

## FINANCE.

State  
Finance.

Under the Constitution Act the revenues of the State are payable into Consolidated Revenue, but certain of these revenues have been hypothecated by various Acts of Parliament for specified purposes, and are payable into special accounts or funds kept at the State Treasury. Apart from the special funds (shown below) the financial transactions are concerned with one or other of three Funds, viz.:—(a) Consolidated Revenue Fund, (b) Trust Funds, and (c) Loan Funds. The Treasurer's Finance Statement of revenue and expenditure relates to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, but in the succeeding tables the public revenue of certain special funds or accounts is included. Payments from Consolidated Revenue are made either under the authority of an Annual Appropriation Act passed by the Legislature, or by a permanent appropriation under a Special Act. The special appropriations represent services such as interest on the public debt, contributions to the redemption funds, the salaries of the Governor, the Judges and some other officials, State pensions, endowments to municipalities, etc. The expenditure under special appropriations during the year 1923-24 amounted to £7,084,392.

Below is given a concise statement of the special funds (excluding Redemption and Sinking funds) kept at the Treasury:—

## SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY.

Fund,	Act No.	Remarks.
The Assurance Fund	2740, sec. 239	Established for the purpose of assuring and indemnifying the Government in granting a clear title on land brought under the Transfer of Land Act. A contribution of ¼d. in the £ is levied on all lands brought under the Act.
The Closer Settlements Fund	2629	Created for the purposes of civilian closer settlement. All moneys received under the Closer Settlement Acts, except proceeds of loans raised by the Government, are paid into this Fund. The receipts consist chiefly of amounts paid by settlers as instalments of principal and interest in respect of land and advances granted to them. Payments from the Fund are made for redemption of loans raised under the Closer Settlement Acts by the Government, interest on such loans, and administration expenses. Power is given also to apply the Fund to payments for the purchase of land, advances to settlers, and improvement of land.

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY  
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund	2916	Functions similarly to the Closer Settlements Fund except that it relates to settlement of discharged soldiers.
The Discharged Soldiers Concessions Fund	2988	Established to meet concessions granted under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts. The soldiers are allowed to occupy land for the first three years free of charge, and interest at the rate of 5 per cent. only is charged on the cost of the land and advances, the Government having raised loans for the purposes of the Acts at a higher rate. The cost of the concessions is made good to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund by proceeds of loans raised by the Government, and these loans are redeemed by payments from the Concessions Fund. The State Government contributes annually the sum of £75,000 to the Fund, and the Commonwealth Government, for a period of five years in each instance, pays annually to the Fund an amount equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on loan moneys made available by it to the State for Discharged Soldiers Settlement.
The Country Roads Board Fund	2635	<p>Established for the maintenance of main roads. This account is credited with all moneys paid to the Treasurer by any municipality in respect of permanent works and the maintenance of main roads; amounts received by the Board under the provisions of the Country Roads Act; annual Government subsidy of £50,000; all fees and fines, less the cost of collection, paid under the <i>Motor Car Act 1915</i>; fees, less the cost of collection, received by the Crown in respect of unused roads and water frontages under part 39 of the <i>Local Government Act 1915</i>, and all moneys which, as provided by Sections 481 and 485 of the said Act, are to be paid into the said Fund; and fees paid on the registration or renewal of registration of traction engines. The money to the credit of the Fund is applied as follows:—</p> <p>(a) 6 per cent. per annum on the amount due by the municipalities in respect of permanent works is applied in payment of interest on half the amount borrowed under the provisions of the Country Roads Act at the rate of <math>4\frac{1}{2}</math> per cent. per annum, the balance being paid into a Sinking Fund until half the amount borrowed is paid off.</p> <p>(b) The balance, after the payment of the said 6 per cent., is applied in payment of the cost of maintenance of main roads, and in payment of any liabilities incurred by the Board under the provisions of the Act.</p>

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY  
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
Developmental Railways Ac- count	2640	Established for the construction of developmental railways. The chief source of revenue is the proceeds of the sale of lands by auction, exclusive of Mallee lands, and interest paid by municipalities under the Developmental Roads Act 2944. The Fund is required to pay the interest on the Developmental Roads liability under Act No. 2944.
Licensing Fund	2683 and various amend- ments	Is controlled by the Licences Reduction Board. All the State licence fees in connexion with the sale and manufacture of liquor, together with Court fees, fines, and forfeitures under the Licensing Act, constitute the revenue. The expenditure consists of :— (a) The administration expenses of the Board ; (b) Allowances to and expenses of Licensing Inspectors, Licensing Prosecutions, and Clerks of Licensing Courts ; (c) Compensation for licences taken away or surrendered ; (d) Annual statutory payments to specified municipalities ; and (e) Annual transfer of £23,000 to the Police Superannuation Fund. The 1922 Act provides for an annual increment in the Fund of £20,000. Any surplus over and above this increment is transferred on 30th June to Consolidated Revenue.
Police Super- annuation Fund	2709	Established to pay superannuation allowances and gratuities, &c., to members of the Police Force who joined it prior to 25th November, 1902. The revenue consists of an annual subsidy of £2,000, an annual transfer of £23,000 from the Licensing Fund, a deduction of 2½ per cent. from the pay of members, and 50 per cent. of the fines inflicted in Courts of Petty Sessions ; should the foregoing prove insufficient, the deficiency is provided from Consolidated Revenue. In 1923-24 the amount so provided was £64,500.
Police Pensions Fund	3316	Established to provide pensions, &c., for all members of the Police Force not already entitled to them, i.e., those who joined it after 25th November, 1902. The revenue is derived from an annual payment of £50,000 from Consolidated Revenue, a deduction of 2½ per cent. from the pay of members, interest on surplus moneys invested, and such additional sum as may be paid into the Fund from Consolidated Revenue to ensure its solvency.

SPECIAL FUNDS (EXCLUDING SINKING FUNDS) KEPT AT THE TREASURY  
—continued.

Fund.	Act No.	Remarks.
The Port Phillip Pilot Sick and Superannuation Fund	2688	Established to provide pensions for pilots. It is maintained by deductions from pilots' earnings and the annual income derived from investment of the moneys belonging to the Fund. There is no contribution from the Government.
The State Accident Insurance Fund	2496	Receives and disburses all moneys (including expenses of administration) on account of the State Accident Insurance Office, which conducts Workers' Compensation Insurance. The General Reserve is invested in Victorian Stock.
Mallee Land Account	2676	The revenue of this Fund is derived from land sales, rents, &c., in the Mallee. The total revenue can only be used for redemption of Victorian Stock or Debentures. It is thus a Sinking Fund, and is referred to in this connexion on page 90.
The Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund	2716	This Fund was established as a reserve to meet the cost incurred by the Railways Department in connexion with:—(a) The injury or death of any person by reason of an accident due to the neglect or default of the Department; (b) Compensation to employees injured on duty; (c) Damage to property by fire; and (d) Damage to or loss of goods while in the possession of the Department for transportation. The Fund is regularly credited with an amount equal to ten shillings per centum of the railway Revenue, subject to the condition that the amount at the credit of the Fund shall not exceed £100,000.

Under the Local Government Act the municipalities have power to levy rates, and are assisted with grants by the State Government. Particulars regarding municipal finance are given in another section of the *Year-Book*. Allied to the municipalities are the Boards and Trusts which control water supply, irrigation, and sewerage, and have rating powers in connexion therewith. There are also the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the Country Fire Brigades

Board, which are concerned with fire extinction in the metropolis and urban districts, and derive their revenues from the State Government, the Municipalities, and Insurance Companies; and the Melbourne and Geelong Harbour Trusts, which are intrusted with the management of those respective ports, and derive their revenues mainly from wharfage rates.

A summary of the transactions for the financial year 1923-24 in the Consolidated Revenue Fund and in the special funds referred to above gives the following result :—

	£	£
Revenue deficit at 30th June, 1923 .. ..	..	1,181,884
Revenue .. ..	23,075,968	
Expenditure .. ..	23,050,968	
	<hr/>	
Surplus for the year .. ..	25,000*	
Reduction of deficit under Surplus Revenue Act 3294 .. ..	234,802	
	<hr/>	259,802
Revenue deficit at 30th June, 1924 .. ..	..	922,082

\* In effect the true surplus was £125,000, as an additional amount of £100,000 which had been appropriated to "Revenue Services" was afterwards applied to the reduction of the deficit.

The Revenue and Expenditure Account is a statement of cash transactions, the revenue representing actual receipts less refunds, and the expenditure actual payments made during the year. The accumulated revenue deficiency had its beginning in the year 1890-91, when it amounted to £206,843, and in the course of the next five years it was added to year by year, until it reached its greatest magnitude (£2,711,436) on 30th June, 1896. After that date it was steadily reduced year by year, with one or two exceptions, to £251,652 on 30th June, 1914; but during 1914-15, under conditions brought about by the war and a serious drought, it was increased to £1,429,603, and it was further increased in the following year to £1,642,091. During each of the last eight years the deficit has been reduced, and, on 30th June, 1924, it was £922,082. Under the provisions of Act No. 3341 passed on 21st May, 1924, the latter amount has been further reduced by £100,000, leaving a deficit of £822,082 on 31st December, 1924.

Under the system of accounts adopted in Victoria, the financial year usually ends with an apparent surplus, which, however, is devoted to further expenditure, the final result being an exact balance between revenue and expenditure. The accounts for 1923-24, according to the Treasurer's Finance Statement, show an apparent surplus of £232,216, of which £100,000 has since been appropriated to reduction of revenue deficit, £44,000 for the purchase of the Caulfield Hospital, £20,000 towards the erection of a new Sanatorium at Mont Park, £47,000 for improvements to hospitals for the insane, and £21,216 for other public works.

The differences between the amounts of revenue and expenditure shown above and those given in the Treasurer's Finance Statement arise from the use of a different method of classification for statistical purposes, the particulars of which for 1923-24 are as follows :—

	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.
	£	£
Total according to Treasurer's Finance Statement ..	22,674,930	22,442,714
<i>Add public revenue of the following funds—</i>		
Mallee Land Account—appropriated to Loan		
Redemption purposes .. ..	88,626	88,626
Country Roads Board Fund .. ..	243,523	243,523
Licensing Fund* .. ..	164,431	164,431
Police Superannuation Fund .. ..	11,372	11,372
Assurance Fund .. ..	2,086	2,086
Surplus Revenue appropriated to "Revenue Services" .. ..	..	232,216
<i>Deduct—</i>		
Appropriation to reduction of deficit .. ..	..	25,000
Loss on non-paying railways .. ..	109,000	109,000
Total .. ..	23,075,968	23,050,968

\* Excluding £178,373 transferred to Revenue under Section 39 of Act No. 3259.

Compiled on the above basis, the revenue and expenditure of the State for the last ten years are shown in the next statement :—

#### STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE : 1914-15 TO 1923-24.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£		£	£
1915 ..	10,529,017	11,706,968	1920 ..	15,866,184	15,752,459
1916 ..	11,470,875	11,683,363	1921 ..	19,054,475	18,941,698
1917 ..	11,813,879	11,795,295	1922 ..	20,357,733	20,297,279
1918 ..	12,672,787	12,631,169	1923 ..	21,634,677	21,611,309
1919 ..	13,044,088	12,979,407	1924 ..	23,075,968	23,050,968

The expenditure in this statement includes considerable sums appropriated to pay off liabilities of former years, and to form

sinking funds to meet outstanding loans. Such appropriations and the amount of revenue applied in reduction of the accumulated deficiency are detailed in the succeeding table.

REVENUE DEVOTED TO PAYING OFF OLD LIABILITIES,  
ETC., 1914-15 TO 1923-24.

Year ended 30th June—	ORDINARY REVENUE APPROPRIATED.			Total.
	In reduction of the accumulated revenue deficiency of former years.	In redemption of loans raised in anticipation of revenue.	Towards Redemption Funds to meet outstanding loans.	
	£	£	£	£
1915 ..	17,519	..	211,117	228,636
1916 ..	20,327	..	266,599	286,926
1917 ..	18,584	..	296,345	314,929
1918 ..	16,618	25,000	299,578	341,196
1919 ..	14,681	50,000	301,466	366,147
1920 ..	13,725	100,000	359,100	472,825
1921 ..	12,777	100,000	508,344	621,121
1922 ..	60,454	25,000	402,724	488,178
1923 ..	33,170	354,147*	421,166	808,483
1924 ..	25,000	100,000	484,825	609,825
Total (10 years)	232,855	754,147	3,551,264	4,538,266

\* Including £120,148 to recoup the Developmental Railways Account.

