

CHAPTER IV.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

§ 1. Introduction.

1. **General.**—The construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries are generally part of the functions of local authorities, but in New South Wales and South Australia, more especially in the large unincorporated areas, these duties are undertaken directly by the Government. In some States, moreover, a certain proportion of the roads and bridges are constructed and maintained by the Government, which, in addition, advances money for main roads to be expended by municipalities under the supervision of special Boards. Although roads, bridges and ferries constructed and maintained directly by Government do not properly come under the heading of "Local Government," they have been included in this chapter for the sake of convenience.

2. **Municipalities, Shires, etc.**—A description of the various systems of municipal government in the different States, and their development from the earliest date, was published in 1919 by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics in a separate work entitled "Local Government in Australia." Limits of space preclude the incorporation of the information contained therein in the Official Year-Book.

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

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

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

§ 2. Government Roads, Bridges, Etc.

1. **New South Wales.**—(i) *General.* The control of all roads, bridges and ferries, with the exception of those proclaimed as "National" and of those in the unincorporated areas of the Western Division, which still remain under its jurisdiction, was transferred, in 1920, from the Public Works Department to local authorities. The Government has also adopted the policy of assisting municipal and shire councils to recondition certain main roads by doing the work in the first instance, and recovering in instalments from the councils concerned one-half of the cost.

(ii) *Roads, Bridges and Ferries.* At the end of 1923, the "National" works consisted of 58 miles of roads, 283 bridges with a total length of 108,631 feet, and 23 ferries, while in the unincorporated areas of the Western Division there were 6,053 miles of roads (of which 213 miles were metalled or ballasted, 163 formed only, and 3,437 cleared only, 99 bridges of a total length of 13,602 feet, 340 culverts, and 6 ferries under the control of the Public Works Department.

(iii) *Expenditure on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.* The total Government expenditure on roads, bridges and ferries from 1857 to 1924-25 was £26,520,315. The following table shows the expenditure for each year from 1919-20 to 1924-25 :—

**ROADS, ETC.—EXPENDITURE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,
NEW SOUTH WALES, 1920 TO 1925.**

Year.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Expenditure..	£ 116,034	£ 163,121	£ 542,205	£ 443,541	£ 458,415	£ (a)635,976

(a) Includes £260,547, Sydney Harbour Bridge.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* A small sum is expended annually by the State Government on roads and bridges, and a considerable amount of loan money is advanced in each year to the Country Roads Board for the purpose of constructing and maintaining main and developmental roads, the amount so expended during the year ending 30th June, 1924, being £566,596. An annual payment of £50,000 is also made out of Consolidated Revenue to the Board for maintenance works.

(ii) *Direct Expenditure by Government.* The following table shows the amounts of money expended directly by the Government on roads and bridges during the years 1919-20 to 1924-25 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, VICTORIA,
1919-20 TO 1924-25.**

Year.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Expenditure..	£ 7,832	£ 10,842	£ 23,622	£ 65,459	£ 46,761	£ 68,939

(iii) *Country Roads Board.* The duties of this Board were given in some detail in Year Book No. 15, p. 526.

The borrowing of a sum of £4,000,000 has been authorized for the purposes of making permanent works under the Country Roads Acts. One half of the amount expended on permanent works and maintenance must be refunded by the municipalities affected, 6 per cent. of the amount due in respect of permanent works being payable annually, and the cost of maintenance allocated to each municipality must be paid before the 1st of July in each year. A special rate, not exceeding 6d. in the pound, may be levied in any ward or riding of a municipality for the purpose of such repayment.

All registration fees, licence fees and fines under the Motor Car Act, all licence fees for unused roads and water frontages, and all registration fees and fines for traction-engines are credited to the Country Roads Board Fund. The total loan expenditure for permanent works to the 30th June, 1924, was £2,933,770. The following table gives the revenue and expenditure on permanent and maintenance works for the five years 1919-20 to 1923-24 :—

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD, VICTORIA—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,
1919-20 TO 1923-24.

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.					Expenditure.	
	Motor Regis- tration and Licence Fees.	Unused Roads etc., Licence Fees.	Contributions by Municipalities.		Total.	Permanent Works.	Main- tenance.
			Permanent Works.	Main- tenance.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920	85,303	22,072	37,573	89,730	294,498	335,755	192,320
1921	98,135	21,441	50,036	90,335	342,865	271,869	221,395
1922	118,672	21,487	61,024	104,026	429,308	288,937	267,969
1923	158,249	19,933	68,608	123,819	514,469	266,046	288,129
1924	222,251	20,110	76,355	134,349	585,742	201,615	343,233

(iv) *Developmental Roads.* For the purpose of constructing and maintaining subsidiary or developmental roads, the Government may borrow the sum of £5,000,000. The work is carried out under the supervision of the Country Roads Board, and the State provides the whole of the money and makes provision out of State funds for liquidating the liability; the municipalities, however, are required to bear a proportion of the interest on the outlay during the period of the loan and to maintain the roads when constructed. The amount expended during the year ended 30th June, 1924 was £467,329, and the total expenditure to that date was £2,516,649.

3. *Queensland.*—Under "The Main Roads Act of 1920," a Main Roads Board was constituted, consisting of three members appointed by the Governor in Council. Subsequently, by "The Main Roads Acts Amendment Act of 1925," the Board was abolished, and its powers conferred upon a single commissioner. The duties of the Commissioner are to make the necessary surveys and investigations in order to determine what roads should be main roads, and, under certain circumstances, to undertake the construction and maintenance of such roads. Before any road can be proclaimed a main road, the shire councils through whose areas such road passes have the right to lodge objections thereto, and the Commissioner must consider such objections and may vary his decision. The whole of the money necessary for the construction and maintenance of main roads is provided from the Main Roads Fund at the Treasury, and the councils concerned must repay one-half the cost thereof over a period of 30 years, with interest. This fund is formed from (a) moneys appropriated by Parliament therefor, (b) fees on motor vehicles and traction engines, (c) fees and rents for unused roads, (d) moneys received from the sale of timber, sand, etc., on any main road, and (e) all other moneys received or recovered by the Commissioner. Wherever possible, the Commissioner arranges with local authorities to undertake the survey and construction of works, but in most cases, owing to the dearth of trained engineers in the employ of councils, the Commissioner has had to undertake most of the survey work and preparation of plans and a considerable portion of the construction. During the year ended 30th June, 1925, the receipts of the Commission amounted to £457,675, including £200,000 from the Treasury Loan Fund, £141,274 from motor fees, and £105,409 from the Commonwealth for schemes under the Main Roads Development Act (Commonwealth); and the disbursements to £506,784, including £180,331 expenditure on permanent works, £170,652 on schemes under the Commonwealth Main Roads Development Act, and £44,720 on maintenance of main roads. At that date, 3,325 miles of roads had been gazetted as main roads, and 356 miles had been surveyed during the year. In addition, 52 miles of roads had been gazetted as developmental roads up to 30th June, 1925, and 5 miles surveyed during the year.

The money made available to the State under the Commonwealth "Main Roads Development Act" is allocated and expended under the direction of the Commissioner of Main Roads.

The developmental roads sections of "The Main Roads Acts 1920 to 1925" provide that on such roads the Commissioner will be responsible for the total cost of construction, but that the local authorities concerned shall repay half the interest over a period of twenty years, and that the local authorities shall be responsible for maintenance.

4. **South Australia.**—Under the Main Roads Act of 1922, the Government is authorized to borrow up to £300,000 for the purpose of reconstructing main roads, and for acquiring quarries and working the same. In the sparsely-settled districts outside the incorporated areas, the roads and bridges are constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department, which expended thereon during the year ended 30th June, 1925, the sum of £17,720. During the same year, the Government expended £132,268 from loan funds on roads. In addition, a large amount of money is allocated annually to the municipal corporations and district councils solely for the construction and maintenance of main roads within their boundaries.

The Roads Improvement Act 1921 provides for the constitution of a Roads Advisory Board, consisting of three members of the Public Service appointed by the Governor. Main roads may be proclaimed. The duties of the Board are to advise the Minister as to the moneys which should be expended by each council on the construction, maintenance and keeping in repair of the main roads within its district, and the amount of money voted for main roads which should be allocated to each council. The Minister determines (a) the total amount of money to be expended by each council for such purposes during each financial year, (b) the amount to be allocated to each council, and (c) the amount to be spent by each council out of revenue, for which a council may declare a special rate not exceeding fourpence in the pound, but the amount under (c) must not exceed one-half the amount under (b). Should a council make default in carrying out the work prescribed, the Engineer for Roads and Bridges may undertake it, and half the amount of the cost thereof becomes a debt due by such council to the Minister. To provide additional funds for main roads upkeep a Motor Spirit Vendors Tax at the rate of 3d. per gallon on sales has been adopted, and a further measure has been passed to provide that all horse-drawn vehicles in the metropolitan area, which carry goods or produce, shall pay annual licence fees, the proceeds of which are also to be devoted to the upkeep of main roads.

5. **Western Australia.**—In Western Australia the construction, maintenance, and management of roads and bridges throughout the State are under the control of municipalities and district road boards which are subsidized by the Government.

6. **Tasmania.**—(i) *Construction.* In Tasmania the cost of construction of roads and bridges is borne almost entirely by the central Government.

Up to the 30th June, 1925, the loan expenditure on these works was £4,033,673. In addition, half the proceeds of the sale of land has formed a Crown Lands Fund for the construction of roads to new holdings. Under this provision £670,565 has been expended. This fund has in recent years more than met the demands on it, and expenditure therefrom since 1918 has been limited to £10,000 annually, the balance being used for redemption of debt. The following table gives particulars of the amount and cost of construction for the last five years :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES, TASMANIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON
CONSTRUCTION TO 30th JUNE, 1925.**

Period.	Expenditure.		New-road Mileage.		New Bridges.
	Loans.	Crown Lands Fund.	Cleared.	Metalled.	
	£	£	Miles.	Miles.	No.
1920-21	100,621	4,744	62	80	8
1921-22	99,760	8,198	69	73	27
1922-23	71,017	6,412	47	57	13
1923-24	56,752	5,537	53	48	15
1924-25	129,838	5,341	139	119	16

In addition, in 1924-25, the sum of £12,486 provided by the Commonwealth Government was expended on roads; the conditional expenditure by the State Government is included in the above figures.

(ii) *Maintenance.* The maintenance of roads and bridges is undertaken by the municipalities with some assistance from the central Government, chiefly by way of subsidy. Under the Aid to Road Rates Act, a sum of £11,000 is distributed annually among the municipalities, in proportion as the cost of maintenance falls on their resources. Under the Main Roads Maintenance Act 1918 a further sum of £5,000 was provided out of Consolidated Revenue, which, with the addition of the motor tax, less 5 per cent., and a contribution from municipalities, is expended on the upkeep of main roads. In 1924-25 the amount available for 1,100 miles of main road was £45,800. The work is carried out in most cases by municipalities, under the general direction of an Advisory Board, on which the Government, the municipalities, and the motorists are all represented. Further, the Repairs to Roads Act 1920 provides for loans for 15 years to municipalities for the purpose of re-making roads—half the loan is repaid in instalments by the local body and the remainder by the State Government. The Government also provides for the repair of the more important bridges, and for emergency work.

The above provision for maintenance has, however, in recent years been found insufficient to cope with the heavier motor traffic and to meet the demand for a better road surface further legislation is in contemplation.

7. *Summary of Loan Expenditure on Roads and Bridges*—Figures showing the total expenditure on roads and bridges in the States are not available. The subjoined statement, however, gives the amounts of loan expenditure by the State Governments up to the 30th June, 1925 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES.—GOVERNMENT LOAN EXPENDITURE TO THE
30th JUNE, 1925.**

Expenditure.	N.S.W.	Victoria. (a)	Q'land. (b)	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total to 30/6/23	2,381,744	4,724,249	931,775	2,110,535	459,468	3,847,083	14,454,854
" " 30/6/24	2,567,322	5,290,845	931,775	2,276,475	525,477	3,903,835	15,495,729
" " 30/6/25	3,324,402	6,656,878	832,839	2,408,743	617,111	4,033,673	17,873,646

(a) This expenditure is from loan funds on country roads; temporary advances not included.

(b) In addition, Main Roads Board loan expenditure to 30th June, 1925, was £699,120.

The following table shows the annual expenditure from loans on roads and bridges by the central Governments in each State during the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 :—

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—LOAN EXPENDITURE BY STATES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land. (a)	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920-21 ..	13,555	965,646	..	120,223	32,121	100,621	1,232,166
1921-22 ..	320,271	960,821	..	109,120	12,585	99,760	1,502,557
1922-23 ..	231,271	573,972	217,500	62,510	34,311	71,017	1,190,581
1923-24 ..	185,578	960,821	496,000	165,940	66,009	56,752	1,931,100
1924-25 ..	750,907	1,155,362	200,000	132,268	91,634	129,838	2,460,009

(a) Main Roads Board loan expenditure.

