

MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.

Legislation. A statement of the provisions of the laws relating to local government in force on 16th September, 1929, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on pages 127 to 131.

Further legislation gives authority to municipal councils under the provisions of the *Local Government Act* 1932 (No. 4029) to add to the actual cost—

- of forming, completing or continuing, in case it is necessary, of any lane, right-of-way, or passage through any private premises ;
- of forming, levelling, draining, paving, macadamizing any street, road, or lane at the cost of the owners of adjoining lands ;
- of making or constructing any drain or channel at the expense of certain owners of lands or premises—

such a sum (not exceeding $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of such actual cost of such work) as the council thinks proper in respect of the making of searches, of preparation of specifications and plans, of any estimate of distribution relating to such work and the supervision and inspection of work during construction.

The *Local Government (Debentures) Act* 1932 (No. 4081) enables any municipality to enter into an agreement with the holders of any of its debentures which are in existence at the date on which this Act came into operation, whereby the terms and conditions of such debentures may be varied, by the postponement for a period of not more than ten years of the date for the payment of the principal sum, or any part thereof already payable or to become payable, or of any interest already payable or which may become payable. It is provided that no such agreement shall be valid and binding on the parties unless and until it has received the approval of the Governor in Council.

If any such agreement is entered into with reference to any debenture securing moneys borrowed for the formation of right-of-ways through private premises or for forming streets and roads at the cost of adjoining owners, or for making drains at the expense of certain owners of lands or premises, it shall be lawful for but not obligatory upon the municipality concerned, in its absolute discretion, and upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, to agree with owners, who are liable to contribute by periodical instalments, including interest, to the cost of the work for which the moneys were borrowed, to postpone the date for the payment of the whole or any part or reduce the amount of any such instalment.

The information furnished by municipal councils in Greater Melbourne relating to the value of building permits issued by them gives a reliable indication of the effect that the economic depression has had on the building industry in recent years.

The value of permits issued for all classes of buildings, *i.e.*, dwellings, other buildings, and alterations and additions to existing buildings, during the period of twelve months ended on 30th September in each of the six years 1928-1933 was as follows :—

Year ended 30th September.					Value of Permits Issued.	Index to Value = 100 in 1928.
					£	
1928	..	..	..	..	8,027,886	100
1929	..	..	..	..	7,516,274	93.63
1930	..	..	..	..	3,972,685	49.49
1931	..	..	..	..	1,130,272	14.08
1932	..	..	..	..	2,145,013	26.72
1933	..	..	..	..	2,762,980	34.42

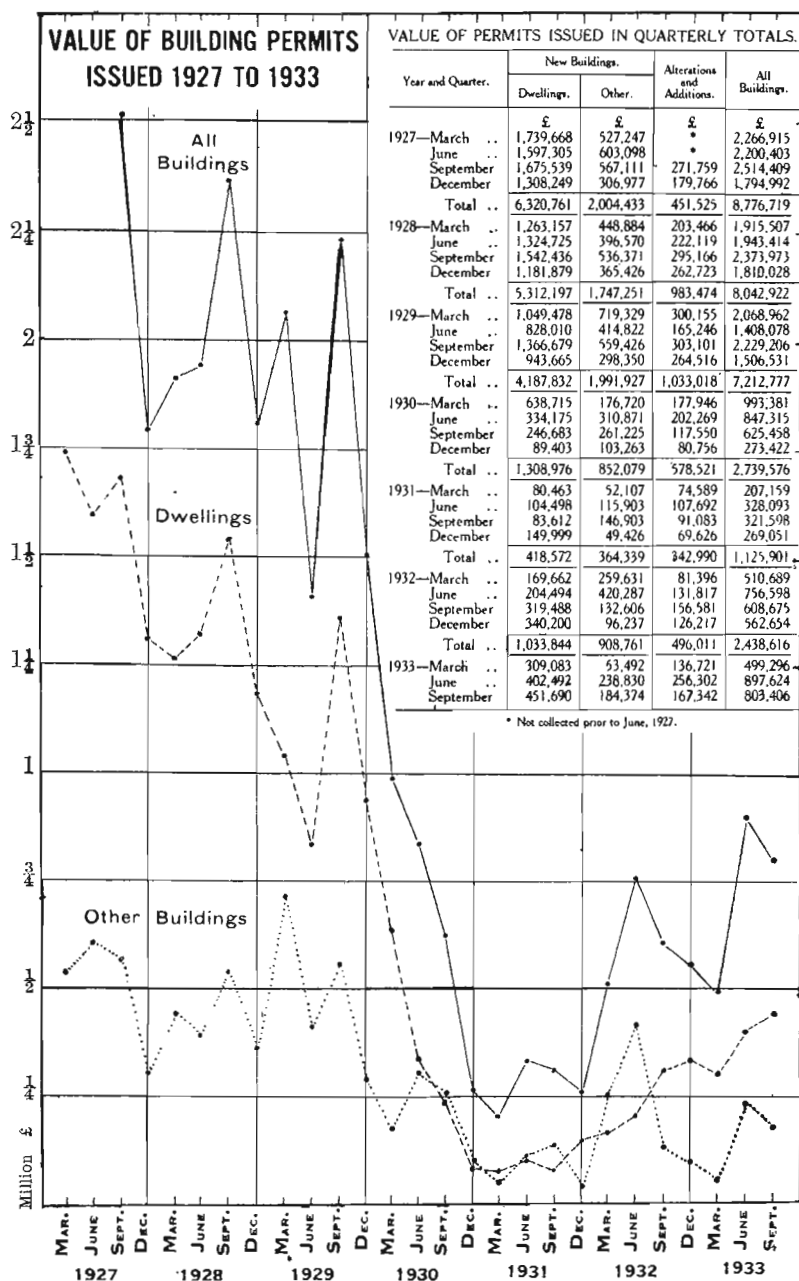
The improvement in the condition of the building industry during the period of twelve months ended on the 30th September, 1932, continued during the next twelve months. The value of permits issued in 1932 and 1933 increased by £1,014,741 and £1,632,708 respectively, compared with the twelve months ended on 30th September, 1931.

In the following statement is shown the value of building permits issued for all buildings by each municipality in Greater Melbourne during each of the five years ended on 30th September, 1929, to 1933.

VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED FOR ALL BUILDINGS IN GREATER MELBOURNE DURING THE YEARS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1929 TO 1933.

Name of Municipality.			Year ended 30th September.				
			1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
			£	£	£	£	£
Box Hill	City	..	167,464	68,712	11,048	17,920	28,221
Brighton	"	..	307,716	134,512	26,378	49,602	63,463
Brunswick	"	..	222,750	178,325	30,042	33,510	65,286
Camberwell	"	..	763,771	399,600	75,866	161,228	274,629
Caulfield	"	..	448,903	206,690	60,850	113,183	183,553
Chelsea	"	..	35,685	35,027	8,727	14,056	23,311
Coburg	"	..	311,425	155,545	28,360	26,997	24,276
Collingwood	"	..	77,206	108,758	24,844	25,641	41,460
Essendon	"	..	171,230	98,485	21,039	29,409	50,197
Fitzroy	"	..	39,239	35,692	27,372	150,350	31,104
Footscray	"	..	238,310	126,583	20,881	43,919	41,639
Hawthorn	"	..	190,865	111,098	29,298	34,632	98,052
Kew	"	..	184,517	132,682	42,551	42,005	46,644
Malvern	"	..	318,553	191,590	50,071	180,886	213,789
Melbourne	"	..	1,716,047	771,688	305,839	670,710	657,523
Mordialloc	"	..	80,550	54,095	16,915	20,603	12,939
Northcote	"	..	134,040	67,847	9,903	40,643	40,604
Oakleigh	"	..	111,930	52,084	8,508	7,856	5,684
Port Melbourne	"	..	51,030	40,240	2,015	5,250	2,328
Prahran	"	..	265,341	116,359	109,053	188,188	344,552
Preston	"	..	250,538	130,300	12,824	17,856	21,363
Richmond	"	..	114,186	107,586	18,852	21,320	40,010
Sandringham	"	..	143,972	95,153	23,335	37,082	48,191
South Melbourne	"	..	134,729	57,031	27,124	38,881	67,040
St. Kilda	"	..	224,250	116,157	40,000	107,004	217,800
Williamstown	"	..	108,673	54,160	9,584	6,515	23,702
Braybrook Shire (exclusive of Western Riding)	..	..	92,242	27,798	8,962	11,185	6,713
Heidelberg Shire (exclusive of Greensborough Riding)	..	..	237,131	111,182	64,076	29,333	50,886
Moorabbin Shire	..	..	373,982	187,766	15,355	19,254	33,021
Total	..	..	7,516,274	3,972,685	1,130,272	2,145,013	2,762,980
Total number of permits issued	..	..	11,622	8,467	4,395	4,933	5,700

The following graph shows at quarterly rests, from September quarter, 1927, to September quarter, 1933, the trend of the operations in the building industry. It will be seen that the value of building permits fell with almost regular rapidity from £2,514,409 in September quarter, 1927, to £269,051 in December quarter, 1931, and that in March quarter, 1932, there was a definite improvement in the volume of business. This satisfactory feature has continued. The values for June and September quarters, 1933, are higher than any other quarter since June, 1930.



Municipalities in Victoria. The total number of municipalities throughout the State at the end of the year 1932 was 196. Of these, 31 ranked as cities, 4 as towns, 21 as boroughs, and 140 as shires. The only unincorporated area of this State is French Island, situated in the County of Mornington, between the eastern and western passages of Western Port Bay, and which is 42,000 acres in extent.

