them Sir B. Cubitt's letter of the 31st ultimo (10/2980(F. 1.)) transmitting, by direction of the Army Council, the Army Appropriation Account, 1918/19, of which the following is a summary:—

	Gross Expenditure.		Appropriations in Aid.		Net Expenditure.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Estimate	160,016,510	— —	160,001,500	— —	15,010	— —
Actual results	974,033,762	6 4	149,274,462	2 3	824,759,300	4 1
Difference	814,017,252	6 4	10,727,037	17 9	824,744,290	4 1

My Lords authorise the charge against the Vote of Credit of the total deficit of 824,744,290*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*

The Secretary, War Office, S.W.1.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Malcolm G. Ramsay.

REPORT of the COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL upon the APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT of the Receipt and Expenditure for ARMY SERVICES for the Year ended 31st March 1919; prepared and submitted for the information of the House of Commons in pursuance of the 22nd and 32nd Sections of the Act 29 & 30 Vict. c. 39.

Outcome of Account.

1. The net expenditure for 1918-19 amounted to 824,759,300*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, an increase of 99 millions over that for 1917-18, although, as stated by the Accounting Officer in his introductory note, the actual War period that falls in this account is limited to rather more than seven months. There was a net deficit chargeable against the Vote of Credit of 824,744,290*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, after taking into account the Exchequer Grants amounting to 15,010*l.*

2. The Appropriations in Aid fell short of the Estimate by 10,727,037*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*, a deficit due to the non-payment by Germany of the cost of the Army of Occupation in the Rhineland for the period December 1918 to March 1919, as provided for in the Supplementary Estimate of 26th February 1919 [Parliamentary Paper 28]. On the other hand, the deficit was modified by excess receipts on Votes 6 and 7.

Treasury Control.

3. I have referred in paragraph 1 of my General Report on the Civil Service Accounts 1918-19 to the general measures taken to re-enforce Treasury control. As regards Army expenditure, normal procedure in that respect was resumed shortly after the signing of the Armistice.

OVERSEAS FORCES.

Accounts of the Forces in France.

4. The local scrutiny of cash and store accounts of the forces in France by representatives of my Department continued throughout the year, but it is understood that the greater part of the staff of the Financial Adviser will shortly be brought back to England, and my staff will then also be withdrawn.

Losses by Theft in France and Belgium after the Armistice.

5. Papers furnished to my officers in France showed that losses of supplies from supply trains, to the value of 166,000*l.*, occurred in the period from November 1918 to July 1919, all of which are attributed to pilfering. It appears that civilian refugees were returning in large numbers to the battle areas at a time when the country was not ready to receive its former inhabitants. Food was very scarce, and gangs were organized to pilfer supply trains. In many cases the troops, and even the guards responsible for the custody of the supplies, assisted in these thefts.

Further heavy losses of stores, &c., which occurred at base ports and dumps are stated to be due to the lack of personnel to furnish efficient guards, owing partly to the rapid demobilization and partly to the greatly increased area administered by the British Army after the advance into Germany. The circumstances which led to these losses, and the steps taken to meet the situation, were reported to the War Office by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief. He was of opinion that the saving of public money by the release of the large numbers demobilized more than balanced the losses incurred through the pilfering, &c., an opinion with which I am disposed to agree.

Disposal of Surplus Animals and Stores in France.

6. Shortly after the Armistice, measures were taken to organize machinery for the disposal of surplus stores and animals. By the end of the financial year the latter had for the most part been disposed of at good prices by local sales under the Military authorities. Similar progress was impossible in the case of surplus stores, which had not been sold in large quantities when, at the close of the financial year, the Surplus Government Property Disposal Board, Ministry of Munitions, began to undertake control of the sale and disposal of surplus stores overseas. It was not until 1st July 1919 that the Disposal Board was in a position to assume full responsibility for this work, and the Army has throughout retained the liability for collection and custody. Further reference to the matter is contained in my Report on the account of the Ministry of Munitions.

Accounts of the Force in Italy.

7. Further visits to Italy have been made by members of my staff stationed in France in order to continue the scrutiny of the cash and store accounts of the Italian Expeditionary Force. Their reports indicate that the position, as regards both cash and store accounts examined, is generally satisfactory.

Difficulty has, however, been experienced in obtaining proof of payment for disbursements which have to be made by post. Under the Italian banking system such payments are made, not by cheque but by banker's drafts ("Vaglie") purchased for the purpose. These drafts are sent to the payees by registered post, accompanied by forms of receipt, but though receipt is as a rule acknowledged by the more responsible firms, in many cases of payment to private individuals and small contractors applications for receipts are ignored. The paid drafts remain the property of the banks and cannot be used as proof of payment.

In these circumstances it has been arranged that where receipts cannot be obtained, the bank will, on application by the Command Paymaster, certify whether the drafts have been paid or not. When payments in Italy finally cease, a list of drafts which the bank shows as still unpaid will be sent to the War Office, who will ultimately secure from the bank either a certificate of payment or a refund of the value in those cases which remain unpaid when the currency of the drafts expires.

In view of the unusual circumstances, I have accepted the certificate of the bank that the payments have been made as proof of payment for the purposes of Section 27 of the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act.

Salonika Expeditionary Force.

8. Representatives of my Department located in Egypt visited Salonika in February 1919 for a local audit of the accounts of the Salonika Force. The accounts were tested up to September 1918—a month which may be regarded as the end of the period of stationary warfare in that area—and were found generally satisfactory.

At a later date the Salonika Force became the Army of the Black Sea with Headquarters at Constantinople, which my officers visited in December last to continue the local test.

The accounts of the period between September 1918 and May 1919, which were tested by my officers, covered the advance into enemy territory, the armistice, and the commencement of demobilization. These conditions seem to have created difficulties as regards accounting for stores, &c., more particularly for supplies, mainly owing to the scarcity, inexperience, and change of personnel. The accounts at present are incomplete and various questions are still outstanding.

Amongst others, I have drawn attention locally to what appear to have been serious undercharges in the prices at which supplies were issued on repayment to Allied troops and others, as to which I am awaiting further information.

The sale of surplus Army property in the Balkan Area has been placed in the hands of the British Trade Corporation to act on behalf of the Ministry of Munitions.

Operations in North Russia and the Caucasus.

9. The expenditure in connection with the operations in North Russia is to be pooled by Britain, France, Italy, and the United States of America, except the cost of pay, maintenance, and transport of British and Allied Forces (borne as a final charge by Army Funds or recoverable direct from the Allies concerned, as the case may be). Considerable expenditure has been incurred from Army funds, together with large issues of Stores and Supplies, and the basis of allocation of cost is now under consideration.

I have been furnished with accounts of local expenditure for the period to 31st March 1919. It was found that certain charges for wages of workmen were not supported by receipts of the payees, or even by certificates of the officers that they had paid the money, and I am informed that no further proof of payment is in possession of the War Office.

In reply to my inquiry regarding certain payments which were witnessed and certified in part by members of the United States Forces, it was stated that steps will be taken to transfer the charges either to the account of the American Government, or to that of the Joint Allies.

As regards the accounting for Stores and Supplies, I understand that most of the accounts have been received, but they have still to be examined and allowed by the War Office. Any matters of importance that may arise will be dealt with in my next Report.

10. In the Caucasus accounts rendered to my Department, charges were noticed for the pay of Persian Officers and levies, as to which I am awaiting further information from the War Office.

I have also inquired as to the incidence of charge of certain payments in connection with the Russian Partisan Force under General Bicharakoff which are at present charged to a Suspense Account.

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Dominion Contingents.

11. Reference has been made in previous years to the agreements under which the cost of the maintenance of Dominion troops in the field is claimed on the basis of a daily capitation rate. During 1918-19, further payments on account of these claims were received from Australia (14,544,944*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*), Canada (15,544,588*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*), and New Zealand (6,648,365*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*), and have been credited to Appropriations in Aid of Vote 1. (Paper No. 2, page 8.)

12. A claim has been put forward against Australia for interest on the outstanding balances on the Capitation account up to 31st December 1918, such interest to run from the dates to which claims were made up. It is understood that interest on similar balances in the case of Canada has been claimed from that Dominion by the Treasury, repayments by Canada having been made through that Department. No claim for interest has, so far, been made against New Zealand, and I am at present in communication with the War Office on this question.

Imperial Service Contingents from South Africa.

13. Audited statements of account for the year 1918-19 have been rendered by the Imperial Controller, and expenditure shown therein, to the amount of 1,772,000*l.*, has been charged to Army Votes in this Account.

