

CHAPTER XV.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

§ 1. Introduction.

1. **General.**—The following statistics relating to Local Government are somewhat incomplete and otherwise unsatisfactory, but, hitherto, it has not been possible to obtain more complete information. A defect in the figures is due to inconsistency in some cases in the treatment of proceeds of loans and the expenditure thereof. These are sometimes included with the general revenue and expenditure and in other instances they are shown separately.

2. **Roads, Bridges, etc.**—The construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries are generally part of the functions of local authorities, but in New South Wales and South Australia, more especially in the large unincorporated areas, these duties are undertaken directly by the Government. In some States, moreover, a certain proportion of the roads and bridges is constructed and maintained by the Government, which, in addition, advances money for main roads to be expended by municipalities under the supervision of special Boards. Although roads, bridges and ferries constructed and maintained directly by Government do not properly come under the heading of "Local Government," they have been included in this chapter for the sake of convenience. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining complete particulars of receipts and expenditure by the various local governing bodies on roads under their control, the details of receipts and expenditure given in the following section are those of the Government only, relating either to the supervisory board or commission in the State or to direct activities of a department.

3. **Municipalities, Shires, etc.**—A description of the various systems of municipal government in the different States, and their development from the earliest date, was published in 1919 by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics in a separate work entitled "Local Government in Australia."

4. **Water Supply and Sewerage.**—In the cities of Sydney and Melbourne the control of water supply and sewerage is in the hands of special Boards, while in Adelaide and Perth these services are under the direct supervision of Government Departments. In most of the other cities and towns, the municipal councils, or, in some cases, water trusts, are the controlling bodies which either construct the works out of their own resources or take them over after they have been constructed by the Government.

5. **Harbours.**—The majority of the harbours in Australia are managed by Boards, the members of which are either elected by persons interested or appointed by the Government. In a few instances, however, they are directly controlled by the Government. Only those which are controlled by Boards are dealt with in the following pages.

6. **Fire Brigades.**—In all the States, the management of fire brigades is undertaken by Boards. The members of these Boards are usually elected by the councils of municipalities and insurance companies within the districts placed under their jurisdiction, together with one or more appointed by the Government, while occasionally volunteer or country fire brigades are represented.

§ 2. Roads, Bridges, Etc.

1. *New South Wales.*—(i) *General.* The control of all roads, bridges and ferries with the exception of those proclaimed as "National" and of those in the unincorporated areas of the Western Division, which still remained under its jurisdiction, was transferred by the Local Government Act of 1906 from the Roads Department to local authorities. Under the Act an annual endowment was made to municipalities and shires but owing to the inability of the councils to maintain the important roadways in a serviceable condition, this was discontinued and a separate vote made to councils for the upkeep of the main roads. This system was discontinued when legislation passed in 1924 created the Main Roads Board which functioned for seven years. In 1933 the main roads administration was organized as a separate department in the Ministry of Transport under the control of a commissioner who, with an assistant commissioner, was appointed for a term of seven years. In September, 1935, the "National" and other works, including those in the Western Division, were transferred to the control of the main Roads Department.

The Main Roads Department co-operates with the municipal and shire councils in the work of constructing and maintaining a well-organized system of main highways. In the metropolitan district, where a levy on councils is compulsory, the whole cost of construction and maintenance of main roads is paid from the funds of the Main Roads Department, but the actual work may be done by the councils. In the country districts assistance in respect of road works may be granted by the Department to the council of any area through which a main road passes, and the council may be required to contribute part of the cost of the work or, in special circumstances, the whole cost of any particular work may be paid from the roads funds or the cost may be advanced to be repaid by the councils. Funds for works on developmental roads were provided wholly by Parliamentary appropriation until 1933-34, when provision was made for the transfer annually of £135,000 from the Country Main Roads Fund. Local councils are required to maintain such roads in a satisfactory condition.

(ii) *Length of Roads and Bridges, and Ferries.* At the 30th June, 1934, the latest date for which particulars are available, the "National" works consisted of 91 bridges with a total length of 33,523 feet, and 5 ferries, while mainly in the unincorporated areas of the Western Division, under the control of the Main Roads Department, there were at 30th June, 1936, 7.351 miles of roads (of which 512 miles were metalled or ballasted, 1,157 formed only, and 3,079 cleared only). In June, 1934, there were 148 bridges of a total length of 16,691 feet, 1,099 culverts, 1,553 causeways and 5 hand punts. The latest statistics regarding the remaining roads of the State refer to the 30th June, 1936, at which date there were 110,945 miles of roads, streets and lanes in shires and 10,248 miles in municipalities. Of these, 9,937 miles were of concrete, tar, bitumen, waterbound macadam, or ballasted or metalled; 23,473 were gravelled; 22,862 formed only; 27,518 cleared only; and 37,403 natural surface.

(iii) *Expenditure on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.* The total expenditure by the Government during 1935-36 was £6,077,775, comprising expenditure from funds of the Main Roads Department £2,470,609 and endowments and grants to Councils from votes of the Local Government Department £3,607,166. The expenditure shown from the Main Roads Department Funds excludes £415,439 interest and loan repayment, £80,942 administrative expenses and £4,959 miscellaneous.

The Government expenditure in connexion with the Sydney Harbour Bridge, £1,786 in 1935-36 and £10,082,944 to the 30th June, 1936, is not included in the above figures. Of the total sum expended on the bridge to date, £8,406,831 was provided by General Loan Account, £1,665,444 from proceeds of municipal and shire rates and £10,669 from the Unemployment Relief Fund. Interest and exchange accounted for £1,535,071, and resumptions for £1,352,129. A reduction in the total cost of the bridge will be effected by the sale of surplus resumed lands estimated at about £500,000.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* With the object of improving the main roads of the State the Country Roads Board was established by legislation passed in 1912. The principal duties of the board are to determine the main roads, to inquire into the State's resources in road materials and the most effective methods of road construction and maintenance, and to recommend deviations to existing roads or the construction of new roads in order to facilitate communication or to improve the conditions of traffic.

(ii) *Length of Roads and Streets.* At the end of 1935 there were 106,444 miles of roads and streets in Victoria, comprising 159 miles wood or stone; 111 Portland cement concrete; 182 asphaltic concrete and sheet asphalt; 6,230 tar or bitumen surface; 22,254 waterbound macadam, gravel, sand and hard loam pavements; 24,603 formed only; and 52,905 surveyed only but used for general traffic. Of the total length, only 2,306 miles or 2 per cent. were State highways.

(iii) *Receipts and Expenditure.* Funds created under the Act are the Country Roads Board Fund, the Loan Account and the Developmental Roads Loan Account. Particulars of the operations of these Funds are given hereunder.

(a) *Country Roads Board Fund.* All fees (other than fees for licences to drive motor cars) and fines under the Motor Car Act, and all registration fees and fines for traction engines, less cost of collection of such fees and fines, are credited to this fund. The total receipts for the year 1935-36 were £2,005,920 made up as follows:—Motor registration fees, £1,409,394; contributions by municipalities for permanent works and relief, £143,432, and for maintenance works, £147,073; sale of stores and material and hire of plant, £225,546; and other sources, £80,475. The expenditure for the year was £1,995,207, comprising maintenance and reconditioning of main roads and State highways, £985,280; plant, stores, administration, etc., £339,979; interest, sinking funds, etc., £570,467; and other expenses, £30,481. The expenditure shown for interest, sinking funds, etc., comprises the following items:—Interest and sinking fund payments on account of loan moneys, £310,847; repayments by municipalities for interest and sinking fund, £118,620; and relief to municipalities from liability in respect of interest and sinking fund, £150,000.

(b) *Country Roads Board Loan Account.* Loans to the amount of £4,922,000 have been authorized from time to time for permanent works on main roads and State highways under the Country Roads Acts. One half of the amount expended on permanent works and one-third of the amount expended on maintenance of main roads must be refunded by the municipalities affected, 6 per cent. of the amount due in respect of permanent works being payable annually, and the cost of maintenance allocated to each municipality must be paid before the 1st of July in each year. A special rate, not exceeding 6d. in the pound, may be levied in any ward or riding of a municipality for the purpose of such repayment. During the year ended 30th June, 1936, the amounts paid into this Account were £35,595 from the State Loans Repayment Fund, while expenditure for the year on permanent works was £67,132, and the total to the end of the year, £4,859,151.

(c) *Developmental Roads Loan Account.* For the purpose of constructing and maintaining subsidiary or developmental roads, the Government has been authorized to borrow sums aggregating £6,475,000. The municipalities are required to bear a proportion of the interest on the outlay during the period of the loan and to maintain the roads when constructed. The amount expended during the year ended 30th June, 1936, was £46,454, and the total expenditure to that date was £6,418,316. Receipts for the year comprised £34,647 from the State Loans Repayment Fund.

(d) *Total Expenditure.* In addition to expenditure from the abovementioned Funds, the following amounts were expended under special appropriations on road construction and maintenance:—Unemployment relief, £363,849; contributions by the Commonwealth Government under the provisions of the Federal Aid Roads Act, £480,853, and special Commonwealth grant towards flood repairs, £33,270.

The total expenditure by the Board on road construction and maintenance during the year ended 30th June, 1936, amounting to £1,976,838, may be summarized as follows:—State Highways, £468,413; main roads, £835,208; developmental roads, £309,368; and unemployment relief (on main and developmental roads, etc.), £363,849.

3. **Queensland.**—Under the Main Roads Act 1920 a Main Roads Board was constituted, consisting of three members appointed by the Governor in Council. In 1925 the Board was abolished and its powers conferred upon a single Commissioner.

The duties of the Commissioner are to carry out surveys and investigations necessary to determine State highways, main, developmental, secondary, mining access, tourist roads or tourist tracks, and, under certain circumstances, to undertake their construction and maintenance.

With the exception of State highways, mining access roads or tourist tracks, no road can be proclaimed until the Commission has considered any objections thereto lodged by interested local authorities.

Local authorities are not liable for the return of any expenditure for construction on State highways, mining access roads (serving only mining interests) or tourist tracks, or on arterial roads declared under the Federal Aid Roads Act. They are, however, responsible for up to 50 per cent. of maintenance of the former and 33½ per cent. of the latter roads. The liability in respect of main roads is 20 per cent. of construction costs; developmental roads 20 per cent. of interest on construction costs; secondary roads 50 per cent.; and tourist roads as agreed prior to commencement of work. The liability in respect of maintenance of State highways, main, developmental and secondary roads is 50 per cent. In the case of mining access roads and tourist tracks no repayment is required. The Commissioner has power to reduce the amount of contribution payable by any local authority in respect of permanent works and maintenance where the rate required to produce the annual repayment exceeds 1d. in the pound on the property valuation of the whole area. He has also power to grant relief in exceptional circumstances.

At the 31st December, 1935, there were under various local authorities 117,826 miles of roads in Queensland, of which 3,768 were natural or artificial sand-clay loam, 4,342 waterbound pavement, 539 waterbound pavement with bitumen surface, 681 bituminous penetration macadam, 45 concrete, 23,899 formed only and 84,552 unconstructed but used for general traffic. These totals include the roads under the control of the Main Roads Commission, which at the 30th June, 1936, totalled 12,375 miles comprising 9,010 miles of main roads, 2,754 of State highways and 611 of developmental, tourist, etc., roads.