The two tables given above show only a small proportion of the actual expenditure upon roads and bridges in the different States, for the reason that (a) there have been large expenditures from revenue, both by the central Governments and by local authorities, and (b) the State Governments have in many cases voted grants and subsidies on the amount of rates collected, and have issued loans to local authorities either for the express purpose of the construction of roads and bridges or for the general purpose of public works construction.

§ 3. Municipalities, Shires, Etc.

1. New South Wales.—(i) *General*. Practically the whole of the State, with the exception of the Western Division, has been divided into municipalities and shires, the total area incorporated at the end of 1924 being 183,976 square miles, of which 2,637 square miles are included in the former and 181,339 in the latter. The areas incorporated comprise the whole of the Eastern and Central Divisions of the State, with the exception of Lord Howe Island, the islands in Port Jackson, and the quarantine station at Port Jackson.

(ii) *Municipalities*.—(a) *Summary*. The following table gives the number, area and population of municipalities, together with the length of roads and the number of bridges and ferries therein for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES—SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	No. of Municipalities.	Sydney and Suburbs.		Country.		Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
		Area.	Population.	Area.	Population.			
		Acres.		Acres.				
1920	185	95,259	881,594	1,275,875	525,264	(a)	(a)	(a)
1921	185	95,259	906,320	1,725,875	531,090	10,187	745	26
1922	185	95,259	934,970	1,725,875	536,050	(a)	(a)	(a)
1923	184	95,259	959,772	1,720,275	545,850	(a)	(a)	(a)
1924	181	95,259	989,390	1,593,075	552,930	10,007	673	24

(a) Not available—collected triennially.

Of the 10,007 miles of roads, 4,772 were metalled, ballasted or gravelled, 1,787 formed only, and 1,859 cleared only, while 1,589 miles were natural surface.

(b) *Unimproved and Improved Values*. The table hereunder gives a comparison of the unimproved and improved values for the years 1920 to 1924 inclusive :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—CAPITAL VALUES, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Total Metropolis.	Country.	Grand Total.
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UNIMPROVED VALUE.

	£	£	£	£	£
1920	33,077,620	46,847,825	79,925,445	29,060,263	108,985,708
1921	35,887,412	51,027,987	86,915,399	30,706,273	117,621,672
1922	36,838,607	54,642,223	91,480,830	32,343,067	123,823,897
1923	36,918,354	60,984,924	97,903,278	34,238,069	132,141,347
1924	45,593,929	65,559,272	111,153,201	36,068,427	147,221,628

IMPROVED VALUE.

	£	£	£	£	£
1920	84,580,400	127,414,223	211,994,623	77,900,508	289,895,131
1921	99,647,060	141,632,450	241,279,510	88,922,248	330,201,758
1922	103,667,740	155,607,105	259,274,845	90,627,326	349,902,171
1923	107,239,980	174,364,307	281,604,287	99,739,138	381,343,425
1924	141,629,260	191,921,240	333,550,500	106,363,410	439,913,910

(c) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Particulars of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities for the year ending 31st December, 1924, under various headings, are given below :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1924.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Country.	Total.
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REVENUE.

	£	£	£	£
General fund	2,855,443 (a)	1,774,063	1,092,606	2,866,669 (b)
Trading accounts		35,133	625,109	660,242 (b)
Special and local funds		60,203	306,537	366,740 (b)
Gross revenue	2,855,443	1,869,399	2,024,252	6,749,094

EXPENDITURE.

General fund	2,666,616 (a)	1,980,639	1,098,646	3,079,285 (b)
Trading accounts		24,183	507,598	531,781 (b)
Special and local funds		59,320	277,682	337,002 (b)
Gross expenditure	2,666,616	2,064,142	1,883,926	6,614,684

(a) Items of revenue and expenditure for the city of Sydney cannot be allocated to the different headings shown for municipalities. (b) Exclusive of Sydney.

The next table shows the gross revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the five years 1920 to 1924 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Municipalities.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
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GROSS REVENUE.

	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney	1,724,858	2,068,153	2,348,854	2,568,357	2,855,443
Suburban	1,200,139	1,413,469	1,561,760	1,709,262	1,869,399
Country	1,357,065	1,582,055	1,701,288	1,836,654	2,024,252
Total	4,282,062	5,063,677	5,611,902	6,114,273	6,749,094

GROSS EXPENDITURE.

	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney	1,747,972	2,060,635	2,187,856	2,371,043	2,666,616
Suburban	1,145,765	1,511,543	1,618,413	1,790,120	2,064,142
Country	1,293,564	1,507,423	1,637,140	1,711,734	1,883,926
Total	4,187,301	5,079,601	5,443,409	5,872,897	6,614,684

(d) *Assets and Liabilities.* The financial position of the municipalities as at the 31st December, 1924, is shown by the following statement of assets and liabilities.

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1924.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Country.	Total.
ASSETS.				
	£	£	£	£
Bank balances and cash ..	18,479,941 (a)	343,467	359,343	702,810 (b)
Outstanding rates ..		99,203	182,047	281,250 (b)
Sundry debtors ..		121,894	211,031	332,925 (b)
Stores and materials ..		32,258	98,184	130,442 (b)
Land, buildings, furniture, etc.		963,936	4,445,048	5,408,984 (b)
Other		31,490	39,887	71,377 (b)
Total	18,479,941	1,592,248	5,335,540	25,407,729
LIABILITIES.				
Loans, outstanding interest and sundry creditors ..	17,779,157 (a)	2,037,149	1,574,585	3,611,734 (b)
Debts due to Government and interest thereon ..		79,776	2,093,927	2,173,703 (b)
Bank overdrafts ..		213,283	174,075	387,358 (b)
Other		41,061	48,957	90,018 (b)
Total	17,779,157	2,371,269	3,891,544	24,041,970

(a) Particulars for the city of Sydney cannot be allocated to the different headings shown for municipalities. (b) Exclusive of Sydney.

(iii) *Shires.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives the number, area, population, and unimproved capital value of shires, together with the length of the roads, and the number of bridges and ferries therein. It is not possible to give the improved capital value or the assessed annual value, as shires are not compelled to make these valuations.

SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	No. of Shires.	Area.	Population.	Unimproved Capital Value.	Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
	No.	sq. miles.	No.	£	miles.	No.	No.
1920	136	181,140	670,123	120,872,326	(a)	(a)	(a)
1921	136	181,140	676,130	130,834,456	85,458	3,627	175
1922	136	181,140	688,560	135,380,748	(a)	(a)	(a)
1923	136	181,140	691,000	140,392,104	(a)	(a)	(a)
1924	136	181,339	686,770	144,710,409	88,704	3,861	172

(a) Not available—collected triennially.

Of the 88,704 miles of roads, 18,369 were metalled or ballasted, 13,745 formed only, and 27,216 cleared only, the balance being natural surface.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of shires for the years 1920 to 1924 are shown in the following table. Included in the receipts for 1924 are Government grants amounting to £265,524 :—

SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Particulars.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
REVENUE.					
<i>General Fund—</i>	£	£	£	£	£
General rates (including interest)	825,781	968,886	1,033,921	1,064,842	1,129,863
Government endowment	156,429	178,420	156,861	150,296	146,705
Public works	196,045	188,533	218,952	204,129	323,357
Health administration	79,410	84,014	88,165	98,532	103,500
Public services	14,630	15,540	16,052	15,712	15,885
Shire property	13,456	16,145	20,344	8,124	11,741
Miscellaneous	12,125	8,939	13,852	16,977	15,364
<i>Special and Local Funds</i>	57,540	87,124	99,960	157,547	190,271
Total revenue	1,355,416	1,547,601	1,648,107	1,716,159	1,936,686
EXPENDITURE.					
<i>General Fund—</i>					
Administrative expenses	146,762	140,300	168,802	158,362	159,719
Public works	994,731	1,187,349	1,245,857	1,268,550	1,467,867
Health administration	84,282	89,344	95,578	104,437	107,894
Public services	26,239	33,782	32,205	31,526	31,432
Shire property	14,935	18,721	18,518	7,041	8,524
Miscellaneous	8,589	9,418	11,626 ^a	20,327 ^a	24,236 ^a
<i>Special, Local, and Loan Funds</i>	50,210	78,474	91,295	131,715	173,070
Total expenditure	1,325,748	1,557,388	1,663,881	1,721,958	1,972,742

(a) Includes interest on loans and overdraft—£7,597 in 1922, £13,185 in 1923, and £19,934 in 1924.

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The finances of the shires at the end of the year 1924 showed an excess of assets of £348,002. The following table gives particulars of assets and liabilities as at the 31st December, 1924 :—

SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1924.

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	£		£
Bank balances and cash	319,324	Loans outstanding, interest and	
Outstanding rates	170,270	sundry creditors	739,428
Sundry debtors	60,206	Bank overdrafts	256,092
Stores and materials	37,622	Other	115,193
Land, buildings, furniture, plant,			
machinery, etc.	867,722		
Other	3,571		
Total	1,458,715	Total	1,110,713

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* Local Government is established throughout the State (with the exception of French Island), the various divisions being termed cities, towns, boroughs, or shires. Melbourne and Geelong were incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of a general system of local government, and except in a few details are not subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act.

In addition to the endowment of £50,000, the municipalities received from the Government during the financial year 1924–25 a sum of £63,771 out of the Licensing

Fund as the equivalent for (a) fees for licences, (b) fees for the registration of brewers and spirit merchants, and (c) fines, penalties, and forfeitures incurred under the Licensing Act 1915.

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

(ii) *Municipalities.* (a) *Summary.* The following table shows the number of cities, towns, boroughs, and shires, with estimated population, number of ratepayers and dwellings, and value of ratable property for the years 1921 to 1925 inclusive:—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—SUMMARY, 1921 to 1925.

Year ending 30th September.	Number of Municipal- ities.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers (both sexes).	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		
					Total.	Annual.	
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGH.							
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£	
1921.. ..	55	886,030	237,037	} 205,416a {	193,947,624	10,864,184	
1922.. ..	53	914,371a	245,589		210,501,055	11,869,636	
1923.. ..	53	963,180	270,058		220,392	233,586,201	13,116,589
1924.. ..	53	998,950	279,292		229,066	264,693,364	14,964,345
1925.. ..	53	1,031,670	291,910		237,352	288,230,793	16,388,842

SHIRES.

	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£
1921.. ..	138	628,970	198,801	} 142,579a {	205,555,121	10,350,524
1922.. ..	139	610,987a	201,956		215,984,328	10,875,948
1923.. ..	139	616,410	200,834		221,623,773	11,200,825
1924.. ..	139	627,420	213,317		235,274,597	11,816,074
1925.. ..	139	635,340	221,345		251,480,405	12,588,177

(a) Census figures.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The table hereunder shows the revenue from various sources, and the expenditure under various heads, exclusive of loan revenue and expenditure, of municipalities during the years 1920 to 1924:—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Items.		1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
REVENUE.						
		£	£	£	£	£
Taxation	Rates	1,750,778	2,083,931	2,303,664	2,559,847	2,847,282
	Licences	135,383	126,952	137,036	152,437	155,009
	Dog fees	22,575	23,682	24,316	24,832	26,211
	Market and weigh- bridge dues ..	87,845	91,448	99,485	99,337	97,794
Government endowments and grants		74,563	65,581	75,627	60,607	87,783
Contributions for streets, etc.		73,182	84,936	111,983	141,484	180,502
Sanitary charges		116,096	133,244	146,559	162,129	175,520
Rents		85,517	92,717	102,784	108,502	125,544
Other sources		879,024	890,625	1,030,323	1,179,748	1,305,108
Total		3,224,963	3,593,116	4,031,777	4,488,923	5,000,753

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924—*continued*.

Items.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
EXPENDITURE.					
Salaries, etc.	£ 246,851	£ 284,158	£ 319,430	£ 340,319	£ 359,493
Sanitary work, street cleaning etc.	306,775	345,834	363,706	396,524	433,220
Lighting	102,945	115,968	130,722	131,342	134,025
Fire brigades' contributions	39,637	46,512	48,526	49,225	55,412
Public Works { Construction	208,326	238,165	271,007	294,711	404,661
Maintenance	1,385,347	1,683,619	1,865,549	1,948,582	2,525,846
Formation of private streets, etc.	82,746	130,125	147,612	163,660	343,978
Redemption of loans	128,664	133,786	136,090	165,675	180,987
Interest on loans	264,147	276,065	305,289	343,164	386,946
Charities	25,031	29,468	26,436	26,288	28,550
Other expenditure	313,650	315,085	332,067	356,199	393,545
Total	3,104,119	3,598,785	3,946,434	4,215,689	5,246,663

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The assets of municipalities may be classified under three heads (a) the municipal fund, (b) the loan fund, and (c) property; the liabilities under two heads—(a) the municipal fund, and (b) the loan fund. The following table shows the amount of municipal assets and liabilities for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1920 TO 1924.