Included in this expenditure is a sum of 40,000*l.* for Stores issued by the Union Government to Portuguese authorities, from whom it was decided that no recovery should be made. This amount has been charged to Army Votes by direction of the Treasury. (See note to Vote 7 on page 22).

1,000,000*l.* has been received from the Union Government as a grant in aid for general war purposes, and has been brought to credit as an Appropriation in Aid of Vote 1. (Paper No. 2, page 8.)

Indian Expeditionary Forces.

14. The greater part of the expenditure in 1918-19 on the Indian Expeditionary Forces has been accounted for and audited in accordance with the special arrangements already described in my previous Reports. Audit, however, is not complete in respect of the sum of 411,028*l.* which has, with Treasury authority, been provisionally included in the present account.

During 1918-19 a sum of 13,400,000*l.* was expended by the Government of India on the purchase of stores. This sum was not included in the audited accounts for the year as the stores had not been allocated to units chargeable to Imperial funds at the date when the accounts were rendered. Treasury authority has, however, been obtained for the provisional inclusion of this amount in the present account (see Note under Vote 8, page 23) on condition that the Indian authorities certify that stores of at least this value are held on store charge as the property of the Army Council. The War Office are at present in communication with the India Office for the purpose of obtaining a certificate to this effect.

The payment by the Indian Government in respect of ordinary expenses amounted to 8,153,800*l.*, which has been credited to Vote 1, Appropriations in Aid. (Paper No. 2, page 10.)

15. A further contribution of 13,100,000*l.* by the Government of India in aid of the expenses of the War, has also been brought to credit as an Appropriation in Aid of Vote 1 (Paper No. 2, page 10) in anticipation of the consent by Resolution of both Houses of Parliament, which is required under Section 22 of the Government of India Act, 1915 (5 & 6 Geo 5. Cap. 61), for the application of Indian revenues towards the cost of military operations carried on beyond the external frontiers of India.

Expenditure on Operations in East Africa.

16. The audited statements, rendered by the Director of Colonial Audit, of expenditure by the East Africa Protectorate in 1917-18 showed that certain small adjustments were necessary in respect of the provisional figures included in the account for 1917-18. These adjustments, together with a few similar transactions outstanding from 1916-17, have been made in the present account.

Expenditure in 1918-19, amounting to some 1,900,000*l.*, has, with Treasury authority, been provisionally charged in the present account pending the receipt of audited statements.

17. This account also includes charges, in part provisional, for military expenditure by the Governments of the Gold Coast, Nigeria and Nyasaland in 1918-19, together with certain adjustments relating to the provisional figures included in the account for 1917-18. Two sums of 82,403*l.* 15*s.* and 134,000*l.* contributed by the Gold Coast and Nigeria respectively in aid of the expenses of the contingents from those Colonies, have been brought to credit as Appropriations in Aid of Vote 1. (Paper No. 2, page 9.)

Unvouched Expenditure.

18. Statements are appended to various votes showing the amounts which, although unsupported by the usual vouchers, have been charged in the accounts under the conditions approved by the Treasury in 1915.

The aggregate total of such charges in this year's account amounts to 23,674*l.*, the bulk of which relates to transactions in France.

Services Temporarily Unvouched.

19. In regard to the expenditure on the raising of Chinese labourers in 1917-18 which was included in the Appropriation Account pending receipt of vouchers, I have been furnished with vouchers amounting to 1,172,214*l.* out of the total of 1,801,537*l.* referred to in paragraph 19 of my Report last year.

As stated at page 12 expenditure on this service has again been included, with Treasury sanction, in the present account pending receipt of vouchers. The amount in 1918-19 was 1,585,890*l.*

Salvage Organizations.

20. The control of the salvage organizations referred to in paragraph 22 of my last Report has since been transferred to the Ministry of Munitions. Profits on waste recovery operations at home camps up to February 1918 were credited to War Office Votes before the transfer took place, and accounts for the year to February 1919, since rendered to the Ministry of Munitions, show further profits which will be dealt with as the Treasury may determine.

21. In this connection I made inquiries as to the disposal of the Central By-Products Fund arising from the systematized collection and treatment of waste in France, and was informed that the position was being reported to the Treasury. The matter is at present under correspondence between the two Departments.

Profits from Cinematography.

22. A sum of approximately 50,000*l.*, representing the British portion of the profits arising from the exhibition of war films and the reproduction of war photographs, has been handed over by the Trade to the Army Council, who have decided that it shall be administered by the Army Trustee for the benefit of military charities.

In the special circumstances the Treasury have given covering sanction for this procedure, on the undertaking of the Army Council that, in the event of a similar receipt in the future, the question whether it should accrue to the Exchequer will not be decided without Treasury approval.

Army Educational Scheme.

23. An educational training scheme for the British Army was officially authorized in August 1918, but as early as the beginning of 1917 educational work had been going on unofficially at home and in France. The scheme was subsequently extended to all theatres of war.

The scheme of training, in which the various classes of soldiers, as well as men in hospital, were separately considered, embraced the issue of technical stores, text books and stationery, the establishment of standardized libraries, and facilities for officers and men to attend short courses of instruction at certain centres of Universities, Technical, Business or Workshop Training.

Local Education Authorities at home were invited to assist, especially in regard to the provision of practical instruction.

The scheme was keenly taken up by the men, and very encouraging reports have been received from the military authorities as to the beneficial results accruing from its adoption.

The total sum authorized by the Treasury for the purpose amounted to 578,650*l.*, of which 166,000*l.* had been expended by the 31st March 1919.

VOTE A.

24. A certified statement of the strength of the Army and the Royal Air Force in 1918-19 furnished to me shows that the actual numbers were within the total of 5,000,000 sanctioned by Parliament for these Services.

VOTE 1.

Assessment of Officers' Gratuities on Acting Rank.

25. Article 497 of the Pay Warrant of 1914 provides, subject to certain conditions, for the issue of a gratuity on the cessation of employment to Officers specially taken into employment by reason of a national emergency. The gratuity is based on a number of days' pay for each

year of service or part of a year, and Army Orders directed that the gratuity should be calculated at the rate of pay received on the last day of service or on the 11th November 1918, whichever was the more advantageous to the Officer, but acting rank generally was not to count for the purpose of the assessment of the gratuity.

In February 1919, a Royal Warrant authorized a gratuity to Officers holding a permanent commission in the Regular Army. In this case also the amount of the gratuity was based on the actual substantive or temporary rank for which pay was drawn by the Officer, and not on any acting rank he may have held.

By an Army Order of 11th March 1919, however, the Army Council reversed their earlier instructions and decided, without reference to the Treasury, that the gratuity should be assessed upon the highest acting rank that had been held by an Officer for an aggregate period of 182 days (or less if the rank were relinquished owing to wounds or disability due to military service) at any time during the war.

From correspondence which has been forwarded to my Department it appears that the Treasury at once took exception to the issue of the Army Order referred to without their concurrence, on the ground that it was an entirely novel interpretation of Article 497 justified neither by the obvious interpretation of that Article, nor by previous Army practice in so far as similar questions arise.

The Army Council's interpretation of Article 497 is briefly that "pay" does not necessarily mean the pay at the time when the gratuity is awarded, but pay at any period during an Officer's service, and hence the Council claim the right to grant gratuities based on the highest acting rank held for a specified period.

This claim is based on the right of the Department to be considered the interpreter of its own regulations. Such interpretations, however, must be reasonable in themselves; in this case it appears contrary to normal practice, and in granting gratuities on the pay at any period other than that at the termination of service the Army Council, in the absence of Treasury authority, appear to me to have acted *ultra vires*.

In this connection it should be mentioned that gratuities awarded to Officers of the Royal Air Force follow the lines laid down for Army Officers and are similarly affected by this decision.

The correspondence between the Treasury and the War Office which was furnished to my Department is appended to this Report (page 82).

Gratuities to Officers specially commissioned to act as Military Representatives at Tribunals.

26. In the course of my audit it came to notice that gratuities had been granted to certain gentlemen commissioned for the purpose of acting as Military Representatives at Tribunals. In the original conditions of appointment the Army Council decided that these officers would be ineligible for gratuity, but no agreement to this effect was drawn up, though apparently most of the officers were so informed. Claims for gratuity were received on the cessation of their employment, and, as it was considered that there was a possibility that some of the officers had not been definitely informed of the conditions, the War Office decided to issue the gratuity in all cases. It appeared to me that Treasury sanction should have been obtained for the payment of a gratuity in these circumstances, but as the Army Council regarded the matter as within their powers I referred the question to the Treasury, who, while doubting the ability of the Army Council in the circumstances to withhold the gratuity, concurred in my view that previous sanction should have been sought, on the grounds that the concession involved reconsideration of the terms offered.

