

## 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 1922, 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 1922-23 was £25,425,924. The following table shows the expenditure for each year from 1917-18 to 1922-23 :—

**ROADS, ETC.—EXPENDITURE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,  
NEW SOUTH WALES, 1918 TO 1923.**

Year ending 30th June.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure .. ..	74,459	88,591	116,034	163,121	542,205	443,541

2. *Victoria.*—(a) *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, 1922, being £964,163. An annual payment of £50,000 is also made out of Consolidated Revenue to the Board for maintenance works.

(b) *Direct Expenditure by Government.* The following table shows the amounts of money expended directly by the Government on roads and bridges during the years 1917-18 to 1921-22 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, VICTORIA,  
1917-18 TO 1921-22.**

Year.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure .. ..	19,782	20,591	7,832	10,842	23,622

(c) *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 £3,000,000 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, six 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 first of July in each year. A special rate, not exceeding six pence 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, 1922, was £2,466,145. The following table gives the revenue and expenditure on permanent and maintenance works for the five years 1917-18 to 1921-22:—

**COUNTRY ROADS BOARD, VICTORIA—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,  
1917-18 TO 1921-22.**

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.					Expenditure.	
	Motor Registration and Licence Fees.	Unused Roads etc., Licence Fees.	Contributions by Municipalities.		Total.	Permanent Works.	Main-tenance.
			Permanent Works.	Main-tenance.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1918 .. ..	58,485	23,736	30,256	..	116,521	226,599	173,757
1919 .. ..	67,666	22,374	29,841	82,453	261,655	284,734	179,133
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

(d) *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, 1922 was £627,093, and the total expenditure to that date was £1,685,208.

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. The duties of this Board 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 Board must consider such objections and may vary its 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) taxes and fees on motor vehicles, traction engines and wheels of vehicles, (c) fees and rents for unused roads, (d) moneys received for the sale of timber, sand, etc., on any main road, and (e) all other moneys received or recovered by the Board. Wherever possible, the Board 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 Board 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, 1923, the receipts of the Board amounted to £400,526, including £217,500 from the Treasury Loan Fund and £64,965 from motor fees, and the disbursements to £344,932, including £163,115 expenditure on permanent works and £11,069 on maintenance of main roads. At that date, 2,746 miles of roads had been gazetted as main roads, 320 miles had been surveyed, and the estimated cost of works for which plans were in hand or completed, including bridges, was £424,268.

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, 1922, the sum of £27,802. During the same year, the Government expended £109,120 from loan funds on certain main 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.

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, 1923, the loan expenditure on these works was £3,847,083. 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 £658,616 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 the total expenditure up to the 30th June, 1919, and the annual expenditure during the years 1919–20 to 1922–23 by the State on the construction of roads and bridges, together with the mileage of new roads and the number of new bridges built during those four years:—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES, TASMANIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON  
CONSTRUCTION TO 30th JUNE, 1923.**

Period.	Expenditure.		New-road Mileage.		New Bridges.
	Loans.	Crown Lands Fund.	Cleared.	Metalled.	
	£	£	Miles.	Miles.	No.
Total to 30th June, 1919 .. ..	3,493,745	639,111	..	..	..
1919–20 .. ..	81,940	6,563	67	68	17
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

(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 1921-22 the amount available for 1,049 miles of main road was £27,000. 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.

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, 1922 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES.—GOVERNMENT LOAN EXPENDITURE TO THE  
30th JUNE, 1922.**

Expenditure.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total ..	2,416,777	4,495,841	931,775	2,039,085	425,137	5,328,254	15,636,860

The following table shows the annual expenditure from loans on roads and bridges by the central Governments in each State during the years 1917-18 to 1921-22 :—

**ROADS AND BRIDGES.—LOAN EXPENDITURE BY STATES, 1918 TO 1922.**

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	All States.
	£	£	£	£	£	..	£
1917-18 ..	22,374	241,892	..	43,693	2,600	..	310,559
1918-19 ..	13,089	360,524	..	22,008	4,310	90,101	490,032
1919-20 ..	6,674	623,570	..	66,393	14,538	81,940	793,115
1920-21 ..	13,555	965,646	..	120,223	32,121	100,621	1,232,166
1921-22 ..	320,271	964,163	..	109,120	12,585	132,879	1,539,018

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 1922 being 183,985 square miles, of which 2,845 square miles are included in the former and 181,140 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 1918 to 1922 :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES—SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	No. of Municipalities.	Sydney and Suburbs.		Country.		Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
		Area.	Population.	Area.	Population.			
1918	184	95,259	777,140	1,710,675	463,500	10,214	929	12
1919	183	95,259	811,910	1,710,475	482,860	(a)	(a)	(a)
1920	185	95,259	881,594	1,725,875	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)

(a) Not available.—collected triennially.

Of the 10,187 miles of roads, 4,474 were metalled, ballasted or gravelled, 1,912 formed only, and 2,162 cleared only, while 1,639 miles were natural surface.

(b) *Unimproved and Improved Values.* The following table gives a comparison of the unimproved and improved values for the years 1918 to 1922 inclusive :—

MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—CAPITAL VALUES, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Total Metropolitan.	Country.	Grand Total.
UNIMPROVED VALUE.					
1918	£ 31,880,295	£ 38,176,261	£ 70,056,556	£ 24,629,668	£ 94,686,224
1919	31,831,054	39,672,190	71,503,244	25,289,371	96,792,615
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
IMPROVED VALUE.					
1918	82,027,200	106,647,308	188,674,508	63,368,253	252,042,761
1919	82,808,760	111,686,717	194,495,477	66,059,272	260,554,749
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

(c) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table gives particulars of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities for the year ending 31st December, 1922, under various headings :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1922.**

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

	£	£	£	£
General fund .. ..	2,348,854 (a)	1,523,026	1,004,667	2,527,693 (b)
Trading accounts ..		19,458	428,837	448,295 (b)
Special and local funds ..		19,276	267,784	287,060 (b)
Gross revenue ..	2,348,854	1,561,760	1,701,288	5,611,902

**EXPENDITURE.**

	£	£	£	£
General fund .. ..	2,187,856 (a)	1,587,175	1,015,613	2,602,788 (b)
Trading accounts ..		12,767	374,699	387,466 (b)
Special and local funds ..		18,471	246,828	265,299 (b)
Gross expenditure ..	2,187,856	1,618,413	1,637,140	5,443,409

(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 subjoined table shows the gross revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the five years 1918 to 1922 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918 TO 1922.**

Municipalities.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
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**GROSS REVENUE.**

	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney .. ..	1,263,170	1,483,810	1,724,858	2,068,153	2,348,854
Suburban .. ..	935,108	1,012,024	1,200,139	1,413,469	1,561,760
Country .. ..	1,141,795	1,271,905	1,357,065	1,582,055	1,701,288
Total .. ..	3,340,073	3,766,839	4,282,062	5,063,677	5,611,902

**GROSS EXPENDITURE.**

	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney .. ..	1,246,130	1,454,277	1,747,972	2,060,635	2,187,856
Suburban .. ..	912,266	987,885	1,145,765	1,511,543	1,618,413
Country .. ..	1,043,633	1,228,553	1,293,564	1,507,423	1,637,140
Total .. ..	3,202,029	3,670,715	4,187,301	5,079,601	5,443,409

(d) *Assets and Liabilities.* The financial position of the municipalities as at the 31st December, 1922, is shown by the following statement of assets and liabilities.

## MUNICIPALITIES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1922.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Suburbs.	Country.	Total.
ASSETS.				
	£	£	£	£
Bank balance and cash ..	15,496,718 (a)	233,575	314,576	548,151 (b)
Outstanding rates ..		89,484	155,438	244,922 (b)
Sundry debtors ..		75,509	180,167	255,676 (b)
Stores and materials ..		25,377	75,212	100,589 (b)
Land, buildings, furniture etc.		722,326	3,717,949	4,440,275 (b)
Other ..		38,708	22,647	61,355 (b)
Total ..	15,496,718	1,184,979	4,465,989	21,147,686
LIABILITIES.				
Loans, outstanding interest and sundry creditors ..	15,037,651 (a)	1,431,802	1,167,538	2,599,340 (b)
Debts due to Government and interest thereon ..		95,529	1,964,236	2,059,765 (b)
Bank overdrafts ..		138,198	120,688	258,886 (b)
Other ..		22,896	96,280	119,176 (b)
	15,037,651	1,688,425	3,348,742	20,074,818

(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, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	No. of Shires.	Area.	Population.	Unimproved Capital Value.	Length of Roads.	Bridges.	Ferries.
	No.	sq. miles.	No.	£	miles.	No.	No.
1918 ..	136	180,658	673,860	109,133,215	83,309	3,567	98
1919 ..	136	180,708	692,230	110,881,306	(a)	(a)	(a)
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)

(a) Not available—collected triennially.

Of the 85,458 miles of roads, 17,216 were metalled or ballasted, 12,200 formed only, and 26,538 cleared only, the balance being natural surface.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of shires for the years 1918 to 1922 are shown in the following table. Included in the receipts for 1922 are Government grants amounting to £184,086:—



## SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES,—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918 TO 1922.