Items.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
ASSETS.					
MUNICIPAL FUND—	£	£	£	£	£
Uncollected rates	133,573	158,301	176,830	202,251	231,623
Other assets	483,724	591,508	636,509	730,603	1,098,843
LOAN FUND—					
(a) Sinking funds—					
Amount at credit	489,332	523,834	430,689	455,766	500,214
Arrears due	3,098	483	511	670	127
(b) Unexpended balances	221,405	331,561	442,360	526,622	501,858
PROPERTY—					
Buildings, markets, etc. ..	4,077,892	4,457,527	4,804,008	5,170,071	5,773,520
Waterworks	270,147	256,169	253,520	255,737	264,630
Gasworks	117,704	123,454	129,020	145,874	174,660
Total	5,796,875	6,442,837	6,873,447	7,487,594	8,545,475
LIABILITIES.					
MUNICIPAL FUND—					
Arrears due sinking funds	3,098	483	511	670	127
Overdue interest	7,091	5,379	6,026	8,054	7,445
Bank overdrafts	442,326	542,462	858,733	665,866	892,893
Other liabilities	281,675	352,518	389,340	440,031	767,691
LOAN FUND—					
Loans outstanding	5,192,069	5,595,614	5,714,570	6,601,731	7,574,523
Due on loan contracts	220,188	158,009	177,755	380,839	237,695
Due on current contracts ..	85,368	102,191	88,936	155,233	161,031
Total	6,231,815	6,756,656	7,235,871	8,252,424	9,641,405

3. Queensland.—(i) *General.* The whole of the State is incorporated into cities, towns, and shires under the Local Authorities Act of 1902 and its amendments.

(ii) *Municipalities.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars of the area, population, number of inhabited dwellings, and assets and liabilities of cities and towns and of shires for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	No.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Number of Inhabited Dwellings.	Capital Value.	Assets.	Liabilities.	
							Govern- ment Loans.	Total.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

		sq. miles.	No.	No.	£	£	£	£	
1920	..	35	510	330,044	69,340	19,066,071	2,161,774	457,170	1,867,186
1921	..	36	522	339,420	71,257	19,350,707	2,579,726	506,131	2,081,724
1922	..	36	522	343,799	71,887	19,486,391	2,402,864	540,520	2,251,373
1923	..	36	537	354,187	73,874	20,606,516	2,674,349	589,715	2,540,921
1924	..	35	506	364,754	75,846	21,222,982	3,013,574	597,996	3,095,887

SHIRES.

1920	..	135	669,384	422,683	95,173	47,259,059	723,871	299,361	513,623
1921	..	134	669,372	423,857	99,364	49,051,635	800,451	338,681	620,180
1922	..	134	669,372	427,739	96,840	50,284,568	846,102	365,863	623,086
1923	..	134	669,627	446,943	98,608	51,041,891	1,037,880	448,390	799,755
1924	..	135	669,388	460,240	101,494	51,858,728	1,134,466	568,848	934,278

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure (including loan moneys) of cities and towns, and of shires for each year from 1920 to 1924, are given hereunder :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,
1920 TO 1924.**

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Govern- ment Loans and Subsidies.	Total.	Public Works and Services.	Loan Redemp- tion.	Office Expenses and Salaries.	Total

CITIES AND TOWNS.

		£	£	£	£	£	£	
1920	..	700,321	180,110	1,024,834	774,969	30,234	76,703	1,074,648
1921	..	791,259	94,453	1,025,504	842,567	32,696	92,194	1,180,420
1922	..	868,996	59,652	1,139,009	960,770	32,892	86,639	1,309,288
1923	..	913,182	77,736	1,492,209	1,057,611 ^a	34,907	87,320	1,432,525
1924	..	943,558	49,165 ^b	1,646,754	1,353,797 ^a	29,659	99,519	1,801,017

SHIRES.

1920	..	616,025	123,554	860,043	618,287	18,136	110,603	831,807
1921	..	666,951	86,237	844,834	671,997	22,732	134,380	925,953
1922	..	723,478	62,424	933,771	665,229	24,545	119,776	922,811
1923	..	740,433	93,536	1,139,324	879,942 ^a	27,523	126,302	1,141,111
1924	..	817,873	282,575 ^b	1,216,646	944,876 ^a	29,875	148,695	1,256,880

(a) Includes Expenditure on Main Roads.

(b) Includes Money received from Main Roads Board.

4. **South Australia.**—(i) *General.* A large proportion of South Australia is unincorporated, the balance being under municipal corporations in the larger cities and towns, and district councils in outside areas. These bodies are subsidized by Government, and special grants allocated on the recommendation of the Roads Advisory Board are given for the maintenance and construction of main roads.

(ii) *Local Authorities.* (a) *Summary.* During the past five years the number of corporations and district councils has increased by 7, the total being 191, of which 10 corporations and 13 district councils are in the metropolitan area, and 27 corporations and 141 district councils in outside areas. According to the latest available information there are 955 miles of roads under the control of corporations and about 42,439 miles under the control of district councils, and of these totals, 14½ miles are wood-blocked and 10,529 miles macadamized. The following table gives the area, population, number of occupied dwellings, capital and assessment values and outstanding loans for corporations and district councils separately for the years 1920 to 1924:—

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Area.	Estimated Population.	Occupied Dwellings.	Capital Value.	Assessment Value.	Outstanding Loans.
MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.						
	Aeres.	No.	No.	£	£	£
1920	53,949	208,022	45,674	44,106,632	2,300,858	343,643
1921	53,959	214,730	46,782	47,980,109	2,421,920	382,293
1922	59,279	220,555	48,120	51,100,946	2,544,974	439,319
1923	59,279	223,875	49,260	54,983,943	2,759,282	443,893
1924	62,699	232,044	51,441	60,792,222	3,095,439	481,060
DISTRICT COUNCILS.						
1920	29,602,382	259,096	57,548	60,184,690	2,938,336	35,797
1921	29,605,269	264,712	57,630	63,510,162	3,160,976	38,131
1922	30,196,509	272,104	59,737	68,293,518	3,429,776	35,358
1923	30,177,455	282,266	62,223	74,949,756	3,747,623	43,848
1924	30,535,351	285,759	63,572	81,665,583	4,083,357	47,249

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of corporations and district councils for the years 1920 to 1924, showing in separate columns the receipts and expenditure on main roads. The financial year of municipal corporations ends on the 30th November and that of district councils on the 30th June.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Local Government (exclusive of Government Grants Account).						Government Grants Account (Main Roads).	
	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rates.	Subsidies.	Total.	Roads.	Other Public Works.	Total.		
MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.								
1920 ..	£ 233,645	£ 27,347	£ 364,200	£ 115,013	£ 163,260	£ 379,709	£ 16,703	£ 17,113
1921 ..	279,992	29,094	420,060	147,129	184,966	444,782	23,927	21,559
1922 ..	315,772	29,328	470,183	185,758	188,756	500,421	33,222	35,364
1923 ..	346,844	34,576	511,078	248,270	204,314	584,005	25,637	22,541
1924 ..	382,008	38,538	567,344	240,902	201,698	609,446	28,010	27,486
DISTRICT COUNCILS.								
1920 ..	180,414	37,730	298,953	179,802	52,891	310,676	128,345	114,891
1921 ..	212,801	43,316	315,166	189,332	40,048	318,614	208,608	180,891
1922 ..	242,591	50,101	356,359	213,557	53,323	361,290	171,756	185,092
1923 ..	277,563	56,281	407,980	222,574	59,380	403,194	217,267	213,615
1924 ..	317,583	64,966	464,414	262,124	54,289	445,463	241,544	235,246

5. *Western Australia.*—(i) *General.* In this State there are three forms of local authorities, namely:—(a) municipalities, (b) district road boards, and (c) local boards of health, the two former covering the whole of the State. Local boards of health are of three descriptions, (a) municipal, the members being the same as those of the municipal council of the municipality in which each is situated, (b) those under the control of road boards, and (c) those not under the control of road boards or municipalities. Several of the two latter are inactive. The financial year of municipalities and municipal boards of health terminates on the 31st October, and that of road boards and other local boards of health on the 30th June.

(ii) *Municipalities.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives various particulars regarding municipalities for the years 1921 to 1925. For population and number of dwellings in 1921, the census figures for 4th April, 1921, have been taken.

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 31st Oct.—	Municipalities.	Area.	Population.	Dwelling Houses.	Valuation of Rateable Property.		Length of Roads and Streets.
					Capital Value.	Annual Value.	
	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	£	£	Miles.
1921 ..	22	60,911	166,222	34,537	29,947,232	1,673,545	1,140
1922 ..	21	58,981	162,561	35,137	29,492,571	1,710,389	992
1923 ..	21	58,981	172,881	35,498	31,054,031	1,810,173	993
1924 ..	21	58,981	172,427	35,498	32,881,961	1,910,798	994
1925 ..	21	58,981	172,866	35,550	35,315,316	1,982,967	997

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Revenue and expenditure of municipalities during the years 1921 to 1925 are given hereunder:—

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 31st October—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	From Rates.	From Govt. Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	Works and Improvements.	Disbursements in respect of Loans.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	250,356	710	531,589	782,655	132,011	156,123	461,547	749,681
1922 ..	263,008	300	571,394	834,702	180,537	173,038	493,635	847,210
1923 ..	277,993	939	593,937	872,869	202,758	190,738	471,140	864,636
1924 ..	287,863	4,372	738,040	1,030,275	236,050	191,618	599,952	1,027,620
1925 ..	297,143	200	860,140	1,157,483	300,799	214,226	561,578	1,076,603

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.*—The table below shows the assets and liabilities of municipalities at the 31st October in each financial year 1921 to 1925:—

MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 31st October—	Assets.				Liabilities.	
	Balance in Hand.	Value of Property.	Accrued Sinking Funds.	Total.	Outstanding Debentures and Bonds.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	64,687	1,514,671	409,879	2,089,501	1,782,471	1,890,307
1922 ..	45,461	1,533,276	412,578	2,100,799	1,767,562	1,857,490
1923 ..	48,580	1,574,805	477,016	2,212,099	1,802,782	1,894,126
1924 ..	51,460	1,570,010	449,007	2,193,487	1,864,993	1,961,763
1925 ..	136,917	1,580,435	487,670	2,329,990	2,135,132	2,253,841

(iii) *District Road Boards. (a) Summary.* In the next table the unimproved values given are approximate, allowance being made for three districts for which the annual values only are available. In other instances the annual value is also given, and those portions of districts rated under the annual value are not included in the area rated under the unimproved capital value. The population at the date of the census of 4th April, 1921, was 160,970, and the number of dwellings 41,662.

On the 30th June, 1925, the population was estimated at 195,337, and the number of dwelling-houses at 47,412. Nine districts, however, only give figures at time of the 1921 census.

DISTRICT ROADS BOARD, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Road Districts.	Area.	Unimproved Capital Value (Approximate).	Length of Roads in Existence.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Out- standing Loans.
	No.	sq. miles.	£	miles.	£	£	£
1921 ..	119	975,820	14,547,000	36,506	307,521	219,660	154,411
1922 ..	121	975,828	15,088,027	37,238	356,270	286,423	172,984
1923 ..	121	975,828	16,175,944	38,907	379,649	292,915	210,755
1924 ..	122	975,828	17,310,185a	39,863	418,060	348,690	242,043
1925 ..	123	975,828	18,444,720a	41,666	448,318	388,403	280,089

(a) Incomplete.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of district road boards are shown in the following table for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Other.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Works.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	149,904	39,172	85,659	274,735	36,891	179,317	69,008	285,216
1922 ..	166,161	35,976	87,182	289,319	38,348	185,477	83,326	307,151
1923 ..	193,018	56,518	120,202	369,738	38,704	203,267	105,315	347,286
1924 ..	213,848	74,184	146,743	434,775	44,233	288,014	113,604	445,851
1925 ..	233,770	66,516	186,452	486,738	46,166	299,204	140,092	485,462

(iv) *Local Boards of Health. (a) General.* On the 31st October, 1925, there were 21 local boards of health within municipalities, and on the 30th June, 1925, 78 under control of road boards, and 24 extra-municipal boards. Of the latter, 3 under the control of road boards and 6 extra-municipal boards were inactive during the year.

(b) *Finances.* The appended table shows the number of boards, their revenue and expenditure, and the assets and liabilities of such as were active from 1921 to 1925. As already stated, the financial year of municipal boards ends on the 31st October, and that of other boards on the 30th June.

LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Number.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		Assets.	Liabilities.
		Rates.	Sanitary Charges and Rubbish Fees.	Total.	Sanitary and Rubbish Service.	Total.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	126	57,194	63,484	133,021	89,709	131,400	83,875	20,872
1922 ..	126	56,362	65,786	133,280	87,479	129,941	85,768	17,689
1923 ..	125	56,523	70,700	140,056	89,430	133,191	88,456	16,192
1924 ..	122	60,255	66,378	137,047	92,324	136,099	89,311	16,549
1925 ..	123	55,907	68,738	145,844	92,236	148,265	84,526	16,348

6. *Tasmania.*—(i) *General.* The whole State, with the exception of the cities of Hobart and Launceston, which were incorporated under separate Acts, is divided into municipal districts.