The failure of the War Office to bring the conditions of their appointment to the notice of all the officers concerned appears to have caused avoidable expenditure of 3,000*l.*

Enlistment of Soldiers under the Age of Eighteen.

27. My attention has been drawn to the instructions issued by the Army Council in March last to enlist for long service youths between seventeen and eighteen years of age with men's rate of pay, although normally such pay is given only to soldiers who have attained the age of eighteen.

This procedure, involving a change in long-established practice with a considerable increase in cost, required in my opinion, the sanction of the Treasury.

In reply to a communication from my Department on the subject, the War Office contended that it had always been competent for them under paragraph 92 (iii) of the Recruiting Regulations to accept *as a man* a recruit who is over seventeen if he is up to the standard required of recruits of eighteen, and that the instructions referred to merely give general authority for the enlistment as men of a number of such youths, instead of requiring War Office authority in each case.

The recruiting Regulations referred to were apparently intended to apply to exceptional cases only, and can hardly be held to cover the general practice now adopted, especially as the youths are required to pass only the physical tests applicable to the age of seventeen. I am at present in communication with the Treasury on the subject.

LOCAL AUDIT IN HOME COMMANDS.

Soldiers' Pay and Separation Allowances.

28. Local Audits of Pay and Separation Allowances were carried out at various Pay Offices and Territorial Force Associations under a scheme which embraced all the Home Commands.

The year has been chiefly noticeable for the great amount of work thrown on the Pay Offices by the accelerated rate of demobilization. Before this, the accounts were generally in a satisfactory condition and had the original scheme of demobilization been adhered to the Pay Offices would probably have been able to cope with the work. The decision to release the men more rapidly inevitably caused delay in the current work, but at the Pay Offices examined later in the year, it was found that arrears had been overtaken and the improvement referred to in paragraph 28 of my Report for 1917-18 may be regarded as having been maintained.

In the case of men demobilized it was decided that 28 days' furlough with pay and allowances should be given to every man from the date of dispersal, and the Treasury sanctioned the issue of the War Gratuity in full, no deductions being made on account of debtor balances. These payments were made by paymasters immediately after dispersal, but instructions were issued that credit balances should be temporarily withheld as there might be belated charges. These instructions were not always observed and the credit balances were in many cases issued with the other furlough payments. In consequence when any belated charge was received it was generally found impossible to make a recovery, and thus many debtor balances arose. In other cases it appeared that officers commanding units paid large sums in anticipation of dispersal on account of sums which would be due to the men on demobilization, although definite instructions had been issued forbidding such payments. These heavy payments created debtor balances, and although some attempt was made to recover from the officers concerned it met with little success. The total amount of the debtor balances on demobilization has not yet been ascertained, but in the Eastern and Western Commands the amounts written off in the case of men demobilized up to 31st March 1919 were 285,000*l.* and 90,000*l.* respectively.

Where separation allowance was paid by the Pay Offices, the issue was as a rule stopped by recalling the books of allowance forms at the end of the demobilization furlough, but where payment was being made by a Territorial Force Association, the paymasters did not always follow the proper procedure of notifying the discharge to the Association and securing a prompt acknowledgment. This gave rise to numerous over-issues, and although Territorial Force Associations were, to some extent, successful in securing recoveries, a considerable sum was overpaid as a result of the lack of proper control in the Pay Offices. Similar omissions were observed with regard to the notifications of demobilization to the Civil Liabilities Department, which led in some instances to the over-issue of grants.

Revision of Dependants' Allowances.

29. The issue of dependants' allowance in excess of 12*s.* 6*d.* a week is dependent on the number of members of the household, but the regulations made no provision for the issuing office being notified of the death or removal of members other than the actual payee.

In June 1919, instructions were issued to investigate the number of sub-dependants for whom the allowance was drawn, and it was found that numerous changes had occurred which necessitated a reduction.

Complete figures are not yet available, but from a return recently furnished by the War Office, it appears that out of 44,243 claims investigated, a reduction was made in 1,112 cases, representing a saving of nearly 154*l.* a week.

Demobilization had at this time reduced the number of such allowances, and if a general review had been undertaken at an earlier date, a more substantial saving would no doubt have been effected.

Soldiers Temporarily Employed with the Expeditionary Force Canteens.

30. It was observed that soldiers overseas were temporarily employed with the Expeditionary Force Canteens, and received advances of pay which were charged to Army Votes. During their employment Army pay was credited to their accounts, and the period was reckoned as service for War Gratuity, but as it was intended that the Expeditionary Force Canteens should be self-supporting, I inquired whether any claim had been preferred by the Army for re-imbusement of the cost. In reply the War Office stated that a claim was being prepared, and I understand it has now been put forward.

Acquittance Rolls from Overseas Forces.

31. The acquittance rolls uncleared on 31st March 1919 amounted to 16,406,000*l.* from France (including Germany), 434,000*l.* from Italy, 3,057,000*l.* from Egypt, and 1,060,000*l.* from Salonika. By the 30th November 1919 these amounts had been reduced to 373,000*l.* for

France and Germany, less than 4,000*l.* for Italy, 198,000*l.* for Egypt, and 39,000*l.* for Salonika. The clearance has been expedited by the centralization of the work in London at a general clearing house for all Expeditionary Forces, and may be regarded as satisfactory

Vote 1 P.W. Appropriations in Aid.

32. As the rates of pay charged to private firms for the services of prisoners of war in one of the Home Commands appeared to me unduly low, I inquired whether the rates paid were those current in the district. I have recently been informed that a further claim has been made on the firms concerned, and an additional sum of over 9,000*l.* has been received and credited to Appropriations in Aid of Vote 1.

VOTE 6

Military Traffic on Controlled Railways.

33. During 1913-19 the cost of military traffic on controlled railways continued to be met by payments made to the railway companies under the Government guarantee, no direct charges being made against Army Funds. The Treasury have now decided, however, that from the 1st April 1919 the cost of railway services shall be paid through departmental vote accounts. This applies to all Government traffic, and under this decision the special passenger rates for military traffic in force before the war will be increased by 50 per cent.

This increase will also apply to Dominion and Allied Government traffic on controlled railways. Before that date claims were based on pre-war military rates, and it is probable that for some time, owing to increased working expenses, the charges made have not fully covered the cost of the services rendered.

VOTE 7.

Canteen Profits on Cash Allowance for Rations.

34. The long outstanding question as to the disposal of the Canteen profits arising from purchases made out of the cash allowance for rations referred to in paragraph 41 of my last year's Report, and in paragraph 39 of the Second Report of the Committee of Public Accounts, 1919, has now been settled. The claim on behalf of the Exchequer has been dropped by the Treasury. Some of the profits are already in the hands of the Army Trustee recently constituted to administer funds which not being public money exist for the benefit of the Army, to which body the whole will ultimately be transferred.

Issue of Fresh Meat to Troops in lieu of Frozen Meat.

35. From papers furnished to my Department it appears that in October 1918, as in a previous year, the War Office, in order to assist the Food Controller, who at that time had supplies of fresh meat in excess of the quantities required for the civilian population on the ration then in force, agreed to issue for a few weeks fresh meat to the troops at home, and to manufacturers of meat and vegetable rations in lieu of frozen meat usually provided.

This arrangement, which was made with Treasury sanction, although it entailed an increased charge of over 400,000*l.* against Army funds, was considered desirable inasmuch as it permitted reserves of frozen meat held by the Board of Trade for the Army being built up against a shortage which it was anticipated might occur in the following spring.

Adjustment of claims against Dominion and Allied Governments for issues of Bread, Flour and Petrol.

36. Examination of claims rendered by the War Office against Dominion and Allied Governments for supplies issued on repayment, revealed appreciable undercharges arising from the use of rates which did not cover the full cost of the stores sold, considerable quantities of bread and flour being supplied to allied troops at prices which did not include the value of the subsidy paid from public funds for wheat. Large supplies of petrol, also, were sold in France at rates considerably below the price which, at the same time, was being paid for British Army requirements.

As a result of my inquiries, prices have now been revised and supplementary claims made against Allied Governments and I have recently asked whether supplementary claims will also be made against the Dominions.

