

Victorian Year-Book 1954-58

PART IX.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The *Local Government Act* 1958, No. 6299, consolidated the law relating to Local Government in Victoria.

Municipalities in Victoria. At 30th September, 1957 there were 205 municipalities in Victoria together with the Yallourn Works Area which was constituted under the *State Electricity (Yallourn Area) Act*, 1947, No. 5219. The municipalities consist of 43 cities, 4 towns, 19 boroughs and 139 shires. The only unincorporated areas of the State are French Island (65 square miles) in Westernport Bay, Lady Julia Percy Island (1.02 square miles) off Port Fairy, Bass Strait Islands (1.51 square miles), Gippsland Lakes (Part) (128 square miles) and Tower Hill Lake Reserve (2.28 square miles) adjacent to the Borough of Koroit.

Rating. The maximum general rate that may be levied by municipalities is four shillings in the pound on the net annual value of property and the minimum amount of rate payable is five shillings.

Whilst the majority of municipalities in Victoria levy the annual rate on the estimated Capital Improved Value of land, they are empowered to adopt the system of rating on the Unimproved Value either by determination by the council or by a poll of ratepayers. The general practice is to conduct a poll before any change is made in the rating system of a municipality.

Municipalities within Metropolitan Area. As from 1st January, 1954, the Metropolitan area, for statistical purposes, was re-defined by the inclusion of the following municipal areas:—

Altona Riding of the Shire of Werribee.

Western Ward of the City of Sunshine.

Maribyrnong and Tullamarine Ridings of the Shire of Keilor.

North Ward of the City of Heidelberg.

* *Montmorency and Eltham Ridings*, and part of the Northern Riding, of the Shire of Eltham.

* Prior to 6th March 1955 known as South Riding.

Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe.

Western, North, and Southern Ridings of the Shire of Lillydale.

North, Centre, and East Ridings of the Shire of Fern Tree Gully.

Shire of Dandenong.

Seaford, Frankston, and Mt. Eliza Ridings of the Shire of Frankston and Hastings.

Changes in the names of municipalities during the period May, 1955, to September, 1959, are as follows:—

1955—The *Shire of Dandenong* was renamed *Shire of Springvale and Noble Park* on 25th May, 1955.

A new *Shire of Dandenong* was constituted by severance from the *Shire of Springvale and Noble Park* on 31st May, 1955.

The *Borough of Moe* was constituted by severance from the *Shire of Narracan* on 31st May, 1955.

1956—The *Shire of Broadmeadows* was created *City of Broadmeadows* on 30th May, 1956.

1957—The *Shire of Altona* was constituted by severance from the *Shire of Werribee* on 27th February, 1957.

The *Shire of Numurkah* was re-named *Shire of Nathalia* on 26th April, 1957.

A new *Shire of Numurkah* was constituted by severance from the *Shire of Nathalia* on 31st May, 1957.

The *Borough of Stawell* was created *Town of Stawell* on 18th September, 1957.

1959—The *Shire of Dandenong* was created *City of Dandenong* on 13th March, 1959.

The *Borough of Wangaratta* was created *City of Wangaratta* on 8th April, 1959.

Constitution. The *Local Government (Amendment) Act* No. 5843 of 1954 (now embodied in the *Local Government Act* 1958, No. 6299), varied the revenue qualification for the constitution of a borough to a town and from a town to a city. Provisions relating to the constitution of a shire or borough and the declaration of a town or city are as follows:—

Shire . . . A newly-constituted shire must contain rateable property capable of yielding upon a rate not exceeding One shilling in the pound on the Annual Value thereof a sum of £3,000.

Borough .. Must not exceed in area nine square miles. No point in such area distant more than six miles from any other point therein.

Population of not less than 500 inhabitant householders.
Minimum rate revenue of £2,000 on a rate not exceeding One shilling in the pound on Annual value of rateable property.

Town .. An annual revenue from General and Extra rates of not less than £15,000.

City .. An annual revenue from General and Extra rates of not less than £30,000.

Municipal Elections. Municipal elections of councillors are held in August in every year. Under section 149 of the *Local Government Act 1946* (now included in the consolidated *Local Government Act 1958*), the Governor-in-Council may, on the petition of the council of any municipality, make orders providing for compulsory voting and voting by post. At 31st August, 1959, voting was compulsory in the following 45 municipalities:—

*Metropolitan Area **

Cities .. Broadmeadows, Brunswick, Coburg, Collingwood, Essendon, Fitzroy, Footscray, Heidelberg, Kew, Malvern, Moorabbin, Northcote, Nunawading, Port Melbourne, Preston, Richmond, South Melbourne, Sunshine, Williamstown.

Shires .. Altona, Doncaster and Templestowe, Eltham, Keilor, Springvale and Noble Park.

Outside Metropolitan Area.

Cities .. Ararat, Ballarat, Bendigo, Horsham, Mildura, Sale.

Town .. Castlemaine.

Boroughs .. Daylesford, Eaglehawk, Echuca, Maryborough, Stawell, Wangaratta, Wonthaggi.

Shires .. Buln Buln, Korumburra, Marong, Upper Yarra, Warragul, Werribee, Woorayl.

**Properties
Rated, Loans
Outstanding,
etc.**

In the following table the number of ratepayers, the number of properties rated, the value of rateable property, General Account income, and the amount of loans outstanding are shown for each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57.

* As re-defined from 1st January, 1954.

As the metropolitan area was re-defined in 1954, information relating to municipalities in the metropolitan area of Melbourne and municipalities outside the metropolitan area is not comparable with that for previous years.

VICTORIA—PROPERTIES RATED, LOANS OUTSTANDING,
ETC., 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Year Ended 30th September—	Number of Rate- payers.	Number of Properties Rated.	Value of Rateable Property.		General Account Income.	Loans Out- standing.
			Net Annual Value.	Estimated Capital Improved Value.		
			£	£	£	£
MUNICIPALITIES IN METROPOLITAN AREA*—						
1953	463,922	512,589	40,471,673	802,077,930	8,432,710	14,612,006
1954	545,120	610,670	47,382,089	943,537,980	9,867,220	16,534,485
1955	573,214	628,209	50,610,399	984,339,450	10,757,687	18,635,661
1956	602,982	626,871	56,090,722	1,093,738,712	12,457,504	19,742,969
1957	619,435	643,190	64,602,603	1,278,640,367	14,610,645	22,106,391
MUNICIPALITIES OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREA—						
1953	351,547	468,923	28,658,353	573,261,120	7,416,942	5,894,505
1954	300,133	393,218	30,081,090	601,779,760	7,597,907	5,501,305
1955	310,972	400,623	34,240,482	682,956,640	8,627,034	6,359,427
1956	325,898	413,723	39,314,411	785,849,283	9,836,720	6,900,407
1957	339,062	423,540	42,703,196	853,874,901	10,865,135	7,917,698
TOTAL MUNICIPALITIES—						
1953	815,469	981,512	69,130,026	1,375,339,050	15,849,652	20,506,511
1954	845,253	1,003,888	77,463,179	1,545,317,740	17,465,127	22,035,790
1955	884,186	1,028,832	84,850,881	1,667,296,090	19,384,721	24,995,088
1956	928,880	1,040,594	95,405,133	1,879,587,995	22,294,224	26,643,376
1957	958,497	1,066,730	107,305,799	2,132,515,268	25,475,780	30,024,089

* Particulars for the year 1953 include the whole of the Cities of Heidelberg, Sunshine and Broadmeadows, the Borough of Ringwood and the Shire of Keilor. For the years 1954 to 1957 inclusive the whole of the following Shires are also included:—Werribee, Lillydale, Frankston and Hastings, Ferntree Gully, Eltham, Dandenong and Doncaster and Templestowe.

**Municipal
Revenue and
Expenditure.**

The following tables show, for each of the years ended 30th September, 1953 to 1957, the revenue and expenditure of municipalities in Victoria.

The first table summarizes particulars of municipalities within and outside the Metropolitan Area, while the second table shows a dissection of the general account and the various business undertakings under municipal control. Transactions presented are generally on a revenue basis.

Particulars relating to Loan Accounts, Private Street Accounts and Special Improvement Charge Accounts are excluded.

VICTORIA—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Year Ended 30th September—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Metropolitan Municipalities.*		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.	Metropolitan* Municipalities.		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.
	City of Melbourne.	Other.			City of Melbourne.	Other.		
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1953 ..	4,336,925	10,594,493	8,573,922	23,505,340	4,402,784	10,294,150	8,513,279	23,210,213
1954 ..	4,739,919	12,438,205	8,475,459	25,653,583	4,649,795	12,155,523	8,271,711	25,077,029
1955 ..	5,144,389	13,568,810	9,441,549	28,154,748	5,145,977	13,489,019	9,185,707	27,820,703
1956 ..	5,868,348	15,880,569	10,540,177	32,289,094	5,841,087	15,915,397	10,654,413	32,410,897
1957 ..	6,920,887	18,396,288	11,620,541	36,937,716	6,768,475	18,020,193	11,615,432	36,404,100

* See footnote on page 428 with reference to municipalities included in Metropolitan Area.