(ii) *Municipalities.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives the number of municipalities, valuations, outstanding loans and length of roads for the years 1920 to 1924. The latest available figure for inhabited dwellings is for the year 1921, when the number was 45,950.

MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Number of Municipalities.	Valuations.			Outstanding Loans.	Length of Roads.
		Annual Value.	Unimproved Value.	Total Capital Value.		

HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.

	No.	£	£	£	£	Miles.
1920 ..	2	688,290	5,435,180	11,902,005	1,637,550	178
1921 ..	2	771,297	5,768,348	13,112,954	1,700,128	178
1922 ..	2	784,945	6,139,362	14,123,587	1,924,252	179
1923 ..	2	887,583	6,388,152	15,140,686	2,017,691	187
1924 ..	2	984,592	6,711,549	16,521,819	2,062,609	195

COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.

	No.	£	£	£	£	Miles.
1920 ..	47	1,246,500	13,899,687	26,834,221	345,963	11,461
1921 ..	47	1,347,839	14,670,035	28,436,345	534,127	11,563
1922 ..	47	1,396,941	14,735,436	29,034,047	407,719	11,557
1923 ..	47	1,423,174	15,168,896	30,318,877	417,535	11,725
1924 ..	47	1,472,749	15,535,414	31,180,993	464,286	11,692

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Total.	Administration.	Works and Services.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Total.

HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920 ..	125,620	1,347	533,235	14,620 ^a	279,462	266,163	560,245
1921 ..	159,094	250	626,855	24,579 ^a	285,904	97,237	408,944
1922 ..	178,921	2,056	577,707	29,491 ^a	403,555	110,716	544,133
1923 ..	234,313	1,263	641,070	28,361 ^a	336,961	125,297	613,380
1924 ..	244,006	450	555,868	47,619	206,668 ^b	132,449	545,928 ^b

COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920 ..	129,812	27,725	223,825	31,311	140,648	23,087	209,815
1921 ..	144,531	27,889	261,162	35,798	167,870	22,797	248,468
1922 ..	156,408	30,694	269,388	36,038	193,188	24,248	270,386
1923 ..	167,616	26,026	267,674	36,003	181,087	28,438	264,395
1924 ..	179,297	31,745	284,769	37,697	129,730 ^c	28,421	27,802 ^c

^a Hobart only (Launceston figures not available). ^b Excluding from Loans, £58,975.

^c Excluding from Loans, £71,451.

7. **Northern Territory.**—(i) *Municipality of Darwin.* The following particulars relate to the year 1924–25 :—Area, 2,024 acres, population 886, number of occupied dwellings 226, of unoccupied dwellings 5, and of other buildings 130. Revenue from general rates £1,364, from Government grants £665, other sources £279, total £2,308; expenditure £2,559.

(ii) *Bagot Road District.* During the year 1924–25 the receipts amounted to £168, and the expenditure to £253, leaving (with a balance of £270 brought forward from the previous year) a balance in hand of £185.

8. **Basis for Municipal Rating and Limits for Rates.**—These matters were dealt with at some length in Official Year Book, No. 17, pp. 124–25, but limitations of space preclude their repetition in the present issue.

§ 4. Summary of Municipal Finance.

1. **General.**—In the preceding parts of this chapter certain particulars have been given regarding local authorities in each individual State. In this paragraph, comparative figures are given for each State regarding the financial operations of the local governing bodies referred to in § 3. The particulars in the next two tables refer to financial years as follows :—New South Wales : calendar year 1924. Victoria : 30th September, 1924, except Melbourne, 31st December, and Geelong, 31st August, 1924. Queensland : calendar year 1924. South Australia : Corporations, 30th November, and district councils, 30th June, 1924. Western Australia : Municipalities, 31st October, 1924, district road boards, 30th June, 1924. Tasmania : calendar year 1924.

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

LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN EACH STATE.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1924.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aus.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
No. of local authorities	317	192	170	191	143	49	1,062

RECEIPTS.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rates—							
General ..		2,847,282	1,761,431	699,591	387,366	423,303	
Other ..		454,534			114,345		
Government grants, etc. ..	8,685,780	87,783		373,058	78,556	32,195	
Loans and other sources ..		1,611,154	1,101,969	228,663	884,783	385,139	
Total ..	8,685,780	5,000,753	2,863,400	1,301,312	1,465,050	840,637	20,156,932

EXPENDITURE.

Works, services, etc.		3,841,730	2,208,673	1,021,745	1,021,438	466,824	
Interest on loans and overdrafts		386,946	(c)		104,112		
Redemptions, sinking funds, etc. ..	8,587,426	180,987	59,534		111,555	160,870	
Administration ..		359,493	699,690	295,896	105,008	85,316	
Other ..		477,507			131,358	241,365	
Total ..	8,587,426	5,246,663	3,057,897	1,317,641	1,473,471	954,375	20,637,473

VALUATIONS.

Capital value of property ..	£ 291,932,037	£ 539,711,198	£ 73,081,710	£ 142,457,805	£ 550,192,146	£ 47,702,812	(b)
Annual value of property ..	(b)	28,977,019	(b)	7,178,796	(d) 1,910,798	2,457,341	(b)

(a) Unimproved capital value of all rateable property. (b) Not available. (c) The valuation of road districts is the unimproved capital value. (d) Excluding district road boards. (e) Included with "Other."

3. Local Government Loans, 1924.—The following table shows the amount of loans raised by local authorities during the year 1924, of loans current at the end of that year, of liability on account of interest and sinking fund, and of loans redeemed during 1924 :—

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.—LOANS, 1924.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
Loans raised during year ..	£ 2,532,775	£ 1,158,177	£ 517,576	£ 78,558	£ 228,851	£ 205,603	£ 4,721,540
Loans current at end of year	16,348,686	7,574,523	3,036,745	528,309	2,107,036	2,526,895	32,122,194
Annual liability on account of interest ..	767,575	(a)	60,884	23,575	108,101	160,701	(a)
Total sinking fund at end of year ..	1,459,555	500,341	196,610	24,685	410,357	317,080	2,908,628
Amount of loans redeemed during year ..	202,910	(a)	(a)	38,141	137,290	99,783	(a)

(a) Not available. (b) Approximate.

§ 5. Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage.

1. New South Wales.—(i) *General*. In Sydney and its suburbs the water supply and sewerage systems are controlled by the Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, and in Newcastle and its suburbs by the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board. In country districts, both waterworks and sewerage works are constructed by the Public Works Department, and, when completed, handed over to the municipalities affected, by which the cost must be repaid.

(ii) *Metropolitan Waterworks*. (a) *General*. During the year ended 30th June, 1925, the mileage of water mains laid was 150 miles, as against 127 miles in the preceding year, making the total length in sizes from 3 inches to 72 inches in diameter, 3,283 miles. A tunnel 10 miles long and 10 feet in diameter to convey water to the city is being constructed. A 48-in. main was laid to supply water to the northern suburbs, and a reservoir to contain 19,900,000 gallons was constructed in Centennial Park. Important amplification works are in process of construction.

(b) *Water Supplied, etc.* The following table gives the number of houses and estimated population supplied, and other details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY.—WATER SUPPLIED, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Total Supply for the Year.	Average Daily Supply.		Mains Laid.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1921 ..	221,886	1,109,430	48,496	17,701,000	218	43.71	128
1922 ..	229,274	1,146,370	51,002	18,616,000	222	44.49	118
1923 ..	239,528	1,197,640	56,595	20,657,319	236	47.26	126
1924 ..	250,804	1,254,020	58,628	21,458,036	234	46.78	126
1925 ..	259,799	1,298,995	57,355	20,934,784	221	44.15	150

(c) *Finances*. The next table gives details of the finances for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Capital Cost, exclusive of Items on which Interest is not charged.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Cost.	Interest Payable on Capital Cost.	Net Profit after Paying Working Expenses and Interest.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1921 ...	855,751	347,298	10,323,252	40.58	8.28	473,889	34,564
1922 ..	923,798	376,203	11,130,857	40.72	8.30	543,164	4,431
1923 ..	992,702	363,102	12,019,600	36.58	8.26	597,351	32,249
1924 ..	1,105,098	380,407	13,094,176	34.42	8.43	648,011	76,680
1925 ..	1,103,682	409,578	14,734,046	37.11	7.49	691,237	2,867

(a) Includes payment of £4,881 14s. 10d. to State Debt Commissioners in reduction of Capital Indebtedness.

(iii) *Metropolitan Sewerage Systems. (a) General.* In addition to the usual progress made in connecting additional houses, 44 miles of new sewers were laid, the total length now being 1,358 miles. The quantity of sewage pumped was 3,999 million gallons.

(b) *Houses Drained, Population Served, Length of Sewers, etc.* Particulars for the years 1921 to 1925 are given hereunder :—

SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SYDNEY.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Drained.	Estimated Population Served.	Total Length of Sewers.	Total Length of Storm-water Drains.	Ventilating Shafts Erected.	Sewers Ventilated.
	No.	No.	Miles.	Miles.	Feet.	Miles.
1921	148,923	744,615	1,196.96	63.73	514,536	1,096
1922	153,789	768,945	1,226.96	63.73	527,766	1,122
1923	159,390	796,950	1,273.71	65.70	532,470	1,162
1924	165,215	826,075	1,313.90	65.96	543,306	1,208
1925	170,774	853,870	1,358.19	66.37	556,032	1,246

(c) *Finances.* The following table contains information under this heading for the sewerage branch of the Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SYDNEY.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Capital Cost, exclusive of Items on which Interest is not charged.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Cost.	Interest Payable on Capital Cost.	Profit or Loss after Payment of Working Expenses and Interest.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1921 ..	615,615	229,441	7,329,632	37.27	8.39	341,674	44,500
1922 ..	683,434	244,916	7,553,906	35.83	9.05	373,671	64,847
1923 ..	661,964	231,672	7,857,504	34.99	8.42	395,152	35,140
1924 ..	756,539	244,480	8,145,061	32.31	9.28	409,721	102,338
1925 ..	756,624	277,696	8,462,426	36.70	8.94	411,686	67,242

(a) Includes payment of £3,273 16s. 2d. to State Debt Commissioners in reduction of Capital Indebtedness.

(iv) *Newcastle Water Supply. (a) General.* No works of great importance were completed during the year ended 30th June, 1925, but 22 miles of water mains were laid, bringing the total up to 548 miles. The construction of the works in connexion with the Chichester Dam and pipe line has been completed, but the capital expenditure on such works has not yet been determined.

(b) *Particulars of Services.* The following table supplies details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—SUMMARY, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Total Quantity Supplied for the Year.	Average Daily Supply.		Mains Laid.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 gallons.	1,000 gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1921 ..	25,874	129,370	4,688	1,711,187	181	36.23	14
1922 ..	26,758	133,790	4,626	1,688,537	173	34.57	13
1923 ..	28,036	140,180	4,806	1,754,417	171	34.28	29
1924 ..	29,568	147,840	5,756	2,106,614	195	38.92	21
1925 ..	31,405	157,025	6,334	2,312,045	201	40.34	22

(c) *Finances.* The next table gives the revenue, working expenses, capital debt, and net profit for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Capital Debt.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Debt.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Profit or Loss after Paying Working Expenses, Interest, and Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1921 ..	116,320	59,895	1,379,427	51.49	8.43	46,299	10,126
1922 ..	113,217	63,736	1,819,534	56.29	6.22	50,785	— 1,304
1923 ..	110,076	62,155	2,271,295	56.47	4.85	54,632	— 6,761
1924 ..	143,138	63,883	2,730,003	44.63	5.24	58,701	20,554
1925 ..	153,045	53,319	3,046,823	34.84	5.02	61,543	38,183

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) represents loss.

The capital debt in respect of water supply set down as £3,046,823 includes expenditure amounting to £2,042,838 on the incomplete Chichester Scheme, which was vested in the Board on 26th June, 1925. The capital expenditure in respect of transferred works is £1,003,985. The percentage of revenue on transferred (and, therefore, revenue-producing) works is 15.24 per cent. as against 5.02 per cent. on total debt.

(v) *Newcastle Sewerage Works.* (a) *General.* The sewerage works for Newcastle and suburbs as originally designed have been completed by the Department of Public Works and vested in the Board.

The amplification, extension, and improvement of such sewerage works have been reported upon by an Engineering Experts Committee and referred by the Minister for Public Works to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for report to Parliament.

The Engineering Experts Committee is inquiring into the question of the amplification, extension and improvement of the stormwater drainage works of the Newcastle district. The works comprised in the Cottage Creek stormwater area have been authorized and are under construction.