In addition to the above appropriations there were surpluses in the financial years 1917-18, 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21, and 1923-24, which were applied towards payment for public works or to other purposes of a public nature.

Heads of  
State Revenue.

Details of the sources of the revenue for the last five financial years are given in the following statement :—

### HEADS OF STATE REVENUE, 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Heads of Revenue.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
Federal Government	1,847,085	1,878,449	1,918,967	1,969,772	2,014,746
State Taxation—					
Income Tax ..	915,551	1,591,198	1,443,209	1,514,256	1,702,483
Stamp Duties ..	820,618	928,367	930,859	1,116,077	1,177,614
Probate and Suc- cession Duties ..	881,423	702,468	706,181	697,482	798,315
Land Tax ..	314,217	331,756	372,060	392,594	412,165
Licences ..	213,204	274,020	320,127	335,402	363,988
Other ..	14,754	19,024	18,738	21,235	21,593
Public Works and Services—					
Railways ..	8,081,947	9,848,061	10,751,173	11,289,956	11,922,195
Water Supply ..	384,280	406,666	415,540	447,459	443,384
Harbour Trusts, Wharfage, &c.	113,049	145,938	156,747	199,379	207,692
State Coal Mine ..	433,977	416,892	591,380	468,855	568,897
State Electricity Commission ..	..	..	58,111	253,288	255,195
Interest on proper- ties transferred to Commonwealth	82,664	103,789	86,013	80,378	80,844
Beet Sugar Works	55,321	68,670	52,624	74,678	92,231
Brown Coal Sales	95,618	85,581	55,543	57,081	61,921
Other ..	46,698	65,925	82,119	99,082	109,598
Land—					
Sales ..	202,517	333,083	200,346	176,476	195,916
Rents ..	175,116	205,648	232,876	243,887	251,302
Interest, &c. ..	187,731	194,922	173,218	148,890	184,226
Other Sources—					
Interest—Discharged So diers Settlement Acts ..	102,785	463,878	827,330	1,013,885	1,113,158
Fees, Fines, &c. ..	293,281	317,968	332,497	424,345	486,961
Tramways Act 2995 (Sec. 88) ..	56,783	84,355	98,107	93,010	92,998
Sale of Books and Documents (Govt. Printer) ..	72,380	82,697	90,084	82,504	83,531
Agriculture Depart- ment ..	181,753	100,715	72,505	78,017	73,282
Miscellaneous ..	293,432	404,405	371,379	356,689	361,733
Total ..	15,866,184	19,054,475	20,357,733	21,634,677	23,075,968
Per Head of Popula- tion ..	£ s. d. 10 11 1	£ s. d. 12 9 5	£ s. d. 13 2 6	£ s. d. 13 12 1	£ s. d. 14 3 11



The revenue for 1923-24 represents an increase of £1,441,291 on that for the previous year. The chief increases were under the following headings:—Railways, £632,239; State Taxation, £399,112; State Coal Mine, £100,042, and Interest—Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts, £99,273. The payments to the State by the Federal Government during the last fourteen years have been computed on the basis of a fixed payment of 25s.\* per head of population in the State, whereas in preceding years the Federal Government paid over to the State at least three-fourths of the net revenue from Customs and Excise duties.

### STATE EXPENDITURE.

The following table shows for the last five years the principal heads of expenditure from State Revenue:—

#### SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FROM STATE REVENUE: 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Heads of Expenditure.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>General Government.</i>					
Governor ..	6,915	8,777	10,064	10,029	9,694
Parliament and Ministry ..	74,402	103,494	106,147	96,047	110,028
Civil Establishment	349,029	372,560	393,683	396,149	450,254
Pensions and Gratuities† ..	443,726	489,636	503,065	534,009	580,181
<i>Law, Order, and Protection.</i>					
Judicial and Legal ..	194,149	226,608	227,303	233,169	253,285
Police ..	462,303	533,920	533,986	540,037	663,319
Penal Establishments and Gaols ..	61,947	75,981	74,161	80,363	101,122
<i>Education, &amp;c.</i>					
State Schools, &c. ..	1,324,595	1,659,663	1,755,834	1,755,395	1,819,852
Technical Schools ..	69,661	92,001	100,693	182,495	217,539
University ..	31,500	37,975	40,175	49,975	56,450
Libraries, &c. ..	27,672	33,500	34,108	36,261	38,367
Art and Science ..	8,976	9,305	9,630	7,437	7,370
<i>Recreation and Health.</i>					
Parks, Gardens, and Public Resorts ..	31,565	36,939	29,341	26,637	31,843
Public Health ..	190,844	80,848	97,599	93,995	93,878
Charitable Institutions, &c. ..	666,697	818,539	829,514	832,882	890,840

\* This is subject to a slight reduction on account of a special payment to Western Australia. The reduction in 1923-24 was about 2½d. per head of population. See *Year-Book* 1915-16, page 142.

† For details, see page 71.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FROM STATE REVENUE: 1919-20 TO  
1923-24—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
<i>Crown Lands, &amp;c.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Crown Lands ..	167,818	207,760	221,565	236,022	268,216
Agriculture and Stock	266,314	244,968	275,107	305,832	347,502
Mining .. ..	587,031	538,855	678,785	559,465	657,520
<i>Public Works.</i>					
Railways .. ..	6,042,136	7,857,380	8,117,070	8,275,909	8,818,314
Water Supply ..	154,534	165,145	185,656	215,110	219,105
Harbours, Rivers, and Lights .. ..	81,436	93,929	98,984	91,438	97,071
Roads and Bridges ..	3,930	6,068	16,948	5,371	6,900
Country Roads Board	158,288	170,638	191,424	229,343	293,523
State Electricity Commission .. ..	..	32,015	112,608	144,193	14,826
Municipal Endow- ment, &c.* .. ..	136,928	118,214	120,081	119,542	122,384
Works and Buildings, n.e.i. .. ..	61,610	56,675	65,476	85,588	103,350
Interest and Expenses of Public Debt ..	3,249,393	3,882,095	4,579,665	5,355,575	5,669,970
Interest on Advances from Savings Banks	8,212	7,975	6,737	1,385	..
Redemption Funds, &c. .. ..	359,100	508,344	402,724	421,166	484,825
Discharged Soldiers Concessions Fund	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
<i>Other Expenditure.</i>					
Mint Subsidy ..	29,778	40,000	33,500	30,000	25,000
Fire Brigades ..	37,164	45,615	48,909	48,215	53,433
Immigration ..	6,870	11,885	18,135	18,896	27,378
Licences Reduction Board, including Compensation ..	69,617	91,063	72,210	60,730	56,168
Railway passes to Blind and Incapaci- tated Soldiers ..	117,345	10,428	5,325	5,043	7,253
Surplus Revenue ap- propriated to "Re- venue Services" ..	103,716	56,936	..	363,949	232,216
Miscellaneous ..	92,258	140,964	226,067	88,657	146,992
Total .. ..	15,752,459	18,941,698	20,297,279	21,611,309	23,050,968
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per Head of Population	10 9 7	12 7 11	13 1 9	13 11 9	14 3 8

\* Including annual payment from Licensing Fund.

Compared with the previous year the ordinary expenditure of the State for 1923-24 showed an increase of £1,439,659. The heads of expenditure showing the largest increases were—Railways, £542,405;

Interest and Expenses of Public Debt, £312,478; Police, £123,282; Education, £108,015; and Mining, £98,055. The items showing the largest decreases were—Appropriation of Surplus Revenue, £131,733; and State Electricity Commission, £129,367.

In regard to the surpluses of various years which are included in the preceding table under the item "Surplus Revenue Expenditure. Revenue Appropriated to Revenue Services" it is interesting to note to what purposes the money so appropriated was applied in subsequent years. Up to 30th June, 1924, the total amount appropriated (exclusive of the 1923-24 surplus, i.e., £232,216) was £2,804,091, of which all but £3,730 had been expended. The following table shows the details of such expenditure for each of the last four years and the total up to 30th June, 1924:—

#### SURPLUS REVENUE EXPENDITURE.

Service.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	Total to 30th June, 1924.
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Services—					
Railways .. ..	..	..	..	..	250,696
Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	64,170
Revenue Services—					
Railways .. ..	37,098	..	..	..	497,729
Education—					
State schools .. ..	18,908	1,133	6,935	..	340,692
Other .. ..	14,689	45,629	12,914	4	136,812
Crown Lands (including reclamation, drainage, &c.) .. ..	14,874	26	..	..	149,480
Harbours, rivers, and lights .. ..	413	..	..	..	117,293
Roads and bridges .. ..	4,019	3,049	1,657	753	112,230
Railway salaries (arrears) .. ..	..	70,846	1,195	1,455	73,496
Public Health .. ..	2,479	1,151	132	6	34,627
Charitable Institutions .. ..	..	15,351	2,975	1,000	106,226
Redemption of Treasury Bonds and Unfunded Debt .. ..	100,000	25,000	..	234,802	503,802
Developmental Railways Account—Refund .. ..	..	..	..	129,148	129,148
Miscellaneous .. ..	41,619	2,176	17,307	2,064	283,960
Total .. ..	234,099	164,361	43,115	369,232	2,800,361

#### INCOME TAX.

##### State Income Tax.

An income tax was first imposed in Victoria in 1895, and, although originally fixed for a period of three years, it has, with certain amendments and alterations, been retained and continued from year to year until the present time. Incomes assessed

for tax in any year are those earned, derived, or received in Victoria in the preceding year, and are divided into two classes, viz. :— (1) those derived from personal exertion, and (2) those derived from property. The former consist of salaries, wages, stipends, fees, commissions, bonuses, pensions, superannuation or retiring allowances earned in or derived from Victoria, and all incomes arising or accruing from any profession, trade, or business carried on in Victoria; whilst the latter comprise incomes from all other sources. In computing the taxable income certain deductions are allowed from the assessable income, the principal of which are outgoings and losses incurred in the production of the income, life assurance premiums not exceeding £50, and calls or contributions actually paid into any mining company registered under the *Companies Act* 1915, or to any company in liquidation.

For each of the years 1918-19 to 1922-23 the minimum income subject to tax was £201, and the exemption allowed on incomes between £201 and £500 was £150. No exemption was allowed on incomes exceeding £500 or to companies. The rate of tax for individuals on the amount of taxable income from personal exertion up to but not exceeding £500 was 3d. in the £. Where the taxable income exceeded £500 the rates on incomes from personal exertion were 4d. for every £ of the taxable amount thereof up to £500, 5d. for every £ between £501 and £1,000, 6d. for every £ between £1,001 and £1,500, and 7d. for every £ over £1,500. The rates on incomes from property were respectively double the rates on incomes from personal exertion. In the case of life assurance companies the tax was 12d. in the £ on 30 per cent. of the premium income from ordinary business and on 15 per cent. of that from industrial business. In the case of mining companies the tax was 12d. in the £ on the total amount of dividends declared and debenture interest paid. In the case of other companies liable to tax the rate was 12d. in the £ on the profits.

Taxpayers whose incomes did not exceed £800 per annum were allowed the following deductions from their incomes for the years 1921-22 and 1922-23 :—(a) £30 in respect of each child under 16 years of age; (b) certain expenses during illness; (c) friendly society contributions; and (d) funeral and burial expenses not exceeding £20.

The amendments made by the *Income Tax Act* 1924, which are applicable to incomes for the year 1923-24, are shown on page 98.

For the purpose of simplifying the collection of income tax, the *Income Tax Amendment Act* 1923 was passed on 22nd December, 1923. This Act provides that the Victorian Income Tax Department shall be the collecting authority for the income tax payable in the State under Commonwealth law. In cases where income is received in two or more States, no alteration has been made—the tax being assessed and collected by the Central Office of the Commonwealth Income Tax Department.

In previous issues of this part the particulars relating to income tax assessments, &c., have been taken from the Income Tax Report, which only gives an analysis as at the 30th June of each year.