Particulars.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
REVENUE.					
<i>General Fund—</i>	£	£	£	£	£
General rates (including interest) ..	710,983	742,026	825,781	968,886	1,033,921
Government endowment ..	162,188	153,234	156,429	178,420	156,861
Public works ..	157,737	230,673	196,045	188,533	218,952
Health administration ..	3,865	13,731	79,410	84,014	88,165
Public services ..	11,487	12,481	14,630	15,540	16,052
Shire property ..	14,258	15,539	13,456	16,145	20,344
Miscellaneous ..	7,427	7,192	12,125	8,939	13,852
<i>Special and Local Funds</i> ..	93,101	114,885	57,540	87,124	99,960
Total revenue ..	1,161,046	1,289,761	1,355,416	1,547,601	1,648,107
EXPENDITURE.					
<i>General Fund—</i>					
Administrative expenses ..	99,391	115,657	146,762	140,300	168,802
Public works ..	916,351	1,013,337	994,731	1,187,349	1,245,857
Health administration ..	9,292	26,237	84,282	89,344	95,578
Public services ..	19,370	21,293	26,239	33,782	32,205
Shire property ..	16,884	17,037	14,935	18,721	18,518
Miscellaneous ..	15,526	16,034	8,589	9,418	11,626*
<i>Special, Local, and Loan Funds</i> ..	86,905	93,403	50,210	78,474	91,295
Total expenditure ..	1,163,719	1,307,998	1,325,748	1,557,388	1,663,881

\* Includes £7,597 for interest on loans and overdrafts.

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The finances of the shires at the end of the year 1922 showed an excess of assets of £376,786. The following table gives particulars of assets and liabilities as at the 31st December, 1922 :—

## SHIRES, NEW SOUTH WALES.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1922.

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	£		£
Bank balances and cash ..	170,113	Loans outstanding, interest and	
Outstanding rates ..	131,071	sundry creditors ..	284,364
Sundry debtors ..	40,824	Bank overdrafts ..	182,725
Stores and materials ..	32,285	Other ..	62,866
Land, buildings, furniture, plant,			
machinery, etc. ..	532,175		
Other ..	273		
Total ..	906,741	Total ..	529,955

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 1922–23 a sum of £64,340 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 1919 to 1923 inclusive:—

**MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ending 30th September.	Number of Municipal- ities.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers (both sexes).	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Ratable Property.	
					Total.	Annual.
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHs.						
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£
1919 .. ..	52	859,470	224,757	197,689	164,306,704	9,227,807
1920 .. ..	52	877,880	228,518	200,206	172,838,636	9,687,320
1921 .. ..	55	886,030	237,037	205,416 <i>a</i> {	193,947,624	10,864,184
1922 .. ..	53	914,371 <i>a</i>	245,589		210,501,055	11,869,636
1923 .. ..	53	963,180	270,058		220,209	233,586,201
SHIRES.						
1919 .. ..	138	622,260	188,032	141,951	176,297,529	8,922,859
1920 .. ..	138	628,420	188,892	142,570	184,599,186	9,340,172
1921 .. ..	138	628,970	198,801	142,579 <i>a</i> {	205,555,121	10,350,524
1922 .. ..	139	610,987 <i>a</i>	201,956		215,984,328	10,875,948
1923 .. ..	139	616,410	200,834		143,809	221,623,773

(a) Census figures.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue from various sources, and the expenditure under various heads, exclusive of loan revenue and expenditure, of municipalities during the years 1918 to 1922:—

**MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918 TO 1922.**

Items.		1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
<b>REVENUE.</b>						
		£	£	£	£	£
Taxation {	Rates .. ..	1,462,640	1,560,968	1,750,778	2,083,931	2,303,664
	Licences .. ..	109,916	136,517	135,383	126,952	137,036
	Dog fees .. ..	21,481	21,074	22,575	23,682	24,316
	Market and weigh- bridge dues ..	71,737	85,240	87,845	91,448	99,485
Government endowments and grants .. ..		62,460	96,429	74,563	65,581	75,627
Contributions for streets, etc.		63,910	93,900	73,182	84,936	111,983
Sanitary charges .. ..		101,791	101,996	116,096	133,244	146,559
Rents .. ..		65,821	69,845	85,517	92,717	102,784
Other sources .. ..		566,788	714,156	879,024	890,625	1,030,323
Total .. ..		2,526,544	2,880,125	3,224,963	3,593,116	4,031,777

MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918 TO 1922—*continued.*

Items.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries, etc. .. ..	214,797	226,692	246,851	284,158	319,430
Sanitary work, street cleaning, etc. .. ..	244,984	248,956	306,775	345,834	363,706
Lighting .. ..	98,511	100,679	102,945	115,968	130,722
Fire brigades' contributions	32,786	35,120	39,637	46,512	48,526
Public works { Construction	232,977	294,874	208,326	238,165	271,007
Maintenance	1,046,474	1,152,247	1,385,347	1,683,619	1,865,549
Formation of private streets, etc. .. ..	75,474	111,125	82,746	130,125	147,612
Redemption of loans .. ..	124,797	137,688	128,664	133,786	136,090
Interest on loans .. ..	277,435	257,057	264,147	276,065	305,289
Charities .. ..	19,977	21,103	25,031	29,468	26,436
Other expenditure .. ..	178,043	332,347	313,650	315,085	332,067
Total .. ..	2,546,255	2,917,888	3,104,119	3,598,785	3,946,434

(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 1918 to 1922 :—

## MUNICIPALITIES, VICTORIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1918 TO 1922.

Items.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
ASSETS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
MUNICIPAL FUND—					
Uncollected rates .. ..	132,217	133,585	133,573	158,301	176,830
Other assets .. ..	427,046	550,283	483,724	591,508	636,509
LOAN FUND—					
(a) Sinking funds—					
Amount at credit .. ..	596,550	465,132	489,332	523,834	430,689
Arrears due .. ..	5,054	1,093	3,098	483	511
(b) Unexpended balances	238,906	204,761	221,405	331,561	442,360
PROPERTY—					
Buildings, markets, etc. ..	3,871,232	3,938,068	4,077,892	4,457,527	4,804,008
Waterworks .. ..	268,815	271,581	270,147	256,169	253,520
Gasworks .. ..	110,819	114,505	117,704	123,454	129,020
Total .. ..	5,650,639	5,679,008	5,796,875	6,442,837	6,873,447
LIABILITIES.					
MUNICIPAL FUND—					
Arrears due sinking funds	5,054	1,093	3,098	483	511
Overdue interest .. ..	6,920	6,611	7,091	5,379	6,026
Bank overdrafts .. ..	317,410	484,785	442,326	542,462	858,733
Other liabilities .. ..	269,947	280,475	281,675	352,518	389,340
LOAN FUND—					
Loans outstanding .. ..	5,764,050	5,041,429	5,192,069	5,595,614	5,714,570
Due on loan contracts .. ..	47,145	129,192	220,188	158,009	177,755
Due on current contracts	78,115	64,037	85,368	102,191	88,936
Total .. ..	6,488,641	6,007,622	6,231,815	6,756,656	7,235,871

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 1918 to 1922 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922.**

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

**CITIES AND TOWNS.**

		sq. miles.	No.	No.	£	£	£	£	
1918	..	36	507	330,272	65,588	17,436,371	1,988,957	270,826	1,599,025
1919	..	35	510	346,019	66,879	17,648,597	2,037,948	304,204	1,667,595
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

**SHIRES.**

1918	..	137	669,387	411,278	88,384	45,553,989	594,828	173,024	352,819
1919	..	136	669,384	425,855	92,030	46,259,148	625,883	191,551	398,272
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

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue and expenditure (including loan moneys) of cities and towns, and of shires for each year from 1918 to 1922 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,  
1918 TO 1922.**

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

**CITIES AND TOWNS.**

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1918 ..	535,124	16,937	655,538	455,824	21,916	61,731	680,837
1919 ..	612,476	45,833	798,473	577,993	20,925	68,585	860,958
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

**SHIRES.**

1918	..	506,447	23,448	599,042	502,390	13,864	89,387	666,893
1919	..	538,769	41,000	690,476	507,506	18,080	97,047	718,018
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

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 2, the total being 186, of which 10 corporations and 14 district councils are in the metropolitan area, and 25 corporations and 137 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 1918 to 1922 :—

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922.**

Year.	Area.	Estimated Population.	Occupied Dwellings.	Capital Value.	Assessment Value.	Outstanding Loans.
<b>MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.</b>						
	Acres.	No.	No.	£	£	£
1918 .. ..	53,287	202,328	44,768	41,765,761	2,103,195	348,744
1919 .. ..	53,949	218,932	45,814	42,401,746	2,337,394	343,926
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	220,559	48,120	51,100,946	2,544,974	439,319
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILS.</b>						
1918 .. ..	29,392,214	236,550	56,529	56,334,777	2,767,309	18,007
1919 .. ..	29,602,382	260,409	57,127	57,503,456	2,829,198	23,836
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

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The next table gives the revenue and expenditure of corporations and district councils for the years 1918 to 1922, 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, 1918 TO 1922.**

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.								
1918	£ 194,497	£ 26,821	£ 297,907	£ 103,640	£ 102,482	£ 296,590	£ 13,033	£ 14,640
1919	215,605	25,280	334,092	114,102	140,457	340,172	14,734	15,408
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
DISTRICT COUNCILS.								
1918	162,718	38,298	233,107	165,499	29,235	250,610	126,865	149,038
1919	167,161	38,555	249,622	176,056	30,896	270,108	120,790	129,967
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	185,082

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 the number of municipalities, their area, population, number of dwelling houses, capital value (including improvements), annual value, and length of roads and streets, for the years 1919 to 1923. The figures for 1921 include those for one municipality which was dissolved on the 1st July, 1921, and for the population and number of dwellings in 1920, 1921 and 1922, the census-figures for 4th April, 1921, are given.