VICTORIA—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: MUNICIPAL GENERAL ACCOUNT AND BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Year Ended 30th September—	General Account.	Business Undertakings.					Total.
		Electric Light.	Gasworks.	Water-works	Abattoirs.	Other.	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
REVENUE.							
1953 ..	15,849,652	6,908,551	233,002	94,069	392,692	27,374	23,505,340
1954 ..	17,465,127	7,447,923	157,655	107,129	449,027	26,722	25,653,583
1955 ..	19,384,721	8,110,737	38,407	117,939	476,130	26,814	28,154,748
1956 ..	22,294,224	9,334,783	25,550	123,971	481,932	28,634	32,289,094
1957 ..	25,475,780	10,737,445	26,783	132,447	582,346	32,915	36,937,716
EXPENDITURE.							
1953 ..	15,587,114	6,843,581	261,646	93,671	394,631	29,570	23,210,213
1954 ..	17,105,842	7,262,939	182,088	93,538	402,145	30,477	25,077,029
1955 ..	19,209,370	7,974,844	41,080	107,367	458,353	29,689	27,820,703
1956 ..	22,610,871	9,102,793	31,781	121,315	510,131	34,006	32,410,897
1957 ..	25,299,601	10,382,734	32,971	131,022	525,148	32,624	36,404,100

The ordinary revenue of a municipality, consisting of rates, Government grants, &c., is payable into the General Account, and such Account is applied towards the payment of all expenses incurred in respect of administration, debt services, ordinary municipal services, &c.

Details of the principal items of income during the year ended 30th September, 1957, are given below:—

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL GENERAL ACCOUNT INCOME,
1956-57.

Items of Income.	Metropolitan Municipalities.		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.
	City of Melbourne.	Other.		
Taxation	£	£	£	£
Rates—				
General and Extra	1,377,862	8,870,854	7,073,888	17,322,604
Other .. ..	..	151	29,811	29,962
Interest on Overdue Rates ..	1,042	30,442	17,492	48,976
In Lieu of Rates .. ..	..	23,926	27,419	51,345
Licences and Registration Fees—				
Dog	643	29,565	24,715	54,923
Health, Dairy, Slaughtering, and Noxious Trades	3,006	13,478	9,914	26,398
Petrol Pump	306	6,168	4,466	10,940
Other	998	2,927	5,860	9,785
Total Taxation	1,383,857	8,977,511	7,193,565	17,554,933
Public Works and Services—				
Contributions for Road and Pavement Works	48,694	404,952	512,862	966,508
Health—				
Sanitary and Garbage	29,194	639,554	538,898	1,207,646
Other	3,604	88,648	36,611	128,863
Council Properties—				
Markets	304,046	67,534	61,548	433,128
Halls	24,624	87,007	85,027	196,658
Libraries	68	3,258	14,289	17,615
Parks, Gardens, Baths, and Other Recreational Facilities	63,631	142,941	74,220	280,792
Weighbridges	20,393	2,427	12,022	34,842
Sale of Materials	12,630	47,812	105,576	166,018
Plant Hire .. ..	..	133,138	975,016	1,108,154
Grazing Fees .. ..	..	..	21,330	21,330
Pounds	43	1,586	5,274	6,903
Other	154,275	93,770	129,351	377,396
Other Services—				
Car Parking	190,712	7,572	124	198,408
Sheep Dipping .. ..	..	..	3,028	3,028
Building Fees	5,361	85,247	26,569	117,177
Other	125,576	398	57	126,031
Total Public Works and Services	982,851	1,805,844	2,601,802	5,390,497

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL GENERAL ACCOUNT INCOME, 1956-57—*continued.*

Items of Income.	Metropolitan Municipalities.		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.
	City of Melbourne.	Other.		
	£	£	£	£
Transfers from Business Undertakings (excluding Loan Recoups and Administration Refunds)	45,000	247,874	16,699	309,573
Transfers from Other Funds ..	173,460	208,742	253,372	635,574
Government Grants—				
Roads, &c.	6,969	26,629	139,227	172,825
Libraries .. .. .	..	84,570	48,815	133,385
Parks, Gardens, &c. .. .. .	..	8,276	130,079	138,355
River Works .. .. .	..	1,633	43,970	45,603
Infant Welfare Centres	6,565	86,906	106,401	199,872
Licences, Equivalent	8,496	14,193	35,218	57,907
Vermin Destruction .. .. .	..	65	4,151	4,216
Other	2,178	107,797	135,393	245,368
Total Government Grants	24,208	330,069	643,254	997,531
Miscellaneous—				
Police Court Fines	104,351	22,863	7,904	135,118
Interest on Investments .. .. .	..	11,944	17,226	29,170
Supervision of Private Streets .. .. .	..	168,565	29,239	197,804
Other	43,013	80,493	102,074	225,580
Total Miscellaneous ..	147,364	283,865	156,443	587,672
Grand Total	2,756,740	11,853,905	10,865,135	25,475,780

Of the total General Account income (excluding "transfers from other funds") during 1956-57, 70·7 per cent. was derived from taxation (70·3 per cent. from rates and 0·4 per cent. from licences and registration fees); 21·7 per cent. from public works and services; 1·3 per cent. from transfers from business undertakings; 4·0 per cent. from Government grants; and 2·3 per cent. from other sources. The total amount collected from taxation (£17,554,933) was equivalent to £6 12s. 3d. per head of population or to £18 6s. 4d. per ratepayer.

Details of the principal items of expenditure from the General Account during the year ended 30th September, 1957, are set out below:—

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL GENERAL ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE,
1956-57.

Items of Expenditure.	Metropolitan Municipalities.		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.
	City of Melbourne.	Other.		
	£	£	£	£
Public Works and Services—				
Roads, Streets, Footpaths, and Bridges—				
Construction, Maintenance	137,652	3,143,403	4,376,347	7,657,402
Cleaning and Watering	153,862	505,439	112,728	772,029
Lighting	*	327,065	135,321	462,386
Other .. ..	..	95,327	50,797	146,124
Health—				
Administration	29,112	150,904	97,713	277,729
Sanitary and Garbage	176,717	1,262,059	560,238	1,999,014
Home Help Service	4,869	100,856	19,715	125,440
Infant Welfare Centres	4,976	223,014	224,188	452,178
Pre-school (Crèche, &c.)	20,444	41,810	17,146	79,400
Other	13,778	79,764	28,191	121,733
Council Properties—				
Markets	136,754	58,555	44,047	239,356
Halls	88,845	243,717	166,610	499,172
Libraries	16,306	178,410	116,014	310,730
Parks, Gardens, Baths, and other Recreational Facilities	315,166	1,004,306	504,832	1,824,304
Plant	56,379	412,551	743,800	1,212,730
Weighbridges	10,733	1,129	8,119	19,981
Grazing Expenses .. ..	..	124	7,894	8,018
Pounds	158	8,740	12,861	21,759
Materials .. ..	..	6,717	22,804	29,521
Other Council Properties	40,813	261,785	255,194	557,792
Other Works and Services—				
Car Parking	60,130	30,908	2,396	93,434
Sheep Dipping .. ..	..	15	2,404	2,419
Vermin Destruction .. ..	..	903	11,165	12,068
Other	1,154	70,485	13,217	84,856
Total Public Works and Services	1,267,848	8,207,986	7,533,741	17,009,575

* Charged to working expenses of the Electric Supply Department (£54,040).

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL GENERAL ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE,
1956-57—continued.

Items of Expenditure.	Metropolitan Municipalities.		Municipalities Outside Metropolitan Area.	Total.
	City of Melbourne.	Other.		
	£	£	£	£
Debt Services—				
Redemption of Loans ..	..	526,657	485,007	1,011,664
Sinking Fund Instalments ..	91,736	13,270	13,319	118,325
Interest on Loans ..	253,680	310,717	228,669	793,066
Interest on Overdrafts ..	..	28,769	75,828	104,597
Payments to Municipalities on account of Severance Adjustments .. ..	..	13,131	4,609	17,740
Other	389	4,346	367	5,102
Total Debt Services ..	345,805	896,890	807,799	2,060,494
Grants and Contributions—				
Country Roads Board ..	..	78,185	471,596	549,781
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board	64,545	317,345	321	382,211
Hospitals and other Charities ..	27,393	38,228	35,423	101,044
Other	117,047	294,763	169,926	581,736
Total Grants and Contributions	208,985	728,521	677,266	1,614,772
Transfer to other Funds ..	168,041	183,456	168,651	520,148
General Administration ..	564,235	1,476,391	1,500,013	3,540,639
Pay-roll Tax	38,863	118,362	86,720	243,945
Miscellaneous	88,736	108,606	122,686	320,028
Grand Total	2,682,513	11,720,212	10,896,876	25,299,601

Of the total General Account expenditure (excluding "transfers to other funds") in 1956-57, 14·3 per cent. was for administration; 8·3 per cent. for debt services; 12·3 per cent. for health services; 7·4 per cent. for parks, gardens, &c.; 34·0 per cent. for roads, streets, &c.; 4·9 per cent. for plant and equipment; 10·0 per cent. for other public works and services; 6·5 per cent. for grants and contributions; and 2·3 per cent. for miscellaneous items.

Particulars of the principal items of expenditure during **Municipal Administrative Costs.** each of the years ended 30th September, 1953 to 1957, in respect of general municipal administration are given in the following statement:—

VICTORIA—COST OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION,
1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th September—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries*	1,489,190	1,661,891	1,905,888	2,350,331	2,648,990
Mayoral and Presidential Allowances	53,465	57,387	61,665	71,360	76,496
Audit Expenses	18,248	19,025	21,059	22,212	25,137
Dog Registration Expenses	28,313	30,989	27,304	27,744	33,374
Election Expenses	27,325	19,702	24,241	27,855	27,423
Insurances	99,120	118,083	165,105	173,929	235,231
Legal Expenses	22,420	21,444	27,118	48,744	63,633
Printing, Stationery, Advertising, Postage, Telephone	228,707	244,920	290,394	289,231	329,161
Other	55,777	66,806	76,199	94,326	101,194
Total	2,022,565	2,240,247	2,598,973	3,105,732	3,540,639

* Including cost of valuations and travelling expenses, but excluding health officers' salaries.