In the following table the figures have been amended, and they now represent complete details of the assessments on incomes for each of the five years specified :—

## INCOME TAX ASSESSMENTS.

	On Incomes of—				
	1918-19.	1919 20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.
Number of Assessments:					
Individuals ..	61,620	89,584	132,859	123,768	153,519
Companies ..	1,781	1,742	2,026	2,265	2,678
Total, Distinct Taxpayers ..	63,401	91,326	134,885	126,033	156,197
Taxable Incomes of previous year:					£
Individuals ..		Not available			46,227,420
Companies ..					16,122,969
Total ..	..	..	..	..	62,350,389
Tax payable:	£	£	£	£	£
Individuals ..	475,660	749,204	755,366	759,204	936,515
Companies ..	481,344	722,817	579,995	699,840	805,996
Total* ..	957,004	1,472,021	1,335,361	1,459,044	1,742,511
Per taxpayer:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Individuals ..	7 14 5	8 7 3	5 13 8	6 2 8	6 2 0
Companies ..	270 5 4	414 18 8	286 5 6	308 19 7	300 19 4
Average tax payable in the £ on taxable incomes by—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Individuals ..		Not available			4.86
Companies ..	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00

\* For actual collections received, see page 60.

The total net incomes of taxpayers in 1922-23, who were assessed to pay tax, amounted to £81,523,689, but, as 127,762 taxpayers were allowed the £150 exemption, the amount available for taxation was £62,359,389.

The total number of individuals and companies who paid tax on their incomes for 1922-23 is detailed, under specified grades of taxable income, in the following table :—

### TOTAL NUMBER OF TAXPAYERS (1922-23 INCOMES).

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
£						
Not exceeding 100	54,779	1,969	287	57,035	382	57,417
101- 200	45,733	2,600	734	49,067	206	49,273
201- 350	18,861	1,725	1,139	21,725	227	21,952
351- 500	5	..	5	10	155	165
501- 700	4,411	956	5,302	10,669	152	10,821
701-1,000	2,324	616	3,343	6,283	190	6,473
1,001-1,200	810	224	1,334	2,368	101	2,469
1,201-1,500	710	173	1,210	2,093	118	2,211
1,501-2,000	547	170	1,015	1,732	155	1,887
2,001-2,400	191	56	508	755	97	852
2,401-3,000	171	85	387	643	116	759
3,001-4,000	121	52	375	548	125	673
4,001-5,000	52	19	176	247	101	348
5,001-6,000	30	10	78	118	79	197
6,001-7,400	9	13	74	96	75	171
7,401 and over ..	29	13	88	130	399	529
Total ..	128,783	8,681	16,055	153,519	2,678	156,197

Of the individual taxpayers, 83·9 per cent. obtained their incomes wholly from personal exertion, 5·6 per cent. from property, and 10·5 per cent. from personal exertion and property combined. Sixty-nine per cent. of the individual taxpayers were in receipt of taxable incomes not exceeding £200, but the tax paid by them amounted to only 15 per cent. of the total for individuals.

In the succeeding statement particulars of the sources of taxable incomes for 1922-23 are arranged in order of groups of taxable incomes :—

### TAXABLE INCOMES (1922-23 INCOMES).

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Not exceeding 100	4,119,498	147,140	28,322	4,294,960	14,993	4,309,953
101 - 200	6,346,992	374,763	110,778	6,832,533	31,634	6,864,167
201 - 350	4,941,158	463,039	311,216	5,715,413	62,078	5,777,491
351 - 500	1,890	..	2,142	4,032	67,323	71,355
501 - 700	2,571,845	557,138	3,104,823	6,233,806	90,927	6,324,733
701 - 1,000	1,955,125	514,286	2,813,025	5,282,436	159,979	5,442,415
1,001 - 1,200	885,084	244,450	1,459,681	2,589,215	120,604	2,709,819
1,201 - 1,500	953,294	230,378	1,616,871	2,800,543	149,587	2,950,130
1,501 - 2,000	945,736	292,477	1,741,426	2,979,639	266,856	3,246,495
2,001 - 2,400	415,746	123,700	1,108,557	1,648,003	213,202	1,861,205
2,401 - 3,000	457,804	228,770	1,031,686	1,718,260	309,487	2,027,747
3,001 - 4,000	420,813	181,259	1,294,361	1,896,433	433,770	2,330,203
4,001 - 5,000	227,231	82,559	775,287	1,085,077	452,517	1,537,594
5,001 - 6,000	163,910	53,981	426,429	644,320	434,547	1,078,867
6,001 - 7,400	61,249	88,088	490,713	640,050	497,533	1,137,583
7,401 and over ..	331,695	274,706	1,256,299	1,862,700	12,817,932	14,680,632
Total ..	24,799,070	3,856,734	17,571,616	46,227,420	16,122,969	62,350,389

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The division showing the highest amount of taxable income of individuals is that from £101 to £200; it is followed closely by that from £501 to £700. Fifty per cent. of the taxable income of individuals was earned by persons in receipt of taxable incomes not exceeding £700. The great bulk of the taxable income of companies was earned by a few of the larger ones—399, which were in receipt of £7,401 and upwards, having had a taxable income representing 79 per cent. of the total for all companies.

The complete figures relating to the tax payable on the 1922-23 incomes are set out hereunder :—

### TAX PAYABLE ON 1922-23 INCOMES.

Taxable Incomes.	Individuals.				Companies.	Grand Total.
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal and Property.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Not exceeding 100	51,288	3,685	512	55,485	742	56,227
101 - 200	78,299	9,340	1,929	89,568	1,577	91,145
201 - 350	59,706	11,588	5,016	76,310	3,074	79,384
351 - 500	23	..	36	59	3,352	3,411
501 - 700	43,057	19,198	57,687	119,942	4,544	124,486
701 - 1,000	35,081	18,871	55,962	109,914	7,914	117,828
1,001 - 1,200	16,758	9,394	30,718	56,870	5,581	62,451
1,201 - 1,500	19,238	9,311	35,750	64,299	7,929	72,228
1,501 - 2,000	20,666	12,802	41,413	74,881	13,343	88,224
2,001 - 2,400	9,766	5,815	28,451	44,032	10,660	54,692
2,401 - 3,000	11,211	11,185	27,559	49,955	15,474	65,429
3,001 - 4,000	10,763	9,274	35,981	56,018	21,676	77,694
4,001 - 5,000	5,963	4,338	22,325	32,626	22,625	55,251
5,001 - 6,000	4,405	2,898	12,325	19,628	21,728	41,356
6,001 - 7,400	1,687	4,826	15,345	21,858	24,877	46,735
7,401 and over ..	9,288	15,540	40,242	65,070	640,900	705,970
Total ..	377,199	148,065	411,251	936,515	805,996	1,742,511

Companies with taxable incomes of £7,401 and over were assessed for an amount which represented 37 per cent. of the total tax payable ; for all companies the proportion was 46 per cent. The tax payable by persons in the group £501 to £1,000 was 25 per cent. of the total for individuals. Exclusive of the amount payable by companies, 40 per cent. of the tax payable was derived from personal exertion, 16 per cent. from property, and 44 per cent. from personal exertion and property combined.

In addition to the State Income Tax there is a Commonwealth Income Tax, which was first imposed on incomes earned in the financial year 1914-15. The tax collected by the Commonwealth Government, in the year 1923-24, amounted to £11,057,555, and it is estimated that the payments made on Victorian income would be about £2,986,000.

### LAND TAX.

#### State Land Tax.

The State Land Tax Act of 1915 provides for a tax on the unimproved value of land and for the assessment of land and other purposes. Unimproved value for the purposes of this Act means the sum which might be expected to be realized at the time of valuation if the land were offered for sale on such terms as a seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require, and assuming that the improvements (if any) had not been made. The nature of the



taxation is a duty upon land for every pound sterling of the unimproved value thereof, as assessed under the Act, at a rate declared for each year by Act of Parliament. Previously to 1923 the rate of tax was one halfpenny on every pound sterling of the unimproved value of all land having an unimproved value exceeding £250, but since the year mentioned an increased amount has been payable—a super-tax of 5 per cent. having been added to the old rate. No tax is chargeable when the total unimproved value of all lands owned does not exceed £250. Where the assessed unimproved value exceeds the amount of exemption (£250) the exemption diminishes at the rate of £1 for every £1 of such excess, so as to leave no exemption when the unimproved value amounts to, or exceeds £500.

The Assessment Roll on 31st December of each of the last five years showed the following particulars :—

			Taxpayers.			Net Tax Payable.
			No.			£
1920	..	..	94,463	..	..	317,174
1921	..	..	103,237	..	..	335,566
1922	..	..	108,269	..	..	353,870
1923	..	..	114,614	..	..	392,434
1924	..	..	120,107	..	..	415,693

**Common-wealth Land Tax.** In addition to the State Land Tax there is upon the lands in the State a Commonwealth Land Tax, which was assented to on 17th November, 1910. The following particulars of land tax assessment for Victoria for the financial year 1922-23 have been furnished by the Federal Commissioner of Land Tax. The estates assessed numbered 5,253, of which 4,789 belonged to resident and 464 to absentee taxpayers. The unimproved value of these estates, as ascertained by the Department, was £53,190,652, comprising town land and country land of the following respective values :—£20,950,526 and £32,240,126. The tax payable was £322,939. In addition there were 1851 Central Office taxpayers who owned land in more than one State. The Victorian land owned by these taxpayers was valued at £9,561,314 unimproved value, on which a tax of £164,664 was payable.

### RAILWAY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

**Victorian Railways, financial results.** A summary of the results of the working of the Victorian Railways during the last five years is given in the appended statement. The figures have been taken from the Railway Report and represent the actual business done each year, not the receipts and payments brought to account by the Treasury within the year. They include particulars of the St. Kilda-Brighton and Sandringham-Black Rock Electric Street Tramways.

## RAILWAY BALANCES : 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Item.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Revenue ..	8,287,063	9,851,909	10,857,853	11,413,782	12,025,987
Working Expenses ..	6,112,822	7,911,834	8,092,565	8,238,744	8,775,514
Pensions, Gratuities, &c. ..	152,932	182,036	194,581	203,470	206,366
Net Receipts ..	2,021,309	1,758,039	2,570,707	2,971,568	3,043,107
Interest on Cost of Construction ..	2,234,202	2,409,674	2,589,816	2,951,385	3,015,455
Surplus (+) or Deficit (-)	- 212,893	- 651,635	- 19,109	+ 20,183	+ 27,652*

\* Subject to deduction of an amount of £136,417 which has been written off. This represents a loss on non-paying lines in previous years. The net result is, therefore, a deficit of £108,765.

## RAILWAY ACCIDENT AND FIRE INSURANCE FUND.

The establishment of a permanent fund to be kept at the Treasury, and called the Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund, was effected by provision in the *Railways Act 1907* (now the *Railways Act 1915*). This provision requires the Railways Commissioners to pay into such fund the sum of 10s. for every £100 sterling of the revenue of the Victorian Railways until the fund amounts to £100,000, at which amount it is to be maintained. During the year ended 30th June, 1924, the receipts of the fund amounted to £39,141, whilst the payments made therefrom were £5,595 for compensation, damages, costs, &c., to persons other than employees injured; £11,469 as compensation on account of injuries to or deaths of employees; and £20,959 as compensation for goods or parcels lost, and for damages caused by fire, &c. The balance at the credit of the Fund on 30th June, 1924, was £96,859.

## PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

The bestowal of pensions or superannuation allowances was abolished on 24th December, 1881, in the case of persons, except Supreme Court Judges, police, and railway employees, entering the Public Service after that date. Pensions to railway employees were abolished on 1st November, 1883.

During the year 1923-24, the Government expended on pensions, gratuities, etc., the sum of £580,181. Of this amount, £441,699 was spent on ex-public servants who had contributed nothing towards their pensions. The remainder represents payments from State revenue to the Police Superannuation Fund and the Police Pensions Fund. The following table gives details of the expenditure for the year 1923-24:—

Cost of  
Pensions and  
Gratuities.

**GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON PENSIONS,  
GRATUITIES, ETC., 1923-24.**

Division of Service.	Special Appropriations.		Annual Votes.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£		£
Education Department	1,043	129,175	7	243	1,050	129,418
Railways .. ..	1,515	194,833	99	5,743	1,614	200,576
Defence .. ..	3	229	..	..	3	229
Lunacy .. ..	24	2,942	..	..	24	2,942
Under Constitution Act	1	1,500	..	..	1	1,500
Officers of Parliament	1	509	..	..	1	509
County Court Judges..	1	750	..	..	1	750
Under Civil Service Act						
160 .. ..	162	38,262	..	..	162	38,262
Under Public Service						
Act 773 .. ..	153	37,317	..	..	153	37,317
Commonwealth Service						
—Officers of trans-						
ferred Departments	314	29,434	..	..	314	29,434
Various allowances ..	..	..	18	762	18	762
<b>Total Pensions and</b>						
<b>Superannuation</b>						
<b>Allowances ..</b>	<b>3,217</b>	<b>434,951</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>6,748</b>	<b>3,341</b>	<b>441,699</b>
<b>Compensations and Gra-</b>						
<b>tuities .. ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12,222</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12,610</b>
<b>Police Superannuation</b>						
<b>Fund—</b>						
Subsidy .. ..	..	2,000	..	64,500	..	66,500
Transferred from						
Licensing Fund ..	..	..	..	23,000	..	23,000
Fines .. ..	..	..	..	11,372	..	11,372
<b>Police Pensions Fund</b>						
Subsidy	..	..	..	25,000	..	25,000
<b>Total amount ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>437,339</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>142,842</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>580,181</b>

This fund is maintained by an annual subsidy of £2 000 from the Consolidated Revenue; by a moiety of the fines inflicted by the Courts of Petty Sessions; by a deduction, not exceeding 2½ per cent., from the pay of the members of the Force entitled to pensions; by transfers from the Licensing Fund under the provisions of Act No. 2855; and, should the foregoing sources prove insufficient, by a further grant in aid from the Consolidated Revenue.

During the year 1923-24 the total receipts of the fund amounted to £104,424, consisting of £100,872 from Government revenue as shown in the preceding table, £3,434 from members of the force, and £68 balance brought forward. Payments out of the Fund amounted to £104,368

(518 pensions for £87,848, and 21 gratuities for £16,520), thus leaving a balance of £56 at 30th June, 1924.

Pensions are payable out of this fund only to those members of the Police Force who joined it prior to the 25th November, 1902.

This Act, which came into operation on 1st January, 1924, provides for pensions to those members of the Police Force who have joined it since 25th November, 1902, as well as to persons who may enter the Force in the future. Retirement is compulsory for senior constables and constables on attaining age 55; for sergeants, inspectors, and superintendents on attaining age 60, and for the Chief Commissioner on attaining age 65, except that in special cases any such person may be required to serve for a further period not exceeding five years. The ordinary pension payable on attainment of the retiring age varies from one-fourth of the annual pay at the date of retirement after 15 years' service to two-thirds of such annual pay after 30 or more years' service. Retirement on a medical certificate entitles a member of the Force to a pension for life after completion of 10 years' service, and to a gratuity after a service of less than 10 years. Except in the cases mentioned below, the amount of the pension which is payable on retirement on a medical certificate is, for like durations of service of not less than 15 years, the same as the amount of an ordinary pension payable on attainment of the retiring age. If a member of the Force is incapacitated for the performance of duty owing to an injury received in the execution of duty without his own default, he shall be entitled to a special pension for life which, except in a few instances, is larger than the ordinary pension and, in certain specified circumstances, is the full amount of salary. Provision is made for widows and children, the ordinary pension for a widow being approximately from £40 to £60 per annum, and the allowance for children under sixteen years of age, from £10 to £15 per annum.

A deduction of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum is made from the pay of every member of the Force. When a member leaves the Force of his own accord after having completed 25 years' service or by reason of his having reached the age for compulsory retirement (whichever first happens) and does not receive a pension or gratuity, there shall be paid to him the whole of the rateable deductions which have been made from his pay without any interest thereon.

All pensions, gratuities, and allowances to members or their dependants shall be paid out of a special fund to be kept at the Treasury and to be known as the Police Pensions Fund. Into this fund shall be paid (a) an annual amount of £50,000 from Consolidated Revenue, (b) the deduction of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. from the pay of members which is referred to above, (c) all interest on surplus moneys in the Fund invested as provided, and (d) all other moneys payable into the Fund under the Act or any future Act.

All surplus moneys are to be invested in Victorian Government stock or debentures in the name of the Treasurer, and shall carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

All surplus moneys are to be invested in Victorian Government stock or debentures in the name of the Treasurer, and shall carry interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The Government Statist shall make an actuarial valuation of the Fund at least once in three years, and shall certify each year what additional sum, if any, is required to be paid into the Fund from Consolidated Revenue in order to provide that the assets shall be sufficient to meet the liabilities. Any such additional sum shall be appropriated and paid into the Fund.

**Port Phillip Pilot Fund.** In the year 1923-24, 20 pensions amounting to £3,173 (including increases) were paid out of the Port Phillip Pilot Sick and Superannuation Fund, towards which, however, the Government does not contribute, it being maintained by deductions from pilots' earnings and the annual income derived from investment of the moneys belonging to the Fund.

**South Africa Contingent pensions.**

Pensions to members and relatives of members of the South African war contingents amounted to £701 in 1923-24.

### EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

**Expenditure on Education.** During the year 1923-24 the State expended on education generally the sum of £2,763,213, including £412,404 from Loan moneys. The former amount includes the interest payable on loan moneys expended on buildings and expenditure in connexion with pensions and gratuities. The expenditure in each of the last five years, as detailed in the report of the Minister of Public Instruction, was as follows:—

#### STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION: 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Expenditure on—	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education—					
Primary .. ..	995,171	1,232,440	1,283,499	1,324,144	1,355,876
Intermediate .. ..	11,286	20,175	27,610	46,679	48,570
Secondary (including Scho'arships)	88,967	107,498	110,397	119,624	125,337
Special Subjects ..	37,231	49,214	56,930	49,719	54,324
Training of Teachers ..	21,873	26,353	26,768	26,797	28,440
Administration .. ..	55,436	63,252	66,549	69,335	69,932
Buildings (State Schools) ..	131,265	176,099	322,411	349,562	431,372
Technical Schools (including Building Grants)	127,544	192,215	229,261	223,978	260,969
University (including Building Grants)	38,584	67,498	113,111	117,197	97,837
Interest payable on Loan Moneys expended on Buildings	55,071	64,404	82,369	97,582	106,800
Miscellaneous (including Pensions and Gratuities)	116,336	118,003	120,694	124,444	133,756
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,678,764</b>	<b>2,117,151</b>	<b>2,439,659</b>	<b>2,549,061</b>	<b>2,763,213*</b>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of population ...	1 2 4	1 7 9	1 11 6	1 12 1	1 14 0

\* In addition, £32,404 paid by students in fees during the calendar year 1923 was expended on technical education.

The foregoing statement deals with the expenditure by the State on education generally, and includes expenditure connected with the University and technical schools, but the statement which follows relates to that portion of the expenditure which has been incurred in connexion with the State schools of Victoria, primary and secondary, excluding the amounts expended on technical schools and scholarships, in each of the last five years :—

**EXPENDITURE IN CONNEXION WITH STATE SCHOOLS:  
1919-20 TO 1923-24.**

Items.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Education:</b>					
<b>Primary—</b>					
Day Schools, including Central					
Schools .. .. .	989,654	1,226,049	1,276,840	1,317,224	1,347,531
Night Schools .. .. .	64	44	38	5	..
Schools for Deaf Mutes and Blind					
and Feeble-minded Children	3,405	4,391	4,612	5,571	6,070
Grant to Collingwood Play-					
ground .. .. .	100	100	100	100	..
Subsidized Schools .. .. .	648	556	609	244	275
Free Kindergarten Union .. .. .	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
State Schools Horticultural					
Society .. .. .	300	300	300	..	..
	995,171	1,232,440	1,283,499	1,324,144	1,355,876
<b>Intermediate—</b>					
Higher Elementary Schools ..	10,926	19,791	27,134	32,950	35,149
Evening Continuation Classes..	360	385	476	410	492
Schools of Domestic Arts ..	*	*	*	13,319	12,929
<b>Secondary—</b>					
High Schools .. .. .	79,352	97,785	101,535	112,291	117,971
	90,638	117,961	129,145	158,970	166,541
<b>Special Subjects—</b>					
Domestic Arts .. .. .	18,464	24,789	28,025	15,909	17,153
Manual Training .. .. .	15,364	19,460	21,784	24,998	26,656
Physical Training .. .. .	714	1,125	1,302	1,212	1,273
Medical Inspection .. .. .	2,147	2,893	4,690	5,541	5,345
Dressmaking and Needlework..	252	379	404	388	430
School Gardening and Planta-					
tions .. .. .	290	568	725	891	2,189
Singing .. .. .	..	..	..	780	1,278
	37,231	49,214	56,930	49,719	54,324
<b>Training of Teachers—</b>					
Teachers' College .. .. .	12,753	16,023	16,155	17,212	18,473
Miscellaneous .. .. .	9,120	10,330	10,613	9,585	9,967
	21,873	26,353	26,768	26,797	28,440
<b>Administration .. .. .</b>	55,436	63,252	66,549	69,335	69,932
<b>Buildings—</b>					
Primary Schools .. .. .	98,163	126,112	275,205	296,858	423,494
(expenditure by					
School Committees)	9,770	11,112	11,201	13,199	16,697
Rents .. .. .	6,492	6,999	8,234	6,876	8,500
Higher Elementary Schools ..	3,278	18,656	12,950	10,342	20,404
High Schools .. .. .	13,562	13,220	14,881	22,287	12,277
	131,265	176,099	322,471	349,562	481,372
<b>Interest payable on Loan Moneys</b>					
expended on State School	54,987	62,597	75,292	84,958	95,808
Buildings .. .. .					
Pensions and Gratuities ..	116,284	117,950	120,644	123,504	132,979
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	1,502,885	1,845,866	2,081,298	2,187,079	2,385,272

\* Included under heading "Special subjects."

The following return summarizes the expenditure and revenue connected with the Victorian State Schools, and shows the cost per scholar in average attendance for each of the last ten years :—

**COST OF INSTRUCTION IN VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS :  
1914-15 TO 1923-24.**

Year.	Expenditure by the State.	Revenue of the Education Department.	Net Expenditure.	Number of Scholars— Average Attendance.	Cost per Scholar to the State.
	£	£	£	.	£ s. d.
1914-15 ..	1,426,408	28,612	1,397,796	166,407	8 8 0
1915-16 ..	1,329,272	26,403	1,302,869	167,989	7 15 1
1916-17 ..	1,229,456	28,477	1,200,979	167,588	7 3 4
1917-18 ..	1,211,343	30,577	1,180,769	167,653	7 0 10
1918-19 ..	1,265,750	21,666	1,244,084	171,640	7 5 0
1919-20 ..	1,502,885	23,917	1,478,968	168,314	8 15 9
1920-21 ..	1,845,866	26,520	1,819,346	167,627	10 17 1
1921-22 ..	2,081,298	25,439	2,055,859	177,487	11 11 8
1922-23 ..	2,187,079	25,450	2,161,629	183,045	11 16 2
1923-24 ..	2,385,272	24,979	2,360,293	179,848	13 2 6

This table includes the amount payable each year as interest on loan moneys expended on State School buildings.

