

## 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 is 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 and Melbourne 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 30th June, 1927, the "National" works consisted of 58 miles of roads, 288 bridges with a total length of 108,295 feet, and 18 ferries, while in the unincorporated areas of the Western Division there were 5,688 miles of roads (of which 177 miles were metalled or ballasted, 220 formed only, and 2,932 cleared only), 96 bridges of a total length of 13,495 feet, 489 culverts, and 6 hand punts under the control of the Public Works Department.

(iii) *Expenditure on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.* The total expenditure by the Government during 1928-29 was £4,438,612, comprising expenditure from votes of the Public Works Department £479,662, from funds of the Main Roads Board £3,627,439 and endowments and grants to Councils from votes of the Local Government Department £331,511.

The Government expenditure in connexion with the Sydney Harbour Bridge, £1,466,224 in 1928–29 and £4,815,132 to the 30th June, 1929, is not included in these figures. Of the total sum expended to date, £3,920,208 was provided by General Loan Account and the balance from proceeds of municipal and shire rates.

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, 1928, being £882,896, and in 1928–29, £746,254. 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 amount of money expended directly by the Government on roads and bridges during the year 1928–29 was £107,076.

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

Loans to the amount of £4,822,000 have been authorized from time to time for permanent works under the Country Roads Acts. One half of the amount expended on permanent works and one-third of the amount expended on 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 and fines under the Motor Omnibus 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, 1929, was £4,389,470. Respecting permanent and maintenance works for the year ended 30th June, 1929, the total revenue of the Board was £1,562,864, made up as follows:—Motor registration and licence fees £1,059,821; unused roads, etc., licence fees £24,710; contributions by municipalities for permanent works £115,958, and for maintenance works £165,476; and other sources £196,899. The expenditure for the year was £1,135,023, comprising permanent works £222,924 and maintenance works £912,099.

(iv) *Developmental Roads.* For the purpose of constructing and maintaining subsidiary or developmental roads, the Government has been authorized to borrow sums aggregating £6,475,000. 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, 1929, was £531,161, and the total expenditure to that date was £5,454,049.

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 the Board was abolished and its powers conferred upon a single Commissioner.

The duties of the Commissioner, as defined by “The Main Roads Acts, 1920 to 1929,” are to carry out such surveys and investigations as are deemed necessary or expedient to determine what roads shall be main, developmental or tourist roads or state highways, and, under certain circumstances, to undertake the construction and maintenance of such roads. Before any road can be proclaimed a main, developmental or tourist road the Local Authorities through whose areas such road passes have the right to lodge objections thereto, and the Commissioner must consider such objections and, if necessary, vary his decision. No such action is necessary in the case of state highways.

Local Authorities are not liable for the return of any expenditure for construction on State Highways or on arterial roads declared under the Federal Aid Roads Act. They are, however, responsible for 50 per cent. of maintenance of the former and 33½ per cent. of the latter roads.

At 30th June, 1929, there were 6,612 miles of roads gazetted in the State, comprising 6,196 miles of main and 416 miles of developmental roads; 1,074 miles of roadway and 17,175 lineal feet of bridges had been completed at that date, and 139 miles of road and 4,725 lineal feet of bridges were in course of construction.

During the year ended 30th June, 1929, the receipts of the Commission amounted to £1,300,540, including £346,596 from the Treasury Loan Fund, £448,336 from motor fees and £367,292 from the Commonwealth for works under the Federal Aid Road scheme. Disbursements amounted to £1,347,015, including £223,272 on permanent works, £684,932 on works under the Federal Aid Roads scheme and £165,410 on the maintenance of roads.

4. **South Australia.**—The Highways Act 1926 created a Commissioner of Highways and provided for a Main Roads Fund. The Commissioner is virtually empowered to determine upon which roads he will spend the moneys available, in doing which he has to take into account (a) the moneys voted, or likely to be voted, by Parliament for main roads; (b) whether the road is or will be the main trunk route: (i) connecting any large producing area, or any area capable of becoming in the near future a large producing area, with its market or nearest port or railway station; (ii) connecting two or more large producing areas, or areas capable of becoming in the near future large producing areas, or between two or more large centres of population; (iii) between the capital and any large producing area or any large centre of population; (iv) between the capitals of this State and any other State; and (c) whether the area through which the road passes is, or in the near future will be, sufficiently served by a railway or railways.

The Main Roads Fund is to be credited with (a) licence fees and registration fees under the Motor Vehicles Acts 1921 to 1929; (b) licence fees under the Vehicles (Licensing) Act 1925; (c) fines, penalties, and forfeitures in respect of convictions for offences against the Motor Vehicles Acts (exclusive of any sum received for costs), or the Width of Tires Acts; (d) fees for hawkers' licences issued by the Treasurer; (e) contributions from Councils; (f) all sums appropriated by Parliament for main roads; (g) all loans raised and appropriated for main roads.

The expenditure from the Main Roads Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1929, was £886,033; grants in aid of rates collected paid to Councils amounted to £143,101. In the sparsely-settled districts outside the incorporated areas, the roads and bridges are constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department which expended during the same period £27,629.

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 State Government.

Up to the 30th June, 1929, the loan expenditure on these works was £4,752,167 (roads, £3,952,707; tracks, £231,140; bridges, £568,320). 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 £679,383 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 Government loan expenditure during the year 1928–29 on the construction of roads and bridges was £204,546, and expenditure from the Crown Lands Fund £2,755. In addition, the sum of £107,152 provided by the Commonwealth Government was expended on roads; the conditional expenditure by the State Government is included in the above figures. The amount of new-road mileage for the year was 95 miles cleared and 129 miles metalled, including 31 and 18 miles respectively constructed out of Federal and State votes under the Federal Aid Roads scheme. Fourteen new bridges also were constructed during the year.

(ii) *Maintenance.* The maintenance of roads and bridges is undertaken by the municipalities with some assistance from the State 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 1929–30 the amount available for 1,050 miles of main road was £64,845.

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, 1929 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES.—GOVERNMENT LOAN EXPENDITURE TO THE  
30th JUNE, 1929.**

Expenditure.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total to 30/6/29	11,713,606	10,666,338	3,084,138	3,243,049	1,660,471	4,752,167	35,119,769

The following table shows the annual expenditure from loans on roads and bridges by the central Governments in each State during the years 1924–25 to 1928–29 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES.—LOAN EXPENDITURE BY STATES, 1925 TO 1929.**

Year Ended 30th June.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land. (a)	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1925 ..	750,907	1,177,826	200,000	132,268	92,606	130,872	2,484,479
1926 ..	972,793	1,155,087	356,517	246,908	96,835	192,469	3,020,609
1927 ..	1,726,420	1,104,345	313,121	475,601	184,911	144,327	3,948,725
1928 ..	2,558,070	917,540	262,203	144,866	364,223	176,118	4,423,020
1929 ..	3,124,075	802,306	342,152	20,033	384,685	204,546	4,877,797

(a) Includes expenditure on main roads through local authorities.