Number and value of Properties rated. The following is a statement of the number of rate-payers, the number of properties rated, the estimated value of rateable property, the estimated number of dwellings (inhabited and uninhabited), and the number of houses built in cities, towns and boroughs, and in shires for each of the five years 1928-29 to 1932-33 :—

**PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES,
1928-29 TO 1932-33.**

Year.	Number of Rate-payers.	Number of Properties Rated.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Estimated Number of Dwellings.		Houses built during the year.
			Total.	Annual.	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—							
			£	£			
1928-29 ..	333,364	389,122	373,880,729	20,984,591	265,376	3,580	4,961
1929-30 ..	336,756	393,622	385,884,089	21,493,990	269,783	6,097	2,536
1930-31 ..	335,892	395,131	382,243,226	21,248,548	268,684	8,280	452
1931-32 ..	339,842	393,876	351,642,387	19,391,762	268,832	8,521	863
1932-33 ..	341,078	394,403	336,119,812	18,231,285	272,284	6,021	*
Shires—							
1928-29 ..	270,176	388,740	288,008,585	14,447,193	156,681	1,777	2,273
1929-30 ..	275,065	391,488	294,765,524	14,792,565	158,694	2,207	1,493
1930-31 ..	271,586	393,196	294,447,615	14,784,365	159,159	2,691	638
1931-32 ..	264,723	387,349	278,253,957	13,971,878	158,813	3,139	667
1932-33 ..	265,802	391,059	268,671,521	13,491,680	157,340	2,879	*
Total—							
1928-29 ..	603,540	777,862	661,889,314	35,431,784	422,067	5,357	7,234
1929-30 ..	611,821	785,110	680,649,613	36,286,555	428,477	8,304	4,029
1930-31 ..	607,478	788,327	676,690,841	36,032,913	427,843	10,971	1,090
1931-32 ..	604,565	781,225	629,896,344	33,363,640	427,645	11,660	1,530
1932-33 ..	606,880	785,462	604,791,333	31,722,965	429,624	8,900	*

* Not available.

The total capital value of rateable property returned for 1932-33 was £604,791,333, which, on the basis of the annual value of £31,722,965, is equivalent to about 19 years' purchase. The highest total estimated value of rateable property was recorded in the year 1929-30. The value rose from £499,967,961 in 1923-24 to £680,649,613 in 1929-30, an increase of £180,681,652. It fell in 1930-31 to £676,690,841 and continued to fall during the years 1931-32 and 1932-33, the value in the latter year was £604,791,333, a decrease of 11 per cent. compared with the year 1929-30.

The following is a statement of the number of ratepayers, the amount of rate levied in the £ and the estimated value of rateable property for the year 1932-33, and the revenue for the year 1931-32 for each municipality in Victoria :—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1932-33.

Name	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1931-32.
			Total.	Annual.	
GREATER MELBOURNE.			s. d.	£	£
Box Hill	7,918	2 7	4,255,700	212,785	78,573
Brighton	9,099	2 4	9,850,620	492,531	72,700
Brunswick	13,823	0 7*	9,735,528	579,761	190,201
Camberwell	20,103	0 4½*	15,530,542	810,808	170,081
Caulfield	18,716	0 4*	17,264,020	881,573	124,257
Chelsea	5,685	0 4½*	1,609,234	82,491	31,158
Coburg	12,350	0 5*	9,044,350	361,774	129,583
Collingwood	7,630	2 3	8,285,240	414,262	55,284
Essendon	12,608	0 5*	10,453,331	611,428	86,530
Fitzroy	7,531	2 1	6,354,375	423,625	54,108
Footscray	13,070	2 6	10,585,620	526,781	197,716
Hawthorn	8,803	2 1	10,705,640	535,282	72,277
Kew	6,685	2 6	5,567,325	371,155	64,529
Malvern	12,874	2 5	16,133,100	806,855	120,075
Melbourne	31,871	2 0	85,812,000	4,290,603	1,303,837
Mordialloc	4,497	0 4*	2,723,592	138,412	45,126
Northcote	11,179	2 7	8,753,140	437,657	130,540
Oakleigh	4,360	0 5*	2,134,492	129,312	28,480
Port Melbourne	3,071	2 6	1,898,075	151,846	48,511
Prahran	13,668	1 9	13,440,000	960,000	115,882
Preston	18,400	2 6	6,504,080	325,204	108,498
Richmond	7,855	2 7	7,432,650	495,510	80,209
Sandringham	9,215	0 4*	4,260,424	253,609	49,981
South Melbourne	9,818	2 6	13,846,860	692,343	119,925
St. Kilda	11,221	2 0	10,724,148	893,679	108,559
Williamstown	6,202	2 6	4,820,600	241,030	102,134
Total	288,252	..	297,674,744	16,120,116	3,688,754

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1932-33—*continued*.

Name.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total. Revenue, 1931-32.
			Total.	Annual.	
OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE.					
CITIES.		s. d.	£	£	£
Ballarat	10,052	2 9	7,033,800	351,690	79,473
Bendigo	6,656	2 4	4,052,940	270,196	50,077
Geelong	4,679	2 9	5,571,200	278,560	52,829
Geelong West	3,730	2 9	2,236,160	111,808	21,124
Warrnambool	1,831	2 0	1,804,856	106,168	40,910
TOWNS.					
Hamilton	1,506	2 3	1,383,180	69,159	14,047
Mildura	1,094	2 8	1,509,320	75,466	37,918
Newtown and Chilwell	2,370	0 4½*	2,223,208	118,465	15,075
Salé	1,127	2 0	962,900	48,145	11,168
BOROUGHES.					
Ararat	1,040	2 6	785,900	39,295	26,552
Castlemaine	1,387	2 9	903,520	45,176	10,857
Clunes	303	1 9	75,621	10,803	4,403
Creswick	403	1 9	75,690	7,569	2,486
Daylesford	686	3 0	536,920	26,846	6,886
Eaglehawk	1,204	2 6	322,140	21,476	8,781
Echuca	1,045	2 9	919,680	45,984	9,025
Horsham	1,512	2 6	939,930	62,662	21,828
Inglewood	290	2 0	81,240	6,770	4,054
Koroit	380	2 6	407,520	20,376	4,090
Maryborough	1,275	2 6	381,000	38,100	16,181
Port Fairy	527	2 8	440,700	22,035	6,117
Portland	1,132	0 4½*	671,215	37,591	10,851
Queenscliffe	702	2 9	471,540	23,577	5,103
Ringwood	2,001	2 8	1,080,000	54,000	14,372
Sebastopol	529	2 9	210,040	10,502	2,542
Shepparton	900	3 0	1,389,180	69,458	15,732
St. Arnaud	857	2 9	296,920	29,692	10,887
Stawell	1,115	2 9	318,000	31,800	20,636
Wangaratta	1,056	2 9	917,920	45,896	10,077
Wonthaggi	1,347	3 0	442,848	36,904	9,407
Total	52,826	..	38,445,068	2,111,169	543,488

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

Shires,
1932-33.

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

SHIRES, 1932-33.

Name.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1931-32.
			Total.	Annual.	
		s. d.	£	£	£
Alberton	1,426	2 6	2,280,960	114,048	17,634
Alexandra	864	1 10	1,280,000	64,000	8,889
Arapiles	631	1 6	1,148,940	57,447	4,673
Ararat	1,600	1 4	4,480,000	224,000	19,662
Avoca	1,323	2 0	851,280	42,564	5,954
Avon	862	2 0	1,209,360	60,468	7,768
Bacchus Marsh	860	1 9	1,476,940	73,847	11,579
Bairnsdale	2,440	1 6	2,997,000	149,850	16,201
Ballan	1,060	1 9	1,297,420	64,871	7,437
Ballarat	1,170	1 9	1,474,460	73,723	7,367
Bannockburn	734	1 8	1,039,020	51,951	5,724
Barrabool	810	1 10	1,153,200	57,160	6,554
Bass	2,200	3 0	1,401,520	70,076	12,029
Beechworth	1,403	2 0	601,008	37,563	13,382
Belfast	699	1 9	1,482,400	74,120	7,603
Bellarine	2,083	1 9	1,289,980	64,499	6,988
Benalla	2,659	1 9	3,558,220	177,911	24,097
Berwick	3,725	2 3	3,024,940	151,247	20,816
Bet Bet	1,245	1 6	858,500	42,925	5,701
Birchip	512	1 6	990,840	49,542	6,236
Blackburn and Mitcham	3,454	2 10	1,926,580	96,329	19,025
Borung	1,584	1 6	3,104,480	155,224	16,886
Braybrook	9,750	2 0	3,273,740	163,687	27,653
Bright	1,390	2 0	820,000	41,000	8,049
Broadford	480	1 6	478,700	23,935	3,898
Broadmeadows	14,897	1 9	2,845,380	142,269	21,992
Bulla	417	1 9	852,080	42,604	5,189
Buln Buln	1,660	2 9	1,681,860	84,068	14,047
Bungaree	450	1 9	652,640	32,632	3,152
Buninyong	1,621	1 7½	1,368,320	68,416	6,599
Charlton	825	1 6	1,951,920	97,596	9,334
Chiltern	631	1 9	592,120	29,606	3,664
Cohuna	726	1 9	1,019,980	50,999	7,608
Colac	3,200	1 7	5,889,200	294,460	35,784
Corio	5,600	2 3	2,296,340	114,817	18,308
Cranbourne	2,250	2 6	2,430,000	121,500	19,450
Creswick	847	1 6	1,212,760	60,638	5,230
Dandenong	9,000	0 2½*	2,784,000	140,900	29,813
Deakin	1,192	1 6	1,907,420	95,371	7,542
Dimboola	1,580	1 6	2,754,300	137,715	16,029
Donald	998	1 6	2,070,780	103,539	12,871
Doncaster and Templestowe	1,948	2 0	1,175,800	58,790	14,901
Dundas	1,347	2 0	2,523,220	126,161	15,733
Dunnunkie	1,265	1 3	3,217,020	160,851	19,576
East Loddon	485	1 3	1,591,000	79,550	5,146
Eltham	1,162	2 0	1,287,540	64,377	13,922
Euroa	1,162	1 9	1,757,040	87,852	9,637
Ferntree Gully	6,500	3 0	3,032,000	152,600	27,689
Flinders	5,500	1 9	2,091,660	104,583	18,716
Frankston and Hastings	4,745	3 0	2,282,200	114,110	25,734
Gisborne	911	1 9	648,600	42,430	6,408
Glenelg	1,800	1 6	3,143,660	157,183	15,910
Glenlyon	1,466	1 9	929,400	46,470	5,293
Gordon	935	1 3	2,068,400	103,423	8,614
Goulburn	642	1 6	942,960	47,148	6,472
Grenville	1,200	1 9	868,650	57,910	6,815
Hampden	2,482	2 3	5,952,800	297,640	39,995

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

SHIRES, 1932-33—continued.