Purchases of Supplies in Egypt.

37. In paragraph 38 of my Report for the year 1915-16, I referred to the co-operation between the military authorities and the Government of Egypt for the purpose of utilizing the resources of that country for military purposes. This policy has been continued in

subsequent years, and large quantities of grain and forage have been purchased and collected by the Civil Government on behalf of the Army.

Final reconciliation between the quantities paid for by the Egyptian Government and those received into Army Depôts has not yet been effected.

Owing to the method of accounting adopted by the Civil Government, final adjustment on account of these purchases is subject to delay. On 31st March 1919 advances amounting to 2,700,000*l.* were outstanding, although the greater part of this amount had been expended, and vouchers were in the possession of the Ministry of the Interior. It was therefore decided by the War Office that Army Votes should be charged, pending the receipt of accounts, with sums actually expended, provided that they were supported by:—

1. A certificate of the Ministry that such expenditure had actually been incurred in the purchase of supplies for the Army, that the vouchers had undergone the customary audit of the Egyptian Government, and that complete accounts would be rendered in due course.
2. A certificate by the Director of Supplies and Transport that supplies to the amount specified had been received into Army Depôts.

In accordance with this decision, 2,379,500*l.* has been charged in the present account supported by certificates as described above, and in the circumstances I have raised no objection.

Repayment issues in Egypt at "Net" Weights.

38. In connection with the issue on repayment of Frozen Meat from certain Depôts in Egypt to shipping companies, my officers observed that in arriving at the "net" weight on which the value of these issues was based, in addition to a deduction for weight of wrappers authorized by Army Council Instruction, a further deduction from the gross weight had been made as an allowance for bone.

In reply to my inquiries as to the authority for this deduction, I was informed that the question had been referred to the War Office who had decided that the allowance for bone should be discontinued.

General Election Advertisements (Absent Voters).

39. With reference to the special Subhead F (A) which was opened by direction of the Treasury—see note on page 21 of the Account and letter No. 5 on page 68—it appears that, through arrangements made by a committee set up by the Government to deal with the matter, separate advertisements were inserted in the Press explaining the procedure to be followed by sailors and soldiers in recording their votes at the General Election in December 1918, and that the announcements, so far as the soldiers' votes were concerned, were made with the concurrence of the Army Council. The order was placed directly with an Advertising Agency instead of being passed through the usual channel of the Stationery Office.

The attention of the Advisory Committee on Government Advertising appears to have been drawn to these advertisements, and in a communication to the War Office they pointed out that two advertisements had been inserted in the newspapers, each practically a duplicate of the other, and in the opinion of the Committee, these two advertisements should have been combined with a heading relating to both soldiers and sailors, and in that way half the expenditure would have been saved.

The Committee also point out that if the services of the Government Contractors had been utilized, 5,000*l.* could have been saved on the rates actually charged and on the commission to the Agency.

A suggestion by the War Office that the firm should allow a discount was not accepted, and as there had been no stipulation to that effect, the matter was dropped.

The total cost of the advertisements in question was about 32,000*l.* of which 20,000*l.* has been charged to Army Votes, and the balance to Navy.

VOTE 8.

Cleaning and repairing Anti-gas Haversacks.

40. Orders amounting in the aggregate to the sum of 231,781*l.* were placed with a firm of contractors for cleaning and repairing anti-gas haversacks, the price to be paid for the work being based on costings furnished by the firm. In reply to a suggestion by my Department as to the desirability of the costings submitted by the contractors being examined by the Costings Department, it was stated that the charges proposed for each operation were tested in War Department shops, and prices were kept under close review to correspond to the

varying work which was required. On making a further request that the report of the examination might be furnished to my Department, I was informed that there had been no examination by the Costings Department, but that as a final result of the tests made by an officer on the staff of the Chief Inspector of Equipment and Stores, the firm had agreed to a reduction of 4½d. per haversack on all haversacks dealt with after the 30th April 1918.

An amount of 15,817*l.* was accordingly recovered from the Contractors.

VOTE 10.

Provision of Barge Accommodation at Poole and Southampton.

41. I have been furnished with the correspondence which has passed between the Treasury and the War Office relative to certain works undertaken by the War Office in the earlier part of 1918 when, owing to the military situation, it was necessary to provide facilities for diverting the cross-channel traffic from Richborough in the event of the northern ports of France being closed.

Poole Harbour and the Town Quay at Southampton were selected for the purpose, and the necessary works, which at first were estimated at 147,300*l.*, and later, owing to the improved military conditions, reduced to 86,000*l.*, were put in hand. The actual expenditure up to 31st December 1918 was approximately 78,000*l.*

The question of the disposal of the works executed is now under consideration.

The Army Council anticipated that the new Transport Authority when set up would accept the improvements as an addition to the transport facilities of the country, but the Treasury are not at present satisfied that the expenditure should rest as a final charge against public funds without any attempt to recover the value of the permanent improvements from the local authorities.

Joint Roads Committee.

42. This Committee, consisting of representatives of various Government departments and of local authorities, was constituted to take over from the Road Board the duties of agent in carrying out, as and when required by any department of the Government, the construction, repair, and maintenance of roads and bridges on Government property; the negotiation and settlement of claims by local authorities on account of abnormal damage to roads by Government traffic; and also the carrying into effect of the powers in regard to public roads vested in the Army Council by the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

The Committee, whose term of appointment is for the duration of the war and for such further period not exceeding 12 months as the Army Council shall decide, acts under the general administrative control of the Army Council, with whom rests the ultimate responsibility for its decisions. From 1st November 1918 the Accounting Officer of the Army is charged with the duty of accounting to Parliament for the expenditure incurred by the Committee.

The present account includes under Vote 10, charges amounting approximately to 763,000*l.* in respect of the road work performed on behalf of the War Department during the year 1918-19. Of this sum 501,000*l.* was expended by the Road Board before the constitution of the Committee, and 262,000*l.* by the Committee subsequently to 31st October 1918. The cost of the work performed by the Committee between 1st November 1918 and 31st March 1919 for Government departments other than the War Office amounted to 650,000*l.*

Subhead W., War Services.

43. This subhead includes expenditure amounting to 743,205*l.* on the Government Mechanical Transport Depot at Cippenham (Slough). The responsibility for this depot was transferred to the Ministry of Munitions on 1st April 1919.

The total estimated expenditure on construction and plant, excluding the purchase of the land, amounts to 2,150,000*l.* against which there is a set off of 200,000*l.* to be received for the sale of plant and surplus material. I have recently carried out a local test of the system of store accounting and have forwarded the results to the Ministry of Munitions. The matter is further dealt with in my report on that account.

Hutting for Troops.

44. Since the date of my last Report I have received nine reports of Chartered Accountants engaged on the examination of the accounts of Hutting Agents, three still remaining to be furnished.

The Chief Technical Examiner who examined the works on behalf of the War Department found much to criticise, but a Committee of the Institution of Civil Engineers, appointed at the request of the Army Council, to whom his reports in certain difficult cases were referred, while agreeing that there had been extravagance and waste, doubted the possibility of taking

accurate measurements so long after the completion of the works, and advised that it would be with great difficulty that a claim against the agents could be substantiated. They felt that there was much force in the contention of an agent firm that fair criticism of the cost of a work cannot be based on an investigation made long after its completion, when all the conditions appear in a different light, and the difficulties and drawbacks of the early war period are liable to be lost sight of.

In the circumstances the settlements effected do not call for criticism on my part.

Manufacture of Peat Fuel for Use in the Trenches.

45. The Select Committee on National Expenditure in 1917 (second Report--167-- paragraph 45 and Appendix III) had under consideration the earlier phases of a scheme for the construction by a carbonizing company of a Peat Fuel Factory in Northern France, which was abandoned, after certain initial outlay.

A smaller scheme, comprising the conversion of the Company's peat chemical factory at Dumfries into a peat fuel factory was afterwards adopted and Treasury authority for expenditure up to 120,000*l.* was obtained, the cost to be recoverable if the conversion were completed. It was subsequently found that the magnitude and difficulties of the work had been greatly under-estimated, apart from the rise in cost of labour and materials, and at the close of hostilities, although the factory was still incomplete, over 300,000*l.* had been spent on the work. It was decided to complete the conversion in order not to lose the right to recover the cost.

In July last the War Office reported to the Treasury that the final cost was expected to reach nearly 500,000*l.*, and that arrangements were being made by the Ministry of Munitions to which the administration of the factory had been transferred, for the disposal of the factory.

