

MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.

The total number of municipalities throughout the State in which local government was being administered at the end of the year 1910 was 206. Of these 14 ranked as cities, 10 as towns, 36 as boroughs, and the remainder (146) as shires. The whole of Victoria, with the exception of about 650 square miles—nearly 600 in the mountainous part of Wonnangatta, and the whole of French Island—or $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the area of the State, is now brought under municipal control.

The following is a summary of the number of ratepayers, estimated number of dwellings (inhabited and uninhabited), total and annual value of rateable property, and annual revenue of cities, towns, boroughs and shires in each of the five years ended 1910-11.

MUNICIPALITIES: 1906-7 TO 1910-11.

Year.	Number of Rate-payers.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.		Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
		In-habited.	Unin-habited.	Total.	Annual.	
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—						
1906-7	171,909	147,055	4,778	£ 100,801,295	£ 5,779,231	£ 903,120
1907-8	176,420	149,706	3,923	103,666,178	5,944,691	961,530
1908-9	173,928	152,475	3,624	106,149,960	6,030,447	973,191
1909-10	183,419	155,382	4,096	108,863,963	6,232,091	1,015,028
1910-11	187,562	158,611	3,878	114,113,507	6,508,564	..
Shires—						
1906-7	151,869	117,286	2,828	121,797,646	6,395,094	601,311
1907-8	152,973	118,575	2,890	129,059,488	6,694,209	663,739
1908-9	156,492	121,187	2,858	136,538,811	7,043,511	693,625
1909-10	159,410	122,139	2,600	143,142,655	7,332,397	754,586
1910-11	163,916	123,729	3,222	150,970,220	7,716,815	..
Total—						
1906-7	323,778	364,341	7,606	222,598,941	12,174,325	1,504,431
1907-8	329,393	268,231	6,813	232,725,666	12,638,900	1,625,269
1908-9	334,420	273,662	6,482	242,688,771	13,123,958	1,671,816
1909-10	342,829	277,521	6,696	252,006,818	13,564,488	1,769,614
1910-11	351,478	282,340	7,100	265,083,727	14,225,349	..

Increase in value of rateable properties and municipal revenue.

It will be observed from the following figures that there has been a very substantial increase in the estimated value of rateable property and in the revenue of municipalities during the period covered by the foregoing table:—

INCREASE IN VALUE OF PROPERTIES AND IN MUNICIPAL REVENUE.

	Increase.		
	1910-11 over 1906-7.		1909-10 over 1906-7.
	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Revenue from all sources.
	Total.	Annual.	
	£	£	£
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	13,312,212	729,303	111,908
Shires	29,172,574	1,321,721	153,275
Total Increase	42,484,786	2,051,024	265,183

The number of ratepayers returned for 1910-11 was 351,478, and the total capital value of rateable property £265,083,727, which is equivalent to about 18½ years' purchase on the basis of the annual value of £14,225,349.

Properties rated in municipalities.

The properties upon which the municipalities have levied rates during the past five years have steadily increased, as is shown in the following statement:—

NUMBER OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1906-7 TO 1910-11.

Year.	Properties Rated.		
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	In Shires.	Total.
1906-7	206,698	198,493	405,191
1907-8	209,581	202,234	411,815
1908-9	211,945	205,618	417,563
1909-10	214,620	208,140	422,760
1910-11	219,723	216,571	436,294

Cities, towns, and boroughs, 1910-11.

The following is a statement of the number of properties rated, number of ratepayers, total and annual value of rateable property, annual endowment payable by the Government, total revenue, and

amount of rate levied in the £ in each city, town, and borough in Victoria. The information relates to the municipal year, 1910-11, except as regards the item "revenue," which is for 1909-10:—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS, 1910-11.

Name.	Number of Properties Rated.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £l.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1909-10.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government under Act No. 2287, 1910-11.
				Total.	Annual.		
CITIES.							
Ballarat	6,294	5,545	s. d.	£	£	£	£
Bendigo	8,222	7,637	1 9	2,523,495	168,233	29,564	.. .. .
Brunswick	9,872	8,590	1 4	2,477,412	206,451	34,853	.. .. .
Collingwood	8,249	7,641	1 0	3,609,280	180,464	26,400	.. .. .
Essendon	10,884	7,950	1 0	3,546,050	212,763	23,573	.. .. .
Fitzroy	7,903	7,534	1 8	3,328,940	166,447	22,734	.. .. .
Footscray	7,966	5,045	1 4	5,511,800	275,590	28,444	.. .. .
Geelong*	4,308	4,410	1 0	2,789,340	139,467	18,201	.. .. .
Hawthorn	6,802	5,535	1 0	2,282,180	114,109	21,202	.. .. .
Melbourne	23,753	27,440	1 0 } 1 5 } 1 8 }	4,701,240	235,062	27,272	.. .. .
Prahran	11,272	9,653	1 8	35,642,860	1,782,143	352,579	.. .. .
Richmond	10,263	8,835	1 10	5,645,736	470,478	48,707	.. .. .
South Melbourne	10,450	10,015	2 0	3,191,695	245,515	28,585	.. .. .
St. Kilda	6,536	5,468	2 0	7,788,600	389,430	53,585	.. .. .
				2,970,720	247,560	28,293	.. .. .
TOWNS.							
Ballarat East	4,720	4,341	2 0	1,241,325	82,755	13,560	.. .. .
Brighton	4,052	2,521	2 0	2,048,420	102,421	14,554	.. .. .
Camberwell	5,893	3,887	2 0	2,520,260	126,013	16,164	.. .. .
Caulfield	6,779	5,600	2 0	3,085,940	154,297	20,211	.. .. .
Kew*	3,589	2,435	1 10	1,577,385	105,159	11,268	.. .. .
Malvern†	6,648	3,597	1 9	3,829,380	191,469	19,555	.. .. .
Northcote	7,359	5,200	2 3	1,994,500	99,725	19,420	.. .. .
Port Melbourne	3,058	2,985	2 0	1,003,200	83,600	9,797	.. .. .
Warrnambool	2,011	1,453	1 10	974,020	48,701	15,280	.. .. .
Williamstown	5,428	5,378	2 3	1,237,440	82,496	12,589	.. .. .
BOROUGHS.							
Ararat	1,220	950	2 3	220,700	22,070	7,825	50
Browns and Scarsdale	273	245	1 0	29,570	2,957	404	25
Buninyong	433	357	1 3	100,485	5,742	1,032	50
Carisbrook	305	270	1 0	66,525	4,435	611	50
Castlemaine	2,050	1,360	1 6	410,575	32,846	5,467	50
Chewton	544	286	1 6	41,224	5,153	670	50
Clunes	866	579	1 6	68,348	9,764	3,508	75
Coburg	5,013	4,250	2 3	844,650	56,310	10,550	50
Creswick	774	710	1 6	95,030	9,503	3,053	75
Daylesford	946	796	2 0	218,400	18,200	3,927	50
Dunolly	562	360	1 6	67,710	6,771	1,171	50
Eaglehawk	2,143	1,993	1 6	429,192	35,766	5,646	50
Echuca	1,309	1,080	1 9	254,700	23,781	6,932	50
Geelong West	2,041	1,635	2 0	477,638	34,117	3,949	50
Hamilton	1,577	1,070	1 9	654,380	32,719	5,957	50
Horsham	910	836	2 3	333,495	22,233	3,873	100
Inglewood	496	332	1 6	77,976	6,498	2,118	50
Koroit	499	444	2 0	317,580	15,879	2,553	50
Majorca	269	189	1 0	24,000	3,000	627	30
Malmsbury	479	288	1 6	36,648	4,072	813	50
Maryborough	1,562	1,245	1 6	281,400	28,140	4,807	50
Newtown and Chillwell	1,800	1,500	1 9	689,680	34,489	4,171	50

* Geelong was constituted a city, and Kew a town, on 8th December, 1910. † Malvern was proclaimed a city on 30th May, 1911.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS—continued.

Name.	Number of Properties Rated.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1909-10.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government under Act No. 2267, 1910-11.
				Total.	Annual.		
			<i>s. d.</i>	£	£	£	£
<i>BOROUGHS—continued</i>							
Oakleigh ..	1,383	918	2 0	345,740	17,287	2,491	100-
Portland ..	890	543	2 0	209,625	13,975	3,248	50-
Port Fairy ..	670	492	2 0	288,920	14,446	3,295	50-
Queenscliff ..	621	508	1 9	232,580	11,629	2,222	100-
Raywood ..	190	132	1 0	45,390	3,026	407	20-
Rutherglen ..	601	418	1 0	145,990	14,599	1,977	80-
Sale ..	1,476	876	1 6	357,340	17,867	7,080	50-
Sebastopol ..	688	600	1 6	121,350	8,090	1,370	80-
Smythesdale ..	217	166	1 0	18,730	1,873	231	20-
Stawell ..	1,607	1,022	1 9	203,830	20,383	6,605	50-
St. Arnaud ..	1,177	988	1 6	215,800	21,580	3,399	50-
Talbot ..	418	340	1 0	51,960	5,196	1,317	50-
Tarnagulla ..	302	200	1 0	40,448	5,056	654	50-
Wangaratta ..	1,101	887	1 9	574,680	28,734	4,678	50-
Total ..	219,723	187,562	..	114,113,507	6,508,534	1,015,028	1,955

Shires,
1910-11.

The next table gives a list of the shires, and similar particulars to those shown for the cities, towns, and boroughs:—

SHIRES, 1910-11.

Name.	Number of Properties Rated.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1909-10.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government under Act No. 2267, 1910-11.
				Total.	Annual.		
			<i>s. d.</i>	£	£	£	£
Alberton ..	1,333	1,247	1 3	1,766,600	88,330	7,647	1,500-
Alexandra ..	1,210	710	1 0	856,660	42,833	4,090	750-
Ararapiles ..	739	736	1 0	793,960	39,698	2,577	304-
Ararat ..	2,131	2,000	1 0	3,236,020	161,801	11,683	1,300-
Avoca ..	1,794	1,455	1 3	844,460	42,223	4,441	485-
Avon ..	980	770	1 0	789,980	39,499	3,930	575-
Bacchus Marsh ..	976	587	1 0	497,083	36,821	3,027	385-
Bairnsdale ..	3,700	1,900	1 0	1,708,640	85,432	9,446	1,440-
Ballan ..	1,600	1,450	1 3	709,780	35,489	3,491	575-
Ballarat ..	845	790	1 0	1,196,160	59,808	4,674	575-
Bannockburn ..	438	423	1 3	343,666	21,481	1,862	265-
Barrabool ..	691	499	1 3	771,060	38,553	3,309	425-
Beechworth ..	1,835	1,420	1 3	387,660	32,305	6,325	545-
Belfast ..	872	762	1 4	1,021,120	51,056	4,656	650-
Bellarine ..	2,619	1,060	1 3	1,015,840	50,792	4,212	485-
Benalla ..	2,990	2,700	1 0	1,831,940	91,597	12,643	1,450-
Berwick ..	2,869	2,620	1 3	1,364,980	68,240	6,515	1,000-
Bet Bet ..	893	856	1 0	500,800	25,040	1,938	375-
Birchip ..	1,042	576	1 0	990,260	49,513	2,904	400-
Borong ..	2,250	1,300	1 0	2,541,800	127,090	7,999	1,080-
Braybrook ..	2,144	2,103	1 0	679,280	33,964	3,627	320-
Bright ..	2,141	1,305	1 3	653,700	32,685	4,605	750-
Broadford ..	555	503	1 0	305,600	15,280	1,648	300-
Broadmeadows ..	1,184	689	1 3	537,240	26,862	2,506	365-
Bulla ..	610	420	1 3	470,860	23,543	3,647	350-
Buin Buin ..	1,502	1,430	1 3	1,072,780	53,639	5,707	1,250-

SHIRES—continued.