(b) *Sewerage Connexions and Length of Sewers.* During the year ended 30th June, 1925, the number of properties connected with sewers was 1,321, making a total of 16,927. New sewers of a total length of 4 miles were constructed by the Board, bringing the total length of sewers under the Board's control to 170 miles.

(c) *Finances.* Particulars in regard to chief items for the years 1921 to 1925 are given hereunder :—

NEWCASTLE SEWERAGE.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Capital Debt.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Debt.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Profit or Loss after Paying Working Expenses, Interest, and Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1921 ..	32,164	16,007	555,513	49.77	5.79	30,577	—14,420
1922 ..	39,477	18,863	577,833	47.78	6.83	34,446	—13,832
1923 ..	49,551	19,92	592,148	39.74	8.37	36,172	— 6,313
1924 ..	56,210	21,915	610,849	38.99	9.20	37,033	— 2,788
1925 ..	63,707	21,910	636,475	34.39	10.01	37,326	4,471

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) represents loss.

(vi) *Water Supply and Sewerage in Country Towns.* (a) *General.* Under the Local Government Act of 1919 the Public Works Department may upon application by any municipal council construct, out of moneys voted by Parliament therefor, waterworks

and sewerage works, and when completed transfer the control thereof to the council. The cost must be repaid in instalments, with interest fixed by the Governor, spread over a period not exceeding one hundred years.

(b) *Waterworks.* Up to the 30th June, 1925, waterworks had been completed in 68 towns and handed over to the respective municipal or shire councils, with the exception of the Junee Water Supply, which has been placed under special administration, and the Grafton Water Supply, which is vested in a Board composed of three members of the Grafton council and three members of the South Grafton council. The capital debt of all waterworks on the date mentioned was £1,840,279, and the annual amount payable in instalments and for interest was £81,307. The water supply of Broken Hill, on which loan expenditure to the amount of £481,220 was incurred, was constructed under a special Act, and the undertaking is administered by the Minister for Public Works. A few municipalities have also constructed waterworks out of their own resources.

(c) *Sewerage Works.* Sewerage and stormwater drainage works were completed in twenty municipalities at the 30th June, 1925. The capital debt thereon amounted to £634,457, and the amount payable annually in instalments and for interest to £29,712.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) A. *The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.* (a) *General.* All land within 13 miles of the General Post Office is included within the metropolitan area for water supply and sewerage purposes. This area covers 434 square miles of land area, and in 1925 embraced 21 cities, 2 towns and part of another, 1 borough, and parts of 13 shires, or a total of 38 municipalities or portions thereof. The whole of the town of Mordialloc and of the shire of Moorabbin are included in the metropolis for water supply purposes, and the Board is also empowered to supply water to certain municipalities outside the 13-mile radius, to the Metropolitan Farm at Werribee, the outfall-sewer area, and elsewhere. Various other shires also arrange for bulk supplies of water. The liability on the 30th June, 1925, for loans raised by the Board, was £15,584,650. The Board is still empowered to borrow £1,055,284 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the actual receipts and expenditure, and the loan receipts and expenditure of the Board from 1920-21 to 1924-25 :—

**WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.**

Particulars.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
ORDINARY RECEIPTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Water supply	419,474	446,875	500,671	545,835	587,765
Sewerage, etc.	404,234	454,521	542,698	472,074	521,205
Live stock—Metropolitan farm ..	43,975	19,994	42,045	85,059	77,763
Interest { Water supply	1,021	1,917	4,587	12,427	10,178
{ Sewerage	8,737	8,477	11,306	11,190	16,503
Total	877,441	931,784	1,101,307	1,126,585	1,213,414
ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.					
General management	59,420	65,612	64,027	68,803	73,739
Live stock, etc.—Metropolitan farm	68,742	53,162	46,632	101,311	86,546
Maintenance { Water supply	67,131	62,919	65,551	81,991	80,557
{ Sewerage	78,037	74,861	60,548	74,459	76,877
Interest { Water supply	156,645	179,034	203,569	238,572	283,145
{ Sewerage	369,204	411,828	430,418	441,567	475,680
Patriotic, Relief Funds, etc. ..	104	80	10	..	..
Sinking fund investment	4,813	..	..	..	..
Pensions and Compensation Allowances .. ..	..	6,007	5,756	5,562	9,061
Total	804,096	853,503	876,511	1,012,265	1,085,605

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920-21 TO 1924-25—*continued.*

Particulars.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
LOAN RECEIPTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Water supply	7,016	11,748	19,074	18,588	19,015
Sewerage	47,769	46,120	61,959	61,992	58,348
Proceeds of loans	543,616	1,573,326	749,410	1,260,716	1,783,293
Miscellaneous	3,196	17,497	25,978	21,875	28,557
Alterations to water mains .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,426
Alterations to sewers .. ..	..	..	..	..	3,785
Total	601,597	1,648,691	856,421	1,363,171	1,898,424
LOAN EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Water supply construction	119,744	316,329	297,365	348,483	540,938
Sewerage construction	257,240	300,818	351,006	425,653	546,356
Renewals, main outfall .. ..	..	..	2,280	1,654	874
Cleaning rising main .. ..	..	..	..	1,156	2,409
Alterations to water mains .. ..	..	..	..	..	11,341
Alterations to sewers .. ..	..	..	..	..	869
Expenses in floating and redemption of loans	378,820	1,111,814	80,840	954,774	707,785
Miscellaneous	46,478	82,222	49,911	106,081	102,500
Total	802,282	1,811,183	781,402	1,837,801	1,913,072

B. Melbourne Water Supply. (a) Progress of Work. The principal works completed or in hand during the year ended 30th June, 1925, were:—Construction of Maroondah Dam (upper portion and outlet tower); clearing site for O'Shannassy Dam; construction of O'Shannassy Dam; raising lining of O'Shannassy Aqueduct 41,756 lineal feet; metalling Wood's Point-road through O'Shannassy Watershed 10,375 lineal feet; duplication of O'Shannassy Pipe Line; permanent survey of inlet and outlet channels and reservoir site at Silvan; clearing site of dam for Silvan Reservoir; construction of reinforced concrete elevated tank at Mitcham; laying 8 miles 77 chains of 12-in. electrically-welded steel main—Morang to Broadmeadows; delivery of steel locking-bar pipes 24 inches diameter for new main—Caulfield Reservoir to Elwood and St. Kilda; laying 85 miles 62½ chains of reticulation pipes under 12 inches diameter in various parts of the metropolis; cleaning 134 miles 46½ chains of water mains.

(b) Quantity of Water, Number of Houses, and Population Supplied. The following table gives various particulars for the years 1921 to 1925. The rate levied over the period has remained at sixpence in the pound.

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied. (a)	Estimated Population Supplied. (a)	Average Daily Consumption.	Total Water Consumption for the Year.	Average Daily Consumption.		Length of Mains, Reticulation, etc.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1921 ..	174,274	771,348	46,772	17,071,857	268.4	60.6	1,783
1922 ..	181,226	802,144	47,661	17,396,103	263.0	59.4	1,857
1923 ..	190,108	842,179	51.206	18,690,114	269.3	60.8	1,931
1924 ..	201,548	892,858	47,642	17,436,949	236.4	53.4	2,011
1925 ..	211,405	936,522	52,563	19,185,605	248.6	56.1	2,102

(a) 31st December of previous year.

(c) *Capital Cost, Revenue, Expenditure and Surplus.* The following table shows the total cost of construction, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals and special war expenditure), interest and surplus for the five years ending 30th June, 1925, together with the total amounts to that date :—

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1921	112,025	407,093	a 78,755	19.34	b 173,550	154,788
1922	310,578	438,399	a 86,925	19.82	b 196,746	154,728
1923	285,352	507,475	a 85,407	16.83	b 217,723	204,345
1924	314,521	524,165	a 86,853	16.57	b 241,883	189,429
1925	513,523	579,502	a 97,992	16.91	b 294,845	186,665
Total to date ..	6,504,316	12,351,298	2,121,787	17.18	5,406,977	4,822,534

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Includes Interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

C. *Melbourne Sewerage.* (a) *Progress of Work—By Contract.* At the Pumping Station at Spotswood, additional electrical centrifugal pumps have been installed, viz., one of 18 million gallons per day capacity and two each of a capacity of 12 million gallons per day. These are now in full commission. They are operated by 50-cycle current supplied from Newport "B" generating station. Venturi meters have been fitted to all the electric pumps, and the quantity of sewerage dealt with can now be ascertained accurately. In the past it was only possible to estimate this. The Pumping Station has been completely converted to electric drive three-phase current, 440 volts 25 cycles and 415 volts 50 cycles being used. Included in the year's cost is an amount of £3,000 for preliminary expenses in connexion with this conversion. All the normal daily sewage is pumped by the electric pumps, whilst certain of the reciprocating steam pumps are held in readiness to deal with stormwater and emergencies. The total volume of sewage pumped during the year 1925 was 13,449,080,000 gallons, or 36,846,795 gallons per day. Notwithstanding the increased pumping of 364,710,000 gallons of sewage for the year, there has been a slight addition to the unit cost of raising 1,000 gallons 100 feet, the cost for 1924–25 being .535d. as against .525d. for the year 1923–24. This, however, still compares very favourably with .650d., the cost in 1920–21, when steam pumps only were used.

At the present time—in the northern and southern buildings at the Pumping Station, Spotswood—the two sewerage systems can still be handled wholly by electric energy or partly by steam, either separately or unitedly. The normal procedure, however, is to deal with everything by means of the electrical pumps in the southern building. The nominal capacity of the five electrical centrifugal pumping units amounts to 78 million gallons of sewage daily. In addition, the seven reciprocal steam-driven pumps of 300 horse-power have a combined daily capacity of 56 million gallons, making the total available capacity equal to 134 million gallons of sewage per day. The usual practice is to deal with the normal daily load of about 36 million gallons of sewage with two 50-cycle and one 25-cycle electric pumps, the remaining two being left in reserve, while the heavy peak loads which, through storm-water entering the sewers, are sometimes experienced, are handled either by the steam engines or the remaining electric pumps, according to circumstances.

One main, two intercepting sewers, and three branch sewers were completed; twenty-six reticulation areas (including two reticulation areas carried out in connexion with branch sewers) and 55 minor reticulation extensions were also completed. An intercepting and a

relieving sewer and three branch sewers were in progress ; five reticulation areas and three minor reticulation extensions were also in progress. *By Day Labour.* One main and one branch sewer were completed, also 196 minor reticulation extensions, 2,442 branches and short pieces of reticulation, and 19 alterations. At 30th June, 1925, there were 26 separate contracts and day labour jobs in progress, ranging in cost from £100 to £17,141.

(b) *Number of Houses Connected, etc.* Particulars of services for the years 1921 to 1925 are given below :—

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses for which Sewers are Provided. (a)	Estimated Population for which Sewers are Provided. (a)	Average Daily Pumping.	Total Sewage Pumped for the Year.	Average Daily Pumping.		Length of Sewers, etc.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1921 ..	160,345	710,328	37,846	13,813,897	236.0	53.3	1,733
1922 ..	164,413	728,350	39,236	14,320,960	238.6	53.9	1,774
1923 ..	171,125	758,084	36,335	13,262,326	212.3	47.9	1,812
1924 ..	179,183	793,781	35,750	13,084,370	199.5	45.0	1,861
1925 ..	187,153	829,085	36,847	13,449,080	196.9	44.4	1,925

(a) 31st December of previous year.

(c) *Finances.* The capital cost, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals), percentage of working expenses on revenue, interest and deficiency for the years 1921 to 1925 are given below :—

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1921 ..	203,324	411,177	a 119,304	29.01	b 378,023	86,150
1922 ..	242,220	441,516	a 121,045	27.41	b 422,295	101,824
1923 ..	263,050	552,643	a 116,804	21.14	b 438,577	2,738
1924 ..	337,740	480,748	a 119,571	24.87	b 451,168	89,991
1925 ..	441,275	537,657	a 129,050	24.00	b 485,027	76,420
Total to date	9,364,855	7,931,399	1,865,001	23.51	8,389,050	2,322,652

(a) Exclusive of Renewals. (b) Includes interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

(d) *Metropolitan Sewerage Farm.* On 30th June, 1925, the total area of the farm was 13,601 acres. The following table gives details in connexion therewith for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Interest.	Net Cost of Sewage Purification.	Trading Profit.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921	21,245	22,925	a22,744	23,550	23,369	15,750
1922	12,472	2,993	a23,588	28,711	49,306	(b) 4,837
1923	28,654	20,282	a26,441	29,744	35,903	11,285
1924	36,081	28,903	a26,786	31,995	29,878	19,968
1925	19,136	30,298	a26,413	34,471	30,586	21,688
Total to date ..	695,727	558,306	316,373	599,348	323,501	314,928

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Loss.

