MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.

A statement of the provisions of the laws relating to local government appeared in the Year Book for 1928-29 Legislation. on pages 127 to 131.

the metropolitan area during the year ended 30th September, 1930, first place was again occupied by Camberwell as regards the number and value of private dwellings erected. Malvern, Caulfield, Preston, Coburg, and Brighton were ahead of other municipalities in the same period in the value of dwellings erected. These six cities are popular residential suburbs, and in each there is a large area available for the building of dwellings. The value of shops and factories, &c., erected was, as would be expected, greater in Melbourne City than in any other municipality. The industrial suburbs, Collingwood, Richmond, Brunswick, and Footscray, with comparatively small values, followed in the order mentioned. The following statement shows the particulars for each of the metropolitan municipalities for the year ended 30th September, 1930, and for the purpose of comparison, the totals for acorresponding period for the years 1928-29 and 1927-28:--

According to building permits issued by the cities in

9340.-12

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED FOR NEW BUILDINGS IN GREATER MELBOURNE DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1930.

Name of City.	Dwe	ellings.	Other 1	Other Buildings.		
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	
Box Hill Brighton Brunswick Camberwell Caulfield Coburg Collingwood Essendon Fitzroy Footscray Hawthorn Kew Malvern Melbourne Northcote Oakleigh Port Melbourne Prahran Preston Richmond Sandringham South Melbourne St. Kilda Williamstown Total for year 1929–30 Total for year 1928–29	64 95 107 300 148 126 9 91 	£ 57,763 105,919 86,200 331,591 145,657 106,735 8,420 75,528 -3,680 -59,322 84,705 104,469 151,227 7,489 38,730 40,279 27,050 12,775 77,533 13,487 77,533 13,487 88,121 40,915 1,872,740 3,730,724	73 214 235 390 43 221 53 143 13 29 99 112 215 42 33 9 46 86 205 16 123 70 129 12 2,611	£ 7,924 15,507 53,830 24,118 41,969 41,260 81,497 18,352 8,580 45,478 12,355 14,363 10,425 423,991 19,625 5,720 11,090 6,961 5,385 57,263 12,412 21,304 9,329 10,240 958,948	£ 3,025 13,086 38,295 43,891 19,064 7,550 18,841 4,635 23,432 21,783 14,038 13,850 29,938 340,208 9,492 6,035 2,100 21,643 7,525 37,548 5,208 22,240 18,707 2,995 725,129	
Total for year 1927–28	4,959	4,596,601	3,257	1,547,485	865,572	

It will be noticed that there was a marked decline in the building trade during 1929-30 when compared with 1928-29 and 1927-28. This decline had a serious depressing effect on many industries in the State.

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.

Bridges in The particulars of the number of bridges in the State Municipalities. in the year 1929 are shown below:—

NUMBER OF BRIDGES (NOT LESS THAN 30 FEET IN LENGTH EXCLUSIVE OF APPROACHES), 1929.

leggi vill fattarileg e vilja Jest velging ben bevist of	Cities, To Borou			
Bridges.	In Greater	Outside Greater	Shires.	Total.
	Number.	Melbourne. Number,	Number. 2,425	Number. 2,525
Brick	15	5	10	30
Stone and Concrete	45	-35	295	375
Iron and Steel	43	24	39	106
Total	123	144	2,769	3,036

Length of Roads and Streets

The following table shows the length of all roads and streets in the State in the year 1929:—

LENGTH OF ALL ROADS AND STREETS, 1929.

	Cities, T Borot	owns and		1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -
Roads and Streets.	In Greater Melbourne.	Outside Greater Melbourne.	Shires.	Total.
	1000000181	[2] \$15 (CEC)	1 15 (1)	
Wood or Stone Paving Bitumen or Concrete	Miles. 86 209 1,489	Miles. 18 185 783	Miles. 143 666 19,660	Miles. 247 1,060 21,932
otherwise prepared	92	170	24,585	24,847
Total Surveyed Roads not formed which are used for general	1,876	1,156	45,054	48,086
traffic	473	379	54,723	55,575
Total all Roads and Streets	2,349	1,535	99,777	103,661

The total number of municipalities throughout the State

Municipalities:
1924-25 to in which local government was being administered at the
end of the year 1929 was 196. Of these, 31 ranked
as cities, 4 as towns, 21 as boroughs, and the remainder (140)
as shires. The following is a statement of the estimated number of
ratepayers, estimated number of dwellings (inhabited and uninhabited),
the number of houses built, total and annual value of rateable property,
and annual revenue of cities, towns, boroughs, and shires in each of
the five years ended 1928-29:—

MUNICIPALITIES: 1924-25 TO 1928-29.

7/1/2	<u> </u>	'/					
Year.	Number of	Estimated of Dwell	[5]	Houses built	Estimated of Rateable P		Total Revenue.
	Rate- payers.	In- habited.	Unin- habited.	during the year.	Total.	Annual.	Revenue.
Cities, Towns, and							_
Boroughs-					£	£	£
1924-25	314,386	244,164	2.061	7,606	314,333,446	17,778,661	3,763,373
1925-26	319,568	252,611	1.917	8,041	339,221,826	19.020,312	4,191,063
1926-27	326,412	260.648	2,460	7,180	362,432,238	20,220,172	4,495,764
1927-28	333,364	265,376	3,580	6.063	373,880,729	20,984,591	4,689,716
1928-29	336,756		6,097	4,961	385.884.089	21,493,990	4,847,572
Shires—	300,100	200,.00	, ,,,,,,	1,002	,		
1924-25	246,161	148,546	1,703	2,713	257,350,043	12,933,459	1,815,707
1925-26		151,568	1,730	3,285-	267,100,576	13,426,424	1,921,483
1000 05	265,265	158,537	1,852	3,043	274,314,322	13,780,690	2,086,507
1926–27	270,176	156,681	1,777	3,008	288,008,585	14,447,193	2,155,651
1000 00	275,065		2,207	2,273	294,765,524	14,792,565	2,235,205
1928-29	270,000	100,001	2,201	2,2,0	201,100,041	223.02,000	
Total-		122	17			1- /	
	- E00.EXT	392,710	3.764	10,319	571,683,489	80,712,120	5,579,080
100= 00	560,547	404,179	3,647	11,326	606,322,402	32,446,736	6,112,546
	573,971		4 910	10,020	636,746,560	34,000,862	6,582,271
1926-27	591,677	414,185	4,312	10,223		35,431.784	6,845,367
1927-28	603,540	422,057	5,357	9,071	661,889,314		7.082,777
1928-29	611,821	428,477	8,304	7,234	680,649,613	136,286,555	1,002,111

The number of ratepayers returned for 1928-29 was 611,821, and the total capital value of rateable property £680,649,613, which, on the basis of the annual value of £36,286,555, is equivalent to about 18.8 years' purchase.

Properties rated in municipalities. have levied rates during the past five years has steadily increased, as is shown in the appended statement:—

NUMBER OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1924-25 TO 1928-29.

					Properties Rated.	
	Year.	 :		In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	In Shires.	Total.
1924-25]	366,494	339,421	705,915
1925-26				374,095	353,632	727,727
1926-27				384,298	379,812	764,110
1927-28				389,122	388,740	777,862
1928-29			J	393,62 2	391,488	785,110

The following is a statement of the number of ratepayers, cities, towns, total and annual value of rateable property, annual 1923-29.

and amount of rate levied in the £ in each city, town, and borough in Victoria:—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS, 1928-29.