Name.	Number of Properties Rated.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1909-10.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government under Act No. 2267, 1910-11.
				Total.	Annual.		
				£	£		
Bungaree ..	1,180	863	s. d. 1 9	656,120	32,806	£ 4,392	£ 800
Buninyong ..	1,771	1,711	1 3	1,162,680	58,134	6,436	550
Charlton ..	720	720	1 0	1,012,800	52,140	4,487	550
Chiltern ..	1,005	666	1 0	140,960	14,096	2,508	230
Colac ..	3,920	2,791	1 3	5,112,140	255,607	22,389	1,200
Corio ..	901	826	1 3	975,940	48,797	4,892	700
Cranbourne ..	1,617	1,159	1 3	1,101,200	55,060	4,700	500
Creswick ..	1,439	1,372	1 0	1,179,640	58,982	5,331	775
Dandenong ..	2,500	2,100	1 6	970,680	48,534	5,211	525
Deakin ..	850	854	0 9	1,060,460	53,023	3,204	446
Dimboola ..	1,770	1,150	1 6	1,617,340	80,867	6,046	618
Donald ..	704	730	1 0	829,940	41,497	4,652	575
Doncaster ..	400	310	1 3	274,040	13,702	1,234	216
Dundas ..	1,098	1,064	1 0	2,006,010	100,305	7,167	1,050
Dunmunkle ..	996	1,105	1 0	1,631,000	81,550	6,131	1,200
East Loddon ..	453	453	1 0	722,640	36,132	3,190	550
Eltham ..	523	1,240	1 3	575,500	28,775	2,978	450
Epping ..	1,514	495	1 0	389,080	19,454	1,311	225
Euroa ..	1,430	1,354	1 0	1,317,860	65,893	5,259	750
Ferntree Gully ..	1,430	1,300	1 6	661,000	33,050	5,324	900
Flinders and Kangarong ..	1,376	1,014	1 3	617,000	30,850	3,126	260
Frankston and Hastings ..	1,543	1,141	1 6	511,220	25,561	2,768	425
Gisborne ..	1,050	762	1 0	492,900	24,645	2,618	340
Glenelg ..	1,531	1,496	1 0	1,778,205	118,547	9,850	1,200
Glenlyon ..	689	495	1 6	168,330	16,833	2,034	250
Gordon ..	900	870	1 0	954,560	47,728	4,818	740
Goulburn ..	750	680	1 0	500,500	25,025	2,445	350
Grenville ..	1,716	1,400	1 0	900,960	45,048	4,779	560
Hampden ..	2,690	1,743	1 6	5,285,180	264,259	23,766	750
Healesville ..	812	460	2 0	237,360	11,868	2,898	450
Heidelberg ..	4,438	2,672	1 6	1,623,820	81,191	12,750	500
Heytesbury ..	1,125	985	1 6	1,599,220	79,961	8,132	1,100
Howqua ..	480	280	2 0	98,080	4,904	681	200
Huntly ..	1,250	1,024	1 0	874,660	43,733	3,518	400
Kara Kara ..	4,130	1,388	1 0	1,170,580	58,529	5,659	676
Karkaroc ..	2,404	1,250	1 0	2,760,280	138,014	5,484	950
Keilor ..	764	285	1 3	343,840	17,192	1,412	100
Kerang ..	3,310	2,070	1 0	2,205,340	110,267	12,769	1,000
Kilmore ..	760	552	1 3	235,416	19,618	2,045	275
Korong ..	1,500	1,360	1 4	1,021,700	51,085	5,633	650
Kowree ..	1,435	1,345	1 0	1,315,280	82,205	5,488	870
Kyneton ..	2,677	1,940	1 6	1,313,640	65,682	10,111	685
Lancefield ..	338	295	1 0	260,760	13,038	1,162	151
Lawloit ..	1,189	629	1 0	542,445	36,163	2,837	396
Leigh ..	705	628	1 3	983,620	49,181	3,806	550
Lexton ..	678	590	1 0	774,160	38,708	3,307	400
Lillydale ..	2,259	1,900	1 3	1,065,700	53,285	6,413	800
Lowan ..	1,810	1,290	1 6	775,000	38,750	4,220	600
Mafra ..	1,280	1,150	1 0	1,301,720	65,086	5,889	1,000
Maldon ..	1,836	1,510	1 6	784,520	39,226	4,511	375
Mansfield ..	1,142	975	1 0	1,161,600	58,080	4,385	900
Marong ..	2,595	2,236	1 3	1,662,280	83,114	7,969	900
Melton ..	387	321	1 0	281,434	20,847	1,735	236
Meredith ..	610	459	1 3	416,740	20,837	1,919	190
Merriang ..	339	270	1 0	355,920	17,796	1,376	176
Metcalfe ..	985	914	1 0	376,755	25,117	1,983	278
Mildura ..	3,782	1,668	1 9	717,200	35,890	5,367	476
Minhamite ..	703	577	1 0	1,302,320	65,116	6,835	650
Mirboo ..	530	400	1 6	384,440	19,222	3,135	700
Moorabbin ..	5,624	5,318	2 0	1,853,240	92,662	18,581	600
Mornington ..	683	385	1 6	293,120	14,656	2,670	250

SHIRES—continued.

Name.	Number of Properties Rated.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1909-10.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government under Act No. 2267, 1910-11.
				Total.	Annual.		
				£	£		
Mortlake ..	630	658	1 0	2,197,460	109,873	7,736	700.
Morwell ..	1,218	877	1 0	934,240	46,712	3,867	900
Mount Alexander ..	826	572	1 0	130,800	10,464	1,532	126.
Mount Franklin ..	866	828	1 6	162,480	16,248	1,903	204
Mount Rouse ..	730	685	1 0	1,542,340	77,117	5,626	400.
Mulgrave ..	903	814	2 0	420,000	21,000	3,359	450
McIvor ..	1,471	1,123	1 0	726,580	36,329	3,250	450.
Narracan ..	1,712	1,462	1 6	1,375,080	68,754	6,822	1,400.
Newham and Wood- end ..	638	600	1 3	247,950	16,530	2,026	300.
Newstead ..	680	584	1 0	336,120	16,806	2,020	210.
North Ovens ..	1,172	792	1 0	658,820	32,941	3,143	296.
Numurkah ..	2,098	1,557	1 0	2,045,620	102,281	8,530	1,200.
Nunawading ..	3,857	2,917	2 0	1,100,380	55,044	7,984	950.
Omeo ..	2,017	1,573	1 6	890,100	44,505	7,441	1,700.
Orbost ..	2,057	1,208	1 6	731,500	36,575	5,235	1,100.
Oxley ..	2,058	1,132	1 0	1,085,340	54,267	4,583	750
Phillip Island and Woolamai ..	2,313	1,457	1 3	1,166,660	58,333	5,724	1,100.
Poowong and Jeetho ..	2,580	1,830	1 3	1,858,820	92,941	10,943	2,000.
Portland ..	1,930	1,900	1 3	1,710,580	85,529	7,249	1,000.
Preston ..	2,555	1,206	1 9	788,100	39,405	6,470	650.
Pyalong ..	370	340	1 0	334,900	16,745	1,124	229.
Ripon ..	1,260	1,340	1 0	1,816,000	90,800	6,918	450.
Rochester ..	1,283	1,227	1 0	1,220,580	61,029	5,133	500.
Rodney ..	1,773	1,370	1 0	1,595,480	99,774	7,270	875.
Romsey ..	633	479	1 0	470,800	23,540	2,202	274.
Rosedale ..	1,630	1,030	1 0	1,440,000	72,000	6,698	1,000.
Rutherford ..	1,368	1,348	1 0	681,460	34,073	3,012	450.
Seymour ..	1,476	1,080	1 0	824,420	41,221	4,962	850.
Shepparton ..	1,586	1,430	1 0	1,179,240	58,962	6,958	850.
South Barwon ..	1,193	1,014	1 6	493,040	24,652	2,911	277.
South Gippsland ..	1,404	1,015	1 6	968,000	48,400	6,035	1,050.
Springfield ..	206	163	1 3	253,680	12,684	1,355	189.
Stawell ..	1,198	1,163	1 0	1,370,340	68,517	5,995	624.
Strathfieldsaye ..	1,125	1,076	1 3	394,440	19,722	2,450	278.
Swan Hill ..	1,923	1,500	1 0	1,141,040	57,052	5,080	550.
Talbot ..	500	393	1 0	380,960	19,048	1,456	221.
Tambo ..	1,121	709	1 6	502,640	25,132	3,532	895.
Templestowe ..	440	369	1 3	240,500	12,025	1,197	177.
Towong ..	1,950	1,903	1 0	1,795,820	89,791	11,471	1,800.
Traralgon ..	950	726	1 3	735,140	36,757	5,272	893.
Tullaroop ..	1,040	929	1 0	255,600	25,560	2,342	337.
Tungamah ..	2,886	1,562	1 0	1,764,340	88,217	5,901	900.
Upper Yarra ..	920	520	1 9	341,040	17,052	2,831	450.
Violet Town ..	1,009	678	1 0	768,560	38,428	2,920	450.
Walhalla ..	816	658	2 6	69,856	8,732	3,253	570.
Wannon ..	804	704	1 0	1,843,840	92,192	6,389	862.
Waranga ..	2,503	1,728	1 0	1,638,680	81,934	6,342	750.
Warragul ..	1,487	1,121	1 6	1,084,360	57,458	8,078	1,800.
Warrnambool ..	3,185	1,985	1 0	2,784,640	139,232	12,501	1,380.
Werribee ..	4,715	3,460	1 0	1,659,540	82,977	5,137	600.
Whittlesea ..	660	485	1 0	431,980	21,599	2,169	235.
Wimmera ..	959	1,016	1 0	1,605,680	80,284	5,249	733.
Winchelsea ..	1,830	850	1 4	1,386,720	69,336	6,616	850.
Wodonga ..	1,064	603	1 0	203,800	20,380	2,424	288.
Woorayl ..	1,671	1,174	1 9	1,230,980	61,549	10,605	2,000.
Wycheproof ..	1,284	1,059	1 0	1,266,980	63,349	5,246	665.
Yackandandah ..	1,182	1,120	1 0	984,940	49,247	5,275	933.
Yarrowonga ..	931	798	1 0	750,480	37,524	3,743	570.
Yea ..	896	680	1 0	934,220	46,711	4,186	800.
Total ..	216,571	163,916	..	150,970,220	7,716,815	754,586	96,539.

The following is the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires in which rates were struck in each of the last five years at the amounts set down in the first column :—

Ratings in municipalities, 1910.

RATINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1906-7 TO 1910-11.

Amount levied in the £1.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.					Number of Shires.				
	1906-7.	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1906-7.	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.	1910-11.
s. d.										
0 9	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1
1 0	9	9	8	8	8	87	87	86	80	77
1 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
1 3	3	1	1	2	1	25	31	30	33	33
1 4	1	1	1	..	..	3	4	2	2	3
1 6	13	14	14	11	11	21	15	17	20	21
1 7	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	..
1 8	4	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
1 9	8	9	9	12	9	2	3	2	3	5
1 10	1	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..
1 11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
2 0	12	15	15	16	18	5	4	4	4	5
2 2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2 3	3	2	3	4	5	..	..	..	..	..
2 4	2	2	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
2 6	1	1	3	1	..	1	1	1	1	1
1 0) 1 5) 1 8) *	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	60	60	60	60	60	146	146	146	146	146

These figures give an average rating of 1s. 8½d. in the £1 in cities, towns, and boroughs, and of 1s. 2½d. in shires. The rating in the urban districts is thus shown to be 6¼d. in the £1 more than in the rural districts. It will be observed that no municipality during the last five years imposed the minimum rate allowed by law, viz., 6d., but that several reached the maximum of 2s. 6d. in the £1.