Name.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total. Revenue, 1931-32.
			Total.	Annual.	
		s. d.	£	£	£
Healesville	1,150	3 0	822,340	41,117	12,447
Heidelberg	13,445	2 6	6,556,140	327,807	128,428
Heytesbury	1,202	2 1	2,222,800	111,140	13,212
Huntly	1,009	1 6	1,253,420	62,671	5,134
Kara Kara	1,034	1 6	2,144,940	107,247	9,793
Karkaroo	1,330	1 6	2,542,780	127,139	17,476
Kellor	7,246	1 9	1,709,740	85,487	8,684
Kerang	2,117	1 3	4,303,440	215,172	31,182
Kilmore	571	1 9	336,945	22,463	5,085
Korong	1,586	1 6	2,050,120	102,506	12,779
Korumburra	2,075	2 0	2,679,220	133,961	21,537
Kowree	1,092	1 6	1,845,300	92,265	9,366
Kyneton	2,240	1 9	1,946,740	97,337	19,827
Lawloit	680	1 7	1,295,115	86,341	9,588
Leigh	493	1 4	1,155,020	57,751	4,409
Lexton	526	1 6	964,720	48,236	3,989
Lillydale	4,220	3 0	2,564,160	128,208	26,141
Lowan	1,320	1 7	2,750,400	137,520	17,754
Maffra	1,400	1 10	2,650,000	132,500	15,847
Maldon	1,052	1 6	761,640	38,082	3,837
Mansfield	1,200	1 10	1,800,080	90,004	10,120
Marong	1,400	1 6	1,935,240	96,762	8,711
Melton	470	1 6	992,260	49,613	4,671
Metcalfe	1,000	1 6	892,000	44,600	3,936
Mildura	3,225	1 9	5,103,680	255,184	26,225
Minhamite	740	2 3	1,598,580	79,929	11,947
Mirboo	408	3 0	641,180	32,059	7,317
Moorabbin	7,518	2 6	4,780,660	239,083	70,597
Mornington	2,751	2 6	1,315,460	65,773	12,370
Mortlake	920	1 6	3,587,240	179,362	18,106
Morwell	1,181	2 9	1,304,140	65,207	13,355
Mount Rouse	750	1 6	2,111,140	105,557	11,564
Mulgrave	4,126	2 6	1,821,880	91,094	12,123
McIvor	910	1 6	1,120,000	56,000	7,565
Narracan	1,481	2 3	2,229,200	111,460	16,415
Newham and Woodend	895	2 0	732,460	36,623	5,955
Newstead and Mt. Alexander	729	1 6	591,080	29,554	4,542
Numurkah	1,138	1 0	2,823,360	141,168	13,203
Omeo	780	2 6	992,000	49,600	7,195
Orbost	1,110	2 9	1,280,820	64,041	14,498
Otway	1,006	3 0	903,960	45,198	7,189
Oxley	1,068	2 0	1,459,200	72,960	8,332
Phillip Island	432	2 3	449,800	22,490	4,785
Portland	2,145	2 0	1,644,440	82,222	10,049
Pyalong	267	1 6	441,555	29,437	2,537
Ripon	1,000	1 6	2,501,080	125,054	13,562
Rochester	1,702	1 6	3,080,000	154,000	14,476
Rodney	1,985	2 0	3,935,660	196,783	22,659
Romsey	864	1 9	1,271,780	63,589	6,680
Rosedale	1,260	0 14*	2,980,000	149,000	9,894
Rutherglen	800	1 10	1,155,680	57,784	7,124
Seymour	1,116	1 6	1,458,140	72,907	13,480
Shepparton	1,311	2 0	2,457,980	122,809	14,835
South Barwon	2,467	2 6	1,304,800	65,240	11,360
South Gippsland	1,145	3 0	1,377,400	68,870	12,558
Stawell	1,102	1 6	2,268,860	113,443	9,647
Strathfeldsaye	987	1 6	654,240	32,712	3,083
Swan Hill	4,150	1 6	4,569,580	228,479	36,956
Talbot	580	1 6	569,460	28,473	3,263
Tambo	1,079	2 6	1,146,280	57,314	9,669
Towong	1,212	2 0	1,991,000	99,550	12,429
Traralgon	750	2 3	1,177,040	58,852	11,374
Tullaroop	631	1 6	851,160	42,558	4,599

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

SHIRES, 1932-33—continued.

Name.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue, 1931-32.
			Total.	Annual.	
		<i>s. d.</i>	£	£	£
Tungamah	1,310	1 6	2,757,920	137,896	10,722
Upper Murray	519	1 9	1,256,220	62,811	6,916
Upper Yarra	1,430	3 0	821,660	41,083	9,115
Violet Town	860	1 10	928,680	46,434	5,593
Walpeup	1,740	1 6	2,327,340	116,367	10,601
Wangaratta	902	1 6	961,700	48,085	4,666
Wannon	1,056	1 6	2,250,080	112,504	10,939
Waranga	1,580	2 0	1,889,000	94,450	15,380
Warragul	1,360	3 0	2,085,080	104,254	17,803
Warrnambool	2,057	1 7	5,164,440	258,222	28,353
Werribee	11,000	2 3	2,620,000	131,000	22,581
Whittlesea	1,333	2 0	1,692,840	84,642	10,066
Wimmera	1,055	1 0	2,960,000	148,000	9,508
Winchelsea	1,203	2 0	1,966,300	98,318	13,234
Woodongia	732	1 9	956,440	47,822	5,960
Woorayl	1,800	2 9	2,265,680	113,284	19,285
Wyche-prot	1,300	1 6	2,614,940	130,747	20,064
Yackandandah	986	2 0	1,206,560	60,328	7,016
Yarrawonga	650	2 0	1,300,100	65,005	10,797
Yea	732	0 2½*	1,249,848	62,846	9,455
Total	265,802	..	268,671,521	13,491,680	1,904,422

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

The next statement shows the names of the municipalities which increased or decreased the general rate for the year 1932-33, as compared with the year 1931-32.

Municipalities.	General Rate.		
	1931-32.	1932-33.	Increase + Decrease -
CITIES.			
<i>In Greater Melbourne.</i>			
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Box Hill	2 8	2 7	- 1
Chelsea	0 3½*	0 4½*	+ ½
Hawthorn	2 3	2 1	- 2
<i>Outside Greater Melbourne.</i>			
Bendigo	2 3	2 4	+ 1
Warrnambool	2 3	2 0	- 3
TOWNS.			
Mildura	2 11	2 8	- 3
BOROUGHES.			
Maryborough	3 0	2 6	- 6

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

SHIRES, 1932-33—continued.

Municipalities.	General Rate.		
	1931-32.	1932-33.	Increase $\frac{+}{-}$ Decrease $\frac{-}{+}$
SHIRES.	s. d.	s. d.	d.
Alexandra	2 0	1 10	— 2
Ararat	1 6	1 4	— 2
Avoca	2 3	2 0	— 3
Avon	1 9	2 0	+ 3
Ballan	2 0	1 9	— 3
Ballarat	1 6	1 9	+ 3
Bannockburn	2 0	1 8	— 4
Barrabool	2 0	1 10	— 2
Belfast	1 10	1 9	— 1
Borong	1 3	1 6	+ 3
Bright	2 6	2 0	— 6
Bulla	2 0	1 9	— 3
Buninyong	1 6	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chiltern	1 6	1 9	+ 3
Donald	1 9	1 6	— 3
Eltham	2 6	2 0	— 6
Glenelg	1 9	1 6	— 3
Heytesbury	2 4	2 1	— 3
Lawloit	1 8	1 7	— 1
Maffra	1 6	1 10	+ 4
Minhamite	2 6	2 3	— 3
Mornington	2 3	2 6	+ 3
Mortlake	1 9	1 6	— 3
Newstead and Mt. Alexander ..	1 9	1 6	— 3
Numurkah	1 3	1 0	— 3
Orbost	2 6	2 9	+ 3
Portland	1 6	2 0	+ 6
Pyalong	1 9	1 6	— 3
Ripon	1 9	1 6	— 3
Tambo	2 9	2 6	— 3
Tullaroop	1 9	1 6	— 3
Violet Town	1 9	1 10	+ 1
Wycheproof	1 3	1 6	+ 3
Yea	0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ *	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ *	— $\frac{1}{4}$

* Levied on unimproved value of land.

The following statement shows the amount of ordinary revenue raised by municipalities and the proportion from each source during the years 1930-31 and 1931-32.

ORDINARY REVENUE OF MUNICIPALITIES 1930-31 AND 1931-32.

Sources of Revenue.	1930-31.		1931-32.	
	Amount.	Proportion to Total Revenue.	Amount.	Proportion to Total Revenue.
	£	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Taxation—				
Rates—				
General	3,508,406	54·3	3,332,407	54·3
Other	70,111	1·1	70,241	1·1
Licences	96,147	1·5	106,303	1·7
Sanitary Charges	165,727	2·5	157,907	2·6
Dog Fees	26,303	0·4	27,232	0·5
Total Taxation	3,866,694	59·8	3,694,090	60·2
Government Endowment and Grants*	202,630†	3·1	154,882†	2·5
Licensing Fund Payments	61,272	0·9	61,087	1·0
Contributions for Streets, Foot-paths, &c.	304,322	4·7	249,955	4·1
Market and Weighbridge Dues	133,138	2·1	125,446	2·1
Rents	143,554	2·2	132,454	2·1
Electric Light and Gas Works	1,218,092	18·9	1,252,960	20·4
Interest	95,498	1·5	103,985	1·7
Other Sources	437,608	6·8	361,805	5·9
Total	6,462,808	100·0	6,136,664	100·0

* Legislative provision for the non-payment of Government endowment for the year 1930-31 was made in the *Municipal Endowment (Temporary Discontinuance) Act 1930* and for the year 1931-32 in the *Financial Emergency Act 1932*.—† Including grants for Unemployment relief, £146,629.——† Including grants for unemployment relief, £88,296.

Revenue of
Cities in
Greater
Melbourne.

The revenue of the 26 cities in Greater Melbourne during the year 1931-32 amounted to £3,688,754. The amount and the proportion from each source were as follows:—£1,952,633 or 52·9 per cent. was derived from taxation, £1,003,894 or 27·2 per cent. from sales of electricity, gas, and gas by-products, £205,047 or 5·6 per cent. from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., £98,147 or 2·7 per cent. from rents, £94,892 or 2·6 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, £72,037 or 1·9 per cent. from interest, £63,975 or 1·7 per cent. from Government grants, £22,039 or 0·6 per cent. from licensing fund, and £176,090 or 4·8 per cent. from all other sources.