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 31st Oct.—	Muni- cipalities.	Area.	Population.	Dwelling Houses.	Valuation of Ratable Property.		Length of Roads and Streets.
					Capital Value.	Annual Value.	
	No.	Acres.	No.	No.	£	£	Miles.
1919 ..	23	60,911	151,575	33,626	26,172,435	1,506,691	1,118
1920 ..	23	60,911	166,222	35,492	26,280,406	1,550,134	1,135
1921 ..	22	60,911	166,222	35,492	29,947,232	1,673,545	1,140
1922 ..	21	58,981	162,561	34,537	29,492,571	1,710,389	992
1923 ..	21	58,981	172,881	35,137	31,054,031	1,810,173	993

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table gives the revenue and expenditure of municipalities during the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 31st October—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	From Rates.	From Govt. Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	Works and Improve- ments.	Disburse- ments in respect of Loans.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 ..	177,408	3,595	377,421	558,424	71,907	135,448	351,365	558,720
1920 ..	190,171	1,142	471,859	663,172	95,194	147,396	423,233	665,823
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

(c) *Assets and Liabilities.* The following table shows the assets and liabilities of municipalities at the 31st October in each financial year 1919 to 1923 :—

**MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 31st October—	Assets.				Liabilities.	
	Balance in Hand.	Value of Property.	Accrued Sinking Funds.	Total.	Outstanding Debts and Bonds.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 ..	41,806	1,426,270	372,168	1,967,776	1,738,568	1,823,929
1920 ..	36,087	1,456,109	385,692	2,011,498	1,745,908	1,836,596
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

(iii) *District Road Boards. (a) Summary.* The following table shows the number of road districts, their area, approximate unimproved value, length of roads in existence, assets and liabilities and outstanding loans, for the years 1919 to 1923. 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, 1923, the population was estimated at 180,165, and the number of dwelling-houses at 45,488. Forty-two districts, however, only give figures at time of the 1921 census.

#### DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.

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.	£	£	£
1919 ..	118	975,820	14,435,000	33,669	272,441	173,002	120,887
1920 ..	118	975,820	14,553,000	34,631	280,066	191,823	140,185
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

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure of district road boards are shown in the following table for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

#### DISTRICT ROAD BOARDS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Other.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Works.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 ..	118,144	27,692	53,748	199,584	29,591	132,276	42,245	204,112
1920 ..	135,644	53,234	68,902	257,780	31,722	152,172	59,471	243,365
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

(iv) *Local Boards of Health. (a) General.* On the 31st October, 1923, there were twenty-one local boards of health within municipalities, and on the 30th June, 1923, seventy-three under control of road boards, and thirty-one extra-municipal boards. Of the latter, three under the control of road boards and six extra-municipal boards were inactive during the year.

(b) *Finances.* The following table shows the number of boards, their revenue and expenditure, and the assets and liabilities of such as were active from 1919 to 1923. 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, 1919 TO 1923.

Year.	Number.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		Assets.	Liabilities.
		Rates.	Sanitary Charges and Rubbish Fecs.	Total.	Sanitary and Rubbish Service.	Total.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919..	120	40,781	53,113	99,955	74,390	111,360	85,614	19,915
1920..	124	49,012	52,775	123,645	82,856	122,575	78,938	16,944
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

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 1918 to 1922. The latest available figures for inhabited dwellings is for the year 1921, when the number was 45,950.

## MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	Number of Municipalities.	Valuations.			Outstanding Loans.	Length of Roads.
		Annual Value.	Unimproved Value.	Total Capital Value.		
	No.	£	£	£	£	Miles.
1918 ..	50	1,787,234	18,363,948	36,232,654	708,158	11,395
1919 ..	50	1,872,336	18,650,310	37,121,328	1,929,651	11,395
1920 ..	49	1,934,790	19,334,867	38,736,226	1,983,513	11,639
1921 ..	49	2,119,118	20,438,383	41,549,299	2,234,255	11,741
1922 ..	49	2,181,886	20,874,798	43,157,634	2,331,971	11,736

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table gives the revenue and expenditure of all municipalities for the years 1918 to 1922 :—

## MUNICIPALITIES, TASMANIA.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
	Rates.	Government Grants.	Total.	Adminis- tration.	Works and Services.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1918 ..	216,232	22,266	557,009	40,501	319,026	165,439	558,939
1919 ..	240,661	33,967	578,886	39,338	398,101	125,240	585,491
1920 ..	255,432	29,072	757,060	45,931	420,110	289,250	770,060
1921 ..	303,625	28,239	888,017	60,377	453,774	120,034	657,412
1922 ..	335,329	32,750	847,095	65,529	480,064	134,964	814,519

7. Northern Territory.—(i) *Municipality of Darwin.* The following particulars relate to the year 1921–22 :—Area 2,024 acres, population 1,000, number of occupied dwellings 228, and of other buildings 130. Revenue from general rates £2,826, from Government grants £1,560, total £4,386; expenditure £5,917.

(ii) *Bagot Road District.* During the year 1921–22 the receipts amounted to £235, and the expenditure to £4, leaving (with a balance of £275 brought forward from the previous year) a balance in hand of £506.



8. *Basis for Municipal Rating and Limits for Rates.*—(i) *Basis of Rating.* The basis of rating is defined in the Acts of the various States dealing with local government, roads maintenance, etc. Special rates may be declared for purposes outside the ordinary activities of local governing bodies, and separate rates may be raised from specified areas; while extra rates, or charges in lieu thereof, may be made for services rendered.

(ii) *Limitation of Rates.* In New South Wales, the total amount of all rates is not to exceed 2d. in the £1 on unimproved, and 2s. in the £1 on annual value, taken together. In Victoria, the water rate must not exceed 2s. in the £1, and the ordinary and extra rates together must not exceed 3s. in the £1. In South Australia, the total amount of general and special rates is not to exceed, in the case of a Municipality, 4s., and in the case of a District, 2s. 6d., in the £1. No limitation is in force in Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania.

(iii) *System of Levy.* In New South Wales, ordinary rates are levied on unimproved capital value; special rates on unimproved or improved capital value, at the option of the council. In Victoria, rating is on the net annual value; or, by majority vote at poll where at least one-third of eligible voters record their votes, or by determination of the Council, on the unimproved capital value. In Queensland, the levy is made on the capital value. In South Australia, rates are levied, in the case of a Municipality, on the average annual estimated rental; but, upon petition, a vote of at least one-fourth of the ratepayers decides that rates are to be levied on land values only; in the case of a District, the levy is on the assessed annual value. In Western Australia, payment is based on the annual value for Municipalities, and on the capital unimproved value for Districts, with annual value optional for town sites and goldfields. In Tasmania, the levy is made on the annual value.

(iv) *Maximum Ordinary Rate.* In New South Wales, the maximum ordinary rate is, in the case of a Municipality, 2d. in the £1 on the unimproved capital value, and 1s. 6d. on the assessed annual value; in the case of a Shire, it is 2d. in the £1 on the unimproved capital value. In Victoria, 3s. in the £1 of the annual value is the maximum, but the rate may be raised 6d. in the £1 for the purpose of repaying a loan from the Treasury. In Queensland, the upward limit is fixed at 1s. in the £1 on the unimproved value; but this does not apply to rateable land on a gold or mineral field. In South Australia, 1s. 6d. in the £1 on the average annual rental for Municipalities, and 2s. in the £1 on the assessed annual value for Districts, are the limits. In Western Australia, the maxima are 2s. 6d. in the £1 on the annual value for Municipalities; and for Districts 3d. (which may in special circumstances be increased to 6d.) in the £1 on the unimproved capital value, or 2s. on the annual value. In Tasmania, paving, draining, cleansing, and lighting rates together are not to exceed 1s. 6d. in the £1.

(v) *Minimum Ordinary Rates.* In New South Wales, the minimum rate is 1d. in the £1 on the unimproved capital value, subject to a reduction by the Governor in Council being permissible. In Victoria, it is 6d. in the £1 on the annual value, or 2s. 6d. in the £1 of the unimproved capital value. In Queensland, it is  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the unimproved value. In South Australia, it is 1s. in the £1 on the assessed annual value for Districts. In Western Australia it is 1d. (which may in Districts principally pastoral be reduced to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) in the £1 on the unimproved capital value, and 9d. on the annual value for Districts. In Tasmania, the minimum general road rate is 6d. in the £1; occupiers of Crown lands pay half the road rate.