Accounting for Timber Supplies.

46. Since my last Report (paragraph 46 (a)) the number of unadjusted claims for timber supplied by the Board of Trade to various Army Services has been considerably reduced. Special efforts were made both by the War Office and the Board of Trade to support the claims with proof of delivery. Great difficulty, however, has been experienced in obtaining the necessary documents, and the Treasury have recently authorized the War Office to accept the Timber Department's claim on a general certificate, provided that all practicable steps are taken to identify issues which have been made to War Department contractors, and for which they are liable to pay.

With reference to paragraph 46 (b) of last year's Report, no further information has at present been furnished to me in regard to the accounting for shooks supplied overseas to contractors for making up into cases.

Port of Richborough.

47. Shortly after the armistice the general management of the cross-channel train ferry and barge traffic that was based on the Port of Richborough, together with the maintenance of the Inland Waterways and Docks Depôt, was vested in the South Eastern and Chatham Railway acting as the War Department's agents.

In view of the decreasing volume of military traffic during 1919 the Army Council decided that they should no longer hold the port as a War Department establishment, and in December 1919 with Treasury sanction the organization was transferred to the Ministry of Munitions as a going concern, no payment being made to the War Department for the buildings, stores, &c., handed over.

Divergent Rates for Labour in Egypt.

48. Examination of cash accounts in Egypt disclosed divergent rates paid for local labour employed through different Army departments, the rates for labour obtained independently being higher than those paid for the same class of workmen supplied through the Director of Labour.

In reply to my inquiries concerning this apparent lack of co-ordination I was informed that orders had been subsequently issued that all contracts for labour should be registered by the Director of Labour and that his department should be consulted in all cases of hiring in order to ensure the elimination of competing rates for the same class of labour.

Charges for Electric Current supplied to Private Consumers.

49. At numerous places War Department generating stations were established and electric current was supplied on repayment to non-entitled consumers. In October 1915 a flat rate for summer and winter was fixed for each lamp, and in February 1918 in view of the increased cost of production I inquired whether the charges had been revised. On the introduction of Summer Time the summer rates were reduced, and it was proposed to reconsider the winter rates, but action was deferred pending the receipt of the power station accounts. As it was doubtful when these accounts would be received I asked whether the charges covered the cost of production as shown by the latest rendered accounts and it was admitted that the rates were too low in certain cases. The rates were accordingly revised, the average increase being 30 per cent., from the commencement of Summer Time in 1919, but, owing to the delay in dealing with the question, it would appear that private consumers have been supplied for a considerable time with current at rates below the cost of production.

VOTE 11.

*Expenditure on Civil Administration and Relief in the Occupied Enemy Territories of Syria, Cilicia, and Palestine.**Subheads J (b) and J (c).*

50. After the occupation of these territories civil administrations were set up in four centres, known as (1) South, *i.e.*, Palestine, headquarters Jerusalem; (2) East, headquarters Damascus; (3) West, headquarters Beirut; (4) North, headquarters Adana.

No. 1 was under British, No. 2 under Arab, and Nos. 3 and 4 under French Administration, the supreme control of the whole being vested in the British Commander-in-Chief, Lord Allenby.

It was decided that any necessary issues to meet expenditure in excess of revenue should be made by the War Office out of funds placed at their disposal from the Vote of Credit, but the Army Council, while accepting this arrangement, disclaimed any effective responsibility for the civil administration and finance of these areas.

The administration of Palestine is expected to pay its way, and no charges or credits in respect of it are included in the 1918-19 accounts.

The expenditure of this administration, which is British, has been audited by my officers, and no questions arise.

As regards the other three administrations, which are French and Arab, my officers have inspected the books, &c., but it has not been practicable for them to carry out an audit of the accounts.

51. Following on the arrangements for the cost of civil administration considerable payments have also been made out of Army funds for the relief of refugees, a small portion only of whom were British subjects; but the question of incidence of cost in the case of non-British subjects does not yet appear to have been settled.

52. The charges to the special subheads of this Vote represent the amounts advanced from Army funds in respect of the North, West, and East administrations up to the end of March 1919 (*see* Correspondence, page 68).

Considerable further expenditure on Civil Administration and Relief has taken place in 1919-20, provision being made in Army Estimates for that year under the Cost of Maintenance of Armies of Occupation (pp. 8 and 9).

A record is being kept by the War Office of all issues of cash or stores in the event of a claim being prepared for recovery from the Powers concerned.

VOTES 13, 14, AND 15.

Non-Effective Services.

53. The usual current examination has been applied to the awards for service pensions and other non-effective charges with generally satisfactory results.

Awards of Compensation under the Injuries in War (Compensation) Act, 1914 (Session 2).

54. In giving sanction to the scheme framed under the Injuries in War (Compensation) Act, 1914 (Session 2), the Treasury expressed a desire to be consulted in the event of cases arising where it was proposed to commute a permanent allowance for a capital sum exceeding one-half the "present value" of the equivalent Post Office annuity.

I have addressed a communication to the War Office requesting an explanation of settlements in excess of this limit, effected without reference to the Treasury, and have drawn attention to the considerably more favourable basis of commutation adopted than that prevailing, in normal circumstances, for somewhat analogous cases under the Scheme framed under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.

I understand the question is the subject of correspondence between the Treasury and the War Office.

TOTAL COST STATEMENT.

55. A statement compiled from the returns furnished to me of the charges incurred by other Departments on account of the Army for the year 1918-19 is appended to the Report (page 85).

H. J. Gibson,
Comptroller and Auditor General.

Exchequer and Audit Department.
27 February 1920.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(11498/19.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 19 March, 1919.

THE attention of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury has been drawn to Army Order of the 11th inst., respecting the counting of acting rank for the purpose of assessing officers' gratuities.

My Lords understand that the principle hitherto followed by the Army Council has been to base the gratuity on the pay of the temporary or substantive rank held by the officer at the date of termination of his service. Their Lordships appreciate that there may be sound technical reasons for including acting rank in the above calculation, subject to its being only that held at the termination of the officer's service, but the Army Order under reference introduces a much wider principle, viz., calculation of the gratuity upon the highest acting rank that has been held by an officer for an aggregate period of 182 days (or less, if the rank were relinquished owing to wounds or disability due to military service) *at any time during the war*. So far as My Lords are aware this is an entirely novel interpretation of Article 497, which is neither justified by the obvious interpretation of the terms of that article, nor by previous Army practice in so far as similar questions arise. Moreover it is definitely contrary to the principle governing the calculation of retired pay or pension under the Officers' Pensions Warrant, Article 31. My Lords consider that in such a case Their previous sanction should have been obtained for the amendment of the previous Army Orders, and They direct me to express Their regret that the Council should have failed to give Them an opportunity to express Their views.

I am to ask whether before arriving at their decision the Council made any attempt to form an estimate of the additional cost; whether they are satisfied that the principle thus imported into the interpretation of the article is not likely to have any consequential effects on the officers holding temporary rank; and whether any reference was made to the Admiralty, Air Ministry, or Ministry of Pensions, in order to ascertain how far the new principle might affect their regulations.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) Robert Chalmers.

(27311/9) (F. 2.)

Sir,

War Office, London, S.W.1, 29 March 1919.

I AM commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., No. 11498/19, regarding the assessment of officers' gratuities on Acting rank.

The Council note that Their Lordships would have desired to have an opportunity of expressing Their views on the decision arrived at. Your letter speaks of "an entirely novel interpretation of Article 497," which is not "justified by the obvious interpretation of the terms of that Article."

On this I am to observe that the Council is always most anxious not to fail in its duty of submitting to the Treasury for sanction any proposed departure from the terms of the Pay Warrant, but it is unable to admit any such failure in this case. The question at issue is whether in assessing gratuities any distinction is to be made between substantive, temporary and acting rank. Article 497 is completely silent on this question. Neither the term "rank" nor any equivalent occurs in the text, which speaks only of pay. All those kinds of rank carry the pay, and if there is any obvious interpretation at all it can only be the widest, viz., that the gratuity should in all cases follow the pay.

The various administrative and technical difficulties arising in this connection at first led the Council to the decision (Army Order 365 of 1918) that acting rank should not, generally speaking, count. This aroused great criticism, especially on the ground that in certain parts of the Territorial Force the term "acting" had been used in cases of what was really "temporary" rank. Further consideration led the Council to modify their decision and admit acting rank under certain conditions. Neither decision appears to them to constitute any departure from the terms of the Warrant such as to require Treasury sanction.