Municipal
expenditure.

The ordinary expenditure of municipalities under various headings during each of the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 and the proportion under each heading are shown in the following table:—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES,
1930-31 AND 1931-32.

Heads of Expenditure.	1930-31.		1931-32.	
	Amount.	Proportion to Total Expenditure.	Amount.	Proportion to Total Expenditure.
	£	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Salaries, &c.	425,228	6·6	386,477	6·6
Sanitary Work, Street Cleansing, &c.	432,325	6·7	385,985	6·6
Lighting	183,357	2·8	181,451	3·1
Health Administration ..	115,464	1·8	114,134	2·0
Contributions to Fire Brigades ..	69,382	1·1	61,262	1·0
Public Works—				
Construction	272,718	4·2	196,630	3·4
Maintenance	1,828,870	28·4	1,537,875	26·4
Formation of Private Streets, &c.	158,916	2·5	52,860	0·9
Electric Light and Gas Works ..	858,338	13·3	877,189	15·1
Redemption of Loans	469,507	7·3	511,867	8·8
Interest on Loans	772,096	12·0	684,733	11·8
Interest on Bank Overdrafts ..	73,674	1·1	67,594	1·1
Charities	48,389	0·7	38,449	0·7
Other Expenditure	743,833	11·5	727,266	12·5
Total	6,452,097	100·0	5,823,772	100·0

Assets and
liabilities of
Municipalities.

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

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1929-30 TO 1931-32.

Assets.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Municipal Fund—	£	£	£
Uncollected Rates	592,591	930,396	1,038,727
Streets formed, &c., payments outstanding	848,215	1,334,953	1,360,708
Rents and Interest outstanding ..	20,515	25,805	54,078
Cash in hand or in Bank	409,427	541,461	742,466
Other Assets	379,635	344,215	367,720
Loan Funds—			
Sinking Funds—			
Amount at Credit	617,692	547,412	623,380
Arrears Due	364	264	125
Due by other Municipalities	77,976	70,372	66,017
Unexpended Balances	534,595	361,825	421,516
Property—			
Halls, Buildings, Markets, Tramways, &c.	5,561,540	5,381,110	5,518,160
Waterworks	422,500	417,710	384,970
Gasworks	208,900	255,740	244,840
Electric Light Works	2,501,760	2,596,270	2,452,740
Plant and Machinery	669,540	667,540	656,010
Other Assets	211,010	200,670	198,460
Total Assets	13,056,260	13,675,743	14,129,917
Liabilities.			
Municipal Fund—			
Due on Current Contracts	74,295	40,943	44,356
Arrears due to Sinking Funds	364	264	125
Overdue Interest	8,545	18,901	20,664
Bank Overdrafts	1,024,753	1,111,186	977,111
Other Liabilities	1,091,057	1,040,833	1,014,794
Loan Funds—			
Loans Outstanding	13,915,019	13,639,135	13,465,826
Due on Loan Contracts	97,878	39,995	2,552
„ to other Municipalities	77,976	70,372	66,017
Total Liabilities*	16,289,887	15,961,632	15,591,445

* Exclusive of loan indebtedness to the Country Roads Board, which amounted to £1,913,949 on 30th June, 1932.

ENDOWMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES.

A statement relating to the payment of endowments and subsidies to municipalities from 1874 to 1927-28 appeared on page 142 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

The endowments paid to municipalities in the years 1928-29 and 1929-30 are shown in the *Year-Books* of 1929-30 and 1930-31.

The *Municipal Endowment (Temporary Discontinuance) Act* 1930, provided for the non-payment of endowment to municipalities for the year 1930-31. A similar provision was incorporated in the *Financial Emergency Act* 1931, as amended by the *Financial Emergency (Amendment) Act* 1932, which extended the period of non-payment to the years 1931-32 and 1932-33.

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES BY MUNICIPALITIES.

The provisions of the law relating to Rating on Unimproved Values appeared on pages 143 and 144 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

Since the year 1926-27, the number of municipalities which levied the general rate on the unimproved value has remained unchanged at 14. The following table gives for these municipalities particulars of the capital value of land (improved and unimproved), the annual improved value, the rating, &c., for the year 1932-33:—

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES, 1932-33.

Municipality.	Capital Value.	Unimproved Capital Value.	Annual Improved Value.	Amount of Rate in the £ on Unimproved Value.	Equivalent Rate on Annual Improved Value.	Amount Payable in 1932 on Unimproved Value.	Percentage Unimproved to Capital Value.
	£	£	£	s. d.	s. d.	£	%
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.							
<i>Greater Melbourne.</i>							
Brunswick City ..	9,735,526	2,806,202	579,761	0 7	2 10	81,848	28·82
Camberwell City ..	15,530,542	5,175,067	810,808	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	97,032	33·32
Caulfield City ..	17,264,020	5,392,057	881,572	0 4	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	89,868	31·23
Chelsea City ..	1,609,234	686,319	82,491	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	12,868	42·65
Coburg City ..	9,044,350	2,076,236	361,774	0 5	2 4 $\frac{3}{8}$	43,255	22·96
Essendon City ..	10,453,331	3,349,368	611,428	0 5	2 3 $\frac{3}{8}$	69,778	32·04
Mordialloc City ..	2,723,592	1,212,735	138,412	0 4	2 11	20,212	44·53
Oakleigh City ..	2,134,492	924,055	129,312	0 5	2 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	19,251	43·29
Sandringham City ..	4,260,424	1,964,898	253,609	0 4	2 7	32,748	46·12
<i>Outside Greater Melbourne.</i>							
Newtown and Chilwell Town ..	2,223,208	665,956	113,465	0 4 $\frac{7}{8}$	2 4 $\frac{5}{8}$	13,527	29·95
Portland Borough ..	671,215	229,992	37,591	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2	4,073	34·27
SHIRES.							
Dandenong ..	2,784,000	1,357,200	140,900	0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ *	2 0 $\frac{1}{8}$	14,137	48·75
Rosedale ..	2,980,000	1,564,660	149,000	0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ †	1 1 $\frac{1}{8}$	8,149	52·51
Yea ..	1,240,848	600,507	62,846	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,630	48·05

NOTE.—In addition, there is an extra rate in the £ of—

* 1d. in the Centre Riding and 1d. in the South Riding.

† 3d. in the township of Rosedale.

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

Moneys may be borrowed by municipalities for permanent works or undertakings or to liquidate the principal moneys owing by the municipality on account of any previous loan. Permanent works include *inter alia* the construction or alteration of streets, roads and bridges, and the construction or purchase of waterworks, electric-light works, and gasworks, municipal offices, pounds, abattoirs, workers' dwellings, baths, and pleasure grounds.

The amount of money borrowed at any time for permanent works or undertakings shall, except so far as it is otherwise expressly enacted, not exceed ten times the average income of the municipality for the previous three years from general rates not exceeding 2s. in the £1. But, in addition, loans having a currency of not more than 30 years may be raised for permanent works or undertakings upon the security of certain income, and not upon the credit of the municipality, by the issue of debentures or by mortgage. These loans are not to exceed five times the average amount of such income.

The municipal expenditure of loan moneys during the year 1931-32 amounted to £269,369, which is equivalent to only 18 per cent. of the average yearly loan expenditure of the previous four years. The loan indebtedness increased from £6,601,731 in 1922-23 to £13,465,826 in 1931-32, an increase of nearly 104 per cent. during the ten years. In 1922-23 the indebtedness was equivalent to 3·16d. per £1 of the estimated capital value of rateable property, and in 1931-32 the ratio was 5·34d. The following statement shows the loan receipts and expenditure during the years 1927-28 to 1931-32, and the loan liability on 30th September of each year:—

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1927-28 to 1931-32.

Year.	Loan Receipts from—			Loan Expenditure.	Amount of Loan Indebtedness at end of year.
	Government.	Other Sources.	Total.		
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES—	£	£	£	£	£
1927-28.. ..	10,078	1,254,368	1,264,446	1,337,888	9,148,939
1928-29.. ..	10,000	1,554,904	1,564,904	1,494,844	10,817,440
1929-30.. ..	..	945,713	945,713	1,088,913	11,108,445
1930-31.. ..	..	545,329	545,329	684,921	10,906,651
1931-32.. ..	10,320	207,783	218,103	215,473	10,809,733

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1927-28 TO 1931-32—continued.

Year.	Loan Receipts from—			Loan Expenditure.	Amount of Loan Indebtedness at end of year.
	Government.	Other Sources.	Total.		
SHIRES—	£	£	£	£	£
1927-28.. ..	2,026	442,827	444,853	418,594	2,242,828
1928-29.. ..	321	422,050	422,371	399,014	2,527,664
1929-30.. ..	953	247,964	248,917	344,679	2,806,574
1930-31.. ..	10,579	56,453	67,032	117,454	2,732,484
1931-32.. ..	7,112	31,572	38,684	53,896	2,656,093
TOTAL—					
1927-28.. ..	12,104	1,697,195	1,709,299	1,756,482	11,391,767
1928-29.. ..	10,321	1,976,954	1,987,275	1,893,858	13,345,104
1929-30.. ..	953	1,193,677	1,194,630	1,433,592	13,915,019
1930-31.. ..	10,579	601,782	612,361	802,375	13,639,135
1931-32.. ..	17,432	239,355	256,787	269,369	*13,465,826

* Including £814,843 due to the Government.

Length of Roads and Streets.

The following table shows the length of all roads and streets in the State in the year 1932 :—

LENGTH OF ALL ROADS AND STREETS, 1932.