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 1928 being 184,558 square miles, of which 2,508 square miles are included in the former and 182,050 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 year 1928 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—SUMMARY, 1928.**

Year.	No. of Municipal- ties.	Sydney and Suburbs.		Country.		Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
		Area.	Population.	Area.	Population.			
		Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.		No.	No.
1928	181	116,183	1,127,470	1,488,919	615,530	10,229(a)	645(a)	38(a)

(a) Year 1927—collected triennially.

Of the 10,229 miles of roads, 5,026 were blocked, metalled, ballasted or gravelled, 2,006 formed only, and 1,846 cleared only, while 1,351 miles were natural surface.

(b) *Unimproved and Improved Values.* The table hereunder gives a comparison of the unimproved and improved values for the year 1928 :—

## MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—CAPITAL VALUES, 1928.

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

	£	£	£	£	£
1928 .. ..	63,450,804	91,823,567	155,274,371	45,674,380	200,948,751

## IMPROVED VALUE.

1928 .. ..	190,999,120	266,716,280	457,715,400	137,439,540	595,154,940
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(c) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Particulars of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities for the year ending 31st December, 1928, under various headings, are given below:—

## MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.

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

	£	£	£	£
General fund .. ..	} 4,063,853 (a)	2,722,052	1,603,217	4,325,269 (b)
Trading accounts .. ..		58,664	1,086,219	1,144,883 (b)
Special and local funds .. ..		124,242	431,547	555,789 (b)
Gross revenue .. ..	4,063,853	2,904,958	3,120,983	10,089,794

## EXPENDITURE.

General fund .. ..	} 4,099,618 (a)	3,411,115	1,793,522	5,204,637 (b)
Trading accounts .. ..		53,359	939,867	993,226 (b)
Special and local funds .. ..		160,489	394,347	554,836 (b)
Gross expenditure .. ..	4,099,618	3,624,963	3,127,736	10,852,317

(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.

(d) *Assets and Liabilities.* The financial position of the municipalities as at the 31st December, 1928, is shown by the following statement of assets and liabilities.

**MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1928.**

Particulars.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Extra Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
<b>ASSETS.</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank balances and cash .. .. .	31,359,686(a)	572,424	43,942	619,450	1,235,816 (b)
Outstanding rates .. .. .		168,639	46,367	199,284	414,290 (b)
Sundry debtors .. .. .		193,697	27,344	336,636	557,677 (b)
Stores and materials .. .. .		50,831	5,951	119,080	175,862 (b)
Land, buildings, furniture, etc. .. .		1,633,314	210,366	6,626,639	8,470,319 (b)
Other .. .. .		268,310	61,532	107,396	437,238 (b)
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>31,359,686</b>	<b>2,887,215</b>	<b>395,502</b>	<b>8,008,485</b>	<b>42,650,888</b>

<b>LIABILITIES.</b>					
Loans, outstanding interest and sundry creditors .. .. .	£0,720,200(a)	4,881,855	442,222	2,831,153	8,155,230 (b)
Debts due to Government and interest thereon .. .. .		103,190	16,191	2,907,545	3,026,926 (b)
Bank overdrafts .. .. .		401,215	25,660	319,412	746,287 (b)
Other .. .. .		69,184	6,033	81,522	156,739 (b)
<b>Total .. .. .</b>		<b>30,720,200</b>	<b>5,455,444</b>	<b>490,106</b>	<b>6,139,632</b>

(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, 1928.**

Year.	No. of Shires.	Area.	Population.	Unimproved Capital Value.	Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
	No.	sq. miles.	No.	£	miles.	No.	No.
1928 .. .. .	138	182,050	688,950	158,551,171	93,482(a)	3,943(a)	173(a)

(a) Year 1927—collected triennially.

Of the 93,482 miles of roads, 19,693 were metalled or ballasted, 14,937 formed only, and 29,992 cleared only, the balance being natural surface.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of shires for the year 1928 are shown in the following table. Included in the receipts are Government grants amounting to £1,270,696 :—

## SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.

Particulars.	Revenue.	Particulars.	Expenditure.
	£		£
<i>General Fund—</i>		<i>General Fund—</i>	
General rates (including interest) .. ..	1,333,375	Administrative expenses .. ..	221,909
Government endowment .. ..	261,315	Public works .. ..	2,456,868
Public works .. ..	1,099,906	Health administration .. ..	123,110
Health administration .. ..	121,456	Public services .. ..	45,609
Public services .. ..	17,228	Shire property .. ..	13,500
Shire property .. ..	32,912	Miscellaneous (a) .. ..	127,172
Miscellaneous .. ..	21,622	<i>Special, Local, and Loan Funds</i> .. ..	318,361
<i>Special and Local Funds</i> .. ..	351,558		
Total revenue .. ..	3,239,372	Total expenditure .. ..	3,311,529

(a) Includes interest on loans and overdraft—£78,228.

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The finances of the shires at the end of the year 1928 showed an excess of liabilities of £38,969. The following table gives particulars of assets and liabilities as at the 31st December, 1928 :—

## SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1928.

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	£		£
Bank balances and cash .. ..	469,257	Loans outstanding, interest and sundry creditors .. ..	1,480,477
Outstanding rates .. ..	237,612	Bank overdrafts .. ..	478,802
Sundry debtors .. ..	134,913	Other .. ..	187,302
Stores and materials .. ..	63,600	Debts due to the Government and interest thereon .. ..	422,618
Land, buildings, furniture, plant, machinery, etc. .. ..	1,626,984		
Other .. ..	6,864		
Total .. ..	2,530,230	Total .. ..	2,569,199

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *General.* Local Government is established throughout the State, 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.

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 rateable property for the year 1929 :—

## MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—SUMMARY, 1929.

Year ending 30th September.	Number of Municipalities.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers (both sexes).	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		
					Total.	Annual.	
<b>CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.</b>							
1929	..	No. 56	No. 1,170,390	No. 333,364	No. 269,926	£ 373,880,729	£ 20,984,591
<b>SHIRES.</b>							
1929	..	140	656,600	270,176	159,187	288,008,585	14,447,193

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The table hereunder shows the revenue from various sources, and the expenditure under various heads of municipalities during the year 1928 :—

## MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.

Items.	Revenue.	Items.	Expenditure from Revenue.	
	£		£	
Taxation {	Rates .. .. .	3,772,864	Salaries, etc. .. .. .	459,718
	Licences .. .. .	161,786	Sanitary work, street cleaning, etc. .. .. .	502,486
	Dog fees .. .. .	30,258	Lighting .. .. .	170,721
	Market and weigh-bridge dues .. .. .	132,977	Fire brigades' contributions	72,857
Government endowments and grants .. .. .	154,316	Public Works { Construction	415,119	
Contributions for streets, etc.	352,214	Maintenance	2,195,110	
Sanitary charges .. .. .	204,996	Electric Light and Gas Works	877,374	
Rents .. .. .	145,654	Formation of private streets, etc. .. .. .	512,586	
Electric light and gas works	1,224,565	Redemption of loans .. .. .	291,628	
Other sources .. .. .	665,737	Interest on loans .. .. .	661,809	
Total Revenue .. .. .	6,845,367	Charities .. .. .	39,858	
Loans .. .. .	1,709,299	Other expenditure .. .. .	773,405	
Total Receipts .. .. .	8,554,666	Total from Revenue..	6,972,671	

Items.	Expenditure from Loans.
	£
Roads and Bridges .. .. .	822,863
Water and Irrigation .. .. .	18,968
Sewerage and Drainage .. .. .	40,261
Electric Light and Gas .. .. .	224,740
Public Buildings .. .. .	152,823
Other purposes .. .. .	496,827
Total from Loan .. .. .	1,756,482
Grand Total .. .. .	8,729,153

(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 year 1928 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1928.

Items.		Assets.	Items.		Liabilities.
<b>MUNICIPAL FUND—</b>		£	<b>MUNICIPAL FUND—</b>		£
Uncollected rates .. ..		381,139	Arrears due sinking funds		638
Other assets .. ..		1,645,603	Overdue interest .. ..		12,415
<b>LOAN FUND—</b>			Bank overdrafts .. ..		1,249,262
(a) Sinking funds—			Other liabilities .. ..		1,031,115
Amount at credit .. ..		626,613	<b>LOAN FUND—</b>		
Arrears due .. ..		638	Loans outstanding .. ..		11,391,767
(b) Unexpended balances ..		597,121	Due on loan contracts .. ..		226,026
<b>PROPERTY—</b>			Due on current contracts ..		120,397
Buildings, markets, etc. ..		5,782,860			
Waterworks .. ..		371,680			
Gasworks .. ..		203,370			
Electric Light Works .. ..		2,393,810			
<b>Total .. ..</b>		<b>12,002,833</b>	<b>Total .. ..</b>		<b>14,031,620</b>

3. *Queensland.*—(i) *General.* The whole of the State (except islands along the coast and 606 square miles in area) 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 year 1928 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—SUMMARY, 1928.

Year.	No.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Number of Inhabited Dwellings.	Rateable Value.	Assets.	Liabilities.	
							Government Loans.	Total.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

	No.	sq. miles.	No.	No.	£	£	£	£
1928(a) ..	28	843	(b)	109,144	31,153,917	19,416,228	6,289,805	22,185,743

SHIRES.

1928(a) ..	124	669,051	(b)	87,690	48,852,842	1,822,294	1,544,459	2,337,043
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(a) Figures relating to assets and liabilities include waterworks, sewerage works, electric light works, and railways and tramways controlled by local authorities. The Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage was taken over by the Brisbane City Council on the 2nd April, 1928.

(b) Estimated population of Queensland, 916,689 persons.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure (including loan moneys) of cities and towns, and of shires for the year 1928 are given hereunder :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.**

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Loans and Subsidies. (a)	Total.	Public Works and Services. (b)	Government Loan Redemption.	Office Expenses and Salaries.	Total.
<b>CITIES AND TOWNS.</b>							
1928 ..	£ 1,629,365	£ 168,517	£ 7,284,626(c)	£ 3,838,940	£ 86,421	£ 272,590	£ 6,429,621c
<b>SHIRES.</b>							
1928 ..	987,313	451,572	1,844,605	1,273,614	56,843	130,032	1,797,678

(a) Includes Main Road Receipts. (b) Includes Expenditure on Main Roads. (c) Includes Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage taken over by the Brisbane City Council on the 2nd April, 1928.

The figures in the foregoing tables cover all the activities of the local authorities throughout Queensland such as :—Road repairs, street lighting, etc. ; waterworks, electric light, and railways and tramways controlled by local bodies.

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 the Government, and special grants allocated on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Highways 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 9, the total being 196, of which 11 corporations and 13 district councils are in the metropolitan area, and 28 corporations and 144 district councils in outside areas. According to the latest available information there are about 1,071 miles of roads in use for general traffic under the control of corporations, and about 45,381 miles under the control of district councils, and of these totals, 15½ miles are wood-blocked, 153½ miles are bitumen and concrete, and 13,649½ miles are tar-paved, metalled or gravelled. 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 year 1928 :—

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1928.**

Year.	Area.	Estimated Population.	Occupied Dwellings.	Capital Value.	Assessment Value.	Outstanding Loans.
<b>MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.</b>						
1928 ..	Acres. 65,625	No. 247,670	No. 56,352	£ 78,123,127	£ 3,980,238	£ 714,256
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILS.</b>						
1928 ..	33,377,823	319,307	73,488	107,114,547	5,306,816	(a) 323,922

(a) Includes advances through District Councils to settlers for vermin-proof fencing, etc., amounting to £214,726.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of corporations and district councils for the year 1928, 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, 1928.**

Year.	Local Government (exclusive of Government Grants Account).						Government Grants Account (Main Roads).	
	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rates.	Subsidies.	Total.	Roads.	Other Public Works and Services.	Total.		

**MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.**

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1928 ..	519,708	52,745	816,525	409,640	303,162	951,158	30,406	30,411

**DISTRICT COUNCILS.**

1928 ..	434,321	90,326	665,130	442,188	118,432	736,349	391,564	433,948
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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 latter two 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 year 1929.

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1929.**

Year ended 31st Oct.—	Municipalities.	Area.	Population.	Dwelling Houses.	Valuation of Rateable Property.		Length of Roads and Streets.
					Capital Value.	Annual Value.	
1929 ..	No. 21	Acres. 59,028	No. 189,954	No. 38,404	£ 42,550,101	£ 2,456,987	Miles. (a) 761

(a) Exclusive of cleared roads.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Revenue and expenditure of municipalities during the year 1929 are given hereunder :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1929.**

Year ended 31st October—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	From Rates.	From Govt. Grants.	From other Sources.	Total.	Works and Improvements.	Interest and other Charges on Loans.	Other Expenses.	Total.
1929 ..	£ 363,238	£ 6,976	£ 1,303,606	£ 1,673,820	£ 408,665	£ 274,530	£ 797,292	£ 1,480,487

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The table below shows the assets and liabilities of municipalities at the 31st October in the financial year 1929 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1929.**

Year ended 31st October—	Assets.				Liabilities.	
	Balance in Hand.	Value of Property.	Accrued Sinking Funds.	Total.	Outstanding Debentures and Bonds.	Total.
1929 .. ..	£ 125,506	£ 2,627,163	£ 427,712	£ 3,676,475	£ 2,666,040	£ 2,901,766

(iii) *District Road Boards.* (a) *Summary.* In the next table the unimproved value is given, but in some 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, 1929, the population was estimated at 231,080, and the number of dwelling-houses at 53,162. Nine districts, however, only give figures at time of the 1921 census.

**DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1929.**

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Road Districts.	Area.	Unimproved Capital Value (Approximate).	Length of Roads in Existence.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Outstanding Loans.
1929 ..	No. 128	sq. miles. 975,828	£ 24,573,070 <sup>a</sup>	miles. 18,705 <sup>b</sup>	£ 703,173	£ 663,807	£ 577,486

(a) Exclusive of one Board which rates under the annual value only.  
 (b) Exclusive of cleared roads.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of district road boards are shown in the following table for the year 1929 :—

## DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Other.	Total.	Administration.	Works.	Other.	Total.
1929 ..	£ 311,908	£ 181,970	£ 458,060	£ 951,938	£ 70,051	£ 576,482	£ 301,454	£ 947,987

(iv) *Local Boards of Health.* (a) *General.* On the 31st October, 1929, there were 21 local boards of health within municipalities, and on the 30th June, 1929, 88 under control of road boards, and 23 extra-municipal boards. Of the extra-municipal boards 8 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 during 1929. 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, 1929.

Year.	Number.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		Assets.	Liabilities.
		Rates.	Sanitary Charges and Rubbish Fees.	Total.	Sanitary and Rubbish Service.	Total.		
1929 ..	132	£ 71,968	£ 72,413	£ 159,112	£ 105,134	£ 163,201	£ 98,986	£ 25,670

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 year 1928–29. The latest available figure for inhabited dwellings is for the year 1921, when the number was 45,950.

## MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—SUMMARY, 1928–29.

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

## HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.

1928–29 ..	No. 2	£ 1,177,076	£ 6,981,974	£ 18,157,147	£ 2,618,445	Miles. 197
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## COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.

1928–29 ..	47	1,578,507	16,102,410	32,547,077	632,431	12,511
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(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the year 1928-29 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928-29.**

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Works and Services.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Total.

**HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.**

1928-29 ..	£ 277,458	£ 600	£ 601,660 <sup>a</sup>	£ 47,131	£ 377,269 <sup>a</sup>	£ 170,692	£ 595,719 <sup>a</sup>
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**COUNTRY MUNICIPALITIES.**

1928-29 ..	200,713	43,919	366,131 <sup>a</sup>	39,714	280,148 <sup>a</sup>	46,138	382,524 <sup>a</sup>
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(a) Excluding Loans.

7. **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 1928. Victoria : 30th September, 1928, except Melbourne, 31st December, and Geelong, 31st August, 1928. Queensland : calendar year 1928. South Australia : Corporations, 30th November, and district councils, 30th June, 1928. Western Australia ; Municipalities, 31st October, 1928, district road boards, 30th June, 1928. Tasmania : 30th June, 1929.

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

## MUNICIPALITIES IN EACH STATE.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust. (d)	Tasmania.	Total.
No. of local authorities ..	319	195	152	196	147	49	1,058

## RECEIPTS.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rates—							
General ..	5,448,198	3,772,864	1,978,595 638,083	954,029	458,330 175,208	171,928 306,243	15,564,930
Other ..	1,661,452						
Government grants, etc. ..	1,590,621	154,316	449,299	515,714	142,931	44,519	2,897,400
Loans and other sources ..	4,628,895	4,627,486	6,063,254	605,617	1,353,171	567,837	17,846,260
Total ..	(f)13,329,166	8,554,666	9,129,231	2,075,360	2,129,640	1,090,527	36,308,590

## EXPENDITURE.

Works, services, etc. ..	}14,163,846	5,609,474	5,112,554	1,729,280	1,416,210	764,668	}36,518,151
Interest on loans and overdrafts		661,809	956,576	61,631	154,448	216,830	
Redemptions, sinking funds, etc. ..		291,628	426,533	71,621	135,921	17,151	
Administration		459,718	402,622	177,947	147,611	86,845	
Other ..		1,706,524	1,329,014	151,947	265,743	17,151	
Total ..	14,163,846	8,729,153	8,227,299	2,192,426	2,119,933	1,085,494	36,518,151

## VALUATIONS.

Capital value of property ..	a 357,211,357	661,889,314	e80,006,759	185,237,674	c 64,916,776	50,704,224	1,399,966,104
Annual value of property ..	(b)	35,431,784	(b)	9,287,054	(b)	2,755,583	(b)

(a) Unimproved capital value of all rateable property. (b) Not available. (c) The valuation of road districts is the unimproved capital value. (d) Exclusive of Local Boards of Health. (e) Rateable value. (f) Portion only of loan money included.

3. Local Government Loans, 1928.—The following table shows the amount of loans raised by local authorities during the year 1928, of loans current at the end of that year, and the liability on account of interest and sinking fund, and of loans redeemed during 1928 :—

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES.—LOANS, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
Loans raised during year ..	£ 5,866,001	£ 1,477,667	£ 2,712,091	£ 218,549	£ 341,229	£ 116,945	£ 10,732,482
Loans current at end of year	27,723,645	11,391,767	20,790,153	1,038,178	2,981,875	3,250,876	67,176,494
Annual liability on account of interest ..	1,449,612	(a)	957,253	58,009	160,576	161,439	(a)
Total sinking fund at end of year ..	2,236,486	627,251	885,764	28,334	638,944	543,495	4,960,274
Amount of loans redeemed during year ..	(a)	(a)	(a)	67,864	97,650	(a)	(a)

(a) Not available.

### § 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, 1929, the pressure tunnel 10 miles long and 10 feet in diameter to convey water to the city was completed. Service reservoirs of 36 million gallons and 19 million gallons respectively are being constructed at Killara and Waverley-Vaucluse and amplification of pumping plant and mains is proceeding. The maximum day's consumption in the metropolitan area was 143,141,530 gallons. The mileage of mains now totals 3,998 miles.

(b) *Water Supplied, etc.* The following table gives the number of houses and estimated population supplied, and other details for the year 1929 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY.—WATER SUPPLIED, 1929.

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.
1929 ..	299,401	1,497,005	84,657	30,899,799	283	56.55	145

(c) *Finances.*—The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure on account of the services of waterworks, sewerage and drainage during the year 1928-29.

WATERWORKS, SEWERAGE, AND DRAINAGE, SYDNEY, 1928-29.

Item.	Revenue.	Working Expenses, Sinking Fund Contribution, and Renewals.	Capital Indebtedness.	Percentage of Working Expenses and Sinking Fund Con- tribution on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Cost.	Interest.	Surplus or Deficit.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
Water ..	1,657,511	a 647,357	20,647,142	39.06	8.03	879,737	+130,417
Sewerage	1,007,884	b 302,299	12,917,831	29.99	7.80	548,298	+157,287
Drainage	50,789	c 17,278	596,468	31.02	8.51	25,820	+ 7,691
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,716,184</b>	<b>966,934</b>	<b>34,161,441</b>	<b>35.60</b>	<b>7.95</b>	<b>1,453,855</b>	<b>+295,395</b>

(a) Includes payment of £40,637 to State Debt Commissioners in reduction of Capital Indebtedness, and £96,272 on Renewals.