Municipal Electric Light Undertakings and Gasworks. In Victoria, in 1956-57, 29 electric light undertakings were operated by 27 municipalities, and there were two municipally-owned gas works. The revenue and expenditure of such undertakings in 1956-57 amounted to £10,764,228 and £10,415,105 respectively.

Municipal Waterworks. The council of any municipality may be constituted "a local governing body" under the provisions of the *Water Act 1958* with such water supply district as is defined by the Governor-in-Council. At 30th September, 1957, thirteen municipalities had been so constituted. In several other municipalities the water supply services were being administered in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1958*. An analysis of the authorities controlling water supply in Victoria is given on page 445 of this *Year-Book*.

During 1956-57 the receipts and expenditure of the above-mentioned municipal waterworks amounted to £132,447 and £131,022 respectively.

Other Municipal Business Undertakings. Abattoirs and hydraulic power (in the City of Melbourne) are other undertakings which are under the control of municipalities in Victoria. In 1956-57, the total revenue on account of these undertakings was £565,261 and the total expenditure amounted to £557,772. In those cases in which the finances of abattoirs were operated through the General Account, particulars of the amounts have been included in the statement of that Account under the heading of "Other Council Properties". Quarries are included under the latter heading.

Number of Councillors. In the municipalities throughout the State, there were, at 30th September, 1957, 2,223 councillors, viz., 465 in the 39 Metropolitan municipalities, 1,695 in 161 municipalities outside the metropolitan area, and 63 in five municipalities which fall partly in both areas.

Municipal Loans. With the credit of the municipality as security, moneys may be borrowed by a municipal council for permanent works or undertakings or to liquidate the principal moneys owing on account of any previous loan. Permanent works include *inter alia* the construction or alteration of streets, roads, bridges, and drains, and the construction or purchase of waterworks, electric light undertakings, gasworks, markets, abattoirs, housing or reclamation schemes, libraries, and pleasure grounds.

The amount of money borrowed at any one time for permanent works or undertakings shall not, except so far as it is otherwise expressly provided, exceed the net annual value of all rateable property in the municipality. In addition, an amount not exceeding one half of the net annual value may be borrowed for water, electricity, and gas supply, quarrying and abattoirs. Further loans, not upon the credit of the municipality but on the security of certain specified income thereof, may be raised for permanent works or undertakings by the issue of debentures or by mortgage. Such loans shall have a currency of not more than 30 years and shall not exceed five times the average amount of such income for the three years preceding the raising of the loan.

Municipal Loan Receipts. (exclusive of conversion loans) The following statement shows the loan receipts during each of the five years, 1952-53 to 1956-57. Particulars of loans raised for works in private streets are also excluded.

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.
(EXCLUDING CONVERSION LOANS.)

Year Ended 30th September—	Gross Proceeds of Loans—		Other Receipts.*	Total.
	From Government.	From Other Sources.		
	£	£	£	£
1953	19,125	3,300,408	366,463	3,685,996
1954	37,806	2,779,296	398,629	3,215,731
1955	86,280	3,513,167	107,473	3,706,920
1956	71,676	3,000,190	167,783	3,239,649
1957	93,725	4,264,895	625,428	4,984,048

* Other receipts consist mainly of transfers from other accounts within a municipality. During 1956-57 these amounted to £392,380 for the City of Melbourne.

Municipal Loan Expenditure. In the following statement details are given of the loan expenditure, exclusive of expenditure on private streets, by municipalities for each of the five years, 1952-53 to 1956-57 :—

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL LOAN EXPENDITURE,
1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th September—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
Roads, Streets, Bridges and Drains	932,600	805,766	1,006,748	1,435,343	1,779,738
Waterworks	36,659	41,682	106,780	87,707	114,004
Electric Light Undertakings	1,070,200	1,256,175	1,107,546	977,493	1,004,143
Gasworks	15,115	9,237	17,036	3,236	..
Halls	27,765	62,133	132,368	182,545	158,741
Parks, Gardens, Baths, and Other Recreational Facilities	140,662	172,763	175,031	225,450	251,639
Plant	315,730	275,080	472,798	431,578	567,629
Abattoirs	50,436	101,256	51,061	71,549	174,917
Markets	45,003	72,191	72,292	92,317	151,203
Infant Welfare Centres	51,078	50,836	35,566	52,422	51,280
Pre-school (Crèche, &c.)	18,525	3,986	1,735	17,512	19,161
Other Council Properties	145,637	208,079	317,945	228,091	285,163
Other Purposes *	117,220	96,280	288,252	422,694	446,462
Total	3,569,630	3,155,464	3,788,158	4,227,937	5,004,080

* Includes special contributions by the City of Melbourne for Olympic Games and construction of a subway: 1953, £86,614; 1954, £82,426; 1955, £220,254; 1956, £361,827; 1957, £240,727.

At 30th September, 1957, there was an unexpended balance in loan accounts amounting to £1,881,519.

Municipal Loan Liability. The loan liability of the municipalities in Victoria at the end of each of the five years 1952-53 to 1956-57 is given below :—

VICTORIA—MUNICIPAL LOAN LIABILITY, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

At 30th September—	Due to—		Gross Loan Liability.	Accumulated Sinking Funds.	Net Loan Liability.	
	Government.*	Public.			Amount.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£			£	£ s. d.
1953 ..	357,276	20,149,235	20,506,511	1,895,783	18,610,728	7 14 8
1954 ..	353,609	21,682,181	22,035,790	2,125,710	19,910,080	8 1 4
1955 ..	394,608	24,600,480	24,995,088	2,314,701	22,680,387	8 18 2
1956 ..	409,132	26,234,244	26,643,376	2,580,650	24,062,726	9 3 4
1957 ..	475,475	29,548,614	30,024,089	2,889,274	27,134,815	10 1 8

* Excluding liability to Country Roads Board.

**Construction
of Private
Streets.**

The council of any municipality may form, level, &c., any street, road, &c., which is formed or set out on private property or which is set out on land of the Crown or any public body in such manner as to form means of back access to or drainage from property adjacent to such street, road, &c., where such street, road, &c., is not formed, &c., to the satisfaction of the council. The cost of doing so is recoverable from the owners of adjoining properties. At the request of any owner, the amount apportioned as his total liability may be made payable by 40 or, if the council so directs, 60 quarterly instalments bearing interest on the portion that from time to time remains unpaid.

For the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of work in respect of which any person is liable to pay by instalments, the council may, on the credit of the municipality, obtain advances from a bank by overdraft on current account or borrow money by the issue of debentures, but such borrowings shall not exceed the total amount of instalments payable. This borrowing power is additional to those powers mentioned on page 435.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of Private Streets Accounts during the year 1956-57 are as follows:—

VICTORIA—PRIVATE STREETS ACCOUNTS: RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1956-57.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
£		£	
Proceeds of Loans ..	286,175	Works	3,211,002
Owners' Contributions ..	2,609,931	Debt Charges—	
Advance from Other Funds ..	363	Redemption of Loans ..	120,088
Contribution from General Account	14,953	Interest on Loans ..	87,841
Other	14,167	Interest on Overdraft ..	65,065
		Repayment of Advance ..	106,602
		Transfer to General Account ..	10,912
		Other	34,249
Total	2,925,589	Total	3,635,759
Cash in Hand or in Bank at 1st October, 1956 ..	304,671	Bank Overdraft at 1st October, 1956	1,731,078
Bank Overdraft at 30th September, 1957 ..	2,416,384	Cash in Hand or in Bank at 30th September, 1957 ..	279,807
	5,646,644		5,646,644

Details of receipts and expenditure of Private Streets Accounts during each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PRIVATE STREETS ACCOUNTS.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th September—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
RECEIPTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Proceeds of Loans	457,211	299,751	560,550	240,772	286,175
Owners' Contributions	1,239,910	1,666,037	1,870,111	2,116,569	2,609,931
Advance from Other Funds ..	5,000	3,070	850	7,005	363
Contribution from General Account	17,507	58,035	12,367	25,398	14,953
Other	5,137	17,964	15,624	13,607	14,167
Total	1,724,765	2,044,857	2,459,502	2,403,351	2,925,589
EXPENDITURE.					
Works	1,769,172	1,695,494	2,043,973	2,876,359	3,211,002
Debt Charges—					
Redemption of Loans	28,357	56,116	90,652	102,343	120,088
Interest on Loans	14,779	31,748	48,733	61,376	87,841
Interest on Overdraft	35,261	47,216	28,909	55,335	65,065
Repayment of Advance	44,782	22,795	5,761	..	106,602
Transfer to General Account ..	22,397	13,658	9,998	21,301	10,912
Other	20,390	4,944	4,668	26,675	34,249
Total	1,935,138	1,871,971	2,232,694	3,143,389	3,635,759

**Length of
Roads and
Streets.**

The following table shows the estimated length of all roads and streets in the State in the year 1957. The mileage of roads, &c. (excluding State Highways) has been compiled from information furnished by all municipal authorities. The mileage of State Highways was obtained from the Country Roads Board:—

VICTORIA—LENGTH OF ALL ROADS AND STREETS AT
30TH SEPTEMBER, 1957.