*These amounts refer to Melbourne City where, for the North Melbourne and Flemington and Kensington portions of Hopetoun Ward, the rating is different from that for the rest of the city.

Classification of properties rated, 1909-10.

The number of properties rated, and the annual assessment thereon in the municipalities of the State in 1909-10, were as follows:—

NUMBER AND ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES
IN VICTORIA, 1909-10.

Rateable Values.	Number of Properties Rated.				Assessment of Properties Rated.			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	Total.	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	Total.
	Within the Melbourne Area.	Outside Melbourne and Suburbs.			Within the Melbourne Area.	Outside Melbourne and Suburbs.		
Under £5	23,909	7,810	38,378	70,097	£ 59,448	£ 19,402	£ 90,467	£ 169,317
£5 and less than £10	10,992	8,983	33,242	53,197	76,538	61,974	216,575	355,087
£10 " " " £15	20,574	15,561	29,465	65,600	249,443	183,000	336,587	769,089
£15 " " " £20	24,407	8,459	17,640	50,506	409,006	187,524	287,599	834,129
£20 " " " £25	24,888	5,088	14,223	44,149	541,109	108,490	301,859	951,458
£25 " " " £30	12,612	2,395	11,422	26,429	333,992	63,119	299,413	696,524
£30 " " " £35	10,918	1,871	9,453	22,242	176,690	32,977	228,729	438,396
£35 " " " £40	4,837	916	6,313	12,066	343,753	58,795	295,747	698,295
£40 " " " £45	5,603	1,023	6,933	13,559	22,242	32,977	228,729	438,396
£45 " " " £50	2,734	585	4,952	9,271	231,478	42,081	285,778	559,337
£50 " " " £75	8,655	1,799	15,198	26,652	125,645	26,968	231,062	383,675
£75 " " " £100	2,503	651	7,345	10,499	491,315	105,204	903,772	1,500,291
£100 " " " £200	3,398	864	9,577	18,839	207,640	54,620	619,855	882,115
£200 " " " £300	967	185	2,119	3,271	443,555	115,190	1,287,728	1,846,473
£300 " " " £400	421	66	719	1,206	41,886	41,886	498,098	759,878
£400 " " " £500	218	38	324	580	137,845	22,483	245,822	406,150
£500 " " " £600	162	16	198	376	93,133	16,212	142,874	252,219
£600 " " " £700	105	5	131	241	85,002	8,393	107,270	200,665
£700 " " " £800	78	1	77	156	66,308	3,075	84,500	153,883
£800 " " " £900	49	2	50	101	56,846	720	57,409	114,975
£900 " " " £1,000	53	..	42	95	39,996	1,740	42,223	83,959
£1,000 " " " £1,250	87	2	77	166	48,912	..	39,760	88,672
£1,250 " " " £1,500	33	4	59	96	95,799	2,385	85,587	181,771
£1,500 " " " £1,750	38	..	39	77	43,878	5,477	80,297	129,652
£1,750 " " " £2,000	22	..	25	47	59,655	..	64,520	124,175
£2,000 " " " £2,250	22	..	25	47	40,858	..	44,747	85,605
£2,250 " " " £2,500	15	1	24	47	44,760	2,160	50,856	97,776
£2,500 " " " £2,750	13	..	16	32	34,951	2,300	37,765	75,016
£2,750 " " " £3,000	9	..	9	18	33,800	..	57,494	91,294
£3,000 " " " £3,250	5	..	9	18	25,150	..	25,757	50,907
£3,250 " " " £3,500	5	..	13	18	15,202	..	40,129	55,331
£3,500 " " " £3,750	5	..	10	15	16,672	..	33,547	50,219
£3,750 " " " £4,000	5	..	8	13	17,500	..	29,112	46,612
£4,000 " " " £4,250	6	1	9	16	22,962	3,880	35,204	62,046
£4,250 " " " £4,500	2	..	5	7	8,000	..	20,436	28,436
£4,500 " " " £4,750	1	..	4	5	4,400	..	17,458	21,858
£4,750 " " " £5,000	3	..	4	7	13,500	..	18,711	32,211
£5,000 " " " £6,000	..	..	3	3	..	..	14,306	14,306
£6,000 " " " £7,000	5	..	9	14	25,888	..	48,708	74,596
£7,000 " " " £8,000	1	..	2	3	6,500	..	13,108	19,608
£8,000 " " " £9,000	3	..	..	3	22,050	..	..	22,050
£9,000 " " " £10,000	1	..	..	1	8,900	..	..	8,900
£10,000 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
£10,000 and upwards	1	..	..	1	10,000	..	..	10,000
£10,000 and upwards	1	..	..	1	10,254	..	..	10,254
£10,000 and upwards	1	..	1	1	..	..	11,528	11,528
£10,000 and upwards	1	..	..	1	28,000	..	..	28,000
£10,000 and upwards	1	..	..	1	87,800	..	..	87,800
Total	158,313	56,307	208,140	422,760	5,112,027	1,120,064	7,332,397	13,564,488

The estimated capital and unimproved values of properties in municipalities, classified according to rateable values, are shown hereunder. The capital values have been returned by the municipal authorities, and the unimproved values have been estimated on the assumption that in urban districts one-half, and in rural districts two-thirds, of the capital value represents the unimproved value.

ESTIMATED CAPITAL AND UNIMPROVED VALUE OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES IN VICTORIA, 1909-10.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Capital Value.				Estimated Unimproved Value.			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	Total.	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	Total.
	Within the Melbourne Area.	Outside Melbourne and Suburbs.			Within the Melbourne Area.	Outside Melbourne and Suburbs.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Under £5	1,059,897	278,913	1,758,400	3,097,210	529,948	139,456	1,172,262	1,841,666
£5 and less than £10	1,859,255	872,376	4,132,269	6,393,670	694,512	436,187	2,754,844	3,885,543
£10	4,373,261	2,585,453	6,473,654	13,432,368	2,186,631	1,292,728	4,315,767	7,795,126
£15	7,178,777	1,963,313	5,566,556	14,708,646	3,589,889	981,656	3,711,033	8,232,078
£20	9,474,631	1,589,668	5,846,173	16,910,472	4,737,314	794,833	3,897,448	9,429,595
£25	6,016,225	942,249	5,801,180	12,759,654	3,068,112	471,125	3,867,443	7,346,680
£30	6,129,884	883,622	5,744,637	12,758,143	3,064,947	441,810	3,829,766	7,336,523
£35	3,172,668	495,937	4,455,417	8,124,022	1,586,334	247,969	2,970,284	4,804,587
£40	4,076,737	625,810	5,582,608	10,285,155	2,038,368	312,906	3,721,744	6,073,018
£45	2,255,769	410,775	4,485,740	7,152,284	1,127,885	205,388	2,990,506	4,323,779
£50	8,664,333	1,582,200	17,686,745	27,933,278	4,332,167	791,100	11,791,174	16,914,441
£75	3,612,555	835,776	12,138,400	16,586,731	1,806,277	417,889	8,092,277	10,316,443
£100	7,814,370	1,715,763	25,294,063	34,824,196	3,907,184	857,881	16,862,710	21,627,775
£200	4,020,455	660,850	9,788,671	14,469,976	2,010,227	330,426	6,525,781	8,866,434
£300	2,570,096	337,264	4,814,318	7,721,678	1,285,048	168,631	3,209,529	4,663,208
£400	1,756,486	252,215	2,817,134	4,825,835	878,243	126,108	1,878,090	2,882,441
£500	1,599,789	137,610	2,186,299	3,923,698	799,894	68,805	1,457,530	2,326,229
£600	1,241,503	48,775	1,562,420	2,852,698	620,751	24,387	1,041,613	1,686,751
£700	1,100,354	8,640	1,125,775	2,234,769	550,177	4,320	750,517	1,305,014
£800	772,520	28,570	828,847	1,629,937	386,260	14,285	552,564	953,109
£900	1,000,460	766,461	1,710,921	472,230	472,230	..	150,972	983,202
£1,000	1,798,580	41,775	1,614,063	3,454,418	899,290	20,888	1,076,045	1,996,223
£1,250	850,827	73,671	1,598,225	2,522,723	425,413	36,835	1,065,480	1,527,728
£1,500	1,155,100	..	1,210,092	2,365,192	577,550	..	806,725	1,384,275
£1,750	775,893	..	914,230	1,690,123	387,946	..	609,484	997,430
£2,000	895,200	32,400	1,012,814	1,940,414	447,600	16,200	675,207	1,139,007
£2,250	668,970	27,600	728,522	1,425,092	334,485	13,800	485,682	833,967
£2,500	676,000	..	1,096,750	1,772,750	338,000	..	731,164	1,069,164
£2,750	503,000	..	503,540	1,006,540	251,500	..	385,693	587,193
£3,000	280,040	..	802,580	1,082,620	140,020	..	585,051	675,071
£3,250	333,440	..	653,917	987,357	166,720	..	435,944	602,684
£3,500	350,000	..	582,240	932,240	175,000	..	388,159	563,159
£3,750	428,984	46,560	684,815	1,160,359	214,492	23,280	456,545	694,317
£4,000	160,000	..	408,720	563,720	80,000	..	272,480	352,480
£4,250	88,000	..	349,160	437,160	44,000	..	232,773	276,773
£4,500	270,000	..	374,220	644,220	135,000	..	249,481	384,481
£4,750 .. ..	..	..	236,120	286,120	..	..	190,748	190,748
£5,000	458,269	..	974,160	1,432,429	229,134	..	649,442	878,576
£6,000	130,000	..	262,160	392,160	65,000	..	174,774	239,774
£7,000	441,000	..	..	441,000	220,500	..	..	220,500
£8,000	178,000	..	..	178,000	89,000	..	..	89,000
£9,000 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
£10,000	200,000	..	..	200,000	100,000	..	..	100,000
£10,000 and upwards	205,080	..	230,560	230,560	102,540	..	153,706	153,706
	560,000	..	..	560,000	280,000	..	..	280,000
	1,756,000	..	..	1,756,000	878,000	..	..	878,000
Total	92,386,178	16,477,785	143,142,655	252,006,618	46,193,088	8,238,893	95,428,437	149,860,418

Proportion of properties at different values, 1901-2, 1905-6, and 1909-10.

The following return shows the proportion of properties at the different rateable values at three periods. It will be seen that there was very little alteration in the eight years:—

PROPORTION OF PROPERTIES AT DIFFERENT RATEABLE VALUES, 1901-2, 1905-6, AND 1909-10.

Rateable Values.	Number of Properties in every 100 Rated.								
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			In Shires.			In Victoria.		
	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.
Under £25 ...	72·6	72·9	70·1	63·1	64·6	63·9	67·8	68·8	67·0
£25 to £50 ...	18·3	18·0	20·3	23·4	20·6	18·8	20·9	19·3	19·5
£50 " £75 ...	4·2	4·2	4·9	5·6	6·2	7·3	4·9	5·2	6·1
£75 " £100 ...	1·7	1·8	1·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	2·6	2·6	2·5
£100 " £200 ...	2·0	2·0	2·0	3·1	3·6	4·6	2·5	2·8	3·3
£200 " £300 ...	·6	·5	·5	·6	·7	1·0	·6	·6	·8
£300 " £400 ...	·2	·2	·2	·2	·3	·3	·2	·2	·3
£400 " £500 ...	·1	·1	·1	·1	·1	·2	·1	·1	·1
£500 and upwards	·3	·3	·4	·4	·4	·4	·4	·4	·4

Municipal revenue and expenditure.