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter I am to say that (1) it was quite impossible to form any estimate of the additional cost involved; (2) it was recognised that the case of "temporary" rank is not free from difficulty, but it is not identical with the case of acting rank; (3) it was ascertained from the Admiralty and Air Ministry that the Army system of "acting" rank does not exist in the Navy and Air Force; but the rule of 6 months' service is analogous to that for counting non-substantive rank in the distribution of Naval Prize. As regards the Ministry of Pensions, the Council were fully aware that acting rank in the Pensions Warrant counts exactly as if it were substantive, and no difficulty appears to them to arise therefrom.

The Secretary, The Treasury.

I am, &c.,
(signed) B. B. Cubitt.

(14291/19.)

Sir,

23 July 1919.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 29th March last (27311/9 (F. 2.) regarding the assessment of officers' gratuities on Acting rank.

I am to state that the Army Council appear to have entirely mistaken the point of Their Lordships' objection. That objection was not directed solely against the decision to count "acting" rank in the same way as substantive or "temporary" rank, nor was it stated or implied that this decision in itself imported a novel principle into the interpretation of Article 497 of the Warrant, although They still consider that, having regard to the probable magnitude of the sum involved, the previous decision in this respect, promulgated in Army Order 365/1918, should not have been reversed without consultation with This Board. But what They regarded, and still regard, as a new and questionable feature of the interpretation was the decision to abandon calculation of gratuity on the rate of pay drawn at the time of discharge or demobilisation (whether in virtue of substantive, temporary or acting rank) and to permit it to be made on the pay of a rank held at any previous period during the war, whether or not it was still held at the close of the officer's employment. As My Lords read the Army Order II. of the 11th March last, this represents the Council's intention; if They are mistaken, They will be glad to be reassured.

But if They are right in Their reading of the Army Order then They must adhere to Their view that this is not the obvious interpretation of the Article. In that Article the term "pay" is commonly held to mean pay at the end of the engagement, and was so interpreted, e.g., in Army Order 365/1918.

It might also conceivably mean "the average pay over the whole period," or "the average pay over each year or part of a year." But it is straining the natural sense of the words to read it as meaning "the highest rate of pay drawn, for a certain minimum period, at any time during the officer's service."

My Lords therefore remain of the opinion that the matter was one in which Their previous sanction should have been sought. Further, They direct me to place on record Their view that the concession involved an unnecessary increase of expenditure which, on the information now before Them, They would not have felt justified in approving. They are unable therefore to give Their covering sanction for the expenditure involved, which it will devolve upon the Army Council to defend if necessary before Parliament.

A copy of this correspondence has been sent to the Comptroller and Auditor General.

With reference to the last sentence of Mr. Cubitt's letter, I am again to point out that by Article 31 of the Officers' Pension Warrant the calculation of retired pay, &c., is clearly limited to "the temporary or acting rank held by the officer at the time he was killed, wounded, injured, or removed from duty in consequence of disablement." In this respect, therefore, paragraphs 1 (a) and 3 of the new Army Order are, as already stated, directly contrary to Pensions Ministry practice.

My Lords observe that the Council found it impossible to frame any estimate of the cost involved. They cannot but feel that to take a decision of this importance without any estimate of the cost shows an insufficient regard for the proper disbursement of public funds.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) T. L. Heath.

(27311/10.) (F. 2b.)

Sir,

War Office, London, S.W.1, 6 August 1919.

I AM commanded by the Army Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 14291/19, dated 23rd ultimo, regarding the assessment of Officers' gratuities on acting rank.

The Council regret that the explanations given in their former letter are not satisfactory to Their Lordships, and they note that the main stress of their objections is to be laid on the recognition of rank not held on the day of demobilisation. As, generally speaking, an Officer on leaving his unit to proceed to a demobilisation station automatically loses his acting rank—because he then ceases to "Act"—strict adherence to the rule of the last day would have been universally regarded in the Army as making the recognition of acting rank meaningless by a technicality.

This very difficult and complicated question was fully and repeatedly examined by the Army Council, and they held, and do hold, that the decision at which they finally arrived was within their powers as interpreters of the Royal Warrant. They do not admit the correctness of the view that the expenditure involved was "unnecessary" or that their action was taken "with insufficient regard for the proper disbursement of public funds." They have not sought to escape their responsibility by asking the Treasury for covering sanction, and they are fully prepared to defend the expenditure before Parliament.

The Secretary, The Treasury, S.W.1.

I am, &c.,
(signed) B. B. Cubitt.

(34365/19.)

Sir,

27 August 1919.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 6th inst. (27311/10) (F. 2 b.), further regarding the assessment of Officers' gratuities on acting rank.

The Army Council point out that as, generally speaking, an Officer on leaving his unit to proceed to a demobilisation station automatically loses his acting rank—because he then ceases to "Act"—strict adherence to the rule of the last day would have been universally regarded in the Army as making the recognition of acting rank meaningless by a technicality.

Their Lordships need hardly say that if the Council's proposal had been submitted for Their previous approval, they would have been fully prepared to sanction a sufficiently liberal interpretation of the Pay Warrant to meet this technical point. But They adhere to Their opinion that because a certain latitude was required in this direction, it by no means followed that a case had been made out for the very much wider interpretation given by the Army Council, involving a new principle and not merely a means of overcoming a technical difficulty.

My Lords observe that the Council still hold that the decision at which they finally arrived was within their powers as interpreters of the Royal Warrant. Their Lordships are altogether unable to accept this view, and They direct me to refer to Treasury Letter of the 6th November 1916 in reply to War Office letter of the 30th September 1916 (989/2) (F. 3.), laying down the principle which, in Their opinion, should define the Council's powers in such a case.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) T. L. Heath.

(989/2) (F. 3.)

Sir,

War Office, London, S.W.1, 30 September 1916.

I AM commanded by the Army Council to acquaint you for the information of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, that in connection with the case of an officer who has been seriously injured while playing football with his men in France, they have felt obliged to consider the general question as to how such injuries should rank as entitling the sufferers to money compensation from army funds.

The general rule has hitherto been not to regard injuries sustained in games or sports as received in the performance of military duty unless the individual has been definitely ordered to take part in some special function such as the Royal Military Tournament.

It is, however, always expected of an officer that he shall take part in organised military sports and games, such as football, cricket, hockey, &c., and it is so important that every man should be kept up to the highest pitch of physical fitness, that it is virtually a military duty to take part in and encourage such sports when opportunities permit. This is especially the case in areas of active operations, and the experience of the present conditions of warfare has led the Army Council to attach much importance to the encouragement of sports and games among men at the front.

The Council have therefore decided, and Their Lordships will doubtless agree, that injuries sustained in the course of properly organised military games, shall rank for non-effective purposes as though they had occurred through the performance of military duty.

I may add that the Army Council consider that the definition of "military duty" rests with them, but they think it right to inform Their Lordships of a change of such long existing interpretation, although the cost will probably be slight.

The Secretary to the Treasury.

I am, &c.,
(signed) B. B. Cubitt.

(26,036/16.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 6 November 1916.

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, Mr. Cubitt's letter of the 30th September last (989/2) (F. 3.), stating that in connection with the case of an officer who has been seriously injured while playing football with his men in France, the Army Council have felt obliged to consider the general question as to how such injuries should rank as entitling the sufferer to money compensation from Army Funds.

In reply I am to request you to inform the Army Council that My Lords raise no objection to the proposal that in the case of officers and men serving in the field abroad injuries sustained in the course of properly organised military games during the war shall rank for such purposes as though they had occurred through the performance of military duty.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of the letter under reply I am to state that it is Their Lordships' view that Their concurrence is necessary to the placing of a particular interpretation on a phrase such as "military duty" used in the Royal Warrant if the interpretation has important financial bearings.

More particularly is this so when it is a case of a change being made in an interpretation which has held the field for a considerable period.

The Secretary, War Office.

I am, &c.,
(signed) *Robert Chalmers.*

APPENDIX.

TOTAL COST STATEMENT.

The following Charges are stated to have been incurred by other Departments on account of the Army in 1918-19.