(vi) *Special Rates.* These may be levied in New South Wales for any purpose which may be lawfully undertaken; rates for lighting roads are to be levied on the area which derives the benefit; demand for a poll may be made by 50 ratepayers, or one-sixth if there are less than 300 on the roll. In Victoria, an extra rate may be levied on all rateable property in one or more subdivisions on requisition of not less than two-thirds of the councillors for the subdivisions affected. In Queensland, an extra rate may be raised for sewerage or drainage; gas or electric light and hydraulic power; watering, cleansing, or lighting roads; gardens, baths, libraries, etc.; eradication of noxious weeds; destruction of pests; alignment of roads; omnibus services. In South Australia, if the general rate be insufficient, a special rate may be made; lighting rate not to exceed 4d. in the £1; and in the case of Municipalities, neither Fire Brigade rates nor Parks and Reserves rates are to exceed 3d. in the £1; levy is to be by resolution of a majority of the councillors and consent of the ratepayers present at a meeting, or poll

demanded thereat by six ratepayers. In Western Australia, a District council may, with the consent of the Minister, fix the rate for town site or special area at a higher figure than the ordinary maximum, the amount so raised to be spent in that area. In Tasmania, councils may levy special rates, which must not exceed 1s. in the £1, for sewerage, lighting, watering, recreation grounds, destruction of rabbits and noxious weeds, and abattoirs.

(vii) *Local or Separate Rates.* All States, except Western Australia, permit local governing bodies to raise separate rates for defraying expenses of specified works deemed to be for the special benefit of some particular portion of the Municipality or District. These originate, in New South Wales, in a demand of a poll of 50 ratepayers, or one-fifth if not more than 150 affected; in Victoria, on petition of majority of occupiers and one-third of owners, paying over one-third of the total rates, and subject to confirmation by the Governor in Council. In Queensland, one-fifth of the ratepayers in any area may petition that a particular work be carried out; if council takes no action, appeal lies to the Minister after three months. In South Australia a petition may be made, in the case of Municipalities, by half the total number of ratepayers representing not less than three-fourths of the rateable value; and in the case of Districts, by a majority of ratepayers representing not less than two-thirds of the rateable value. In Tasmania, the local rate is not to exceed 1s. in the £1. Fifteen electors may demand a meeting of electors.

(viii) *Loan Rates.* In New South Wales, these may be levied on unimproved or improved value; they must be sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund; and cannot be repealed until the loan is paid off. In Victoria, the rate must be sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund. In Queensland, the council must levy a special loan rate to provide annual instalments for repayment. In South Australia, the maximum loan rate for permanent works is 4½d. in the £1 for Municipalities, and 3d. for Districts. In Western Australia, in Municipalities the rate is not to exceed 1s. 6d. in the £1; and in Districts, it is to be sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund. In Tasmania, the local public works loan rate is not to exceed 1s. in the £1.

(ix) *Other Rates.* In New South Wales rates for Metropolitan and Newcastle water supplies are levied on annual values. For country Municipalities, rates for water supply may be levied on unimproved or improved values. In Victoria, the water rate is not to exceed 2s. in the £1, with a minimum charge of 10s.; councils may levy a rate not above 6d. in the £1 for the removal of night-soil. In Queensland, a health rate may be struck. The cleansing rate may be on the basis of rateable value, service required, superficial measurement, or any other basis decided; the water rate is levied on land within 300 feet of road where mains are laid. In South Australia, the watering rate may be based on the lineal frontage of property served; the Free Libraries rate is not to exceed 3d. in the £1. In Western Australia, the health rate is not to exceed 9d. in the £1 on the annual, or 1½d. on the capital value in proclaimed Districts, or 6d. and ¾d. respectively in others; the sanitary rate is not to exceed 6d. in the £1 on the annual, or ¾d. in the £1 on the capital value. In Tasmania, the health rate is not to include sanitary work; the cleansing rate may be levied on rateable value, number of persons served, superficial measurement, or any other basis decided. Rates may be struck for sewerage, lighting, and noxious weed eradication.

(x) *Alternative to Cleansing Rates.* In New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania, a definite charge may be made for the removal of night-soil, garbage, etc.

## § 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 1922. Victoria: 30th September, 1922, except Melbourne, 31st December, and Geelong, 31st August, 1922. Queensland: calendar year 1922. South Australia: Corporations, 30th November, and district councils, 30th June, 1922. Western Australia: Municipalities, 31st October, 1922, district road boards, 30th June, 1922. Tasmania: calendar year 1922.

2. Number, Revenue, Expenditure, and Valuation of Local Authorities.—The following 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, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
No. of local authorities ..	321	192	170	186	141	49	1,059

#### RECEIPTS.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Rates—							
General ..	7,260,009	2,303,664	1,125,919	389,793	368,161	102,084	16,485,788
Other ..		407,396	466,555	168,570	102,850	233,245	
Government grants		75,627	122,076	256,699	57,457	32,750	
Loans and other sources ..		1,245,090	358,230	216,458	714,139	479,016	
Total ..	7,260,009	4,031,777	2,072,780	1,031,520	1,242,607	847,095	16,485,788

#### EXPENDITURE.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Works, services, etc.	7,107,290	2,778,596	1,625,999	851,729	806,164	596,743	16,394,421
Interest on loans and overdrafts		305,289	44,858	21,473	96,551	114,546	
Redemptions, sinking funds, etc. ..		136,090	57,437	19,759	115,703	20,418	
Administration ..		319,430	206,415	98,084	98,130	65,529	
Other ..		407,029	297,390	91,112	95,374	17,283	
Total ..	7,107,290	3,946,434	2,232,099	1,082,157	1,211,922	814,519	16,394,421

#### VALUATIONS.

Capital value of property ..	261,004,645	455,209,974	69,770,959	119,394,464	44,580,598	43,157,634	(b)
Annual value of property ..	(b)	24,317,414	(b)	5,974,750	41,810,173	2,181,880	(b)

(a) Unimproved capital value of all ratable property. (b) Not available. (c) The valuation of road districts is the unimproved capital value. (d) Excluding district road boards.

3. Local Government Loans, 1922.—The following table shows the amount of loans raised by local authorities during the year 1922, of loans current at the end of that year, of liability on account of interest and sinking fund, and of loans redeemed during 1922 :—

### LOCAL AUTHORITIES.—LOANS, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loans raised during year ..	2,358,433	797,676	(c)117,395	77,376	98,599	588,222	4,037,701
Loans current at end of year	13,219,344	5,714,570	2,142,584	474,677	2,013,536	2,331,971	25,896,682
Annual liability on account of interest ..	609,141	(b)286,000	(c)46,002	23,679	97,149	131,755	1,193,726
Total sinking fund at end of year ..	1,217,372	431,200	142,548	25,005	439,761	256,719	2,512,605
Amount of loans redeemed during year ..	(a)	(a)	(c)57,437	23,123	48,461	301,732	(a)

(a) Not available. (b) Approximate. (c) Government loans only.

### § 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 Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, 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, 1923, the mileage of water mains laid was 127 miles, as against 118 miles in the preceding year, making the total length in sizes from 3 inches to 72 inches in diameter, 3,100 miles. The work of providing an additional storage of 150,000,000 gallons at Potts Hill was carried on, and the new reservoir practically completed by 31st December, 1923. The supply to the city was improved by the installation of a pump to boost 14,000,000 gallons per day through the 36-in. western suburbs main.

(b) *Water Supplied, etc.* The following table gives the number of houses and estimated population supplied, and other details for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY.—WATER SUPPLIED, 1919 TO 1923.

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.
1919 ..	204,308	1,021,540	45,557	16,628,342	223	44.59	106
1920 ..	212,046	1,060,230	48,021	17,527,753	226	45.29	142
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

(c) *Finances*. The next table gives details of the finances for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

WATERWORKS, SYDNEY.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

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.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1919 ..	627,288	219,322	8,900,391	34.96	7.04	377,885	30,081
1920 ..	664,975	291,618	9,584,723	43.85	6.93	433,170	- 59,813
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

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

(iii) *Metropolitan Sewerage Systems. (a) General.* In addition to the usual progress made in connecting additional houses and constructing new sewers, six tanks have been erected at the North Sydney outfall works for the treatment of sewage by the activated sludge process in substitution for septic tanks, and 707,721,000 gallons of sewage were treated by the new process.

(b) *Houses Drained, Population Served, Length of Sewers, etc.* The subjoined table gives the number of houses drained, the estimated population served, the length of sewers and stormwater drains, the length of ventilating shafts erected, and the length of sewers ventilated for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SYDNEY.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.
1919 .. ..	141,798	708,990	1,131.72	60.11	484,798	1,052
1920 .. ..	145,304	726,520	1,161.94	63.73	503,362	1,096
1921 .. ..	148,923	744,615	1,196.96	63.73	514,536	1,122
1922 .. ..	153,789	768,945	1,226.96	63.73	527,766	1,162
1923 .. ..	159,390	796,950	1,273.71	65.70	532,470	1,176

(c) *Finances.* The following table shows the revenue, working expenses, capital cost, interest, etc., for the sewerage branch of the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SYDNEY.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.
	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
1919 ..	497,406	151,951	6,963,573	30.54	7.14	291,347	54,108
1920 ..	512,621	202,360	7,124,813	39.47	7.26	328,239	-17,978
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

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

(iv) *Newcastle Water Supply. (a) General.* No works of great importance were completed during the year ended 30th June, 1923, but 29 miles of water mains were laid, bringing the total up to 506 miles. The construction of the Chichester River pipe-line is being carried out by the Public Works Department, and is nearing completion.