(b) Includes payment of £27,726 to State Debt Commissioners in reduction of Capital Indebtedness, and £10,109 on Renewals.

(c) Includes payment of £1,200 to State Debt Commissioners in reduction of Capital Indebtedness, and £272 on Renewals.

(iii) *Metropolitan Sewerage and Drainage Systems.* (a) *General.* In addition to the usual progress made in connecting additional houses, 131 miles of new sewers were laid, the total length now being 1,709 miles. The quantity of sewage pumped was 5,044 million gallons.

(b) *Houses Drained, Population Served, Length of Sewers, etc.* Particulars for the year 1929 are given hereunder:—

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, SYDNEY.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1929.

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.
1929 .. ..	192,574	962,870	1,709.21	72.84	612,060	1,407

(iv) *Newcastle Water Supply. (a) General.* The supply is drawn from the Chichester Reservoir, and is piped about 50 miles to Newcastle. The storage reservoir capacity is 5,000 million gallons. In addition to supplying Newcastle, water is reticulated in Maitland, 20 miles distant from Newcastle, and the Cessnock coalmining field, as well as areas adjoining these centres. The supply also extends to the farming areas of Miller's Forest and the lakeside resorts of Belmont and Toronto.

Water can also be supplied from the Hunter River at Maitland, if required.

Reservoirs distributed throughout the Water Supply District number 32, with a total storage capacity of 47,217,000 gallons.

The net addition to lengths of water-mains laid was 52 miles, bringing the total length of mains to 839 miles.

(b) *Particulars of Services.* The following table supplies details for the year 1929:—

NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—SUMMARY, 1929.

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.
1929 ..	40,222	201,000	9,280	3,387,187	230	46.16	52

(c) *Finances.* The next table gives the revenue, working expenses, capital debt, and net profit for the year 1929:—

NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Management and Working Expenses.	Capital Debt.	Percentage of Management and Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Debt.	Interest on Capital Debt.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1929 ..	222,905	91,874	2,716,581	41.22	8.21	134,367	—3,336

(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 was authorized by "The Newcastle and Suburbs Sewerage Amplification Act 1928" passed on the 21st May, 1928. The estimated cost of the work, which is still under construction, is £761,625. Schemes for the sewerage of Stockton and West Maitland are being investigated, and Cessnock is under construction at an estimated cost of £153,000.

The stormwater drainage of Newcastle and adjoining areas is divided into two catchment areas, viz., the works in the Cottage Creek Stormwater Area, estimated to cost £200,000, and the works in the Throsby Creek Stormwater Area, estimated to cost £660,000.

(b) *Sewerage Connexions and Length of Sewers.* During the year ended 30th June, 1929, the number of properties connected with sewers was 594, making a total of 20,082. New sewers of a total length of 3 miles were constructed by the Board, bringing the total length of sewers under the Board's control to 190 miles.

(c) *Finances.* Particulars in regard to chief items for the year 1929 are given hereunder :—

NEWCASTLE SEWERAGE.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Management and Working Expenses.	Capital Debt.	Percentage of Management and Working Expenses on Revenue.	Percentage of Revenue on Capital Debt.	Interest on Capital Debt.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1929 ..	84,006	26,980	1,222,691	32.12	6.87	33,659	23,367

(vi) *Water Supply and Sewerage in Country Towns\*.* (a) *General.* Under the *Local Government Act 1919*, the Public Works Department may, upon application by any municipal or shire council, construct, out of moneys voted therefor by Parliament, waterworks or sewerage works, and when completed transfer the control thereof to the council. In each case the cost, with interest, is repayable by instalments spread over a period corresponding to the probable life of the work.

(b) *Waterworks.* Up to the 30th June, 1929, waterworks in 76 towns had been completed and handed over to the respective local authorities. The capital cost of these works was £2,634,478, and the annual repayment instalments totalled £113,024. In addition to the foregoing the Broken Hill and Junee water supplies are administered by the Public Works Department under special Acts; these services entailed capital expenditures of £481,220 and £104,633 respectively.

(c) *Sewerage and Stormwater Drainage Works.* Up to the 30th June, 1929, sewerage works in thirteen towns, and stormwater drainage works in sixteen towns had been completed. Capital expenditure thereon totalled £876,789. The repayment instalments total £43,482 per annum.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) A. *The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.* (a) *General.* All land within 13 miles of the General Post Office, together with the remaining area of the City of Mordialloc and the Shire of Moorabbin and a further portion of the Shire of Dandenong, is included within the metropolitan area for water supply, sewerage, main drainage and river improvement purposes. This area covers 445 square miles of land area, and in 1929 embraced 25 cities, 1 shire, and parts of 12 other shires, or a total of 38 municipalities or portions thereof. In addition the Board supplies water to certain municipalities outside the metropolitan area.

The Board's liability on the 30th June, 1929, for loans raised was £21,625,120. The Board is still empowered to borrow £3,514,814 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The ordinary receipts and expenditure for the year 1928–29 were £1,722,488 and £1,570,578 respectively, and the loan receipts and expenditure £2,248,761 and £2,606,808 respectively.

\* Excluding the area of operations of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

*B. Melbourne Water Supply. (a) Quantity of Water, Number of Houses, and Population Supplied.* The following table gives various particulars for the year 1929. The rate levied is sixpence in the pound.

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	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.
1929 ..	244,829	1,084,592	58,755	21,445,506	239.9	54.1	2,593

*(b) Capital Cost, Revenue, Expenditure and Surplus.* The total cost of construction, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals and special war expenditure), interest and surplus for the year ending 30th June, 1929, together with the total amounts to that date are given below:—

WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses. (a)	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest. (b)	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1929 .. ..	937,951	797,336	140,620	17.64	475,785	180,931
Total to date ..	9,673,684	15,278,661	2,615,525	17.12	6,991,171	5,671,965

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Includes Interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

*C. Melbourne Sewerage. (a) Number of Houses Connected, etc.* Particulars of services for the year 1929 are given below:—

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses for which Sewers are Provided.	Estimated Population for which Sewers are Provided.	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.
1929 ..	223,324	989,325	38,711	14,129,500	173.3	39.1	2,254

(b) *Disposal of Night-soil from Unsewered Premises.* The agreements entered into with 29 councils for the collection and delivery by them of night-soil from unsewered premises within their respective municipal districts have continued in operation during the year. The total number of pans cleaned was 1,245,371, and the night-soil was disposed of by burial by the Board at its various depots at Brooklyn, Campbellfield, and Moorabbin.