	•	Number of	Amount of General		d Value of Property.		Annual Endow-
Name.		Rate- payers.	Rate levied in the £.	Total.	Annual.	Total Revenue.	ment pay- able by the Govern- ment.
GREATER MELBOUR	NE.		s. d.	£	£	£	£
					~	-	~
Brighton Brunswick Camberwell Caulfield Coburg Collingwood Essendon Fitzroy Footscray Hawthorn Kew Malvern Melbourne Northcote Oakleigh Port Melbourne Prahran Preston Richmond Sandringham		7,712 11,850 19,424 19,600 11,479 7,630 12,545 7,638 13,295 8,734 6,590 12,509 31,902 11,199 4,144 2,943 13,069 18,000 9,004 9,015	2 8 6 7 * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	10,879,380 10,297,617 16,345,488 19,617,777 9,115,760 10,365,420 10,924,288 7,966,035 12,960,000 6.633,505 17,637,400 101,633,180 9,686,830 3,012,383 2,299,162 5,482,604 7,490,900 9,000,120 6,618,180	543,969 677,272 892,513 1,089,518 455,788 518,271 669,524 531,069 628,033 648,000 443,567 5,081,659 484,344 173,175 183,938 1,290,217 374,545 600,008 330,909	84,825 205,585 223,400 142,274 146,880 70,264 123,826 68,422 211,823 97,617 69,996 134,171 1,469,387 152,470 52,984 144,765 100,558 86,793 66,675	
South Melbourne St. Kilda Williamstown		10,507 10,952 5,582	2 6 2 0 2 6	18,150,900 12,872,832 5,137,600	$\substack{907,545\\1,072,736\\256,880}$	146,792 124,928 132,449	
Total		273,258		341,849,051	18,992,394	4,161,521	

^{*} Levied on unimproved value of land.

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS, 1928-29-continued.

	Number	Amount of General	Estimated Rateable I			Annual Endow-
Name.	of Rate- payers.	Rate levied in the £.	Total.	Annual.	Total. Revenue.	ment pay- able by the Govern- ment.
	\					
OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE.					-	
CITIES.		s. d.	£.	£	£	£
Ballarat Bendigo Cholsea Geelong Geelong West Mordialloc Warrnambool	5,688 5,000 3,730 4,493	2 9 2 6 0 3¼* 2 9 0 3½* 2 9	5,832,225 4,299,645 2,061,201 6,242,240 2,696,960 2,805,373 1,774,137	388,815 286,643 102,448 312,112 134,848 147,128 104,361	86,223 61,789 34,918 60,531 29,791 47,963 49,309	50
28 875						
Towns.		Ì		,		
Hamilton Mildura Newtown and Chilwell Sale	1,294 2,382	2 6 3 0 0 5‡* 2 3	1,378,220 1,425,860 2,433,014 1,056,300	68,911 71,293 123,544 52,815	13,437 32,326 19,207 11,496	
Boroughs.						
Ararat Castlemaine Clunes Creswick Daylesford Eaglehawk Echuea Horsham Inglewood Koroit Maryborough Port Fairy Portland Queenseliffe Ringwood Sebastopol Shepparton St. Arnaud Stawell Wangaratta Wonthaggi	1,368 1,368 1,008 1,500 290 11,252 516 1,07 728 2,040 865 1,020 1,040	9 0 6 0 8 1 3 4 0 6 9 0 0 9 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	760,000 948,160 76,139 76,860 548,000 908,520 1,075,125 87,492 454,749 410,450 461,820 607,337 506,000 1,244,800 204,960 1,392,620 315,270 880,000 482,940	38,000 47,408 10,877 7,686 27,400 22,268 45,426 71,675 7,291 22,737 41,045 23,091 32,122 25,300 62,240 10,248 66,631 31,527 31,461 44,000 40,245	27,432 12,767 3,233 2,615 7,743 9,904 11,685 26,545 4,576 4,312 18,501 7,377 9,462 5,593 17,059 2,768 16,894 11,093 20,418 10,390 8,694	25 25 37 37 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25
Tota	63,498		44,035,038	2,501,596	686,051	645

^{*} Levied on unimproved value of land.

Shires, 1928-29. The next table contains a list of the shires, and similar particulars to those shown for the cities, towns, and boroughs:—

SHIRES, 1928-29.

	Number	Amount of General	Estimated Rateable		Total	Annual Endow-
Name.	of Rate- payers.	Rate levied in the £	Total.	Annual.	Revenue.	ment pay- able by the Govern- ment.
		s. d.	£	£	£	£
Alberton	1,426	2 6	2,378,820	118,941	17,430	697
Alexandra	893 650	$egin{array}{cccc} ar{2} & reve{0} \ 1 & 7 \end{array}$	1,260,000 1,485,920	63,000 74,296	9,314 6,665	389
Ararat Avoca	1,740	2 0	4,378,400	218,920	27,378	153 638
Avoca	1,240	$\begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 9 \end{array}$	1,077,300	53,865	6,857	239
Avon Bacchus Marsh	831 898	1 9 2 0	1,500,000 1,473,060	75,000	10,274	301
Bairnsdale	2,440	1 6	2,984,000	$73,653 \\ 149,200$	13,381 17,159	204 705
Ballan	1,030	2 0	1,288,000	61,400	7,893	286
Ballarat Bannockburn	1,196	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	1,307,980	65,399	8,228	286
Barnabool	735 860	2 0	1,170,660 $1,193,760$	58,533 59,688	6,650 7,914	203 228
Bass	2,012	3 0	1,533,520	76,676	13,510	452
Beechworth	1,419	2 0	607.840	37,990	13,558	271
Denast	682 2,040	$\begin{array}{c c} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{array}$	1,721,580	86,079	10,352 7,340 36,291	323
Benarme Benalla	3,015	2 0	1,402,400 3,569,020	70,120 178,451	36 291	$\frac{240}{715}$
Berwick	3,725	2 3	3,226,820 821,840	178,451 161,341 41,092	$-21.309 \ t$	495
Bet Bet	1,240	$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 6 \end{array}$	821,840	41,092	5,543 6,856 22,200	236
Blackburn and Mitcham	$\frac{571}{3,351}$	1 6 3 0	1,322,600 2,050,640	66,130 102,532 191,108 188,741	99 900	$\frac{199}{329}$
Borung	1,602	1 6	3,822,160	191.108	19,550	492
Braybrook	9,750	2 0	3,774,820	188,741	33,653	129
Bright Broadford	$\frac{1,313}{473}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$	791,740	39,587	7,036	370
Broadford Broadmeadows	15,278	2 0 2 0 1 9 1 9 2 0 2 9 2 0 1 9	530,220 2,852,900	$26,511 \\ 142,645$	$\frac{4,412}{28,559}$	$\frac{148}{251}$
Bulla	440	$\tilde{2}$ $\tilde{0}$	860,880	43,044	5,352	$\tilde{1}^{1}_{72}$
Buln Buln	1,600	2 9	1,443,040	72,152	14.215	616
Bungaree Buniayong	$907 \\ 1,638$	$\begin{array}{c c} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 9 \end{array}$	876,480 1,467,000	43,824 73,350	5,864 8,377	395 296
Charlton	820	1 9	1,950,960	97,548	12,233	271
Chiltern	715	1 9	691,340	34,567	4,041	216
Cohuna	710 3,038	$ \begin{array}{ccc} \hat{1} & \hat{6} \\ 1 & 7 \end{array} $	$1,256,800 \\ 6,643,080$	$62,840 \\ 332,154$	8,696	114
Corio	5,570	2 6	2,662,180	133,109	46,643 27,762 17,948	$\frac{138}{241}$
Cranbourne	2,000	2 6	2 560 900	128,040	17,948	342
OTESWICK	$\begin{array}{c} 845 \\ 9,150 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 21 \end{array}$	1,218,740 2,952,340 1,961,260 3,563,700	60,937	5,552	383
Dandenong Deakin	1,234	$\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 2\frac{1}{2}* \\ 1 & 6 \end{array}$	1.961.260	147,617 98,063	32,548 .9,031	209 219
Dimboola	1,552	1 6	3,563,700	178,185	25,484	305
Donald	. 998	1 9 2 3	2,004,900	119,149	16,507	323
Doncaster and Templestowe Dundas	1,758 1,338	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	1,284,000 3,003,820	$64,200 \\ 150,191$	$12,676 \\ 16,850$	194 517
Dunmunkle	1,160	16	3,218,720	160,936	23,314	612
East Loddon	469	1 6	1,570,240	78.512	6,579	271
Eltham Euroa	3,200 1,150	2 6 2 0 3 0	1,245,080 1,443,060	62,254 72,153	13,961	208
Ferntree Gully	6,500	3 0	3,165,820	158,291	9,834 30,362	321 444
flinders	5,500	1 9	2.087.120	104,356	21,775	$\hat{1}\hat{2}\hat{8}$
Frankston and Hastings	4,743 1,075	3 0 2 0	2,245,460	112,273	43,781	213
Glenela	1,802	2 0	849,080 3,113,660	42,454 155,683	$9,970 \\ 20,214$	1 6 8 591
denlyon	1,466	· 1 · 0	1,028,180	51,409	5,657	223
Fordon	910	1 6	2,100,000	105,000	9.582	365
rouidurn Grenville	1,210	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$	1,135,180 964,530	$56,759 \\ 64,302$	7,338 7,830 50,585 14,355	$\frac{172}{299}$
Hampden	2,396	2 6	6.613.480	330.674	50.585	299 370
Teologyillo	1,135	$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$	906,080 8,336,320	45,304 416,816 116,852	14,355	382
Heidelberg	16,450				155,037 16,318	245

SHIRES, 1928-29—continued.