(b) *Particulars of Services.* The following table gives the average daily supply of water, the total quantity pumped during the year, and the number of houses and population supplied for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Supplied.	Estimated Population Supplied.	Average Daily Supply.	Total Quantity Pumped for the Year.	Average Daily Supply.		Mains Laid.
	No.	No.	1,000 gallons.	1,000 gallons.	Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	Miles.
1919 ..	24,079	120,395	4.065	1,483,807	169	33.76	13
1920 ..	24,364	124,320	4.319	1,580,906	174	34.74	11
1921 ..	25,874	129,370	4.688	1,711,187	181	36.25	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

(c) *Finances.* The next table gives the revenue, working expenses, capital debt, and net profit for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**NEWCASTLE WATER SUPPLY.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1919 ..	91,204	36,297	878,599	39.80	10.38	40,000	14,907
1920 ..	97,469	45,516	973,512	46.70	10.01	42,972	8,981
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	54,682	— 6,761

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

The capital debt in respect of water supply set down as £2,271,295 includes expenditure amounting to £1,430,938 on the incomplete Chichester Scheme, which was not vested in the Board at 30th June, 1923. The capital expenditure in respect of transferred works is £870,657. The percentage of revenue on transferred (and, therefore, revenue-producing) works is £12.64 per cent. as against 4.85 per cent. on total debt.

(v) *Newcastle Sewerage Works.* (a) *General.* Further progress has been made by the Department of Public Works with the construction of the sewerage works of Newcastle and suburbs, and further completed works, comprising the reticulation and ventilation of parts of Waratah, were transferred by the Department to the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

(b) *Sewerage Connections and Length of Sewers.* During the year ended 30th June, 1923, the number of properties connected with sewers was 909, making a total of 14,325. 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 161 miles.

(c) *Finances.* Particulars are given in the following table of revenue, working expenses, capital debt, interest, and profit or loss of the sewerage branch of the Board for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**NEWCASTLE SEWERAGE.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.	Loss after Paying Working Expenses, Interest, and Sinking Fund.
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£
1919 ..	26,721	9,784	480,390	36.61	5.56	25,206	8,269
1920 ..	28,050	12,734	518,804	45.40	5.41	27,892	12,576
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	19,692	592,148	39.74	8.37	36,172	6,313

(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, 1923, waterworks had been completed in 63 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 £1,585,180, and the annual amount payable in instalments and for interest was £65,392. The water supply of Broken Hill, on which loan expenditure to the amount of £481,795 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 storm-water drainage works were completed in twenty municipalities at the 30th June, 1923. The capital debt thereon amounted to £528,353, and the amount payable annually in instalments and for interest to £21,975.

2. *Victoria.*—(i) *A. The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.* (a) *General.* All land within thirteen 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 1923 embraced 21 cities, two towns and part of another, and parts of 13 shires, or a total of 37 municipalities or portions thereof. The Board is also empowered to supply water to certain municipalities outside the thirteen-mile radius, to the Metropolitan Farm at Werribee, and the outfall-sewer area. Various other shires also arrange for bulk supplies of water. The liability on Government loans on the 30th June, 1923, was £938,182, and for loans raised by the Board £13,252,170. The Board is still empowered to borrow £1,949,582 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 1918–19 to 1922–23 :—

**WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—REVENUE AND  
EXPENDITURE, 1918–19 TO 1922–23.**

Particulars.	1918–19.	1919–20.	1920–21.	1921–22.	1922–23.
<b>ORDINARY RECEIPTS.</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Water supply .. ..	353,466	394,007	419,474	446,875	500,671
Sewerage, etc. .. ..	364,025	396,718	404,234	454,521	542,698
Live stock—Metropolitan farm ..	57,201	53,051	43,975	19,994	42,045
Interest { Water supply .. ..	826	1,707	1,021	1,917	4,587
{ Sewerage .. ..	7,525	9,509	8,737	8,477	11,306
Sinking fund proceeds .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Total .. ..	783,043	854,992	877,441	931,784	1,101,307
<b>ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.</b>					
General management .. ..	49,700	51,259	59,420	65,612	64,027
Live stock, etc.—Metropolitan farm	63,595	60,851	68,742	53,162	46,632
Maintenance { Water supply .. ..	39,580	60,362	67,131	62,919	65,551
{ Sewerage .. ..	56,221	62,149	78,037	74,861	60,548
Interest { Water supply .. ..	145,458	147,750	156,645	179,034	203,569
{ Sewerage .. ..	361,898	362,886	369,204	411,828	430,418
War expenditure: Safeguarding works, etc. .. ..	3,535	1,195	..	..	..
Patriotic, Relief Funds, etc. ..	713	100	104	80	10
Sinking fund investment .. ..	30,000	5,036	4,813	..	..
Pensions and Compensation Allowances .. ..	..	..	..	6,007	5,756
Total .. ..	750,700	751,588	804,096	853,503	876,511

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE, MELBOURNE.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1918-19 TO 1922-23—*continued.*

Particulars.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.
LOAN RECEIPTS.					
Water supply .. ..	2,720	4,712	7,016	11,748	19,074
Sewerage .. ..	47,339	53,973	47,769	46,120	61,959
Proceeds of loans .. ..	176,125	543,853	543,616	1,573,326	749,410
Miscellaneous .. ..	4,857	4,351	3,196	17,497	25,978
Total .. ..	231,041	606,889	601,597	1,648,691	856,421
LOAN EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Water supply construction .. ..	35,237	55,937	119,744	316,329	297,365
Sewerage construction .. ..	191,012	205,516	257,240	300,818	351,006
Renewals, main outfall .. ..	..	..	..	..	2,280
Expenses in floating and redemption of loans .. ..	27,151	249,617	378,820	1,111,814	80,840
Miscellaneous .. ..	9,263	27,622	46,478	82,222	49,911
Total .. ..	262,663	538,692	802,282	1,811,183	781,402

B. *Melbourne Water Supply.* (a) *Progress of Work.* The principal works completed or in hand during the year ended 30th June, 1923, were :—The construction of the lower section of the Maroondah Dam was completed; the construction of the upper section and outlet tower being under way, including also contracts for cast-iron pipes and valves. The contract for clearing the site for Maroondah Reservoir having been determined, work will be completed by day labour. The Mitcham Reservoir was further advanced, and the laying of 2,306 lineal feet of 18-in. reinforced concrete pipes for scour main from the reservoir was in progress. The tunnel for the diversion of the river at the O'Shanassy Dam site was completed. Excavation for the cut-off wall and the forming of the upstream toe of the bank of the dam was in progress, contracts for cast-iron pipes and valves being completed. Raising sides of O'Shanassy Channel in earth with concrete lining was under way. Boring for the site of the dam for Silvan Reservoir was completed. The construction of concrete service reservoir at Werribee for Metropolitan Farm water supply was also completed. Up to the 30th June, 1923, the total amount expended on the O'Shanassy scheme was £543,606.

(b) *Quantity of Water, Number of Houses, and Population Supplied.* The following table gives various particulars for the years 1919 to 1923. The rate levied over the period has remained at sixpence in the pound.

## WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—PARTICULARS OF SERVICES, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Served.	Estimated Population Supplied. (a)	Average Daily Supply.	Total Supply for the Year.	Average Daily Supply.		Length of Mains, Reticulation, etc.
					Per House.	Per Head of Estimated Population.	
	No.	No.	1,000 Gallons.	1,000 Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Miles.
1919 ..	165,046	751,615	41,222	15,045,938	249.76	54.88	1,708
1920 ..	170,550	771,871	44,360	16,235,587	260.10	57.47	1,723
1921 ..	177,998	785,845	46,772	17,071,857	262.77	59.52	1,783
1922 ..	184,453	802,144	47,661	17,396,103	258.39	59.42	1,857
1923 ..	195,763	842,179	51,205	18,689,754	261.56	60.80	1,931

(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, 1923, together with the total amounts to that date :—

**WATER SUPPLY, MELBOURNE.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest.	Surplus.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1919 .. ..	32,245	372,180	a 59,394	15.96	b 153,573	159,213
1920 .. ..	47,251	398,173	a 62,941	15.80	b 156,588	178,644
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
Total to date ..	5,676,272	11,247,631	1,936,942	17.22	4,864,249	4,446,440

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Includes Interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

C. *Melbourne Sewerage.* (a) *Progress of Work. By Contract.* During the year ended 30th June, 1923, construction of overflows and excavations for exterior by-pass mains, etc., was continued. One main and two branch sewers were completed; one main and one branch sewer being in progress. Fifteen reticulation areas and 55 minor reticulation extensions were also completed, while four reticulation areas and four minor reticulation extensions were in progress. *By Day Labour.* Two branch sewers and one reticulation area were completed, also 97 minor reticulation extensions and 3,430 branches and short pieces of reticulation, while one reticulation area was in progress.

(b) *Number of Houses Connected, etc.* The following table gives the number of houses connected, the estimated population served, the total length of sewers, and the number of gallons of sewage pumped for the years 1919 to 1923:—

**MELBOURNE SEWERAGE.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Houses Connected.	Estimated Population Served.	Length of Sewers.	Sewage Pumped.
	No.	No.	Miles.	1,000 Gallons.
1919 .. ..	155,238	714,095	1,664	12,964,252
1920 .. ..	158,735	730,181	1,704	12,576,051
1921 .. ..	161,955	717,460	1,734	13,813,897
1922 .. ..	166,871	739,239	1,774	14,320,960
1923 .. ..	175,379	776,929	1,812	13,262,326

(c) *Finances.* The capital cost, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals), percentage of working expenses on revenue, interest and deficiency for the years 1919 to 1923 are given below :—

**MELBOURNE SEWERAGE.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Working Expenses on Revenue.	Interest.	Deficiency.
	£	£	£	%	£	£
1919 .. ..	138,884	379,900	a 87,954	23.15	b 372,235	80,289
1920 .. ..	158,288	409,057	a 95,287	23.29	b 373,925	60,155
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
Total to date	8,585,840	6,912,994	1,616,380	23.38	7,452,855	2,156,241

(a) Exclusive of Renewals.