The ordinary revenue and expenditure for the last three financial years were as follows:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES, 1908 TO 1910.

Sources of Revenue.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Taxation —	£	£	£
Rates	902,741	946,956	999,799
Licences	106,758	101,682	102,066
Dog Fees	17,628	18,751	19,296
Market and Weighbridge Dues	57,386	68,014	65,739
Government Endowment and Grants	172,648	175,601	187,323
Contributions for Streets, Footpaths, &c.	34,246	35,173	47,532
Sanitary Charges	58,072	59,966	62,720
Rents	67,387	69,842	77,958
Other Sources	208,403	195,831	207,181
Total	1,625,269	1,671,816	1,769,614
Heads of Expenditure.			
Salaries, &c.	152,302	158,436	163,435
Sanitary Work, Street Cleansing, &c.	142,769	150,964	159,571
Lighting	79,832	82,854	83,972
Fire Brigades' Contributions	20,724	22,051	23,223
Public Works—			
Construction	313,607	288,869	335,446
Maintenance	474,188	490,341	548,583
Formation of Private Streets, &c.	32,718	37,888	32,163
Redemption of Loans	60,568	58,263	46,439
Interest on Loans	198,632	201,199	206,355
Charities	14,666	15,241	15,589
Other Expenditure	187,830	173,154	170,840
Total	1,677,836	1,678,760	1,785,616

As compared with 1909, the revenue of 1910 increased by £97,798, as follows:—Rates increased by £52,843, Government endowment and grants by £11,722, rents by £8,116, licences by £384, sanitary charges by £2,754, dog fees by £545, contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., by £12,359, and “other sources” by £11,350; while market and weighbridge dues declined by £2,275. The expenditure was in excess of the amount for the previous year by £106,856. The following items showed increases:—Salaries, £4,999; sanitary work and street cleaning, £8,607; lighting, £1,618; fire brigades’ contributions, £1,172; public works construction, £46,577; public works maintenance, £58,242; interest on loans, £5,156; and charities, £348. Under the other headings there were decreases as follows:—Formation of private streets, &c., £5,725; redemption of loans, £11,824; and “other expenditure,” £2,314.

Fifty-seven per cent. of municipal revenue in 1910 was derived from rates, 6 per cent. from licences of all kinds, 4 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, 1 per cent. from dog fees, 11 per cent. from Government endowments and grants, 2 per cent. from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., 3 per cent. from sanitary charges, 4 per cent. from rents, and 12 per cent. from all “other sources.”

Proportions of municipal revenue raised from different sources.

In 1910 the salaries of the municipal officers amounted to £163,435, or 9 per cent. of the entire revenue.

Salaries.

A sum of £15,589, or less than 1 per cent. of the revenue, was devoted to the local charities; the greater part of this disbursement was in aid of hospitals, benevolent asylums and associations, and orphan asylums.

Local charities.

The assets of the municipalities are shown under three heads—(1) Municipal Fund, (2) Loan Fund, (3) Property; the liabilities under two heads—(1) Municipal Fund, (2) Loan Fund.

Assets and liabilities of municipalities.

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1908 TO 1910.

Assets.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Municipal Fund—	£	£	£
Uncollected Rates	116,223	114,598	110,676
Other Assets	182,790	267,944	350,092
Loan Funds—			
Sinking Funds—			
Amount at Credit	796,272	812,920	834,295
Arrears Due	2,806	2,827	3,286
Unexpended Balances	220,674	106,852	345,287
Property—			
Halls, Buildings, Markets, &c. ...	2,826,394	2,992,809	3,149,476
Waterworks	220,669	207,451	202,210
Gasworks	66,638	57,399	70,687
Total Assets	4,432,466	4,562,800	5,066,009

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1908 TO 1910—continued.

Liabilities.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Municipal Fund—			
Due on Current Contracts	£ 77,503	£ 90,913	£ 98,187
Arrears due to Sinking Funds	2,806	2,827	3,286
Overdue Interest	18,535	15,639	15,750
Bank Overdrafts	122,453	120,705	133,237
Other Liabilities	116,780	142,446	194,902
Loan Funds—			
Loans Outstanding	4,437,673	4,416,103	4,767,138
Due on Loan Contracts	88,086	49,452	45,089
Total Liabilities	4,863,836	4,838,085	5,257,589

Municipal
assets and
liabilities
compared.

The total assets of municipalities in 1910 amounted to £5,066,009, and the total liabilities to £5,257,589. The aggregate of the current liabilities (Municipal Fund) was £445,362, against which there were assets amounting to £460,768. The gross liability on account of loan expenditure for works completed and in progress was £4,812,227, which, after deducting sinking funds and unexpended balances, was reduced to £3,629,359. If credit were taken for the value of municipal properties (£3,422,373) in markets, halls, buildings, gasworks, waterworks, &c., the net burden on account of loan moneys would be £206,986.

Endowment
of muni-
cipalities.

Under the *Local Government Act 1891*, £450,000 was provided as an annual endowment for the municipalities. This was the first statutory provision made since 1879, when an endowment of £310,000, authorized under the *Local Government Act 1874*, ceased to be payable. A subsidy, however, in lieu thereof, amounting to £310,000, was voted by Parliament annually, but this vote was gradually increased until £450,000 was reached in 1889-90 and 1890-91. This amount was reduced to £405,000 per annum from the 1st January, 1893; to £310,000 from 1st July, 1893; to £100,000 from 1st July, 1894; and to £50,000 from 1st July, 1902. Under Act No. 2025 it was increased to £75,000 for the year 1906-7, and from the 1st July, 1907, it was increased under Act No. 2129 to £100,000. This amount is payable to 30th June, 1911, under the authority of Act No. 2267 assented to on 17th December, 1910. The endowment is payable in equal moieties in March and September of each year. No city or town is entitled to receive any part of the endowment. The distribution amongst the boroughs and shires is based on the amount of general and extra rates received in the twelve months ended on the last day of September next preceding the financial year 1907-8, according to the following scale:—

To every borough or first-class shire	3s. in the £
„ „ second-class shire	5s. „ „ „
„ „ third-class shire	6s. „ „ „
„ „ fourth-class shire	8s. „ „ „
„ „ fifth-class shire	10s. „ „ „
„ „ sixth-class shire	12s. „ „ „

In addition to the endowment of £100,000 the municipalities received from the Government a sum of £84,857 out of the Licensing Fund, under Act No. 1111, Section 201, the equivalent for (1) fees for licences; (2) fees for the registration of brewers and spirit merchants; (3) fines, penalties, and forfeitures incurred under *The Licensing Act 1876*. The particulars of this payment are as follows:—

EQUIVALENT FOR LICENCE FEES, ETC., 1909-10.

	£	s.	d.
Paid to Cities	33,129	0	0
„ Towns	7,641	0	0
„ Boroughs	12,268	0	0
„ Shires—			
1st Class	288	0	0
2nd „	13,717	0	0
3rd „	11,393	0	0
4th „	897	0	0
5th „	3,684	0	0
6th „	1,619	0	0
Total amount due	84,636	0	0
Add payments on account of 1909	£785	0	0
Deduct unpaid accounts of 1910	564	0	0
	221	0	0
Amount paid in 1909-10	84,857	0	0

The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Licensing Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1910:—

LICENSING FUND.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1909-10.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from last year	...	...	Expenses of Officers carrying out the Licensing Act	7,194	4 11
Licences	94,753	6 11	Cost of taking poll of electors	172	5 3
Fees	2,805	8 0	Equivalent to municipalities (see previous table)	84,857	0 0
Fines	1,918	9 6	Transferred to Police Superannuation Fund under section 108 of Act No. 2068	14,548	5 2
Sale of confiscated liquor	4	13 0			
Club certificates and percentage fees	1,087	5 11			
Permits	2,200	0 0			
Expenses of holding extended annual sitting of court	40	8 9			
Compensation assessments	3,962	3 3			
	£106,771	15 4		£106,771	15 4

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

In connexion with loans raised by municipalities, Section 375 of the *Local Government Act 1903* provides that when any municipality incurs a loan and the debentures are payable in different years, the council shall obtain from the Auditor-General a certificate, in writing, that the amounts proposed to be provided in each year will be sufficient to pay all principal moneys and interest as they fall due. The repayments of principal have to be so provided for, that each year of the currency of the loan shall bear its full share towards liquidation.

Municipal
indebted-
ness.

The total loan indebtedness of the municipalities at the end of their financial year was £4,767,138, due to the Government and the public respectively as follows:—

MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS, 1910.

		Due to the Government.	Due to the Public.
		£	£
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	...	123,015	4,043,484
Shires	... ..	73,169	527,470
Total		196,184	4,570,954
		4,767,138	

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1910.

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
	£	£	£
Receipts during the year	337,554	58,781	396,335
Balance unexpended from previous year	90,119	14,440	104,559
Expenditure during the year	116,109	39,498	155,607
Balance unexpended at the end of 1910	311,564	33,723	345,287

Municipal
loan ex-
penditure,
1906 to
1910.

The municipal expenditure of loan moneys during the year 1910 amounted to £155,607, of which £116,109 was spent by cities, towns, and boroughs, and £39,498 by shires. This is a little more than the amount for the preceding year, and nearly double the sum spent in the year 1906.

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: RETURN FOR
FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Receipts.		Expenditure.	
	£		£	
1906	...	270,279	...	84,081
1907	...	123,446	...	141,587
1908	..	47,600	...	157,255
1909	...	36,653	...	153,985
1910	...	396,335	...	155,607

The total loan receipts for the year amounted to £396,335, all of which was raised from the public. The following are the particulars:—

Loans raised
by municipalities,
1910.

LOAN RECEIPTS BY MUNICIPALITIES, 1910.

Loans from the Public—

Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—	£
Bendigo	20,064
Caulfield	1,426
Horsham	3,000
Melbourne	286,610
Port Fairy	1,303
Prahran...	10,125
Richmond	8,000
Wangaratta	3,000
Warrnambool	4,026
Total	337,554

Shires—

Birchip	910
Buninyong	6,010
Corio	3,000
Heidelberg	17,000
Karkaroc	3,036
Kerang	11,000
Minhamite	4,000
Moorabbin	1,516
Mulgrave	209
Nunawading	9,100
Shepparton	3,000
Total	58,781
Grand Total	396,335

Loan
moneys to
the credit
of municipa-
lities,
1910.

At the end of the year 1909-10 the total amount of loan money in hand was £345,287—£311,564 to the credit of cities, towns, and boroughs, and £33,723 to the credit of shires. The following return shows the municipalities having such credits, and the amounts thereof:—

LOANS UNEXPENDED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1910.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS—				SHIRES—			
			£				£
Ballarat	...	...	2,176	Birchip	...	...	900
Bendigo	...	...	18,763	Buninyong	...	...	4,716
Brunswick	...	...	1,212	Corio...	...	...	2,855
Camberwell	...	...	4,298	Dimboola	...	...	290
Caulfield	...	...	116	Fern Tree Gully	...	...	15
Coburg	...	...	76	Heidelberg	...	...	6,093
Collingwood	...	...	527	Karkaroc	...	...	2,072
Creswick	...	...	118	Kerang	...	...	6,251
Essendon	...	...	1,070	Mildura	...	...	181
Fitzroy	...	...	876	Minhamite	...	...	760
Footscray	...	...	15,413	Moorabbin	...	...	1,918
Horsham	...	...	2,493	Mulgrave	...	...	76
Inglewood	...	...	800	Numurkah	...	...	1,278
Kew	...	...	755	Nunawading	...	...	2,960
Malvern	...	...	1,030	Omco...	...	...	1,240
Maryborough	...	...	365	Phillip Island and			
Melbourne	...	...	220,625	Woolamai...	...	...	957
Northcote	...	...	622	Poowong and Jeetho	...	...	153
Port Fairy	...	...	905	Shepparton...	...	...	1,008
Port Melbourne	...	...	3,969				
Prahran	...	...	14,280	Total Shires	...	...	33,723
Queenscliff	...	...	132				
Richmond	...	...	3,581				
Sale	...	...	104				
South Melbourne	...	...	3,177				
St. Kilda	...	...	6,949				
Wangaratta	...	...	2,207				
Warrnambool	...	...	3,974				
Williamstown	...	...	951				
Total Cities, &c.	...	...	311,564	Grand Total	...	...	345,287

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE CITIES OF MELBOURNE,
BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO.