	Number of	Amount of General	Estimated Rateable P		Total.	Annual Endow- ment pay-
Name-	Rate- payers.	Rate levied in the £.	Total.	Annual.	Revenue.	able by th Govern- ment.
•		s. d.	£	£	£	£
Huntly Cara Kara Carkarooc Ceilor	1,224	1 6	1,271,200	63,560	6,830	198
Kara Kara	1.038	1 9	2,883,080	144,154	14,574	316
Karkarooc		$\begin{array}{c c} 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 9 \end{array}$	4,688,920 $1,742,500$	234,446 87,125	$24,074 \\ 10,205$	469 49
Keilor		1 6	5,020,900	251,045	38,268	380
Kenor		2 0	540,000	36,000	5,687	136
Korong	1,580	$\begin{array}{c c} 1 & 9 \\ 2 & 0 \end{array}$	2,053,620	102,681 137,966	13,883 22,208	321 982
Korumburra	27322	$\begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 9 \end{array}$	2,759,320	119.118	11,980	430
Korong Korumburra Kowree Kyneton Lawloit		2.0	2,759,320 2,382,360 1,981,180 1,288,200	119,118 99,059	24,579	365
Lawloit	670	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$	1,288,200	85,880	12,016	196
Leigh		1 6 1 9	1,255,400 993,380	62,770 49,669	5,296 5,358	272 198
Kyneton Lawloit Leigh Lexton Lillydale Lowan Maffra		2 6	3,165,620	158,281	26,014	345
Lowan	1,320	1 9	3,022,440	151,122	22,585	296
Maffra	. 1,500	1 6	3,199,120	159,956	18,809	183 185
Maidon	1,064	1 6	771,420 1,710,560	38,571 85,528	4,237 16,130	542
Mansfield		$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2,270,060	113,508	13,322	454
Melton		1 9	990,280	49,514	6,040	145
Metcalfe	. 1,000	1 9	886,280	44,314	4,457	162
Mildura		2 0 2 0	5,066,800	253,340 99,875	28,419 11,933	184 321
Minhamite			1,997,500	33,540	7.326	355
Mirboo Moorabbin			5,980,800	299,040	7,326 68,371	296
Mornington	. 2,594	2 3	1,782,760	89,138	17,631	114
Mortlake	891	1 9	3,762,800	188,140	19,575	346 435
Morwell			1,317,800 2,842,240	65,890 142,112	12,084	198
Mount Rouse			1,885,440	142,112 94,272	11,400 12,718	221
McIvor		1 6	1,206,000	60,300	8,054	221
	. 1,510	2 3	2,227,660	111,383	15,033 7,163	920 148
Newham and Woodend . Newstead and Mt. Alexand			668,460 589 340	33,423	3,672	166
Numurkah	1,258		589,340 3,459,800	29,467 172,990 49,302	20.752	591
Omeo	. 760	2 3	986,040	49,302	9,486	836 472
Orbost	. 1,026	$\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{2}{0}$	1,440,160	72,008 50,273	11,715 9,450	680
Orbost Otway Oxley Phillip Island Portland Pyalong Ripon	1,713		1,005,460 1,454,680	72,734	9,571	370
Phillip Island	493	2 6	475,940	72,734 23,797	3,393	118
Portland	. 2,100	1 6	2,306,080	115,304	10,993	494 113
Pyalong Ripon . Rochester Rodney Romsey Rossdale Rutherglen Seymour			587,280 2,498,940	29,364 124,947	3,155 15,741	221
Ripon	= 000	1 6	2,983,320	149,166	17,888	246
Rodney Romsey		2 3	3,947,900	197,395	28,048	432
Romsey) 2 0,	1,258,260	62,913	8,026 11,981	320 537
Rosedale	1,200	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1^{1/2} \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	3,300,000 1,153,920	165,000 57,696	7,638	257
Rutherglen	1,093		1,463,460	73,173	13,747	420
oojimous		2 0	2,455,240	122,762	19.168	274
South Barwon	2,480	2 9	1,485,600	74,280 69,791	15,284 13,341 12,911	137 517
South Gippsland .	. 985 1,296		1,395,820 2,280,220	114,011	12,911	311
Stawell Strathfieldsaye			635,960	31,798	3,467	137
Strathfieldsaye	1 2 2 2 2	3 1 6	5,713,500	285,675	40,066	272
Talbot .	. 546	1 4	578,880	28,944	3,415 12,240	134 513
Tambo	1,095 1,210	5 2 9	1,426,480 1,992,000	71,324 99,600	14,528	578
Transloon	794		1,316,000	65,800	12,839	441
Tullaroop	640) 1 9	901.180	45,059	5,469	206
Swan Hill Talbot Tambo Towong Traralgon Tullaroop Tungamah Upper Murray Upper Yarra Violet Town	. 1,37	f 16	3,244,720 1,079,700 931,200	45,059 162,236 53,985	14,537	444 307
Upper Murray	. 550		1,079,700	53,985 46,560	7,128 9,261	
	. 1,46	பாப்ப	1 301,400	53,903		

^{*} Levied on unimproved value of land.

Municipal Statistics.

SHIRES, 1928-29-continued.

		Number	Amount of General	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total.	Annual Endow- ment pay-
Name:		of Rate- payers.	Rate levied in the £.	Total.	Annual.	Revenue.	able by the Govern- ment.
			s. d.	£	£	£	£
Walpeup		1,770	1 6	2,646,800	132,340	15,601	300
Wangaratta	• • •	902	î ğ	964,940	48,247	5,012	146
TT		1,050	1 6	2,643,940	132,197	12,625	426
Warenes		1,670		2,048,000	102,400	16,023	370
Witness and		1,382	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2,074,180	103,709	19,982	885
777 h 1		1,803	1 9	5,325,800	266,290	34,489	678
TT7 27		11,000	2 3	2,980,000	149,000	22,201	296
Whittleson		1,325	2 3 2 0 1 0 2 0 2 0 2 9 1 6	1,601,780	80,089	11,467	226
Wimmera		1,066	1 0	3,928,000	196,400	15,902	360
Winghalasa		1,183	2 ŏ	2,096,860	104,843	15,786	397
Wodenes		707	2 ŏ	989,160	49,458	7,311	169
TT 6 3		1.800	2 9	2,244,440	112,222	22,760	1,030
	• • •	1,312	1 6	3,135,200	156,760	18,487	328
Wycheproof Yackandandah		967	2 ŏ	1,215,300	60,765	7,322	337
37	• • •	790	1 6	1,220,020	61,001	11,378	281
Yarrawonga Yea	• •	706	0 21*		63,976	10,881	371
Total		275,065	l	294,765,524	14,792,565	2,235,205	47,741

- Levied on unimproved value of land.