(c) *Main Drains.* Contracts amounting to £549,138 have been let to 30th June, 1929, of which works to the value of £413,000 have been actually completed. The expenditure on other works not carried out by contract amounted to £27,000. The total length of main drains under the Board's control at 30th June, 1929, was 62 miles 15 chains.

(d) *Finances.* The capital cost, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals), percentage of working expenses on revenue, interest and deficiency for the year 1929 are given below:—

SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses. (a)	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest. (b)	Deficiency.
1929 ..	£ 577,311	£ 730,166	£ 157,449	£ 21.56	£ 643,990	£ 71,273
Total to date	11,661,646	10,520,365	2,462,575	23.41	10,713,049	2,654,759

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Includes interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

(e) *Metropolitan Sewage Farm.* On 30th June, 1929, the total area of the farm was 22,634 acres. The following table gives details in connexion therewith for the year 1929:—

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses. (a)	Interest.	Net Cost of Sewage Purification.	Trading Profit.
1929 .. ..	£ 16,024	£ 57,392	£ 35,659	£ 54,687	£ 32,954	£ 44,035
Total to date ..	1,023,389	748,949	442,657	795,996	455,790	461,702

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

D. *River Improvement.* During the year ended 30th June, 1929, improvement works have been carried out on the River Yarra and Maribyrnong River, consisting chiefly of river snagging, grading and beaching of banks, widening of the waterway and dredging operations. The Board also completed an important section of the River Yarra improvements work, viz., the cut through the quarries above the Church Street Bridge.

(ii) *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust.* (a) *General.* The Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, constituted in 1908, consists of five commissioners. The amount of loan money which may be raised is limited to £725,000 for water supply undertaking, £710,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £270,000 for sewerage installation to properties under the deferred payment system. The population supplied is about 45,024.

(b) *Water Supply.* The catchment area is about 16,000 acres. The storage capacity of all the reservoirs is 2,738,119,808 gallons, and there are 257½ miles of reticulation mains within the city of Geelong and its suburbs. Arrangements have been made with the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission for a supplementary supply of a minimum quantity of 500 million gallons of water per annum from the Commission's works now being constructed to tap the watersheds of the upper reaches of the river Barwon. The total expenditure on waterworks to the 30th June, 1929, was £673,823, and the revenue for the year 1928-29 was £55,556.

(c) *Sewerage Works.* The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer to the ocean at Black Rock, about 9 miles from Geelong, and 134 miles of reticulation mains have already been laid. The drainage area is 9,489 acres, and the number of buildings within the drainage area is 11,400, and within the sewered areas 11,000, while 10,883 buildings have been connected with the sewers. Up to 30th June, 1929, the total expenditure on sewerage works was £614,425 and on the cost of sewerage installations under deferred payment conditions £248,476, of which £63,855 is outstanding. The revenue amounted to £44,177.

(iii) *The Ballarat Water Commission and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority.* (a) *General.* The Ballarat Water Commission was constituted on 1st July, 1880, and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority on the 30th November, 1920. The members of the Water Commission are the Sewerage Authority. The Commissioners number seven; three (one of whom is chairman) being appointed by the Government, and four being elected by the Council of the City of Ballarat.

(b) *Water Supply.* The Water Supply District embraces an area of about 27 square miles, containing a population of about 43,000. The total storage capacity of the six reservoirs is 2,215,558,327 gallons.

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

(c) *Sewerage.* The scheme as designed provides for a population of 90,000 persons (present population, 40,000). The capital cost of construction to 31st December, 1929, is £273,832. The method of sewage disposal is by sedimentation, oxidation, and sludge digestion. Forty-two sewered areas have been declared as at 1st January, 1930, comprising 5,066 tenements.

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

(iv) *Bendigo Sewerage Authority.* The members of the Bendigo City Council constitute this Authority. The sewerage district comprises the populated area of the city of Bendigo. The works when completed are estimated to cost £450,000, and comprise treatment works. Expenditure to end of December, 1929, was £281,648 for sewerage scheme and £150,354 for house connexions.

(v) *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 year 1929:—

COUNTRY WATERWORKS, VICTORIA.—FINANCES, 1929.

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.
1929 ..	No. 104	£ 1,657,778	£ 1,305,165	£ 5,541	No. 28	£ 825,275	£ 533,335	£ 1,317

3. Queensland.—(i) *Water Supply and Sewerage Department, Brisbane City Council.*  
 (a) *General.* The whole of the water supply in the metropolitan area and the bulk supply to the City of Ipswich is filtered.

The available storage in the Brisbane River is 500 million gallons, the catchment area being approximately 4,000 square miles. In Lake Manchester the storage capacity is 7,000 million gallons, and the catchment area 28.5 square miles. The capacity of Enoggera and Gold Creek Reservoirs is 1,000 million gallons, and 431 million gallons respectively, and the catchment area 12.8 and 3.8 square miles respectively.

The total capacity of the service reservoirs on Tarragindi Hill, Bartley's Hill, Highgate Hill, Roles Hill, Wickham Terrace, and Paddington (elevated tank) is approximately 22,356,000 gallons. Early in 1929 a contract was let for the construction of a service reservoir of 5,380,000 gallons capacity on Eildon Hill.

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

**WATERWORKS.—SUMMARY, 1929.**

Year.	Length of Reticulation Mains.	Number of Tenements Connected. (a)	Estimated Population Supplied.	Quantity Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Average Daily Supply per Head of Estimated Population.
	Miles.	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons	Gallons.	Gallons.
1929 .. ..	792 $\frac{3}{4}$	62,056	320,269	5,007,809	13,720,026	42.54

(a) Exclusive of Ipswich, which is a bulk supply.

The total length of the trunk mains is 193 miles.

(c) *Sewerage.* At the 31st December, 1929, 12,658 premises were connected to the Council's sewerage system, the estimate of population served being 63,290 persons. The total length of sewers in operation is 324 miles, consisting of 179 miles of sewers within premises, and 145 miles of main and reticulation sewers.

(d) *Waterworks and Sewerage Works Finances.* The subjoined table gives particulars regarding finance during the year 1929:—

**WATER AND SEWERAGE WORKS.—FINANCE, 1929.**

Year.	Capital Cost.	Net Revenue from Rates.	Management and Working Expenses.	New Works Construction.	Interest and Redemption of Loans, including Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	£	£
1929 .. ..	7,784,727	678,896	181,058	236,777	535,301

(ii) *Country Towns Water Supply.* In addition to the city of Brisbane, there were at the end of the year 1928, thirty-four country towns in Queensland provided with water supply systems constructed by municipalities chiefly from Government loans. The subjoined statement gives particulars of all water supply systems, exclusive of Brisbane, for the year 1928:—

**QUEENSLAND.—PARTICULARS OF COUNTRY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS, 1928.**

*Cost of Construction to 31st December, 1928—£2,051,607.*

Receipts.		£	Expenditure.		£
Rates and sales of water	..	216,961	Office and salaries	.. ..	21,847
Government and other loans	..	135,753	Construction	.. ..	149,315
Other	.. ..	36,278	Maintenance	.. ..	92,889
			Interest and redemption	.. ..	89,688
			Other expenses	.. ..	23,372
<b>Total</b>	<b>.. ..</b>	<b>388,992</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>.. ..</b>	<b>377,111</b>
<b>Assets</b>	<b>.. ..</b>	<b>1,788,256</b>	<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>.. ..</b>	<b>1,444,278</b>

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 year 1928-29, the figures for consumption being recorded by gaugings taken at the reservoirs and including evaporation and absorption. There are 50,241 meters in the Adelaide District.

**ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—SUMMARY, 1928-29.**

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.
1929 .. ..	131,750	5,423,426	115,535	7,753	1,255	7,926,900

(b) *Finances.* Particulars for the year 1928-29 are given below :—

**ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—FINANCES, 1928-29.**

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineering Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
1929 ..	£ 3,488,102	£ 393,866	£ 478,423	£ 71,510	£ 11,878	£ 83,388	% 11.32

(iii) *Adelaide Sewerage.* Particulars for the year 1928-29 are given hereunder :—

**ADELAIDE SEWERAGE.—SUMMARY, 1928-29.**

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Connexions.	Capital Cost of Revenue-Producing Works.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates, etc.	Total.	Maintenance, etc.	Total.	
1929 ..	Miles. 519	No. 54,439	£ 1,529,183	£ 190,263	£ 198,919	£ 25,881	£ 31,121	% 10.97

(iv) *Country Towns Water Supply. (a) Summary.* The chief items of information regarding these undertakings are set forth in the table below for the year 1928-29.

**COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1928-29.**

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.
1929 .. ..	48,092	11,824,843	9,096	4,522	1,413,845

(b) *Finances.* The next table gives financial information for the year 1928–29:—

COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES, 1928–29.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineer- ing Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
1929 ..	£ 8,953,620	£ 173,609	£ 221,685	£ 81,299	£ 7,884	£ 89,183	% 1.48

(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 year 1928–29:—

SUBURBAN SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY,  
1928–29.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Con- nections.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates.	Total.	Mainten- ance.	Total.	
1929 ..	Miles. 92	No. 9,585	£ 636,735	£ 36,551	£ 37,270	£ 9,407	£ 10,360	% 4.23

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.

(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 and Subiaco. At the 30th June 1929, the number of premises connected with sewers was 20,762.

(b) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars regarding water supply for the year 1929:—

WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Estimated Population Supplied.	Number of Houses Supplied.	Water Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.		Number of Meters.	Length of Mains.
				Per Head.	Per House.		
1929 .. ..	No. 207,000	No. 48,865	1,000 Ga'ons. 3,174,499	Gallons. 41.82	Gallons. 177.15	No. 35,562	Miles. 824

(c) *Finances.* The table hereunder gives separate information for the water supply and sewerage and drainage branches for the year 1929 :—

**WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES, 1929.**

Year ended 30th June—	Water Supply.			Sewerage and Drainage.		
	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1929 ..	£ 3,093,843	£ 254,945	£ 242,268	£ 1,519,128	£ 111,876	£ 101,269

(iii) *Goldfields Water Supply.* The source of supply for the Coolgardie and adjacent goldfields, as well as for towns and districts 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 1928–29 the railways consumed 9 per cent., the mines 20 per cent., and “other” 71 per cent. of the supply. The following table gives details for the year 1929 :—

**GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1929.**

Year ended 30th June—	Total Consumption.	Number of Services.	Length of Water Mains.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1929 ..	1,000 gallons. 1,090,000	No. 10,554	Miles. 1,519	£ 3,701,543	£ 174,728	£ 187,453

(iv) *Water Supply of Other Towns.* During the year 1928–29 there were 26 towns provided with water supplies, of which 12 are controlled by Water Boards and 14 by the Public Works Department. The total supplies to the latter towns for the year ending 30th June, 1929, were as follows :—Domestic, 145,000,000 gallons, and Railways, 24,000,000 gallons. The estimated population was 18,500, and the average daily domestic consumption was 21 gallons per head.

(v) *Agricultural Water Supply.* During the year 1928–29, 18 tanks were excavated and 25 wells sunk, 23 of which yielded fresh water. During the 19 years from the 1st July, 1910, to the 30th June, 1929, 486 tanks were built, 355 wells sunk, and 3,419 bores put down to a total depth of 150,709 feet. Of the bores mentioned, 512 yielded fresh and 284 stock water.

(vi) *Artesian and Sub-artesian Waters.* Up to the 30th June, 1929, the total number of bores put down in search of artesian or sub-artesian water was 242, including 49 sunk in the metropolitan area, ranging in depth from 30 to 4,006 feet.

**6. Tasmania.**—(i) *Hobart Water Supply.* The cost of this undertaking to the 30th June, 1929, was £436,233, 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, 1929, amounted to £356,193. At the same date the number of tenements supplied in the city and suburbs was 10,488 and the length of reticulation mains 126½ miles. The revenue for the year 1929 was £40,897.

(ii) *Hobart Sewerage System.* The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1929, was £39,860. Up to that date 80½ miles of sewers had been laid in connexion with the original city system at a cost of £214,094, and 8,366 tenements connected. Since the original city was sewerred, the Municipalities of Queenborough and New Town have been included

in the city, and are now being sewered. In Queenborough 25½ miles of sewers, connecting with 1,417 tenements, have been constructed at a cost of £119,626. In New Town a total of 36½ miles of sewers have been laid, and 1,375 properties connected. The cost to 30th June, 1929, including surveys and sewerage outfall, was £110,994.

### § 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 is 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 77,030 lineal feet, inclusive of 9,267 lineal feet privately owned, 4,693 lineal feet of cross wharf and 3,427 lineal feet of ferry wharves.

The depth of water at the entrance to the port is not less than 80 feet and in the channels there are 40 feet at low-water 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 £7,504,243 on the reconstruction and extension of the wharfage and improvements to the port and vested area. Over 14,381 lineal feet of old and obsolete wharfage have been demolished, and 35,962 lineal feet of new berths have been constructed. Other improvements include 2,972,400 square feet of floor area of new sheds and nearly 4 miles of new roadways.

During the year 1929, 1,856,121 tons of material were dredged at a cost of £98,174. In the process of towing such material, 41,998 miles were run at a cost of £38,200.

(b) *Finances*. The subjoined table gives particulars concerning the finances of the Trust for the year 1929:—

#### SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.			Total.	Expenditure.	Total Capital Debt.	Interest.	Balance.
	Wharfage and Harbour Rates.	Tonnage Rates and Berthing Charges.	Other Sources.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1929 ..	671,565	52,912	379,120	1,103,597	369,037	11,924,357	614,067 <sup>a</sup>	120,493

(a) Includes £30,067 sinking fund contributions.