Type of Road or Street.	State Highways.	Tourists' Roads.	Forest Roads.	Other Streets and Roads.	Total.
	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.
Wood or stone				55	55
Portland cement concrete				158	158
Asphaltic concrete and sheet asphalt	7			413	420
Tar or bitumen surface seal over tar or bitumen penetrated or water-bound pavements	3,301	151	64	11,598	15,114
Waterbound macadam, gravel, sand, and hard loam pavements	536	261	313	30,844	31,954
Formed, but not otherwise paved		3	1	23,869	23,873
Surveyed roads not formed which are used for general traffic	1			29,777	29,778
Total	3,845	415	378	96,714	101,352

Licensing Fund. During the year 1956-57 a sum of £57,907 was paid out of this Fund to municipalities, as provided by Section 311 of the *Licensing Act 1928*. The payments to cities amounted to £31,487; to towns, £1,415; to boroughs, £4,852; and to shires, £20,490. A statement of the receipts and expenditure of this Fund appears in part "Law, Crime, &c.", of this issue.

Municipal Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund. The provisions of the Act under which this Fund was established are set out in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 163.

Two types of policy are provided; one for guarantees of up to £1,500 where a particular employee is specified, the other for guarantees of up to £1,500 for unspecified employees with a maximum of £2,500 in any one year.

The premium revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1957, was £3,178, for guarantees amounting to £696,235. The claims paid from January, 1908, the date of the inception of the Fund, to September, 1957, amounted to £8,364. The amount to the credit of the Fund at 30th September, 1957, was £47,419.

Municipalities Assistance Fund. This fund, which was set up under the provisions of the *Municipalities and Other Authorities Finances Act 1950*, came into operation on 1st January, 1951. It has two functions—to provide subsidies towards the cost of approved works by municipalities and other bodies, and to relieve certain municipalities of their obligation to contribute towards the operating cost of the Country Fire Authority. A limit of £100,000 is placed upon the amount which may be approved for works in any one year.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES SUPERANNUATION BOARD.

The Local Authorities Superannuation Board was constituted under the provisions of the *Local Authorities Superannuation Act 1947* (No. 5216) to administer the Act.

The Act provides for the payment of a lump sum retiring allowance to permanent employees of Municipal Councils, Water and Sewerage Authorities, Weights and Measures Unions, Cemetery Trusts, any Harbor Board constituted under the *Harbor Boards Act 1928*, the First Mildura Irrigation Trust, and any other body declared by the Governor-in-Council to be an authority for the purposes of the Act.

During the year ended 30th June, 1958, income from premiums on policies and the Provident Fund Account, amounted to £825,567. The total amount of the Provident Fund at that date was £575,965.

The number of employees participating in the Fund was 3,200, showing an average of £180 per employee. The total insurance cover for 7,883 employees, subject to the insurance provisions of the Act, was £13,097,665, being an average of £1,662 per employee.

The Board receives commission from the life insurance offices with which the insurance is placed from which it meets the cost of administration and builds up a reserve fund out of which it replenishes a Contingent Fund. Commissions received for the year ended 30th June, 1958, amounted to £54,070. Management expenses for the same period were £12,430.

The Contingent Fund is applied at the discretion of the Board to pay funeral allowances to dependants of the deceased permanent employees, the premium or contributions of employees during sickness when not in receipt of wages, and weekly allowances and payment of medical expenses when deemed advisable in the case of employees absent from work on account of illness and not receiving wages.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

With the object of improving the main roads of the State, the *Country Roads Act 1912* empowered the Governor-in-Council to appoint a board of three members. A summary of the principal duties of the Board was published in the *Year-Book* for 1939-40, page 154. The *Country Roads Board Act 1958*, No. 6229 consolidated the law relating to country roads.

The *Country Roads Act 1928* provided that all fees and fines paid under the Motor Car Acts, less the cost of collection of such fees and fines, shall be placed to the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund, together with repayments by municipalities on account of main road works. From 1930-31 the annual payment into the Fund of an amount from Consolidated Revenue has been suspended.

The *Municipalities and Other Authorities Finances Act 1950* provided that from the 1st January, 1951, the driver's licence fee shall be increased from 5s. to 10s., and that half the amount of all such fees, less the cost of collection, be paid to the Country Roads Board Fund.

The *Country Roads and Level Crossings Fund Act 1954* provided that from the 1st July, 1954, two-thirds of additional registration fees received under Section 8 of the Motor Car Act be paid to the Country Roads Board Fund, the remaining one-third being paid to the Level Crossings Fund.

The *Commercial Goods Vehicles Act* (No. 5931) provided that from the 1st April, 1956, the owner of every commercial goods vehicle with a load capacity of over 4 tons, other than vehicles employed solely on the cartage of certain commodities specified in the Act, shall pay as a contribution for wear and tear caused to public highways, a charge for every mile of public highway along which the vehicle travels in Victoria. All moneys received are placed to the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund.

Further revenue received by the Board is the payment by the Commonwealth Government of portion of the duties on motor spirit as provided by Commonwealth Aid Roads Acts. In addition loan funds are made available by the Government of Victoria.

Receipts and expenditure covering the operation of the Board for the years 1952-1953 to 1956-57 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—COUNTRY ROADS BOARD RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS.					
Fees and Fines—Motor Car Act (less Cost of Collection)	3,861,533	3,970,528	4,829,100	5,184,710	6,419,456
Municipalities Repayments—Perma- nent Works and Maintenance— Main Roads	344,320	331,605	387,561	501,110	530,418
Surplus from Transport Regulation Fund			387,992		
Commonwealth Aid Roads Acts	2,446,029	2,741,608	3,802,369	4,430,575	5,247,438
Proceeds from Commercial Goods Vehicles Act				215,786	1,314,784
Advance from Public Account				500,000	
State Loan Funds	1,191,509	1,512,741	1,102,309	1,092,950	404,679
Commonwealth—State Agreement, Flood Restoration					236,641
Other Receipts—Fees and Fines	2,092	1,841	1,309	1,170	1,197
Total	7,845,483	8,558,323	10,510,640	11,926,301	14,154,613
EXPENDITURE.					
Construction and Maintenance of Roads and Bridges	6,023,120	6,686,290	8,509,053	9,869,614	10,983,599
Traffic Line Marking	23,366	23,854	25,398	21,466	27,180
Plant Purchases	840,258	670,389	584,826	627,011	620,626
Interest and Sinking Fund Payments	570,001	611,154	676,012	746,873	806,849
Payment to Tourists' Resorts Fund	57,750	58,000	57,572	72,109	76,284
General Expenditure	367,914	469,192	538,508	671,160	1,313,751*
Total	7,882,409	8,518,879	10,391,369	12,008,233	13,828,289

* Includes £500,000 repayment of advance from Public Account.

The following is a summary of the total expenditure by the Country Roads Board on road construction during each of the five years, 1952-53 to 1956-57 :—

VICTORIA—COUNTRY ROADS BOARD: EXPENDITURE
ON ROADS, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
State Highways—	£	£	£	£	£
Construction	567,383	951,812	690,588	854,212	172,416
Maintenance and Reconditioning	1,683,420	1,552,099	2,343,065	2,640,970	3,906,950
Main Roads—					
Permanent Works	197,617	315,188	326,318	340,404	324,972
Maintenance and Reconditioning	2,295,238	2,528,063	3,240,160	3,548,887	3,596,069
Unclassified Roads—					
Construction and Maintenance	916,145	995,788	1,445,032	1,947,134	2,508,782
Roads for Isolated Settlers ..	2,801	..	..	..	..
Tourists' Roads—Maintenance ..	232,778	217,804	294,590	342,839	285,127
Forest Roads—Maintenance ..	113,895	108,504	139,119	144,684	116,388
Murray River Bridges and Punts— Maintenance	13,843	17,032	30,181	50,484	72,895
Total	6,023,120	6,686,290	8,509,053	9,869,614	10,983,599

HARBOR TRUSTS.

The Port of Melbourne is under the control of this **Melbourne Harbor Trust.** Trust, and its constitution, powers, and functions are set out on page 145 of the *Year-Book* for 1929-30. The following are particulars of the ordinary revenue and ordinary and capital expenditure for the years 1953 to 1957. The loan indebtedness as at the end of each of the five years is also shown.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1953 TO 1957.