Particulars of the receipts and expenditure for 1910 of the City of Melbourne and of the principal cities in the country—Ballarat and Bendigo—are given in the following statements:—

Of the total revenue of the City of Melbourne in 1910, about 36 per cent. was derived from rates, 27 per cent. from the sale of electric light, about 14 per cent. from the rental of city property—chiefly markets and shops—11 per cent. from market and weigh-bridge fees, 5 per cent. from licences, and 7 per cent. from other sources. For public works maintenance, such as roads and bridges, markets, abattoirs, &c., about 28 per cent. of the total expenditure was incurred; for interest on loans and expenses, 22 per cent.; for payments to sinking funds, 4 per cent.; for electric supply—depreciation and renewals fund—18 per cent.; for lighting, 8 per cent.; for street cleansing, 9 per cent.; for salaries, allowances, and commissions, 6 per cent.; and for miscellaneous expenditure, 5 per cent.

City of
Melbourne
revenue
and expen-
diture
under
various
heads.

CITY OF MELBOURNE: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1910.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Rates—	£
General	97,221
Lighting	29,470
Licences—	
Publicans'—Equivalent for—From Licensing Act	13,636
Abattoirs—Slaughtering fees	2,036
Drays, Hackney Carriages, and Trams	1,437
Other Licences	363
Fees under Dog Act	1,102
City Baths	3,264
Market and Weighbridge Fees	39,867
Lighting—Sale of Electric Current and Rent of Meters, &c.	95,474
Fines and Costs	1,191
Rents—	
Abattoirs	8,497
Markets and Shops	35,246
Boat Sites and Shops	784
Town Hall Premises and Rooms	4,114
Interest on Fixed Deposits, &c.	4,965
Miscellaneous—	
Desiccators	6,398
Public Conveniences, Cleansing Streets, &c.	3,326
Tree Planting	278
Fees under Building Act	899
Sundries	3,011
Total	352,579

CITY OF MELBOURNE: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1910—
continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amount.
Salaries (including clerical assistance, expenses of audit, collection of statistics, making valuation, and commissions paid in lieu of salaries, &c.) ..	£ 18,837
Allowance to Mayor	1,500
Closet Cleansing and Sanitary Works	426
Street Cleansing, &c.	29,472
Lighting—Electric and Gas	27,932
Fire Brigades Board—Contribution	5,954
 Public Works—Maintenance—	
Roads and Bridges	43,913
Markets and Weighbridges	23,914
Public Buildings (including Abattoirs, Baths, &c.) ...	18,424
Parks and Planting Trees in Streets	7,896
Interest on Loans from the Government	240
" " Public	75,116
Payment towards Redemption of Government Loan ...	210
Sinking Funds—Loans from the Public	12,161
Electric Supply—Depreciation and Renewals Fund ...	59,282
Expenses of paying Interest on Loans	457
Interest on Bank Overdrafts	247
Contributions to Charitable Institutions	1,300
" " Infectious Diseases Hospital	1,005
Law Costs	728
Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	1,417
 Miscellaneous—	
Rat Destruction	323
Gas Conferences	189
Fees—Dog Act	518
Insurance and Guarantee Premiums	1,495
Elections	151
Analyst's salary	187
Sundries	2,368
 Total	 335,662

Of the total revenue received by the City of Ballarat in 1910, about 57 per cent. was obtained from rates, 10 per cent. from licences, 12 per cent. from sanitary rates, 11 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, 4 per cent. from rents, and 6 per cent. from all other receipts. The expenditure was incurred in connexion with the following services:—40 per cent. for public works, 10 per cent. for interest and redemption of loans, 13 per cent. for sanitary work, 8 per cent. for lighting, 7 per cent. for salaries and allowances, 7 per cent. for street cleaning, &c., and 15 per cent. for all other items.

City of
Ballarat
revenue
and expen-
diture,
1910.

CITY OF BALLARAT: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1910.

Revenue.	Amount.	Expenditure.	Amount
	£		£
Special Grants—From Government	245	Salaries	1,508
General Rates	16,729	Allowance to Mayor	400
Licences—From Licensing Fund... ..	2,884	Sanitary Expenses	3,729
„ Other	203	Street Cleaning, &c.	2,068
Market and Weighbridge Dues	3,123	Lighting	2,304
Contributions for Formation of Private Streets, Roads, Lanes, &c.	58	Fire Brigades	546
Dog Fees	260	Contribution	546
Pound Fees	60	Public Works—	
Closet Cleansing and Sanitary Rates and Fees	3,588	Construction	1,521
Rents	1,152	Maintenance	9,679
Interest	146	Repayments of Loans—	
Botanic Gardens	257	To the Public	400
Other Sources	859	„ Government	360
		Payment to Sinking Funds—	
Total	£29,564	Loans from the Public	740
		Interest—Government Loan	186
		„ Loans from the Public	1,072
		Contributions to Charitable Institutions	345
		Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	324
		Libraries, Museums, &c.	433
		Agricultural College	500
		Other Expenditure	2,066
		Total	£28,181

In the City of Bendigo, in 1910, the following were the proportions of total revenue obtained under the different headings:—General rates, 45 per cent.; licences, 11 per cent.; sanitary rates and fees, 17 per cent.; market and weighbridge dues, 10 per cent.; rents, 7 per cent.; and other sources, 10 per cent. The proportions of the total expenditure on various services were:—Public works, construction and maintenance, 44 per cent.; sanitary expenses, 18 per cent.; interest on loans and payments to sinking funds, 6 per cent.; salaries and allowances, 6 per cent.; lighting, 8 per cent.; street cleansing, 7 per cent.; and miscellaneous expenditure, 11 per cent.

Revenue
and expen-
diture of
City of
Bendigo,
1910.

CITY OF BENDIGO: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1910.

Revenue.	Amount.	Expenditure.	Amount.
	£		£
Special Grants--From Government	1,632	Salaries	1,740
General Rates	15,816	Allowance to Mayor	325
Licences--From Licensing Fund	3,636	Sanitary Expenses	5,924
" Other	284	Street Cleansing	2,264
Market and Weighbridge Dues	3,359	Lighting	2,837
Dog Fees	297	Fire Brigades Board--Contribution	685
Closest Cleansing and Sanitary Rates and Fees	6,018	Public Works--	
Rents	2,432	Construction	3,353
Interest	389	Maintenance	11,715
Sports Ground	387	Payment to Sinking Funds --Loans from the Public	1,235
Other Sources	603	Interest on Loans from the Public	941
		" Bank Overdraft	240
		Contributions to Charitable Institutions	388
		Street Trees	545
		Libraries	162
		Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	346
		Other Expenditure	1,270
Total	£34,853	Total	£33,970

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS' FIDELITY GUARANTEE FUND.

Municipal
Officers'
Guarantee
Fund.

An Act was passed in 1907 (No. 2080) incorporating the Municipal Association of Victoria, and authorizing it to institute a "Municipal Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund," which, however, could not be established until three-fifths of the municipalities in Victoria had agreed in writing to contribute to the fund. The amount to be contributed by any municipality is not to be less than that payable in 1907 for a like guarantee to any incorporated company or society in Victoria. When the fund reaches £3,500 the rates of contribution may be altered, so that it will be maintained at that sum, and in the event of the amount at credit being at any time insufficient to pay all liabilities and expenses, every municipality must, *pro rata* to its contributions, make up the difference. If the association determines to discontinue business, the funds are to be divided proportionately to the sums contributed by each municipal district during the preceding five years. Payment of contributions is to be made within one month after a written notification has been sent by the secretary. Full and accurate accounts are to be kept of all moneys received and expended, and of the details of the transactions. A balance-sheet, made up to the 30th September of each year, must be prepared, exhibiting a true statement of receipts and expenditure and the balance to the credit of the fund.

More than the required number of municipalities agreed to cooperate, and the fund was inaugurated on 1st January, 1908. Guarantee policies have been applied for and granted to the whole

of the municipalities constituted under the Local Government Act. The premium revenue for the year ending 30th September, 1911, in respect of guarantees amounting to £148,105, is estimated at £942. The amount to the credit of the fund on 30th September, 1910 (including amount invested in purchase of debentures, £1,455, and accrued interest thereon), was £2,646.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

The Melbourne Harbor Trust is a corporate body established in 1876 to regulate, manage, and improve the Port of Melbourne and portions of the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers adjacent, for which purpose certain lands and properties are vested in seventeen Commissioners, two of whom are elected by the Melbourne City Council, one each by the ratepayers of the municipalities of South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Williamstown, and Footscray, three by the owners of ships registered at Melbourne, three by merchants and traders paying wharfage rates, and five by the Governor in Council. The following are particulars of the receipts and expenditure during each of the last five years:—

Melbourne
Harbor
Trust—
receipts
and expen-
diture.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.—ORDINARY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: 1906 TO 1910.

Receipts from—	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage Rates ...	188,337	191,762	203,466	193,027	238,054
Rents and Licence Fees ...	12,857	12,544	12,763	13,001	13,764
Other Receipts ...	7,261	9,955	6,094	4,541	3,790
Total ...	208,455	214,261	222,323	210,569	255,608
Expenditure on—					
Plant ...	..	11,310	13,753	11,887	859
Harbor Improvements and Maintenance ...	27,828	35,084	45,944	47,808	48,313
Wharfs, &c.—Construction and Maintenance ...	19,839	30,019	28,810	22,339	34,535
General Management, &c. ...	13,056	14,145	14,096	15,847	15,334
Interest on Loans and Expenses ...	86,530	86,375	82,015	72,517	69,409
Total ...	147,253	176,933	184,618	170,398	168,450

During the 33½ years the Trust has been in existence the net receipts have amounted to £5,106,840, and the expenditure to £6,726,677, or £1,619,837 in excess of the receipts, to meet which loans have been raised amounting to £2,000,000, of which £1,700,000 was outstanding at the end of 1910. Of the expenditure of nearly 6½ millions, £2,113,242 has been incurred in connexion with harbor improvements and maintenance, including dredging, landing, and depositing silt, £1,578,983 in connexion with wharfs and approaches, construction and maintenance, and £571,158 in connexion with plant.

Geelong
Harbor
Trust—re-
ceipts and
expendi-
ture.