(b) Includes interest on Renewals and Sinking Funds.

(d) *Metropolitan Sewerage Farm.* On 30th June, 1923, the total area of the Farm was 13,219 acres. The following table gives the capital cost, revenue, working expenses (exclusive of renewals), interest, net cost of sewage purification, and trading profit for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Working Expenses.	Interest.	Net cost of Sewage Purification.	Trading Profit.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	6,667	38,847	c13,827	22,668	(a) 2,352	34,112
1920 .. ..	8,099	46,921	c18,296	22,964	(a) 5,661	41,061
1921 .. ..	21,245	22,925	c22,744	23,550	23,360	15,750
1922 .. ..	12,472	2,993	c23,588	28,711	49,306	(b) 4,837
1923 .. ..	28,654	20,282	c26,441	29,744	35,903	11,285
Total to date ..	640,510	499,105	263,174	531,882	263,037	273,272

(a) Profit.

(b) Loss.

(c) Exclusive of Renewals.

(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 borough of Newtown and Chilwell, and one the shires of Bellarine, Corio and South Barwon. The amount of loan money which may be raised is limited to £725,000 for water supply undertaking, £502,000 for sewerage undertaking, and £200,000 for sewerage installations to properties under the deferred payment system. The population supplied is about 37,000.

(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 198 miles of reticulation mains within the city of Geelong and its suburbs. The total expenditure on waterworks to the 30th June, 1923, was £477,479, and the revenue for the year 1922–23 was £40,525.

(c) *Sewerage Works.* The sewerage scheme consists of a main outfall sewer to the ocean at Black Rock, about 9 miles from Geelong, and 83½ miles of reticulation mains have already been laid. The drainage area is 8,081 acres, and the number of buildings within the drainage area is 9,000 and within the sewered areas 7,690, while 6,900 buildings have been connected with the sewers. Up to the 30th June, 1923, the total expenditure on sewerage works was £429,261 and on the cost of sewerage installations under deferred payment conditions £143,330. The revenue amounted to £32,457.

(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) Montgomerie–Neilson non-septic liquefying tanks and oxidizing chambers with land disposal of effluent for irrigating grass and crops; (b) Main outfall sewer, main, sub-main, branch, and reticulation sewers, of which over 18 miles had been constructed by the end of April, 1924, at which date 420 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 very considerable. Expenditure to end of April, 1924, was £103,000.

(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 are controlled by Waterworks Trusts or by municipal corporations.

The following table gives particulars as to the waterworks under the control of trusts and municipal corporations for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**COUNTRY WATERWORKS, VICTORIA.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.	£	£	£
1919 ..	98	1,210,097	907,087	13,898	29	779,834	515,240	9,658
1920 ..	98	1,189,259	892,222	14,970	29	782,115	515,364	10,614
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

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 now filtered. Four additional filters were commenced, two of which were completed in 1923, one is in progress, and one is held over for the time being. The service reservoirs on Bartley's Hill, Highgate Hill and Wickham Terrace have a total capacity of 7,000,000 gallons. A new reservoir was completed on Tarragindi Hill, a suburb of Brisbane, early in the year, and this reservoir contains approximately 14,000,000 gallons. This reservoir was put into use in March, 1923. The Board have in view important extensions, one of which is an additional trunk main, 42 inches diameter, the laying of which was commenced in July last. The Board have also in contemplation the putting down of an additional pumping plant equal to 18,000,000 gallons per day. The Board have also in view several other important works.

(b) *Brisbane Waterworks. Summary.* The following table shows the length of mains, the number of tenements connected, the population supplied, the total quantity of water supplied, the average daily supply, and the average daily supply per head of population during each year from 1919 to 1923 :—

**WATERWORKS, BRISBANE.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.**

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.
1919 ..	477½	36,998	178,620	3,628,478	9,941,036	55.65
1920 ..	505	40,266	193,160	3,293,061	8,997,436	46.58
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	48,368*	235,980	4,292,246	11,759,579	46.76

\* Metropolitan area.

The total length of the trunk mains is 118½ miles.

(c) *Brisbane Sewerage Scheme.* The main sewer from the treatment works to Toowong (13 miles) and the outfall sewers are complete; also two main sewers, one  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long, with a tunnel under Brisbane River, and the other 3 miles long. The treatment works are nearing completion. The power house and pumping stations are under construction. The total completed is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  miles of main sewers and 22 miles of reticulation sewers. A temporary pumping plant has been installed and operated, ten premises having been connected in 1923; also 25,020 houses have been surveyed.

(d) *Brisbane Waterworks and Sewerage Works Finances.* The subjoined table gives the total capital cost, the revenue and working expenses, and the amount of interest and loan redemption during the years 1919 to 1923:—

## WATER AND SEWERAGE WORKS, BRISBANE.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923..

Year.	Capital Cost.	Revenue, Net.	Working Expenses.	New Works Construction.	Interest and Redemption of Loans.
	£	£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	3,115,002	157,855	79,667	431,156	72,354
1920 .. ..	3,661,580	219,742	94,074	546,578	88,033
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	192,247

(ii) *Country Towns Water Supply.* In addition to the City of Brisbane there were at the end of the year 1922 thirty-one towns in Queensland provided with water supply systems, constructed by municipalities chiefly from Government loans. The subjoined statement gives particulars of all the water supply systems exclusive of Brisbane, for the year 1922:—

## COUNTRY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS, QUEENSLAND, 1922.

Cost of Construction to 31st December, 1922—£1,130,085.					
Receipts.		£	Expenditure.		£
Rates and sales of water	..	127,125	Administration	..	20,337
Government loans	..	28,401	Construction	..	38,186
Other	..	39,858	Maintenance	..	41,162
			Interest and redemption	..	32,214
			Other expenses	..	44,248
Total receipts	..	195,384	Total	..	176,147
Assets	..	872,076	Liabilities	..	608,989

4. *South Australia.*—(i) *General.* The whole of the water supply systems as well as the several sewerage systems are constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department.

(ii) *Adelaide Waterworks.* (a) *Summary.* The following table gives particulars for the years 1918–19 to 1922–23. The figures for consumption are as recorded by gaugings taken at the reservoirs and include evaporation and absorption. There are 45,772 meters in the Adelaide district.

## ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—SUMMARY, 1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—			Number of Assessments	Annual Value.	Area Supplied.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption (a).
			No.	£	Acres.	Million Gallons.	Miles.	1,000 Gallons. •
1919	..	..	80,747	2,214,089	106,465	4,106	915	5,292,000
1920	..	..	83,085	2,336,093	106,465	4,106	947	5,626,000
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	66,599,000

(a) For previous year ending 31st December.

(b) Year ended 30th June, 1923.

(b) *Finances.* Particulars available are shown in the subjoined table for the years 1918-19 to 1922-23 :—

## ADELAIDE WATERWORKS.—FINANCES, 1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—		Revenue.		Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineering Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
1919	.. 2,079,957	93,328	126,111	29,161	6,982	36,143	4.33
1920	.. 2,172,518	96,103	137,488	35,902	7,508	43,410	4.33
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

(iii) *Adelaide Sewerage.* Particulars for the years 1918-19 to 1922-23 are given hereunder :—

## ADELAIDE SEWERAGE.—SUMMARY, 1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Connections.	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.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1919 ..	358	37,837	847,160	60,808	75,505	13,226	23,636	6.12
1920 ..	363	38,979	860,438	65,744	86,076	13,396	24,046	7.21
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

(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 1918-19 to 1922-23 :—

COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY,  
1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Assessments.	Area Supplied.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Length of Mains.	Annual Consumption (a).
	No.	Acres.	Million Gallons.	Miles.	1,000 Gallons.
1919 .. .. .	56,242	4,201,294	4,977	3,031	967,773
1920 .. .. .	57,258	4,202,360	5,068	3,070	958,068
1921 .. .. .	58,552	4,847,295	4,978	3,136	770,030
1922 .. .. .	57,623	4,850,448	4,978	3,176	823,123
1923 .. .. .	60,552	4,933,732	6,350	3,257	1,071,094 <sup>b</sup>

(a) For previous year ending 31st December.

(b) Year ended 30th June, 1923.

(b) *Finances.* The next table gives financial information for the years 1918-19 to 1922-23 :—

COUNTRY TOWNS WATERWORKS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES,  
1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.			Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
		Rates.	Total.	Engineering Branch.	Revenue Branch.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
1919 ..	3,924,385	70,722	101,262	31,412	5,782	37,194	1.63
1920 ..	4,017,265	70,526	108,584	38,651	6,297	44,948	1.58
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

(v) *Other Sewerage Systems.* The following table gives information in summarized form regarding the two suburban sewerage systems, viz. : the Glenelg system and the Port Adelaide and Semaphore system, for the years 1918-19 to 1922-23 :—

SUBURBAN SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY,  
1918-19 TO 1922-23.