Particulars.	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
REVENUE.					
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates ..	1,423,345	1,800,811	2,120,779	1,841,176	1,882,501
Rents ..	78,957	106,135	122,775	127,318	130,939
Other Revenue ..	549,970	686,401	775,494	708,204	733,073
	2,052,272	2,593,347	3,019,048	2,676,698	2,746,513
Less Statutory Payments to—					
Consolidated Revenue ..	288,263	364,162	437,218	368,270	375,492
Geelong Harbor Trust ..	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	13,573
Total ..	1,749,009	2,214,185	2,566,830	2,293,428	2,357,448
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
General Management and Expenses	147,046	158,102	166,759	178,451	191,153
Flotation and Redemption of Loans					
Expenses ..	2,632	3,008	3,041	3,950	5,559
Operating Expenses ..	423,700	456,340	530,459	553,782	540,607
Maintenance—					
Dredging ..	331,808	306,952	343,492	394,292	418,877
Harbor ..	14,312	16,300	14,020	18,059	21,096
Wharves ..	191,076	175,234	290,574	368,813	215,057
Approaches ..	19,588	12,554	20,764	17,426	41,378
Railways ..	8,954	8,289	16,230	14,488	20,138
Cranes ..	64,755	61,230	68,146	78,900	76,269
Other Properties ..	26,324	34,565	21,982	20,886	27,799
Interest on Loans and Exchange	298,877	329,090	357,179	389,224	444,531
Depreciation, Renewals, and In-					
Insurance Account ..	98,182	479,393	532,372	145,825	250,938
Sinking Fund ..	83,037	88,828	89,169	94,681	75,692
Total ..	1,710,291	2,130,785	2,454,187	2,278,777	2,329,094
Surplus on Revenue Account ..	38,718	83,400	112,643	14,651	28,354
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and Property ..	22,434	60,753	52,273	114	20,902
Reclamation ..	72,536	27,795	11,017	2,244	591
Deepening Waterways ..	156,849	171,804	228,416	140,898	137,261
Wharves Construction ..	781,469	552,867	689,246	968,170	553,636
Wharf Cranes, &c. ..	115,092	59,479	169,043	144,778	189,432
Approaches Construction ..	23,585	40,746	197,806	218,614	62,264
Floating Plant ..	63,726	273,061	68,138	28,955	38,126
Other Works, &c. ..	19,922	69,120	93,726	106,155	52,024
Total ..	1,255,613	1,255,625	1,509,665	1,609,928	1,054,236
At 31st December—					
Loan Indebtedness ..	9,581,361	9,641,934	9,978,842	11,296,811	12,175,428
Sinking Fund ..	1,500	77	1,880	15,515	20,838
Net Indebtedness ..	9,580,434	9,641,284	9,976,962	11,281,296	12,154,500

Geelong Harbor Trust. The Port of Geelong is under the control of this Trust, and its constitution and powers are shown in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 147. A concise statement of the principal provisions of the *Geelong and Melbourne Harbor Trusts Act 1934* is given in the *Year-Book* for 1933-34, pages 153 and 154.

The following is a summary of the revenue and expenditure for each year 1953 to 1957. Capital expenditure during, and loan indebtedness at end of each of, the five years are also shown:—

GEEELONG HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1953 TO 1957.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
REVENUE.					
Wharfage, Tonnage, and Special Berth Rates	114,092	403,482	575,978	717,510	686,089
Rents, Fees, and Licences	7,943	9,872	11,205	13,208	12,689
Freezing Works and Abattoirs	31,500	31,939	31,924	32,456	33,327
Contribution by Melbourne Harbor Trust	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	13,573
Other Revenue	56,066	84,108	112,493	159,412	159,433
Total	224,601	544,401	746,600	937,581	905,111
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
Management Expenses	51,034	58,215	68,042	67,900	77,363
Maintenance—					
Wharves and Approaches	10,637	10,972	16,749	10,725	8,542
Harbor	12,065	17,877	19,495	27,958	27,020
Floating Plant	2,007	1,318	2,536	10,306	13,334
Other	4,027	5,847	4,194	7,509	4,441
Interest on Loans	22,046	111,283	128,527	136,195	157,030
Sinking Fund	11,196	13,378	14,878	14,878	14,389
Freezing Works and Abattoirs	28,377	23,239	30,211	27,579	24,432
Depreciation Provision	38,886	46,838	54,176	75,253	83,698
Miscellaneous (including Other Provisions.)	29,763	81,473	113,783	148,187	156,771
Total	210,038	370,440	452,591	526,490	567,020
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (NET).					
Floating Plant	45,186	112,308	169,718	229,524	8,251
Land and Property	14,254	118,585	35,558	7,815	159,940
Deepening Waterways	842,259	519,038	289,192	796,720	936,772
Wharves and Approaches	258,665	161,748	138,902	158,394	352,371
Other	35,823	10,904	20,821	20,463	26,515
Total	1,196,187	922,583	654,191	1,212,916	1,483,849
At 31st December—					
Loan Indebtedness	2,302,010	2,695,862	2,993,097	2,990,219	2,889,365
Sinking Fund	119,571	137,159	156,997	173,299	113,578
Net Indebtedness	2,182,439	2,558,703	2,836,100	2,816,920	2,775,787

Portland Harbor Trust. The *Portland Harbor Trust Act*, No. 5425 of 1949, provided for the constitution of the Portland Harbor Trust and the appointment of three commissioners. A statement relating to the powers of the commissioners was published in the *Year-Book* for 1948-49, page 32. Further references to the facilities to be provided at the Port are made in part "Trade and Transport" of this *Year-Book*.

Revenue, expenditure and loan indebtedness for each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57 are shown in the following table:—

**PORTLAND HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE
AND EXPENDITURE, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.**

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
REVENUE.					
State Government—					
Maintenance Grant	17,000	20,000	20,850	20,000	60,000
Interest Subsidy ..			11,663	37,000	27,500
Tonnage rates	1,464	2,247	2,549	2,416	3,284
Wharfage ..	11,660	11,340	15,216	14,797	20,087
Shipping services ..	794	1,066	967	1,031	2,322
Other ..	1,797	2,842	5,094	8,189	9,604
Total ..	32,715	37,495	56,339	83,433	122,797
EXPENDITURE.					
Administration ..	8,482	8,041	10,050	7,762	10,053
Maintenance ..	18,522	18,634	19,906	23,720	16,887
Shipping Services ..	478	617	377	780	4,620
Depreciation ..	780	1,074	1,634	1,563	1,130
Interest on Loans ..	3,295	10,754	23,145	41,560	70,403
Sinking Fund ..	304	1,258	3,758	5,758	7,758
Other ..	951	1,238	1,794	2,968	1,559
Total ..	32,812	41,616	60,664	84,111	112,410
At 30th June—					
Loan Indebtedness ..	212,037	438,810	1,098,506	1,600,033	2,550,793
Sinking Fund ..	484	1,793	5,734	11,797	20,076
Net Indebtedness..	211,553	437,017	1,092,772	1,588,236	2,530,717

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITIES.

The principal authorities controlling water supply for domestic purposes in Victoria at 31st December, 1957, are listed in the following statement. It is estimated that about 84 per cent. of the population of this State is so supplied by these authorities.

WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITIES.

Authorities.	Administered under the Provisions of—
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission ..	} Water Acts
Waterworks Trusts (136)	
Local Governing Bodies—	
Ballarat Water Commissioners	
Municipal Councils—	
Ararat City	
Bacchus Marsh Shire	
Beechworth Shire	
Bet Bet Shire	
Clunes Borough	
Creswick Shire	
Inglewood Borough	
Korong Shire	
Stawell Borough	
Talbot Shire	
Walpeup Shire	
Warrnambool City	
Wimmera Shire	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works ..	Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust ..	Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act
Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board ..	Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Acts.
Mildura Urban Water Trust	Mildura Irrigation Trusts Acts

In addition to the authorities mentioned in the preceding table, a number of municipalities are authorized under the provisions of the *Local Government Act* to provide a water supply within their own municipal districts.

The revenue and expenditure of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission form part of Consolidated Revenue. Information relating to the activities of the Commission is shown in Part "Land Settlement, etc." of this *Year-Book*.

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

Creation and Constitution of Board.

The Board was established by Act of Parliament on 20th December, 1890, and entered upon its duties on 18th March, 1891. It consists of 51 members, including the chairman, who is elected every four years by the other members, and is eligible for re-election. The other 50 members, who are called commissioners, are from time to time elected by the councils of the municipal districts wholly or partly within the metropolis.

Functions of the Board.

The principal functions of the Board are to control and manage the metropolitan water supply system, including watersheds, reservoirs, weirs, aqueducts, pipes, &c.; to provide the metropolis with an efficient system of main and general sewerage; to deal with main drains and main drainage work; to

control and manage the rivers, creeks, and watercourses within the metropolis; and to collect and dispose of night-soil from unsewered premises within the area under its control. Under the Town and Country Planning Acts the Board was made the responsible authority as regards the preparation and submission for approval of any planning scheme in relation to the metropolitan area and the making of any interim order and the enforcement and carrying out of any such scheme or order and under the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act 1956*, No. 5982, the Board has been made the metropolitan Authority for main highways, bridges, parks and foreshores.

Area under Board's Control at 30th June, 1957. The metropolis, for water supply, sewerage and drainage and river improvement purposes, comprises all that land within 13 miles of the post office at the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth-streets, Melbourne, the Borough of Ringwood and the remaining portions of the Cities of Moorabbin, Mordialloc, and Nunawading and the Shire of Mulgrave and certain portions of the remainder of the Shires of Eltham, Doncaster and Templestowe, and Springvale and Noble Park, but excludes portion of the Shire of Werribee within such 13 miles. Portions of the Shires of Berwick, Dandenong, Ferntree Gully and Springvale and Noble Park have been added for water supply purposes only. This territory has an area of 477 square miles.

Town Planning.

The metropolitan area for the purpose of town planning is all that area within a radius of 15 miles of the post office at the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth streets, Melbourne, together with the remaining portions of the Cities of Heidelberg and Mordialloc, the Borough of Ringwood, and the Shires of Keilor, Mulgrave, Springvale and Noble Park, Dandenong, and Doncaster and Templestowe, the whole of the City of Chelsea, parts of the Shires of Melton, Berwick, Cranbourne, and Ferntree Gully, and that portion of the Shire of Frankston and Hastings within a radius of 26 miles of the said post office.

Board's Borrowing Powers and Liability on Loans.