Municipal revenue and expenditure. The ordinary revenue and expenditure of municipalities for each of the last three financial years were as follows:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES,

$1926-27 \ 1$	10 19	928-29.		· .
Sources of Revenue.		1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
Taxation-		£	£	£
Rates)	3,615,998	3,772,864	3,925,207
Licences		162,863	161,786	155,412
Dog Fees		29,332	30,258	30,445
Government Endowment and Grants	٠	163,384	154,316	143,987
Contributions for Streets, Footpaths, &c.		352,733	352,214	326,457
Market and Weighbridge Dues		125,845	132,977	142,968
Sanitary Charges		206,351	204,996	199,516
Rents		138,977	$145,654\ _$	149,570
Electric Light and Gas Works		1,163,851	1,224,565	1,323,422
Other Sources		622,937	665,737	685,793
Total		6,582,271	6,845,367	7,082,777
Heads of Expenditure.				
Salaries, &c		437,921	459,718	469,036
Sanitary Work, Street Cleansing, &c.		474,125	502,486	498,729
Lighting		160,118	170,721	179,167
Health Administration		53,378	56,970	87,858
Contributions to Fire Brigades		69,058	72,857	73,278
Public Works—		,		
Construction		488,881	415,119	426,736
Maintenance		2,169,302	2,195,110	2,148,727
Formation of Private Streets, &c.		548,131	512,586	484,388
Electric Light and Gas Works		808,630	877,374	947,504
Redemption of Loans		262,110	291,628	344,784
Interest on Loans		589,101	661,809	731,534
	• • •	34.096	39,858	43,599
	• • •	670,764	716,435	778,632
Other Hapotassas		6,765,615	6,972,671	7,213,972
Total	• •	0,700,010	0,012,011	1,210,012

Prepertion of municipal revenue in 1929 was derived from rates, 18½ per cent. from electric light and gas works, 5 per cent. from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., 3 per cent. from sanitary charges, 2 per cent. from licences of all kinds, 2 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, 2 per cent. from Government endowments and grants, 2 per cent. from rents, ½ per cent. from dog fees, and 10 per cent. from all other sources.

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, 1926-27 TO 1928-29.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		,	
Assets.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
and the second of the second o	1,020 21.	1021 20.	1323-25.
<u></u>			
		i	
Iunicipal Fund—	£	£	£
		7.	.~
Uncollected Rates	333,086	381,138	424,366
Streets formed, &c., payments outstanding	527,622	786,070	841,731
Rents and Interest outstanding	8,764	26,256	21.073
Cash in hand or in Bank	392,944	408,242	437,203
Other Assets	363,433	425,035	387,629
	, , , , ,		00.,02
Loan Funds—	İ		
Cinlin - Thursday			-
Sinking Funds	1		
Amount at Credit	610,002	626,613	697,793
Arrears Due	209	638	99
Unexpended Balances	635,771	597,121	750,761
Property—			
Toperty—			
Halls, Buildings, Markets, Tramways, &c.	4,580,280	5,001,140	5.318 200
Waterworks	360,180	371,680	390.440
Gasworks	193,540	203,370	234,810
Electric Light Works	2,232,760	2,393,810	2,549,340
Plant and Machinery	556.300	601,590	599.960
Other Assets	175,250	180,130	186,290
	1.0,200	100,130	100,290
			
Total Assets	10,970,141	12,002,833	12 839 695
	1	' '	' ' '

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1926-27 to 1928-29—continued.

								,
	Liabilitie	es.				1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.
<u> </u>	<u>.</u>				- :		1.	
4.11		7.7						
Municipal Fun	d					£	£	£
Due on Curr Arrears due Overdue Int	to Sinking				••	106,048 209 22,477	120,397 638 12,415	128,795 99 6,340
Bank Overd Other Liabil	rafts		•••	***		1,144,516 819,651	1,249,262 1,031,115	963,850 1,026,424
Loan Funds—						_	-	
Loans Outst Due on Loan		••		<u>.</u> .		10,096,696 252,331	11,391,767 226,026	13,345,104 118,025
Total	Liabilities			. ~	••-	12,441,928	14,031,620	15,588,637

ENDOWMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES.

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

The endowments paid to municipalities in 1928-29 are shown on pages 130 to 133 ante.

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.

The number of municipalities which levied the general rate on the unimproved value was 8 in 1920-21 10 in 1921-22, 12 in each of the years 1922-23 to 1925-26 inclusive, and 14 in each of the years 1926-27 to 1929-30 inclusive. The following table gives for these municipalities particulars of the capital value of land (improved and

the

annual improved value,

the rating,

for

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES, 1929-30.

Municipality.	Capital Value.	Capital Unimproved Value.	Annual Improved Value.	Amount of Rate in the £ on Unimproved Value.	Equivalent Rate on Annual Improved Value.	Amount Payable in 1930 on Unimproved Value.	Percentage Unimproved to Capital Value.
CITIES, Towns and	£	£	£	s. d.	s. d.	£	
Boroughs.				!			
Greater Melbourne.				!		1 1	
Brunswick City	10,297,617	3,171,656	677,272	0 7	$\begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 4\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	92,506	30.80
Camberwell City	16,345,488	5,639,352	892,513	$\begin{array}{c c} 0 & 4\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 4\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$24\frac{1}{4}$	105,738	34.50
Caulfield City	19,617,777	6,305,060	1,089,518	$0.4\frac{1}{2}$	$oldsymbol{2}$	118,220	32.14
Coburg City	9,115,760	2,637,928	455,788	0 5	$egin{array}{ccc} 2 & 2 \ 2 & 4rac{3}{4} \ 2 & 4 \end{array}$	54,956	28.94
Essendon City	10,924,288	3,4 32,032	669,524	$0.5\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	78,650	31.78
Oakleigh City	3,012,382	1,138,448	173,175	0 5	2 9	23,716	37.79
Sandringham City	6,618,180	2,813,116	330,909	0 4	2 10	46,885	42.51
Outside Greater		. '					
Melbourne.	2001 201	1050014	100 440	0 01#	0.01	14.000	FO. 00
Chelsea City	2,061,201	1,050,314	102,448	0 3½*	$egin{array}{ccc} 2 & 9rac{1}{4} \ 2 & 7rac{1}{4} \end{array}$	14,223	50.96
Mordialloc City	2,805,373	1,316,841	147,128	0 3½†	2 71	19,204	46.94
Newtown and Chilwell	0.100.01.1	#9 (F90	100 544	0 51	$2 - 7\frac{1}{4}$	10.000	30.19
Town	2,433,014	734,538	123,544	$\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 5\frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 4\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	$egin{array}{ccc} 2 & 7rac{1}{4} \ 2 & 7rac{1}{2} \end{array}$	16,068	39.39
Portland Borough	607,337	239,220	82,122	0 44	2 72	4,236	39.39
SHIRES.					12		
D1	2,952,340	1,474,204	147,617	0 211	2 1	15,356	49.93
D 311-	3,300,000	1,752,600	165,000	0 118	1 1 1	9,128	53.11
Yea	1,276,614	603,220	63,976	$0 \frac{148}{2} \ $	$111\frac{1}{2}$	6,283	47-26

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

* \(\frac{1}{4} \text{d.} \) in the Centre and North Wards,

† \(\frac{1}{4} \text{d.} \) in the Mordialloc and Mentone Wards and \(\frac{1}{4} \text{d.} \) in Parkdale Ward.

^{† 1}d. in the Centre and South Rhings. § 42d. in the township of Rosedule. || 4d. in the township of Yea.

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. 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 is of wood and £1,300 if it be of brick, stone, or concrete.

The number of contracts entered into for the erection of dwellings has been

For	year ended	30th June	, 1923			813
	do.					806
ď	do.	do.	1925		* C	549
	do.	do.	1926	•		594
15		do.				
	do.	do.	1928		1	,249
	do.	do.	1929		1	,127
	d.o	do.	1930		• • •	795

The position at 30th June, 1930, with regard to the erection of houses was—

Houses completed	7,138
In course of erection	168
Approved sites for which tenders had not then	
been accepted	64

Total number of applications approved 7,370

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.

WAR SERVICE HOMES.

Under agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia, the State Savings Bank Commissioners had, up to 30th June, 1930, entered into contracts for the erection of 3,748 War Service Homes buildings, of which 3,740 have been completed. In addition, the Bank had made advances to 411 soldiers for purchase of existing dwellings or repayment of existing mortgages, and to 31 eligible applicants to enable them to build homes according to their own plans.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

With the object of improving the main roads of the State Gountry Roads 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. The chairman is paid an annual salary not exceeding £1,550, and each of the other members a salary not exceeding £1,200.

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.

To the credit of the Country Roads Board Fund is placed:-

- (a) All moneys paid to the Treasurer by any municipality in respect of permanent works and of the maintenance of main roads.
- (b) All moneys received by the Board under the provisions of Part II. of the Country Roads Act 1928 or any corresponding previous enactment.
- (c) All moneys appropriated by Parliament for the maintenance of main roads and for the purposes of Part II. of the Country Roads Act 1928.
- (d) All fees and fines, less the cost of collection, paid under the Motor Car Act 1928.
- (e) All fees, less the cost of collection, received by the Crown in respect of unused roads and water frontages under Part XLII. of the Local Government Act 1928, and all moneys which are provided by sections five hundred and twenty-seven and five hundred and thirty-one of that Act.
- (f) All fees paid on the registration or renewal of the registration of traction engines.
- (g) All fees and fines, less the cost of collection, paid under Part II. of the Motor Omnibus Act 1928 in respect of country motor omnibuses within the meaning of that Act.