An Act to provide for the construction of works in connexion with the harbor at Geelong was passed on 12th December, 1905. This measure made provision for the constitution of the Geelong Harbor Trust and the appointment of three commissioners, the chairman to receive £400 per annum, and each of the other commissioners, £200 per annum. The management of the port and shipping is vested in the commissioners, and one-fifth of the total revenue received by the Trust is to be paid to the Government. Power is given to the Trust to borrow £400,000 and to issue debentures, which may be made payable in London or Melbourne. The following is a summary of the receipts and expenditure since the constitution of the Trust; the expenditure includes loan moneys, of which £250,000 had been raised to the end of 1910:—

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST: RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

Hheads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Net Receipts (exclusive of loans).					
	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage Rates*	6,880	6,255	7,758	7,274	9,289
Quayage Rates*	2,217	1,927	1,096	2,333	2,897
Licence Fees and Other Charges* ...	49	49	106	210	219
Leasing and Licensing of Lands... ..	941	1,199	1,282	1,634	2,188
Interest ... ..	...	1,464	226	1,199	363
"Sparrovale" Farm	147	750	2,708	2,809	3,328
Corio Freezing Works ... ..	...	...	...	2,336	17,392
Miscellaneous	798	1,845	1,795	2,674	29,429†
Total	11,032	13,489	14,971	20,469	65,105
Net Expenditure (including Expenditure from Loans).					
Floating Plant	33,679	8,865	6,034	1,697	362
Harbor Improvements	2,093	18,011	7,136	1,445	5,442
Corio Quay ... ..	...	...	528	17,087	3,710
Electric Power Station, Corio Quay ... ..	...	...	...	5,090	5,497
Corio Freezing Works... ..	...	...	...	48,060	25,425
"Sparrovale" Farm	333	7,604	15,784	6,489	3,625
"Rippleside" Workshops— Machinery and Plant	1,712	1,492	4,363	5,811	643
Excavations for Storage of Log Timber ... ..	...	...	815	4,672	38
General Management and Main- tenance	4,474	6,245	7,424	9,474	10,039
Land and House Property and Improvements	10,566	6,943	3,470	9,405	8,513
Interest and Sinking Fund	909	4,567	5,000	4,961	12,030
Miscellaneous	2,797	772	2,876	5,675	19,744
Total	56,563	54,499	53,430	119,866	95,068

* The figures for these items represent four-fifths of the total revenue, one-fifth being payable to the consolidated revenue of Victoria.

† Including insurance on account of Natal plant £14,856, and sale of sundry properties £9,000.

THE MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

The Board was established by an Act which came into force on 20th December, 1890, and entered upon its duties on 18th March, 1891.

Creation and constitution of Board.

It consists of 40 members, of whom one is the Chairman, who is elected every four years by the other members, the retiring Chairman being eligible for re-election. The members are elected as follows:—Nine by the Melbourne City Council, four by the South Melbourne Council, three by the Prahran Council, two each by the Collingwood, Fitzroy, Richmond, and St. Kilda Councils; and one each by the other fifteen suburban municipal councils returning a representative, viz., Hawthorn, Footscray, Malvern, Essendon, Kew, Port Melbourne, Brunswick, Brighton, Williamstown, Northcote, Camberwell, Caulfield, Heidelberg, Preston, and Coburg.

Thirteen of the members retire annually in the month of February, but are eligible for re-election if they remain members of their respective councils.

The functions of the Board are to take over, control, and manage the Melbourne and Metropolitan water supply system, including watersheds, reservoirs, weirs, aqueducts, pipes, &c.; to provide the metropolis with an efficient system of main and general sewerage; and to give effect to the provisions of Act No. 1197, in connexion with the vesting in the Board of the bed, soil, and banks of the River Yarra, and of all other public rivers, creeks, and water-courses within the metropolis.

Functions of the Board.

The district over which the Board exercises control consists of eleven cities, eight towns, one borough, two shires, and parts of two other shires, or twenty-four municipalities in all, embracing a total area of 109,009 acres, and containing an estimated population (including those supplied with water outside the Board's area), on 31st December, 1910, of 582,000.

Area under Board's control and population.

To carry out its work, the Board is authorized to borrow £8,750,000 exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934, which were originally contracted by the Government in connexion with waterworks afterwards taken over by the Board.

Board's borrowing powers and liability on loans.

The liability for Government loans, on 30th June, 1910, was £1,688,663, and for loans raised by the Board, £8,701,000. The Board is still empowered to borrow £750,271 before the limit of its borrowing powers is reached.

The rate to be paid in respect of any lands and tenements for the supply of water for domestic purposes, otherwise than by measure, shall be an amount not exceeding 8d. in the £1 on the annual valuation of the lands and tenements served. These were valued at £4,789,265 in 1909-10, and the water rate levied in that year was 7d. in the £1 on the annual value of property served. Assessments of £17 and under are charged a minimum rate of 10s. per annum. There is an excess charge of 1s. per 1,000 gallons, for water supplied by meter. For shipping at Melbourne wharves the charge is 3s. per 1,000 gallons, and at special berths at Melbourne wharves, with fixed meters, it is 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons.

Water Supply assessments and rates.

Water
meters.

Water meters may be hired from the Board at an annual rental, payable quarterly in advance, as follows:—For $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. meter, 5s.; $\frac{3}{4}$ -in., 6s.; 1-in., 8s.; $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., 10s. 6d.; $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., 14s.

Garden
rate.

Areas not exceeding 100 square yards (including paths) will be supplied with water (without meters) on payment of a special rate of 10s. per annum each.

Water rate
receipts.

In 1909-10, the water rate receipts were as follows:—

Water rate (including arrears) ...	...	£119,184	3	7
Meters (including arrears) ...	...	110,328	10	10
Specials (including arrears) ...	...	4,212	18	11
Total ...	...	£233,725	13	4

Sewerage
assess-
ments,
rates,
revenue,
and
receipts.

In 1891, the annual value of rateable property within the area then to be sewered was £6,866,313, of which about £1,000,000 related to vacant lands. The collapse of the land boom was followed by a heavy shrinkage in the value of rateable property. A partial recovery in values has since taken place, and the total of the sewerage assessments for 1910-11 is £5,326,300—inclusive of assessments on vacant lands.

The Board was empowered to levy a general sewerage rate, not exceeding 1s. 2d. in the £1 from 1st July, 1906. The present general sewerage rate is 1s. 1d. in the £1 on sewered, and until the 30th June, 1911, 2d. in the £1 on sewerable property, within the Board's area.

The receipts from the district sewered in 1909 amounted to £241,852 18s. 6d., made up as follows:—

From the 1s. 1d. area (including arrears) ...	£238,082	11	2
„ „ 2d. area (including arrears) ...	3,769	16	0
„ „ 1d. area (arrears only) ...	0	11	4
Total ...	£241,852	18	6

Expenditure
and
Revenue
of the
Melbourne
and
Metropol-
itan Water-
works
System.

The total cost to 30th June, 1910, of the construction of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Waterworks System was £3,921,517. The gross revenue from the opening of the works at the end of 1857 up to 30th June, 1910, amounted to £6,646,390, whilst the expenses of maintenance and management amounted to £1,132,078, and interest to £2,964,289. During 1909-10, the revenue amounted to £249,114, as against £235,237 in the previous year. The expenditure in 1909-10 on maintenance and management was £44,072, and on interest £101,440, the total charges being £145,512, as against an expenditure in 1908-9 of £41,775 on maintenance and management, and of £102,281 on interest, or a total charge of £144,056. The net profit in 1909-10 was thus £103,602, being equivalent to 2.64 per cent. of the mean capital cost, as compared with £91,181 or 2.34 per cent. in 1908-9. The aggregate net profit up to the end of 1909-10, after paying all interest and expenses, was £2,550,023.

The cost of sewerage works and house connexions up to 30th June, 1910, was £6,184,662, divided as follows:—

Farm purchase and preparation	£452,678
Outfall sewer and rising mains	417,743
Pumping Station buildings and engines	188,507
Main and branch sewers	1,882,622
Street reticulation	1,689,908
Reticulation of rights-of-way	788,262
House connexions branches	283,048
Cost of house connexions to capital	322,262
<hr/>	
Expenditure on sewerage system	£6,025,030
Householders' debts for house connexions	159,632
<hr/>	
Total	£6,184,662

Expenditure and total receipts of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Sewerage System.

The total sewerage receipts for 1909-10 amounted to £295,274, of which £241,853 was collected in rates, £31,289 represented proceeds of sale of live stock, and £10,229 was interest upon money deposited and on cost of house connexions carried out by the Board upon the deferred payment system. The expenditure on the purchase of live stock amounted to £17,900, that on interest to £286,655, and on management to £14,384, while the total of the working expenses and cost of maintenance was £42,921.

The waterworks for the service of Melbourne and the Metropolitan area were originally constructed by the general Government, and were vested in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works from the 18th March, 1891. But the Government conducted the business for the Board up to 30th June, 1891, agreeing to pay over to the Board one-half of the net profits made during the six months ended with that date. Since the Board took over the waterworks considerable additional works have been carried out, representing a capital cost of £543,271.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Waterworks.

Melbourne City and the suburban municipalities within a radius of 10 miles are supplied with water from two independent sources—one being the watershed of the Plenty River and Jack's Creek from the southern slopes of the Great Dividing Range, supplemented by the Wallaby and Silver creeks, the water from which is brought over the range in an aqueduct from the northern slopes. This system is known as the Yan Yean System. The other watershed is that of the Maroondah River, the Graceburn, Donnelly's Creek, and Coranderrk Creek, above Healesville, and is known as the Maroondah System.

YAN YEAN SYSTEM.

The Yan Yean watershed embraces Wallaby and Jack's creeks, 12,000 acres; Upper Plenty and Silver creeks, 12,000 acres; and the catchment areas of Yan Yean Reservoir, 5,000 acres, totalling 29,000 acres. The water is collected in the Toorourrong Reservoir, and taken thence in a pitched channel, and stored in the Yan Yean Reservoir. This is an artificial lake situated 22 miles from the city and 602 feet above sea-level. It is formed by an embankment 3,159 feet long, with a maximum height of 31

Yan Yean System.

feet. The reservoir covers an area of 1,360 acres, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, with a maximum depth of 26 feet, and an average depth of 18 feet. The maximum depth of water in the reservoir in 1910 was 25 ft. $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. on the 6th November, and the minimum depth 20 ft. 6 in. on the 26th May. When it is full, 6,400,000,000 gallons of water are stored, of which 5,400,000,000 gallons are available for consumption. In the year ended 31st December, 1910, the total intake of the Yan Yean Reservoir was 5,716,803,000 gallons, and the total output was 4,760,533,000 gallons, exclusive of loss by evaporation. The mean evaporation from the surface is equal to a total depth of about 3 feet during the year. The lowest recorded intake was 3,877,833,000 gallons for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1908.

From this reservoir the water is forwarded to Morang through an open aqueduct delivering 33,000,000 gallons a day when full, and thence to Preston reservoir, or to Melbourne direct, by a series of pipes.

MAROONDAH SYSTEM.

The Maroondah water is taken by means of small weirs from the Maroondah River watershed of 40,000 acres situated above Healesville, and it is thence conveyed to Preston through an aqueduct (about $41\frac{1}{4}$ miles of open channels, tunnels, and syphons), which is capable of delivering 30,000,000 gallons daily.

There is also a direct main, called the high-level system, from Yan Yean to Surrey Hills reservoir, for supplying the high levels of the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It is capable of delivering 9,000,000 gallons a day.

High-level system.

The total catchment areas for both systems aggregate 69,000 acres, the whole of which is under the control of the Board, and free from settlement or grazing.

Total catchment areas.

The Water Supply Committee of the Board has recommended the augmentation of the catchment area by permanently reserving two areas, amounting in all to 140 square miles, the one comprising the Upper Yarra watershed of 81 square miles, the other the district of the O'Shanassy River—a tributary of the Yarra above Warburton—an area of 59 square miles.

Upper Yarra and O'Shanassy watershed.