Roads and Streets.	Cities, Towns and Boroughs—		Shires.	Total.
	In Greater Melbourne.	Outside Greater Melbourne.		
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Wood or Stone Paving ..	90	20	60	170
Bitumen or Concrete ..	324	207	1,649	2,180
Tarpaving, Metal, or Gravel ..	1,486	739	20,015	22,240
Formed but not metalled or otherwise prepared ..	35	190	25,239	25,464
Surveyed but not formed ..	474	330	55,143	55,947
Total	2,409	1,486	102,106	106,001

Under the provisions of the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act* 1918, No. 2995, a redemption fund was established at the State Treasury, into which the surplus revenue accumulations of the Tramway Board, the municipalities' sinking funds held by the State Treasurer, and annual contributions (in most cases for twenty years) from the metropolitan municipalities concerned were made payable. The greater

Melbourne and Metropolitan Municipal Loans Redemption Fund.

portion of the loan indebtedness of these municipalities was made a charge against this fund. The liability of the fund includes payments by the municipalities under the *Municipal Loans Act* 1915, No. 2591, and the *Municipalities' Loans Extension Act* 1898, No. 1552, except interest to date of discharge. The repayment of the principal of certain other municipal loans (except those of the City of Melbourne) raised from the public, but excluding loans, the amounts of which were expended on tramways, gas works, electric light works, and markets, is also made from the fund. The liabilities and assets of the fund at the date of its establishment are shown in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, pages 206 and 207.

The receipts of the Fund during the year 1932-33 amounted to £73,163, and were made up of contributions by municipalities, £52,930, and realizations of stock, £20,233; the amount expended from the Fund was £73,163, of which £67,905 was used for the redemption of municipal loans and £5,258 in payment of interest on the debit balance of the Fund.

Section 71 of Act No. 2995 provides for redemptions being temporarily charged to the public account when moneys are not available in the Fund. The amount so charged at 30th June, 1933, was £22,247.

The total receipts of the Fund to the 30th June, 1933, amounted to £1,765,497. The payments out of the Fund were—redemption of Municipal Loans, £1,079,010; payment to the Treasury in reduction of Municipal Liabilities, £604,180; interest, £82,297; and sundries, £10.

Licensing Fund. During the year 1932-33 a sum of £60,740 was paid out of this Fund to municipalities, as provided by Section 311 of the *Licensing Act* 1928. The payments to Cities amounted to £29,905, to Towns, £1,122, to Boroughs, £6,504, and to Shires, £23,209. A statement of the receipts and expenditure of this Fund appears in part "Law, Crime," of this issue, page 103.

Municipal Officers Fidelity Guarantee Fund. A statement giving the provisions of the Act under which this fund was incorporated appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 163.

The premium revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1932, was £1,092, for guarantees amounting to £325,410. The claims paid from January, 1908, the date of the inception of the fund, to 30th September, 1932, amounted to £4,577. The amount to the credit of the fund at 30th September, 1932, was £19,579.

**Incorporation
of Melbourne
and Geelong.**

Melbourne and Geelong are incorporated under special statutes and are not subject to the Local Government Acts except in a few unimportant provisions. Melbourne was incorporated as a town in 1842, and was proclaimed a city in 1847. Geelong was incorporated as a town in 1849, and proclaimed a city in 1910.

**Erection of
Dwelling
Houses by
Municipalities.**

Power is given under Part XXVIII. of the *Local Government Act* 1928 to Councils to erect or purchase dwelling-houses for persons of small means at a cost not exceeding £850, including the cost of the land, if the dwelling be of wood, or £950 if it be of brick, stone, or concrete.

A full statement is given on pages 147 and 148 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 of the statutory powers and duties of municipalities in regard to housing.

ERECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES BY STATE SAVINGS BANK COMMISSIONERS.

The Housing and Reclamation Act of 1920 and the amending Acts of 1922 and 1927 were repealed when the Statutes were consolidated in 1928, and the powers given to the Commissioners under these Acts are now embodied in Part III., Division 4, of the *State Savings Bank Act* 1928. Power is given to the Commissioners to provide dwelling-houses for eligible persons upon such terms and subject to such covenants and conditions as are prescribed or are fixed by the Commissioners. An eligible person is defined as one who is not the owner of a dwelling-house in Victoria or elsewhere and is not in receipt of an income of more than £400 a year at the time of entering into the contract of sale. The total capital cost to the Commissioners of any dwelling-house acquired or erected together with the cost of the land on which it is erected shall not exceed £1,000 if the dwelling-house be of wood and £1,300 if it be of brick, stone, or concrete.

The number of dwellings erected under this statutory power during the past five years is as follows:—1928-29, 1,193; 1929-30, 1,085; 1930-31, 240; 1931-32, 2; and 1932-33, nil; and the total number erected up to 30th June, 1933, 7,380. In addition, 1,662 other dwellings were purchased for applicants. The total amount advanced to borrowers by the Commissioners up to 30th June, 1933, was £6,674,789 of which £1,417,441 has been repaid.

WAR SERVICE HOMES.

In accordance with an agreement made the 21st day of November, 1932, between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Commissioners of the State Savings Bank of Victoria, the administration of the War Service Homes Act was transferred to the War Service Homes Commission. As at the date upon which the previous arrangement terminated the State Savings Bank had completed the erection of 3,779 homes, in addition to which advances had been made available to 427 eligible persons for the purchase of existing dwellings or the discharge of mortgages.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

Country Roads Board. With the object of improving the main roads of the State an Act was passed on 23rd December, 1912. The provisions of this Act and of subsequent amending Acts are now embodied in the *Country Roads Act* 1928. The Board consists of three members appointed by the Governor in Council.

Duties. The principal duties of the board are to ascertain by survey and investigation what roads are main roads; the nature and extent of the resources of Victoria in metals, minerals, and materials suitable for the purposes of road-making and maintenance, and the most effective and economical methods of dealing with the same, and of supplying and utilizing the material in any part of Victoria; the most effective methods of road construction and maintenance; what deviations (if any) in existing roads or what new roads should be made so as to facilitate communication and improve the conditions of traffic.

The construction of permanent works and the maintenance of main roads are to be carried out by the municipalities to the satisfaction of the board, but power is reserved to the Governor in Council to direct that permanent works and maintenance shall be carried out by the board.

The total cost of permanent works is, in the first instance, paid by the Treasury, but, subsequently, half the amount expended is refunded by the municipalities affected. The amount of the municipal contribution toward the cost of maintenance works is one-third of the amount expended.

Finance. The funds established under the *Country Roads Act* 1928 are the Country Roads Board Fund, the Loan Account, and the Developmental Roads Loan Account.

A statement of the moneys to be credited to the Country Roads Board Fund by Acts of Parliament appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 139. The *Country Roads Board Fund Act* 1930 provides that on and from 1st July, 1930, the following fees previously payable into the Fund shall—

(a) in the case of fees and moneys received in respect of unused roads and the sale of surplus street lands be paid into the consolidated revenue.

(b) in the case of fees received in respect of water frontages be paid into the "Rivers and Streams Fund."

The receipts and expenditure of that Fund for each of the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 were as follows:—

	1931-32.	1932-33.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£
Payments by Municipalities	314,070	243,507
Fees Motor Car Act	1,058,490	1,085,865
Fees Registration of Traction Engines	1,673	1,507
Fees Motor Omnibus Act	3,657	3,365
Stores and Material	106,167	168,075
Hire of Plant	22,279	31,494
Other Receipts (advance from Public Account advances for unemployment relief and other works, &c.) ..	41,196	131,111
TOTAL	1,547,532	1,664,924
<i>Expenditure.</i>		
Maintenance and reconditioning of main roads and State highways	647,422	823,391
Interest and Sinking Fund	119,001	117,757
Plant, stores, administration, &c.	213,076	290,143
Transfer to Revenue	150,000	..
Recoup to Revenue	368,614	340,291
Road Construction—		
To relieve unemployment (including materials) ..	7,428	108,808
Extension of Great Ocean Road	524	..
Other Expenditure	12,318	5,614
TOTAL	1,518,383	1,686,004

The balance to the credit of the Fund at 30th June, 1932, was £29,854, and at 30th June, 1933, £8,744.

The money received from the issue of stock or debentures under the authority of section 32 of the *Country Roads Act* 1928 is placed to the credit of the Loan Account, and the Account is debited with all payments made towards the cost of permanent road works. During 1932-33 the only amount paid into the account was £31,928 from the State Loans Repayment Fund, and the payments for permanent works were £35,052. The credit balance of the Account at 30th June, 1933, was £505.

The Developmental Roads Loan Account is credited with money received from the issue of stock and debentures issued under the authority of Section 85 of the *Country Roads Act* 1928, and is debited with expenditure in connexion with the construction of developmental roads. During 1932-33 the amount of £82,875 received from the State Loans Repayment Fund, was the only item of receipt. The expenditure on developmental road works was £80,715. There was a credit balance of £138 in the Account at 30th June, 1933.

The following is a summary of the total expenditure by the Board on road construction during each of the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 :—

—						1931-32.	1932-33.
State Highways*—						£	£
Maintenance and re-conditioning	..	..	..	..	..	265,250	419,421
Total State Highways						265,250	419,421
Main Roads*—							
Construction	..	..	..	..	..	31,425	197,472
Maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	422,927	485,087
Total Main Roads						454,352	682,559
Developmental Roads*—							
Construction	..	..	..	..	..	159,605	306,240
Unemployment Relief	..	..	..	..	..	14,683	206,126
Great Ocean Road	..	..	..	..	..	524	..
Grants to municipalities, Act 3662	..	..	..	..	..	39,535	..
Federal unemployment relief	..	..	..	..	..	3,296	1,628
Federal Trust	..	..	..	..	..	12,318	..
Experimental roads	..	..	..	..	..	1,892	..
TOTAL						951,455	1,615,974

* Including amounts contributed by the Commonwealth Government under the provisions of the Federal Aid Roads Act.

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

Creation and
constitution
of Board.

The Board was established by Act of Parliament on 20th December, 1890, and entered upon its duties on 18th March, 1891.

It consists of 40 members, of whom one is the chairman. The other thirty-nine members, who are called commissioners, are from

time to time elected by the councils of the various municipal districts within the metropolis. They represent 22 municipalities or parts of municipalities.

Functions of the Board. The principal functions of the Board are to control and manage the metropolitan water supply system, and to provide the metropolis with an efficient system of main and general sewerage.

Area under Board's control, and population. All land within 13 miles of the Post Office at the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth streets, Melbourne, together with the remaining areas of the City of Mordialloc and the Shire of Moorabbin and a further portion of the Shire of Dandenong, but excluding 11 square miles in the Shires of Keilor and Braybrook under the control of the Keilor and St. Albans Waterworks Trust, is included in the metropolis for water supply and sewerage purposes. This territory has an area of 434 square miles, and comprises 25 cities, 1 shire, and parts of 12 other shires. The total number of houses connected with the water supply system on 30th June, 1933, was 256,631, an increase of 1,873 for the year; and the estimated population supplied with water was 1,136,875.