**STATE UNDERTAKINGS.**

The net result of the undermentioned State undertakings during the financial year 1923-24, as disclosed in the Auditor-General's report, was a loss of £2,380. Details are as follows :—

Undertaking.	Loss.	Profit.
	£	£
State Coal Mine, Wonthaggi .. ..	..	3,947
Brown Coal Mine, Morwell .. ..	..	4,542
Victoria Dock Cool Stores .. ..	27,275	..
Maffra Sugar Factory .. ..	..	19,017
State Accident Insurance Office ..	..	10,094
Newport Timber Seasoning Works ..	..	64
State Saw Mill, Nayook .. ..	..	2,038
Lighterage, &c., Explosives .. ..	..	1,870
Wire Netting Factory, Pentridge ..	1,880	..
Experimental Farms (net) .. ..	11,173	..
High School Farms (net) .. ..	3,624	..
	43,952	41,572
Net Loss, 1923-24 .. ..	..	2,380
	43,952	43,952

**COMMONWEALTH FINANCE IN VICTORIA.****Commonwealth  
Finance.**

A statement of the Commonwealth revenue and expenditure in Victoria for the last five years is given below :—

**COMMONWEALTH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN THE  
STATE OF VICTORIA (ESTIMATED) : 1919-20 TO 1923-24.**

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
<b>REVENUE.</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Customs Duties ..	4,371,405	7,345,609	5,835,394	7,648,521	8,226,378
Excise Duties ..	1,963,915	2,525,847	2,644,585	2,700,312	2,764,938
Income Tax* ..	3,601,000	4,203,000	4,533,000	3,485,000	2,986,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,803,551	2,272,719	2,555,883	2,698,251	2,686,226
War-time Profits Tax*	474,000	495,000	280,000	72,000	18,000
Land Tax* ..	486,000	492,436	525,000	464,000	467,000
Succession Duties* ..	619,000	435,873	367,000	434,000	489,000
War Postage ..	215,000	56,000	..	..	..
Entertainments Tax	176,411	203,769	222,210	208,240	212,011
Miscellaneous ..	1,108,718	981,747	1,098,928	783,676	956,447
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>14,819,000</b>	<b>19,012,000</b>	<b>18,062,000</b>	<b>18,494,000</b>	<b>18,806,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>					
Trade and Customs..	282,860	272,500	216,000	388,000	259,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,538,872	1,901,864	2,427,143	2,434,584	3,079,909
Payment to the State Government ..	1,847,085	1,878,449	1,918,967	1,969,772	2,014,746
Other Expenditure (including Defence, War and Repat- riation Services, &c.)	10,981,183	13,852,187	13,183,890	12,846,644	14,138,345
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>14,650,000</b>	<b>17,905,000</b>	<b>17,746,000</b>	<b>17,639,000</b>	<b>19,492,000</b>

\* Estimated.



## COMMONWEALTH AND STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total Government revenue and expenditure within the State of Victoria is obtained by combining State and Commonwealth receipts and expenditure. This has been done in the following table, in which are given figures relating to the principal items:—

### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE COMBINED: 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
<b>REVENUE.</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs and Excise	6,335,320	9,871,456	8,479,979	10,348,833	10,991,316
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,803,551	2,272,719	2,555,883	2,698,251	2,686,226
State Railways ..	8,081,947	9,848,061	10,751,173	11,289,956	11,922,195
State Taxation ..	3,159,767	3,846,833	3,791,174	4,077,046	4,476,158
Other sources ..	9,457,514	10,348,957	10,922,557	9,744,819	9,791,327
<b>Total Revenue..</b>	<b>28,838,099</b>	<b>36,188,026</b>	<b>36,500,766</b>	<b>38,158,905</b>	<b>39,867,222</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>					
Trade and Customs	282,860	272,500	216,000	388,000	259,000
Post, Telegraph, &c.	1,538,872	1,901,864	2,427,143	2,434,584	3,079,909
State Railways ..	6,042,136	7,857,380	8,117,070	8,275,909	8,818,314
Public Instruction*..	1,425,756	1,789,639	1,896,702	1,987,865	2,093,841
Public Debt (Victoria)—					
Interest and Expenses ..	3,249,393	3,882,095	4,579,665	5,355,575	5,668,053
Redemption ..	359,100	508,344	402,724	421,166	484,825
Other Expenditure..	15,657,257	18,756,427	18,485,008	18,417,438	20,124,280
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>28,555,374</b>	<b>34,968,249</b>	<b>36,124,312</b>	<b>37,280,537</b>	<b>40,528,222</b>

\* Primary and Technical Schools, and University.

## COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

A statement of the ordinary revenue and expenditure and of the loan expenditure of the Federal Government in Victoria, also of the State Government and of municipal and local bodies, during the last five years, will be found in the next table. From the totals of revenue and

**Commonwealth, State, and Local Finance.**

expenditure the amounts received by one body from another have been deducted.

### COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: 1920 TO 1924.

	Financial Year ended in—				
	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
<i>Revenue.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Government—</b>					
Federal* ..	14,819,000	19,012,000	18,062,000	18,494,000	18,806,000
State ..	13,832,017	16,949,396	18,190,935	19,401,637	20,805,420
Municipal ..	3,081,726	3,460,727	3,890,390	4,362,983	4,847,899
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	438,193	548,008	652,839	745,088	785,799
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	835,360	820,175	903,606	1,067,599	1,007,407
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	1,469,669	1,626,078	1,841,170	1,930,798	1,889,513
Fire Brigades Boards ..	51,906	68,865	75,262	71,999	75,934
Other† ..	122,292	129,879	167,168	182,485	174,454
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>34,650,163</b>	<b>42,615,128</b>	<b>43,783,370</b>	<b>46,256,589</b>	<b>48,392,426</b>
<b>Ordinary Expenditure.</b>					
<b>Government—</b>					
Federal* ..	14,650,000	17,905,000	17,746,000	17,639,000	19,492,000
State ..	13,718,292	16,836,619	18,131,481	19,378,269	20,780,420
Municipal ..	2,960,882	3,466,396	3,804,947	4,089,749	5,093,809
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	404,889	506,624	565,157	638,626	697,946
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	805,135	820,400	933,606	973,166	1,016,650
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	1,533,835	1,629,740	1,835,550	1,929,728	2,023,840
Fire Brigades Boards ..	50,171	70,338	77,456	73,168	72,608
Other† ..	135,166	135,120	164,085	179,002	188,440
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>34,258,370</b>	<b>41,370,237</b>	<b>43,258,282</b>	<b>44,900,708</b>	<b>49,365,713</b>

\* Estimated.   † Ballarat Water Commission and Sewerage Authority; Bendigo Sewerage Authority; Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust; and First Mildura Irrigation Trust.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE :  
1920 TO 1924—*continued*.

	Financial Year ended in—				
	1920	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government—					
Federal* ..	10,570,000	5,812,000	1,740,000	1,665,000	2,220,000
State ..	7,601,266	11,095,158	11,814,990	8,764,306	8,407,526
Municipal ..	259,498	480,166	702,310	885,305	1,146,166
Other Local Authorities—					
Harbor Trusts ..	158,311	188,960	201,534	278,312	414,195
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	289,930	423,692	665,578	596,841	888,269
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board	..	..	100,000	..	400,000
Fire Brigades Boards ..	7,046	23,782	25,205	1,443	1,201
Other ..	27,358	59,466	67,543	134,516	126,223
Total ..	18,913,409	18,083,224	15,307,160	12,325,721	13,603,580
<i>Expenditure—Grand Total ..</i>	53,171,779	59,453,461	58,565,442	57,226,429	62,969,293
Per Head of Population—					
Revenue ..	£ s. d. 23 1 1	£ s. d. 27 17 10	£ s. d. 28 4 8	£ s. d. 29 1 9	£ s. d. 29 15 6
Ordinary Expenditure ..	22 15 9	27 1 6	27 17 11	28 4 8	30 7 5
Loan Expenditure	12 11 8	11 16 8	9 17 5	7 15 0	8 7 5

\* Estimated.

**PUBLIC DEBT.**

The following statement shows the result of loan transactions including Treasury Bonds in aid of revenue to 30th June, 1924, with the exception of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, which are not treated in the Treasury accounts as a loan raised by the State :—

**LOANS RAISED AND REDEEMED TO 30th JUNE, 1924.**

	£
Cash received .. .. .	250,257,058
Discount and expenses after deducting premiums .. .. .	2,957,090
Securities issued .. .. .	253,214,148
Add temporary advance pending loan flotation .. .. .	3,162,000
	<hr/> 256,376,148
Loans redeemed by—	£
Redemption loans .. .. .	117,183,070
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board's repayments .. .. .	2,389,934
Revenue (Special appropriations and Surplus Revenue) .. .. .	4,279,200
Redemption Funds .. .. .	6,103,176
Closer Settlement Fund .. .. .	1,277,355
Coal Mines Sinking Fund .. .. .	7,050
Discharged Soldiers Concessions Fund .. .. .	790,600
Discharged Soldiers Settlement Fund .. .. .	174,101
Discount (securities purchased under par) .. .. .	64,336
	<hr/> 132,268,822
Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924 .. .. .	124,107,326*

It will be seen that, upon the transactions to date (excluding the temporary advance referred to above), securities representing £253,214,148 have been issued, and that the amount of cash received has been £250,257,058. This means that the State has received £98 16s. 8d. in cash for every £100 bond given.

Excluding London debentures for £388,100 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway and since paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been raised in London at varying rates of interest is £108,943,682. The amount which has been paid off by means of new loans is £56,112,070, and by means of appropriations from revenue, &c., £3,584,998; a sum of £695,300 has been transferred to the Melbourne register, leaving a balance due in London on 30th June, 1924, of £48,551,314, consisting of debentures amounting to £3,045,275, and inscribed stock, £45,506,039. The following table gives particulars respecting the various loans which have been raised in London, together with the average prices obtained after deducting flotation expenses as well as accrued interest, and the rates of interest to which such prices are equivalent :—

\* There are, in addition to this amount, the overdue debentures for £1,000, which are referred to further on.

## LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON.

When Raised.	Debtures or Stock.			Average Price Obtained per £100 Debenture Stock or Bond.			Actual Rate of Interest per cent.
	Currency.		Amount Sold.	Rate of Interest.	Ex Accrued Interest.	Ex Interest and Expenses. (Net Proceeds.)	
	When Due.	No. of Years.					
			£	Per cent.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
			Debentures.				
1855	1857-72	2-17	500,900	6	..	..	..
1856	1872-74	16-18	65,200	5	..	..	..
1859	1883	24	1,000,000	6	105 1 11½	103 18 11½	5 14 0
"	"	"	750,000	6	107 17 7½	106 14 7½	5 9 10
1860	"	23	2,650,000	6	104 17 10½	103 14 10½	5 14 1
1861	1885	24	1,000,000	6	103 1 6½	101 18 6½	5 17 0
1862	"	23	1,600,000	6	102 19 7	101 16 7	5 17 2
1866	1891	25	850,000	6	100 8 11½	99 5 11½	6 1 1
1869	1894	"	588,600	5	98 4 2½	97 1 2½	5 4 3
1870	"	24	1,518,400	5	100 17 6½	99 14 6½	5 0 5
1874	1899	25	1,500,000	4	90 2 7	88 19 7	4 15 5
1876	1901	"	3,000,000	4	94 16 10½	93 18 11½	4 8 1
1878	1904	26	457,000	4	..	..	..
1879	"	25	3,000,000	4½	97 17 5½	96 19 2½	4 14 0
1880	"	24	2,000,000	4½	103 3 8½	102 5 11	4 6 11
1915	1920-25	5-10	781,700	4½	100 0 0	98 2 9	4 18 6
1916	1920-22	4-6	550,000	5½	97 9 4½	97 9 4½	5 15 1
1916	1920-22	4 6	100,000	5½	97 9 4½	97 9 4½	5 15 1
1917	1927	11	1,109,481	5½	95 18 7½	95 18 7½	5 14 8
1917	1927	10	191,519	5½	95 17 8½	95 17 8½	5 14 9
1919	1924-34	5-15	149,600	5½	100 0 0	98 5 0	5 13 6
1924	1945	21	807,075	5	100 0 0	96 0 6	5 6 4
			Stock.				
1883	1907	24	4,000,000	4	98 16 8½	97 13 7½	4 3 0
"	1908	"	2,000,000	4	97 14 1½	96 10 11½	4 4 6
1884	1913	29	1,957,500	4	98 5 7	97 2 8½	4 3 3
"	1918-22	34	2,042,500	4			
1885	1919	34	3,180,620	4	98 18 6½	97 15 9½	4 2 5
			819,380	4			
1886	1920	"	1,500,000	4	105 12 3½	104 9 0	3 15 5
1887	"	33	3,000,000	4	102 5 6½	101 2 9	3 18 9
1888	"	32	1,500,000	4	108 1 1½	106 18 0½	3 12 9
1889	1923	34	3,000,000	3½	102 14 10	101 11 11½	3 8 5
1890	"	33	4,000,000	3½	100 2 4	98 19 6	3 11 1
1891	1921-26	30-35	3,000,000	3½	96 3 7	95 0 10	3 15 6
1892	"	29-31	2,000,000	3½	91 13 7	90 10 8	4 1 5
1893	1911-26	17-32	2,107,000	4	94 7 5	93 4 8	4 11 7
1899	1929-49	30-50	1,600,000	3	94 7 1	93 4 2	3 7 3
1901	"	28-48	3,000,000	3	92 2 1	89 14 5	3 11 10
1902	"	27-47	1,000,000	3	95 16 6½	93 8 3½	3 7 6
1903	"	26-46	3,148,176	3½	91 14 9½	89 8 0	4 3 8
1906	"	23-43	587,808	3½	..	..	..
1907	"	22-42	702,140	3½	100 0 0	98 19 1	3 11 5
1909	"	20-40	1,500,000	3½	97 3 11½	94 15 8½	3 17 7
1910	"	19-39	538,352	3½	99 2 6	97 10 0	3 13 8
1913	1918-22	5-9	3,000,000	4	98 0 0	96 4 7	4 17 4
"	1940-60	27-47	1,000,000	4	97 15 0	95 7 5	4 5 10
1915	1920-25	5-10	2,000,000	4	96 18 9	94 9 10	4 7 0
1919	1924-34	5-15	1,465,300	4½	100 0 0	98 4 3½	4 18 2
1920	1923-25	3-5	2,850,400	5½	100 0 0	98 10 0	5 13 0
1922	1930-40	8-18	2,302,363	6½	100 0 0	99 12 2	6 7 4
"	1935-45	13-23	4,000,000	5½	99 0 0	97 1 0	5 15 4
"	1935-45	13-23	1,049,868	5	100 0 0	100 0 0	5 0 0
1923	1932-42	9-19	5,000,000	5	99 10 0	97 13 4	5 3 11
"	"	"	9,000,000	5	99 0 0	97 10 9	5 4 1
1924	"	"	3,162,000*	..	..	..	..
			Treasury-bonds				
1892	1893	1	1,000,000	4½	99 3 11	99 1 5	5 0 0
1898	1900	2	500,000	3½	100 0 0	100 0 0	3 15 0
1903	1906	3	2,254,800	4	99 10 8½	96 18 10	5 2 7
Total	..	..	108,943,62				
Paidoff	..	..	59,697,068				
Transferred to Melbourne register	..	..	695,300				
Outstanding	..	..	48,551,214				