During the year ended 30th June, 1936, the receipts of the Commission amounted to £1,838,335, including £400,000 from the Treasury Loan Fund, £616,485 from motor fees, £501,483 from the Commonwealth for works under the Federal Aid Roads Scheme and £139,617 from the State Unemployment Relief Scheme. Disbursements amounted to £1,862,799, including £1,067,490 on permanent works, and £213,732 on maintenance.

4. **South Australia.**—The Highways Act 1926 created a Commissioner of Highways and provided for a Main Roads Fund. The Commissioner is virtually empowered to determine upon which main roads he will spend the moneys available, in doing which he has to take into account (a) the moneys voted, or likely to be voted, by Parliament for main roads; (b) whether the road is or will be the main trunk route (i) connecting any large producing area, or any area capable of becoming in the near future a large producing area, with its market or nearest port or railway station; (ii) connecting two or more large producing areas, or areas capable of becoming in the near future large producing areas, or between two or more large centres of population; (iii) between the capital and any large producing area or any large centre of population; (iv) between the capitals of this State and any other State; and (c) whether the area through which the road passes is, or in the near future will be, sufficiently served by a railway or railways.

The Main Roads Fund is to be credited with (a) licence fees and registration fees under the Road Traffic Act 1934; (b) fines, penalties and forfeitures in respect of convictions for offences against the same Act (exclusive of any sum received for costs); (c) fees for hawkers' licences; (d) contributions from Councils; (e) all sums appropriated by Parliament for main roads; (f) all loans raised and appropriated for main roads. In

accordance with legislation passed in the years 1930 to 1935 a considerable portion of these receipts is temporarily payable into general revenue. All moneys received by the State from the Commonwealth under the Federal Aid Roads Scheme are also expended by the Commissioner of Highways under the general provisions of the Highways Act.

The total length of roads in use for general traffic within local governing areas at the 31st December, 1935, was 51,742 miles, of which 14 miles were paved with wood or stone; 217 were bituminous concrete; 707 bitumen penetration; 14,072 tarpaved, metalled or gravelled; 6,267 formed only; and 30,465 unformed.

The expenditure from the Main Roads Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1936, was £334,017, including £125,713 for interest on loans; the amount received from the Commonwealth Government for expenditure on Federal Aid Roads was £309,003; the amount allocated for roads in newly settled areas, etc., was £32,470; and grants in aid of rates collected paid to Councils amounted to £27,000. In sparsely-settled districts outside the incorporated areas, the roads and bridges are constructed and maintained by the Engineering and Water Supply Department under arrangement with the Commissioner of Highways. The amount so expended during the same period was £9,553. At the close of the period under review the Commissioner was maintaining departmentally about 984 miles of improved main roads.

5. **Western Australia.**—In Western Australia the construction, maintenance and management of main and developmental roads throughout the State are under the control of the Commissioner of Main Roads, appointed under the Main Roads Act 1930. Minor roads are controlled by Municipalities and District Road Boards.

6. **Tasmania.**—(i) *Length and Description of Roads.* At the 30th June, 1936, there were 12,813 miles of roads in Tasmania, comprising 462 of concrete, bitumen or oil-sprayed; 5,150 metalled; 3,135 gravelled; and 4,066 formed only. Of the total length, 1,222 miles were State highways.

(ii) *Construction.* In Tasmania the cost of construction of roads and bridges is borne almost entirely by the State Government. Up to the 30th June, 1936, the loan expenditure on these works was £5,278,753 (roads, £4,315,756; tracks, £233,309; bridges, £729,688). In addition, half the proceeds of the sale of land has been applied to form a Crown Lands Fund for the construction of roads to new holdings. Under this provision £693,008 has been expended. This fund has in recent years more than met the demands on it, and expenditure therefrom since 1918, has been limited to £10,000 annually, the balance being used for redemption of debt.

Loan money expended by the Public Works Department during the year 1935-36 on the construction of roads and bridges amounted to £82,773, and expenditure from the Crown Lands Fund to £2,226. In addition, the sum of £162,677 provided by the Commonwealth Government was expended on roads: New-road mileage completed during the year was 122 miles metalled and gravelled under State votes, and 18 miles of new construction and 60 miles of reconstruction under Federal Aid Roads Scheme.

(iii) *Maintenance.* The maintenance of roads, other than State highways, is undertaken by the municipalities out of their own revenues. All bridges costing over £50 are maintained by the State Government. The maintenance of State highways is provided for by the State Highways Act 1929, which created the State Highways Trust Fund to which is paid from Consolidated Revenue a sum equal to the amount of all motor taxes collected in the immediately preceding financial year and paid into the Treasury, less 2 per cent. The expenditure on State highways for 1935-36 was £70,181.

7. **Summary of Net Loan Expenditure on Roads and Bridges.**—Figures showing the total expenditure on roads and bridges in the States are not available. The following table shows the annual net loan expenditure on roads and bridges by the central Governments in each State during the years 1931-32 to 1935-36, together with the aggregate amounts of expenditure up to the 30th June, 1936. The net loan expenditure by the Government is not available for Tasmania and the figures given in the following table represent the actual amounts expended by the Department of Public Works, including sums for unemployment relief.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—NET LOAN EXPENDITURE.

Year ended 30th June—	N.S.W.	Victoria.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.(b)	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1932 ..	1,277,072	68,917	90,642	25,955	..	27,040	1,489,626
1933 ..	233,504	94,088	83,125	..	83,004	51,336	545,057
1934 ..	Cr. 37,927	114,419	210,700	..	123,814	63,240	474,246
1935 ..	262,436	95,360	689,091	..	185,973	65,960	1,298,820
1936 ..	92,682	77,044	275,110	..	132,783	82,773	660,392
Total to 30/6/36	16,756,428	12,237,256	3,638,442	3,219,745	3,278,503	5,278,753	44,409,127

(a) Represents expenditure from loan and on account of loan.

(b) Adjusted figures, excluding credits due to purchase of securities.

The loan expenditure given above does not represent the total expenditure on roads and bridges. It relates for the most part to capital expenditure on new works, but it must be supplemented by similar expenditure from loan funds of local bodies, Federal grants and unemployment relief moneys, and further account must be taken of expenditure on maintenance which is mainly defrayed from the current revenues.

§ 3. Municipalities, Shires, Etc.

I. New South Wales.—(i) *General*. Practically the whole of the State, with the exception of the greater portion of the Western Division, has been divided into municipalities and shires, the total area incorporated at the end of 1935 being 184,010 square miles, of which 2,141 square miles are included in the former and 181,869 in the latter. The areas incorporated comprise the whole of the Eastern and Central Divisions of the State (with the exception of Lord Howe Island, the islands in Port Jackson and the quarantine station at Port Jackson) and a small portion of the Western Division consisting of the whole of six and part of two municipalities.

The operations of the City of Sydney are governed by the Sydney Corporation Act, 1932–1934, and those of other local government areas known as municipalities and shires by the Local Government Act, 1919 and amendments.

In the tables which follow the revenue and expenditure transactions of the City of Sydney are shown separately from those of municipalities and shires because of differences in the form of accounts. An exception is made, however, in the summary appearing on page 458, total figures for New South Wales including both the City of Sydney and municipalities and shires.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS, NEW SOUTH WALES.—SUMMARY, 1935.

Local Area.	Number.	Area.	Population, 31st December, 1935.	Unimproved Capital Value. (a)	Improved Capital Value. (a)	Length of Roads.(c)
		Acres.		£	£	Miles.
Metropolitan— City of Sydney ..	1	3,220	87,570	45,891,051	139,586,700	137
Municipalities ..	48	151,444	1,158,560	90,946,422	271,062,229	3,374
Total ..	49	154,664	1,246,130	136,837,473	410,648,929	3,511
Country— Municipalities ..	124	1,215,676	576,020	30,216,525	102,513,725	6,737
Shires ..	139	116,396,340	811,210	139,018,142	(b)	110,945
Total ..	263	117,612,016	1,387,230	169,234,667	(b)	117,682
Grand Total ..	312	117,766,680	2,633,360	306,072,140	(b)	121,193

(a) Excludes Federal Government and other non-rateable properties.

(b) Not available

(c) Figures for year 1936.

(ii) *Revenue and Expenditure.*—(a) *City of Sydney.* Revenue from rates and from fines, fees, rents, etc., in connexion with ordinary local services rendered by the City Council are credited to the City Fund, of which the Public Markets Account and Resumptions Account are subsidiary accounts. Expenditures on road maintenance, parks and recreation, health, street lighting and other services are made from the City Fund. In addition, the Council finances comprise an Electricity Trading Fund, an Insurance Fund, and, though not usually treated as forming part of the City's accounts, rates levied to meet contributions payable to authorities controlling the main roads and Sydney Harbour Bridge.

A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the City of Sydney for the year ended 31st December, 1935, is shown below:—

CITY OF SYDNEY.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1935.

Particulars.	City Fund.			Total.
	Public Markets.	Resump-tions.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£
Revenue—				
Rates (contributions in lieu and rent of mains) .. .. .	..	..	878,500	878,500
Rents and hire	70,949	96,590	11,357	178,896
Licences, fines, fees, etc.	59,212	..	52,133	111,345
Sundries	178	..	51,864	52,042
Total City Funds	130,339	96,590	993,854	1,220,783
Electricity Works Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	2,539,189
Insurance Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	31,436
Main roads and harbour bridge rates .. .. .	..	..	..	104,951
Total Revenue .. .. .	..	..	..	3,896,359
Expenditure—				
Administration .. .. .	..	..	492,881	613,994
Works, Services, etc.	63,359	57,754	..	..
Interest	53,141	316,398	109,411	478,950
Loan Redemption, Sinking Funds, etc.	24,065	71,817	41,593	137,475
Total City Funds	140,565	445,969	643,885	1,230,419
Electricity Works Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	2,467,079
Insurance Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	11,015
Main roads and harbour bridge (rate) contributions .. .. .	..	..	..	104,951
Total Expenditure .. .. .	..	..	..	3,813,464

Loan expenditure by the City of Sydney during 1935 amounted to £558,072.

(b) *Municipalities and Shires.* In the accounts of municipalities and shires operating under the Local Government Act, 1919, expenditure chargeable to revenue includes, in addition to normal recurring items of expenditure, cost incurred in respect of construction works, such as roads and bridges, and other objects having long life not being realizable assets or for use in performing works or rendering services over a period of time even though financed from loan funds. It excludes payments made in the redemption of indebtedness.

A summary of the revenue accounts of municipalities and shires for 1935, compiled on the foregoing basis, is shown in the following table :—

MUNICIPALITIES AND SHIRES (EXCLUDING CITY OF SYDNEY), NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1935.