Board's borrowing powers and liability on loans. The Board is empowered to borrow £22,750,000, this amount being exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934 originally contracted by the Government for the construction of the waterworks for the supply of Melbourne and suburbs. These works were vested in and taken over by the Board on 1st July, 1891.

The liability under loans raised by the Board was £24,944,984 on 30th June, 1933. The Board was at that date empowered to borrow £194,950 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

WATER SUPPLY FINANCE.

Water supply assessments and rates. The rate to be paid in respect of any lands and houses for the supply of water for domestic purposes, otherwise than by measure, is limited to an amount not exceeding 8d. in the pound on the annual value of the lands and houses served. The water rate levied in the year 1932-33 was 6d. in the pound on the annual value of property served. Assessments of £20 and under are charged a minimum rate of 10s. per annum. There is a charge of 1s. per 1,000 gallons for water supplied by meter, with the assessed rate as a minimum. For shipping at Melbourne wharves the charge is 3s. per 1,000 gallons.

Assessed value of property. The total annual value of property assessed for water supply purposes and liable to water rates was £18,423,295 in 1931-32, and £16,548,900 in 1932-33.

Revenue and expenditure of water supply system. During the year 1932-33 water rates and charges amounted to £685,642, meter rents to £46,094, and the total water supply revenue to £737,365, as against a total of £772,271 in 1931-32. Maintenance and repairs in 1932-33 cost £82,727, management and incidental expenses were £38,586, interest was £543,478, and the total charges were £664,791, as compared with £665,493 in the previous year.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan waterworks system. The total cost of the water supply system up to 30th June, 1933, was as follows:—

Original water supply works, tank, pumping station, &c.	£
Yan Yean system	84,885
Maroondah system	659,260
O'Shannassy system	1,695,303
Service reservoirs	2,859,585
Large mains..	597,628
Reticulation	2,468,729
Afforestation	2,731,033
Thompson River Scheme	27,851
Investigations, future works	134
	4,469
Total	<u>£11,128,877</u>

THE MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN WATERWORKS.

A description of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Waterworks (Yan Yean, Maroondah, and O'Shannassy systems) appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 169 to 171.

OUTPUT OF THE VARIOUS WATER SYSTEMS IN 1932.

Output of Water. The total output of water from the various sources of supply in 1932 was as follows:—

	Gallons.
From Yan Yean Reservoir	4,612,689,000
„ Maroondah Reservoir	8,470,182,000
„ O'Shannassy River and Silvan No. 1	8,520,751,000
Total Output	<u>21,603,622,000</u>

Storage and service reservoirs. There are five storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 23,351,305,000 gallons, twenty service reservoirs (including one at the Metropolitan Farm, Werribee), and three elevated tanks, with a total capacity of 261,700,000 gallons. The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on page 218, figures showing the then capacity of the reservoirs in gallons and their reduced level at by-wash.

The average number of people supplied with water during 1932 was 1,128,578, and the average daily consumption was 52·32 gallons per head. Some districts which are outside the Board's area are supplied with water. The total consumption and average consumption per day are shown hereunder for each month of the year 1932 :—

TOTAL AND DAILY AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS DURING EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR 1932.

Month.	Total Consumption of Water.	Daily Average Consumption of Water.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
January	3,415,931,000	110,191,323
February	2,148,223,000	74,076,655
March	1,851,977,000	59,741,193
April	1,461,291,000	48,709,700
May	1,443,809,000	46,574,484
June	1,305,774,000	43,525,800
July	1,300,560,000	42,297,548
August	1,344,382,000	43,367,161
September	1,404,457,000	46,815,233
October	1,540,302,000	49,686,000
November	2,159,428,000	71,980,933
December	2,233,880,000	72,060,645
Total for the year	21,610,014,000	..
Daily average for the year 1932 ..	..	59,043,745

NOTE.—The maximum daily consumption for 1932 occurred on 19th January, and the minimum daily consumption on 12th June of that year. The consumption was 148,975,000 gallons on the former and 34,176,000 gallons on the latter of these two days.

The following table shows for each of the last five years the daily average consumption of water, and the daily average per head :—

DAILY AVERAGE QUANTITY OF WATER CONSUMED IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1928 TO 1932.

Year.	Estimated Population supplied with Water to 30th June.	Properties supplied with Water to 30th June.	Number of Properties for which Sewers were provided to 30th June.	Daily Average of Annual Consumption of Water to 31st December.	No. of Gallons of Water per Head Daily.
				Gallons.	
1928 ...	1,060,325	239,351	216,785	55,314,000	52·16
1929 ...	1,084,592	244,829	223,324	56,730,000	52·30
1930 ...	1,108,492	250,224	230,941	61,202,000	55·21
1931 ...	1,121,313	253,118	234,600	60,232,000	53·71
1932 ...	1,128,578	254,758	236,640	59,044,000	52·32

These figures show that additional properties to the number of 1,640 were supplied with water during the year ended 30th June, 1932.

SEWERAGE FINANCE.

Sewerage assessments, rates, and receipts. The Board is empowered to levy a general sewerage rate not exceeding 1s. 2d. in the £1 on the net annual value of properties in sewered areas. The sewerage rate for the year 1932-33 was 1s. in the £1. The total annual value of property in the Board's area in 1932-33 was £17,796,253, of which £16,345,253 was liable to the sewerage rate, the balance being the value of property in unsewered districts.

The receipts from the general sewerage rates and charges in 1932-33 amounted to £839,449.

The sewerage revenue for 1932-33 was £879,396, as against £875,149 in the previous year. The charges against the Sewerage Revenue Account were cost of management and incidental expenses £29,187, maintenance and repairs £108,235, and interest £677,480, making the total charges £814,902, as compared with £823,221 in 1931-32.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan sewerage system.

The cost of sewerage works and house connexions up to 30th June, 1933, was £13,219,517, divided as follows:—

	£
Farm purchase and preparation	1,153,346
Treatment works	122,931
Outfall Sewer and Rising Mains	472,882
Pumping stations, buildings, and plant ..	326,575
Main and branch sewers	2,921,175
Reticulation sewers	7,135,068
Cost of house connexions chargeable to capital ..	695,395
Sanitary depots	61,634
<hr/>	
Cost of sewerage system	£12,889,006
Householders' debts for house connexions ..	330,511
<hr/>	
Total	£13,219,517
<hr/>	

**Main Sewers
and Subsidiary
Main.**

The sewage of the metropolis is delivered into two main sewers and a subsidiary main leading to the pumping station at Spotswood. The two main sewers are the North Yarra main sewer (Northern system) and the Hobson's Bay main sewer (Southern system). The subsidiary main, which takes in Williamstown, joins the Hobson's Bay main before it enters the pumping station. Further information regarding these is given in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, page 222.

PROGRESS REPORT OF SEWERAGE WORK 1933.

During the year ended 30th June, 1933, 3 miles 8 chains of main and branch sewers, and 22 miles 56 chains of reticulation sewers were constructed, making the total length at that date, as under :—

Outfall sewer, rising mains, and subsidiary rising main	..	..	24 miles 59 chains
Main and branch sewers (12 inches and upwards in diameter)	..	..	223 ,, 6 ,,
Reticulation sewers and house branches (4 inches to 9 inches in diameter)	..	2,191	,, 41 ,,
Total	..	..	2,439 ,, 26 ,,

The total population served by the sewerage system at 30th June, 1933, is estimated at 1,069,189 persons.

BUILDINGS CONNECTED WITH THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

**Number of
Buildings for
which sewers
were provided
on 31st Decr.,
1932.**

The first house was connected in Port Melbourne in August, 1897. On 31st December, 1932, the number of buildings for which sewers were provided was 236,513.

During the year 1932, 955 new houses were erected in the metropolitan area, and provision was made for the sewerage of 1,339 buildings.

The following statement shows the progress of sewer connexions to the 31st December, 1932:—

Municipality.	No. of Buildings for which sewers were provided on 31st December, 1932.
Box Hill City	2,861
Braybrook Shire (part of)	214
Brighton City	7,125
Broadmeadows Shire (part of)	211
Brunswick City	13,067
Camberwell City	12,557
Caulfield City	15,992
Coburg City	7,676
Collingwood City	8,779
Essendon City	12,018
Fitzroy City	8,158
Footscray City	10,519
Hawthorn City	8,357
Heidelberg Shire (part of)	5,219
Keilor Shire (part of)	132
Kew City	5,527
Malvern City	10,652
Melbourne City	27,582
Moorabbin Shire	2,813
Mulgrave Shire (part of)	9
Northcote City	10,016
Oakleigh City	2,576
Port Melbourne City	3,287
Prahran City	13,025
Preston City	7,075
Richmond City	10,566
Sandringham City	4,222
South Melbourne City	10,975
St. Kilda City	9,779
Werribee Shire (part of)	16
Williamstown City	5,508
Total	236,513

PUMPING STATIONS.

The Pumping Stations are described on pages 177 and 178 of the *Year Book* for 1928-29.

The total volume of sewage pumped at the Spotswood Pumping Station during the year 1932-33 was 15,611,510,000 gallons—equal to 42,771,260 gallons per day, as against a total of 15,827,650,000 gallons, with a daily average of 43,244,945 for the previous year.

The unit cost of raising 1,000 gallons 100 feet was .421d. as compared with .398d. for the preceding year.

At the Preston Pumping Station, which was first placed in operation in February, 1929, the total volume of sewage pumped was 22,754,000 gallons, with a daily average of 62,300 gallons, as against a total of 21,760,000 gallons with a daily average of 59,600 gallons for the previous year. The total number of tenements served by this station at 30th June, 1933, was 456.

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.

A general description of this farm is given on pages 178 and 179 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29. Since that time provision has been made for treating a considerable proportion of the sewage in the winter months by a process of continuous irrigation. The method consists of first removing from the sewage the readily settleable solids, and then passing it in a thin film over carefully graded areas carrying a good growth of vegetation.

The statistical data for the year ended 30th June, 1933, is as under :—

Total area of farm	22,634 acres.
Area prepared for sewage disposal	10,625 „
Rainfall at farm for year	17.08 inches.
Average rainfall over 39 years	18.23 „
Net cost of sewage purification for year per head of population	11 pence.
Profit on cattle for year	£29,165.
„ sheep for year	£5,814.
„ horses for year (agistment)	£2,623.