During 1908, after a period of extended drought, it became evident that to provide for the growing needs of the metropolis additional water supply resources must be acquired, and, after a lengthy investigation, it was found that the most efficient and economical results would be obtained by introducing this third system of supply. This project involves the construction of an open aqueduct and pipe line, of an aggregate length of about $48\frac{1}{2}$ miles, delivering water to the eastern metropolis by way of Mitcham. The watershed of the O'Shanassy River has been excised from the permanent forests area, and vested by the Governor in Council in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The Board is now seeking to acquire the lands necessary for the construction of the works, and authority for the necessary expenditure has been granted by Parliament. Surveys, designs, and contracts are in course of preparation.

At the present time there are two storage and eight service reservoirs, as under:—

Storage and service reservoirs.

STORAGE CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS.

Situation.	Storage Capacity in Gallons.
Yan Yean (Storage)	6,400,000,000
Toorourrong (Storage)	60,000,000
Preston No. 1 (Service)	16,000,000
Preston No. 2 (Service)	25,000,000
Essendon No. 1 (Service)	1,000,000
Essendon No. 2 (Service)	6,000,000
(aulfield (Service)	10,000,000
Kew (Service)	3,000,000
Surrey Hills (Service)	9,000,000
Morang Pipe Head (Service)	3,000,000
Total	6,553,000,000

The following is the mileage return of aqueducts, &c., mains, and reticulation pipes up to the 30th June, 1910:—

Aqueducts, &c., mains and reticulation pipes.

Yan Yean System.	Miles.	Chains.
Silver Creek Branches	1	52
Silver Creek Channel	8	4
Wallaby Creek Channel	5	36
Jack's Creek Channel	1	67½
Clear Water Channel	4	62½
Old Yan Yean Aqueduct	2	0
Yan Yean to Morang	6	33½
Scour (18") Surrey Hills Reservoir ... ..	...	49
Total	30	64½

Maroondah System.	Miles.	Chains.
Graceburn Channel ... ..	...	64
Graceburn Syphon	1	23
Maroondah Aqueduct	41	28
Donelly's Creek Channel ... ..	...	19
Coranderrk Syphon	3	62
Scour (18") Preston Reservoir No. 1	1	30
Scours Preston Reservoir No. 2	1	22½
Total	50	8½

Total Aqueducts, &c., as above...	80 miles	72½ chains	
" Mains (12" and over)	191 "	9½ "	
" Retic. (Inside Area)	1,004 "	35½ "	} mls. chs.
" " (Outside Area)	58 "	44 "	

Grand total ... 1,335 miles 1½ chains

The average number of the population supplied with water during 1910 was 571,100, and the average daily consumption was 58½ gallons per head. Some districts are supplied outside the Board's

Consumption of water in Melbourne and Suburbs

area. The total consumption and average consumption per day are shown hereunder for each month during 1910:—

TOTAL AND DAILY AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS DURING EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR, 1910.

Month.	Total Consumption of Water.	Daily Average Consumption of Water.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
January	1,324,019,000	42,710,290
February	1,290,206,000	46,078,786
March	1,158,086,000	37,357,613
April	1,036,338,000	34,544,600
May	937,573,000	30,244,290
June	812,257,000	27,075,233
July	812,297,000	26,203,129
August	838,456,000	27,046,968
September	818,171,000	27,272,367
October	960,243,000	30,975,580
November	1,051,040,000	35,034,667
December	1,105,773,000	35,670,097
Total for the year ...	12,144,459,000	...
Daily average for the year ... ..	...	33,272,490

The following table shows for each year since the establishment of the Board in 1891 the daily average consumption of water, and the daily average per head:—

DAILY AVERAGE QUANTITY OF WATER CONSUMED IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1891 TO 1910.

Year.	Population supplied with Water to 30th June.	Houses supplied with Water to 30th June.	Tenements Connected with Sewerage System to 30th June.	Daily Average of Annual Consumption of Water to 31st December.	No. of Gallons of Water per Head Daily.
				Gallons.	
1891 ...	482,600	99,364	...	25,747,761	53.35
1892 ...	480,620	106,772	...	23,476,780	48.85
1893 ...	456,390	107,125	...	24,290,041	53.22
1894 ...	440,560	107,764	...	27,071,106	61.45
1895 ...	444,340	107,260	...	26,689,683	60.07
1896 ...	450,750	106,486	...	23,837,695	52.90
1897 ...	456,800	105,710	...	24,665,607	54.00
1898 ...	465,350	104,861	3,899	28,253,294	60.71
1899 ...	478,800	103,981	13,593	27,068,465	56.53
1900 ...	487,950	104,050	28,300	28,230,690	57.86
1901 ...	492,300	104,548	38,696	29,427,589	59.80
1902 ...	501,580	105,051	47,172	29,080,027	57.98
1903 ...	501,610	106,176	55,929	28,858,633	57.53
1904 ...	506,500	107,701	64,487	29,523,153	58.29*
1905 ...	515,000	109,393	71,689	32,400,286	62.91
1906 ...	524,500	111,494	79,597	33,479,900	63.83
1907 ...	536,000	114,049	87,853	35,212,222	65.69
1908 ...	548,000	116,781	94,067	31,559,830	57.59
1909 ...	560,000	119,550	99,955	33,047,340	59.01
1910 ...	571,100	123,227	105,993	33,272,490	58.26

NOTE.—The population given excludes that within the Greensborough Riding and portion of the Heidelberg Riding of the Shire of Heidelberg, which ridings although within the Board's area, are not supplied with water.

SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

While the Board took over from the State Government the branch which had the management of the Melbourne Water Supply, still the chief object of its creation was to carry out the long-called-for and pressing want of an efficient system of sewerage in the Metropolitan area. The plans and estimates of the cost of the Metropolitan sewerage scheme were originally prepared by the late Mr. James Mansergh, an expert civil engineer from England, and were furnished to the Board on its creation. The plan recommended by the designer and selected by the Board's Engineer-in-Chief was estimated to cost £5,030,000, but that plan was modified by the Engineer-in-Chief, with the concurrence and assistance of the Board, so as to reduce the estimated cost to £3,451,000. On that estimate detail plans were made and the work was carried out accordingly.

Sewerage system.

The original plan and estimate contemplated only the construction of the main sewers, but this was altered by Parliament, which added the duty of constructing branch sewers and of treating rights-of-way as streets and sewerage them likewise, an obligation which added considerably to the original estimate. Particulars of the system are as follows:—

The whole of the sewage of the metropolis is being gradually collected by means of two principal main sewers and a subsidiary main leading to the pumping station at Spotswood.

The two main sewers are—

A.—The North Yarra main sewer (North Yarra system) which commences with Heidelberg, and thence takes up East Kew, Preston, Coburg, Northcote, Brunswick, the Clifton Hill part of Collingwood, also Fitzroy, and the North Carlton, North Melbourne, and Flemington and Kensington parts of Melbourne, together with Essendon and Footscray.

B.—The Hobson's Bay main sewer (South Yarra system) which starts with Moorabbin (part of), picking up Brighton, Caulfield, Malvern, St. Kilda, Camberwell, and a small part of Nunawading, besides the remaining part of Kew, also Hawthorn, Prahran, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Richmond, and the remaining part of Collingwood, with East Melbourne, and other remaining parts of Melbourne.

The subsidiary main, which takes in Williamstown, joins the Hobson's Bay main before it enters the pumping station.

On 31st December, 1910, the sewerage system, including mains, branches, reticulation, and drains had been practically completed in the following districts—within the boundary of the sewerable area proclaimed by Act No. 2007 to date from 1st July, 1906—viz.:—Port Melbourne, South Melbourne, Melbourne (except very small portions in Flemington and Kensington), Richmond, Prahran, and Collingwood, and very nearly the whole of Fitzroy, St. Kilda, and Nunawading (part of). Reticulation extensions had also been laid from time to time in various portions of the above districts. A considerable portion of Brighton, Caulfield, Malvern, Camberwell, Kew, Hawthorn, Brunswick, Northcote, Essendon, Footscray, and Williamstown had likewise been dealt with, also a portion of Moorabbin (part of). During the past twelve months a great deal of progress has been made in the work at Moorabbin (part of), Brighton, Camberwell, Brunswick, Fitzroy, Northcote, Essendon, and Williamstown. Work is now proceeding rapidly in Moorabbin (part of), Brighton, Northcote, and Williamstown, also to a less extent in Brunswick and Fitzroy. A good start has also been made with the sewerage of Coburg and Preston, while besides the rest of these districts there still remains to be done the whole of the sewerage work in Heidelberg, together with a large portion in Williamstown, Footscray, Essendon, Northcote, Brunswick, Kew, Camberwell, Caulfield, Malvern, and Moorabbin (part of). There are also smaller portions to be completed in Brighton and Hawthorn, very small portions in Flemington and Kensington (Melbourne), Fitzroy, and St. Kilda, as well as the remaining portion in Nunawading, only a small part of which district is included in the Board's sewerage area. In all $1,125\frac{3}{4}$ miles of reticulation and $118\frac{1}{2}$ miles of mains and branch sewers have been completed. There are also $1,692\frac{1}{2}$ miles of house connexions drains laid ($1,684\frac{7}{8}$ miles of vitrified stoneware and $7\frac{5}{8}$ miles of cast-iron pipes) under the supervision of the Board, or a grand total of $2,936\frac{3}{4}$ miles of mains, branches, reticulation sewers, and house connexions drains connected with the Spotswood pumping station.

Tenements
connected
with the
sewerage
system.

The first tenement was connected in Port Melbourne in August, 1897. On 31st December, 1910, out of 115,442 tenements gazetted, 114,969 could be connected with the sewerage system, 109,228 had been connected, and 1,718 were in progress of connexion, leaving 5,741 tenements which had not been completely connected, of which 4,023 had not been started.

The following statement shows the progress of house connexions to the 31st December, 1910:—

PROGRESS OF HOUSE CONNEXIONS WITH THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Municipality.	No. of Tenements connected on 31st December, 1910, in Gazetted Areas.
Melbourne City	24,825
Fitzroy City	7,404
Collingwood City	7,702
Richmond City	9,249
Brunswick City	5,004
Northcote Town	1,731
Prahran City	10,433
South Melbourne City	10,212
Port Melbourne Town	2,798
St. Kilda City	5,096
Brighton Town	2,072
Essendon City	3,337
Hawthorn City	5,355
Kew Town*	1,343
Footscray City	4,371
Williamstown Town	1,381
Caulfield Town	1,988
Malvern City†	2,821
Camberwell Town	1,708
Preston Shire ... ..	...
Coburg Borough ... ..	...
Moorabbin Shire (part of)	160
Nunawading Shire ,,	4
Heidelberg Shire ... ..	...
Totals in Gazetted Areas	108,994
Totals outside Gazetted Areas	234
Grand Totals	109,228

* Kew was constituted a town on 8th December, 1910.

† Malvern was proclaimed a city on 30th May, 1911.

The whole system was so far advanced on 31st December, 1910, that on that date the sewage from 115,442 tenements could be collected. Of these 109,228 tenements were connected, together with 43 public conveniences, 69 public urinals, 123,949 water closets, 88,612 baths, 70,015 sinks, 60,429 sets of wash troughs, 29,144 lavatories, 12,379 stables, 7,549 urinals, 4,792 polluted areas and paved yards, 1,746 cellars, 937 slop hoppers, 259 latrines, and 242 dairies. The 4-inch and 6-inch house connexions branches in the rights-of-way join the 9-inch street reticulation pipes, which are gradually collected into 12-inch, 15-inch, and 18-inch stoneware pipes, and then again into brick and concrete branch sewers which join the sub-mains and mains.

PUMPING STATION, RISING MAINS AND OUTFALL SEWER.