Particulars.	Municipalities.		Shires.	Total:
	Metropolitan.	Country.		
REVENUE.				
	£	£	£	£
Ordinary Services—				
Rates and extra charges	2,013,371	703,931	1,282,405	4,059,707
Government endowment .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	140,250	149,250
Government grants	1,103,255	1,147,357	2,127,984	4,078,596
Works	123,035	41,342	00,713	231,690
Health	169,468	219,303	135,241	524,072
Services	36,217	44,004	12,957	93,178
Property	29,012	60,059	39,978	126,049
Other	37,272	26,366	19,011	82,649
Total Ordinary Services	3,512,230	2,302,422	4,130,599	9,945,251
Trading Undertakings	95,167	1,205,319	273,244	1,573,730
Water and Sewerage Funds .. .. .	.. .. .	522,478	39,212	561,690
Total Revenue	3,607,397	4,030,219	4,443,055	12,080,671
EXPENDITURE CHARGEABLE TO REVENUE.				
Ordinary Services—				
Administration	168,236	132,810	224,353	525,399
Works	1,765,077	1,312,533	3,412,491	6,490,101
Health	580,445	395,217	169,768	1,145,430
Services	239,467	211,461	122,494	573,422
Property	44,082	35,015	17,504	96,661
Interest	242,009	65,933	72,302	380,304
Other	18,957	14,939	33,860	67,756
Main Roads Board and Harbour Bridge Contribution	193,617	7,282	24,554	225,453
Total Ordinary Services	3,251,890	2,175,190	4,077,446	9,504,526
Trading Undertakings	78,986	1,048,702	227,750	1,355,438
Water and Sewerage Funds .. .. .	.. .. .	341,165	26,706	367,871
Total Expenditure	3,330,876	3,565,057	4,331,902	11,227,835

The total amount of Government assistance to municipalities in 1935 amounted to £2,355,510 and to shires £2,579,062, the latter including £149,250 by way of endowment in aid of general revenues. Apart from the sums shown under Government grants and endowment small amounts were credited under other heads, including trading and water and sewerage accounts. A complete statement of revenue from rating, which in the foregoing table is allotted to the various accounts, is presented in a later table.

(iii) *Capital Transactions.* The following table shows the capital expenditure, debt redemptions and loan expenditure of Councils during 1935 :—

MUNICIPALITIES AND SHIRES (EXCLUDING CITY OF SYDNEY), NEW SOUTH WALES.—CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS.

Particulars.	Municipalities.		Shires.	Total.
	Metropolitan.	Country.		
	£	£	£	£
Assets purchased	150,240	585,620	207,964	943,824
Loan repayments	403,358	194,530	113,937	711,825
Payments off deferred payment debts ..	48,935	112,035	72,239	233,209
Expenditure from Loan Funds ..	123,320	22,034	18,186	163,540
Balances owing on deferred payment debts incurred during year ..	130,139	271,343	127,234	528,716

(iv) *Rates Levied—City of Sydney, Municipalities and Shires.* Rates levied by local authorities may be of four kinds, viz., general, special, local and loan. In the following table are shown particulars of all rates levied during 1935 :—

CITY OF SYDNEY, MUNICIPALITIES AND SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—RATES LEVIED, 1935.

Area.	Rates levied on behalf of—						Extra Charges on Overdue Rates.
	Ordinary Services.(a)	Electricity Works.	Gas Works.	Water Supply.	Sewerage.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Metropolitan—							
Sydney	980,940	..	..	..	..	980,940	2,511
Municipalities	1,962,116	1,872	..	..	..	1,963,988	51,255
Total	2,943,056	1,872	..	..	..	2,944,928	53,766
Country—							
Municipalities	730,691	24,022	2,292	224,036	100,280	1,081,321	33,240
Shires	1,244,374	25,260	..	24,792	..	1,294,426	38,091
Total	1,975,065	49,282	2,292	248,828	100,280	2,375,747	71,331
Grand Total	4,918,121	51,154	2,292	248,828	100,280	5,320,675	125,097

(a) Including Main Roads and Harbour Bridge Rates.

(v) *Assets and Liabilities—City of Sydney, Municipalities and Shires.* A statement of the assets and liabilities as at 31st December, 1935, of local authorities in New South Wales is shown below :—

CITY OF SYDNEY, MUNICIPALITIES AND SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1935.

Particulars.	Municipalities.				Total.
	City of Sydney.	Metropolitan.		Shires.	
		Country.			
ASSETS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank balances and cash	922,191.	324,415	895,301	468,823	2,610,730
Outstanding rates and extra charges	615,274	996,476	797,281	841,730	4,227,145
Sundry debtors					
Stores and materials		292,065	518,857	255,462	
Land, buildings, plant and furniture	22,712,551	48,003	145,673	74,873	36,989,051
Other	6,480,780	2,310,520	9,468,287	2,229,144	6,653,113
		3,052	80,458	88,823	
Total Assets	30,730,796	3,974,531	11,815,857	3,958,855	50,480,039
LIABILITIES.					
Loans, interest accrued and sundry creditors	26,650,567.	5,001,542	2,313,394	1,339,122	35,304,625
Debts due to Government and interest accrued	..	454,690	4,741,263	761,931	5,957,884
Bank overdraft	768,172	609,926	368,009	418,011	2,164,118
Other	..	80,435	222,568	240,110	543,113
Total Liabilities	27,418,739	6,146,593	7,645,234	2,759,174	43,969,740

In the City of Sydney it is not possible to dissect capital expenditure on resumptions to show the cost of resumptions used in roadworks and those portions retained as assets in the form of land and buildings; in all other instances capital expenditure on road and bridge construction has not been included as an asset.

(vi) *Loan Expenditure—Municipalities, Shires and County Councils.* The total loan expenditure by local government bodies during the year 1935 was £741,834, comprising municipalities £703,426 (City of Sydney, £558,072; metropolitan, £123,320; and country, £22,034); shires, £18,186; and county councils, £20,222.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* Local Government is established throughout the State, the various divisions being termed cities, towns, boroughs, or shires. Melbourne and Geelong were incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of a general system of local government, but are now subject to several provisions of the Local Government Act.

The financial years of the cities of Melbourne and Geelong end on the 31st December and the 31st August respectively, and those of all other municipalities on the 30th September.

(ii) *Municipalities. (a) Summary.* The following table shows the number of cities, towns, boroughs and shires, with estimated population, number of ratepayers and dwellings, and value of rateable property for the year 1935 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th September—	Number of Municipalities.	Population.	Number of Distinct Ratepayers.	Occupied Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.	
					Capital Improved Value.	Net Annual Value.
CITIES, TOWNS AND BOROUGHS.						
1935	No. 57	No. 1,202,150	No. 366,331	No. 296,618	£ 353,914,980	£ 19,021,105
SHIRES.						
1935	138	639,150	246,400	159,530	248,646,420	12,441,578

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The table hereunder shows the revenue from various sources, and the expenditure under various heads, of municipalities during the year 1935 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1935.

Items.	Revenue.	Items.	Expenditure from Revenue.
	£		£
Taxation—		Salaries, etc.	378,575
Rates—		Sanitary work, street cleaning, etc.	365,457
General	3,308,136	Health	148,342
Other	49,563	Lighting	169,572
Licences	19,745	Contributions to Fire Brigades ..	62,593
Sanitary Charges	149,136	Public Works—	
Dog fees	33,795	Roads, Streets and Bridges—	
Government grants	142,962	Construction	180,134
Licensing fund payments	60,157	Maintenance	1,288,323
Contributions for streets, etc. ..	308,481	Other	518,435
Market and weighbridge dues ..	122,188	Payments to Country Roads Board	294,048
Rents	140,824	Formation of private streets, etc.	84,660
Electric light and gas works ..	1,514,968	Electric light and gas works ..	1,110,199
Interest	104,083	Redemption of loans	485,145
Other sources	555,575	Payments to sinking funds	74,861
		Interest on loans	600,089
		Interest on bank overdrafts	41,940
		Charities	40,118
		Other expenditure	518,278
Total Revenue	6,509,613	Total from Revenue	6,360,769

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—LOANS—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1935.

Items.	Receipts.	Items.	Expenditure
	£		£
Proceeds of loans—		Roads and bridges ..	235,397
From Government ..	75,397	Water and irrigation ..	1,196
From other sources ..	439,987	Sewerage and drainage ..	32,300
Other receipts ..	159,661	Electric light and gas ..	213,842
		Public buildings ..	163,225
		Other purposes ..	20,992
Total Receipts ..	675,045	Total Expenditure ..	666,952

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The assets of municipalities may be classified under three heads—(a) the municipal fund, (b) the loan fund and (c) property; the liabilities under two heads—(a) the municipal fund, and (b) the loan fund. The following table shows the amount of municipal assets and liabilities at the end of the year 1935:—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1935.

Items.	Assets.	Items.	Liabilities.
	£		£
MUNICIPAL FUND—		MUNICIPAL FUND—	
Uncollected rates ..	1,057,770	Due on current contracts ..	96,671
Streets formed, etc., payments outstanding ..	1,166,749	Overdue interest ..	10,813
Rents and interest outstanding ..	119,054	Bank overdrafts ..	759,804
Cash in hand or in bank ..	692,671	Payments due to Country Roads Board ..	411,880
Other assets ..	500,418	Other liabilities ..	654,935
LOAN FUND—		LOAN FUND—	
Sinking funds—		Loans outstanding—	
Amount at credit ..	721,973	Due to Government—	
Due by other bodies ..	11,203	Country Roads Board	
Unexpended balances ..	649,581	Loans ..	1,822,626
PROPERTY—		Other ..	911,139
Buildings, markets, tramways, etc. ..	5,917,130	Due to Public ..	11,863,315
Waterworks ..	379,080	Due on loan contracts ..	89,755
Gasworks ..	257,880		
Electric light works ..	2,742,490		
Plant and machinery ..	606,920		
Other assets ..	236,950		
Total ..	15,060,469	Total ..	16,620,938

3. *Queensland.*—(i) *General.* The whole of the State (except islands along the coast and 606 square miles in area) is incorporated into cities, towns and shires under the Local Authorities Act of 1902 and its amendments.

(ii) *Municipalities.*—(a) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars of the area, population, number of inhabited dwellings, and assets and liabilities of cities and towns and of shires for the year 1935, except for the City of Brisbane for which financial particulars relate throughout to the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—SUMMARY.

Year.	No.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Occupied Dwellings.	Rateable Value.	Liabilities.		
						Assets.	Govern- ment Loans.	Total
CITIES AND TOWNS.								
		sq. miles.	No.	No.	£	£	£	£
1935(a)	23	780	(b)	122,369	28,938,835	24,951,193	6,946,721	26,819,089
SHIRES.								
1935(a)	121	669,054	(b)	105,732	43,482,034	2,295,510	2,429,513	3,288,089

(a) Figures relating to assets and liabilities include waterworks, sewerage works, electric light works, and railways and tramways controlled by local authorities. (b) The estimated population of Queensland at the 31st December, 1935, was 970,719 persons.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure (including loan moneys) of cities and towns, and of shires for the year 1935 are given hereunder :—

MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Govern- ment Loans and Subsidies. (a)	Total.	Public Works and Services. (b)	Govern- ment Loan Redemp- tion.	Office Expenses and Salaries.	Total.
CITIES AND TOWNS.							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935	1,392,701	1,265,704	6,550,471	4,086,250	237,342	304,683	6,650,046
SHIRES.							
1935	989,246	1,613,779	2,959,118	2,397,059	95,145	138,179	2,947,583

(a) Includes Main Road Receipts.