The Board is empowered to borrow £69,750,000. This amount is exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934 originally raised by the Government for the construction of waterworks for the supply of Melbourne and suburbs. These works were vested in and taken over by the Board on 1st July, 1891.

The Board's liability under loans was £59,655,685 on 30th June, 1957. The Board was at that date empowered to borrow a further £12,484,249 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Board during each of the five years, 1952-53 to 1956-57 :—

**MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.**

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
REVENUE.					
Water Supply—					
Water Rates and Charges (including Revenue from Water Supplied by Measure)	1,741,760	2,271,269	2,434,200	2,554,114	2,729,133
Sewerage—					
Sewerage Rates	1,687,936	1,973,391	2,136,058	2,262,066	2,661,950
Trade Waste Charges	152,880	168,641	178,918	184,533	190,385
Sanitary Charges	31,714	35,466	38,400	65,374	47,484
Metropolitan Farm—					
Grazing Fees, Rents, Pastures, &c. Balance, Live Stock Account	7,649	<i>Dr</i> 2,973	7,741	11,397	12,657
Metropolitan Drainage and Rivers— Drainage and River Improvement Rate	88,102	90,806	99,132	111,226	147,689
River Water Charges	144,853	168,576	183,701	401,808	442,879
	7,154	7,357	12,958	13,285	9,337
Total	3,862,048	4,712,533	5,091,108	5,603,803	6,241,514
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
Water Supply—					
Management and Incidental Ex- penses	362,674	367,509	388,662	424,535	482,032
Maintenance	535,016	556,817	584,273	651,466	713,023
Sewerage—					
Management and Incidental Ex- penses	333,413	338,717	380,670	419,436	440,552
Maintenance	371,520	368,752	389,427	437,256	476,934
Metropolitan Farm—					
Administrative Expenses	21,450	14,194	16,513	19,088	15,034
Maintenance	246,052	256,101	248,917	269,519	296,531
Metropolitan Drainage and Rivers—					
Management and Incidental Ex- penses	25,028	32,817	27,578	31,289	39,959
Maintenance	34,770	46,072	86,169	47,752	61,018
Main Drainage Works				200,904	221,439
Pensions and Allowances	45,277	50,032	55,920	62,770	52,819
Loan Flotation Expenses	82,622	58,670	73,173	85,137	53,481
Interest (including Exchange on Interest Payments in London)	1,682,733	1,910,730	2,111,592	2,391,587	2,761,191
Contribution to—					
Sinking Fund	101,564	106,796	123,977	132,466	149,139
Renewals Fund	114,013	128,793	137,851	143,105	138,584
Superannuation Accounts	46,715	44,050	52,147	51,146	58,295
Depreciation	4,470	4,254	5,843	16,446	7,250
Municipalities	7,411	7,411	7,412	7,414	17,136
Construction of Cremorne					
Railway Bridge		39,942			
Exchange Reserve		100,000	100,000	175,000	90,000
Rates Equalization Reserve		70,000	100,000		150,000
Deferred Maintenance Reserve			90,000		
Insurance Account			100,000		
Investment Reserve				32,628	
Exchange—					
Redemption, London Loan, 1948	8,880				
Total	4,023,608	4,501,657	5,080,124	5,598,944	6,224,417

The total cost of all capital works of the Board to 30th June, 1957, was £69,009,092, viz., £37,254,115 on water supply, £25,905,135 on sewerage, and £5,849,842 on drainage and river improvement works. For details of expenditure on water supply see below, and for expenditure on sewerage, page 451.

The rate to be paid in respect of any lands and houses for the supply of water for domestic purposes, otherwise than by measure, is limited to an amount not exceeding 8d. in the £1 of the annual value of the lands and houses served. The water rate levied in the year 1956-57 was 8d. in the £1 on the annual value of the property served. Properties with an annual value of £14 and under are charged a minimum rate of 10s. per annum. The charge for water supplied by measure, in excess of the quantity which at 1s. per 1,000 gallons would produce an amount equal to the water rate payable, is 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons. For shipping at Melbourne wharves the charge is 4s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons.

The cost of capital works in respect of the water supply system under the control of the Board is shown in the following table for each of the years 1953-54 to 1956-57, together with the total expenditure to 30th June, 1957:—

Particulars.	During Year Ended 30th June—				Total Cost to 30th June, 1957.
	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Yan Yean System ..	1,761	1,650	201	6,933	692,447
Maroondah System ..	1,467	2,344	4,622	841	1,728,334
O'Shannassy - Upper Yarra System ..	1,737,067	2,227,960	2,787,208	2,478,233	20,135,465
Service Reservoirs ..	8,562	3,544	28,560	14,006	706,881
Large Mains ..	346,858	821,710	862,325	1,148,328	6,619,466
Reticulation ..	344,077	411,939	405,271	448,984	7,116,735
Afforestation ..	9,766	13,778	13,211	5,027	236,734
Investigations, Future Works ..	31	25	599	4,014	18,053
Total ..	2,449,589	3,482,950	4,101,997	4,106,366	37,254,115

Six storage reservoirs namely Yan Yean, Toorourrong, Maroondah, O'Shannassy, Silvan and Upper Yarra have a total capacity of 65,453 million gallons. Twenty-one service reservoirs including one at the Metropolitan Farm, Werribee, and three elevated tanks have a total capacity of 258.2 million gallons.

Of the six storage reservoirs the Upper Yarra with a usable storage capacity of 44,120 million gallons, although completed in 1957, is not yet supplying water. An earth and rock fill structure, the dam with a height of 293 feet and a capacity to spillway level of 45,400 million

gallons will treble the available water storage under the Board's control. Cost is estimated at £12·5 million. The dam is connected to Silvan Reservoir by a 22 mile long conduit of 68-in. diameter steel pipes and 1½ miles of tunnels. The conduit is capable of delivering 75 million gallons daily to the Silvan Reservoir. The tunnels have been built with sufficient capacity to allow the laying of a duplicate pipe-line with a similar capacity when the need arises.

Output of Water. The total output of water from the various sources of supply for each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57 was as follows:—

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.
Yan Yean Reservoir	5,904,700	4,816,200	5,221,200	5,788,300	6,807,500
Maroondah Reservoir	15,656,200	16,462,900	15,602,100	16,711,900	16,713,400
O'Shannassy River and Silvan Reservoir ..	15,792,600	19,047,900	19,469,700	18,952,300	20,224,800
Total Output ..	37,353,100	40,327,000	40,293,000	41,452,500	43,745,700

Consumption of Water in Melbourne and Suburbs. During the year ended 30th June, 1957, the maximum and consumption of water on any one day was 229·5 million gallons on 26th February, 1957, (the highest on record to this date) and the minimum consumption was 52·8 million gallons on 22nd September, 1956.

The following table shows, for each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57, the quantity of water consumed, the daily average consumption and the daily average consumption per head of population:—

WATER CONSUMED IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

(MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS AREA.)

Year.	Properties Supplied with Water at 30th June.	Properties for Which Sewers Were Provided at 30th June.	Total Annual Consumption of Water.	Daily Average of Annual Consumption of Water.	Daily Consumption of Water per Head of Population Served.
	No.	No.	million gallons.	million gallons.	gallons.
1952-53	378,439	338,314	37,471	102·42	74·11
1953-54	390,035	345,370	40,354	110·56	78·75
1954-55	405,464	351,617	40,270	110·33	75·57
1955-56	424,500	358,805	41,377	113·05	73·99
1956-57	440,159	366,507	43,652	119·59	75·45

Sewerage Assessments, Rates, and Receipts. The Board is empowered to levy a general sewerage rate not exceeding 1s. 2d. in the £1 of the net annual value of properties in sewered areas. The sewerage rate for the year 1956-57 was 1s. 1d. in the £1. The total annual value of property in the Board's area in 1956-57 was £51,817,111, of which £44,857,401 was liable to the sewerage rate, the balance being the value of property in unsewered districts. The receipts from general sewerage rates and charges in 1956-57 amounted to £2,709,434.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Sewerage System. The cost of sewerage works during each of the years 1953-54 to 1956-57 and the total cost at 30th June, 1957, are shown in the following table:—

Particulars.	During Year Ended 30th June—				Total Cost to 30th June, 1957.
	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Farm purchase and preparation ..	152,828	204,412	212,625	191,253	3,216,627
Treatment works ..	3,560	9,622	18,972	72,250	319,830
Outfall sewers and rising mains ..	584	294	663	15,588	555,656
Pumping stations, buildings, and plant	5,450	20,971	8,064	29,070	413,302
Main and branch sewers ..	124,511	160,911	139,165	285,590	4,310,938
Reticulation sewers ..	709,572	1,150,195	1,292,727	1,220,143	16,237,225
Cost of house connexions chargeable to capital ..	..	..	..	..	670,569
Sanitary depots ..	4,292	7,192	5,839	24,243	92,670
Investigations ..	24,243	15,729	18,670	Cr. 14,301	88,318
Cost of sewerage system ..	1,025,040	1,569,326	1,696,725	1,823,836	25,905,135

Main and Subsidiary Sewerage Systems

The sewerage system of the metropolis at 30th June, 1957, consisted of the main system and three subsidiary systems:—

The Main system (serving an area of 73,162 acres), the sewage from which gravitates to Spotswood Pumping Station where it is lifted to the main outfall sewer at Brooklyn and thence flows to the Metropolitan Farm at Werribee.

The Sunshine system (serving an area of 1,634 acres in the City of Sunshine), the sewage from which is pumped to the main outfall sewer.