\*Amount temporarily advanced, under authority of Act No. 3,200, by the Westminster Bank, London, pending the flotation of a loan.

The figures in the last column represent the rates of interest payable by the State for the actual amount of money which was obtained after deduction of all expenses that had been incurred in connexion with the flotation, allowance being made for redemption at par on maturity.

Excluding Victorian debentures for £63,000 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway, of which £62,000 have since been paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been floated in Melbourne is £147,432,466. Of this amount £61,071,000 has been redeemed by loans, and £11,500,754 by revenue, &c., leaving due a balance of £74,860,712 on 30th June, 1924, consisting of debentures, £41,277,128, inscribed stock, £32,680,238, and Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, £903,286. In addition, outstanding inscribed stock for £695,300 has been transferred from the London to the Melbourne Register, so that of the debt outstanding the total amount payable in Melbourne is £75,556,012.

The amount of the loans raised in London and Melbourne to 30th June, 1924, inclusive of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, was £256,827,248, and of this sum a total of £132,718,922 had been repaid at that date, viz., £15,085,752 out of the general revenue, and £117,633,170 out of the proceeds of redemption loans. The balance outstanding on 30th June, 1924, was £124,108,326. The purposes for which this amount was borrowed and the annual interest payable thereon are as follows:—

#### PURPOSES FOR WHICH OUTSTANDING LOANS WERE RAISED.

Loans Raised for—	Amount of Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924.	Annual Interest Payable.
REVENUE-YIELDING WORKS.	£	£
Railways .. .. .	66,243,209	3,004,268
Discharged Soldiers Settlement .. .. .	20,285,902	1,149,210
Closer Settlement .. .. .	5,216,390	217,421
Waterworks—Country .. .. .	13,897,462	630,725
Country Roads .. .. .	4,699,145	235,949
Electricity Supply .. .. .	6,376,232	331,131
Harbours .. .. .	533,429	22,742
Agriculture and Advances to Farmers, &c. .. .. .	409,443	20,229
Mining Development .. .. .	294,936	10,921
Graving Dock .. .. .	225,277	8,990
Cool Stores, Outer Ports, &c. .. .. .	902,845	44,695
Total Revenue-yielding Works .. .. .	119,084,270	5,676,281

PURPOSES FOR WHICH OUTSTANDING LOANS WERE RAISED—*continued.*

Loans Raised for—	Amount of Loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924.	Annual Interest Payable.
<b>OTHER WORKS.</b>		
	£	£
State Schools, Technical Schools, and University	2,508,746	106,800
Public Offices, Law Courts, and Parliament Houses .. .. .	230,019	8,778
Wire Netting .. .. .	243,191	11,702
Loans to Municipalities .. .. .	376,586	18,454
Defence Works .. .. .	112,510	3,875
Other Public Works and Buildings .. .	305,341	10,889
Miscellaneous .. .. .	344,377	15,939
<b>Total Other Works .. .. .</b>	<b>4,120,770</b>	<b>176,437</b>
<b>In aid of Revenue .. .. .</b>	<b>903,286</b>	<b>45,914</b>
<b>Net Borrowings .. .. .</b>	<b>124,108,326</b>	<b>5,898,632</b>

Of the proceeds of the loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924, sums not yet expended amounted in the aggregate to £1,192,375, of which £649,123 was for railways, £316,801 for electricity supply, £164,714 for country water supply, and £61,737 for various other services. Of the amount of the loans which were raised for public works and are still outstanding, 97 per cent. was obtained for works of a revenue-yielding nature.

During the last ten years there has been a very large increase in the Public Debt, the actual increase having been £57,977,600, or 88 per cent. Below is given a statement showing the chief works and services for which the additional liabilities were incurred :—

## PUBLIC DEBT—INCREASE IN TEN YEARS.

Work or Service for which raised.	Loans outstanding at 30th June—		Increase.
	1914.	1924.	
	£	£	£
Railways .. .. .	48,121,468	66,243,209	18,121,741
Waterworks—Country .. .. .	7,811,497	13,897,462	6,085,965
Metropolitan .. .. .	1,559,786	..	*1,559,786
Discharged Soldiers Settlement .. .. .	..	20,285,902	20,285,902
Closer Settlement .. .. .	4,597,195	5,216,390	619,195
Electricity Supply .. .. .	..	6,376,232	6,376,232
Country Roads .. .. .	26,818	4,699,145	4,672,327
Harbours .. .. .	340,000	533,429	193,429
Loans and Grants to Municipalities .. .. .	138,061	376,586	238,525
Agriculture and Advances to Farmers, &c. .. .. .	90,564	393,443	302,879
Cool Stores, Outer Ports, &c. .. .. .	220,913	902,845	681,932
State Schools, Technical Schools, and University .. .. .	1,219,903	2,508,746	1,288,843
Public Offices, Law Courts, and Parliament Houses .. .. .	573,560	230,019	*343,541
All other Works and Services .. .. .	1,430,961	1,541,632	110,671
In Aid of Revenue .. .. .	..	903,286	903,286
Total .. .. .	66,130,726	124,108,326	57,977,600

\* Decrease.

The total amount of loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924, inclusive of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, was £124,108,326, as mentioned above. Of this sum £44,323,403 was in the form of debentures ; £46,201,339 of inscribed stock (London Register) ; £32,680,298 of inscribed stock (Melbourne Register) ; and £903,286 of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue. Particulars concerning the due dates of loans outstanding on 30th June, 1924, are given in the following table. Where the Government has the option of redemption during a specified period the loans have been classified according to the latest date of maturity :—

**Due Dates  
of Loans.**



## DUE DATES OF VICTORIAN LOANS ON 30TH JUNE, 1924.

Due Date (Financial Year.)	Payable in London.	Payable in Melbourne.	Total.
	£	£	£
Overdue .. .. .	..	5,580	5,580
1924-25 .. .. .	2,249,900	12,896,273	15,146,173
1925-26 .. .. .	4,905,150	4,310,970	9,216,120
1926-27 .. .. .	1,304,000	1,718,007	3,022,007
1927-28 .. .. .	..	7,212,198	7,212,198
1928-29 .. .. .	..	11,240,143	11,240,143
1929-30 .. .. .	..	8,098,544	8,098,544
1930-31 .. .. .	..	3,049,888	3,049,888
1931-32 .. .. .	..	1,104,950	1,104,950
1932-33 .. .. .	..	1,169,766	1,169,766
1933-34 .. .. .	..	4,106,709	4,106,709
1934-35 .. .. .	2,990,449	9,551	3,000,000
1935-36 .. .. .	..	300,000	300,000
1937-38 .. .. .	..	40,000	40,000
1939-40 .. .. .	..	312	312
1940-41 .. .. .	3,909,200	625,580	4,534,780
1941-42 .. .. .	..	423,600	423,600
1942-43 .. .. .	13,883,300	220,300	14,103,600
1944-45 .. .. .	1,807,075	400	807,475
1945-46 .. .. .	1,049,868	15,400	1,065,268
1946-47 .. .. .	..	202,000	202,000
1948-49 .. .. .	5,202,561	264,853	5,467,414
1949-50 .. .. .	6,125,695	106,262	6,231,957
1953-54 .. .. .	..	123,874	123,874
1959-60 .. .. .	2,962,116	17,584	2,979,700
Government Option* .. .. .	..	5,825,193	5,825,193
Not yet fixed† { (a) .. .. .	..	11,794,075	11,794,075
(b) .. .. .	..	92,000	92,000
(c) .. .. .	..	583,000	583,000
Temporary advance from Westminster Bank, London, pending flotation .. .. .	3,162,000	..	3,162,000
Total .. .. .	48,551,314	75,557,012	124,108,326

\* At option of Government on giving twelve months' notice.

† Amounts received from Commonwealth for purposes of—(a) Discharged Soldiers Settlement; and (b) Loans to Municipalities; and (c) on account of a loan to be floated.

Loans and  
Interest  
payable in  
London and  
Melbourne.

An examination of the next table reveals interesting information in regard to the practice adopted when raising money in recent years. During the last 24 years the amount of loans due in Melbourne has grown from £4,669,306 to £75,557,012, while the amount due in London has shown no material variation. With few exceptions, the new loans raised have been obtained locally, while further large amounts have been borrowed in the State for the redemption of London loans as they matured.

**PUBLIC DEBT AND INTEREST PAYABLE THEREON IN  
LONDON AND MELBOURNE: 1900 TO 1924.**

On 30th June—	Amount of Loans Payable in—		Annual Interest Payable in—	
	London.	Melbourne.	London.	Melbourne.
	£	£	£	£
1900 ..	44,655,579	4,669,306	1,735,307	152,046
1910 ..	39,012,436	16,564,289	1,419,579	560,520
1915 ..	41,333,738	31,750,189	1,520,762	1,131,811
1916 ..	42,160,566	34,614,466	1,562,884	1,270,886
1917 ..	42,907,086	35,218,309	1,604,171	1,327,518
1918 ..	43,437,719	36,157,927	1,633,681	1,407,419
1919 ..	43,400,300	38,631,629	1,632,372	1,547,192
1920 ..	42,406,040	45,241,699	1,637,615	1,902,108
1921 ..	38,709,050	58,608,781	1,527,541	2,780,300
1922 ..	42,708,244	66,390,955	1,761,734	3,324,535
1923 ..	45,685,997	72,876,032	1,933,000	3,641,693
1924 ..	48,551,314	75,557,012	2,158,199	3,740,433

Rates of  
Interest on  
Public Debt.

The appended table shows the rates of interest which were payable on the public debt at 30th June, 1924, and the portions of the debt at each rate in London and Melbourne respectively :—

RATES OF INTEREST ON PUBLIC DEBT AT 30TH  
JUNE, 1924.