(b) Includes Expenditure on Main Roads.

The figures in the foregoing tables cover all the activities of the local authorities throughout Queensland such as :—Road repairs, street lighting, etc., waterworks, electric light, and railways and tramways controlled by local bodies.

4. *South Australia.*—(i) *General.* The settled portion of South Australia is incorporated, being mostly under municipal corporations in the larger cities and towns, and district councils in the agricultural areas. With the exception of the Corporation of Adelaide, grants are allocated to these bodies by the Commissioner of Highways for the maintenance and construction of main and other roads.

(ii) *Local Authorities.*—(a) *Summary.* The number of corporations and district councils was reduced by amalgamation by the Local Government Commission in 1936, from 166 to 142, of which 14 corporations and 7 district councils are in the metropolitan area, and 20 corporations and 101 district councils in outside areas. The

following table gives the area, population, number of occupied dwellings, capital and assessment values and outstanding loans for corporations and district councils separately for the year 1935 :—

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year.	Area.	Population.	Occupied Dwellings.	Capital Value.	Assessment Value.	Outstanding Loans
MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.						
	Acres.	No.	No.	£	£	£
1935	79,907	306,450	75,988	86,488,432	4,323,822	718,641
DISTRICT COUNCILS.						
1935	34,426,803	267,081	63,232	83,526,153	4,185,911 (a)	361,143

(a) Includes advances through District Councils to settlers for vermin-proof fencing, etc., amounting to £279,745.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of corporations and district councils showing in separate columns the receipts and expenditure on main roads. The figures differ slightly from those shown in the Summary Table in § 4 hereinafter, which exclude transfers between the Government Grants and General Accounts. In order to bring the financial transactions of both municipal corporations and district councils to a common year, the particulars for the former are for seven months only of the year ended June, 1935.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Year.	Local Government (exclusive of Government Grants Account).						Government Grants Account (Main Roads).	
	Revenue (including Loans).			Expenditure.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rates.	Subsidies.	Total.	Roads.	Other Public Works and Services.	Total.		
MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.								
1935 (7 months)	£ 317,300	£ 17,051	£ 465,691	£ 164,622	£ 154,135	£ 448,463	£ 12,739	£ 12,289
DISTRICT COUNCILS.								
1935	287,580	27,061	436,055	217,630	81,604	416,761	238,309	237,283

5. *Western Australia.*—(i) *General.* In this State Local Government is carried on by means of (a) municipalities and (b) district road boards. Certain functions are delegated to health boards, the personnel of which, in most cases, coincides with those of the municipalities and district road boards.

The financial year of municipalities and municipal boards of health terminates on the 31st October, and that of road boards and other local boards of health on the 30th June.

(ii) *Municipalities. (a) Summary.* The following table gives various particulars regarding municipalities for the year ended 31st October, 1935 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 31st October—	Municipalities.	Area.	Population.	Occupied Dwellings.	Valuation of Rateable Property.		Length of Roads and Streets.
					Capital Value.	Annual Value.	
	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	£	£	Miles.
1935 ..	21	59,503	194,581	44,936	45,597,957	2,356,000	(a) 850

(a) Exclusive of roads surveyed but not formed.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Revenue and expenditure of municipalities during the year 1935 are given hereunder :—

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Year ended 31st October—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Govt. Grants.	Other Sources.	Total.	Works and Improvements.	Interest and other Charges on loans.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ..	290,581	3,475	995,216	1,289,272	191,975	285,306	761,170	1,238,451

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The table below shows the assets and liabilities of municipalities at the 31st October, 1935 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

31st October—	Assets.				Liabilities.	
	Balance in Hand.	Value of Property.	Accrued Sinking Funds.	Total.	Outstanding Debentures and Bonds.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ..	86,171	2,988,049	596,373	3,951,122	2,359,882	2,566,157

(iii) *District Road Boards. (a) Summary.* The method of valuation is not identical in the case of all District Road Boards, as in some the assessment is based on the unimproved capital values and in others on the annual values. The unimproved capital value given in the following table is, therefore, only approximate. At the 30th June, 1935, the population was estimated at 263,096, and the number of occupied dwellings, 64,572.

DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Road Districts.	Area.	Unimproved Capital Value (Approximate).	Length of Roads in Existence.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Out-standing Loans.
	No.	sq. miles.	£	miles.	£	£	£
1935 ..	127	975,828	22,336,588a	25,252b	1,110,571	914,307	778,979

(a) Rated partly on unimproved capital value and partly on annual value. (b) Exclusive of roads surveyed but not formed.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of district road boards are shown in the following table for the year ended 30th June, 1935 :—

DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Other.	Total.	Adminis-tration.	Works.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ..	244,129	42,690	352,035	638,854	64,098	336,223	230,002	630,323

(iv) *Local Boards of Health.* Excluding twelve boards not under the control of municipalities or road boards there were 118 local boards of health in 1935. The revenue and expenditure as well as the assets and liabilities of these boards are shown in the following table. The financial year of municipal boards ends on the 31st October, and that of other boards on the 30th June.

LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES.

Year	Number.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		Assets.	Liabilities.
		Rates.	Sanitary Charges and Rubbish Fees.	Total.	Sanitary and Rubbish Service.	Total.		
		£	£	£	£	£		
1935 ..	118	61,549	71,581	154,477	87,710	149,789	135,402	34,876a

(a) Including outstanding loans, £24,829.

6. *Tasmania.*—(i) *General.* The whole State is divided into municipal districts, Hobart and Launceston being incorporated under separate Acts.

(ii) *Municipalities.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives the number of municipalities, valuations, outstanding loans and length of roads for the year 1935–36. The number of occupied dwellings in Tasmania at the census of 30th June, 1933, was 52,484.

MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Municipali- ties.	Valuations.			Outstanding Loans.	Length of Roads.
		Annual Value.	Unimproved Value.	Total Capital Value.		
HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.						
1936	No. 2	£ 1,211,201	£ 7,101,657	£ 19,823,955	£ 2,528,958	Miles. 235
COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.						
1936	47	1,474,329	14,734,624	31,107,690	540,900	12,418

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the year 1935-36 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Works and Services.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Total.
HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.							
1936	£ 271,100	£ 700	£ 602,012 <i>a</i>	£ 19,291	£ 379,911 <i>a</i>	£ 190,186	£ 600,140 <i>a</i>
COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.							
1936	180,592	47,325	326,286 <i>a</i>	34,515	234,472 <i>a</i>	38,187	319,587 <i>a</i>

(a) Excluding loan receipts £50,041 and loan expenditure £52,764.

7. *Basis for Municipal Rating and Limits for Rates.*—These matters were dealt with at some length in Official Year Book, No. 17, pp. 124-125.

§ 4. Summary of Local Government Finance.

1. *General.*—In the preceding parts of this chapter certain particulars have been given regarding local authorities in each individual State. In this paragraph, comparative figures are given for each State regarding the financial operations of the local governing bodies referred to in § 3. The particulars in the next two tables refer to financial years as follows :—New South Wales : 31st December, 1935. Victoria : 30th September, 1935, except Melbourne, 31st December, and Geelong, 31st August, 1935. Queensland : 31st December, 1935, except Brisbane, 30th June, 1936. South Australia : 30th June, 1935. Western Australia : municipalities, 31st October, 1935, district road boards, 30th June, 1935. Tasmania : 30th June, 1936.

2. Number, Revenue, Expenditure and Valuation of Local Authorities.—The subjoined table shows the number, revenue and expenditure, including loan money, and valuation of local authorities in each State and in Australia during the years indicated above. It should be noted that, excepting in Queensland and Tasmania, the metropolitan water supply and sewerage systems are not under municipal control; the particulars given of revenue and expenditure for the four States other than Queensland and Tasmania do not, therefore, include revenue and expenditure on account of these systems.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (a) IN EACH STATE.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1935.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.(b)	Tasmania.	Total.
No. of local authorities(a)	312	195	144	142	206	49	1,108

RECEIPTS.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rates—				(i)			
General ..	4,182,726	3,308,136	1,749,856	604,880	323,631	148,373	12,713,152
Other ..	1,137,949	49,503	632,091					272,628	303,319
Government grants, etc. . .	4,934,572	142,962	2,369,755	278,641	46,165	48,025	7,820,120
Loans and other sources ..	(c) 6,972,111	3,683,997	4,757,887	253,869	1,440,179	478,622	17,586,665
Total ..	17,227,358	7,184,658	9,509,589	1,137,390	2,082,603	978,339	38,119,937

EXPENDITURE.

Works, services, etc. . .	12,214,628	4,784,809	6,483,309	866,990	615,908	614,383	25,580,027
Interest on loans and overdrafts	1,854,541	612,029	1,220,749	37,655	164,073	228,373	6,869,674
Redemptions, sinking funds, etc. . .	1,223,797	560,006	698,036	43,527	106,888		
Administration ..	587,287	522,599	442,862	95,520	182,147	53,806	1,884,221
Other ..	1,607,976	518,278	752,673	70,940	859,547	75,929	3,885,343
Total ..	17,488,229	7,027,721	9,597,629	1,114,632	2,018,563	972,491	38,219,265

VALUATIONS.

Capital value of improved property ..	d 513,192,654	602,561,400	772,420,869	170,014,585	(f) 15,597,957	50,931,645	(h)
Annual value of property ..	(e) 34,009,317	31,462,683	(h)	8,509,733	(g) 2,356,000	2,685,530	(h)

(a) Including particulars for all areas controlled by local governing bodies responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and streets, such areas being variously known in the several States as cities, towns, boroughs, shires, municipalities and road board districts, etc. Particulars of county councils are excluded from the figures for New South Wales.

(b) Inclusive of Local Boards of Health under the control of Local Government Bodies.

(c) The amount included as loan receipts, £721,612, represents the amount of loan expenditure during the year. In general practice the two amounts would correspond closely as large loans, when floated, are frequently drawn upon in instalments which are regulated by the rate of spending.

(d) Excluding Shires.

(e) Assessed annual value, excluding Shires.

(f) Unimproved capital value.

(g) Municipalities only. District Road Boards are rated partly on unimproved capital value and partly on annual value, the total unimproved capital value being £22,336,588, and the annual value £406,347.

(h) Not available.

(i) Figures for municipal corporations for seven months only.