(ii) *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust.* (a) *General.* The Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, constituted in 1908, consists of five commissioners, two of whom 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 jointly. The amount of loan money which may be raised is limited to £725,000 for water supply undertaking, £610,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £220,000 for sewerage installation to properties under the deferred payment system. The population supplied is about 40,000.

(b) *Water Supply.* The catchment area is about 16,000 acres. The works comprise the Korweinguboorra Reservoir and the Bolwarra Weir on Eastern Moorabool River, together with the necessary channels, mains and reservoirs. The storage capacity of all the reservoirs is 2,709,835,280 gallons, and there are 212½ miles of reticulation mains within the city of Geelong and its suburbs. The total expenditure on waterworks to the 30th June, 1925, was £508,629, and the revenue for the year 1924–25 was £45,729.

(c) *Sewerage Works.* The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer to the ocean at Black Rock, about 9 miles from Geelong, and 101.2 miles of reticulation mains have already been laid. The drainage area is 9,351 acres, and the number of buildings within the drainage area is 9,500, and within the sewered areas 8,827, while 8,094 buildings have been connected with the sewers. Up to 30th June, 1925, the total expenditure on sewerage works was £482,132 and on the cost of sewerage installations under deferred payment conditions £182,894. The revenue amounted to £37,928.

(iii) *Bendigo Sewerage Authority.* The members of the Bendigo City Council constitute this Authority. The sewerage district comprises the whole area of the city of Bendigo. The works when completed are estimated to cost £250,000, and comprise treatment works consisting of (a) non-septic liquefying tanks and oxidizing chambers without filters, but with land disposal of effluent for irrigating grass and crops; (b) main outfall sewer, main, sub-main, branch, and reticulation sewers, of which over 29½ miles had been constructed by the end of March, 1926, at which date 1,593 premises had been connected to sewers. An unique feature of the scheme is the entire omission of the "boundary trap" from house sewers with resulting omission of "induct vent" to house sewers and the omission of all ventilation on street sewers, the main and reticulation sewers all being amply ventilated by the house sewer ventilation, while the resulting all round saving both of first cost and maintenance is considerable. Expenditure to end of March, 1926, was £215,166.

(iv) *Water Supply in Country Towns and Districts.* Most of the country waterworks are controlled by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, but a number of other waterworks is controlled by Waterworks Trusts or by municipal corporations.

The following table gives particulars regarding waterworks under the control of trusts and municipal corporations for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

COUNTRY WATERWORKS, VICTORIA.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Under Waterworks Trusts.				Under Municipal Corporations.			
	Number of Trusts.	Capital Cost.	Capital Indebtedness.	Current Interest Outstanding.	Number of Corporations.	Capital Cost.	Capital Indebtedness.	Current Interest Outstanding.
	No.	£	£	£	No.	£	£	£
1921 ..	98	1,215,526	905,842	10,171	29	784,465	512,185	2,300
1922 ..	98	1,256,973	936,112	11,342	29	785,602	509,358	1,590
1923 ..	98	1,278,847	949,510	15,178	29	785,602	506,475	3,152
1924 ..	99	1,322,315	983,663	13,712	29	785,602	503,890	9,811
1925 ..	102	1,383,538	1,036,516	14,545	29	785,788	500,595	3,329

3. Queensland.—(i) *The Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Brisbane.*

(a) *General.* Since the filtration works on Holt's Hill were put into operation, the whole of the water supply in the metropolitan area is filtered. There are now eleven filters in operation. The service reservoirs on Bartley's Hill, Highgate Hill, Wickham Terrace, and Tarragindi Hill have a total capacity of about 21,000,000 gallons. The 42-in. trunk main, commenced in 1923, has been completed and put into commission, and a large portion of the 36-in. trunk main from Kenmore to Tarragindi Hill Reservoir is also complete. The first unit of the three new engines now being installed at Mt. Crosby Pumping Station is now in daily use. A weir across the Brisbane River at Mt. Crosby is now approaching completion, and will add considerably to the storage of water. A pumping scheme is in progress for the betterment of the supply from Lake Manchester. Works are in progress for combining Gold Creek and Enoggera Reservoirs waters with the object of increasing the supply into certain districts. A complete scheme for a reservoir on Eildon Hill with new 24-in. trunk main and other distributing mains was prepared during the year. In December, 1925, the construction of a reinforced concrete elevated water tower to hold 100,000 gallons was undertaken at Paddington Heights for the betterment of the water supply to the higher areas.

(b) *Brisbane Waterworks. Summary.* The following table gives a summary of operations for the last five years :—

WATERWORKS, BRISBANE.—SUMMARY, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Length of Reticulation Mains.	Number of Tenements Connected.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Quantity Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Average Daily Supply per Head of Estimated Population.
	Miles.	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons	Gallons.	Gallons.
1921 ..	546½	42,408	206,685	3,360,747	9,207,527	44.54
1922 ..	576½	46,025	221,080	3,648,833	9,996,805	45.22
1923 ..	620½	48,368a	235,980	4,292,246	11,759,579	46.76
1924 ..	645½	50,152a	246,300	4,378,486	11,963,078	44.68
1925 ..	675	53,119a	258,175	4,703,044	12,885,052	45.80

(a) Metropolitan area.

The total length of the trunk mains is 140½ miles.

(c) *Brisbane Sewerage Scheme.* The power house sub-stations and pumping stations have been completed, the permanent plant installed, and the electrical transmission line erected. The permanent pumping units in use are electrically driven by power transmitted from the City Electric Light Co. Treatment works are in operation, while 20½ miles of main sewer and 70 miles of reticulation sewers and house connexion branches have been constructed and 4,746 premises have been connected.

(d) *Brisbane Waterworks and Sewerage Works Finances.* The subjoined table gives particulars regarding finance during the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WATER AND SEWERAGE WORKS, BRISBANE.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Capital Cost.	Net Revenue.	Working Expenses.	New Works Construction.	Interest and Redemption of Loans, including Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	£	£
1921	4,057,994	269,505	97,379	396,414	105,259
1922	4,618,211	305,450	105,397	560,217	188,038
1923	5,475,473	339,915	116,367	857,261	232,247
1924	6,330,764	402,272	146,585	855,291	303,201
1925	6,924,496	481,571	169,035	593,732	368,295

(ii) *Country Towns Water Supply.* At the end of the year 1924 thirty-two country towns in Queensland were provided with water supply systems constructed by municipalities chiefly from Government loans. A statement in regard to the finances of these water supply systems for the year 1924 is given below :—

COUNTRY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS, QUEENSLAND, 1924.

Cost of Construction to 31st December, 1924—£1,422,857.

Receipts.		£	Expenditure.		£
Rates and sales of water	..	150,904	Office and salaries	..	19,284
Government and other loans	..	220,383	Construction ..	..	234,530
Other .. ..	..	16,657	Maintenance ..	..	66,750
			Interest and redemption	..	47,890
			Other expenses	..	25,187
Total receipts	..	387,944	Total .. ..	..	393,641
Assets .. ..	..	1,121,274	Liabilities .. ..	..	852,023

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

(ii) *Adelaide Waterworks.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars for the years 1920–21 to 1924–25, the figures for consumption being recorded by gaugings taken at the reservoirs and including evaporation and absorption. There are 54,202 meters in the Adelaide district.

ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—SUMMARY, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Assessments	Annual Value.	Area Supplied.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption.
	No.	£	Acres.	Million Gallons.	Miles.	1,000 Gallons.
1921	84,995	2,584,704	106,465	7,753	991	5,179,000
1922	87,279	2,781,473	111,295	7,753	1,010	5,873,000
1923	91,903	3,337,345	111,295	7,753	1,034	6,599,000
1924	100,002	3,794,755	111,295	7,753	1,076	6,720,000
1925	104,301	4,202,080	111,872	7,753	1,108	6,836,000

(a) For previous year ending 31st December.

(b) *Finances.* Particulars for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 are given below :—

ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—FINANCES, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineering Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
1921 ..	2,768,769	107,665	177,722	42,700	9,678	52,378	4.53
1922 ..	2,843,507	134,472	204,996	43,811	9,956	53,767	5.32
1923 ..	2,924,702	167,465	232,478	47,532	9,737	57,269	5.99
1924 ..	3,100,856	194,158	268,574	53,673	10,972	64,645	6.58
1925 ..	3,166,088	220,151	280,327	59,020	11,193	70,213	6.64

(iii) *Adelaide Sewerage.* Particulars for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 are given hereunder :—

ADELAIDE SEWERAGE.—SUMMARY, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Con-nexions.	Capital Cost of Revenue-Producing Works.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates, etc.	Total.	Mainten-ance, etc.	Total.	
	Miles.	No.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1921 ..	368	40,168	894,085	74,582	87,183	16,222	28,587	6.55
1922 ..	373	41,240	946,213	79,562	90,525	17,083	29,893	6.41
1923 ..	390	42,879	997,604	83,266	98,657	17,356	29,514	6.93
1924 ..	406	45,415	1,095,683	87,066	100,707	19,428	29,646	6.49
1925 ..	424	47,413	1,166,066	95,464	105,188	19,616	28,826	6.55

(iv) *Country Towns Water Supply.* (a) *Summary.* The chief items of information regarding these undertakings are set forth in the table below for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25.

**COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY,
1920-21 TO 1924-25.**

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Assessments.		Area Supplied.		Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption.
	No.		Acres.		Million Gallons.	Miles.	1,000 Gallons.
1921	58,552		4,847,295		4,978	3,136	770,030 _a
1922	57,623		4,850,448		4,978	3,176	823,123 _a
1923	60,552		4,933,732		6,350	3,257	1,071,094
1924	60,200		11,252,740 _b		8,679	3,415	984,714
1925	60,684		11,565,800 _b		8,679	3,600	1,181,706

(a) For previous year ending 31st December. (b) Includes the new Todd River Water District on Eyre Peninsula.

(b) *Finances.* The next table gives financial information for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 :—

**COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES,
1920-21 TO 1924-25.**

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineering Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
1921 ..	4,168,876	73,024	110,656	42,084	7,220	49,304	1.47
1922 ..	4,368,091	66,527	96,373	50,475	7,821	58,296	0.87
1923 ..	4,562,092	78,649	105,865	56,039	8,034	64,073	0.90
1924 ..	5,200,184	84,241	120,599	66,007	8,303	74,310	0.89
1925 ..	6,754,682	93,124	126,032	58,840	8,077	66,917	0.87

(v) *Other Sewerage Systems.* Information in summarized form is given below regarding the two suburban sewerage systems, viz., the Glenelg system and the Port Adelaide and Semaphore system, for the years 1920-21 to 1924-25 :—

**SUBURBAN SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY,
1920-21 TO 1924-25.**

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Connections.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates.	Total.	Maintenance.	Total.	
	Miles.	No.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1921 ..	59	5,216	372,520	10,507	11,606	10,148	10,607	0.27
1922 ..	63	5,868	400,198	12,145	13,520	10,347	10,978	0.64
1923 ..	67	6,576	423,620	13,055	14,449	12,693	13,307	0.27
1924 ..	72	7,208	451,709	17,538	18,855	14,595	15,165	0.81
1925 ..	78	7,756	475,340	19,552	20,884	9,118	9,755	2.34

5. Western Australia.—(i) *General.* The water supply and sewerage systems of Western Australia are all under the management of Government Departments, and are divided into the following categories :—(a) Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage, covering Perth, Fremantle, Claremont, Guildford, Midland Junction, and Armadale District, (b) Goldfields Water Supply, (c) Water Supply of other towns, (d) Agricultural Water Supply, (e) other Mines Water Supply, and (f) artesian and sub-artesian waters. The consumption of water by the railways is not included in figures for water supplied given hereunder.

(ii) *Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage.* (a) *General.* The sources of the metropolitan water supply are the Victoria Reservoir, Bickley Brook, Mundaring Reservoir, thirteen bores and the Armadale, Churchman Brook, Canning River, and Wungong pipe head dams. The sewerage system consists of septic tanks and percolating filters for Perth, and septic tanks and ocean outfall for Fremantle. At the 30th June, 1925, the number of houses connected with sewers was 15,678.