The number of cattle, sheep, and horses on hand throughout the year ranged as under :—

Cattle	15,700 maximum, 9,500 minimum.
Sheep	25,000 „ 8,000 „
Horses	950 „ 280 „

DISPOSAL OF NIGHTSOIL FROM UNSEWERED PREMISES.

The responsibility for the collection, removal, and disposal of nightsoil from unsewered premises within the metropolis was transferred from the individual municipal councils to the Melbourne and

Metropolitan Board of Works as from 19th November, 1924. The statutory provisions governing the matter are contained in Sections 41 and 42 of the *Health Act* 1928 (No. 3697).

Agreements have subsequently been entered into between the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works and the municipal councils, whereby the latter undertake the collection of the nightsoil and its delivery in sealed pans to the depots established by the Board for the purpose, while the Board is responsible for the disposal of the nightsoil. Each council pays to the Board a sum of 3s. per annum for every pan on which it levies a pan charge to offset the cost of disposing of the nightsoil and of cleaning the pans.

Three depots for this purpose have been established by the Board, in isolated positions, at Moorabbin, Campbellfield, and Brooklyn, respectively. Comparatively large areas of land, totalling 752 acres, have been acquired so that an adequate buffer has been formed between the depot and adjacent private property. The total capital cost of the depots as at 30th June, 1933, was £61,634.

For the year, the working expenses were £4,947, while interest amounted to £3,190, making a total of £8,137. The revenue was £3,152, leaving a deficiency of £4,985.

METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE AND RIVERS.

Metropolitan Drainage and River Improvement Rate. Under the provisions of Part VIII. of the Act, which relates to Metropolitan Drainage and Rivers, the Board is empowered to levy a Metropolitan Drainage and River Improvement Rate.

Improvement Rate not exceeding 1d. in the £1 in respect of the properties in the metropolis rateable to any municipality. The rate was first levied on 1st July, 1927, and has remained at 1d. in the £1.

Assessed value of property. The total annual value of property assessed for Drainage and River purposes and liable to the 1d. in the £1 rate was £17,796,252.

Revenue and Expenditure on Drainage and Rivers. For 1932-33 the total revenue was £80,655, as against £86,016 in the previous year. The cost in 1932-33 of maintenance, management, and working expenses was £17,284, and the interest charges were £58,676, the total charges

being £75,960. In 1931-32 the cost of maintenance, management, and working expenses amounted to £16,735, interest to £59,545 and the total expenditure to £76,280.

Cost of Drainage and River Improvement works. The total cost of Drainage and River Improvement works to 30th June, 1933, was £1,069,918.

Length of main drains. The following table gives particulars of all main drains under the control of the Board at 30th June, 1933 :—

1. Underground drains—

(a) Constructed by Municipal Councils and taken over by the Board and not replaced	29 miles 59 chains
(b) Constructed by the Board (including 9 miles 8 chains of drains which replace drains previously declared)	32 „ 49 „
Total underground drains controlled	62 miles 28 chains

2. Open drains—

(a) Constructed by Municipal Councils and taken over by the Board and not replaced	8 miles 78 chains
(b) Constructed by the Board (including 2 miles 68 chains of drains which replace drains previously declared)	3 „ 21 „
Total constructed open drains controlled	12 miles 19 chains

3. Natural watercourses and unlined open drains controlled 6 miles 50 chains

Grand total of drains controlled 81 miles 17 chains

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

Melbourne Harbor Trust — receipts and expenditure.

The Port of Melbourne is under the control of the Trust. Particulars relating to the Trade of the Port are published in part “Interchange.” The *Year-Book* for 1929-30 contains on page 145 a statement showing the powers and functions of this Trust, also information relating to the Commissioners and the borrowing power of the Trust. The following

are particulars of the ordinary receipts and ordinary and capital expenditure for each year 1928 to 1932. The loan indebtedness as at the end of each of the five years is also shown :—

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: 1928 TO 1932.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates ..	625,907	671,288	512,721	331,689	418,682
Rents	36,885	29,662	29,787	29,195	28,102
Interest	2,149	3,901	12,611	5,346	2,593
Other Revenue	62,994	76,588	63,772	53,682	55,728
	727,935	781,439	618,891	419,912	505,105
Less Amount paid to Consolidated Revenue	143,648	145,948	135,171	83,005	101,897
Total	584,287	635,491	483,720	336,907	403,208
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Management Expenses	53,765	60,342	66,484	58,792	53,477
Loan Flotation Expenses, &c. ..	3,500	4,188	3,825	126,708†	5,133
Maintenance—Dredging	49,258	45,315	21,801	3,007	27,720
" Harbor	5,587	6,115	4,766	1,840	2,300
" Wharfs	59,775	53,298	29,783	11,640	11,164
" Approaches	22,884	18,539	16,743	4,618	6,023
Interest on Loans	167,489	183,638	208,602	240,419	243,681
Depreciation, Renewals, Account, and Sinking Fund	213,000	213,000	120,000	..	50,047
Total	575,258	584,435	472,004	446,924	399,545
Surplus on Revenue Account ..	9,029	51,056	11,716	..	3,663
Deficit on Revenue Account ..	..	..	..	110,017	..
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Land and Property	10,869	9,587	117,652	111,992	65,438
Deepening Waterways	261,634	231,884	168,515	57,203	31,365
Wharves Construction	161,235	139,203	201,186	36,666	20,611
Approaches Construction	78,249	49,933	12,677	16,718	5,233
Other Harbor Improvements ..	17,253	9,716	8,297	1,723	1,321
Floating and General Plant	3,461	14,729	34,188	106,726	12,133
Total	532,701	455,052	542,515	331,028	136,101
Loan Indebtedness	3,726,800	3,904,836	4,220,807	4,410,100	4,594,504

* Exclusive of interest on cost of plant debited to works carried out by day labour.

† Includes £112,488 exchange on moneys remitted to London for redemption of loan.

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST.

The Port of Geelong is under the control of the Trust. Particulars relating to the Trade of the Port are published in part "Interchange." A short statement in regard to the constitution and borrowing powers of this Trust appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 147. The following is a summary

Geelong
Harbor Trust
—receipts and
expenditure.

of the ordinary receipts and expenditure for each year 1928 to 1932. Capital expenditure during, and loan indebtedness at end of, each of the five years is also shown :—

**GEE LONG HARBOR TRUST — REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE, 1928 TO 1932.**

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage, Tonnage and Special Berth Rates	30,721	45,724	42,191	36,343	38,101
Rents, Fees, and Licences	7,159	6,906	13,835	7,345	6,705
Freezing Works and Abattoirs	8,000	8,000	8,082	8,098	8,047
Other Revenue	11,531	5,685	20,522	2,550	3,343
Total	57,411	66,315	84,630	54,336	56,196
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
Management Expenses	7,595	10,330	8,509	8,517	9,041
Maintenance.. ..	14,803	17,957	14,001	11,393	12,958
Interest on Loans and Sinking Fund	26,026	27,226	28,516	27,768	28,663*
Freezing Works and Abattoirs	4,405	5,760	5,620	5,404	5,870
Miscellaneous	2,228	2,800	983	2,706	987
Total	55,057	64,073	57,629	55,788	57,519
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and Property	2,693	5,636	6,174	5,606	2,097
Deepening Waterworks	9,434	948	123	..	..
Wharves and Approaches	84,694	9,227	6,930	245	28
Other	667	2,028	2,562	3,176	1,949
Total	97,488	17,839	15,789	9,027	4,074
Loan Indebtedness	622,806	634,887	621,314	616,161	617,422

* The amount of unpaid interest to the State Treasury on loans was, at 30th June, 1933, £264,606.

**THE BALLARAT WATER COMMISSION AND THE BALLARAT
SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.**

The Ballarat Water Commission was constituted on 1st July, 1880, and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority was constituted under the provisions of the *Sewerage Districts Act* 1915 by Order in Council, dated 30th November, 1920.

Water Supply.—The Water Supply District embraces an area of about 27 square miles, including the city of Ballarat, the borough of Sebastopol, and portions of the shires of Ballarat, Buninyong, and Bungaree, and it contains a population of about 42,000. The works comprise six reservoirs, which have a total storage capacity of 2,215,558,000 gallons.

The capital cost of construction of the waterworks was £663,428. The liabilities were loans due to the Government, amounting to £299,210 as at 31st December, 1932. The revenue for the year 1932 was £32,877.

Sewerage.—The actual construction of sewerage works for the city began in December, 1922. The scheme as designed provides for a population of 90,000 persons. The capital cost of construction to 31st December, 1932, was £340,427. Fifty-eight sewered areas had been declared as at 1st January, 1933, comprising 7,263 tenements. The service was put into action in July, 1925, when the first house connexion was made.

The scheme is being financed by debenture issue loans from various financial institutions, £384,090 having been provided up to 31st December, 1932, for constructional works, and £148,000 for house connexions.

GEELONG WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE TRUST.

This Trust was constituted on 15th January, 1908. It was reconstituted under the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act in 1910.

The amount of loans which may be raised is limited to £725,000 for water supply undertaking, £710,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £270,000 for sewerage installations to properties under deferred payment conditions. The expenditure on these services to 30th June, 1932, was:—Water supply, £702,619; sewerage, £641,920; and sewerage installation, £256,116. The annual revenue for the year ending 30th June, 1932, was £54,750 on account of waterworks and £42,108 on account of sewerage. Since 1913 the Trust has appropriated and set apart sums out of surplus revenues for the creation of a sinking fund to redeem loans. The amount of these sinking funds on 30th June, 1932, was—For sewerage, £49,732; for water supply, £50,697.

The population supplied is estimated at 45,387. The number of buildings situate within the "Drainage Area" is 11,440; the number within the "Sewered Areas," 11,150; and the number connected with the sewers, 11,077.

Water Supply.—The catchment area is about 16,000 acres. Particulars of the works and storage capacity of the various reservoirs are given in the *Year-Book* for 1920-21, pp. 226 and 227. The total storage capacity of the reservoirs and service basins is 2,738,120,000 gallons.