3. **Local Government Loans, 1935.**—The following table shows the amount of loans raised by local authorities during the year 1935, of loans current at the end of that year, the liability on account of interest and sinking fund, and the loans redeemed during 1935 :—

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.—LOANS, 1935.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loans from General Government—							
Raised during year ..	473,300	75,397	509,728	4,624	..	3,000	1,066,049
Current at end of year ..	5,957,824 (d)	911,139	9,376,234	345,146	..	424,750	17,015,153
Loans from other Sources ..							
Raised during year ..	258,308	439,987	1,100,910	23,414	150,200	44,191	2,017,010
Current at end of year ..	233,052,449	11,863,315	15,965,455	734,638	3,163,690	2,646,994	67,426,541
Total—							
Raised during year ..	731,608	515,384	1,610,638	28,038	150,200	47,191	3,083,059
Current at end of year ..	39,010,333	12,774,454	25,341,689	1,079,784	3,163,690	3,071,744	84,441,694
Current Loans, exclusive of those obtained from General Government, raised within Australia ..	23,627,283	11,797,915	6,749,691	734,638	2,602,090	1,461,994	46,973,611
Annual Liability on account of Interest ..	61,515,837 (b)	549,931	1,157,247	50,189	173,918	136,649	3,583,791
Total Sinking Fund at end of year ..	64,633,167	721,973	2,321,752	34,759	720,566	599,016	9,031,233
Amount of Loans redeemed during year ..	21,188,504	(a)	537,164	42,357	151,969	84,790	(a)

(a) Not available. (b) Relating to loans other than Government. (c) Including contributions to Sinking Funds but excluding redemptions from Accumulated Sinking Funds. (d) Excluding £1,822,626 due to Country Roads Board. (e) Fixed loans, excluding bank overdrafts and deferred payment debts.

§ 5. Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage.

1. **New South Wales.**—(i) *General.* In Sydney and its suburbs the water supply and sewerage systems are controlled by the Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, and in Newcastle and its suburbs by the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board. In country districts, both waterworks and sewerage works were formerly constructed by the Public Works Department, and, when completed, handed over to the local government authority affected, by which the cost was to be repaid. Under an Act passed in 1935, the raising of loans by councils until the 30th June, 1936, to meet the capital cost of works was facilitated, and councils are now required to undertake the work of construction. In certain cases the Government contributes towards the cost.

(ii) *Waterworks.* (a) *Metropolitan.*—*General.* The catchment area of the metropolitan water system, covering an area of 347 square miles, is drained by the Nepean, Cataract and Cordeaux Rivers. At 30th June, 1936, there were in the system 82 reservoirs with a total capacity of 113,008,642,744 gallons. Storage facilities are provided chiefly by four reservoirs, viz., Avon, 47,153,000,000 gallons; Cataract, 20,743,000,000 gallons; Cordeaux, 20,597,000,000 gallons; and Nepean, 17,898,000,000 gallons. The total length of mains is 4,450 miles and the maximum day's consumption during 1935-36 was 139,063,000 gallons on 27th November, 1935. The highest figure yet reached was 148,685,000 gallons on 24th January, 1934.

(b) *Newcastle.*—*General.* The supply is drawn from the Chichester Reservoir, and is piped about 50 miles to Newcastle. The storage reservoir capacity is 5,000 million gallons. In addition to supplying Newcastle, water is reticulated in Maitland, 20 miles distant from Newcastle, and in the Cessnock coalmining field, as well as in areas adjoining these centres. The supply also extends to the farming areas of Miller's Forest and the lakeside resorts of Belmont and Toronto. Water can also be supplied from the Hunter

River at Maitland if required. Reservoirs distributed throughout the Water Supply District number 36, with a total storage capacity of 60,480,510 gallons. The total length of mains is 872 miles.

(c) *Water Supplied, etc.* The following table gives the number of houses, the estimated population supplied, and other details for the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE.—WATER SUPPLIED, 1935-36.

System.	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Total Supply for the Year.	Average Daily Supply.		
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population	Mains Laid.
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
Sydney ..	326,021	1,384,284	93,913	34,372,000	288	67.84	125
Newcastle	44,656	223,280	10,028	3,670,000	224	44.91	6

(iii) *Sewerage and Drainage. (a) Metropolitan.—General.* The Sydney sewerage system consists of three main out-falls, discharging into the Pacific Ocean. During 1935-36, new sewers laid measured 73 miles and 5,793 million gallons of sewage were pumped. Three miles of stormwater drains were constructed by the Board in 1935-36.

(b) *Newcastle Sewerage Works. General.* The sewerage works for Newcastle and suburbs as originally designed were completed by the Department of Public Works and vested in the Board. Their amplification, extension and improvement were authorized by the Newcastle and Suburbs Sewerage Amplification Act, 1928, passed on the 21st May, 1928. The cost of the work, which was completed in March, 1936, was £817,972.

The Cessnock sewerage work authorized by the Cessnock Sewerage Act, 1931, was completed at a cost of £251,781 and transferred to the Board on 30th June, 1933, but a sewerage rate has not yet been struck.

The Stockton sewerage work was authorized by the Stockton Sewerage Act, 1932, which was assented to on 21st December, 1932. The estimated cost of the scheme, which is now under construction, is £115,000. The capital expenditure to the 30th June, 1936, amounted to £104,943.

The stormwater drainage of Newcastle and adjoining areas is divided into two catchment areas, namely, the works in the Cottage Creek Stormwater Area and the works in the Throsby Creek Stormwater Area. The cost of the Cottage Creek scheme was £275,644 and it was transferred to the Board on 30th May, 1930. The cost of the latter was £798,771, the works being transferred to the Board on 28th February, 1936. Drainage rates have not yet been struck in respect of either of these stormwater drainages.

(c) *Particulars of Services.* The following table supplies details of sewerage services and stormwater drains as at 30th June, 1936.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE, 1935-36.

System.	Houses Drained.	Population Served.	Length of Sewers.	Length of Stormwater Drains.
	No.	No.	Miles.	Miles.
Sydney ..	226,885	968,926	2,179.1	82.0
Newcastle	24,066	120,330	248.8	34.8

(d) *Finances.* The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure on account of the services of waterworks, sewerage and drainage during the year 1935-36 :—

WATERWORKS, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE, 1935-36.

Item.	Revenue.	Working Expenses, Sinking Fund Contribution, Renewals, and Exchange. (a)	Interest.	Surplus + or - Deficit.	Percentage of Working Expenses and Sinking Fund Contribution, etc. on Revenue.	Capital Debt.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Debt.
	£	£	£	£	%	£	%
Sydney—							
Water ..	1,573,298	596,639	906,450	+ 70,209	37.92	26,180,768	6.01
Sewerage ..	906,723	349,912	560,362	- 3,551	38.59	16,259,059	5.58
Drainage ..	39,314	14,575	23,919	- 4,180	37.07	896,950	4.35
Total ..	2,519,335	961,126	1,495,731	+ 62,478	38.15	43,336,777	5.81
Newcastle—							
Water ..	226,998	98,314	99,407	+ 29,277	43.31	2,912,875	7.79
Sewerage ..	77,442	44,053	23,821	+ 9,568	56.89	3,037,615	2.55
Total ..	304,440	142,367	123,228	+ 38,845	46.76	5,950,490	5.12

(a) Sinking fund contributions amounted to £141,596 in the case of the Sydney system, comprising £83,997 for water, £55,014 for sewerage and £2,585 for drainage, the distribution of exchange aggregating £144,053, being £81,891, £57,619 and £2,543 respectively. In the Newcastle system sinking fund contributions totalled £17,475 and exchange £17,599, the charges to water account being £10,530 and £14,197, and to sewerage £6,945 and £3,402 respectively.

(iv) *Waterworks, Sewerage and Stormwater Drainage Works in Country Towns.** The capital indebtedness of country towns' water and sewerage schemes was reviewed by a special committee appointed in 1933 and substantial remissions were made in some instances. At the 30th June, 1936, public water supplies having a capital debt of £3,549,164 were in operation in 95 towns outside the Metropolitan and Hunter River districts. Twenty-one towns were sewered and 12 towns had stormwater channels constructed by the Public Works Department. The capital debt of the sewerage schemes and stormwater channels was £1,407,070.

The water supply systems of Broken Hill and Junee are administered by the Public Works Department under special Acts. These services entailed capital expenditure amounting respectively at 31st December, 1935, to £481,475 and £226,256.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *A. Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.* (a) *General.* All land within 13 miles of the Post Office at the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth streets, Melbourne, together with the remaining areas of the Cities of Mordialloc and Moorabbin and a further portion of the Shire of Dandenong, but excluding 11 square miles in the Shires of Keilor and Braybrook under the control of the Keilor and St. Albans Waterworks Trust, is included within the metropolitan area for water supply, sewerage, main drainage and river improvement purposes. This territory covers 434 square miles of land area, and in 1936 embraced 26 cities, and parts of 12 shires, or a total of 38 municipalities or portions thereof. In addition, the Board supplies water to certain municipalities outside the metropolitan area.

The Board's liability on the 30th June, 1936, for loans raised was £25,103,084. The Board was then still empowered to borrow £2,036,849 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

* Excluding the area of operations of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board (Newcastle).

(b) *Receipts and Expenditure.* The ordinary receipts and expenditure for the year 1935-36 were £2,061,025 and £1,806,889 respectively, and the loan receipts and expenditure, £662,034 and £999,307 (including loan redemption £481,370) respectively.

In the following tables showing the finances of the various services, charges against General Revenue Account amounting to £320,666 have not been included.

B. Melbourne Water Supply. (a) *Number of Houses, Population, and Quantity of Water Supplied.* The following table gives particulars of services for the year 1935-36. The rate levied was sevenpence in the pound on the net annual value of the property served.

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Average Daily Consumption.	Total Water Consumption for the Year.	Average Daily Consumption.		Length of Mains, Reticu- lation, etc.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1936 ..	266,909	1,059,628	75,005	27,452,102	281.01	70.78	3,006

(b) *Capital Cost, Revenue, Working Expenses, Interest and Surplus.* The total cost of construction, revenue, working expenses, percentage of working expenses on revenue, interest and surplus for the year ended 30th June, 1936, are given below. The total capital cost to that date was £11,623,709.

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest. (a)	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1936 ..	167,469	860,512	144,701	16.82	528,818	186,993

(a) Includes interest on renewals and payments to sinking funds.

C. Melbourne Sewerage. (a) *Number of Houses Connected, etc.* Particulars of services for the year 1935-36 are given below. The rate levied was one shilling and two pence in the pound on the net annual value of the property served.

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses for which Sewers are Provided.	Estimated Population for which Sewers are Provided.	Average Daily Pumping.	Total Sewage Pumped for the Year.	Average Daily Pumping.		Length of Sewers, etc.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1936 ..	251,507	998,483	46,844	17,145,000	186.2	46.9	2,513

(b) *Capital Cost, Revenue, Working Expenses, Interest and Surplus.* The total cost of construction, revenue, working expenses, percentage of working expenses on revenue, interest and surplus for the year ended 30th June, 1936, are given below. The total capital cost to that date was £13,436,028.

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest. (a)	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1936 ..	163,071	987,404	148,655	15.06	676,173	162,576

(a) Includes interest on renewals and payments to sinking funds.

(c) *Metropolitan Sewage Farm.* The total area of the farm at the 30th June, 1936, was 22,634 acres. The following table gives details in connexion therewith for the year 1935-36. The total capital cost to the 30th June, 1936, was £1,187,305.