(b) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars regarding water supply for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ending 30th June—	Estimated Population Supplied.	Number of Houses Supplied.	Water Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.		Number of Meters.	Length of Mains.
				Per Head.	Per House.		
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	No.	Miles.
1921	165,500	35,666	2,327,042	38.52	178.75	21,367	645
1922	168,540	36,641	2,600,197	42.28	194.46	21,511	659
1923	171,560	38,002	2,714,791	43.35	195.72	21,782	677
1924	174,580	39,386	3,089,825	48.36	214.93	22,114	700
1925	178,600	40,741	2,909,095	44.62	195.63	23,416	713

(c) *Finances.* The table hereunder gives separate information for the water supply and sewerage and drainage branches for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Water Supply.			Sewerage and Drainage.		
	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921	1 223,951	113,439	117,136	958,452	61,961	71,773
1922	1 309,262	122,669	129,412	968,540	70,086	72,153
1923	1,410,442	126,028	134,316	1,015,930	74,771	74,777
1924	1,722,594	135,250	152,824	1,055,612	83,388	76,532
1925	2,162,771	140,811	169,011	1,150,261	91,073	78,830

(iii) *Goldfields Water Supply.* The source of supply for the Coolgardie and adjacent goldfields, as well as for places on or near the pipe-line, is the Mundaring Reservoir, which has a capacity of 4,650 million gallons. There are three classes of consumers—the railways, the mines, and “other,” and in 1924–25 the railways consumed 13 per cent., the mines

28 per cent., and "other" 59 per cent. of the supply. The following table gives details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Total Consumption.	Number of Services.	Length of Water Mains.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	1,000 gallons.	No.	Miles.	£	£	£
1921	1,130,000	12,238	1,219	3,427,300	187,010	311,070
1922	1,153,320	10,789	1,224	3,432,234	180,127	297,027
1923	1,169,000	10,899	1,234	3,445,059	178,495	217,680
1924	1,159,000	10,628	1,303	3,487,887	167,597	212,713
1925	1,139,000	10,706	1,371	3,544,274	178,495	215,517

(iv) *Water Supply of Other Towns.* During the year 1924–25 there were 14 towns provided with water supplies, apart from those in the metropolitan area and those supplied by the Goldfields Water Supply. The total supplies to these towns for the year ending 30th June, 1925, were as follows :—Domestic, 94,302,000 gallons; Railways, 21,533,000 gallons; Mines, 44,018,000 gallons. The estimated population was 14,400, and the average daily domestic consumption was 18 gallons per head.

(v) *Agricultural Water Supply.* During the year 1924–25, 10 tanks were excavated, and four wells sunk, of which four yielded fresh water. During the fifteen years from the 1st July, 1910, to the 30th June, 1925, 396 tanks were built, 312 wells sunk, and 2,678 bores put down to a total depth of 131,118 feet. Of the bores mentioned, 459 yielded fresh, and 238 stock-water.

(vi) *Artesian and Sub-artesian Waters.* Up to the 30th June, 1925, the total number of bores put down in search of artesian or sub-artesian water was 217, including 49 sunk in the metropolitan area, ranging in depth from 32 to 4,006 feet.

6. *Tasmania.*—(i) *Hobart Water Supply.* The cost of this undertaking to the 30th June, 1925, was £407,069, but a considerable amount of reticulation work has been done out of revenue and not charged to capital account. The outstanding loans at 30th June, 1925, amounted to £369,628. At the same date the number of tenements supplied in the city and suburbs was 10,107, the population 46,459, and the length of reticulation mains 110½ miles. The revenue and expenditure for the years 1921 to 1925 were as follows :—

HOBART WATERWORKS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	30,671	36,798	35,494	34,965	34,935
Expenditure	33,773	33,697	35,494	34,965	34,935

(ii) *Hobart Sewerage System.* The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1925, was £35,873. Up to that date 76½ miles of sewers had been laid in connexion with the original city system at a cost of £210,275, and 7,953 tenements connected. Since the original

city was sewered, the Municipalities of Queenborough and New Town have been included in the city, and are now being sewered. In Queenborough 24 miles of sewers, connecting with 1,229 tenements, have been constructed at a cost of £116,591. In New Town a total of 25 miles of sewers has been laid, and 726 properties connected. The cost to 30th June, 1925, including surveys and sewerage outfall, was £84,920.

§ 6. Harbour Boards and Trusts.

1. *New South Wales.*—(i) *Sydney Harbour Trust.* (a) *General.* The Sydney Harbour Trust, which consists of three Commissioners appointed by the Government, controls the whole of the wharves resumed by the Government in 1901. The Commissioners also provide and maintain the lighting and marking of the harbour, and carry out all necessary dredging. The whole of what might be termed city wharves are owned by the Commissioners and leased to various shipping companies, but the Trust directly operates and maintains a certain number of open wharves. Outside the city area the wharves are, to a large extent, privately controlled, but all structures beyond high-water mark are held under leases issued by the Trust. The extent of wharfage accommodation now available for use totals 60,351 lineal feet, inclusive of 7,800 lineal feet privately owned.

The depth of water at the entrance to the port is not less than 80 feet and in the channels there are 40 feet of low-water at spring tides. The foreshores of Sydney Harbour are about 200 miles in length. The area of the water in the port is 14,284 acres, of which 3,000 acres have a depth ranging from 35 to 160 feet.

Since its inception, the Trust has spent £6,271,274 on the reconstruction and extension of the wharfage and improvements to the port. Over 12,000 lineal feet of old and obsolete wharfage have been demolished, and 35,650 lineal feet of new berths have been constructed. Other improvements include 2,439,348 square feet of floor area of new sheds and nearly 4 miles of new roadways.

During the year 1924, 1,603,700 tons of material were dredged at a cost of £54,416. In the process of towing such material, 44,705 miles were run at a cost of £36,253.

(b) *Finances.* The subjoined table gives particulars concerning the finances of the Trust for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.				Expenditure.	Total Capital Debt.	Interest.	Balance.
	Wharfage and Harbour Rates.	Tonnage Rates and Berthing Charges.	Other Sources.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	429,986	43,577	323,648	797,211	244,764	9,449,213	438,210	114,237
1922 ..	451,981	44,465	330,676	827,122	261,120	9,868,165	488,552	77,450
1923 ..	517,740	39,570	294,931	852,241	253,614	10,129,113	514,756	83,871
1924 ..	553,295	44,879	299,183	897,357	276,883	10,417,859	528,743	91,731
1925 ..	587,157	58,735	324,510	970,402	283,040	10,644,468	526,944	160,418

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *Melbourne Harbour Trust.* (a) *General.* Information regarding the origin and constitution of this Trust will be found in Official Year Book No. 12, pp. 970 *et seq.* In 1925, the length of sheds in the port was 19,168 feet, covering an area of 1,108,824 square feet. The quantity of material raised by the dredging and excavation done in the improvement of the river and bay amounts to 81,376,967 cubic yards. The Trust has expended £338,528 in reclaiming land within its jurisdiction.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives particulars of the revenue and expenditure of the Trust from 1921 to 1925 inclusive. Up to 31st December, 1925, the total capital expenditure amounted to £6,177,195.

MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Particulars.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Rates, rents, etc.	491,677	589,583	681,958	711,558	712,733
Interest	42	80	328	669	285
Other receipts	9,718	12,807	9,850	17,095	23,213
Total	501,437	602,470	692,136	729,322	736,231
EXPENDITURE.					
Management and general expenses	57,226	61,763	60,997	74,086	85,655
Interest	114,860	144,883	124,109	131,674	151,891
Total	172,086	206,646	185,106	205,760	237,546
Less standing charges added to works	30,862	34,628	37,272	43,749	48,128
Total	141,224	172,018	147,834	162,011	189,418
Wharfage and other refunds	3,064	3,866	5,728	4,879	3,761
Consolidated revenue of Victoria	96,224	114,986	135,520	140,382	136,494
Flotation of loans expenses	29,525	35	750	5	10
Redemption of loans expenses	615	..	..	..	..
Maintenance	120,412	126,051	85,458	130,234	166,610
Total expenditure	391,064	416,956	375,290	437,511	496,293
Surplus on revenue account	110,373	185,514	316,846	291,811	239,938
Less depreciation and renewals account and sinking fund	65,000	100,000	213,000	213,000	213,000
Net surplus on revenue account	45,373	85,514	103,846	78,811	26,938
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and property	2,461	11,906	32,892	548	37,699
Deepening waterways	81,699	98,331	150,885	137,488	145,808
Wharves construction	79,206	45,613	67,360	194,318	285,072
Approaches construction	1,565	9,084	7,519	25,483	46,130
Other harbour improvements	14,099	25,311	8,719	23,826	18,631
Floating plant	2,957	1,708	632	3,192	97,354
General plant	1,131	925	2,025	3,440	2,718
Total	183,118	192,878	270,032	388,295	633,412

(ii) *Geelong Harbour Trust.* (a) *General.* The Geelong Harbour Trust was constituted in 1905, and is under the control of three Commissioners appointed by the Governor in Council. The Commissioners have vested in them the Port of Geelong which includes Corio Bay, Portarlington, some miles of Bay frontage, and certain lands on the River Barwon and at Barwon Heads. The Commissioners have established facilities for the export of grain, frozen meat, and other produce, and have also constructed extensive abattoirs and freezing works. A large amount of money has been expended in the reclamation of waste lands, and on part of such lands a dairy farm with a complete system of drainage and irrigation has been established.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives financial details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

GEE LONG HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Loans.	Sinking Fund.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1921	591,000	28,667	49,636	53,605
1922	591,000	29,379	54,234	52,066
1923	591,000	33,045	58,680	56,065
1924	591,000	36,912	61,356	52,315
1925	591,000	41,167	70,730	57,027

3. *Queensland.*—(i) *Bowen Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Bowen Harbour Board consists of seven members, of whom two are appointed by the Governor in Council and the remainder elected by the electors of the Town of Bowen and adjacent shires. The district under its jurisdiction comprises the area within the boundaries of the Town of Bowen, the Shires of Proserpine and Wangaratta, and division I. of the Shire of Ayr.

(b) *Finances.* The capital expenditure to the 31st December, 1925, was £65,937, while for the year 1925 the receipts were £9,557 and the expenditure £6,502.

(ii) *Bundaberg Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Bundaberg Harbour Board consists of nine members, of whom one is appointed by the Governor in Council, four by the City of Bundaberg, and two each by the Shires of Goodburrum and Woongarra, these three municipalities comprising the Harbour Board District. The jurisdiction of the Board extends over the harbour of Bundaberg and certain lands adjacent to the River Burnett.

(b) *Finances.* The revenue for the year 1925 amounted to £7,335 as against £6,803 for the previous year, and the expenditure to £7,365 as compared with £5,423 for 1924.

(iii) *Cairns Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Cairns Harbour Board consists of twelve members, representing the town of Cairns and eight adjoining shires. The wharves at Cairns, which are all under the control of this Board, are of reinforced ferro-concrete and are 1,500 feet in length, while an additional 400 feet are under construction. Mechanical sugar-handling conveyors have been installed at a cost of over £38,465. The wharves are electrically lighted and furnished with railways and electric crane service. There is a special railway wharf with facilities for handling floater logs. A cold storage plant has been built at a cost of £9,000.

(b) *Finances.* During the year 1925 the revenue of the Board was £55,457, derived from harbour, berthage and miscellaneous dues.

(iv) *Gladstone Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Gladstone Harbour Board is composed of seven members, two of whom are appointed by the Governor in Council and five elected by the electors of the town of Gladstone and the shires of Calliope and Miriam Vale. The works under the control of the Board are (i) Auckland Point Jetty and Wharf, constructed of reinforced concrete and wood, the berth being 775 feet long, with an average depth alongside of 26 feet; (ii) the municipal wharf in Auckland-street; (iii) wool dumping plant on Auckland Point jetty, consisting of two hydraulic dumps, capable of doing either single or double dumping. Works under construction are (i) 15-ton electric crane for coal and timber for export; (ii) extension of 208 feet to western end of existing jetty; (iii) duplication of approach for mixed traffic; (iv) additional approach to jetty shed.

(b) *Finances.* The total capital expenditure to the end of 1924 amounted to £89,892. The revenue for 1924 was £2,859, and the expenditure £3,064.

(v) *Mackay Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Mackay Harbour Board consists of nine members elected by the electors of the City of Mackay and four adjacent shires. The director wall in the Pioneer River is being raised and widened.

(b) *Finances.* The capital expenditure for the year 1925 was £4,528, while receipts amounted to £13,438 and the expenditure to £10,245.

(vi) *Rockhampton Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Rockhampton Harbour Board consists of eleven members, of whom seven are elected by the electors on the rolls for the

city of Rockhampton, the town of Mount Morgan and the shires of Fitzroy and Livingstone. The remaining four are elected by the councillors of groups of inland shires.

In the port of Rockhampton, which comprises the tidal area of the Fitzroy River as far as the entrance to Keppel Bay, there are three principal places where steamers may lie and discharge cargo, viz., (i) Rockhampton itself, (ii) Port Alma, where the oversea steamers berth, and (iii) Broadmount, originally built for the oversea trade some years ago. The wharves at these three places are connected by rail with Rockhampton and with the main central line. The Board undertakes the work of improving the navigable channels throughout the estuary and river, and of maintaining the wharves at Port Alma and Rockhampton.

(b) *Finances.* The revenue for the year 1925 was £76,709, of which £43,107 represented loans, and the expenditure was £74,041, which included £11,582 interest on loans and overdraft.

(vii) *Townsville Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Townsville Harbour Board is composed of nine members, of whom two are appointed by the Governor in Council, and the remaining seven are elected by the electors of Townsville and adjacent towns and shires. All harbour works and conveniences for the use of shipping are under the control of the Board.