The Trust has arranged to take a minimum annual quantity of 545,000,000 gallons of water from the river Barwon to supplement the supply from the Moorabool watersheds.

Sewerage.—The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer, 4 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 3 in., to the ocean at Black Rock, a distance of about 9 miles from Geelong. The drainage area is 9,489 acres and includes the city of Geelong, the city of Geelong West, the town of Newtown and Chilwell, and the suburban areas in the shires of Corio, South Barwon, and Bellarine.

BENDIGO SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Bendigo Sewerage Authority was constituted in November, 1916, and the members of the Bendigo City Council constitute *ipso facto* the Sewerage Authority.

The actual construction of the sewerage works began in January, 1921, and sewer construction was completed on 31st October, 1932. The first house was connected on 31st March, 1923. Approximately 5,700 tenements are now connected to the sewers.

Method of Sewage Disposal and Purification.—The method of disposal is by sedimentation and oxidation, with separate sludge digestion. Purification is effected solely by Land Treatment—Irrigation in Summer and surface flow in Winter. A description of the scheme appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 184. While the method of treatment remains the same in principle, the capacity of the sewage tanks was increased during the year 1930-31. The increased capacity of the tanks will make provision for a population of 50,000 persons.

Finance.—Loans have been raised by the issue of debentures. The total amount so borrowed to the end of September, 1932, was £402,000, including £60,000 for house connexions. Loans amounting to £63,766, including £20,023 raised for house connexions, have been redeemed to 31st March, 1933. For the purpose of meeting the half-yearly loan repayments a sewerage rate of 1s. 9d. in the £1 is levied on all properties within the declared sewered areas.

It is estimated that the scheme will cost £500,000. The capital expenditure to 30th September, 1932, was £330,783.

COLAC SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Colac Sewerage Authority was constituted under the *Sewerage Districts Act* 1915 on the 13th November, 1923, and the Sewerage District which embraces the whole area of the township of Colac was proclaimed.

The Commissioners of the Colac Water Works Trust are also members of the Sewerage Authority. The first meeting of the Authority was held on 31st January, 1924.

The money required for the scheme was granted by the Governor in Council in accordance with the provisions of the *Sewerage Districts Act*. The capital expenditure to 30th June, 1933, was £76,593.

The construction of the principal works was completed in October, 1927, when the first sewered area was declared. The population at present served by the system is approximately 5,670. The works have been designed to deal with the sewage from a population of 10,000.

At the beginning of 1928 rates were struck; the sewerage rate for that year was fixed at 1s. 9d. in the £1 on the municipal valuation of sewered properties, with a special rate of 8d. in the £1 on the same properties. The sewerage rate for 1932-33 is 2s. in the £1 on the municipal valuations.

An area of 37 acres of land was acquired for the treatment works site, 30 acres of this area being let for grazing and other purposes. The system for treatment of sewage is described in the *Year-Book* for 1931-32, page 147.

To enable the Authority to finance house connexion work on account of householders, arrangements were made with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, with the consent of the Governor in Council,

for a debenture loan of £50,000. In view of the fact that a greater number of householders paid cash for cost of connecting their tenements than was anticipated, debentures to the value of £5,329 were retired. The balance due to the Commonwealth Bank on 30th June, 1933, was £22,079.

There were 1,280 tenements connected to the sewers on 30th June, 1933.

The ordinary revenue of the Authority during 1932 amounted to £6,125, and the expenditure to £5,933.

MILDURA SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Mildura Sewerage Authority was constituted on 12th June, 1928, and the Sewerage District proclaimed. This District, which contains an area of 780 acres, comprises the main portion of the Town of Mildura. The members of the Council of the Town of Mildura constitute *ipso facto* the Mildura Sewerage Authority.

A sum of £70,000 was made available by the Victorian Government for carrying out the necessary surveys and the construction of sewers, pumping stations, rising mains and treatment works. This sum has been expended, and the scheme which was commenced in February, 1930, is practically completed.

House connexions have been financed by a private loan arranged by the Authority, the expenditure in this respect being £46,000. About 20 per cent. of owners did not avail themselves of the Authority's finance, so that the actual total cost of house connexions cannot be stated. The loan liability at 30th June, 1933, was £68,871 for construction and £34,375 for house connexions.

There is one main drainage area and two smaller areas. From the smaller areas the sewage is pumped to the main sewer, from which it gravitates to the main pumping station and is then pumped to the treatment works. The daily flow is approximately 195,000 gallons.

The sewage is pumped to a sedimentation tank, from which, after settlement, the solids are removed to a digester, whilst the liquor passes to tanks, where it is oxidized by the activated sludge process. The effluent is then gravitated over adjoining land, which is leased from the Authority, and on which is grown fodder crops.

In the digester approximately 80 per cent. of the solids is removed as gas and burnt, whilst the balance is gravitated to sludge beds and is sold for agricultural purposes.

The first house connexion was made in March, 1932. On the 30th June, 1933, the number of tenements connected with the system was 1,232, which serves an estimated population of 5,544 persons.

The sewerage rate is 1s. 9d. in the £1 on the net annual valuation of the Municipality. For properties not rated under the Local Government Act there is an annual cistern charge on the sliding scale, varying from £1 7s. 6d. to £2 10s. per cistern. The revenue of the Authority during the year ended 30th June, 1933, was £7,028, and the expenditure £5,414.

ECHUCA SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The date of constitution of this Authority was 18th October, 1927. The first house connexion was made in January, 1931. The number of houses connected with the sewerage system on the 30th June, 1933, was 975.

The cost of reticulation, pumping station, and treatment works, &c., to 30th June, 1933, was £64,000, and the amount expended on house connexions was £40,000, of which £6,080 has been repaid by house-holders. The loan liability on the 30th June, 1933, was £62,738 for construction and £33,920 for house connexions.

The revenue of the Authority for the year ended 30th June, 1933, amounted to £8,791, and the expenditure to £12,674. The sewerage rate is 2s. in the £1 on the net annual municipal valuation of rateable property. There is also a special rate of 6d. in the £1.

SEWERAGE IN OTHER COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

Warrnambool, Swan Hill, and Horsham Sewerage Authorities. The Warrnambool and Swan Hill Authorities have made good progress with the construction work, and a commencement has been made with the connexion of houses to the sewers. The Horsham Authority is proceeding with construction works.

Other Sewerage Authorities. The Wangaratta Sewerage Authority was constituted, and is now proceeding with a detail survey of its district prior to the preparation of final designs and specification for works. Sewerage Authorities were constituted at Kerang and Bairnsdale, and preparations are being made for the detailed surveys.

Proposed Sewerage Authorities. Applications for the constitution of sewerage authorities at Ararat, Benalla, Castlemaine, Dandenong, Kyneton, Lorne, Mornington, and Shepparton have been examined and the schemes generally approved.

FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS.

Constitution of Fire Brigades Boards. Under the *Fire Brigades Act* 1928 there are constituted a metropolitan fire district, controlled by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and nine country fire districts, controlled by the Country Fire Brigades Board.

**Metropolitan
Fire Brigades
Board.**

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board is composed of nine members, of whom three are appointed by the Governor in Council, three by the municipal councils, and three by the fire insurance companies.

The municipal districts which comprise the Metropolitan Fire District are described in a statement which appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 158.

The Board on 30th June, 1933, had under its control the following:— 43 stations, 296 members of permanent staff, 63 members of special service staff, 9 members of clerical staff, 61 men engaged in the workshops, 12 employees engaged in the tailoring department, and 165 partially paid firemen.

During 1932-33 the cost of maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was £156,416, one-third being contributed by each of the contributing bodies, viz., Government of Victoria, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District, and the fire insurance companies carrying on business in that district. The municipalities' contribution was equal to 689d. in the pound on the annual value of £18,155,561 of property within the Fire District, and that of the insurance companies was equal to £5 3s. 9d. for every £100 of premiums on insured property. The premiums received in the Melbourne Fire District in 1932 amounted to £1,005,001.

**Country Fire
Brigades
Board.**

The Country Fire Brigades Board consists of nine members. Three are appointed by the Governor in Council, two are elected by the municipal councils of the districts in which there are brigades registered under the Board, two by the fire insurance companies carrying on business in such districts, and two by the registered fire brigades. The Board's revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1933, was £27,343, which was obtained from the following sources:—(a) Government, £8,933; (b) municipalities, £8,926; (c) insurance companies, £8,933; and (d) other sources, £551. The expenditure for the same year amounted to £27,576. There are 120 municipal councils and 105 insurance companies included in the operation of the Act. The premiums received by the insurance companies in country districts during the year 1931 amounted to £377,811. The annual value of rateable property assessed within the Board's districts in 1932 was £3,518,537. All brigades under the control of the Board are volunteer brigades, but in the large centres a few permanent stationkeepers and auxiliaries are employed. There are 146 registered brigades, and the number of registered firemen is 2,832. In most brigades there is, in addition to the registered firemen, a number of "reserve" members.

Receipts and expenditure. Particulars of receipts and expenditure of both Fire Brigades Boards for the five years 1928-29 to 1932-33 are as follows :—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS:
1928-29 TO 1932-33.

Hheads of Receipts and Expenditure.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
<i>Ordinary Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Contributions — Govern- ment, Municipal, and Insurance	216,453	220,837	219,831	183,295	183,209
Receipts for Services ..	27,043	25,691	24,855	24,132	21,106
Interest and Sundries ..	30,797	32,363	20,936	14,576	15,120
Total	274,293	278,891	265,622	222,003	219,435
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries	155,486	156,931	156,275	130,034	130,477
Fire Expenses	4,461	4,785	4,606	4,288	4,242
Administrative Charges, &c.	44,467	45,620	42,460	34,978	35,488
Plant—Purchase and Re- pairs	24,052	27,059	20,027	17,599	14,066
Interest	14,075	13,757	14,352	13,546	12,692
Repayment of Loans ..	6,351	6,590	7,191	7,594	8,022
Firemen's Accident Fund	500	500	500	..	..
Superannuation Fund ..	8,964	8,977	9,102	7,987	8,090
Miscellaneous	13,672	10,336	5,212	3,460	5,188
Total	272,028	274,555	259,725	219,486	218,265
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>					
Purchase of Land and Erection of Buildings, &c.	33,365	14,040	18,260	3,950	511
<i>Loan Indebtedness</i> ..	240,508	247,917	256,226	254,132	246,110