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Cost of Sewage Disposal.	Interest.	Trading Profit.	Net Cost of Sewage Purification.
	£	£	£	£	£
1936 ..	17,659	25,751	55,088	9,099	71,740

(d) *Disposal of Night-soil from Unsewered Premises.* The total number of pans cleaned by the Board at its depots at Brooklyn, Campbellfield and Moorabbin, where the night-soil was disposed of by burial, was 620,291 for the year 1935-36.

D. *Melbourne Drainage and Rivers—Capital Cost, Revenue, Working Expenses, Interest and Surplus.* The following table gives details in connexion therewith for the year ended 30th June, 1936. The total capital cost to that date was £1,100,062.

DRAINAGE AND RIVERS, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest. (a)	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1936 ..	14,114	79,303	15,205	19.17	58,560	5,538

(a) Includes interest on renewals and payments to sinking funds.

(ii) *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust.* (a) *General.* The Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, constituted in 1908, consists of five commissioners. The amount of loan money which may be raised is limited to £900,000 for water supply undertaking, £760,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £270,000 for sewerage installation to properties under the deferred payment system. The population supplied is about 46,300.

° (b) *Water Supply.* The catchment area is about 16,000 acres. The storage capacity of all the reservoirs is 2,738,119,800 gallons. In addition, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission has made available a supplementary supply of a minimum quantity of 550 million gallons of water per annum from the upper reaches of the river Barwon. There are 302 miles of mains within the water supply area. The total expenditure on waterworks to the 30th June, 1936, was £704,110, and the revenue for the year 1935-36 was £56,407; the sinking fund appropriations at June, 1936, amounted to £64,298, of which £60,750 has been expended in the redemption of loans.

(c) *Sewerage Works.* The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer to the ocean at Black Rock, about 9 miles from Geelong, and 141½ miles of reticulation mains have already been laid. The drainage area is 9,538 acres, and the number of buildings within the drainage area is 11,541, and within the sewered areas 11,308, while 11,289 buildings have been connected with the sewers. The total expenditure to 30th June, 1936, on sewerage works was £644,994, and on the cost of sewerage installations under deferred payment conditions £257,056, of which £10,498 is outstanding. The revenue in 1935-36 amounted to £38,239 and the sinking fund appropriations at June, 1936, amounted to £61,801, of which £60,402 had been expended in the redemption of loans.

(iii) *The Ballarat Water Commission and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority.* (a) *General.* The Ballarat Water Commission was constituted on 1st July, 1880, and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority on the 30th November, 1920. The members of the Water Commission are the Sewerage Authority. The Commissioners number seven, three (one of whom is chairman) being appointed by the Government, and four being elected by the Council of the City of Ballarat.

(b) *Water Supply.* The Water Supply District embraces an area of about 27 square miles, containing a population of about 43,000. The total storage capacity of the six reservoirs is 2,215,558,000 gallons.

The capital cost of construction of the waterworks is £670,724. The liabilities are loans due to the Government amounting to £290,545 as at 31st December, 1936. The revenue for the year 1936 was £32,973.

(c) *Sewerage.* The scheme as designed provides for a population of 90,000 persons. The capital cost of construction to 31st December, 1930, was £406,986. The method of sewage disposal is by sedimentation, oxidation and sludge digestion. Eighty sewered areas have been declared as at 1st January, 1937, comprising 8,603 tenements.

The scheme is financed by debenture issue loans from various financial institutions, £445,120 having been provided up to 31st December, 1936, of which £45,552 has been redeemed, leaving a loan liability of £399,568 for constructional works. An expenditure of £172,234 was incurred for house connexions, of which £135,077 has been redeemed, the balance outstanding being £37,157.

(iv) *Bendigo Sewerage Authority.* The members of the Bendigo City Council constitute this Authority. The sewerage district comprises the populated area of the city of Bendigo. The works are completed and the expenditure to 31st December, 1936, was £328,357 for sewerage scheme and £182,860 for house connexions, excluding those tenements connected privately. The number of tenements connected to sewers is 6,113.

(v) *Sewerage in other Country Districts.* Sewerage authorities have been constituted in the following districts:—Ararat, Bairnsdale, Benalla, Castlemaine, Colac, Dandenong, Echuca, Hamilton, Horsham, Kerang, Kyneton, Mildura, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, Warragul and Warrnambool.

(vi) *Water Supply in Country Towns and Districts.* Most of the country waterworks are controlled by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, but in some instances the control is by waterworks trusts or by municipal corporations.

The following table gives particulars regarding waterworks under the control of trusts and municipal corporations for the year 1936 :—

COUNTRY WATERWORKS, VICTORIA.—FINANCES.

Year.	Under Waterworks Trusts.				Under Municipal Corporations.			
	Number of Trusts.	Capital Cost.	Capital Indebtedness.	Current Interest Outstanding.	Number of Corporations.	Capital Cost.	Capital Indebtedness.	Current Interest Outstanding.
	No.	£	£	£	No.	£	£	£
1936 ..	107	1,806,247	1,349,874	664	28	887,234	564,264	374

3. Queensland.—(i) *Water Supply and Sewerage Department, Brisbane City Council.*
 (a) *General.* The whole of the water supply in the metropolitan area and the bulk supply to the City of Ipswich is filtered.

The available storage in the Brisbane River is 543 million gallons, the catchment area being approximately 4,000 square miles. In Lake Manchester the storage capacity is 5,700 million gallons, and the catchment area 28.5 square miles. The capacity of Enoggera and Gold Creek reservoirs is 1,000 million gallons and 407 million gallons respectively, and the catchment area 12.8 and 3.8 square miles respectively.

The total capacity of the service reservoirs on Tarragindi Hill, Eildon Hill, Bartley's Hill, Highgate Hill, Roles Hill, Wickham Terrace and Paddington (elevated tank) is approximately 27,356,000 gallons.

(b) *Waterworks. Summary.* The following table gives a summary of operations for the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

WATERWORKS, BRISBANE.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Reticulation Mains.	Number of Tenements Connected. (a)	Estimated Population Supplied.	Quantity Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Average Daily Supply per Head of Estimated Population.
	Miles.	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1936 ..	890½	68,808	292,434	4,542,352	12,410,797	43.00

(a) Exclusive of Ipswich, which is a bulk supply.

The total length of the trunk mains is 206½ miles.

(c) *Sewerage.* At the 30th June, 1936, 21,125 premises were connected to the Council's sewerage system, the estimated population served being 95,062 persons. The total length of sewers in operation is 634 miles, consisting of 326 miles of sewers within premises, and 308 miles of main and reticulation sewers.

(d) *Waterworks and Sewerage Works Finances.* The subjoined table gives particulars regarding finance during the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

WATER AND SEWERAGE WORKS, BRISBANE.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Net Revenue from Rates.	Management and Working Expenses.	New Works Construction.	Interest and Redemption of Loans, including Sinking Fund and Overdraft.
	£	£	£	£	£
1936 ..	9,360,389	702,107	146,910	558,374	(a) 604,706

(a) Exclusive of the sum of £55,299 paid as exchange.

(ii) *Country Towns.*—(a) *Water Supply.* In addition to the city of Brisbane, there were at the end of the year 1935 sixty-four country towns in Queensland provided with water supply systems (including seven in the course of construction) constructed by municipalities chiefly from Government loans. The subjoined statement gives particulars of all water supply systems, exclusive of Brisbane, for the year 1935:—

COUNTRY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS.—QUEENSLAND.

Cost of Construction to 31st December, 1935—£3,011,630.

<i>Receipts.</i>		£	<i>Expenditure.</i>		£
Rates and sales of water	..	268,800	Office and salaries	..	20,648
Government and other loans	..	79,317	Construction	..	164,017
Government subsidy of loans	..	72,890	Maintenance	..	112,551
Other	..	21,500	Interest and redemption	..	118,166
			Other expenses	..	10,697
Total	..	442,507	Total	..	426,079
Assets	..	2,392,342	Liabilities	..	1,847,615

(b) *Sewerage Systems.* At the 31st December, 1935, there were two Cities outside the Metropolitan area, Mackay and Toowoomba, with sewerage works. The Toowoomba works have been in operation since 1926, whilst those for Mackay were in course of construction at the end of the year.

4. *South Australia.*—(i) *General.* The water supply and sewerage systems in this State are constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department.

(ii) *Adelaide Waterworks.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars for the year 1935-36, the figures for consumption being recorded by gaugings taken at the reservoirs and including evaporation and absorption. There are 56,617 meters in the Adelaide District.

ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Assessments.	Annual Value.	Area Supplied.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption.
	No.	£	Acres.	Million Gallons.	Miles.	Million Gallons.
1936 ..	133,355	5,032,883	116,274	7,774	1,310	7,747

(b) *Finances.* Particulars for the year 1935-36 are given below:—

ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.	
		Rates.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Mainten- ance.	Other.		Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	
1936 ..	4,382,346	325,876	381,080	21,152	53,466	18,450	93,068	6.57

(iii) *Adelaide Sewerage.* Particulars for the year 1935-36 are given hereunder :—

ADELAIDE SEWERAGE.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Con-nexions.	Capital Cost of Revenue-Producing Works.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates, etc.	Total.	Admini-stration, Maintenance, etc.	Total.	
	Miles.	No.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1936 ..	526	53,130	1,674,908	162,519	169,396	21,607	37,052	7.90

(iv) *Country Water Supply.* (a) *Summary.* The chief items of information regarding these undertakings are set forth in the table below for the year 1935-36. There are 32,909 meters in country districts.

COUNTRY WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Assessments.	Area Supplied.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption.
	No.	Acres.	Million Gallons.	Miles.	Million Gallons
1936 ..	59,239	11,843,826	9,341	4,893	5,200

(b) *Finances.* The next table gives financial information for the year 1935-36 :—

COUNTRY WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.				Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Admini-stration.	Mainten-ance.	Other.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
1936 ..	9,839,186	172,574	208,678	19,262	57,532	23,396	100,190	1.10

(v) *Other Sewerage Systems.* Information in summarized form is given below regarding the two suburban sewerage systems, viz., the Glenelg system and the Port Adelaide and Semaphore system, for the year 1935-36 :—

SUBURBAN SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Con-nexions.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates.	Total.	Admini-stration and Mainte-nance.	Total.	
	Miles.	No.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1936 ..	366	20,319	1,650,833	64,586	66,225	33,618	36,489	1.80

5. **Western Australia.**—(i) *General.* The water supply and sewerage systems of Western Australia are principally under the management of Government Departments, and are divided into the following categories:—(a) Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage, covering Perth, Fremantle, Claremont, Guildford, Midland Junction and Armadale District; (b) Goldfields Water Supply; (c) Water Supply of other towns; (d) Agricultural Water Supply; and (e) Artesian and sub-artesian waters.