In addition to the above moneys and fees, a sum of £10,000 is made available from Consolidated Revenue each financial year for the purposes of the Fund.

The amount to the credit of the Fund at the beginning of 1928-29 was £76,599.

The total receipts of the Fund for the year 1928-29 amounted to £1,599,779, and were made up as follows:—

and the second s				£
Payments by Municipalities				281,434
Fees Motor Car Act				1,059,821
Fees Unused Roads and Wate	er Fronta	ges		20,628
Fees Registration of Traction	Engines			2,673
Fees Motor Omnibus Act		••		1,409
Stores and Material				105,278
Hire of Plant			• •	42,180
Appropriation from Consolida	ted Reve	nue		10,000
Other Receipts				76,356
				1,599,779

The expenditure of the Fund during the year 1928-29 was as follows:-

en e			£
Maintenance			912,099
Plant, &c			413,849
Road Construction—			
To Relieve Unemployment			10,833
Under Migrants' Grant			13,430
Migration Development Roads	••		19,936
Extension of Great Ocean Road		í	3,265
Repayment of Advance from Public A	ccount	• •	100,000
Other Expenditure		••	10,850
TOTAL	•••		1,484,262

The balance to the credit of the Fund at the 30th June, 1929, was £192,116.

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. The amount to the credit of the Account at the beginning of the year 1928-29 was £30,525. During the year the proceeds of loans amounted to £221,760 and the payments for permanent works to £222,924. The credit balance of the Account at the 30th June, 1929, was £29,361.

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. The balance to the credit of the Account at the beginning of the year 1928-29 was £91,783, the proceeds of loans during the year amounted to £445,680, and expenditure on developmental road works to £531,161. The amount to the credit of the Account on 30th June, 1929, was £6,302.

The following is a summary of the total expenditure of £2,080,725 by the Board on road construction during the year 1928-29:—

y the board on road constitution da	тщg	one year	1020 2	. —
State highways—		£	£	£
Construction		20,695	,	
Maintenance		402,323	e garage	
	٠, _		423,018	3
Commonwealth contribution towa	rds			
construction and reconditioning	••	• •	248,709	
ng merapatan kanggat kalanggan be	100	*********	<u>, </u>	- 671,727
Main roads—				
Construction		202,229		** **
Commonwealth contribution		6,857		
	. · -	`	209,086	3 - 1 - 2
Maintenance			509,776	3
		·	 	- 718,862
Developmental roads—				
Construction	. .	531,161		
Commonwealth contribution		63,409		
	_			594,570
Unemployment relief	: · · /			10,833
Roads to develop tourist resorts			e Parameter	5,344
Roads for isolated settlers		< No. 17 %	D 41.	2,501
Williamstown Short Road				1,490
Migration grant—Childers Settlement 1	Road	l		13,430
Migration—Developmental roads				19,936
Orchardists' relief				123
Great Ocean Road				3,265
Federal-State Grant, 1925, Act 17				408
Highways and Vehicles Act (No. 3379)				38,236
		1.	1 2 30	
Total		•••		2,080,725

LICENSING FUND.

Annual Payment to of the Fund to municipalities, as provided by Section 311 of the Licensing Act 1928. The payments to Cities amounted to £29,532, to Towns, £1,182, to Boroughs, £6,760, and to Shires, £23,834.

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, bridges, the construction or purchase of waterworks, electric-light works, and gasworks, municipal offices, pounds, abattoirs, workers' dwellings, baths, and pleasure grounds.

A Council may borrow for not more than 40 years upon the credit of the municipality for permanent works or undertakings, or to liquidate moneys owing on account of any previous loan.

The amount of money borrowed by any municipality is not to exceed ten times the average income of the municipality for the previous three years from general rates not exceeding 2s. in the £I. But, in addition, loans having a currency of not more than 30 years may be raised 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.

Municipal indebtedness. The total loan indebtedness of the municipalities at the end of the financial year 1928-29 was £13,345,104, which was due to the Government and the public respectively, as follows:—

MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS, 1928-29.

		Due to the Government.	Due to the Public
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs Shires		£ 752,702 167,602	£ 10,064,738 2,360,062
Total	•••	920,304	12,424,800

Municipal Loan The municipal expenditure of loan moneys during the Expenditure, 1924-25 to year 1928-29 amounted to £1,893,858, of which £1,494,844 year 1928-29. was spent by cities, towns, and boroughs, and £399,014 by shires. The following statement shows the loan receipts and expenditure for the last five years:—

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1924-25 to 1928-29.

			<u> </u>		
4 1 2 4 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Loa	n Receipts fro	om—		
Year.	Government.	Public.	Total.	Loan Expenditure.	Balance Unexpended at end of year.
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS— 1924-25	£ 21,255 10,078	£ 1,218,053 1,111,649 1,323,069 1,254,368	£ 1,218,053 1,111,649 1,344,324 1,264,446	£ 1,233,779 1,060,690 1,243,966 1,337,888	£ 373,864 435,472 506,217 433,996
1928-29	10,000 9 2 0	308,717 292,917	309,637 292,917	1,494,844 302,181 257,497	152,116 152,137
1926–27. 1927–28. 1928–29.	2,026 321	447,231 442,827 422,050	447,231 444,853 422,371	455,641 418,594 399,014	129,554 163,125 196,734
TOTAL— 1924—25. 1925—26. 1926—27. 1927—28. 1928—29.	920 21,255 12,104 10,321	1,526,770 1,404,566 1,770,300 1,697,195 1,976,954	1,527,690 1,404,566 1,791,555 1,709,299 1,987,275	1,535,960 1,318,187 1,699,607 1,756,482 1,893,858	495,980 587,609 635,771 597,121 750,761

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL LOANS REDEMPTION FUND.

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 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 to be 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.

Dυ	ring the year 19	29 –3 0 th	e receipts	of the fu	ınd wei	re :—
	Contributions b Stock Realized	y Munici	palities			£ 52 , 937 19,544
٠		Total	••	·.		72,481
Thear:	e following were	e the pay	ments ma	de f r om	the Fu	ind during tl
	Redemption of Interest on deb	Municipa it balanc	l Loans e of Fund			58,708 13,773
2 T		Total				72,481

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, 1930, was £82,438.

The total receipts of the Fund to the 30th June, 1930, amounted to £1,578,055. The payments out of the Fund were Redemptions and Interest on Loans £1,529,567, Interest on debit balance of Fund £48,478, and Sundries £10.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE CITY OF MELBOURNE.

City of Melbourne, revenue and expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1929, of the City of Melbourne are given in the statement hereunder:—

CITY OF MELBOURNE—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1929.

£ 497,681 609,299 nspection Fees 55,294 ing Act 8,916 87,696 67,061 9,466 6,957
of Meters, &c. 609,299 Inspection Fees 55,294 Ing Act 8,916 856 87,696 67,061 9,466
nspection Fees 55,294 ing Act 8,916 856 87,696 67,061 9,466
ing Act 8,916 856 87,696 67,061 9,466 9,466
ing Act 8,916 856 87,696 67,061 9,466
856 87,696 67,061 9,466
67,061 9,466
9,466
9,466
6 057
5,509
15,379
10,342
9,289
27,968
14,662
12,393
30,619
30,010

CITY OF MELBOURNE—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1929—continued.