CONSOLIDATED FUND.		£	£
Miscellaneous (Indian Army Pension Deficiency Fund Annuity) - - - - -			215,000
VOTED SERVICES.			
Class I., Vote 10.—Public Buildings :—			
Rents, Insurance, Tithes, &c. - - - - -		- 105,449	
New Works and Alterations - - - - -		- 110,293	
Maintenance, Repairs, &c. - - - - -		- 61,774	
Caretakers - - - - -		- 14,627	
Furniture - - - - -		- 47,135	
Fuel, Gas, Water, &c. - - - - -		- 56,115	
		<u>395,393</u>	
	<i>Less Receipts</i> - - - - -	509	394,884
Class I., Vote 11.—Surveys of the United Kingdom - - - - -			*
„ I., „ 14.—Rates on Government Property - - - - -			484,742
„ I., „ 15.—Public Works and Buildings, Ireland :—			
Rents, &c. - - - - -		132	
New Works, Alterations, &c. - - - - -		861	
Maintenance and Supplies, &c. - - - - -		8,040	
Furniture, Fittings, &c. - - - - -		1,446	
Fuel and Light - - - - -		3,632	
		<u>14,111</u>	
	<i>Less Receipts</i> - - - - -	259	13,852
Class II., Vote 13.—Government Chemist - - - - -			5,375
„ II., „ 15.—Exchequer and Audit Department - - - - -			22,439
„ II., „ 19.—Mint - - - - -			19,336
„ II., „ 24.—Stationery and Printing - - - - -			†4,165,130
„ III., „ 1.—Law Charges, England - - - - -			11,353
„ III., „ 8.—Prisons, England - - - - -			120,908
„ III., „ 11.—Law Charges, Scotland - - - - -			1,402
„ III., „ 14.—Prisons, Scotland - - - - -			7,510
„ III., „ 15.—Law Charges, Ireland - - - - -			259
„ III., „ 21.—Prisons, Ireland - - - - -			641
„ VI., „ 1.—Superannuation - - - - -			300
Revenue „ 2.—Inland Revenue - - - - -			333
„ „ 3.—Post Office - - - - -			102,895
			<u>£ 5,566,359</u>

NOTE.—As shown in the statement of Post Office War Expenditure, Civil Service Appropriation Accounts, page 396 (H. of C.P. 10/20) largely increased services were rendered by the Post Office in addition to the above which it has not been practicable to assess. The salaries of officials lent to the War Office which continued to be charged to the Votes of the Departments lending them are also not included.

* War Services amounting to £634,736 were carried out for the War Office, Admiralty, Air Force, Ministry of Munitions, &c.

† The Stationery Office charges for the Navy and Army include the cost of supplies to the Air Force, Ministries of Blockade, Food, Information, Munitions, National Service, Pensions, Reconstruction and Shipping, and National War Aims Committee.

STORE ACCOUNTS.

REPORT of the COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL upon the STORE ACCOUNTS of the ARMY.

Extent of Examination.

1. A continuous test examination of all classes of Army Store Accounts is carried out by my Department at Headquarters and in Home Commands, France, and Egypt. Periodical test examinations have also been applied to the accounts of the Forces in Italy, and the Army of the Black Sea.

In addition, an inspection of all queries, &c., raised by the Army Audit Staffs on their more detailed examination of the accounts is made, all accounts thus coming under my general review.

The accounts in Mesopotamia and East Africa, however, have been audited on Imperial behalf by the Indian Government and the Colonial Office respectively, and have not been subject to the examination either of the Army Audit Staff or of my Department.

Outstanding Accounts.

2. The whole of the accounts for the period to 31st March 1919 have not yet been examined and allowed by the War Office. The list of accounts that still remain outstanding is somewhat longer than usual, the normal examination having been retarded by the necessity of dealing promptly with the large numbers of final accounts received from disbanded units.

Any questions of importance which may arise from the examination of late accounts will be dealt with in next year's Report.

3. At the date of my annual Reports, the store examination has already proceeded into the current year, and in the remarks that follow I have in some instances, dealt with the position down to the present time. The individual cases cited should not necessarily be regarded as typical, but are referred to because they exemplify some principle of accounting or other point of interest.

Transition Period of Army Store Accounts.

4. The cessation of active military operations following on the Armistice, and the rapid demobilization of the Armies, resulted in the accumulation of vast quantities of all descriptions of stores at home and overseas. The nature and magnitude of the operations involved in the final disposal of these stores, and the progress already made, is described on pages 15 to 18 of Command Paper 565 of 1920.

The disposal of surplus stores is vested in the Disposals Board of the Ministry of Munitions, and is carried out under an arrangement by which, broadly, the Army retains custody until the stores are sold or taken over by the Ministry. Until the abnormal returns of stores come to an end, and the disposal of surplus stores has made further progress, there is inevitable congestion at some of the depôts, and in these cases normal store accounting procedure, including stocktaking, is to some extent in abeyance.

Emergency Relief Measures afforded to Distressed Allied and Enemy Civilians.

5. Various emergency measures of relief have been afforded by British Armies in the field to distressed allied and enemy civilian subjects in war areas.

From the replies to my inquiries and from perusal of the relevant War Office files it is gathered that, where the cost of the services has been regarded as recoverable, the necessary claims have been preferred against the Governments concerned, or are in course of preparation.

Issues to Russian Forces.

6. Since the revolution in Russia important issues of stores have been made to various Russian forces. I have no definite information as to the ultimate allocation of the cost of these supplies, which were made from Army stocks.

Demobilization of the Forage Committee.

7. The active operations of the Forage Committee have practically ceased, and it is being rapidly demobilized. Forage is being transferred to the Commands, together with the equipment necessary for Army requirements. Surplus equipment is being handed over to the Ministry of Munitions for disposal.

The discrepancies in the equipment accounts of the late Administrative Areas of the Forage Committee are being reported to the War Office, and, to enable the accounts to be closed, are being dealt with through a Central Suspense Account at headquarters.

The accounts branches of the Committee are now centralized and a number of outstanding matters remain to be dealt with before the liquidation of the Committee is complete.

Verification of Store Credit.

8. An essential accounting check is exercised by headquarter branches and by the Army Audit Staffs in the Commands and overseas, in verifying that purchases of stores and supplies are duly taken on charge in the store accounts concerned, but during the war period many of the purchase transactions of the War Office have been of a character which has rendered this procedure very difficult, *e.g.*, immense quantities of foreign and colonial commodities have been purchased abroad, on bills of lading, for delivery direct to Army depôts overseas.

An occasional test check of the relative headquarter records is made by my Department, and it came to notice recently that the necessary verification of store credit was apparently outstanding in respect of some important shipments. In these cases there was no information available enabling my Department to link up the cash transactions with the receipt entries in the Army Store Accounts, and I have inquired whether the items in question have now been cleared, and as to the position generally.

As an indication of the varied activities of the headquarter branch concerned, it may be mentioned that the items selected for the check included canned fish purchased in Norway through the Restriction of Enemy Supplies Department, preserved meat in America through the Ministry of Food, flour and oatmeal in Canada and South America through the Wheat Commission, cargoes of oats from North and South American ports, and coal and coke supplied by the Admiralty.

Redemption of Military Greatcoats by Railway Companies.

9. The demobilization regulations provide that a soldier shall leave his dispersal station in possession of a greatcoat, for which *1l.* is withheld from his War Gratuity.

Under an arrangement entered into with the Railway Executive, the greatcoat can be exchanged at any railway station for *1l.*, the railway company obtaining the soldier's receipt on an army form supplied to him for that purpose. The railway companies obtain periodical refunds from the War Office, through the Railway Clearing House, and consign the coats to Army depôts.

During a test examination by my Department of the store accounts of a Home Command it was found to be impracticable to establish a cross-check between the payments made to the Railway Companies and the coats received at Ordnance Depôts in the Command.

I have inquired of the War Office whether such a check has been, or will be, effected generally, and have been informed that a bulk check is being made.

More than two million pounds have been paid to the railway companies to date, on account of this service, and, until the results of the bulk check are available, I have no information whether these payments are supported, even approximately, by the receipt of a corresponding number of coats at the various Army depôts concerned.

Inland Water Transport—Accounting for Craft.

10. Considerable expenditure has been incurred throughout the war in the acquisition of large numbers of various types of craft, for use at home and overseas.

I have made inquiry as to the extent to which it has been ascertained that these craft had been duly brought to account, more especially in view of the arrangements that were being made for the disposal of those surplus to Army requirements.

In reply I have been informed that full information cannot be given at the present time, as replies are still outstanding from Italy, Salonika, and two Home Commands. A very large proportion, however, has been verified in the most important areas, and the full result of the check will be notified to me when the work has been completed.

Discrepancies in Shipments to Basra.

11. Stores and supplies for the Army in Mesopotamia are obtained through ordinary War Office channels or from the Indian Government on repayment.