(ii) *Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage.* (a) *General.* The sources of the metropolitan water supply are the Victoria Reservoir, Mundaring Reservoir, Churchman Brook Reservoir, Canning Dam, fifteen bores and the Armadale and Wungong pipe head dams. During the year 1935-36 the construction of the Canning Dam was continued. The sewerage system consists of septic tanks and percolating filters for Perth, septic tanks and ocean outfalls for Fremantle and Subiaco, and sedimentation tank and sludge digestion tanks at the Swanbourne Treatment Works serving the Claremont-Cottesloe area. A conversion of the present method of treatment at Subiaco to an activated sludge process was commenced during the year 1935-36 and satisfactory progress has been made. Gravitation sewers have been laid to intercept the flow to the Perth treatment works with the object of eliminating the existing tanks and filter beds. Extensive reticulation work was carried out during the year. At the 30th June, 1936, the number of premises connected with sewers was 27,850.

(b) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars regarding water supply for the year 1935-36:—

METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Estimated Population Supplied.	Number of Services.	Water Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.		Number of Meters.	Length of Mains.
				Per Head.	Per Service.		
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	No.	Miles.
1936	227,182	56,349	4,742,285	57.03	229.94	37,277	900

(c) *Finances.* The table hereunder gives separate information for the water supply and sewerage and drainage branches for the year 1935-36:—

**METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY, AND SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE,
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES.**

Year ended 30th June—	Water Supply.			Sewerage and Drainage.		
	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1936	4,182,465	260,016	249,215	2,637,997	106,667	126,716

(iii) *Goldfields Water Supply.* The source of supply for the Coolgardie and adjacent goldfields, as well as for towns and districts on or near the pipe-line, is the Mundaring Reservoir, which has a capacity of 4,650 million gallons. There are several classes of consumers—the railways, the mines, domestic and other—and in 1935-36 the railways consumed 5½ per cent., the mines 32¼ per cent., and domestic, etc., 62¼ per cent. of the supply. The following table gives details for the year 1935-36:—

GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY.

Year ended 30th June—	Total Con- sumption.(a)	Number of Services.	Length of Water Mains.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.
	1,000 gallons.	No.	Miles.	£	£	£
1936	1,581,000	12,194	1,590	4,759,423	248,918	219,177

(a) Includes 211,811,000 gallons supplied to the Metropolitan Water Supply Department.

(iv) *Water Supply of Other Towns.* During the year 1935-36 water supplied to other towns and districts amounted to 290,529,109 gallons distributed as follows:— Railways, 30,973,600 gallons; mines, 36,090,800 gallons; and 224,364,709 gallons to domestic and other consumers.

(v) *Agricultural Water Supply.* During the year 1935-36 two wells were sunk and fourteen tanks excavated. During the twenty-six years from the 1st July, 1910, to the 30th June, 1936, 519 tanks were built, 371 wells sunk, and 3,523 bores put down to a total depth of 161,070 feet. Of the bores mentioned, 524 yielded fresh and 306 stock water.

(vi) *Artesian and Sub-artesian Waters.* Up to the 30th June, 1936, the total number of bores put down in search of artesian or sub-artesian water was 324, ranging in depth from 7 to 4,006 feet. These figures include 51 bores sunk in the metropolitan area.

6. *Tasmania.*—(i) *Hobart Water Supply.* The cost of this undertaking to the 30th June, 1936, was £487,716, but a considerable amount of reticulation work has been done out of revenue and not charged to capital account. The outstanding loans at 30th June, 1936, amounted to £368,248. At the same date the number of tenements supplied in the city and suburbs was 11,858 and the length of reticulation mains was 139 miles. The revenue for the year 1935-36 was £39,454.

(ii) *Hobart Sewerage System.* The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1936, was £36,793. Up to that date 81.8 miles of sewers had been laid in connexion with the original city system at a cost of £217,214 and 8,529 tenements connected. Since the original city was sewered, the municipalities of Queenborough and New Town have been included in the city, and are now being sewered. In Queenborough 28 miles of sewers, connecting with 1,657 tenements, have been constructed at a cost of £129,591. In New Town a total of 38 miles of sewers has been laid, and 1,613 properties connected. The cost to 30th June, 1936, including surveys and sewerage outfall, was £114,432.

§ 6. Harbour Boards and Trusts.

1. *New South Wales.*—(i) *Maritime Services Board of New South Wales.* (a) *General.* The Port of Sydney is administered by the Maritime Services Board of New South Wales, a corporate body of five Commissioners, three of whom are full-time members and two, representing shipping and commercial interests, part-time members. The Board was brought into existence on the 1st February, 1936, by the Maritime Services Act, 1935, in order to co-ordinate the port and navigation services of the State, which had previously been administered by the Sydney Harbour Trust in the case of the Port of Sydney and by the State Department of Navigation in the case of Newcastle and the outports.

(b) *Port of Sydney.* The functions of the Board in respect of the Port of Sydney include the provision of adequate wharfage, channels, lights and other port facilities, the control of shipping, pilotage, the imposition and collection of rates and charges on goods and vessels, the licensing of harbour craft and the general management and control of the Port.

The entrance to Sydney Harbour is nearly a mile wide, and is not less than 80 feet deep. Between the entrance, known as "The Heads", and the Harbour proper, a distance of 4 miles, there are two separate channels, each with a depth of 40 feet at low tide and a width of 700 feet. The foreshores are 188 miles in length, and the total area of the port is 14,28½ acres, or 22 square miles, of which about one-half has a depth of 30 feet or more at low water ordinary spring tide. The average range of tide is 4 feet 6 inches.

Exclusive of ferry wharves and jetties used for private purposes, there are 64,000 feet of wharfage controlled by the Maritime Services Board, and 9,500 feet of commercial wharfage privately owned. There is ample shed accommodation, and the port is well equipped with railway wharfage for the handling of traffic which is required to pass direct from ship to rail and vice versa. For the wheat export trade, in both bulk and bags, ample wharfage accommodation and handling equipment of the most modern character are available. Facilities in all directions can be very considerably extended when required. Approximately two thirds of the shipping wharves controlled by the Board are leased to shipping companies, the remainder, which are unleased, are directly maintained by the Commissioners.

The subjoined table gives particulars concerning the finances of the Board for the year 1935-36:—

MARITIME SERVICES BOARD.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June	Revenue.				Working Expenditure.	Interest.	Surplus.	Total Capital Debt.
	Wharfage and Harbour Rates.	Tonnage Rates and Berthing Charges.	Other Sources.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1936	701,745	36,058	302,807	1,040,610	6351,780	4497,447	191,383	11,450,092

(a) Includes £47,320 sinking fund contributions.

(b) Includes £64,285 exchange.

(c) *Port of Newcastle.* In regard to the volume of shipping entered Newcastle ranks second in importance in New South Wales and third in Australia. It is primarily a coal-loading port, but its activities cover the shipment of general commodities. The wharfage and other facilities of the port have been further improved and extended to meet the actual and the anticipated growth of trade with the expansion of industry in the district. A terminal elevator, which has been erected for the handling of bulk wheat, has enhanced the importance of Newcastle as an exporting centre.

(d) *Port Kembla.* Port Kembla, which is sharing to an increasing extent in the shipping trade of the State, has an area of 330 acres, of which 239 acres have a minimum depth of 24 feet. Being adjacent to the southern coalfields and a rapidly developing industrial centre, its trade is growing and a great future for the port is predicted.

(e) *Other Ports.* In addition to the ports of Sydney and Newcastle, the Board controls 31 outports along a coastline of 609 miles.

(ii) *Port Charges.* There has been much ill informed criticism of the port charges levied upon shipping in Australian ports. The fact is that the governmental charges compare favourably with those in other parts of the world when the services rendered are taken into consideration. They are much lower than the charges at the leading ports of the United Kingdom. Direct comparisons of port charges are difficult, if not impossible, to make, because of the differing port customs, and the absence of similarity in the nature and methods of applying them. It is considered that the most satisfactory method of comparison is to take the total collections by the port authorities, and arrive at the average rate per ton. This has been done in the case of the two leading ports in Australia and in the United Kingdom, and the figures are as follows:—

PORT CHARGES.—AUSTRALIA AND UNITED KINGDOM.

Port.	Net Tonnage of Vessels Entered.	Charges on Shipping.		Average Rate per Ton of Shipping.
		£	d.	
Australia—				
Sydney (1935-36)	10,479,774	223,310		5.11
Melbourne (1935)	7,825,444	190,842		5.85
United Kingdom—				
London (1935-36)	30,000,000	1,410,000		11.28
Liverpool (1935-36)	21,023,956	1,254,689		14.32

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *Melbourne Harbour Trust.* (a) *General.* Information regarding the origin and constitution of this Trust will be found in Official Year Book No. 12, pp. 970 *et seq.* At the 31st December, 1936, the sheds available for wharfage accommodation had a length of 18,787 feet, covering an area of 1,246,530 square feet. The area of water in the bay and River Yarra under the control of the Trust is approximately 5,321 acres and the total length of wharves, piers and jetties in the port is 61,491 feet, giving an area of over 57 acres of wharfage, of which 52,243 feet is effective berthing space. During 1936 the quantity of material raised by dredging and excavation in the river and bay amounted to 2,540,015 barge yards at a cost of £74,994. The Trust has expended £354,403 in reclaiming land within its jurisdiction by depositing 16,640.716 barge yards of material thereon.

(b) *Finances.* During the year ended 31st December, 1936, the revenue (excluding refunds) of the Trust amounted to £785,278, and expenditure to £781,347 (including the amount of £150,578 paid to Consolidated Revenue and Geelong Harbour Trust). There was a net surplus on revenue account of £3,931. Appropriation for sinking fund and charges for depreciation, renewals and insurance against revenue account for the year amounted to £164,111. The capital expenditure for the year was £77,766. Up to the 31st December, 1936, the total capital expenditure amounted to £9,063,327, the loan indebtedness at that date being £4,102,400.

(ii) *Geelong Harbour Trust.* The Geelong Harbour Trust was reconstituted in 1934 under the provisions of the Melbourne and Geelong Harbour Trusts Act 1934. The Trust is under the control of three Commissioners appointed by the Governor in Council. Revenue for the year 1936 was £96,583. Revenue expenditure was £82,158 and capital expenditure £29,442, while loans outstanding at the end of that year amounted to £580,824.

(iii) *Harbour Boards.* The Harbour Boards Act 1928 made provision for the establishment of Harbour Boards at Gippsland Lakes, Welshpool, Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Portland, all of which ports were, at the commencement of the operation of this Act, under the control of the Public Works Department. The Warrnambool Harbour Board, which was constituted on 29th May, 1928, under the provisions of this Act, was abolished on 30th June, 1936, by Order in Council and the port was restored to the control of the Public Works Department.

During the nine months ended 30th June, 1936, ordinary revenue amounted to £1,112 and ordinary expenditure was £1,089.

3. *Queensland.*—(i) *Bowen Harbour Board.* The Bowen Harbour Board consists of seven members, of whom two are appointed by the Governor in Council and the remainder elected by the electors of the town of Bowen and adjacent shires. The district under its jurisdiction comprises the area within the boundaries of the town of Bowen, the shires of Proserpine and Wangaratta, and division I. of the Shire of Ayr. The capital expenditure for the year 1936 was £249, while for the same period the revenue was £33,008 and the expenditure £32,529.