Rate of Interest.	Amount Payable in—		
	London.	Melbourne.	Total.
%	£	£	£
Not bearing interest .. ..	..	5,580	5,580
7½ .. ..	..	586,414	586,414
6/15/2 .. ..	..	631,248	631,248
6/7/0 .. ..	..	5,523,543	5,523,543
6¼ .. ..	..	98,686	98,686
6 .. ..	..	1,279,294	1,279,294
5¾ .. ..	..	3,237,943	3,237,943
5½ .. ..	8,203,649	10,462,361	18,666,010
5/6/11 .. ..	..	3,563,724	3,563,724
5/5/3 .. ..	..	1,581,146	1,581,146
5¼ .. ..	..	6,847,830	6,847,830
5 .. ..	15,740,243	20,261,237	36,001,480
4¾ .. ..	..	350,000	350,000
4½ .. ..	..	335,980	335,980
4/14/5 .. ..	..	3,900,000	3,900,000
4¼ .. ..	2,249,900	934,298	3,184,198
4½ .. ..	..	733,660	733,660
4 .. ..	2,962,116	2,888,959	5,851,075
3¾ .. ..	..	220,000	220,000
3½ .. ..	11,030,845	7,212,594	18,243,439
3 .. ..	5,202,561	4,902,515	10,105,076
Not fixed .. ..	3,162,000	..	3,162,000
Total .. ..	48,551,314	75,557,012	124,108,326
Average Rate of Interest	% 4·45	% 4·95	% 4·75

While the public debt has increased from year to year a very noticeable feature is the rapid increase which has occurred during the last few years. As compared with 1890 the debt per head of population at 30th June, 1924, had increased by about 100 per cent.; the interest payable per head had increased by 144 per cent. in the same period. In the following statement is shown the growth of the public debt and of the interest payable thereon since the date of the establishment of responsible government in 1855 :—

**GROWTH OF PUBLIC DEBT AND INTEREST:**  
1855 TO 1924.

End of Financial Year in—	Loans Outstanding.			Amount per Head of Population.	
	Amount.	Annual Interest Payable.		Debt.	Annual Interest Payable.
		Total.	Average Rate per cent.		
	£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1855 ..	480,000	28,800	6·00	1 6 4	0 1 7
1860 ..	5,118,100	306,405	5·99	9 10 4	0 11 5
1870 ..	11,924,800	688,740	5·78	16 8 3	0 19 0
1880 ..	20,056,600	1,004,436	5·01	23 11 9	1 3 7
1890 ..	41,377,693	1,649,465	3·99	36 19 11	1 9 6
1900 ..	49,324,885	1,887,353	3·83	41 6 8	1 11 8
1910 ..	55,576,721	1,980,099	3·56	43 6 8	1 10 10
1920 ..	87,647,739	3,539,723	4·04	57 19 1	2 6 10
1921 ..	97,317,831	4,307,841	4·43	63 5 11	2 16 0
1922 ..	109,099,199	5,086,269	4·66	69 9 3	3 4 10
1923 ..	118,562,029	5,575,067	4·70	73 15 0	3 9 4
1924 ..	124,108,326	5,898,632	4·75	75 13 9	3 11 11

In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, certain sums are disbursed annually for various purposes from Loan Funds. The figures in the following table include all such expenditure, whether the loans have been repaid or are still in existence. The table shows the details for each of the last four years and the total to date :—

## EXPENDITURE FROM LOAN FUNDS.

Purpose.	Expenditure during the Year—				Total to 30th June, 1924.
	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Railways .. ..	1,413,434	3,886,534	1,674,643	1,395,282	64,766,368
Water Supply—					
Country .. ..	810,437	968,047	1,210,485	1,415,109	14,517,457
Metropolitan .. ..	..	..	..	..	3,142,577
Closer Settlement .. ..	1,188	18	461,533	855,919	6,462,639
Discharged Soldiers					
Land Settlement .. ..	6,935,064	4,287,114	1,959,231	1,577,411	21,246,788
Country Roads .. ..	1,042,009	960,821	573,972	566,596	5,290,845
Electricity Supply .. ..	158,773	1,337,818	2,471,457	2,090,091	6,059,315
State Schools, Uni- versity, &c. .. ..	94,899	281,037	329,882	359,511	2,741,688
State Coal Mine .. ..	Cr. 7	Cr. 185	..	..	239,432
Seed and Fodder					
Advances to Farmers	40,676	..	..	..	604,615
Cool Storage—Ad- vances to Companies, &c. .. ..	213,616	41,710	3,503	31	573,299
Municipalities—Loans, Advances, and Grants	67,290	38,600	..	3,350	1,115,633
Primary Products— Advances to Com- panies, &c. .. ..	258,780	59,821	..	..	318,601
Wire Netting .. ..	44,380	15,447	23,731	26,275	400,460
All other works and services .. ..	19,155	4,145	55,869	117,951	4,581,417
In aid of Revenue .. ..	..	..	..	..	2,919,652
Total .. ..	11,099,694	11,880,927	8,764,306	8,407,526	134,980,786*

\* In addition to this amount, the sum of £936,766 was advanced from the Public Account Advances Account in 1923-24 and expended on the following :—Country Roads, £167,425; Closer Settlement, £186,415; Discharged Soldiers Land Settlement, £290,272; Electricity Supply, £205,195; State Schools, etc., £49,501; Wire Netting, £102; and all other purposes, £37,856.

The total interest paid (including all expenses of payment) on loans raised to 30th June, 1924, amounted on that date to about £109,000,000, of which £79,000,000 had been paid in London and £30,000,000 in Melbourne. The amount of interest and expenses paid during each of the last five financial years is shown in the next table :—

Interest paid  
on Loans.

## INTEREST AND EXPENSES OF PUBLIC DEBT.

Year Ended 30th June.	Interest Paid on Loans in—		Interest Paid on Temporary Loans.	Commission on Payment of Interest in London.	Commission on Redemption, Expenses of Conversion, &c.	Total.
	London.	Melbourne.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920 ..	1,634,953	1,585,468	16,318	7,099	5,555	3,249,393
1921 ..	1,648,984	2,162,261	56,670	7,658	6,522	3,882,095
1922 ..	1,541,747	2,927,931	100,600	9,387	..	4,579,665
1923 ..	1,765,579	3,563,982	3,701	15,274	7,039	5,355,575
1924 ..	2,066,948	3,589,245	1,917	6,905	4,955	5,669,970

## SINKING FUNDS.

**Sinking Funds.** On 30th June, 1924, the sinking funds for repayment of the public debt amounted to £3,560,225. The balances to the credit of the various funds at that date are shown in the following table:—

	Balance at Credit.
	£
Mallee Land Account ... ..	27,733
Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund ... ..	2,874,426
Victorian Loans Redemption Fund ... ..	374,764
Closer Settlement Redemption Fund ... ..	37,329
State Coal Mines Sinking Fund ... ..	102,351
Main Roads Sinking Fund ... ..	129,318
Railways Sinking Fund ... ..	11,853
Public Works Sinking Fund ... ..	1,810
Developmental Roads Sinking Fund ... ..	644
Total ... ..	3,560,225

By Act No. 2676 of 1915 the moneys accruing from licensing, leasing, or selling of land in the Mallee country or Mallee border are to be paid into the Treasury and placed to the credit of a separate account, to be called the "Mallee Land Account." The sums standing at credit of this account are available solely for the repurchase, redemption, or paying off of any Victorian stock or debentures. The amount in hand on 30th June, 1923, was £11,322, and during 1923-24 the receipts amounted to £88,626, and the expenditure to £72,218, so that the balance in the fund on 30th June, 1924, was £27,730.

By Act No. 1561 of 1898 it was enacted that a "Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury, and should be applied to the purchase or repurchase, and ultimately to the redemption of consolidated stock—that is, stock on the London Register—and to the payment of expenses connected with

such purchase or redemption. The fund is made up of money derived from special appropriations from revenue, from repayments by Water Trusts, and from the Mallee Land Account, &c. During 1923-24 there was an expenditure of £16 from this fund, and receipts amounted to £303,865. Transactions to 30th June, 1924, were as follows :—

THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED INSCRIBED  
STOCK REDEMPTION FUND: 30TH JUNE, 1924.

Transactions.						To 30th June, 1924.
RECEIPTS.						£
Waterworks Trusts	..	..	..	..	..	344,737
Mallee Land Account	..	..	..	..	..	1,096,000
Revenue	..	..	..	..	..	976,407
Interest on Investments	..	..	..	..	..	729,517
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	103,488
Total receipts	..	..	..	..	..	3,250,149
EXPENDITURE.						
Purchase of Stock	..	..	..	..	..	374,500
Commission, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	1,211
Investment Expenses	..	..	..	..	..	12
Total expenditure	..	..	..	..	..	375,723
Balance in the Fund	..	..	..	..	..	2,874,426
Amount of stock repurchased and cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	397,421

Of the balance in the fund, £2,869,211 was invested in Victorian Government debentures and stock, and £5,215 held in cash.

By Acts Nos. 1565 and 1796 it was provided that a "Victorian Loans Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury and should be available for the purchase, repurchase, or redemption of Victorian Government stock and debentures payable at Melbourne, and for the payment of expenses, costs, &c., incurred. This fund is derived from special appropriations from revenue and repayments of advances made under any Act for "Resumption of Land in Mallee District," and of sundry loans made by the Government to municipalities, &c. During 1923-24 receipts amounted to £325,245, and £125,162 was expended in the purchase for cancellation of £129,401 stock and debentures.

Victorian  
Loans  
Redemption  
Fund.

Transactions in the fund to 30th June, 1924, are shown in the following statement:—

**THE VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND: .**  
**30TH JUNE, 1924.**

Transactions.	To 30th June, 1924.
<b>RECEIPTS.</b>	<b>£</b>
From Revenue .. .. .	2,923,320
Resumption of land in Mallee Districts and valuation of improvements .. .. .	26,192
Payments by Municipalities .. .. .	377,046
Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust .. .. .	265,000
Interest on Investments .. .. .	182,433
Shipbuilding Yard (realization) .. .. .	178,500
Sale of Dredge .. .. .	4,288
Repayment of Loans—	
Bush fires relief .. .. .	22,779
Floods relief .. .. .	1,453
Seed advances .. .. .	608,970
New pilot steamer .. .. .	16,337
Yarrowee Channel .. .. .	16,116
Wire netting .. .. .	351,598
Cool Stores .. .. .	55,074
Municipalities .. .. .	316,694
Country roads .. .. .	80,000
Cattle advances .. .. .	57,563
Royal Agricultural Society .. .. .	3,000
Primary products .. .. .	55,365
Excess of face value of securities over amount invested .. .. .	408
Total receipts .. .. .	5,542,136
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>	
Purchase of stock and debentures .. .. .	5,167,372
Balance in the Fund .. .. .	374,764
Amount of stock and debentures repurchased and cancelled .. .. .	5,204,726

The balance in the fund was represented by Victorian Government debentures and stock having a face value of £365,531, and £9,233 held in cash.

With the approval of the Treasurer this Fund was established to write down the valuation of Closer Settlement Estates by £200,000. The sole revenue of the Fund is a sum of £10,000, which, in accordance with an arrangement entered into, it must receive each year from the profits of the Closer Settlement Fund. Up to 30th June, 1924, the revenue of the Fund had been applied in the cancellation of stock and debentures to the value of £52,671.

**Closer  
Settlement  
Redemption  
Fund.**



**Coal Mines Sinking Fund.** By Act No. 2630 (Section 96) the net surplus profits of the State Coal Mines were applied in establishing the Coal Mines Sinking Fund. Up to 30th June, 1924, the receipts of that Fund amounted to £109,401. Stock and debentures to the value of £7,050 had been cancelled at par, and there was thus a balance of £102,351. Of this amount £96,115 was invested and £6,236 was held in cash.

**Main Roads Sinking Fund.** By Act No. 2635 (Section 39) a portion of the money to the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund is paid into the Main Roads Sinking Fund. The receipts of the latter Fund to 30th June, 1924, amounted to £129,318, all of which was invested.

**Railways Sinking Fund.** By Act No. 3309 of 1923 the surplus railway revenue of every financial year shall be placed to the credit of the Railways Sinking Fund until such sum amounts to 75 per cent. of the loan liability of the Victorian Railways. The moneys at the credit of the Fund shall be invested in Government securities bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum and shall be available only for redemption of loans raised for railway purposes. Any uninvested moneys shall bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, which interest shall be paid out of consolidated revenue. The amount at the credit of the Fund at 30th June, 1924, was £11,853, none of which was invested.

**Public Works Sinking Fund.** Under the provisions of Act No. 3201 of 1922 a fund known as the "Public Works Sinking Fund" was established for the purpose of liquidating the liability on account of certain public works. The works specified in the Act are public offices, education buildings, hospitals for insane, gaols, police quarters, &c. The sum to be paid into the Fund annually shall be equal to 2 per cent. of the total loan expenditure at the end of the preceding financial year, except that it shall be 10 per cent. in the case of buildings, approaches, and improvements, for tourists resorts. The moneys at the credit of the Fund shall be invested in Government securities at 4 per cent. per annum, and, when they are equal to the total amount expended out of loan moneys, shall be transferred to and placed to the credit of the Victorian Loans Redemption Fund. During 1923-24 a sum of £1,741 was paid into the Fund, the balance at credit at 30th June, 1924, being £1,810.