When collected at Spotswood the two systems previously referred to (the North Yarra and the South Yarra) are dealt with in separate buildings, and are arranged to be worked either separately or unitedly. The sewage enters the pumping station through straining wells, one of which is established on each system. The wells are of 22 feet internal diameter, and each contains two straining cages, one of which is always in position. The solid matter caught in them is transferred to a drier in the building over the wells, where it is subject to steam pressure and consequently to a high temperature, which renders the material innocuous. The material from the drier is of no manurial value and is destroyed in a furnace. The sewage is raised by the pumps 125 feet through $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles of 6-foot and 4-foot wrought-iron rising mains to the head of the outfall sewer, from whence it gravitates to the Metropolitan Sewage Farm at Werribee in a partly-open and partly-closed channel $15\frac{2}{3}$ miles long, of 11 feet diameter, and having a grade of 2 feet to the mile. The full capacity of the outfall sewer is 18,000 cubic feet a minute.

METROPOLITAN FARM.

The farm contains 8,847 acres situated on the western side of the Werribee River. The price paid for the land was £17 10s. per acre, including compensation for severance of the Werribee Park Estate by the outfall sewer. About £297,000 has been spent on the property in perfecting the arrangements for the distribution of the sewage. About 26,607,927 gallons of sewage have been disposed of every twenty-four hours during last year in irrigating the fields. The sewage is spread over properly-prepared blocks of land by a series of main and lateral carriers. The main supply channels for carrying the sewage on to the fields are about 10 chains apart. Many of these drainage channels are 10 to 12 feet wide at the top and 7 feet deep. The water filters through the sub-soil, and ultimately finds its way into Port Phillip Bay. The prepared blocks on the farm are laid down with prairie grass and lucerne, on 3,274 acres of which, during the financial year ended 30th June, 1910, 32,128 sheep were fattened and sold, while on 750 acres cattle were grazed but not sold, and on 250 acres cattle and horses were also grazed for agistment. The transactions in sheep during the period mentioned resulted in a profit of £8,446, and the fees received for grazing amounted to £598. Of the whole farm area of 8,847 acres there remain 1,969 acres, comprising land prepared and in course of preparation, cottage blocks and township sites, plantations and reserves, private roads and channels, and 2,604 acres not used in connexion with sewage distribution, but let on lease to farmers at an average rental of 15s. 1½d. per acre.

The following is a statement of receipts and expenditure during the five years 1905-6 to 1909-10, exclusive of refunds, deposits, &c., included in the figures quoted in preceding paragraphs:—

Total
Receipts
and Expen-
diture.

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE: 1905-6 TO 1909-10.

	1905-6.	1906-7.	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.
<i>Ordinary Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Water Supply	184,821	213,500	228,160	239,870	246,320
Sewerage	231,028	263,449	265,607	264,122	284,212
Total	418,849	476,949	493,767	503,992	530,532
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Management	60,085	78,360	74,804	54,301	52,763
Maintenance— Water Supply	18,742	20,196	23,503	22,724	22,908
Sewerage	28,625	33,083	35,454	37,688	42,089
Interest on Loans	336,288	345,315	354,483	366,999	377,865
Total	443,740	476,954	488,244	481,712	495,625
<i>Loan Expenditure (exclud- ing redemption of loans).</i>					
Water Supply	14,249	23,535	36,391	64,843	30,712
Sewerage	331,453	258,058	237,812	205,042	269,706
Other	-3,425*	-3,665*	3,804	12,214	24,783
Total	342,277	277,930	278,007	282,099	325,201

* Loan expenditure exceeded by receipts by these amounts.

FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS.

Constitution
of Fire
Brigades
Boards.

Connected with the water service of the State generally, is the service of water required for fire extinction.

Under the *Fire Brigades Act 1890*, there are constituted a metropolitan fire district, controlled by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and nine country fire districts, controlled by the Country Fire Brigades Board. The supervisors are the chief officers of the respective boards, who are aided by deputies and other assistants.

The arrangements for fire extinction in the metropolis are closely allied to those for the Melbourne water supply, the service having been provided under the clauses of the *Fire Brigades Act 1890*, and its amendments.

The Metropolitan Fire District embraces the area included in the various municipalities within a radius of ten miles from the General Post Office. The area vested in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is included in this area, but the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board has jurisdiction over portions of the shires of Wyndham, Braybrook, Keilor, Broadmeadows, Heidelberg, Templestowe, Nunawading, Mulgrave, and Moorabbin within the 10-mile radius, not vested in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The Metropolitan Fire District has been extended, and now includes the greater portion of the shire of Moorabbin, and extends in a southerly direction as far as and includes the township of Mordialloc.

The Metropolitan Fire Board is controlled by three members appointed by the Governor in Council, three by the municipal councils, and three by the insurance companies.

Powers of
the Boards

For the purpose of extinguishing any fire, the chief officers of the fire brigades may in the areas under their respective control "cause water to be shut off from any main or pipe in order to obtain a greater pressure and supply of water for the purpose of extinguishing any fire, and no persons or body having the management of any water supply shall be liable to any penalty or claim by reason of any interruption of the supply of water occasioned by compliance with the provisions of this section."

Another section of the Fire Brigades Act provides that "each Board, its officers and servants, any local committee, its officers and servants, and any brigade registered under this Act shall have the use of all water mains, water plugs, valves, pipes, vested in or belonging to the Board of Land and Works, or any public or municipal corporation, or local body whatsoever, and of all water therein, or in any well or tank, free of charge, for the purpose of extinguishing any fire, or for the purpose of drills, competitions, and practice, conducted under the authority of either board or any local committee."

Local councils have the right, in the interests of fire prevention, with the approval of the Governor in Council, of making, altering, or repealing by-laws for the purpose of regulating the height of all buildings erected in their own municipality, or in any part of it, and also for providing means of escape from such buildings during a fire.

The general duties of the Fire Brigades Boards are defined to be those "of taking, superintending, and enforcing all necessary steps for the extinguishment of fires, and for the protection of life and property in case of fire, and the general control of all stations and of all fire brigades shall be vested in the Boards for the metropolis and country districts respectively. The Boards may purchase or lease property for fire brigade stations, and control the formation of permanent and volunteer fire brigades, and schools of instruction, the maintenance of fire alarms, and the establishment of communication, telephonic and other."

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works under the *Water Act* 1890 must, upon the request of any municipal council within its boundaries, fix proper fire plugs, in the main and other pipes belonging to the Board at convenient distances, and at such places as the Board may consider proper and convenient for the supply of water for extinguishing any fire which may break out within its limits. The cost of fixing fire plugs and notice boards, together with the cost of their maintenance, must be defrayed by the municipal council within whose limits the fire plug is fixed. The Board may also fix fire plugs for private owners, provided they pay the cost and maintenance.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is bound to keep all its pipes, to which fire plugs are affixed, charged with water, unless prevented by unusual drought or other unavoidable cause, or during necessary repairs, and shall allow all persons at all times to take and use such water for extinguishing fires. On 30th June, 1910, the Board had fixed to its 191 miles $9\frac{1}{2}$ chains of leading mains and 1,062 miles $79\frac{1}{4}$ chains of reticulation mains, 1,281 pillar hydrants, 134 Tregear patent hydrants, and 13,840 ball fire plugs, viz., 13,818 Bateman and Moore, of which 519 are with spring and 22 Fowler patent—a grand total of 15,255. Except in case of accident, repairs, or cleaning, these mains are kept constantly full of water under pressure.

Outfit of the
Metro-
politan
Fire
Brigade

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board on 31st December, 1910, had under its control the following:—Fifty stations, 208 members of permanent staff, 22 members of special service staff, 7 members of clerical staff, 6 men engaged in the workshops, 157 auxiliary firemen, 10 steam fire engines, 5 gasolene engines, 1 chemical engine and hose waggon combined, 2 petrol motor fire engines, 1 motor chemical engine and hose waggon combined, 1 motor salvage waggon and chemical engine combined, 1 motor combination appliance, 1 motor cycle, 1 Chief Officer's motor car, 2 manual engines, 40 horse hose reels, 44 hand hose reels, 8 extension ladders and fire escapes, 6 Pompier ladders, 10 exercise and supply carts, 1 salvage van, 1 brake, 77 horses, 107,630 feet of hose, 46 hand pumps, 3 smoke helmets, 2 smoke jackets, and 183 fire alarm circuits having 667 street fire alarms, of which 581 contained telephones and the remaining 86 were fire alarms only. There are also 210 auxiliary boxes and 5 automatic systems in public and other buildings, 133 direct telephone lines, 65 of which are acting as fire alarms to buildings, and 18 circuits to sprinkler installations, with 38 sprinkler call transmitting instruments. The total length of wire in use outside stations for fire alarms and telephones is 368 miles.

During 1910 the cost of maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade amounted to £60,412, one-third being contributed by each of the contributing bodies, viz., Government of Victoria, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District, and the insurance companies carrying on business in that district. The municipalities' contribution is equal to .83d. in the £1 over an area wherein the

property is valued at £5,374,884, and that of the insurance companies is equal to £5 7s. 6d. for every £100 of premiums on insured property. The premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1909 amounted to £347,679, and the total of the payments made by the companies in 1910 for the maintenance of the fire brigade system was £18,682.

The Country Fire Brigades Board consists of nine members. Three are appointed by the Governor in Council, two are elected by the municipal councils of the districts in which there are brigades registered under the Board, two are elected by the fire insurance companies carrying on business in such districts, and two by the registered fire brigades. The Board annually elects one of its members as president. The tenure of the Board members is two years. The Board's revenue in 1910 was £12,941, and this amount was contributed in equal portions by the Government, the municipal councils, and the insurance companies above mentioned. The expenditure for the year amounted to £12,457. There are 94 municipal councils and 55 insurance companies included in the operation of the Act. The premiums received by the insurance companies in country districts during the year 1909 amounted to £166,174, and the total of their contributions in 1910 for the up-keep of the brigades was £4,255. The total value of rateable property assessed within the Board's district in 1910 was £1,541,431. All brigades under the control of the Board are volunteer brigades, but in the large towns permanent stationkeepers and watchmen are employed. There are 108 registered brigades, and seven more are about to be registered. The number of registered firemen is 2,146, but in many brigades there is, in addition to the registered firemen, a number of "reserve members." The Chief Officer of the Board frequently inspects the brigades, and also pays them "surprise visits." He reports monthly to the Board as to the efficiency of the service, and upon the equipment necessary to be supplied. In 1910 the chief items of the plant consisted of 5 steam engines, 63 manual engines, 11 horse brakes, 61 apparatus carriages, 3 fire escapes, about 260 hose reels, and approximately 150,000 feet of canvas hose.

Country
Fire
Brigades
Board.

Receipts
and ex-
penditure.

Particulars of receipts and expenditure of both Boards during the five years ended 30th June, 1910, are as follows:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS:
RETURN FOR FIVE YEARS.

	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Ordinary Receipts.</i>					
Contributions — Govern- ment, Municipal, and Insurance ...	50,937	51,934	65,591	64,347	69,375
Receipts for Services ...	551	1,336	2,833	2,908	3,226
Interest and Sundries ...	3,080	3,116	2,562	1,649	2,141
Total ...	54,568	56,386	70,986	68,904	74,742
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries ...	25,961	27,411	30,062	35,325	37,453
Fire Expenses ...	3,041	3,201	3,080	3,107	3,216
Horses, Quarters, &c. ...	8,994	9,986	12,894	11,536	13,789
Plant—Purchase and Re- pairs ...	6,517	5,783	9,478	6,343	6,941
Interest ...	5,752	5,803	5,822	5,781	5,838
Sinking Fund ...	2,250	2,895	2,895	2,250	2,400
Miscellaneous ...	4,310	2,884	5,610	5,072	3,232
Total ...	56,825	57,963	69,811	69,514	72,869
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>					
Purchase of Land and Erection of Buildings, &c.	3,250	2,623	244	3,203	155