(ii) *Bundaberg Harbour Board.* The Bundaberg Harbour Board consists of nine members, of whom one is appointed by the Governor in Council, four elected by the electors of the city of Bundaberg, and two each by the electors of the shires of Gooburrum and Woongarra.

Revenue for the year 1936 amounted to £9,564 as compared with £9,150 in 1935. while expenditure for corresponding periods totalled £5,257 and £4,826 respectively.

(iii) *Cairns Harbour Board.* The Cairns Harbour Board, which controls the Port, consists of thirteen members, representing the city of Cairns and six adjoining shires. The wharves are exclusively under the control of this Board and consist of 1,900 lineal feet in reinforced ferro-concrete, upon which spacious sheds are erected with a floor area of 14,400 square feet. A most comprehensive electrical equipment is erected at the wharves capable of handling into ship two hundred tons of sugar per hour and a special sugar storage shed, fitted with this equipment, can accommodate 7,500 tons. The Board's suction dredger maintains a minimum depth of 22 feet of water in the entrance channel. Ships drawing over 27 feet of water can berth at wharves. Railway facilities are provided in front of and at rear of the wharves. The revenue of the Board, derived from harbour, berthage and miscellaneous dues, etc., for the year 1936, was £62,922, and expenditure £55,580.

(iv) *Gladstone Harbour Board.* The Gladstone Harbour Board is composed of seven members, two of whom are appointed by the Governor in Council and five elected by the electors of the town of Gladstone and the shires of Calliope and Mirani Vale.

The capital expenditure for the year 1936 was £5,791 and the total to the end of 1936 amounted to £108,241. The revenue for 1936 was £16,239, and the expenditure £16,552.

(v) *Mackay Harbour Board.* The Mackay Harbour Board consists of nine members elected by the electors of the city of Mackay and the shires of Pioneer, Sarina, Mirani and Nebo. Capital expenditure for the year 1936 was £136,368 made up as follows:—

General Fund—Capital expenditure on assets, £1,029.

Harbour Development—All expenditure capitalized, £135,339.

The total expenditure was £142,157 while receipts were made up of harbour dues, etc., £25,714; loan advances from Treasury, £74,099; and subsidy advances from Treasury, £35,901.

(vi) *Rockhampton Harbour Board.* The Rockhampton Harbour Board consists of eleven members, of whom seven are elected by the electors on the rolls for the city of Rockhampton, and the shires of Mount Morgan, Fitzroy and Livingstone. The remaining four are elected by the councillors of groups of inland shires.

The revenue for the year 1936 was £57,517, and the expenditure £53,207. The capital expenditure for the year 1936 was £6,910, and the total to the end of 1936 was £781,912.

(vii) *Townsville Harbour Board.* The Townsville Harbour Board is composed of nine members, of whom two are appointed by the Governor in Council and the remaining seven are elected by the electors of Townsville and adjacent towns and shires. All harbour works and conveniences for the use of shipping are under the control of the Board. The capital expenditure for the year 1936 was £11,152; the receipts for the year 1936 were £72,523, and the expenditure £68,707.

HARBOUR BOARDS, QUEENSLAND.—FINANCES.

Year ended 31st December	Revenue.		Expenditure..				Assets.	Liabilities.	
	Wharfage and Harbour Dues.	Total.	Interest on Loans.	Redemption of Loans.	Construction and Maintenance.	Other.			Total.
1936	£ 107,685	£ 387,187	£ 36,515	£ 26,540	£ 280,057	£ 30,278	£ 373,990	£ 1,561,017	£ 1,960,253

4. **Western Australia.**—(i) *Fremantle Harbour Trust.* (a) *General.* Fremantle Harbour is controlled by a Board of five Commissioners appointed by the Governor in Council. A description of the works was given in a previous Year Book (*see* No. 12 p. 973). Since that account was written, the inner harbour and entrance channel have been dredged to a depth of 36 feet below the lowest known low water. The berthage accommodation at all the quays has also been deepened to 36 feet.

(b) *Finance.* The following table gives financial data for the year 1935-36 :—

FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Expenditure.							
	Revenue. (a)	Working Expenses.	Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Renewals Fund.	Capital Expendi- ture.	Surplus Revenue. (b)	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1936 ..	447,121	204,529	128,506	15,827	2,000	7,408	91,269	449,539

(a) Including interest from sinking funds, £4,296.

(b) Paid to Consolidated Revenue.

(ii) *Bunbury Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Bunbury Harbour Board consists of five members appointed by the Government. The jetty is 4,900 feet long, with berthage accommodation of 2,700 feet on the west side and 3,000 feet on the east side, and is electrically lighted.

(b) *Finances.* Details for the year 1935-36 are given hereunder. Surplus revenue is paid into Consolidated Revenue Fund to meet interest and sinking fund :—

BUNBURY HARBOUR BOARD.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Account.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£
1936	587,052	21,799	(a) 33,061

(a) Includes Interest on Capital Account £24,765, only £8,500 of which was contributed from the earnings of the Board.

5. **Tasmania.**—(i) *Marine Board of Hobart.* (a) *General.* The Marine Board of Hobart consists of nine wardens elected by the ship-owners of the Port of Hobart and the importers and exporters of goods into or from any port within the jurisdiction of the Board.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—
MARINE BOARD OF HOBART.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	Capital Debt.	Taxes, Dues, etc.	Total.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Works, Services, etc.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1936	45,377	48,244	54,374	11,755	37,212	48,967

(ii) *Marine Board of Launceston.* (a) *General.* The Marino Board of Launceston consists of five wardens, three elected by the ratepayers of the city of Launceston and two by ratepayers of the municipalities within the Tamar District.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

MARINE BOARD OF LAUNCESTON.—FINANCES.

Year ended 30th June—	Total Capital Debt.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£
1936	296,995	57,003	66,269

(iii) *Marine Board of Burnie.* The length of the breakwater is 1,250 feet, with a depth up to 42 feet at low water, and a wharf alongside, 630 feet in length by 91 feet wide, with a depth at low water from 24 to 40 feet. There are two other timber wharves 600 feet and 400 feet long respectively. The receipts for the year ending 30th June, 1936, were £20,727, and the expenditure £21,691, including £14,233 interest on loans, etc.

§ 7. Fire Brigades.

1. *New South Wales.*—(i) *General.* Under the Fire Brigades Act, 1909–1927, a Board of Fire Commissioners consisting of eight members operates, and 120 fire districts have been constituted. The cost of maintenance of fire brigades is borne in proportions of quarter, quarter, and half by the Government, the municipalities, and the insurance companies concerned, but the expenditure must be so regulated that the proportion payable by the councils in a fire district shall not exceed the amount obtainable from ¼d. in the £ rate on the unimproved capital value of rateable land in the fire district : provided that the Board, with the consent of the Minister, and at the special request of the councils of the municipalities or shires constituting or forming part of a fire district or a majority in number of such councils may, as to that district, exceed the limit above provided.

(ii) *Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales.* At the 31st December, 1936, the Board had under its control 78 fire stations in the Sydney fire district and 151 fire stations in the country fire districts. The Sydney fire district includes the City of Sydney and suburbs, comprising a total area of 278 square miles. The revenue for the year 1936 was £379,098, made up as follows :—From the Government, £92,807; municipalities and shires, £92,807; fire insurance companies and firms, £185,614; and from other sources, £7,870. The disbursements for the year were £390,877.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* The Fire Brigades Act of 1928 provides for a Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and a Country Fire Brigades Board, each consisting of nine members, with local committees in country districts. The income of each board is derived in equal proportions from the Treasury, the municipalities and insurance companies.

(ii) *Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board.* On the 30th June, 1936, the Board had under its control 43 stations. The total receipts for the year 1935–36 were £195,807, comprising contributions £155,341, receipts for services £24,376, and interest and sundries £16,090. The expenditure was £201,645, made up as follows :—Salaries (permanent staff) £108,212, interest and repayments of principal £17,488, and other expenditure £75,945. There was no loan expenditure during the year—the loan indebtedness at the end of the year being £187,747.

(iii) *Country Fire Brigades Board.* At 30th June, 1936, there were 120 municipal councils and 107 insurance companies included in the operations of the Act. The brigades are composed chiefly of volunteers, but in the large centres a few permanent station-keepers and partially-paid firemen are employed. Complete fire alarm systems are installed in 40 of the larger provincial cities and townships. There were 146 registered brigades at the end of June, 1936. For the year 1935–36 the revenue was £30,351 and the expenditure £30,252. The loan expenditure for the year amounted to £9,858, and at the close of the year the loan indebtedness was £49,877.

3. **Queensland.**—(i) *General.* The Act of 1920 made provision for the retention of existing fire districts, and for the constitution of new districts. For each district there must be a Fire Brigades Board consisting of seven members, and the cost of maintenance of each brigade is proportioned as follows:—The Treasurer two-sevenths, insurance companies three-sevenths, and local authorities two-sevenths. All volunteer fire brigades in a district must be registered.

(ii) *Fire Brigades Boards.* At the 30th June, 1936, there were fire brigades in 33 towns. The total revenue for the year 1935–36 was £96,007, received mainly from the following sources:—Government £21,459, local authorities, £21,468, insurance companies £31,858, and loans (Government and other), £17,818. The total expenditure for the year was £93,988, the chief items being salaries and wages £51,820, buildings, repairs, etc., £11,855, plant, stores, etc., £12,647, and interest and redemption of loans, £9,397.

4. **South Australia.**—(i) *General.* The Fire Brigades Act of 1913 and amendments provide for a Board of five members, and the expenses and maintenance of brigades are defrayed as to two-ninths by the Treasury, five-ninths by insurance companies, and two-ninths by the municipalities concerned. The contribution of the Treasury, however, is limited to £10,000 and if two-ninths of the expenses and maintenance exceeds this amount, five-sevenths of the excess is contributed by the insurance companies and two-sevenths by the municipalities.

(ii) *Fire Brigades Board.* At the end of 1936 there were altogether 26 fire brigade stations. The total revenue for the year 1936 was £42,272.

5. **Western Australia.**—(i) *General.* Under the 1916 Act every municipal or road board district is constituted a fire district under the control of the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board. The income of the Board is derived as to two-eighths from Government, three-eighths from municipalities, and three-eighths from insurance companies.

(ii) *Western Australian Fire Brigades Board.* The whole of the brigades throughout the State are now controlled by the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board, and number 41. The revenue and expenditure for the year ended 30th September, 1936, were £57,828 and £57,207 respectively. The estimated value of land and buildings was £83,000 and of plant £37,600.

6. **Tasmania.**—(i) *General.* The municipal council of any municipality may, under the Act of 1920, petition the Governor to proclaim the municipality or any portion of it to be a fire district, each district to have a Board of five members. The expenses of each Board are borne in equal proportions by contributions from the Treasurer, the municipality concerned, and insurance companies insuring property within the district.

(ii) *Hobart Fire Brigade Board.* The revenue of the Board for the year 1936 amounted to £6,325.