**Developmental Roads Sinking Fund.** By Act No. 3334 of 1923 a sum equal to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum on the amount borrowed under the provisions of the *Developmental Roads Act* 1922 is to be paid into this Fund from consolidated revenue. The moneys in the Fund are to be invested in Government Securities bearing interest at the rate of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. There was a credit of £644 in the Fund at 30th June, 1924, all of which was invested.

## TRUST FUNDS.

In the succeeding table the liabilities and investments of the various Trust Funds held by the Treasurer are shown for each of the last five years, investments in Victorian securities being distinguished :—

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
At Credit of—					
Public Debt Sinking Funds .. ..	2,395,813	2,579,019	2,754,540	2,993,432	3,560,225
Savings Bank Commissioners Trust Account ..	6,757,338	7,185,176	6,598,524	64,103	64,103
Other Trust Funds ..	3,536,378	5,001,669	3,859,723	4,131,498	4,436,882
Balance — From General Cash Account ..	..	..	..	..	195,447
Total .. ..	12,689,529	14,765,864	13,212,787	7,189,033	8,256,657
<i>Investments, Advances, &amp;c.</i>					
Invested in Victorian Stock or Debentures ..	3,963,276	4,386,711	4,760,336	5,133,710	5,955,771
Other Investments, Fixed Deposits, &c... ..	6,924,755	7,537,255	6,952,503	454,503	474,053
Advances Made... ..	1,435,134	1,917,986	1,358,869	1,460,804	1,826,833
Cash Held .. ..	366,364	923,912	141,079	140,016	..
Total .. ..	12,689,529	14,765,864	13,212,787	7,189,033	8,256,657

The large falling off in the amount of these Funds between 1922 and 1923 is due to the Treasurer having handed back to the Savings Bank Commissioners the fixed deposit receipts of that institution which he formerly held. The only security which is now held by the Treasurer on account of the Savings Bank is fixed deposit stock in the E.S.A. Bank amounting to £64,103.

## PUBLIC DEBTS OF AUSTRALIAN STATES.

The following is a statement of the public debts of the Australian States on 30th June, 1924, showing the amounts, the amounts per head of population, the total interest payable, the average rates per cent., and the rates *per capita*. Sinking Funds have not been deducted. Treasury Bills covering Revenue Deficits are included. Revenue Deficits which are not covered by Treasury Bills, overdrafts on Loan Account, and advances from Trust Funds are excluded.

## PUBLIC DEBTS OF AUSTRALIAN STATES ON 30TH JUNE, 1924.

State.	Public Debt.		Interest Payable.		
	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Average Rate per cent.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	
Victoria ..	124,108,326	75 13 9	3,898,632	3 11 11	4.753
New South Wales ..	224,179,515	100 10 3	10,783,186	4 16 8	4.810
Queensland ..	90,561,350	109 8 9	4,023,593	4 17 3	4.443
South Australia ..	70,016,829	132 7 10	3,393,218	6 8 4	4.846
Western Australia ..	62,765,782	174 3 7	2,820,425	7 16 6	4.494
Tasmania ..	23,732,685	111 6 4	1,161,066	5 8 11	4.892

The public debt of the Commonwealth on 30th June, 1924, was £415,600,099, and that of the six States, £595,364,487. From the total of these a deduction of £55,385,628 must be made for debts included twice. The balance (£955,578,958) represents the liability of the Australian public at the date mentioned, which is equal to £164 13s. 1d. per head of the population.

The full indebtedness of the Government, municipalities, and corporations of Victoria for the year 1924 is shown in detail hereunder. From the municipal and corporation debts the amounts of loans from the Government have been excluded.

State and  
Local Debts.

## STATE AND LOCAL DEBTS, VICTORIA, 1924.

State Public Debt—	£	£
London Register .. ..	48,551,314	
Melbourne Register .. ..	75,557,012	
Other State Debt (Public Account Advances)	936,766	
Total State Debts .. ..		125,045,092
Municipal .. ..	6,410,237	
Harbor Trusts .. ..	2,910,861	
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board ..	140,213	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	14,502,036	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board .. ..	1,817,807	
Ballarat Water Commission and Sewerage Authority .. ..	112,650	
Bendigo Sewerage Authority .. ..	177,767	
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust ..	1,101,513	
First Mildura Irrigation Trust .. ..	100,865	
Total Debts of Municipalities and Corporations (excl. Government loans) ..		27,273,949
Gross Debts .. ..		152,319,041
Sinking Funds .. ..		4,922,761
Net Debt .. ..		147,396,280

This sum (£147,396,280) is equal to a net debt of £89 17s. 10d. per head of the population on 30th June, 1924.

## COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION.

**Taxation.** The subjoined table shows approximately, for the last five financial years, the amount of revenue collected under the various heads of taxation by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies in Victoria :—

## TAXATION IN VICTORIA—COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL : 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Heads of Taxation.	Amount Received.				
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Federal—</b>					
Customs Duties ..	4,371,405	7,345,609	5,835,394	7,648,521	8,226,378
Excise Duties ..	1,963,915	2,525,847	2,644,585	2,700,312	2,764,938
Income Tax* ..	3,601,000	4,203,000	4,533,000	3,485,000	2,986,000
Land Tax* ..	486,000	492,436	525,000	464,000	467,000
Succession Duties*	619,000	435,873	367,000	434,000	489,000
War-time Profits Tax* ..	474,000	495,000	280,000	72,000	18,000
War Postage ..	215,000	56,000	..	..	..
Entertainments Tax	176,411	203,769	222,210	208,240	212,011
<b>Total Federal Taxation ..</b>	<b>11,906,731</b>	<b>15,757,534</b>	<b>14,407,189</b>	<b>15,012,073</b>	<b>15,163,327</b>
<b>State—</b>					
Income Tax ..	915,551	1,591,198	1,443,209	1,514,256	1,702,483
Stamp Duties ..	820,618	928,367	930,859	1,116,077	1,177,614
Probate and Succession Duties ..	881,423	702,468	706,181	697,482	798,315
Land Tax ..	314,217	331,756	372,060	392,594	412,165
Licences ..	213,204	274,020	320,127	335,402	363,988
Race Clubs' percentage ..	12,883	17,170	16,948	19,473	19,843
Duties on Bank Notes.. ..	1,871	1,854	1,790	1,762	1,750
<b>Total State Taxation ..</b>	<b>3,159,767</b>	<b>3,846,833</b>	<b>3,791,174</b>	<b>4,077,046</b>	<b>4,476,158</b>
<b>Municipal Taxation..</b>	<b>1,840,062</b>	<b>2,167,757</b>	<b>2,399,256</b>	<b>2,671,783</b>	<b>2,963,431</b>
<b>Total Taxation</b>	<b>16,906,560</b>	<b>21,772,124</b>	<b>20,597,619</b>	<b>21,760,902</b>	<b>22,602,916</b>

\* Estimated.

The total State taxation shown above excludes licences issued under the Motor Car Act. The revenue received therefrom is included under the heading "Fees and Fines," and amounted to £85,363 in 1919-20, £98,135 in 1920-21, £118,673 in 1921-22, £158,390 in 1922-23, and £222,397 in 1923-24.

The taxation in Victoria per head of population by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies for each of the last five years was as follows:—

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION PER  
HEAD OF POPULATION: 1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Division.	Taxation per Head of Population in Victoria.				
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Commonwealth .. .. .	7 18 5	10 6 3	9 5 9	9 8 10	9 6 7
State .. .. .	2 2 0	2 10 4	2 8 11	2 11 3	2 15 1
Local .. .. .	1 4 6	1 8 4	1 10 11	1 13 7	1 16 5
Total .. .. .	11 4 11	14 4 11	13 5 7	13 13 8	13 18 1

While the estimated Commonwealth taxation imposed in Victoria was £9 6s. 7d. per head of population in 1923-24, the taxation in Australia levied by the Commonwealth Government was £8 16s. 11d. per head. The higher rate for Victoria was due to the amount of Customs duties actually collected in the State being much above the average collection on a population basis.

**Additional  
Taxation for  
Financial Year  
1924-25.**

The *Income Tax Act* 1924 fixed the rate of income tax for the year ending 30th June, 1925. Incomes of £200 and under are not taxable. On incomes of from £201 to £500 there is an exemption of £200 (instead of £150 as formerly) which does not apply to companies. The rates shown on page 64 have been retained. There is, however, a super-tax on incomes (excluding companies) of from £800 to £1,000 of 10 per cent.; of from £1,000 to £1,250 of 12½ per cent.; of from £1,250 to £2,200 of 15 per cent.; of from £2,200 to £5,000 of 20 per cent.; and on incomes exceeding £5,000 of 25 per cent. Companies (other than Mutual Life Assurance Companies) are taxed at the rate of 15d. in the £ of the taxable amount of income. Mutual Life Assurance Companies are taxable at the rate of 12d. in the £ in respect to their Mutual Life Assurance business, and at the rate of 15d. in the £ on all other business. On incomes not exceeding £800 an additional deduction of £50 may be made by a married taxpayer for the maintenance of his wife, provided that she has not an income of her own exceeding £100 per annum. The amount that may be deducted from income in respect of children under sixteen years of age is increased from £30 to £50.

From 1st January, 1925, under the *Motor Omnibus Act* 1924, No. 3378, additional fees in the nature of a tax on passenger seating capacity are payable on the registration of motor buses plying for hire within eight miles of the corporate limits of the City of Melbourne. These fees range from £3 7s. 6d. to £4 10s. per passenger seat and are in addition to the ordinary registration fee payable under the *Motor Car Act* 1915, which is now fixed under the Second Schedule of the *Highways and Vehicles Act*, No. 3379, at £5 per annum.

The provisions of the *Highways and Vehicles Act*, No. 3379, relating to registration fees of motor cars, &c., came into operation on 1st January, 1925. They require that the annual registration fee of motor cars, lorries, &c. shall be calculated on the power-weight unit, the charge ranging from 3s. per power-weight unit for ordinary motor cars to 5s. per power-weight unit for motor vehicles fitted with non-pneumatic tires.

## LICENCES.

**Licences.** The following is a statement of the net revenue received from each description of licence during the year 1923-24 (*vide* page 60). Municipal licences for slaughtering, dairies, noxious trades, &c., are excluded, also insurance licences (£66,366), and book-makers' licences (£14,325), the two last mentioned having been shown under Stamp Duties. Motor car licences (£222,397) are included under the heading "Fees and Fines."

REVENUE OF STATE GOVERNMENT FROM LICENCES :  
1923-24.

Description of Licence.	Net Revenue Received.
	£
Spirit Merchants and Grocers .. .. .	33,394
Vicuallers .. .. .	260,955
,, Temporary .. .. .	4,122
Railway Refreshment Rooms .. .. .	2,124
Packet .. .. .	152
Australian Wine .. .. .	4,948
Billiard Table .. .. .	5,344
Brewers .. .. .	162
Vignerons .. .. .	85
Club Certificates .. .. .	6,922
Permits (Extra Bars and Extended Hours) .. .. .	2,123
Auctioneers .. .. .	23,706
Real Estate Agents .. .. .	11,949
Tobacco and Cigars—Selling .. .. .	2,176
Pawnbrokers .. .. .	770
Hawkers .. .. .	1,970
Carriage, Stage Carriage, Forwarding Agents .. .. .	411
Marine Stores .. .. .	200
Explosives .. .. .	806
Race Clubs .. .. .	650
Gold-buyers .. .. .	184
Second-hand Dealers .. .. .	671
Farm Produce Agents .. .. .	164
Total .. .. .	363,988

In addition to the preceding, there are other licences issued in Victoria by the Department of Trade and Customs ; the fees collected in respect of these during the calendar year 1924 were as follows :—

Description of Licence.	Amount of Fees collected.
<i>Customs.</i>	£
Carriage .. .. .	304
Lighter and Boat .. .. .	7
Custom House Agents .. .. .	34
Warehouse .. .. .	5,189
<i>Excise.</i>	
Distilling—	
General Distillers .. .. .	200
Wine Distillers .. .. .	120
Vignerons .. .. .	65
Brewers .. .. .	1,200
Manufacturing Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes, and Snuff ..	1,994
Starch .. .. .	15