During 1915-17 certain shipments of supplies to Basra from Army Depôts in Egypt could not be traced as arriving at their destination because their identity was lost at Indian ports en route, where there was transshipment. Consequently, heavy surpluses and deficiencies arose between Egypt and Basra accounts with regard to particular consignments and the depôts in Egypt could not obtain discharge to their accounts.

The relative War Office papers show that in view of the exceptional circumstances the deficiencies were not regarded as losses requiring formal write-off, a decision with which I concur. An approved accounting procedure was adopted later for dealing with these transactions.

In June last the War Office addressed a communication to the India Office with regard to some of these supplies which had been landed in India, inquiring whether the arrangements in force at Indian ports were such as to ensure that the Imperial Government was duly credited with the value of the supplies landed in India, or, alternatively, that it was not charged if and when they were shipped onwards to Basra. This inquiry is still outstanding.

Unsatisfactory Accounting Records at an Ordnance Depôt.

12. The utility of the local examination of the accounting records at the depôts lies in the opportunity that is afforded for ascertaining whether the procedure followed secures the necessary measure of accounting control over the stock.

The records of an important Ordnance depôt were reviewed in June last, when, among other matters, the depôt's account with a contractor was found to be unsatisfactory. In this case very large numbers of blankets, &c. had been issued to a firm for cleaning, and it could not be established by my officers that any adequate records had been kept from which the firm's liability for army property could be ascertained or their claims for payment certified.

In reply to an inquiry, I have been informed that the depôt's record of blankets issued to and received from the firm has been found to be unsatisfactory, but steps are being taken to bring the record up to date so as to show the numbers of articles still due from the firm. A further report on the matter will be forwarded to me.

Mechanical Transport Vehicles transferred to the Ministry of Munitions.

13. Very large numbers of motor vehicles have been handed over by the War Office to the Ministry of Munitions for repair or disposal. This movement of stock continues, particularly in respect of mechanical transport returning from overseas.

During a recent test examination of these transactions by my officers, which necessitated cross reference between the accounting records of both Departments, it came to notice that in May last, when the Kempton Park Depôt was given up by the War Office and handed over to the Ministry of Munitions, the stock of vehicles, numbering some thousands, had been handed over to the Ministry without vouchers and apparently without agreement as to the numbers and descriptions of the vehicles transferred. These vehicles still remain on Army store charge in the Kempton Park account. This account has not yet come under the final review of the Army Auditor, who, however, appears to have kept in close touch with this transaction and had already reported the circumstances to the War Office.

I asked for information as to the circumstances in which the stock was not agreed with the Ministry, and discharge to the Army ledger obtained, at the time of the transfer; and also as to any progress that may have been made towards agreement.

In reply, I have been informed that the difficulties at Kempton Park were increased owing to the unrest among the personnel of the depôt, and during the period of unrest no accounting work was performed; the accounts were still in arrear when orders were issued for the handing over of the depôt to the Ministry of Munitions which, it was understood, was instructed to clear the depôt within a short period. Owing to the accounts being in arrear and the hurried evacuation, it was not possible then to prepare lists of vehicles on charge. Lists have, however, since been prepared, and these are being compared with lists which have now been compiled by the Ministry of Munitions.

14. I also made inquiry with regard to certain issues of vehicles from an Army Depôt at Slough to the adjacent Repair Depôt of the Ministry of Munitions. The more important of these issues were 331 new motor cycles and 245 motor vehicles, mostly heavy lorries, in September and October last, during the railway strike. In these cases temporary receipts had been obtained, but the official acknowledgments of receipt by the Ministry's Repair Depôt appeared to be overdue, and there was no satisfactory discharge to the Army store account.

In reply I have been informed that action is being taken to expedite the passing of permanent vouchers in place of the temporary vouchers, the delay having been due to the investigations of the Ministry of Munitions into losses of vehicles while they were in the charge of that Department.

15. The subsequent proceedings in regard to mechanical transport vehicles after transfer to the Ministry of Munitions are being considered in connection with the accounts of the Ministry.

STOCKTAKING.

16. Stocktakings have been carried out during the year both at Home and Overseas Depôts, and the deficiencies disclosed have been dealt with in accordance with Treasury direction.

Cases where the value of the gross deficiency has exceeded 1,000*l.* are noted on pages 18, 21, 24, 26, and 28 of the Account.

Stocktaking at Ordnance Department, Woolwich.

17. Joint stocktakings by representatives of the Ordnance and Finance Departments have been continued throughout the year. It appears that at 31st March 1919 there were some 67,000 store headings in the ledgers, of which about 32,000 had been verified and adjusted since June 1916, including about 7,000 in the March 1919 quarter alone. It is understood that this rapid progress in the March quarter was more than maintained in the succeeding half year.

These figures, which were regarded by the War Office as satisfactory, indicate that the steps taken to accelerate the stocktaking duty, to which reference was made in paragraph 15 of last year's Report, have had the desired result.

Deficiency of Khaki Jean.

18. During the scrutiny by my Department of the Woolwich stocktaking files it was observed that it had been found necessary to carry out a protracted investigation in connection with a deficiency of 41,000 yards of khaki jean disclosed at a stocktaking in October 1917. This material was issued in very large quantities to contractors, on repayment, for making into bandoliers under Ministry of Munitions contracts.

The value of the deficiency was only about 700*l.*, but the case presented some unusual features which appeared to bear some relation to a long outstanding inquiry addressed by me to the Ministry of Munitions in connection with the same group of contracts, in which the question was raised that, *prima facie*, certain contractors had not paid for all material that had been issued to them, or, alternatively, had been overpaid for bandoliers delivered into store under their contracts, considerable sums being involved.

At the time the papers came to my Department the case was still under consideration, and a copy of my inquiry addressed to the Ministry of Munitions was therefore sent to the War Office for the information of the Accounting Officer, in order that all aspects of the matter might be reviewed together. I understand that the matter is being investigated.

Defective Accounting Check on Goods Issued from Woolwich.

19. A disquieting feature of the case referred to above, was the discovery that goods had been irregularly sent out of the Arsenal. Gate passes, enabling the goods to pass the police scrutiny, had been duly produced, but the necessary accounting documents, the issue vouchers, had not been made out, and there was no means of detecting the irregularities, which might eventually be concealed in stocktaking discrepancies.

It has now been arranged that all gate passes, on return from the police, shall be checked by independent officers with the issue vouchers concerned.

Stocktaking at the Royal Army Clothing Department, Pimlico.

20. During a scrutiny by my Department of the stocktaking papers of the Royal Army Clothing Department, it was observed that in June last the Store Accountant, who is the local representative of the Finance Branch, reported that it had been necessary to introduce an improved accounting procedure with a view to removing difficulties hitherto experienced at stocktaking. It had been found that the ledger figures could not be depended upon as a complete record of all goods that had been passed into store.

I have inquired recently whether the improved procedure has been effective in removing the previous uncertainty of stocktaking results, and in reply have been informed that it has proved of considerable value in aiding stocktaking officers to render more accurate returns of the stock.

The question will be followed up by my Department in the examination of the Clothing Department accounts of the current year.

Stocktaking at Weedon Small Arms Depôt.

21. In paragraph 16 of my last year's Report it was mentioned that stocktaking at the important Small Arms Depôt at Weedon had been practically in abeyance since 1914. From War Office papers it has been ascertained that the returns of small arms from demobilization have caused abnormal congestion at the depôt, and that from time to time large quantities of small arms have been reported to the Disposals Board as surplus to Army requirements. These surpluses were still remaining at Weedon in January of this year and until the congestion at this depôt is relieved, it would seem that any comprehensive stocktaking is impracticable.

Independent Stocktaking and Inspections.

22. Independent test verification of stock and local inspections of current store accounting procedure were carried out during the year by the Army Audit Staff, both at home and foreign stations, to the following extent :—

Armament	-	-	-	-	-	8
Barrack Expense	-	-	-	-	-	202
Clothing and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	1,490
Engineer	-	-	-	-	-	157
Ordnance	-	-	-	-	-	89
Technical	-	-	-	-	-	53
Supply, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	481
Medical and Veterinary	-	-	-	-	-	47
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	44

making a total of 2,571 as compared with 2,614 in the previous year, and 1,842 in 1916-17.

In addition a considerable number of visits of inspection, without test stocktaking, were made.

H. J. Gibson,
Comptroller and Auditor General.

Exchequer and Audit Department.
27 February 1920.