Heads of Expe	nditure.				Amount.
Salaries (including clerical assistance,	expenses	of audi	, collection	on of	£
statistics, making valuation, and	l commi	ssions p	aid in lie	u of.	12 1 15 6 7
salaries, &c.)	• • •	• • •	••,•;		62,542
Allowance to Lord Mayor		• •	••	• •	2,500
Public Works—				24.5	
Roads and Bridges	• •	• • •			173,835
Markets and Weighbridges	· • • • •	• •			44,669
Public Buildings (including Abattoir	rs, Baths	, &c.)			81,920
Parks and Planting Trees in Streets	••				65,534
Payments under provisions of the Tra	mway A	et No. 29	95		2,258
Interest on Loans from the Public		• •		• •	206,883
Sinking Funds—Loans from the Publi	c :	••			56,5 60
Expenses of Paying Interest on Loans	••	• •	• •		242
Electric Supply—Maintenance	• • • •	• •	• • • •	• • •	475,555
Street Cleaning, &c.					92,796
Lighting—Electric and Gas		٠.			20,799
Fire Brigades Board—Contributions	••		• •		15,536
Hydraulic Power					22,548
Street Parking				1	14,693
Depreciation					35,748
Printing, Advertising and Stationery					4.303
Insurance and Guarantee Premiums					6,547
Contributions to Charitable Institution					5,500
" Infectious Diseases H	ospital			[9,443
., Heatherton Sanatorit	ım				1,572
Baby Health Centre					2,107
National War Memorial					5,000
Superannuation Fund Contribution	• •				5,646
Retiring Allowances to Employees					2,725
Sundries					17,505
Total					
10001			<u> </u>	• • •	1,434,966

Municipal Officers
Fidelity Which this fund was incorporated appeared in the Year-Book for 1928-29 on page 163.

The premium revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1929, was £1,055, for guarantees amounting to £313,725. The claims paid from January, 1908, the date of the inception of the fund, to 30th September, 1929, amounted to £3,444. The amount to the credit of the fund at 30th September, 1929, was £17,549.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

The Melbourne Harbor Trust is a corporate body, which was established in 1876 to regulate, manage, and improve the Port of Melbourne and portions of the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers adjacent thereto, for which purpose certain lands and properties are vested in Commissioners. The Trust consists of five Commissioners, who are appointed by the Governor in Council. Of the commissioners other than the chairman, one must be an owner of ships registered at some

British port and trading at Melbourne, one a person engaged in the business of an exporter by sea of Victorian produce, and one an importer by sea of goods into Victoria, and one must be identified with primary production in Victoria. The chairmau's salary is not to exceed £1,500; and the attendance fees of the other commissioners are fixed at £2 2s. per meeting, not more than £250 to be paid to any of these commissioners in any one year. The borrowing power of the Trust was increased from £4,000,000 to £5,000,000 on 30th December, 1929. The amount of loans outstanding on 31st December, 1929, was £3,904,836. The following are particulars of the ordinary receipts and ordinary and capital expenditure for each of the last five years:—

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: 1925 TO 1929.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditu	ire.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
		REVENUE.				
STATE OF THE STATE		£	£	£	£	£
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates		632,018	658,914	716,193	625,907	671,288
Rents	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	35,804	37,116	37,521	36,885	29,662
Interest	• • •	285	79	43	2,149	3,901
Other Revenue	• •	64,363	60,111	63,287	62,994	76,588
0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			}	<u> </u>		ļ
		732,470	756,250	817,044	727,935	781,439
Less Amount paid to Consolida	ted					
Revenue	••	136,494	143,002	148,282	143,648	145,948
Total		595,976	613,248	668,762	584,287	635,491
General Management and I	Ex-		REVEN	je Expen	DITURE.	
penses		37,527	68,442	58,385	53,765	60,34:
Flotation and Redemption	of					
Loans Expenses		10	15	8	3,500	4,188
Maintenance—Dredging	:	96,759	81,128	74,884	49,258	45,318
,, Harbor		4,027	4,240	6,357	5,587	6,118
,, Wharfs		45,555	43,451	49,852	59,775	53,298
., Approaches		20,269	14,098	17,587	22,884	18,539
Interest on Loans*		151,891	140,318	144,513	167,489	183,638
Depreciation, Renewals Accou	ınt,			2	. `	
and Sinking Fund	••	213,000	213,000	213,000	213,000	213,000
Total	•	569,038	564,692	564,586	575,258	584,435
Surplus on Revenue Account		26,938	48,556	104,176	9,029	51,056
		CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.				
Land and Property		37,699	30.962	20,144	10,869	9,58
Deepening Waterways		145,808	169,053	204,536	261,634	231,884
Wharfs Construction		285,072	129,382	246,587	161,235	139,203
Approaches Construction		46,130	15,412	35,619	78,249	49.93
Other Harbor Improvements		18,631	40,416	15,735	17,253	9,710
Floating Plant		97,354	9,221	125,690	2,193	7,09
General Plant	•	2,718	4,891	5,045	1,268	7,63
Total		633,412	399,337	653,356	532,701	455,05

^{*} Exclusive of interest on cost of plant debited to works carried out by day labour

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST.

Provision was made by an Act passed on 12th December, 1905, for the constitution of the Geelong Harbor Trust and the appointment of Commissioners. The Trust consists of three commissioners who are appointed by the Governor in Council. The salary of the chairman is £400 per annum, and of each of the other commissioners £200 per annum. The management of the port and shipping is vested in the commissioners. Power is given to the Trust to borrow £591,000 and to issue debentures, which may be made payable in London or Melbourne. The following is a summary of the receipts and expenditure for the last five years, the expenditure from ordinary revenue being distinguished from loan expenditure:—

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Revenue.	£	£	£	f	£
Wharfage, Tonnage and Special	· -				
Berth Rates	40,137	35,468	38,860	30,721	45,724
Rents, Fees, and Licences	10,469	10,940	10,204	7.159	6,906
Corio Freezing Works and Ahat-		,5	,	.,,,,,,,	0,000
toirs	15,766	16,318	12,498	8,000	8,000
Other Revenue	19,958	4,347	4,069	11,531	5,685
				11,001	
Total	86,330	67,073	65,631	57,411	66,315
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.			* 1		
General Management and Ex-			į	ľ	
penses	6,239	6,657	7,413	7,595	10,330
Maintenance—Wharfs and Ap-	0,200	0,001	1,110	1,000	10,550
proaches	4,518	8.210	40,751	8,056	9,127
Harbor	824	952	1,023	1,161	945
771 42 D1 4	650	615	679	556	
Othon	7,183	9,876	16,489	5,030	$\frac{4,313}{3,572}$
Interest on Loans and Sinking	7,100	9,610	10,409	0,000	5.572
Fund	27,756	27,755	24,818	26,026	27,226*
Corio Freezing Works and Abat-	21,100	21,100	24,010	20,020	21,220
toirs	7,969	6,622	4,682	4,405	= 700
Miscellaneous	1,888	5,543			5,760
Miscentaneous	1,000	0,045	4,093	2,228	2,800
Total	57,027	66,230	99,948	55,057	64,073
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.				* .	
Land and Property	2,209	2,564	4,572	2,693	5,636
Deepening Waterworks	20,587	15,716	3,554	9,434	948
Wharfs and Approaches Con-	20,001		0,004	J, 10 1	940
struction	3.283	8,973	17,044	84,694	9,227
Other Harbor Improvements	810	955	938	667	1,202
Floating and General Plant	010	29	2,134		65
Stock Account, Timber and Piles	•••		923	•••	761
coon recount, rimber and thes			923	••	101
Total	26,889	28,237	29,165	97,488	17,839

The amount of unpaid interest to the State Treasury on loans was, at 30th June, 1929, £204,852.

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

The Board was established by Act of Parliament, which came into force on 20th December, 1890. The Board 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.

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 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, is included in the metropolis for water supply and sewerage purposes. This territory has an area of 445 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, 1930, was 250,224, an increase of 5,395 for the year; and the estimated population supplied with water was 1,108,492.

The Board is empowered to borrow £22,750,000, this amount being exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934 ilability on loans.

These works were vested in and taken over by the Board on 1st July, 1891.

The liability under loans raised by the Board was £23,365,020 on 30th June, 1930. The Board was at that date empowered to borrow £1,774,914 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

WATER SUPPLY FINANCE.

The rate to be paid in respect of any lands and houses sassements and rates than by measure, is limited to an amount not exceeding 8d. in the pound on the annual valuation of the lands and houses served. The water rate levied in the year 1929-30 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 wharfs 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 £17,971,442 in 1928-29, and £18,667,084 in 1929-30.