(b) *Finances.* The total expenditure since the inception of the Board is £1,633,573, while the receipts for the year 1925 were £58,326 and the expenditure £52,307.

(viii) *Harbour Boards.—Financial Summary.* The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of Queensland Harbour Boards and the outstanding loans for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

HARBOUR BOARDS, QUEENSLAND.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Number of Boards.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Outstanding Loans.
		Wharfage and Harbour Dues.	Government Loans.	Total.	Works and Maintenance.	Interest and Redemption of Loans.	Total.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920	6	108,212	17,712	179,432	90,761	51,492	178,436	887,628
1921	7	117,417	46,219	183,949	101,563	65,452	199,341	979,341
1922	7	132,234	78,506	234,827	171,853	58,492	230,345	1,077,833
1923	7	142,848	120,281	320,105	233,894	56,156	290,050	1,209,022
1924	7	161,331	131,887	320,551	246,024	60,487	306,511	1,315,225

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

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives financial data for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Gross Amount Paid to the Treasury.				
			Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Renewals Fund.	Surplus Revenue.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921	301,065	133,904	77,240	19,819	2,000	71,410	170,469
1922	282,038	126,597	80,218	20,277	2,000	56,491	158,986
1923	282,015	120,086	83,386	20,764	2,000	47,272	153,422
1924	357,450	146,177	85,703	21,185	2,000	96,612	205,500
1925	421,255	171,391	87,783	21,564	2,000	130,776	242,123

(ii) *Bunbury Harbour Board. (a) General.* The Bunbury Harbour Board consists of five members appointed by the Government. The jetty is 4,900 feet long, with berthage accommodation of 2,700 feet on the west side and 3,000 feet on the east side, and is electrically lighted. Vessels can load alongside to depths ranging from 16 to 27½ feet. Five electric and one steam gantry cranes, each of 3 tons lifting capacity, are available.

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

BUNBURY HARBOUR BOARD.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 30th June—				Capital Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund.
				£	£	£	£
1921	..	..	..	417,611	28,980	8,843	20,137
1922	..	..	..	440,965	26,175	9,818	16,357
1923	..	..	..	448,377	25,746	8,749	16,997
1924	..	..	..	450,000	33,836	10,707	23,129
1925	..	..	..	450,000	37,625	17,001	22,000

5. *Tasmania.*—(i) *Marine Board of Hobart. (a) General.* The Marine Board of Hobart consists of nine wardens elected by the ship-owners of the Port of Hobart and the importers and exporters of goods into or from any port within the jurisdiction of the Board. The Board has jurisdiction over all ports, harbours and waters within the limits of the coast line from South-West Cape round the southern and eastern coasts to Cape Portland, and within all islands adjacent to such coast line. The duties of the Board are to maintain all wharves within its jurisdiction which are not vested in another authority or belonging to any private person, to construct new wharves where necessary, and to improve the navigation where desirable.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

MARINE BOARD OF HOBART.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 30th JUNE, 1925.

Year.	Capital Debt.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
		Harbour Improve- ments, Debentures, etc.	General.	Total.	Harbour Improve- ments.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	General.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921 ..	96,350	..	30,055	30,055	1,080	5,400	29,470	35,950
1922 (to 30th June) ..	92,350	..	16,133	16,133	3	3,265	11,975	15,243
1922-23 ..	90,350	..	32,620	32,620	373	6,511	25,670	32,554
1923-24 ..	86,806	2,456	37,465	39,921	15,787	6,180	20,304	42,271
1924-25 ..	86,302	300	38,764	39,064	4,192	6,220	25,644	36,056

(ii) *Marine Board of Launceston. (a) General.* The Marine Board of Launceston consists of five wardens elected by the ratepayers of the city of Launceston. The jurisdiction of the Board extends from Cape Portland along the north coast of Tasmania to Badger Head. The chief work carried out has been to deepen the channel of the River Tamar to 16 feet and to maintain the wharves. An important work completed in 1923 was the removal to a depth of 30 feet of Porpoise Rock, situated 4 miles from the entrance of the port. A deepwater port is being provided at Bell Bay. The wharfage accommodation at Launceston exceeds 2,000 feet.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

MARINE BOARD OF LAUNCESTON.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Total Capital Debt.	Capital Debt, Tamar Improvement.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1921	303,861	256,822	44,421	45,688
1922	318,361	271,322	47,638	40,021
1923	318,361	282,710	49,928	47,588
1924	330,713	283,475	53,672	46,044
1925	329,733	302,494	48,345	47,304

(iii) *Marine Board of Burnie.* The length of the breakwater is 1,250 feet, with a depth up to 42 feet at low water, and a wharf alongside, 630 feet in length by 91 feet wide, with a depth at low water from 24 to 40 feet. There are two other timber wharves, 600 feet and 400 feet long respectively. The receipts for the year ending 30th June, 1925, were £16,295, and the expenditure £17,280, including £11,850 interest on loans.

(iv) *Other Boards and Trusts.* In addition to the three Marine Boards mentioned above, there are four Marine Boards and three Harbour Trusts, which have control of the smaller ports and harbours.

(v) *Financial Summary.* The total receipts and expenditure of the ten marine Boards and Harbour Trusts for the years 1920 to 1924-25 are shown in the following table :—

MARINE BOARDS AND HARBOUR TRUSTS, TASMANIA.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1920 TO 1924-25.

Year.	Receipts.				Expenditure.
	Taxes, Rents, etc.	Government and Loans.	Other.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1920	85,845	5,154	83,412	174,411	207,378
1921	109,363	3,867	4,957	118,187	116,358
1922-23(a)	143,200	19,023	21,743	183,966	172,485
1923-24	162,801	4,360	72,856	240,017	227,389
1924-25	130,807	2,284	11,560	144,651	134,508

(a) Figures for 18 months (except in the case of three trusts), the financial year having been changed.

§ 7. Fire Brigades.

1. *New South Wales.*—(i) *General.* Under the Fire Brigades Act of 1909, a Board of Fire Commissioners consisting of five members was formed, and fire districts were constituted. The cost of maintenance of fire brigades is borne in equal proportions by the Government, the municipalities, and the insurance companies concerned, but the expenditure must be so regulated that the proportion payable by the councils in a fire district shall not exceed the amount obtainable from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the £ rate on the unimproved capital value of the district.

(ii) *Sydney Fire District.* (a) *Plant, etc.* The Sydney fire district includes the City of Sydney and suburbs, comprising a total area of 242 square miles. On the 31st December, 1925, the Board had under its control in this district 73 stations, 368 permanent men, 252 partially-paid firemen, 3 steam and 75 motor fire engines, 158,453 feet of hose, and 596 telephone fire-alarms. The length of wire used for telephone lines was 1,573 miles.

(b) *Finances.* The subjoined table shows the receipts and disbursements of the Board for the past five years in respect of the Sydney Fire District :—

SYDNEY FIRE DISTRICT.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year.	Receipts.						Disbursements.
	From Government.	From Municipalities.	From Fire Insurance Companies.	From Firms.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921	54,355	54,355	53,820	535	6,457	169,522	163,528
1922	53,979	53,979	53,425	554	4,745	166,682	163,750
1923	58,153	58,153	57,551	602	5,954	180,413	178,585
1924	60,768	60,768	60,183	584	5,401	187,704	186,159
1925	60,768	60,768	60,093	675	5,154	187,458	196,672

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* The Fire Brigades Act of 1915 provides for a Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and a Country Fire Brigades Board, each consisting of nine members, with local committees in country districts. The income of each Board is derived in equal proportions from the Treasury, the municipalities, and insurance companies.

(ii) *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* On the 30th June, 1925, the Board had under its control 40 stations, 281 permanent men, 155 partially-paid firemen, 69 special-service firemen, 1 motor drawn steam fire engine, 8 petrol motor fire pumps, 57 other petrol motor appliances, 1 steam fire engine, 102,174 feet of hose, and 419 fire-alarm circuits having 1,287 street fire alarms, 1,270 containing telephones; 1,130 auxiliary boxes and 29 automatic systems in public and other buildings; 100 circuits to sprinkler installations and 173 sprinkler call transmitting instruments; 114 combined fire alarm and watchman's clock systems.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives particulars for each year from 1920-21 to 1924-25 inclusive :—

METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, VICTORIA.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Particulars.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
RECEIPTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Contributions	117,893	125,685	122,700	131,739	151,322
Receipts for services ..	10,807	21,857	14,028	16,486	20,138
Interest and Sundries ..	11,797	3,926	6,898	9,811	11,642
Total	140,497	151,468	142,626	158,036	183,102
EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries	85,537	87,523	93,033	85,477	100,651
Interest and sinking fund ..	14,100	21,136	10,219	10,821	11,682
Other expenditure	41,859	46,198	43,515	59,172	68,880
Total	141,496	154,857	146,767	155,470	181,213

(iii) *Country Fire Brigades Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* At 30th June, 1925, there were 115 municipal councils and 96 insurance companies included in the operations of the Act. The brigades are composed chiefly of volunteers, but in the large centres a few permanent station-keepers and partially-paid firemen are employed. There were 142 registered brigades and 2,516 registered firemen at 30th June, 1925. The equipment included 2 motor pumps, 27 motor tenders, 4 steam fire engines, and numerous manual engines and hose reels.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Revenue and expenditure for the years 1921 to 1925 (30th June) are given below :—

COUNTRY FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1921 TO 1925.

Particulars.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924 (Six Months to 30th June).	Year ended 30th June, 1925.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	19,995	22,718	22,088	16,907	25,133
Expenditure	20,353	23,122	22,813	16,432	23,684

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

(ii) *Fire Brigades Boards.* (a) *Plant, etc.* At the end of the year 1924 there were fire brigades in 29 towns, with a total strength of 129 permanent men, 249 partly paid, and 86 voluntary. The plant included 30 motor, 5 steam, and 10 manual fire engines, 59 hose reels, consisting of 18 motor, 5 horse, and 36 hand reels, and 93,157 feet of hose. The total number of call points was 331. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade protects an area of 32 square miles and has a staff of 146 men.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table gives details for the years 1920 to 1924 :—

FIRE BRIGADE BOARDS, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1920 TO 1924.

Year.	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	From Government.	From Local Authorities.	From Insurance Companies.	Total.	Salaries and Wages.	Buildings, Repairs, etc.	Plant, Stores, etc.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1920 ..	13,724	13,320	20,330	48,573	28,583	4,499	7,793	56,306
1921 ..	14,637	14,524	22,313	54,685	31,513	3,866	8,856	55,263
1922 ..	14,711	14,996	22,976	53,647	34,340	3,687	8,444	56,071
1923 ..	16,054	15,094	22,455	64,190	35,803	12,336	10,166	64,597
1924 ..	17,140	16,347	24,489	61,212	40,032	3,344	10,081	65,183

4. *South Australia.*—(i) *General.* The Fire Brigades Act of 1913 and amendments provides for a Board of five members, and the expenses and maintenance of brigades are defrayed as to two-ninths by the Treasury, five-ninths by insurance companies, and two-ninths by the municipalities concerned.

(ii) *Fire Brigades Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* At the end of 1925 there were altogether 24 fire brigade stations. The strength of the brigades consists of 103 permanent firemen and 87 auxiliary firemen. The plant consists of 2 steam fire engines, 5 motor engines, 24 motor hose carriages, 53,950 feet of hose, one 90-ft. turntable escape ladder, 2 telescopic currie ladders, and 2 fire escapes.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue of the Board for the years 1921 to 1925, the expenditure in each year being the same :—

FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE, 1921 TO 1925.

Heading.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Revenue	£ 35,817	£ 37,306	£ 35,071	£ 38,173	£ 47,103

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

(ii) *Western Australian Fire Brigades Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* The whole of the brigades throughout the State are now controlled by the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board, and number 40. The staff at the 31st December, 1925, included a chief officer, deputy chief officer, third officer, district officer, motor engineer, electrical engineer, 8 other officers, 106 permanent, 25 partially-paid, and 485 volunteer firemen. The plant comprised 4 steam, 5 motor and 4 manual engines, 18 motor hose carriages, 37 reels, and 75,200 feet of hose.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the years 1921 to 1925 :—

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD.—FINANCES, 1921 TO 1925.

Year ended 31st December—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Estimated Value.	
			Land and Buildings.	Plant.
	£	£	£	£
1921	40,630	35,511	46,840	26,000
1922	34,833	34,746	46,000	26,000
1923	35,553	35,463	46,000	28,000
1924	38,720	38,621	48,650	28,000
1925	50,341	46,539	60,440	29,590

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

(ii) *Hobart Fire Brigade Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* At the end of 1925 the staff consisted of 13 permanent and 15 partially-paid firemen. There were at that date also 1 motor pump, 1 extension and 1 currie ladder, two motor hose carriages, 3 horse and 4 hand reels, 2 Pompier ladders, and 10,750 feet of hose.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue for the years 1924 and 1925 amounted to £6,172 and £6,117 respectively, expenditure being the same.