The Kew system (serving an area of 103 acres in Kew), the sewage from which drains to a local treatment plant.

The South-Eastern system (serving an area of 2,616 acres in Cheltenham, Parkdale, Mentone, and Mordialloc), the sewage from which drains to the Braeside treatment plant.

Pumping Stations.

At 30th June, 1957, pumping stations had been established at Spotswood, Preston, Sunshine (3), Box Hill, Black Rock, Mordialloc, and Port Melbourne.

Metropolitan Sewage Farm.

A general description of this farm is given on pages 178 and 179 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

Statistical details for the year ended 30th June, 1957, are as follows :—

Total area of farm	26,854 acres
Area used for sewage disposal	16,208 acres
Average rainfall over 64 years	18.69 inches
Net cost of sewage purification per head of population served	4s. 4d.
Profit on cattle	£132,904

Disposal of Night-soil from Unsewered Premises.

The responsibility for the collection, removal, and disposal of night-soil from unsewered premises within the metropolis was transferred from the individual municipal councils to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works as from 19th November, 1924. By agreement each council pays to the Board a prescribed amount per annum to offset the cost of the service, &c.

For the year 1956-57 the working expenses were £80,578 and interest £4,186, making a total of £84,764. The revenue was £10,310, leaving a deficiency of £74,454.

Metropolitan Drainage and River Improvement Rate.

Under the provisions of Part VIII. of the Act (as amended by the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Rate) Act* 1938), relating to metropolitan drainage and rivers, the Board is empowered to levy a metropolitan drainage and river improvement rate not exceeding 2d. in the £1 in respect of the properties in the metropolis rateable by any municipality. The present rate is 2d. in the £1.

Assessed Value of Property.

The total annual value of property assessed for drainage and river purposes for 1956-57 was £51,701,800.

Cost of Drainage and River Improvement Works.

The total cost of drainage and river improvement works to 30th June, 1957, was £6,842,582. The length of main drains under the control of the Board at 30th June, 1957, was 161 miles.

BALLARAT WATER COMMISSIONERS.

The local governing body by the name of "The Ballarat Water Commissioners" was constituted on the 1st July, 1880, by the *Waterworks Act* 1880 (No. 656).

Water Supply. The water supply district of the Ballarat Water Commissioners embraces an area of approximately 65 square miles, including the City of Ballaarat, the Borough of Sebastopol and portions of the Shires of Ballarat, Buninyong, Bungaree, and Grenville. The estimated population of this area is 54,000. The works comprise seven reservoirs, which have a total storage capacity of 5,606 million gallons. The catchment area is 22,562 acres. The Commissioners supplied water to 17,227 properties of which 10,929 were connected to the sewers.

To 31st December, 1957, the capital cost of construction was £2,129,227 and loans outstanding (including private loans) were £1,240,980. During 1957 receipts amounted to £341,882 and expenditure to £331,832.

Water Rate. The water rate was 1s. 1d. in the £1 of the net annual value of all rateable properties, with a minimum of £1 per annum for land on which there is a building or water supply.

BALLARAT SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Ballarat Sewerage Authority was constituted under the provisions of the *Sewerage Districts Act* 1915 by Order in Council dated 30th November, 1920, which provides that the members of the Water Commissioners shall be the Sewerage Authority.

Sewerage. The Ballarat sewerage district embraces the City of Ballaarat, portions of the Shires of Ballarat and Bungaree, and the Borough of Sebastopol. Work was commenced in December, 1922, and to date the Authority has constructed a disposal works,

1 mile of outfall sewer, 2·1 miles of main sewer, 15·5 miles of sub-mains, 111·1 miles of reticulation, an ejector station, and 0·6 miles of rising main. The whole of the works so far completed is gravitational. The plant treats an average maximum daily flow of approximately 2,500,000 gallons and comprises screening, grit removal, primary sedimentation, trickling filter, secondary sedimentation, and sludge digestion.

To 31st December, 1957, the capital cost of construction, including side lines, was £877,242, and the loans outstanding at that date amounted to £648,598. The amount outstanding by property owners for sewerage installations was £13,158. During 1957, General Fund revenue was £84,078, and expenditure, £85,069.

General Sewerage Rate. The general sewerage rate is 1s. 4d. in the £1 of the net annual value of all properties within the drainage area. There are minimum rates of £2 4s. for any rateable property sewered on which there is a building, and £1 for any rateable sewered property on which there is no building.

GEELONG WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE TRUST.

This Trust was constituted as the Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust on 25th January, 1908. It was reconstituted as a Water and Sewerage Authority under the *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act* 1909.

The amount of loans which may be raised is limited to £6,500,000 for water supply, and £1,250,000 for sewerage works. The expenditure on these services to 30th June, 1957, was water supply £2,999,074; sewerage, £1,156,563. In addition a total of £296,500 has been borrowed for sewerage installations to properties under deferred payment conditions. The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1957, was £260,393 on account of waterworks and £149,605 on account of sewerage. Since 1913 the Trust has appropriated and set apart sums out of revenues for the creation of a sinking fund to redeem loans. To 30th June, 1957,

the amounts so appropriated were sewerage, £140,335, and water supply, £176,714. Of such amounts £236,156 has been used to redeem loans.

The population supplied with water is estimated by the Trust at 89,300. The number of houses connected with the Trust's sewers is 18,373 and the population provided for is estimated at 73,500.

The catchment areas of the Northern (Moorabool River) **Water Supply.** watersheds are about 51 square miles in extent. There are six storage reservoirs (total capacity 4,318 million gallons) in this area and one pipe head basin. The catchment areas of the Southern (Barwon River and tributaries) watersheds are about 27 square miles in extent. There is one storage reservoir (capacity 4,157 million gallons) and three service basins in the area. There are also nine service basins on the outskirts of the city. The annual safe yield from all sources is 3,580 million gallons.

Water is supplied in bulk to the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission for use by the Bellarine Peninsula Scheme, the townships of Torquay, Anglesea, Birregurra, and to the Winchelsea Waterworks Trust for use at Winchelsea.

The sewerage system consists of a main outfall sewer, **Sewerage.** 4 feet by 3 ft. 3 in., about 13 miles in length to the ocean at Black Rock, and 186.0 miles of reticulation sewers. The sewerage area is 10,559 acres and includes the Cities of Geelong, Geelong West, and Newtown and Chilwell, and the suburban areas in the Shires of Corio, South Barwon, and Bellarine.

The water rate is 1s 5d. in the £1 of the net annual **Water Rates.** value of all rateable properties with a minimum of £1 per annum for land on which there is a building and a minimum of 10s. per annum for land on which there is no building. The charge for water supplied beyond the rating allowance of 900 gallons per £1 of the municipal valuation, is 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons.

Sewerage Rate. The general sewerage rate is 1s. 4d. in the £1 of the net annual value of all rateable properties.

MILDURA URBAN WATER TRUST.

This Trust, which was constituted under the provisions of the *Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts Act 1928*, supplies water for domestic use in the City of Mildura and the township of Irymple in the Shire of Mildura. The revenue and expenditure of this Authority for each of the years 1954-55 to 1956-57, were as follows :—

**MILDURA URBAN WATER TRUST—REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE, 1954-55 TO 1956-57.**

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—		
	1955.	1956.	1957.
REVENUE.			
	£	£	£
Water Rates	21,373	24,629	29,526
Water Charges	7,493	7,457	6,959
Interest on Overdue Rates	83	65	253
Other	1,468	1,212	1,934
Total	30,417	33,363	38,672
EXPENDITURE.			
Administration	2,453	3,009	3,887
Maintenance	13,627	15,870	20,559
Interest on Loans	3,626	4,197	5,975
Interest on Overdraft	56	283	379
Depreciation	3,672	5,373	5,154
Other	960	900	1,415
Total	25,394	29,632	37,369

SEWERAGE AUTHORITIES.

In districts outside the areas under the control of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, and the State Electricity Commission (which bodies are constituted under special Acts), sewerage authorities may be constituted in Victoria under the provisions of the Sewerage Districts Acts. At 31st December, 1957, 62 such authorities had been constituted and 34 were in operation.

The following table shows the number of properties connected to sewers in Victoria at the end of each of the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 :—

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF PROPERTIES CONNECTED TO SEWERS, 1953-54 TO 1957-58.

Authority.	At End of Year—				
	1953-1954.	1954-1955.	1955-1956.	1956-1957.	1957-1958.
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	345,370	351,617	358,805	366,507	375,019
Other Authorities ..	66,500	69,881	73,988	79,109	84,403
Total ..	411,870	421,498	432,793	445,616	459,422

FIRE BRIGADES.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, which was constituted in February, 1891, is composed of ten members of whom three are appointed by the Governor-in-Council, three by municipal councils, three by fire insurance companies, and one by employees of the Board.

The Board, at 30th June, 1957, had under its control the following :— 42 stations, 773 members of permanent staff, 73 members of special service staff, 27 members of clerical staff, 73 men engaged in workshops, 11 employees engaged in the tailoring department, and 14 partially-paid firemen.

Municipalities, within the Metropolitan Fire District, contribute one third and Fire Insurance Companies, transacting business in the same area, provide two-thirds of the amount required to maintain Metropolitan Fire Brigades. During 1956-57 contributions by Municipalities were equivalent to 1·867d. in the £1 on the annual value of property amounting to £50,608,150, while Fire Insurance Companies contributed at a rate of £16 15s. 4·32d. for every £100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1955 amounted to £4,696,843.