During the year 1929-30 water rates and charges amounted to £741,052, meter rents to £44,151, and the total water supply revenue to £875,203, as against a total of £797,336 in 1928-29. Maintenance and repairs in 1929-30 cost £108,468, management and incidental expenses were £45,041, pumping expenses £1,349, interest payments £522,549, and the total expenditure was £677,407, as compared with £623,338 in the previous year.

Cost of the Mei- The total cost of the water supply system up to 30th Metropolitan June, 1930, was as follows:—

waterworks
system.

Original water su	vlaaı	works,	tank	pumping	£
station, &c.	11.2	• •		•	84,885
Yan Yean system					655,985
Maroondah system					1,707,907
O'Shannassy system	1				2,296,114
Service reservoirs					557,842
Large mains	1				2,450,371
Reticulation		٠			2,618,040
Afforestation					19,057
Thompson River So	heme			••	80
-				· -	
Total		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		£	210,390,281

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 1929.

Output of Water. The total output of water from the various sources of supply in 1929 was as follows:—

From Yan Yean Reservoir		1,728,425,000
Marsandah Dagarrain		12,177,264,000
,, O'Shannassy River	• •	6,806,178,000
Total Output	*	20,711,867,000

There are four storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 14,498,305,000 gallons, nineteen service reservoirs (including one at the Metropolitan Farm, Werribee, and two elevated tanks), with a total capacity of 249,050,000 gallons, and it is proposed to have, in the immediate future, one other service reservoir. 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 1929 was 1,084,592, and the average daily consumption was 52.30 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 1929:—

TOTAL AND DAILY AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS DURING EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR 1929.

Month.	Total Consumption of Water.	Daily Average Consumption of Water.
5.5_ + 2	Gallons,	Gallons.
January	2,689,400,000	86,755,000
February	2,123,800,000	75,850,000
March	1,983,504,000	63,984,000
April	1,411,058,000	47,035,000
May	1,369,260,000	44,170,000
June	1,331,748,000	44,392,000
July	1,472,289,000	47,493,000
August	1,462,197,000	47,168,000
September	1,492,792,000	49,760,000
October	1,649,075,000	53,196,000
November	1,721,252,000	57,375,000
December	2,000,063,000	64,518,000
Total for the year Daily average for the	20,706,438,000	
year		56,730,000

Note.—The maximum daily consumption for 1929 occurred on 24th January and the minimum daily consumption on 26th May of that year. The consumption was 125,243,000 gallons on the former and 35,116.000 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, 1925 TO 1929.

Year.	Estimated Population supplied with Water to 30th June.		Number of Houses 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.
1925	954,558	215,476	191,318	Gallons. 55,633,000 53,404,000 57,738,000 55,314,000 56,730,000	58·28
1926	990,561	223,603	199,918		53·91
1927	1,028,983	232,276	208,003		56·11
1928	1,060,325	239,351	216,785		52·16
1929	1,084,592	244,829	223,324		52·30

These figures show that additional houses to the number of 5,478 were supplied with water during the year ended 30th June, 1929.

SEWERAGE FINANCE.

In 1891 the annual value of rateable property within the area then to be sewered was £6,866,313, of which about £1,000,000 related to vacant lands. The collapse of the land boom was followed by a heavy shrinkage in the value of rateable property. A recovery in values has since taken place, and the total assessment of the Metropolitan Area for 1929–30 was £19,526,984, inclusive of assessments on vacant lands, and unsewered area and undertakings.

The Board is empowered to levy a general sewerage rate not exceeding 1s. 2d in the £1 in sewered areas. The sewerage rate for the year 1929-30 was increased from 9d to 10d in the £1 in the sewered area. The total annual value of property assessed for sewerage purposes and liable to the 10d rate was £18,190,944 in 1929-30.

The receipts from the general sewerage rate in 1929-30 amounted to £765,385.

The sewerage revenue for 1929-30 was £778,649, as against £672,774 in the previous year. The payments from the Sewerage Revenue

Account were cost of management and incidental expenses £30,608, maintenance and repairs £10,591, working expenses £81,202, interest payments £681,359, other expenditure £4,223, making the total expenditure £807,983, as compared with £766,644 in 1928-29.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan to 30th June, 1930, was £12,272,133, divided as follows:—swstem.

	£
Farm purchase and preparation	1,071,983
Treatment works	115,229
Outfall Sewer and Rising Mains	467,886
Pumping station buildings and plant	325,480
Main and branch sewers	2,842,268
Street reticulation	3,615,570
Reticulation of rights-of-way	2,385,166
House connexions branches	756,512
Cost of house connexions chargeable to capital	633,461
Sanitary depots	58,57 8
Cost of sewerage system	£12,272,133
Householders' debts for house connexions	452,823
Total	£12,724,956

The sewage of the metropolis is delivered into two main 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 WITHIN THE BOARD'S METROPOLITAN AREA UP TO 30TH JUNE, 1930.

On the 30th June, 1930, the Sewerage System was completed in the following municipalities:—Melbourne, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Collingwood, Fitzroy, Hawthorn, Prahran, Richmond, St. Kilda, and the thickly populated portions of Essendon and Brunswick.

The Sewerage System was nearly completed in the municipalities of Brighton, Caulfield, Malvern, the older parts of Footscray and Box Hill (the latter being formerly known as Nunawading), and the thickly populated portions of Camberwell, Coburg, Kew, Northcote, Preston and Williamstown, while considerable progress had been made in the municipalities of Heidelberg, Oakleigh, Sandringham and Moorabbin.

During the twelve months ended 30th June, 1930, work has progressed more particularly in Camberwell, Coburg, Moorabbin, Box Hill, Footscray, and Preston; also in Caulfield, Essendon, Heidelberg, Northcote, and Sandringham.

In all 2,104 miles 9 chains of reticulation and 216 miles 72 chains of main and branch sewers have been completed, and adding the rising mains and outfall sewer (a length of 24 miles 59 chains), makes a total length of 2,345 miles 60 chains of sewers.

The estimated population served by the sewerage system on the 30th June, 1930, was 1,023,069.

PROVISION FOR HOUSE CONNEXIONS WITH THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Mumber of Houses for which sewers were provided on 31st December, 1929, the number of houses for which sewers were provided houses for which sewers were provided was 229,168, including 839 outside gazetted areas.

During the year 1929, 4,412 new houses were erected in the metropolitan area, and provision was made for the sewering of 9,948 houses.

The following statement shows the progress of house connexions to the 31st December, 1929:—

NUMBER OF HOUSES FOR WHICH SEWERS WERE PROVIDED ON 31st DECEMBER, 1929.

	Munici	pality.		No. of Houses for which sewers were provided on 31st December, 1929.
	Melbourne City			27,577
	South Melbourne City			10,972
	Prahran City			. 12,940
	Fitzroy City	14.		8,150
	Richmond City	• • • .		. 10,545
	St. Kilda City	·		9,725
	Collingwood City			8,778
	Footscray City			10,229
,	Hawthorn City			. 8,287
^	Brunswick City			12,890
	Essendon City			11,868
	Malvern City			. 10,484
	Caulfield City			15,810
	Northcote City			9,873
	Camberwell City			
	Brighton City			6,961
	Port Melbourne City			3,217
	Williamstown City			5,584
	Kew City			5,467
	Coburg Čity			- A14
	Sandringham City			4,078
	Preston City		ili in kii	5,961
	Oakleigh City			2,450
	Box Hill City			1,091
1.5	Heidelberg Shire (part	of)	****	4,979
	Moorabbin Shire			2,199
	Werribee Shire (part of	7)		- 14
	Mulgrave Shire (part o			$\hat{\mathbf{s}}$
	Keilor Shire (part of)	/		124
	Broadmeadows Shire (p	part of)		
	\mathbf{Total}		,.	229,168

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 during the year 1929-30 was 14,656,680,000 gallons—equal to 40,155,287 gallons per day, as against a total of 14,129,500,000 gallons, with a daily average of 38,710,959 for the previous year.

The unit cost of raising 1,000 gallons 100 feet was 470d. as compared with 474d. for the preceding year.

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.

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

Notwithstanding the large quantity of sewage water required to be put on the pastures summer and winter alike, the effective filtration of which must be the Board's first consideration, a considerable revenue is derived from the grazing operations. The principal sources of income are from breeding of beef cattle and export lambs, fattening of sheep and cattle, and grazing of horses on agistment.