Year ended 30th June—	Length of Sewers.	Number of Connections.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.		Working Expenses.		Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Cost.
				Rates.	Total.	Main-tenance.	Total.	
	Miles.	No.	£	£	£	£	£	%
1919 ..	57	4,303	346,195	8,710	9,869	5,129	5,454	1.27
1920 ..	58	4,657	354,084	8,765	9,849	5,581	5,952	1.10
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

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 included in the 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, Lower Bickley Brook, Mundaring Reservoir, thirteen bores and the Armadale Pipe Head Dam. The sewerage system consists of septic tanks and percolating filters for Perth, and septic tanks and ocean outfall for Fremantle.

(b) *Summary*. The following table gives particulars regarding water supply for the years 1919 to 1923.

At the 30th June, 1923, the number of houses connected with sewers was 14,734.

#### WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.

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.
1919 .. ..	153,183	33,406	2,186,987	39.11	179.36	20,443	623
1920 .. ..	166,414	34,677	2,256,100	37.04	177.76	21,437	633
1921 .. ..	171,198	35,666	2,327,042	37.24	178.75	21,367	645
1922 .. ..	175,876	36,641	2,600,697	40.51	194.46	21,511	659
1923 .. ..	182,410	38,002	2,714,791	40.77	195.72	21,782	677

(c) *Finances*. The table hereunder gives the capital cost, the revenue and the expenditure of the water supply and sewerage and drainage branches separately for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

#### WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Water Supply.			Sewerage and Drainage.		
	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expendi- ture.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	1,080,876	89,215	90,907	933,886	54,457	64,325
1920 .. ..	1,119,910	96,882	103,570	947,411	59,628	66,001
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

(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 1922–23 the railways consumed 8 per cent., the

mines 21 per cent., and "other" 71 per cent. of the supply. The following table gives statistical data for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

### GOLDFIELDS WATER SUPPLY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—SUMMARY, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Total Consumption.	Number of Services.	Length of Water Mains.	Capital Cost.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	1,000 gallons.	No.	Miles.	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	1,117,000	12,231	1,222	3,393,510	203,266	287,562
1920 .. ..	1,126,000	12,244	1,221	3,401,543	176,364	295,574
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

(iv) *Water Supply of other Towns.* During the year 1922–23, there were thirteen towns provided with water supplies, apart from those in the metropolitan area and those supplied by the Goldfields Water Scheme. The total consumption of water by these thirteen towns for the year ending 30th June, 1923, was 114,368,000 gallons, and the estimated population served was 13,464. The average daily consumption was 23.27 gallons per head. In eleven other towns the water supplies are administered by local boards.

(v) *Agricultural Water Supply.* During the year 1922–23, three tanks were excavated, and six wells sunk, of which one yielded fresh water and five stock water. During the thirteen years from the 1st July, 1910, to the 30th June, 1923, 373 tanks were built, 303 wells sunk, and 2,599 bores put down to a total depth of 128,104 feet. Of the bores mentioned, 443 yielded fresh, and 236 stock-water.

(vi) *Other Mines Water Supply.* Twenty-eight bores were put down to a total depth of 1,283 feet; six of these provide fresh and one salt water. Three fresh-water wells were also sunk for the use of the travelling public.

(vii) *Artesian and Sub-artesian Waters.* Up to the 30th June, 1923, the total number of bores put down in search of artesian or sub-artesian water was 179, including 49 sunk in the metropolitan area, ranging in depth from 56 to 4,006 feet.

6. *Tasmania.*—(i) *Hobart Water Supply.* The cost of this undertaking to the 31st December, 1923, was £395,305, but a considerable amount of reticulation work has been done out of revenue and not charged to capital account. The outstanding loans at 31st December, 1923, amounted to £347,555. At the same date the number of tenements supplied in the city and suburbs was 9,750, the population 46,100, and the length of reticulation mains 103 miles. The revenue and expenditure for the years 1919 to 1923 were as follows :—

### HOBART WATERWORKS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919 TO 1923.

Heading.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue .. ..	26,832	28,287	30,671	36,798	35,494
Expenditure .. ..	27,468	30,696	33,773	33,697	35,494

(ii) *Hobart Sewerage System.* The revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1923, was £22,885. Up to that date 75 miles of sewers had been laid in connexion with the original city system at a cost of £206,713, and 7,738 tenements connected. Since the



original city was sewered, the Municipalities of Queensborough and New Town have been included in the city, and are now being sewered. In Queensborough, 22½ miles of sewers, connecting with 830 tenements, have been constructed at a cost of £104,773. In New Town a total of 6½ miles of sewers have been laid, and 50 properties connected. The cost to 31st December, 1923, including surveys and sewerage outfall, was £50,990.

## § 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 60,469 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 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 £5,814,768 on the reconstruction and extension of the wharfage of the port. Over 12,000 lineal feet of old and obsolete wharfage have been demolished, and 30,469 lineal feet of new berths have been constructed. Other improvements include 2,250,000 square feet of floor area of new sheds and nearly four miles of new roadways.

During the year 1923, 1,044,235 tons of material were dredged at a cost of £48,674. In the process of towing such material, 36,235 miles were run at a cost of £33,697.

(b) *Finances.* The subjoined table gives particulars concerning the finances of the Trust for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.				Expenditure.	Total Capital Debt.	Interest.	Balance.
	Wharfage and Harbour Rates.	Tonnage Rates and Berthing Charges.	From Other Sources.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 ..	323,253	31,347	264,300	618,900	179,899	8,691,972	336,823	102,178
1920 ..	323,306	22,398	312,609	658,313	206,450	8,959,887	353,037	98,826
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

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.* During the year 1923, the length of sheds in the port was 19,468 feet, covering an area of 1,125,295 square feet. The quantity of material raised by the dredging and excavation done in the improvement of the river and bay amounts to 77,795,353 cubic yards. The Trust has expended £336,194 in reclaiming land within its jurisdiction.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives particulars of the revenue and expenditure of the Trust from 1919 to 1923 inclusive. Up to 31st December, 1923, the total capital expenditure amounted to £5,155,488.

## MELBOURNE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

Particulars.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Rates, rents, etc. .. ..	323,253	380,203	491,677	589,583	681,958
Interest .. ..	193	46	42	80	328
Other receipts .. ..	10,851	10,253	9,718	12,808	9,850
Total .. ..	334,297	390,502	501,437	602,471	692,136
EXPENDITURE.					
Management and general expenses ..	45,570	51,178	57,226	61,763	60,997
Interest .. ..	104,245	106,735	114,860	144,883	124,109
Total .. ..	149,815	157,913	172,086	206,646	185,106
Less standing charges added to works	23,495	29,150	30,892	34,628	37,272
Total .. ..	126,320	128,763	141,224	172,018	147,834
Wharfage and other refunds ..	1,677	2,529	3,064	3,866	5,728
Consolidated revenue of Victoria ..	62,460	75,554	96,224	114,986	135,520
Flotation of loans expenses ..	7,956	300	29,525	35	750
Redemption of loans expenses ..	4,499	..	615	..	..
Maintenance .. ..	77,766	105,147	120,412	126,051	85,458
Total expenditure .. ..	280,678	312,293	391,064	416,956	375,290
Surplus on revenue account ..	53,619	78,209	110,373	185,514	316,846
Less depreciation and renewals account and sinking fund .. ..	52,500	52,500	65,000	100,000	213,000
Net surplus on revenue account	1,119	25,709	45,373	85,514	103,846
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and property .. ..	964	3,221	2,461	11,906	32,892
Deepening waterways .. ..	68,746	80,720	81,699	98,331	150,885
Wharves construction .. ..	77,305	50,084	79,206	45,613	67,360
Approaches construction .. ..	3,774	2,364	1,565	9,084	7,519
Other harbour improvements ..	3,068	2,936	14,099	25,311	8,719
Floating plant .. ..	1,435	834	2,957	1,708	632
General plant .. ..	509	883	1,131	925	2,025
Total .. ..	155,801	141,042	183,118	192,878	270,032

(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 complete 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 1919 to 1923 :—

GEELONG HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.

Year.	Loans.	Sinking Fund.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1919 .. .. .	591,000	27,542	48,213	56,207
1920 .. .. .	591,000	27,954	50,020	60,625
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

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, 1923, was £53,000, while for the year 1923 the receipts were £8,066 and the expenditure £7,410.

(ii) *Bundaberg Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Bundaberg Harbour Board was re-constituted under an Act of 1922, and 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 Gooburrum 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 1923 amounted to £4,563 as against £5,803 for the previous year, and the expenditure to £4,434 as compared with £5,433 for 1922.

(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 constructed of reinforced ferro-concrete and are 1,500 feet in length. There is also under construction an electrically-driven mechanical sugar-handling conveyor, estimated to cost £35,000. The wharves are electrically lighted and furnished with railways. There is a gantry 10-ton crane for handling sinker logs and 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 1923 the revenue of the Board was £53,541, 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 1923 amounted to £73,165. The revenue for 1923 was £2,033, and the expenditure £2,461.

(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 works being carried out are in connexion with the director wall in the Pioneer River, on the north side, of which about 5,383 feet have already been built, leaving a further 1,167 feet yet to complete (probably by March, 1924).