Particulars of receipts and expenditure of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board during each of the five years, 1953 to 1957 are as follows:—

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, 1953 TO 1957.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Contributions—Municipal Insurance Companies	839,981*	877,311	865,857	889,767	1,181,358
Receipts for Services	101,787	102,534	113,709	115,470	121,907
Interest and Sundries	98,706	96,330	97,165	112,851	117,772
Total	1,040,474	1,076,175	1,076,731	1,118,088	1,421,037
EXPENDITURE.					
Salaries	620,126	643,767	667,566	719,320	806,169
Administrative Charges, &c.	163,749	154,236	169,931	217,816	230,978
Partially-paid Firemen and Special Service Staff Allowances	68,126	61,492	67,088	73,592	84,104
Plant—Purchase and Repairs	64,975	82,294	79,477	82,503	101,441
Interest	6,516	5,148	4,132	3,608	3,173
Repayment of Loans	12,121	11,009	11,580	10,399	9,091
Superannuation Fund	23,790	24,478	26,827	29,525	31,622
Motor Replacement Reserve	9,368	10,551	10,559	11,623	12,950
Pay-Roll Tax	19,016	19,039	19,255	21,793	24,099
Miscellaneous	2,938	3,761	4,125	4,405	6,141
Total	990,725	1,015,775	1,060,540	1,174,584	1,309,768
At 30th June—					
Loan Indebtedness	109,714	98,705	87,125	76,727	92,636

* Includes £69,998 contributed by State Government.

The Country Fire Authority, which was constituted in 1944, comprises ten members appointed by the Executive Council and selected from panels of names submitted by the Minister of Forests (2 representatives), the Urban Municipalities (1), the Rural Municipalities (1), the Fire Insurance Companies (2), the Rural Fire Brigades (2), and the Urban Fire Brigades (2).

The Authority is responsible for the prevention and suppression of fires in the "country area of Victoria", which embraces the whole of the State outside the metropolitan fire district, excluding State Forests and certain Crown lands. The country area has been divided into 24 Fire Control Regions, three of which (Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong) are wholly urban, the remaining 21 mixed urban and rural. Nineteen permanent Regional Fire Officers supervise fire prevention and extinction in the rural sections of one or more fire control regions.

At 30th June, 1957, there were 200 urban fire brigades and 1,026 rural fire brigades. The effective registered strength of the brigades at the close of the financial year was 98,402 members. Under the provisions of the *Country Fire Authority (Finance) Act 1953* (No. 5712) the contributions of the insurance companies to this Authority were increased as from 1st January, 1954, from one-third of the estimated expenditure to two-thirds thereof, and the contribution by the Government of Victoria, through the Municipalities Assistance Fund, was reduced proportionately. In 1955 contributions were received from 171 insurance companies which collected premiums amounting to £4,053,960 from fire insurance risks situated in country areas. Contributions during 1956-57 were equivalent to £7 0s. 5d. for each £100 of fire insurance premiums received.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the Country Fire Authority during each of the years 1955 to 1957:—

**VICTORIA—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE
COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY, 1954-55 TO 1956-57.**

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—		
	1955.	1956.	1957.
REVENUE.	£	£	£
Statutory Contributions—			
Government (Municipalities Assistance Fund)	114,209	122,740	142,273
Insurance Companies	228,418	245,480	284,547
Other Income	15,324	21,011	27,966
Total	357,951	389,231	454,786
EXPENDITURE.			
Allowances—Fires and Practices	7,152	7,146	6,981
Compensation Fund—Accidents	6,150	7,500	7,500
Demonstration Charges	2,645	4,316	3,653
Depreciation	27,627	16,454	17,680
Insurance	7,484	9,030	12,267
Interest	16,418	24,655	29,222
Maintenance	69,555	81,976	87,899
Motor Replacement Fund	26,274	33,074	35,727
Rates and Taxes	5,942	7,548	7,978
Salaries and Wages	125,936	145,742	163,416
Superannuation Fund	8,817	10,329	12,163
Transport	9,612	9,928	11,245
Travelling Expenses	4,836	5,626	6,416
Other Expenditure	15,695	17,449	24,570
Total	334,143	380,773	426,717
Loan Expenditure	127,370	108,794	133,694
Loan Indebtedness at 30th June	448,069	618,807	627,999

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SEMI-GOVERNMENT BODIES.

In the following statement particulars are given of the new money loan raisings during each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57 by Local Government and Semi-Governmental and other Public Bodies in Victoria:—

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER PUBLIC BODIES: NEW MONEY LOAN RAISINGS, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Particulars.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	£	£	£	£	£
LOCAL GOVERNMENT.					
Due to Government	23,428	56,053	76,189	130,773	113,280
Due to Public Creditor	3,900,790	3,340,500	3,303,716	4,411,751	5,266,250
Total Local Government	3,924,218	3,396,553	3,379,905	4,542,524	5,379,530
SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL, &c.					
Due to Government*	21,620,526	20,976,865	14,711,773	16,448,953	15,181,585
Due to Public Creditor	32,373,296	34,485,209	39,707,973	31,645,251	38,943,358
Total Semi-Governmental, &c. .. .	53,993,822	55,462,074	54,419,746	48,094,204	54,129,943
ALL AUTHORITIES.					
Due to Government	21,643,954	21,032,918	14,787,962	16,579,726	15,294,865
Due to Public Creditor	36,274,086	37,825,709	43,011,689	36,057,002	44,214,608
Grand Total	57,918,040	58,858,627	57,799,651	52,636,728	59,509,473

* Including the following advances by the Commonwealth Government under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement:—£11,270,000 in 1952-53, £12,000,000 in 1953-54, £9,500,000 in 1954-55, £13,071,871 in 1955-56, £8,400,000 in 1956-57.

HOUSING.

Housing and Reclamation by Municipalities. The Council of any municipality may, under existing statutory power, erect or purchase dwelling houses for eligible persons at a cost not exceeding the maximum amount, for the time being, prescribed by Order of the Governor in Council. The maximum amount may be varied for different classes of houses according to size, materials used in construction and methods of construction. An eligible person within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1958*, is one who does not own a dwelling-house in Victoria or elsewhere and who is in receipt of an income not exceeding £750 a year.

Erection of Dwelling-houses by State Savings Bank Commissioners. Under the provisions of the *State Savings Bank Act* 1958, power is given to the Commissioners of the State Savings Bank of Victoria to provide dwelling-houses for eligible persons upon such terms and subject to such covenants and conditions as are prescribed or are fixed by the Commissioners. Particulars relating to the exercise of this authority are given in Part "Private Finance" of this *Year-Book*.

War Service Homes in Victoria. Provision of homes is made by the Commonwealth Government for Australian soldiers who served during the 1914-1918 War, the 1939-1945 War, or in Korea or Malaya, and also for the female dependants of Australian soldiers and other classes of eligible persons as defined in the *War Service Homes Act* 1918-1956.

Activities associated with such Act are shown in the following table. The information is furnished by the War Service Homes Division of the Department of National Development.

VICTORIA—WAR SERVICE HOMES, 1951-52 TO 1957-58.

Period.	Applications Approved.	Homes Built and Assisted to Build.	Homes Purchased.	Mortgages Discharged.	Transfers and Resales.
Year Ended 30th June—					
1952	5,362	1,034	3,141	1,850	116
1953	4,376	1,292	1,757	483	258
1954	4,145	1,418	1,917	522	297
1955	4,423	1,283	1,876	848	354
1956	3,168	1,251	1,480	616	418
1957	4,481	958	2,132	576	341
1958	4,507	1,299	2,316	517	370
From Inception to— 30th June, 1958 ..	57,349	15,571	26,742	9,604	3,890

To 30th June, 1958, the sums paid as instalments of principal and interest amounted to £35,516,488, whilst the arrears of instalments totalled £114,858, the percentage of arrears to the total amount due being 0.32.

Housing Commission of Victoria. Particulars relating to the constitution, powers, and duties of the Housing Commission will be found in Part "Social Condition" of the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 236.

In the following table the numbers and types of dwelling units completed by the Housing Commission, Victoria, are shown for each of the years 1952-53 to 1956-57:—

VICTORIA—HOUSING COMMISSION: TYPES OF DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED, 1952-53 TO 1956-57.

Year Ended 30th June—	Type.				Total Dwelling Units.
	Brick.	Brick Veneer.	Timber.	Concrete.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Metropolitan Area of Melbourne *					
1953.. .. .	318	233	236	786	1,573
1954.. .. .	393	237	560	864	2,054
1955.. .. .	383	456	435	837	2,111
1956.. .. .	578	605	352	936	2,471
1957.. .. .	94	303	97	944	1,438
Remainder of State					
1953.. .. .	..	..	1,574	91	1,665
1954.. .. .	..	..	1,432	104	1,536
1955.. .. .	..	24	1,527	298	1,849
1956.. .. .	34	78	1,286	283	1,681
1957.. .. .	4	..	717	421	1,142
Total Victoria					
1953.. .. .	318	233	1,810	877	3,238
1954.. .. .	393	237	1,992	968	3,590
1955.. .. .	383	480	1,962	1,135	3,960
1956.. .. .	612	683	1,638	1,219	4,152
1957.. .. .	98	303	814	1,365	2,580

* As defined by the Housing Commission.

The total number of dwelling units completed to 30th June, 1957 was 34,785 comprising brick 6,846; brick veneer 3,682; timber 14,697; concrete 9,538; and other types 22.