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 1929, the length of sheds in the port was 18,187 feet, covering an area of 1,193,766 square feet. The quantity of material raised by the dredging and excavation done in the improvement of the river and bay amounts to 92,374,519 cubic yards. The Trust has expended £339,633 in reclaiming land within its jurisdiction.

(b) *Finances*. During the year ended 31st December, 1929, the revenue of the Trust amounted to £786,348, and the ordinary expenditure to £522,292, leaving, after provision for depreciation and renewals account and sinking fund, a net surplus on revenue account of £51,056. The capital expenditure for the year was £455,052. Up to 31st December, 1929, the total capital expenditure amounted to £7,858,530.

(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.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives financial details for the year 1929:—

GEELONG HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year.	Loans.	Sinking Fund.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1929 .. .. .	£ 634,187	£ (a)	£ 66,315	£ 64,074

(a) Not available.

(iii) *Harbour Boards.* The Harbour Boards Act of 1927 provides for the constitution of Harbour Boards for the following ports:—Gippsland Lakes; Welshpool; Warrnambool; Port Fairy; Portland. These ports have, hitherto, been under the control of the Department of Ports and Harbours of Victoria. The first board to be constituted under this Act is the Warrnambool Harbour Board. (See *Victoria Gazette*, 6th June, 1928, page 1595.)

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 Prosperine and Wangaratta, and division I. of the Shire of Ayr.

(b) *Finances.* The capital expenditure for the year 1929 was £19,778, while for the same period the receipts were £20,178 and the expenditure £19,778.

(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 elected by the ratepayers of the City of Bundaberg, and two each by the ratepayers of the Shires of Gooburru and Woongarra.

(b) *Finances.* Receipts for the year 1929 amounted to £5,843 as compared with £6,787 in 1928, while expenditure for corresponding periods totalled £7,566 and £9,410 respectively.

(iii) *Cairns Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Cairns Harbour Board consists of twelve members, representing the city 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 1,900 feet in length, and form an unbroken quay line of 1,500 feet partly connected with railway communication along front of same where considered advisable for handling direct ex trucks. The total tonnage of outward cargo from the port for 1929 was 242,757 tons.

(b) *Finances.* During the year 1929, the gross revenue of the Board was £63,611, derived from harbour, berthage, and miscellaneous dues, etc.

(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.

(b) *Finances.* The total capital expenditure to the end of 1929 amounted to £91,489. The revenue for 1929 was £3,438, and the expenditure £3,502.

(v) *Mackay Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Mackay Harbour Board consists of nine members elected by the electors of the city of Mackay and the shires of Pioneer, Sarina, Mirani and Nebo.

(b) *Finances.* Capital expenditure for the year 1929 was £10,704; receipts totalled £16,727; total expenditure amounted to £17,051.

(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.

(b) *Finances.* The revenue for the year 1929 was £30,169; and the expenditure was £23,641, which included £701 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 £1,914,465, while the receipts for the year 1929 were £89,157 and the expenditure £89,795.

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 year 1929 :—

FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Gross Amount Paid to the Treasury.				
			Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Renewals Fund.	Surplus. Revenue.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1929 .. ..	589,359	591,590	104,531	24,442	2,000	161,408	292,381

(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.

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

BUNBURY HARBOUR BOARD.—1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund.
	£	£	£	£
1929 .. ..	453,736	25,917	18,562	11,050

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.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the year 1929:—

MARINE BOARD OF HOBART.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Debt.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
		Harbour Improvements, Debentures, etc.	General.	Total.	Harbour Improvements.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	General.	Total.
1929 ..	£ 27,285	£ ..	£ 38,988	£ 38,988	£ 445	£ 4,389	£ 25,471	£ a 43,305

(a) Including £13,000 from revenue in reduction of loans.

(ii) *Marine Board of Launceston.* (a) *General.* The Marine Board of Launceston consists of five wardens, three elected by the ratepayers of the city of Launceston and two by ratepayers of the municipalities within the Tamar District.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the year 1929:—

MARINE BOARD OF LAUNCESTON.—FINANCES, 1929.

Year.	Total Capital Debt.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1929 .. .. .	£ 373,223	£ 62,208	£ 63,013

(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, 1929, were £21,575, and the expenditure £21,331, including £14,300 interest on loans.

§ 7. Fire Brigades.

1. New South Wales.—(i) *General.* Under the Fire Brigades Act of 1909–27, a Board of Fire Commissioners consisting of eight members operates, and fire districts have been constituted. The cost of maintenance of fire brigades is borne in proportions of quarter, quarter, and half 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 rateable land in the fire district: provided that the Board, with the consent of the Minister, and at the special request of the councils of the municipalities or shires constituting or forming part of a fire district or a majority in number of such councils may, as to that district, exceed the limit above provided.

(ii) *Sydney Fire District.* The Sydney fire district includes the City of Sydney and suburbs, comprising a total area of 252 square miles. On the 31st December, 1929, the Board had under its control in this district 76 stations. The receipts for the year 1929 were £330,386, made up as follows:—From the Government, £80,777; municipalities, £80,777; fire insurance companies, £160,964; firms, £590; and from other sources, £7,278. The disbursements for the year were £322,364.

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 Brigade Board.* On the 30th June, 1926, the Board had under its control 41 stations. The total receipts for the year 1928–29 were £240,082, comprising contributions £182,581, receipts for services £27,043, and interest and sundries £30,458. The expenditure was £235,818, made up as follows:—Salaries £117,714, interest and repayments of principal £20,173, and other expenditure £101,931.

(iii) *Country Fire Brigades Board.* At 30th June, 1929, there were 119 municipal councils and 108 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. Complete fire alarm systems are installed in 27 of the larger provincial cities and townships. There were 149 registered brigades at 30th June, 1929. For the year 1928–29 the revenue was £34,210 and the expenditure £32,210.

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 in a district must be registered.

(ii) *Fire Brigades Boards.* At the end of the year 1929 there were fire brigades in 28 towns. The total revenue for the year 1928 was £89,852, received mainly from the following sources:—Government £23,050, local authorities £23,015, and insurance companies £34,394. The total expenditure for the year was £86,523, the chief items being salaries and wages £52,054, buildings, repairs, etc., £10,461, and plant, stores, etc., £9,852.

4. *South Australia.*—(i) *General.* The Fire Brigades Act of 1913 and amendments provide 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.* At the end of 1929 there were altogether 27 fire brigade stations. The total revenue for the year 1929 was £51,914.

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.* The whole of the brigades throughout the State are now controlled by the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board, and number 39. The revenue and expenditure for the year ended 30th September, 1929, were £57,907 and £57,499 respectively. The estimated value of land and buildings was £68,600 and of plant £37,800.

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 municipality concerned, and insurance companies insuring property within the district.

(ii) *Hobart Fire Brigade Board.* The revenue of the Board for the year 1929 amounted to £6,633.