The revenue from grazing for the year 1929-30 totalled £51,489, made up as follows:—

	£
Net profits from cattle	37,19 8
", ", sheep	8,291
Agistment of horses	6,000
Total	51,489

METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE AND RIVERS FINANCE.

Under the provisions of Part VIII. of the Act, which Drainage and Rivers, the Board River Improve-is empowered to levy a Metropolitan Drainage and River Improvement Rate not exceeding 1d. in the £1 in respect of the properties in the metropolis ratable to any municipality. The rate was first levied on 1st July, 1927, and has remained at 1d. in the £1.

Assessed value of property assessed for Drainage and River purposes and liable to the 1d. in the £1 rate was £19,152,079.

For 1929-30 the total revenue was £87,454, as against £84,766 in the previous year. The cost in 1929-30 of maintenance and management was £20,179, and the amount of interest payments was £47,384, the total charges being £67,563, as compared with a payment in 1928-29 of £16,730 for maintenance and management and of £23,050 for interest, or a total charge of £39,780.

Cost of Drainage and River Improvement River Improvement River Improvement Works to 30th June, 1930, was £738,240.

THE BALLARAT WATER COMMISSION AND THE BALLARAT SEWERAGE AUTHORITY.

The Ballarat Water Commission was constituted on 1st July, 1880, The Ballarat Sewerage Authority was constituted under the provisions of the Sewerage Districts Act 1915 by Order in Council, dated 30th November, 1920, which provides that the members of the Water Commission shall be the Sewerage Authority. The Commissioners number seven; three (one of whom is chairman) being appointed by the Government, and four being elected by the Council of the City of Ballarat.

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 2,215,558,327 gallons.

Finance.—The capital cost of construction of the waterworks is £651,681. The liabilities are loans due to the Government, amounting to £304,817 as at 31st December, 1929. The revenue for the year 1929 was £35,640.

Rating.—The water rate is 1s. in the £ on the net annual value of properties, with a minimum rate of £1 per annum for properties supplied.

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, 1929, is £273,832. The method of sewage disposal is by sedimentation, oxidation, and sludge digestion. Forty-two sewered areas have been declared as at 1st January, 1930, comprising 5,066 tenements. The service was put into action in July, 1925, when the first house connexion was made.

Finance.—The scheme is being financed by debenture issue loans from various financial institutions, £334,090 having been provided up to 31st December, 1929, for constructional works, and £100,000 for house connexions.

Rating.—For 1930 the rating is 1s. 9d. in the £ on all sewered properties, and 3d. in the £ on unsewered properties.

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 Commissioners number five. Two of these represent the city of Geelong, one the town of Geelong West, one the town of Newtown and Chilwell, and one the shires of Bellarine, Corio, and South Barwon.

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, 1929, was:—Water supply, £673,823; sewerage, £614,425; and sewerage installation, £248,476. The annual revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1929, was £55,556 on account of waterworks and £44,117 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, 1929, was—For sewerage, £40,802; for water supply, £40,732.

The population supplied is about 45,024. The number of buildings situated within the "Drainage Area" is 11,400; the number within the "Sewered Areas," 11,000; and the number connected with the sewers, 10,883.

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 500 million 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 town of Geelong West, the town of Newtown and Chilwell, and the suburban areas in the shires of Corio, South Barwon, and Bellarine.

Rating.—The water rate is 1s. 1d. in the pound on the net annual value of properties as certified to by the municipalities, with minimum rates of £1 per annum for properties supplied and 5s. for vacant land.

The sewerage rate is:—

A general sewerage rate of 1s. 3d. in the pound on the net annual value of all rateable properties within the drainage area which are now sewered or may become sewered during the period for which such rate is made.

In addition to the general and additional rates, the Trust, to prevent or minimize the pollution of the River Barwon, has power to strike a differential or special rate on properties which drain into that river.

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 the first house was connected on 31st March, 1923. Branch sewers have now been completed, which provide for 5,300 tenements, and at 30th June, 1930, 4,721 houses had been connected.

Method of Sewage Disposal and Purification.—The method of disposal is by sedimentation, oxidation, and sludge digestion. A description of the scheme appeared in the Year-Book for 1928-29 on page 184.

Finance.—Loans have been raised by the issue of debentures, the total amount so borrowed to the end of September, 1929, was £377,463, of which £24,537 has been redeemed. The capital expenditure during the same period was £273,051. For the purpose of meeting the half-yearly loan repayments, a special rate of 3d. in the £1 is levied, while the rate for properties actually sewered is 1s. 9d. in the £1.

The scheme is expected to cost £500,000.

By Act No. 3609, passed on 27th December, 1928, sewering authority was given to certain country towns to borrow £100,000 for sewerage works. On page 185 of the Year-Book for 1929 the names of the towns with the amounts which may be borrowed are shown.

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.

The Metropolitan Fire District embraces the area included in the various municipalities within a radius of 10 miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office, Melbourne, as well as certain districts outside that area. The districts referred to are the Borough of Ringwood, Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham, and portions of the Shires of Braybrook, Keilor, Broadmeadows, Heidelberg, Lilydale (Croydon), Doncaster and Templestowe, Mulgrave and Moorabbin, beyond the 10-mile radius. The Metropolitan Fire District includes the greater portion of the shire of Moorabbin, and extends in a southerly direction as far as Mordialloc (16 miles from Melbourne), that township being included

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 Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board on 30th June, stations and and staff of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

1930, had under its control the following:—Forty-one stations, 296 members of permanent staff, 75 members of special service staff, 9 members of clerical staff, 66 men engaged in the workshops, 15 employees engaged in the tailoring department, and 170 partially paid firemen.

During 1929-30 the cost of maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was £189,291, 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 737d. in the pound over an area wherein the property was valued at £20,312,145, and that of the insurance companies was equal to £5 12s. 1d. for every £100 of premiums on insured property. The premiums received in the Melbourne Fire District in 1929 amounted to £1,111,522, and the total of the payments made by the companies in 1929-30 for the maintenance of the fire brigade system was £62,296.

The Country Fire Brigades Board consists of nine mem-Three are appointed by the Governor in Council, bers. Country. Fire 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 elects one of its members as president each year. The tenure of the Board members is two years. The Board's revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1930, was £32,088, which was obtained from the sources:—(a) Government, £10,552; (b) municipalities, £10,551; (c) insurance companies, £10,540; and (d) other sources. The expenditure for the same year amounted to £34,351. There are 120 municipal councils and 112 insurance companies included in the operation of the Act. The premiums received by the insurance companies in country districts during the year 1929 amounted to £411.114. The annual value of rateable property assessed within the Board's district in 1929 was £3,565,229. brigades under the control of the Board are volunteer brigades, but in the large centres a few permanent stationkeepers and auxiliaries There are 151 registered brigades, and the number of are employed. registered firemen is 2,812. In many brigades there is, in addition to the registered firemen, a number of "reserve" members.

Receipts and expenditure of both Fire expenditure. Brigades Boards for the five years ended 30th June, 1929, are as follows:—

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

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	19 29.
Ordinary Receipts.	£	£	£	£	£
Contributions — Govern-					
ment, Municipal, and					, . ,
Insurance	175,977	186,613	200,330	210,585	216,453
Receipts for Services	20,138	21,180	24,224	25,343	27,043
Interest and Sundries	12,120	17,567	21,014	25,934	30,797
Total	208,235	225,360	245,568	261,862	274,293
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Ordinary Expenditure.		100.00	145.000	174.039	355 400
Salaries	130,723	139,087	147,262	154,813	155,486
Fire Expenses	4,133	4,315	4,425	4,431	4,461
Administrative Charges, &c.	32,282	39,676	35,859	43,992	44,467
Plant—Purchase and Re-		10 501	10.000	20.004	04.050
pairs	16,950	19,551	18,983	23,904	24,052
Interest	7,753	8,823	10,146	11,250	14,075
Repayment of Loans	3,946	4,185	5,133	5,089	6,351
Firemen's Accident Fund			500	500	500
Superannuation Fund	4,880	5,046	8,540	8,600	8,964
Miscellaneous	4,230	7,904	9,025	8,760	13,672
Total	204,897	228,587	239,873	261,339	272,028
Loan Expenditure.					
Purchase of Land and					
Erection of Buildings, &c.	19,047	14,236	40,823	5,917	33,365