(b) *Finances.* The total capital expenditure of the Board from its inception in 1897 is not available, but the capital expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1923, was £1,915. During the year 1923 the receipts amounted to £9,083 and the expenditure to £20,992.

(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 of twenty-five 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 1923 was £31,858, of which £2,900 represented loans, and the expenditure was £35,451, which included £16,027 interest on loans and overdraft.

(vii) *Townsville Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Townsville Harbour Board was created in 1896, and 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 £1,544,749, while the receipts for the year 1923 were £61,469, being £53,469 revenue and £8,000 loan for harbour works, and the expenditure for the same year £61,039.

(viii) *Harbour Boards—Financial Summary.* The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of Harbour Boards and the outstanding loans for the years 1918 to 1922:—

#### HARBOUR BOARDS, QUEENSLAND.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	Number of Boards.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Outstanding Loans.
		Wharfage and Harbour Dues.	Government Loans.	Total.	Works and Maintenance.	Interest and Redemption of Loans.	Total.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1918	5	116,852	4,950	142,306	88,817	36,557	146,824	856,422
1919	6	87,153	9,044	139,592	65,629	35,570	128,663	886,677
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

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 1919 to 1923 :—

**FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Gross Amount Paid to the Treasury.				
			Interest.	Sinking Fund.	Renewals Fund.	Surplus Revenue.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	185,817	94,093	70,861	18,837	..	2,026	91,724
1920 .. ..	281,600	130,740	73,872	19,301	2,000	54,513	149,686
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

(ii) *Bunbury Harbour Board.* (a) *General.* The Bunbury Harbour Board was constituted in 1909, and consists of five members appointed by the Government. The jetty is 4,900 feet long with berthage accommodation of 2,750 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, all of 3 tons lifting capacity, are available.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives the capital expenditure for each of the five years ending 30th June, 1919 to 1923, together with the revenue and expenditure for the same years. Any surplus revenue is paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund to meet interest and sinking fund.

**BUNBURY HARBOUR BOARD.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 30th June—			Capital Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund.
			£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	..	..	338,392	12,510	5,381	7,129
1920 .. ..	..	..	377,688	16,487	8,013	8,474
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

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 1919 to 1923 :—

**MARINE BOARD OF HOBART.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 30th JUNE, 1923.**

Year.	Capital Debt.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			
		Harbour Improvements, Debentures, etc.	General.	Total.	Harbour Improvements.	Interest and Sinking Fund.	General.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 .. ..	106,350	367	21,505	21,872	108	5,700	14,603	20,411
1920 .. ..	106,350	4,568	30,584	35,152	3,859	5,585	21,807	31,251
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

(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 was completed in 1923, the removal to a depth of 30 feet of Porpoise Rock, which lies 4 miles from the entrance of the port. It is proposed to establish a deepwater port at Bell Bay. The wharfage accommodation at Launceston is being extended.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**MARINE BOARD OF LAUNCESTON.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year.			Total Capital Debt.	Capital Debt, Tamar Improvement.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£	£	£	£
1919	..	..	231,539	184,301	33,748	30,238
1920	..	..	263,718	216,480	39,569	40,865
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

(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. There are two other timber wharves, 600 feet and 400 feet long respectively. The receipts for the year ending 30th June, 1923, were £17,971, and the expenditure £17,305, including £11,500 interest on construction 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 1918 to 1922 are shown in the following table :—

**MARINE BOARDS AND HARBOUR TRUSTS, TASMANIA.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY, 1918 TO 1922-23.**

Year.			Receipts.				Expenditure.
			Taxes, Rents, etc.	Government and Loans.	Other.	Total.	
			£	£	£	£	£
1918	..	..	64,426	898	15,156	80,480	90,543
1919	..	..	73,485	998	15,552	90,035	100,298
1920	..	..	85,845	5,154	83,412	174,411	207,378
1921	..	..	109,363	3,867	4,957	118,187	116,358
1922-23*	..	..	143,200	19,023	21,743	183,966	172,485

\* 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 established. 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 must not exceed the amount obtainable from a farthing in the pound 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 258 square miles. On the 31st December, 1922, the Board had under its control in this district 67 stations, 315 permanent men, 167 partially-paid firemen, 3 steam and 60 motor fire engines, 14 horses, 141,867 feet of hose, and 542 telephone fire-alarms. The length of wire used for telephone lines was 1,340 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, 1919 TO 1923.

Year.	Receipts.						Disbursements.
	From Government.	From Municipalities.	From Fire Insurance Companies.	From Firms.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919	34,198	34,198	33,819	379	4,339	106,933	115,637
1920	47,808	47,808	47,218	589	3,815	147,238	143,262
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

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, 1922, this Board had under its control 41 stations, 271 permanent men, 130 partially-paid firemen, 50 special-service firemen, 5 motor drawn steam fire engines, 8 petrol motor fire pumps, 57 other petrol motor appliances, 2 steam fire engines, 96,397 feet of hose, and 363 fire-alarm circuits having 1,092 street fire alarms, 1,072 containing telephones.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives particulars as to the financial operations of the Board during each year from 1918-19 to 1922-23 inclusive :—

**METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, VICTORIA.—FINANCES,  
1919 TO 1923.**

Particulars.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
<b>RECEIPTS.</b>					
Contributions .. ..	£ 85,569	£ 95,225	£ 117,893	£ 125,685	£ 122,700
Receipts for services ..	7,197	9,651	10,807	21,857	14,028
Interest and sundries ..	2,766	3,593	11,797	3,926	6,898
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>95,532</b>	<b>108,469</b>	<b>140,497</b>	<b>151,468</b>	<b>143,626</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>					
Salaries .. ..	60,915	67,060	85,537	87,523	93,033
Interest and sinking fund ..	14,971	12,970	14,100	21,136	10,219
Other expenditure .. ..	20,968	26,963	41,859	46,198	43,515
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>96,854</b>	<b>106,993</b>	<b>141,496</b>	<b>154,857</b>	<b>146,767</b>

(iii) *Country Fire Brigades Board.* (a) *Plant, etc.* At the end of the year 1923 there were 114 municipal councils and 92 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 140 registered brigades and 2,485 registered firemen at the end of the year 1923. The equipment included 27 motor tenders, 3 steam fire engines, and numerous manual engines and hose reels.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Country Fire Brigades Board for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**COUNTRY FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, VICTORIA.—REVENUE AND  
EXPENDITURE, 1919 TO 1923.**

Particulars.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Revenue .. ..	£ 15,585	£ 18,816	£ 19,995	£ 22,718	£ 22,088
Expenditure .. ..	15,308	18,544	20,353	23,122	22,813

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 1922 there were fire brigades in 26 towns, with a total strength of 117 permanent men, 271 partly paid, and 69 voluntary. The plant included 14 motor, 5 steam, and 11 manual fire engines, 70 hose reels, consisting of 15 motor, 9 horse, and 46 hand reels, and 80,065 feet of hose. The total number of call points was 277. The Metropolitan Fire Brigade protects an area of 32 square miles and has a staff of 143 men.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of all the fire brigades in Queensland for the years 1918 to 1922 :—

**FIRE BRIGADE BOARDS, QUEENSLAND.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE,  
1918 TO 1922.**

Year.	Revenue.				Expenditure.			
	From Government.	From Local Authorities.	From Insurance Companies.	Total.	Salaries and Wages.	Buildings, Repairs, etc.	Plant, Stores, etc.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1918 ..	10,901	11,093	10,857	33,931	20,037	1,252	3,889	30,430
1919 ..	12,135	12,162	12,266	38,356	23,090	4,937	4,938	38,641
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

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

(ii) *Fire Brigades Board. (a) Plant, etc.* At the end of 1923 there were altogether 21 fire brigade stations. The strength of the brigades consists of 105 permanent firemen and 66 auxiliary firemen. The plant consists of 5 steam fire engines, 4 motor engines, 21 motor hose carriages, 1 floating fire engine, 8 horses, 59,100 feet of hose, one 90 feet turntable escape ladder, 2 telescopic curricula ladders, 2 fire escapes.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The following table shows the revenue of the Board for the years 1918 to 1922, the expenditure in each year being the same :—

**FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—REVENUE, 1918 TO 1922.**

Heading.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue .. ..	27,952	31,129	33,568	35,817	37,306

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 forty-two. The staff at the 31st December, 1923, included a chief officer, deputy chief officer, third officer, motor engineer, electrical engineer, 10 other officers, 62 permanent, 29 partially-paid, and 542 volunteer firemen. The plant comprised 5 steam, 5 motor and 4 manual engines, 17 motor hose carriages, 34 reels, and 75,200 feet of hose.

(b) *Finances.* The following table gives details for the years 1919 to 1923 :—

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD.—FINANCES, 1919 TO 1923.**

Year ended 31st December—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Estimated Value.	
			Land and Buildings.	Plant.
	£	£	£	£
1919 .. .. .	26,299	28,557	52,000	27,600
1920 .. .. .	30,100	33,423	49,000	26,000
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

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 1922 the staff consisted of 11 permanent and 17 partially-paid firemen. There were at that date also 1 motor pump, two motor hose carriages, 3 horse and 4 hand reels, and 4 ladders.

(b) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue for the years 1921 and 1922 amounted to £4,581 and £4,803 respectively, expenditure being the same for each year.